

JOURNAL

727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 1 April 1945

TO 18 April 1945

Place Aboard Liberty Ships

<u>TIME</u> In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			1 April	Dropped anchor Leyte Gulf, Typhoon approaching	
			2 April	Nil	
			3 Apr	Weighted Anchor <u>0850</u> .	
			4 Apr	Nil	
			5 Apr	Dropped anchor in Morotai Straits off coast of Morotai, Moluccas.  Pursuant to instructions in USAFFE letter (1637) file FECC 370.5 dated 22 Mar 45, this battalion is released from assignment to 6th Army and assigned to 8th Army effective upon arrival at Morotai. Unit will be under operational control of 1st Aust Corps.	
			6 Apr	Nil	
			7 Apr	Nil	
			8 Apr	Commence unloading LVT's from Liberty ships.	
			9 Apr	Continue unloading LVT's.	
			10 Apr	Continue unloading LVT's.	
			11 Apr	Continue unloading LVT's.	
			12 Apr	Continue unloading LVT's.	
			13 Apr	Unloading LVT's and equipment from Liberty ships completed.	
			14 Apr	Nil	
			15 Apr	Nil	
			16 Apr	Nil	
			17 Apr	Nil	

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TO 1 May 1945

Place Morotai,

<u>TIME</u> In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			18 Apr	Nil	
			19 Apr	Nil	
			20 Apr	Nil	
			21 Apr	Nil	
			22 Apr	<del>XXXX</del> Provisional Co formed from Co "A" & Co "B" to be attached to 26th Aust Inf Bde.	
			23 Apr	<del>XXX</del> Spec platoon and 2nd platoon of 2 officers and 68 EM with 20 LVT's load on <del>XXX</del> 2 IST's.	
			24 Apr	Rear Echelon left camp at Dagupan Luzon and moved to White Beach to load on Liberty ship "John E. Ward".	
			25 Apr	All LVT's disembark from IST's with Inf. aboard, formed 1st four assault waves and simulate landing on Morotai Island in rehearsal for Oboe 1 operation.	
			26 Apr	Nil	
			27 Apr	Nil	
			28 Apr	Oboe 1 convoy sails	
			29 Apr	Rear Echelon sails from Lingayen Gulf at <del>1300</del> for APO 926.	
			30 Apr	<del>XXX</del> Special platoon on IST anchored off SW coast of Tarakan Island Borneo at <del>0500</del> disembarked at <del>1010</del> beached in water 25 yards off Linkas Beach, Tarakan Island at T hour <del>1100</del> Sniper and LMG fire encountered. Mortar fire encountered. Performed mission, and reembarked on IST at <del>2000</del> .	

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From 1 May 1945

TO 10 May 1945

Place Tarakan Island, Morotai

TIME In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			1 May <del>DTI</del>	0610 received V.C. from task force commander to disembark at 0650. 0650 34 LVT's disembarked off SW coast of Tarakan Island with combat teams aboard. Cross LD at 0755 successive waves crossing at 5 minute intervals. Infantry discharged on Lingkas beach Tarakan Island at (H) hour 0815. Small arms enemy fire encountered. No casualties. No LVT's damaged. Landing highly successful. Due to coastal defenses sea wall and coral reefs LVT's were unable to go on land. LVT's were secured to South pier and CP was set up in C.O.'s tractor. LVT's dispatched to transport Med Supplies from ship to shore and wounded from shore to ship. LVT's also used to hold in position Floating pontoon docks launched from IST.	
			2 May	LVT's continue ship to shore and shore to ship transporting es supplies and wounded. Also used to pull small craft and wheel vehicles and engineer equipment off beach left grounded by changing tide.	
			3 May	LVT's continue same operation as 2 May. Depart from bivouac area at 1430 embark on 5 IST's at 1630. Special platoon remain on Tarkan Island. Weighted anchor at 1645 to join convoy for return to Morotai Island for staging for another operation.	
			4 May	Unloading LCM's unable to beach.	
			5 May	5 LVT's Spec Plat with divers go to salvage small boats and Engine sunk on P Day.	
			6 May	Dropped anchor in Mrotai Straits at 1400. Arrived at bivouac area at 1410.	
			7 May	Special platoon embarked on IST at 0800 for return trip to Morotai Island.	
			8 May	Special Platoon joined convoy at 0800 for return trip to Morotai Island.	
			9 May	Usual ship duties.	

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From 10 May 1945

TO 1 June 1945

Place Morotai, Island

<u>TIME</u>		<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Time Dated</u>	<u>INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>				
			10 May	Usual ship duties	
			11 May	Special platoon landed on Morotai Peninsula Morotai Island at 1445, disembarked and arrived at bivouac area 1500. Mission successful. No casualties.	
			12 May	Nil	
			13 May	Rear Echelon arrived at Morotai Island from Luzon.	
			14 May to 29 May	During this period, S-3 was attached to 9th Aust Inf Div as liaison officer attending conference daily on pending Oboe 6 operation. Detailed planning is contained in Bn Operation Order No.2.	
			30 May	Nil	
			31 May	Co "A" and Co "B" load on LST's for Oboe 6 operation.	