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AAR# 370 - U

AFTER ACTION REPORT

748 TANK BATTALION

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MARCH & APRIL 1945

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DATE: 10 May 1945

HEADQUARTERS 748TH TANK BATTALION  
A.P.O. 403, U.S. Army

10 May 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report.

TO : Commanding General, Third U.S. Army, A.P.O. 403, U.S. Army.  
(Thru: Commanding General, 65th Inf. Div., A.P.O. 200, U.S. Army).

1. In accordance with AR 345-105, the following report is submitted covering the operations of the 748th Tank Battalion in support of the 89th Infantry Division and the 65th Infantry Division from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945:

2. Chronological history of events:

a. 1 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) attached to 89th Inf. Div. in Reserve at Springen, Germany.

Company "B" (17 DD's, 7 CDL's) departed Schimshin, Germany 0700A, arrived Springen, Germany 1730A. Crossed Rhine River at St. Goar.

Company "C" CDL Platoon illuminated bridgesite at St. Goar, Germany.

Company "A" CDL Platoon illuminated bridgesite at Bad Salzig, Germany.

Company "D" CDL Platoon illuminated bridgesite at Mainz, Germany.

b. 2 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) continued maintenance in Springen, Germany.

Company "C", "A", and "D" CDL Platoons continued to illuminate respective bridgesites.

c. 3 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) departed Springen, Germany 1250E enroute to assembly area vic. Allmershausen (G3653). Enroute at close of period.

Company "C", "A", and "D" CDL platoons continued to provide illumination at Rhine River.

d. 4 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) closed into Allmershausen at 0700E. Distance traveled 120 miles. Began maintenance program. Still in 89th Division reserve.

CDL Platoons continued with illumination of Rhine bridges.

e. 5-6 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) continued maintenance of equipment. On 6 April, Bn. was relieved from attachment to 89th Division and attached to 65th Infantry Div. Were placed in Div. Reserve and remained in Allmershausen. Received orders to convert DD tanks to fighter tanks and to reorganize three medium companies and one light company.

CDL Platoons continued with illumination of Rhine bridges.

f. 7 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) still in Reserve at Allmershausen. Company "B" departed Allmershausen 1300E enroute to Treffurt, arrived at Treffurt

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[REDACTED]

Hansen 1850B. Placed in D/S of 261st Inf. Regt.

Three CDL Platoons continued with their mission of illumination.

g. 8 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Allmershausen in reserve.

Company "B" relieved from D/S 261st Inf. and attached to 261st. Remained in Wendenhausen (758078) in Regt. reserve.

Company "A" CDL Platoon arrived in Allmershausen after turning CDL's into Ordnance. Company "B" and "C" CDL Pls. continued illumination.

h. 9 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Div. Reserve in Allmershausen.

Company "B" departed Wendenhausen 1500B, arrived Gerstungen, Germany 1800B. Relieved from attachment to 261st Inf.

Company "C" and "D" CDL Pls. departed from St. Goar and Mainz to rejoin Battalion.

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i. 10-April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) departed Allmershausen 1200B, cleared Gerstungen, Germany 1500B. Distance 21 miles. Remained in Gerstungen in Div. Reserve.

Company "C" and "D" CDL Platoons arrived in Gerstungen from St. Goar and Mainz.

j. 12-13 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) departed Gerstungen 1200B, closed into Leina, Germany at 1700B on the 12th. Remained in Leina on 13th performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

k. 14-16 April 1945: Bn. departed Leina (037600) 140800B, cleared into Haarhausen, Germany (211551) by 141130B. Started training program on 15th. On 16th received orders to turn in all CDL equipment to Ordnance, to reorganize Battalion, and submit names of surplus personnel.

l. 17-18 April 1945: Bn. departed Haarhausen 171800B, closed into Dorfleins, Germany (231528) 181830B. Still in Div. Reserve.

m. 19 April 1945: Bn. departed Dorfleins 191300B, cleared into Osternohe, Germany at 192330B.

n. 20 April 1945: Bn.(less 1 Pl. Co."B") departed Osternohe 1200B, closed into Hagenhausen, Germany 201730B.

2d Pl. Co. "B" departed Osternohe 1130B for Kirchensetten Bach, Germany to support 3d Bn., 260th Inf. Were not involved in any action. Company "E" (less 2d Pl.) departed Hagenhausen, Germany, cleared into Dienschwein, Germany 1900B. Company attached to 260th Inf. Regt.

Company "D" plus 3 assault guns and 3 mortars departed Hagenhausen 2015B, arrived Schrotsdorf, Germany 2345B., Company (+) to support 261st Inf. Regt. in protecting left flank of Division. Tanks were to be used as a mobile reserve.

Company "C" remained in Division Reserve in Hagenhausen.

o. 21 April 1945: 748th(less Cos."A","B", and "D"(+), remained in Division Reserve in Hagenhausen.

Company "A" in D/S 259th Inf. 3d Pl. with the tanks attacked Newmarkt at 0530B in support of 3d Pl. Two tanks in support of two platoons and one with 3d pl infantry. As they advanced down the street lead tank

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was knocked out by emplaced AT gun. Other tank, while moving to position to fire on AT gun, was knocked out from the rear by SP gun. The third tank continued to advance with infantry eliminating snipers as called for by the infantry. At 1000 infantry moved back and proceeded to make their way around left flank of town. Tank could not follow through dense woods but gave supporting fire. Estimated enemy killed - 10.

1st Platoon was held in reserve initially. At 0710B 1st Pl. moved into town supporting Co. K. Tanks destroyed two snipers and one house containing machine gun nest. Lead tank was fired upon several times by an SP gun and due to blocked streets was not able to move forward until SP gun could be eliminated. Infantry bazooka teams tried several times to advance to position to destroy SP gun, but were driven back by automatic fire. Infantry commander decided to consolidate positions and allowed tanks to withdraw under cover of darkness. This they did under fire of 88mm on the road out of town. Estimated enemy killed by tanks - 7.

Total casualties in company: 3 KIA, 1 SWA, 2 LWA, 1 MIA. Two medium tanks destroyed (one burned).

Company "B" in D/S 260th Inf. 3d Pl. attached to 2d Bn., moved from Dienschwein 0800B, arrived Thautmanshafen 0845B. Not involved in any action. 1st Pl. attached to 3d Bn., departed Dienschwein 1230B, arrived Lauterhofen, Germany 1315B. Not involved in any action. 2d Pl. in Regt. Reserve maintained vehicles.

Company "D" (plus prov. Pl.) in D/S 261st Inf. 3d Pl. attached to 1st Bn. cleared Schrotsdorf 1045B, arrived Kainsback. 2d Pl. attached 2nd Bn. cleared Schrotsdorf 1045B, arrived Kirchensittenbach 1140B. Moved to Keesdorf at 1200B.

p. 22 April 1945: Company "A" in D/S of 259th Inf. 2nd Pl. released from 3d Bn., attached to 1st Bn.; 1st Pl. released from 3d Bn., attached to 2d Bn. The 1st Pl., with Inf. and TDs, made gains against slight resistance, clearing approx. 17 villages vic. T770830, including Dietkirchen, Escherishohen, Anyenhoffen, Lampertshoffen, Felcherhoffen, and Lippertshoffen. The 2d Pl. went into 1st Bn. sector and took up positions for indirect fire. At 1700B, 2d Pl. fired 31 rounds 76mm at a battery of three 88mm guns. Observation difficult due to haze. Enemy battery ceased to fire and were assumed to be knocked out at 1740B.

Company "B" in D/S of 260th Inf. continued pushing towards Corps objective in 260th zone. 3d Pl. (4 tanks) on right with 2d Bn., 1st Pl. (4 tanks) and 2d Pl. (3 tanks) on left with 3d Bn. 3d Pl. followed two companies on line in their advance in direct support of those companies. 2d Bn. advanced from Trautmannshofen to Kirchwin. 1st and 2d platoons supported 3d Bn. by eliminating automatic weapons fire. 1st Pl. destroyed Brunn by supporting fire, completely burned Palterhoffen, assisted in eliminating automatic weapons fire in woods (8395), eliminated automatic weapons, destroyed 8 buildings, killed 3 cavalymen and three horses in Kastl (8395). 2d Pl. was in support and not committed to action.

Company "D" in D/S of 261st 1st Pl., AG section and Mortar section remained in regt. reserve. Co. (-) departed Schrotsdorf 1530B arrived Oberelsbach 1530B. 2d Pl. departed Keesdorf 0800B with 2d Bn. enroute to Engelsburg, Germany. 3d Pl. attached 1st Bn. moved to Alsfeld arriving at 1330B.

748th(-) remained in Egenhausen in Div. Res.

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Q. 23 April 1945: 748th (-) departed Hagenhausen 1200H. Company "C" cleared bridge leading out of town when it collapsed. All other roads were impassable by wheel vehicles, so Company "C" Maintenance Pl. built a Class 20 bridge. Bn. cleared bridge at 1700H, cleared into Dietrichen, Germany, at 2130H.

Company "L" in D/S of 259th Inf. At 0600H 3d Pl. supporting Co. B, 1st Bn. advanced on Lahr. (740105). The attack was to jump off from Hohenau at 0700H and there was no time for ground reconnaissance. On reaching a wooded hill 300 yds. N or Lahr, the pl. was forced to halt to explore a nearly impassable trail. It was decided to take the trail because blazing a trail through the woods would bring fire on the infantry. One tank dropped out due to broken track caused by running on blown logs under direct orders of Inf. commander. Tanks put MG and HE fire on Lahr from defilade positions. Town was taken in three minutes. Two tanks repaired tracks and then proceeded with the infantry.

Company "B" in D/S of 260th Inf. Co. rear was enroute to Hohenfels, Germany. 1st platoon was located at Hohenfels. 2d platoon was located at Markott and 3d platoon located at Katla. All platoons pursued enemy to Division Red Phase line. Resistance was nil.

Company "C" left Hagenhausen, Germany at 1200H to go to Dietrichen. While enroute were attached to 261st Inf. Regt. and proceeded to Berg, Germany, arrived there at 1630H and were ordered on to Newmarkt. Company supported 3d Bn. and were given mission of clearing Highway 8 and to take and hold Irappenhofen. Joined 3d Bn. 4 miles southeast of Newmarkt and transported some infantry on tanks. Encountered harrassing fire from small arms in vic. Seubersdorf at 1930H. Two tanks fired on enemy gun positions and destroyed six houses. Ordered at 2005H to return to Batzhausen and take up defensive positions for the night.

Company "D" in D/S of 261st Inf. Co. (-) departed Oberalsbach 1630 arrived Herbertshausen 2215H. Assault Gun section and Mortar section relieved from attachment and returned to Bn. control. Company relieved from attachment to 261st Inf. Regt. 2d Pl. attached to 259th, moved to Pelchenhafen 1030H. 3d Pl. attached to 260th Inf. Regt. Moved from Alsfeld 0700H, arrived Eggenbach 0830H, continued on to Hohenfeld.

r. 24 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn. (-) departed Dietrichen 0600H, cleared into vic. Velburg 0800H. Assault Gun Platoon attached to "B" company at 1100H. Bn. (-) departed vic. Velburg 1500H, cleared into Laaber, Germany at 1730H.

Company "A" in D/S of 259th Inf. At 0700H the company moved from vic. Pelchenhoffen (758835) to new location vic. Beratzhausen (971633). The 1st Pl. was attached to 2nd Bn. and advanced vic. Laaber (029601) against light resistance. No casualties, but only one tank arrived at Laaber due to mechanical failures and poor terrain.

Company "B" continued to advance with 260th Inf. No resistance.

Company "C" marched from Batzhausen at 0645H transporting A Company 261st. Mission to clear road to Hemaun, Germany. Reached Hemaun after road block was destroyed by artillery. Received orders to proceed to Deurling, Germany. Column halted at Bittmannsdorf and ordered to proceed SE with mission of seizing RR bridge across Danube River at Volkam. Marched south from Hohenbach with tanks and infantry as lead element. Destroyed one road block by HE fire,

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but were slowed down by five successive abatis of 30 to 40 large trees each, two of which were bypassed and the others crushed by the tanks. Proceeded to Haugenried and arrived there at 1915B. During this march 20 enemy were killed by tank fire.

Company "D" departed Herbertshafen 0610B, arrived Velburg 0710B. 2d Pl. departed Felchenhafen 1015, arrived Straubling 1530B, attached to 250th Inf. 3d Pl. departed Hafenhafen 0500B. Acted as point for RCT, reached regt. objective, Vieuhausen 1600B.

s. 25 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Laaber in Div. reserve. Performed maintenance and rehabilitation.

Company "A" was released from D/S of 259th and returned to Bn. control in Laaber. Began reorganizing company.

Company "B" marched from Hohenfels to Nitterndorf, arriving 2125B. No enemy encountered on march. Company was to move to an assembly area at 0600B, the following day to cross treadway bridge over Danube in support of 260th Inf. Rcn. was made of routes to bridge site and Pl. leaders observed opposite bank of Danube from CPs.

Company "C" remained with 261st in Haugenried awaiting completion of bridge across Danube.

Company "D" (-) remained in Velburg and established an ASF for the Battalion. 2d Pl. remained with Company "A" in Laaber. 3d Pl. remained with Co. "B" attached to 260th Inf. Regt.

t. 26 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Laaber in Div. reserve.

Company "B" moved from Nitterndorf to marshalling area in preparation for crossing Danube on bridge at 0600B on the 27th.

Company "C" ordered to move from Haugenried to vicinity of Kappelberg and to await completion of bridge and then to support 261st in an assault with the mission of capturing Regensburg, Germany. Orders changed to cross at Gundelshausen. Crossed bridge at 2200B and bivouaced for the night on the far bank of Danube.

Company "D" continued to maintain Bn. ASF in Velburg. 2d and 3d Platoons attached to Company "A" in Laaber and in Division reserve.

u. 27 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) departed Laaber, Germany 0530B, crossed Danube River on treadway bridge at Gundelshausen, and cleared into Grassl-  
fing (U152489) at 1445B. Still in Division reserve.

Company "A" arrived at Grassl-  
fing at 1230B and were immediately put in D/S support of 259th Inf. Regt. Moved to area of 259th in Lengfeld at 1600B. 1st Pl. attached to Co. C., 2d Bn., and moved to area vic. (115420) at 1800B. 2d Pl. (light tanks) attached to Co. B, and moved to vic. (137446) at 1910B.

Company "B" moved from marshalling area and crossed Danube at 0600B. Assembled on far bank of river. Moved to Oberndorf to attack town of Abbach in support of Infantry. Town surrendered just before the attack started. Traffic jam prevented tanks from rejoining 260th and at 1400B were relieved from D/S of 260th and returned to Bn. at Grassl-  
fing, arriving 1500B.

Company "C" joined 261st Inf. regt. vic. bridge at Gundelshausen at 0800B. Moved forward passing through Oberndorf and Abbach and halted beyond Abbach to receive orders from Regt. and to load infantry on tanks. Mission was to spearhead assault of 261st Inf. on Div. right flank and to drive into Regens-

berg from the south parallel to main railway line to Munich. March was uneventful, marked only by willing surrender of isolated groups of enemy. Learned at 1200H that surrender negotiations for the city had already commenced, with the 71st Inf. attacking from the east. Ordered by Inf. commander to disregard AT artillery and to proceed into city with utmost speed without regard to normal tactical precautions. This was accomplished over strong protest and city was entered at 1315H. Tank company moved to Traubling, in Regt. reserve.

Company "D" (less 2 pls.) continued to maintain Bn. ASF in Velburg and to take care of surplus personnel of the Bn.

v. 28 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Div. reserve in Grasslfing.

Company "A" in D/S of 259th Inf. 2d Pl. supporting 2d Bn. moved from Oberkager (117426) to follow infantry and to take positions to fire on high ground vic. Saal (081413). Orders changed to select positions to fire on Untersaal. Town surrendered before any firing took place. 460 men were taken prisoner by company commander of "A" while making road recon. Unit moved into Untersaal for the night. 2d Pl. (light) withdrawn from support of Co. E and moved to protect Regt. right flank about 1 mile S of Saal. Moved to Schlossberg at the completion of mission. 3d Pl. (light) departed Lengfeld 1030B, arrived Feising 1100B. In reserve.

Company "B" in Division reserve in Grasslfing. Reorganized company into two platoons. Assault Gun pl. returned to Headquarters Co.

Company "C" remained in Traubling in Regtl. reserve of 261st.

Company "D" departed Velburg 1600B enroute to Grasslfing.

w. 29 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) remained in Division reserve in Grasslfing.

Company "A" in D/S 259th Inf. 1st Pl. moved from Untersaal to Affecking and Hohenpfahl vic. (047422) meeting no resistance. While in Hohenpfahl assisted in taking approximately 800 PWs.

Company "C" remained in Traubling in Regt. reserve.

Company "D"(-) cleared into Grassberg (1 mi. NE Grasslfing) at 0230B, in Division reserve.

x. 30 April 1945: 748th Tank Bn.(-) still in Div. reserve in Grasslfing.

Company "A" (plus 2 pls. "D" Co.) relieved from D/S of 259th Inf. Departed Lengfeld (126445) 1400B and cleared into Grassberg (158503) at 1530B.

Company "C" relieved from D/S 261st Inf. Remained in Traubling performing maintenance.

### 3. Losses in personnel and equipment:

- a. KIA-3 EM, MIA-1, EM, SWA-1 EM, LWA-1 OFF, 1 EM.
- b. 2 Medium tanks destroyed (1 burned).

### 4. Estimated enemy casualties.

#### a. Personnel

- (1) Killed- 63
- (2) Wounded-47
- (3) Captured (in conjunction with Inf.)- 3,498.

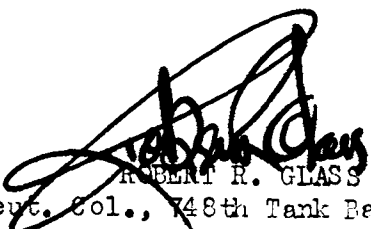
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b. Equipment:

8 MGs, 30 freight cars, 4 Panzerfausts, 3 army horses, 30 rifles,  
3 88mm guns.

5. Awards and Decorations:

None.

  
ROBERT R. GLASS  
Lieut. Col., 748th Tank Battalion,  
Commanding.

13- Incls.

- Incl. 1- After Action Report, Company "A".
- Incl. 2- After Action Report, Company "B".
- Incl. 3- After Action Report, Company "C".
- Incl. 4- After Action Report, Company "D".
- Incl. 5- After Action Report, Hq. Company.
- Incl. 6- After Action Report, Sv. Company.
- Incl. 7- After Action Report, Med. Det.
- Incl. 8- S-3 Journal.
- Incl. 9- Messages for the period.
- Incl. 10- Field Orders for the period.
- Incl. 11- Operation Instructions for the period.
- Incl. 12- General Orders awarding Purple Heart.
- Incl. 13- General Orders for Decorations of previous month.

*not included.*  
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DATE: 8 APRIL 1945.

HEADQUARTERS 748TH TANK BATTALION  
A.P.O. 403, U.S. Army

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8 April 1945.

SUBJECT: After Action Report.

TO : Commanding General, VIII Corps, APO 308, U.S. Army.

1. In accordance with AR 345-105 the following report is submitted covering the operations of elements of 748th Tank Battalion in support of the 65th Infantry Division, 5th Infantry Division, 87th Infantry Division, 89th Infantry Division, 80th Infantry Division, and 26th Infantry Division from 1 March '45 to 31 March '45.

2. Chronological history of events:

a. 1-15 March 45: 748th Tank Battalion in Hagondange, France (VU864732) (training with DD tanks and CDL tanks. Practice river crossings being made at site one mile south of Ukange, France in conjunction with 1301 Eng. Regt.

b. 16 March 45: Co. "C", AG Pl. attached, departed Hagondange, France 0710A, arrived Teterchen, France (VQ145710) at 1030A. Attached to 65th Inf. Div.. Officers made recon. in Saarlautern-Roden in preparation for pending action. Co. "C" (-) departed Teterchen, France 2000A, arrived Saarlautern, Germany at 2230A. bivouaced there for the night.

c. 17 March 45: 1st, 2nd Platoons Co. "C" attached to 259th Inf. Regt.; 3rd Pl. and AG Pl. (6-105's) attached to 260th Inf. Regt. Recon. made by platoon leaders of sectors to be fought in. Crews maintained vehicles.

d. 18 March 45: 1st Pl. Co. "C", departed Saarlautern, Germany 0230A, arrived assembly area at Saarlautern-Roden at 0300A. Jumped off at 0600A to support 2nd Bn., 259th Inf. Regt. in assault on pillboxes to East of town. Tanks fired on pillboxes and protected flank of Bn. by firing to SW. Assisted infantry in taking several boxes and advanced to an anti-tank ditch approximately 500 yards from LD. Here Inf. dug in, awaiting the advance of the Co. on their left. Tanks returned to attack position, assisted in picking up wounded infantry and tank crews on the way back. At 1430A Lieut. Pallotta, Pl. Ldr., accompanied by another tank, went forward carrying ammunition for the infantry company in the AT ditch. This tank was hit by an 88MM and burned. Tank Cdr. of another tank was wounded when he dismounted trying to rescue men from burning tank. One other tank attempted to rescue Pl. Ldr's crew but were driven off by heavy fire. Enemy killed 4, MG's destroyed 2.

2nd Pl. Co. "C", jumped off at 0600A to support left company of 2nd Bn., 259th Inf.. Tanks preceded infantry to pillboxes, firing into openings and had boxes "Buttoned Up". Had difficulty in getting Inf. to the pillboxes even after two tanks were at the rear door of several boxes.

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Finally got the infantry up, but they had no charges to blow the boxes. On tank hit by bazooka/near pillbox, since squad assigned to protect tank had disappeared. On tank hit mine advancing to pillboxes. On tank fell in shell hole. Two remaining tanks advanced up and down the pillbox line and up to anti-tank ditch until all ammunition was fired, then they returned to Co. CP for resupply of ammunition. Inf. failed to take boxes and withdrew.

3rd Pl., Co. "C" departed Saarlautern 0510A, arrived Saarlautern-Roden at 0600A. Pl. was attached to 2nd Bn., 260th Inf.. Tanks were kept in reserve all day. Returned to Saarlautern at 2000A. No action.

AG Platoon departed Saarlautern 0500A arrived Saarlautern-Roden 0515A.. Waited in assembly area until 0600A. Were attached to 2nd Bn., 260th Inf. to assist in clearing enemy from the several blocks they still held in NE section on the town. 1st Section moved to support right company. An infantry guide leading the tanks stepped over a "daisy-chain" of US AT mines in a street declared clear by the Inf. and directed the lead tank onto the mines. Both tracks were blown. Other two tanks continued, after street was cleared, and supported Inf. by firing on houses, pillboxes, etc. 2nd Section supported left company by firing on strongpoints and directed. Seven PW's were captured when tank tried out his flamethrower on a known strong-point. Enemy killed - 15, Enemy captured - 7, One MG destroyed. Losses for Company: One Officer, 4 EM missing; 1 Officer 9 EM wounded; 1 tank destroyed; 4 tanks disabled.

e. 19 March 45: 1st, 3rd Platoons attached to 259th Inf. Regt. AG Platoon attached to 260th Inf. Regt. 2nd Pl. was inoperative.

AG Platoon departed Saarlautern 0800A, arrived Saarlautern-Roden 0815A. Heavy fog caused tanks to remain in Bn. reserve all day. Enemy withdrew during the previous night and during the fog, so town was taken. At 1700A, AG Pl. attached to 261st Inf. Regt. Tanks returned to Saarlautern to await orders from new Regt. Enemy captured - 1.

1st and 3rd Platoons, Co. "C" attached 1st Bn., 259th Inf. Regt. remained in reserve at Saarlautern. At 1230A both Pls. departed Saarlautern, arrived Saarlautern-Roden 1300A. Departed Saarlautern-Roden 1330A moved east, crossed AT ditch filled in by 748th Tank-dozer, and arrived on highway to Saarwellengen. Moved on to high ground SE of Saarwellengen. No enemy was contacted. Both platoons returned to Saarlautern at 1900A.

f. 20 March 45: 1st and 3rd Platoons, Co. "C" attached to 259th Inf. departed Saarlautern 0830A, arrived Saarwellengen, Germany 1130A. Remained in west side of town in Regt. reserve. No enemy contacted.

AG Platoon departed Saarlautern 0800A arrived Saarwellengen, Germany 1100A. Went into position east side of town in Regt. reserve of 261st Inf.. No contact with the enemy.

At 2130A message received from Third Army to move 748th Tank Bn. on the 21st March to XII Corps.. Co. "C" to be disengaged from 65th Inf. Div., XX Corps. S-3 and advance party to go to XII Corps and explain DD equipment to Corps G-3.

g. 21 March 45: Advance party departed Hagondange, France 0730A, arrived Simmern, Germany 1300A. Reported to G-3 Corps, were first attached to 89th Inf. Div., but upon explaining that the equipment of the Bn. consisted of amphibious tanks, order was changed and Bn. assigned to 5th Inf. Div..

748th Tank Bn. (less Co. "C", AG Pl., and Echelon "B") departed Hagondange, France 1400A arrived Wittlich, Germany 2230A.

Co. "C" departed Saarwellengen, Germany 0330A, arrived Hagondange, France 1020A. Turned over lighter tanks and prepared DD Tanks for march to XII Corps.

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h. 22 March 45: S-3 reported to XII Corps Hq. for conference for coordination of river crossing at Oppenheim, Germany. Made recon. of crossing site and found old ferry site that could be used without use of highline or prepared banks. Co. "A" and "C" attached to 11th Inf. Regt.; Co. "B" attached to 10th Inf. Regt.. Bn. CO reported to Div. CP to obtain orders and sent for Company Commanders to report to Regts.

748th Tank Bn. (Less Co. "C" and Echelon "B") departed Wittlich, Germany 0800A, arrived vicinity Bad Kreuznach at 1900A. Co. Commanders of "A" and "B" departed for 5th Inf. Div. CP at 2130A to report to Regts. (Co. "A" and "B" moved to Worrstadt, Germany at 2200A. Reserved and maintained vehicles.).

Co. "C", Assault Gun Platoon, and Echelon "B" departed Hagondange, France 0700A, arrived Lutzerath, Germany at 2000A.

i. 23 March 45: Co. "A" departed Worrstadt 0700A with 5 tanks floatable, other DD's were being prepared for floating. Main difficulty was torn curtains, loss of waterproofing due to 175 mile march, and mechanical difficulties (loss of bogie wheels, etc.). Arrived Oppenheim 1000A. Tanks began crossing Rhine river at 1130A. Four tanks crossed without any trouble and reorganized on east bank, then moved into Geinsheim, Germany. Tanks were attached to 2nd Bn., 11th Inf. Regt.. At 1400A Co. "A" (-) moved with 2nd Bn. departed from Geinsheim and advanced to Wallerstalzen, Germany where they joined with 1st Bn., 11th Inf.. Set up defensive positions with 1 Pl. of T.D.'s. No enemy encountered during the day.

Co. "B" departed Worrstadt with 3 tanks floatable. Arrived Oppenheim, Germany at 1015A. One tank was attached from Co. "A". Tanks began crossing after Co. "A". Two crossed without difficulty. Third tank sank just as it began to float. Probably due to a weak curtain, as a large hole appeared there as the tank fully entered the water. Tank sank immediately in about 20 feet of water. Crew was saved after three members of another crew dived in and saved two who were having trouble swimming. Next tank crossed without trouble and joined other two tanks on east bank. Here tanks were stripped of DD equipment and prepared for action. Co. Commanders contacted 1st Bn., 10th Inf. Regt., made recon. to CP Co. "E" (475395). Plans made for clearing area in bend of Rhine and Alt. Rhine rivers (470390-470360-488362-510390). Tanks moved to 475395. At 1515A three tanks in support of Co's "A" and "E", 1st Bn., 10th Inf. attacked to clear area. At 1900A attack was completed and units moved into Leebheim (506400) for the night.

Enemy killed - 1; Enemy captured in conjunction with Inf. - 350 Approx. 200 taken from a ship located on the Alt.-Rhine river (490362).

Co. "E" CDL Platoon (6 tanks) attached to 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt, 5th Inf. Div. for purpose of providing illumination to protect bridge-head at night. Four tanks placed at Oppenheim to assist 3rd Pl. of "E" Co.. Two tanks placed near Nierstein with 1st Pl. of "E" Co.. River was illuminated until ordered blacked out by Engineers building a bridge.

At 1800A nine more DD's arrived at Oppenheim to cross over and join "A" (-) and "E" (-). As the first tank was starting across orders were received from 5th Div. not to send anymore over and to prepare immediately to proceed to VIII Corps for further orders. The nine DD's were returned to Schirmsheim, Germany (234357). Bn. CO and advance party departed for Birmann at 2100A, arrived at VIII Corps Hq. at 2300A. Received orders to report to 87th Inf. Div. to support their crossing of Rhine vicinity Poppard. Arrived 87th CF at 2400A.. Informed the Div. that 748th could provide Co. "C" with 15 floatable DD's.

Co. "C", AG Platoon, Echelon "E", departed Lutzerath at 0600A, arrived Schirmsheim at 1800A.

*Tanks cross Rhine  
one tank sinks*

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j. 24 March 45: Co. "A" (-) attached to 1st Bn., 11th Inf. jumped off at 1400A in support of Co. "B". At 1530A the Co. Commanders tank was hit by a bazooka and burned. It had just previously crushed a bazooka team in a trench. Other three tanks continued advancing with Inf. and successfully captured their half of Gross-Gerau, Germany by 1900A.

Enemy killed - 49; Enemy captured (with Inf.) - 135; One SP gun destroyed. Own Losses - 1 Officer, 3 FM wounded; 1 tank destroyed.

Co. "B" (two tanks) was relieved from attachment to 10th Inf. and attached to 11th Inf. at 1200A. Began attack at 1415A with Co. "B", 1st Bn. on Gross-Gerau (536475). Moved from Wallerstafen (515455) SE of main highway leading into Gross-Gerau and lqd Inf. by fire and movement to outskirts of town. Tanks covered Inf. by heavy fire while Inf. moved into town. Tanks followed and supported attack by fire. Entered town at 1510A and cleared town at 1910A. At 2000A Co. "B" (-) was relieved from 5th Inf. Div. and reverted to 748th Tank Bn. Remained in Gross-Gerau overnight.

Enemy killed - 3; Enemy captured (with Inf.) - 400; Houses partially damaged - 25.

Co. "B" CDL Platoon attached to 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf.. Two tanks crossed Rhine at 0930A and protected eleven ammunition trucks for trip to Trebur, Germany. Tanks left Geisheim at 1500A and returned to Nierstein. Here the platoon was attached to 2nd Bn. 101st Inf., 26th Inf. Div.. No action during the night.

Co. "C" departed Schimsheim 0600A, arrived Kratzenburg 1300A. Prepared DD's for floatation. Moved to vicinity Brey at 1900A. Prepared to cross Rhine on 25th in support of 245th Inf. Regt.

748th Tank Bn. (-) departed Schimsheim 0900A, arrived Kratzenburg 1700A.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon (3 tanks) departed Kratzenburg, Germany 1900A, arrived vicinity Bad Salzib at 2100A. Bivouaced there for the night. Mission was to pick positions to illuminate river to provide light for 174th FA (155 SP) to fire on barges floating toward bridge at Roppard.

k. 25 March 45: Co. "A" (-) departed Gross-Gerau, Germany at 0800A, arrived at Schimsheim (234357), Germany at 1015. Began regrouping and maintenance of vehicles. Two tanks left of east side of Rhine due to maintenance trouble.

Co. "B" (-) departed Gross-Gerau at 0800A, arrived Schimsheim at 1050A. Began regrouping and maintenance.

Co. "D" CDL Platoon attached to 2nd Bn., 328th Inf., 26th Div. after being relieved from 2nd Bn., 101st Regt. at 0800A. Tanks placed in positions at Oppenheim and Nierheim. No illumination during the night.

Co. "C" remained in bivouac area vicinity Brey, waiting for Inf. to clear small arms fire from east shore so crossing could be made. Inf. ran into stiff opposition and could not gain their first objective. At approximately 1400A order was received from VIII Corps for 748th Tank Bn. (-) to be attached to 29th Div. to support their crossing of the Rhine vicinity of St. Goar on the 26th. Bn CO reported to 29th Div. CP and informed them of the situation, as to how tanks were attached to several divisions, others unfloatable due to long trip, and others deadlined. He then went to VIII Corps at Birmen to discuss matter with G-3. It was decided that Bn. would stay with 87th Div. and Co. "C" would cross as planned. At 1800A message was received from VIII Corps to attach Co. "C" to 29th Div.. Co. "C" departed from vicinity Brey at 1900A and closed in Birmenhausen at 2030A.. Co. was to cross Rhine at St. Goar on 26th, go to an assembly area and be in Div. reserve.

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Co. "A" CDL Platoon illuminated river at Bad Salzsig from 220A until daylight, CDL Platoon illuminated river with four rounds from the 75MM. Received one direct hit by mortar but no damage done.

l. 26 March 45: Co. "C" remained at Emmelhausen while Co. Commander and Officers from 1301 Eng. Regt. made recon. of crossing site at St. Goar. No suitable site could be found due to steep banks and swift current. Div. was notified of the length of time necessary to install highline and prepare banks so they arranged for Co. "C" to cross the river on the bridge at Boppard. Co. "C" crossed Rhine on bridge at Boppard at 1330A and moved to assembly position at Bornhofen. Co. was to follow Task Force Johnson and to drop off at Reichsburg and remain in Div. reserve. Task Force Johnson ran into small arms fire at Kester so two tanks went into town with Co. of Inf. and cleaned it out. Tanks bivouaced in Kester for the night. Enemy captured (with Inf.) - 250, Enemy killed - 5.

Co. "B" CDL Platoon was relieved from attachment from 328th Inf. when that unit moved out. Pl. Leader reported to XII Corps and was given orders to remain at bridgehead and work with 691st T.D. Bn.. CDL's illuminated river when called for by the T.D.'s.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate river at Bad Salzsig from 2200A. until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon (5 tanks) moved from Kratzenburg at 1800A to St. Goar, Germany to work with Platoon of SP 155's to protect bridge. No illumination that night.

At 2300A message was received from VIII Corps that Third Army had ordered the 748th Tank Bn. to send an Officer to XX Corps immediately.

m. 27 March 45: Received call at 0800A that all available DD's were to be sent to XX Corps immediately. Later confirmed with information that DD's were to cross either Rhine river or Main river with 80th Inf. Div..

Co. "D" (-)(six DD's) departed Kratzenburg, Germany at 1430A, arrived Obr. Olm at 2230A (80 miles). Four DD's from Co. "B" departed Schimsheim at 2400A to join Co. "D" (-).

Co. "B" CDL Platoon continued to provide illumination at Nierstein and Oppenheim when called for.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon continued to provide illumination at Bad Salzsig from 2200A until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon continued to provide illumination at St. Goar when called for by artillery.

Co. "C" alerted at 0430A in Kester, Germany moved to Zorn where a halt was made for refueling. 1st Platoon assigned mission to assault the town of Heide with Task Force Johnson. Pl. encountered four 40mm AA guns north of town which were destroyed by tanks alone. Knocked out crews with 75mm and 30 cal. and then over ran guns. 1st Pl. rallied in field near Heide. 2nd and 3rd Pl. were given the mission to lead Task Force Johnson into and beyond Kemel, Germany. Before arriving at Kemel tanks ran into a column of enemy wheel vehicles. 2nd Pl. knocked out two vehicles, killed 15 enemy. 3rd Pl. knocked out three vehicles, killed 20 enemy. Just east of Kemel lead tank was knocked out by 88mm firing from woods NE of Kemel. Two 88mm's knocked out by 2nd Pl.. Co. "C" and TD's from 602nd. Tanks and Task Force bivouaced in Kemel.

Enemy killed - 40, 4 40mm AA guns destroyed, 5 trucks destroyed - 3 damaged, 1 88mm destroyed.

Company losses - 1 EFM killed; 1 Officer, 2 EFM wounded; 1 tank destroyed (burned)

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n. 28 March 45: Co. "C" attached to Task Force Johnson (89th Inf. Div.) in Kemel, alerted at 0500A, started its march to Bad Schwalbach at 0700A. Bivouaced in park. During the day received sniper fire and assisted Inf. to guard outpost by manning five MG's. 1 enemy captured.

Company losses - 1 Officer wounded.

Co. "D" (-) with Pl. of 1301 Eng. Regt. moved from Obr. Olm to assembly area at 445545 at 0600A. Four DD's from Co. "B" arrived in assembly area at 0800A. Co. was attached to 319th Inf. Regt. 80th Inf. Div.. A recon. was made with Engr. Officers for suitable spot on both river banks for a crossing site. The slope was good but terrain boggy. Engrs. decided mats would be necessary on both banks which would take six hours. Regt. decided to ferry DD's across rather than wait on Engrs.. Co. was assigned to support 1st Bn., 319th Inf. and told to report to Hochheim (442571) upon arrival. Ten tanks were ferried across Main River (443355) at 1400A. Tanks remained in Regt. Reserve. At 1815A message was received relieving Co. "D" (-) from 80th Div., XX Corps and ordering them to return to 748th Tank Bn. in VIII Corps. Co. crossed bridge on Main (443558) at 2100A. Returned to Schimsheim to report to Co. "B".

Co. "E" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead at Nierstein and Oppenheim when called for.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead at Bad Salzig from 2200A until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead at St. Goar as called for.

o. 29 March 45: Co. "D" CDL Platoon departed Kratzberg 1430A for Mainz, Germany to report to Task Force Polk of XX Corps to protect XX Corps ponton bridge at that point.

748th Tank Bn. (-) attached to 89th Inf. Div. departed Kratzberg at 1530A, crossed Rhine at St. Goar, closed in Weisel, Germany at 2000A.

Co. "C" alerted at 0500A in Bad Schwalbach. Relieved from Task Force Johnson which was dissolved. Departed Bad Schwalbach at 0600A, arrived Presburg attached to 355th Inf. Regt.. 1st and 2nd Pls. moved to Aullanhausser and then to Pudiansfield. Assigned to support 3rd Bn. of 355th Inf. to clear area to Rhine River. Accompanied Inf. to town of Geisenheim where they bivouaced for the night. 2nd Pl. was attached to 2nd Bn., 355th Inf. advanced from Presburg to Stephanhausen. Led Inf. Co. in advance to Kiedrich. No enemy contacted. Spent night in town.

Co. "E" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead at Oppenheim as called for.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead area to Bad Salzig (South of Boppard) from 2200A until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridgehead at St. Goar when called for.

Co. "B" CDL Platoon provided illumination at Mainz when called for.

p. 30 March 45: Co. "C" (less 2nd Pl.) bivouaced in Geisenheim in Regt. Reserve. Will continue on vehicles. 2nd Pl. relieved from attachment to 2nd Bn., 355th Inf. Regt., at 0930A. Departed Kiedrich 1100A, arrived Geisenheim 1600A joined remainder of Co. "C". Reserved vehicles.

748th Tank Bn. (-) departed Weisel, Germany 1600A, arrived Springen, Germany 1830A.

Co. "B" CDL Platoon fired at Oppenheim bridge and continued illumination when called for.

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Co. "A" CDL continued to illuminate river at Bad Salzbig from 2200A until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridge at St. Goar when called for.

Co. "D" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate bridge at Mainz when called for.

g. 31 March 45: Co. "C" maintained vehicles in Geisenheim from 0800 to 1130. Departed Geisenheim, Germany 1300A, arrived Springen, Germany 1730A.

748th Tank Bn. (-) continued to regroup Bn. at Springen, attached to 89th Inf. Div.. Remained in Div. Reserve.

Co. "B" CDL Platoon relieved from XII Corps at 1200A and returned to Co. "B" at Schinsheim.

Co. "A" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate river at Bad Salzbig from 2200A until dawn.

Co. "C" CDL Platoon continued to illuminate river at St. Goar when called for.

Co. "D" continued to illuminate river at Mainz when called for.

During the month of March 1945 the 748th Tank Bn. was attached to XX Corps, XII Corps, VIII Corps and had elements of the Bn. attached to 65th Div. 5th Div, 87th Div, 89th Div, 80th Div, and 26th Div.. Marches of 175 miles involving the entire Bn., 60 miles, and 80 miles involving elements of the Bn. caused unduly large maintenance casualties-namely bogie wheels, which were hard to replace from Ordnance. Tanks were made unfloatable due to rough treatment on road from Hagondange, France to Schinsheim, Germany, when large trucks on narrow streets scraped side of canvas which ripped them. The Bn. was never given the time to settle in one spot and get all equipment back in shape before being committed in some new locality.

3. Losses in personnel and equipment.

- a. KIA - 1 Off, 4 EM; MIA - 2 EM; DWA - 2 EM; IWA - 3 Off, 10 EM.
- b. 3 medium tanks destroyed; 1 medium tank (DD) sunk in Rhine River; 1 DD sunk in Moselle River; 3 medium tanks disabled; 1 Assault Gun (105) disabled.

4. Estimated enemy casualties.

- a. Personnel
  - (1) Killed - 117
  - (2) Captured (In conjunction with Inf. units) - 1144
- b. Equipment - 1 88mm AA gun, 4 40mm AA guns, 1 CP gun, 3 MGs, 8 trucks.

5. Awards and Decorations.

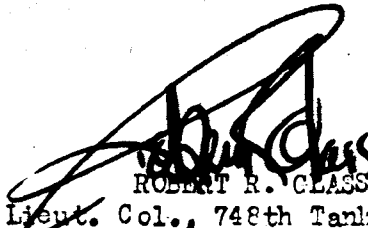
- a. One officer, one enlisted man recommended for Silver Star.
- b. Three enlisted men recommended for Soldier's Medal.
- c. Nine enlisted men recommended for Bronze Star.
- d. Eleven enlisted men awarded Purple Heart by this Battalion.

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ROBERT R. GLASS,  
Lieut. Col., 748th Tank Battalion,  
Commanding.

9-Incls.

- Incl 1 - S-3 Journal
- Incl 2 - After Action Reports Co. "C"
- Incl 3 - After Action Reports Co. "B"
- Incl 4 - After Action Reports Co. "A"
- Incl 5 - After Action Reports Co. "D"
- Incl 6 - Messages for period covered by report
- Incl 7 - Field Orders for period covered by report
- Incl 8 - General Orders awarding Purple Hearts
- Incl 9 - General Orders for awards of previous month

*not read  
11 June 45*

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:  
**RESTRICTED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
*Forreston Col (Ft)*  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE ... 1 Sept 1945

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RESTRICTED



**DOWNGRADED TO:  
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG 11201

**SECRET**

REF: **TH: C.O., 748TH TK. BN.**  
INIT: **100**  
DATE: **4 June 1945**

**HEADQUARTERS TANK TANK BATTALION  
A.P.O. 408, U.S. Army**

**Dup**

**1446 46 HSD**  
Date Initials

**4 June 1945.**

**SUBJECT: After Action Report.**

**TO : Commanding General, Third U.S. Army, APO 408, U.S. Army,  
(Thru: Commanding General, 65th Inf. Div., APO 800, U.S. Army).**

**1. In accordance with AR 545-108, the following report is submitted covering the operations of the 748th Tank Battalion in support of the 65th Infantry Division from 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945.**

**2. Chronological history of events:**

**a. 1 May 1945: 748th(-) attached to 65th Division in Reserve at Grassl-  
fing, Germany.**

**Company "A" attached to 259th Infantry Regiment: 1st Platoon to 1st Battalion, 2d Platoon to 2d Battalion, and 1st Platoon Company "D" to 3d Battalion. Departed Abbsch, Germany 1630B, destination Ramsdorf, Germany (795222), received orders to proceed on to Pocking, Germany (122933) instead. Company enroute at close of period.**

**Company "B" attached to 260th Infantry Regiment in Regt. Reserve at Regensburg, Germany (190555).**

**Company "C" attached to 261st Infantry Regiment (plus 1 Platoon Company "D"), departed Traubling, Germany at 1215B enroute to Schalding, Germany. Pushed forward all night in snow. At 2200B light tank platoon was sent forward to relieve I. & R. Platoon pinned down at Altfelz, Germany. Enemy was firing from railroad cars near the road. Light tanks destroyed by fire: 1 20mm AA gun, 3 ammo trailers, 1 ammo boxcar, 1 oil car, and 22 houses. Moved on forward until stopped by a defended roadblock. Light tanks dropped back and medium tanks came forward and destroyed block and resistance with 76mm fire. One light tank was damaged by bazooka fire at Schalding. 1 EM - SWA, 1 EM LWA, 1 EM SIA.**

**b. 2 May 1945: 748th (-) departed Grasslfig, Germany at 0630B enroute to Moos, Germany. Received change of destination while enroute and cleared into Ausham, Germany at 1700B. In Division Reserve.**

**Company "A" continued to move with 259th Infantry to objective. 2d Platoon and Lt. Platoon arrived in Pocking, Germany at 1600B. 1st Platoon continued on to Hartkirchen, Germany.**

**Company "B" attached to 260th Infantry moved from Regensburg 0600B to Steindorf, Germany (099030). Distance of 80 miles. No action.**

**Company "C" attached to 261st Infantry continued to move rapidly to SE. Departed Schalding, Germany 0615B enroute to Passau. At Heming, Germany, the lead tank was hit from second story window by bazooka. 1 EM KIA, 1 Off. SWA, 3 EM SWA. Bazooka team was destroyed by infantry and column moved on. Encountered sniper fire which was taken care of and proceeded on to Passau. Arrived in Passau 0900B and moved rapidly through the town to try and capture the bridge over the Inn River. Bridge was blown just as Infantry and tanks arrived. All three tank platoons then supported infantry in a methodical cleaning up of Passau for snipers, bazooka teams, etc. One Mark IV was in the town but destroyed by TDS.**

**Casualties: 1 EM KIA, 1 Off SWA, 3 EM SWA.**

**Damage to Enemy: Killed 75, WIA 100.**

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c. 5 May 1945: 748th (-) in Division Reserve at Ausham, Germany. Assault Gun Platoon (G-1054) departed Ausham 0930B, arrived Steinbof, Germany 1100B, attached to Company "B".

Company "A" attached to 250th Infantry awaited orders to cross bridge over Inn River at Scharding. Two light tanks sent to airfield near Pocking to help guard 4,300 PWs. No Action.

Company "B" (less 1st Platoon) attached to 250th Infantry departed Steinbof (0900B) at 1200B, cleared into vic. Hiltich at 1250B. Performed maintenance while waiting for bridge to be fixed over Inn River. 2d Platoon supported 2d Battalion. 250th in clearing woods from Sandbach (U75155) to Inn River. No rounds expended.

Company "B" (plus 1 Platoon Company "D") attached 251st departed Passau 0730B, arrived Hohenau, Germany 1215B. 120 PWs surrendered to tanks while enroute. Waited for bridge to be completed over Inn River.

d. 4 May 1945: 748th (-) departed Ausham, Germany at 1700B, crossed Inn River at Scharding, cleared into Rossbach, Austria at 1815B.

Company "A" attached to 250th Infantry. 1st Platoon tanks crossed Inn River at 1400B approximately 1400B. Moved to Waiskirchen, Austria (530885). Remainder of Company stayed at Pocking.

Company "B" attached to 260th Infantry. Tanks crossed river at 140845, moved to Waiskirchen, Austria (3104). No Action.

Company "C" attached to 261st Infantry. Tanks crossed Inn River at 140845. Pushed forward rapidly to Kalsenkirchen, Austria against scattered opposition.

e. 5 May 1945: 748th (-) departed Rossbach, Austria 0900B, cleared into Eferding, Austria 1600B.

Company "A" (less 1st Platoon) departed Pocking, Germany, cleared into Eferding, Austria at 1730B. 1st Platoon departed Waiskirchen 1100B, cleared into Hart, Austria 1700B. No Action.

Company "B" attached 250th Infantry departed Waiskirchen, Austria and followed Infantry and trains into Linz, Austria at 1800B.

Company "C" departed Kalsenkirchen 0700B moving with a task force from 261st Infantry. Met very light resistance, mostly small arms. Entered part of Linz at 1500B. Departed Linz at 1800B and continued on to Enns, Austria against little opposition. Took Enns by 1800B and billeted there for the night.

Company "D" (less 2 Platoons) remained in Rossbach. Sent men to Ordnance to pick up new tanks for Battalion.

f. 6 May 1945: 748th (-) departed Eferding, Austria 1030B, crossed Traun River at Linz at 1200B. Destination was changed while enroute so column returned to vic. Hart, Austria just outside of Linz. Received orders that all tank companies would return to the Battalion.

Company "A" (less 1st Platoon) moved with Battalion C.P. from Eferding to Hart, Austria. 1st Platoon departed Hart, Austria 0800B with 1st Battalion, 259th Infantry, moved to Eppersdorf, Austria. Received orders to return to Battalion and rejoined Battalion at Hart at 1700B.

Company "B" relieved from attachment to 260th Infantry. Remained in billets vic. Hart, Austria until Battalion joined them.

Company "C" relieved from attachment to 261st Infantry at Enns, Austria. Departed Enns at 1600B, cleared into Hart, Austria 1800B.

Company "D" (less 2 Platoons) remained in Rossbach, Austria.

g. 7 May 1945: 748th (less Co. "D"(-)) in Division Reserve in vic. Hart, Austria. Maintained vehicles. Received message to cease all movements and operations.

Company "D" remained in Rossbach.

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b. 6 May 1945: 748th in Division Reserve in Hart, Austria. Company "D" (-) rejoined Battalion at 1230H.

Battalion formation held and appropriate ceremony given in honor of personnel killed in action.

1. 9 May 1945 - 31 May 1945: 748th Tank Battalion in billets vic. Hart, Austria. Engaged in policing area and providing guards for steel plant in Ling, Austria. Training program instituted and inspections made of all clothing, equipment and vehicles. Education program completely planned and awaiting only the issue of textbooks.

3. Losses in personnel and equipment:

a. KIA 1 SN; SWA 1 Off., 1 SN; LMA 1 SN; SWA 1 SN.

b. 1 medium tank damaged by bazooka, 1 light tank damaged by bazooka. (both evacuated by Germans).

4. Estimated enemy casualties:

a. Personnel:

1. Killed - 100.

2. Wounded - 5.

3. PW (in conjunction with Infantry Units)-15,591.

b. Equipment:

1 20mm AA gun, 1 ammo car, 1 oil car, 3 ammo trailers, 27 houses.

5. Awards and Decorations:

None.

*Robert S. Cockcroft*

ROBERT S. COCKROFT

Major, 748th Tank Battalion,  
Commanding.

13 Incls:

Incl 1- After Action Report, Company "A".

Incl 2- After Action Report, Company "B".

Incl 3- After Action Report, Company "C".

Incl 4- After Action Report, Company "D".

Incl 5- After Action Report, Headquarters Company.

Incl 6- After Action Report, Service Company.

Incl 7- After Action Report, Medical Detachment.

Incl 8- 8-8 Journal.

Incl 9- Messages for the period.

Incl 10-Field Orders for the period.

Incl 11-Operations Instructions for the period.

Incl 12-General Orders awarding the Purple Heart.

Incl 13-General Orders for decorations of previous month.

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