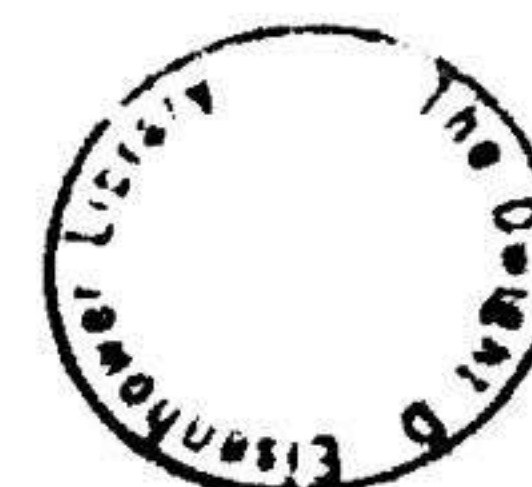


JOURNAL
DIVISION SURGEON'S OFFICE

Place: France.



4th Armored Division Office of Surgeon Journal, August 2
1944 - February 22, 1945

1 January - 9 January 1945.

Combat Elements of 4th Armored Division remained in position awaiting enemy counterattacks. Throughout this period very little enemy activity was evidenced. The Division's mission was to hold the right flank of the VIII Corps Sector and to be prepared to repel enemy counterattacks. During this nine day period casualties admitted were 73 wounded and 144 exhaustion cases. We returned to duty 13 wounded and 45 exhaustion cases and transferred to hospitals 67 wounded and 117 exhaustion cases.

A report on the number of casualties and number of reinforcements we have received in the medical department since 17 July through 31 December 1944 was submitted to Army Medical Personnel Office. Generally, requisitions for aid men consisted of Medical Aid Men (MOS 409) and Surgical Technicians (MOS 861). Actually, we received Medical Aid Men (MOS 409) when we received qualified medical personnel. In almost all instances reinforcements required further training in the Medical Battalion before it was possible to send them forward to the Medical Detachments in the Battalions as litter bearers.

The Division is still under the VIII Corps and we are being supported by 64th Medical Group.

Medical Department of the division is still short two medical officers and one dental officer.

We are still sending vehicles to check all evacuation hospitals in our locality for patients that are ready to return to duty with the division. The following hospitals are in our locality: 101st Evac - Arlon; 35th-104th Evac - Luxembourg City; 110 Evac - Esch; 32nd-106th - Thionville; 103rd Evac - Longuyon; 39th Evac - Virton. The majority of our patients are in the hospitals in Esch and Thionville.

Dental Officers are assigned as follows: Company A, 46th Medical Battalion - Captain Ezerman and Captain Ironson; Company B, 46th Medical Battalion - Captain Prentice and Captain Ray; Company C, 46th Medical Battalion - Captain Gromer, Captain Kitteldorf and Captain Knox; 704th TD Battalion - Captain Koch; Division Artillery - Captain Eisner; 24th Armored Engineer Battalion - Captain Gassin.

The following troop list was effective as of 081800A January 1945:

<u>CC "A"</u>	<u>CC "B"</u>	<u>Res Comd</u>
10	53	51
35	37	8
D/25	C/25	704(-A, B, & Plat C)
A/24	B/24	489(A, B, C, & 1/2 D)
A/704	E/704	24(- A & B) 995 atchd
B/489	A/489	
A/46) support	E/46) Support	
A/126)	B/126)	

Div Trs

25(-C & D) Plat C/704 atchd
Hq Div Arty
66 Direct Support CC "A"
22 Direct support CC "B"
94 Direct support Res Comd
General support Div

Trains

126 (-)
46 (-)
144 (-)
3804
444
C/489
Plat 16 F Hosp

10 January 1945.

Division attacked North to Bourcy. Attack proceeded well with both Combat Commands gaining ground rapidly. At 1800 both Combat Commands were stopped and told to return to original assembly area. Casualties admitted on 10 and 11 January were 89 wounded and 40 exhaustion cases. 4 wounded and 7 exhaustions cases were returned to duty and 74 wounded and 33 exhaustion cases were transferred to hospitals.

The division made preparations to move out of its assembly area for undisclosed destination.

11 January - 22 February 1945.

The division was in a rest area during this period in the area surrounding Luxembourg City. Field Hospital and Battalion Headquarters and Company C, 46th Medical Battalion were at Dudelange.

The division is 600 men short after the Belgium and Bastogne action.

Major Gardner reported back to the division but was reassigned to 106th Evacuation Hospital.

Division is now in Army Reserve and all medical department reports are going direct to Army Surgeon's Office.

The Annual Report of Medical Department Activities for 1944 was completed and forwarded to higher headquarters.

Colonel Abrams, Division Surgeon, plans to rotate Battalion Surgeons of the Infantry Battalions with the new medical officers for two weeks. Each of the new surgeons will spend two weeks with the Infantry Battalions and return to the Reserve Medical Company of the Medical Company. During the time the new surgeons are in the Infantry Battalions the regular Battalion Surgeons will take their places in the Reserve Medical Company.

All efforts are being made to comply with letter AG220.01 RCGA, Headquarters ETOUSA, dated 27 January 1945, Subject: Requisitions for Medical Department Enlisted Reinforcements.

The Medical Department received two "Weasels" for experimental purposes. Each Combat Command Surgeon received one weasel which he would send to forward Battalion Aid Stations when the situation indicated the need for Weasels.

We received 30 pairs of Litter Skis. These litter skis are not too practical for us due to the rapid movement we are used to.



Each Infantry Battalion received six pair of Litter Skis, each Tank Battalion received three pair, and each Artillery Battalion received one pair.

Rotation of Aid Men to General Hospitals has begun and initial list of six names was submitted to Army Headquarters.

The following report on number of casualties treated in clearing stations of the 46th Medical Battalion, Armored, was submitted:

<u>Source of Casualties</u>	<u>January 1945</u>	<u>July to Jan 31, 1944-45</u>
4th Armored Division	977	11 533
POW and Civilians	30	1 275
U. S. and Allied	<u>82</u>	<u>2 738</u>
TOTAL.....	1 089	15 546

During the period 1 January - 22 February 1945 there were 25 cases of venereal disease in the 4th Armored Division. This increase was due mainly to the fact that during this rest period passes were issued to Luxembourg City, other nearby towns, and Paris.

All personnel of the division received .5 cc of Typhoid Serum, stimulating dose, 21 February 1945.

In compliance with Section IV, Circular 18, Third U. S. Army, 22 February 1945, each medical company received sufficient bags for the personal effects of all patients admitted.

Combat Command B, attached to 80th Infantry Division, attacked eastward at midnight. Troops fought as dismounted infantry and encountered severe resistance. Approximately 100 casualties were reported at the start of this action. 10th Armored Infantry Battalion Medical Detachment suffered one killed in action and three wounded in action. 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion Medical Detachment suffered two wounded in action and two other battle casualties.

Company B, 46th Medical Battalion, was in support of this operation. The new "Weasels" were used for the first time and proved satisfactory.

The mission of Combat Command B was the capture of the high ground North of Mittendorf to permit the 80th Infantry Division to move forward.

Composition of Combat Command B was 10th Armored Infantry Battalion, 51st Armored Infantry Battalion, 53rd Armored Infantry Battalion, 94th Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Tank Battalion, Company B, 46th Medical Battalion, Company B, 126th Ordnance Maintenance Battalion, and Company B, 24th Armored Engineer Battalion.

Medical Supply Office requisitioned coleman lanterns for each of the medical detachments. Also on requisition were Otoscopes, Electric. Basis for requisition of Otoscopes was - one each Tank Battalion, one each Field Artillery Battalion, one each Infantry Battalion, one for Engineer Battalion, and one for Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron Mechanized.

During the period 1 January - 22 February 1945 there were 148 cases of Frostbite in the 4th Armored Division.

