

JOURNAL

727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 1 October 1944

TO 20 October 1944

Place Dutch, New Guinea

<u>TIME</u>		<u>Serial</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>Dated</u>	<u>INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS</u>	<u>Action</u> <u>taken</u>
<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>				
			1 Oct	Nil	
			2 Oct	Nil	
			3 Oct	1st Plat Co "A" on DS to 19th Inf Regt, 24th Inf Div. 3rd Plat Co "A" on DS to 34th Inf Regt, 24th Inf Div.	
			4 Oct	Training detachment returns from APO 32 to duty	
			5 Oct	Nil	
			6 Oct	Nil	
			7 Oct	Nil	
			8 Oct	Nil	
			10 Oct	Nil	
			11 Oct	Nil	
			12 Oct	F.O. #2, Eighth Army, dtd 28 Sept 44, Co "B" attached to Eighth Army effective 2 Oct 1944.	
			13 Oct	Nil	
			14 Oct	Nil	
			15 Oct	Nil	
			16 Oct	Bn moved from Tami Beach to Tjeweri Beach, Humboldt Bay, Dutch New Guinea	
			17 Oct	Nil	
			18 Oct	Nil	
			19 Oct	Nil	

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From 20 October 1944

TO 22 October 1944

Place Leyte, P.I.

<u>TIME</u> In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			20 Oct	<p>1st Plat., commanded by 1st Lt. Cush, and 3rd Plt., commanded by 1st Lt. Corbin, disembarked from APA's at sea about 4 miles off shore at H plus 30 and landed on Red Beach in the vicinity of Palo with the 16th assault wave at H plus 95. Tractors were mobile loaded with artillery ammunition and proceeded directly to the ammunition dumps and unloaded.</p> <p>Tractors immediately returned to the beach and aided in salvaging swamped wheeled vehicles interfering with unloading of landing craft.</p>	
			21 Oct	<p>Tractors engaged throughout the day in transporting ammunition, rations, water and medical supplies to designated units. Also employed in carrying troops over otherwise impassable terrain to forward positions.</p> <p>Return trips utilized in evacuation of casualties from front lines.</p> <p>Other tractors employed by Signal personnel in stringing communication lines over difficult terrain.</p> <p>One tractor used as command vehicle by 34th Inf. Comdr; also used for reconnaissance purposes.</p>	

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From 22 October 1944

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<u>TIME</u>		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
In	Out				
			22 Oct	<p>Tractors continue support of 19th and 34th Inf. and 63rd F.A. by carrying supplies to front lines and evacuating casualties to rear. Activity is in vicinity of Hill 522 where Japs are strongly entrenched. Tractors are the only vehicles present that can pass over the swampy ground and rice paddies.</p> <p>Tractor crew Cpl Rade Allen, T/5 Andrew Sapp and T/5 Leonard Monick, volunteer for attack mission against enemy pill-boxes which had pinned down units of 34th Inf. for 24 hours and prevented their advance.</p> <p>Attack was enormous success. Crew killed at least sixty Japs after the tractor had been disabled by a land mine. The way was now cleared for advance of 34th Inf. Cpl Rade Allen and T/5 Andrew Sapp received leg wounds in this engagement. Tractor crew recommended for Bronze Star.</p> <p>Tractor crew Sgt. Charles Beach, T/5 Hervy Ashcraft and T/5 Clifford J. Copeland on another tractor notice the condition of Cpl Rade Allen's tractor which was still under enemy fire.</p> <p>They immediately went to the rescue of disabled crew and returned them to safety.</p> <p>This crew has been recommended for the Bronze Star.</p> <p>Some tractors employed as bulldozers in clearing fields of fire for "B" and "C" Batteries of 63rd F.A. Bn., others continue in stringing communication lines in reconnaissance missions.</p>	

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From 23 October 1944

TO 26 October 1944

Place Leyte, P.I.

<u>TIME</u>		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
In	Out				
			23 Oct	<p>Tractors play indispensable role in supplying and supporting 19th & 34th Inf. Swamp land impassable to all vehicles but LVT's</p> <p>Medical Detachments' praise tractor crews for efficiency and number of casualties speedily evacuated to their areas.</p> <p>Tractors engaged in laying lines to forward O.P.'s.</p> <p>Other tractors assigned as flank guard for Company "F", 34th Inf., in attack on the right of Hill 522.</p>	
			24 Oct	<p>Tractors assault enemy positions on right of Hill 522. Tractors credited with killing twenty (20) Japs.</p> <p>Supply and evacuation for 19th Inf. and 63rd F.A. continue as on previous day. Palo River route used as road travel is impossible. Snipers very active along river bank.</p> <p>Tractors with 34th continue supply, wire laying, and evacuation missions.</p> <p>Hq & Co "A", 2nd Plat. detachments land on red Beach amid heavy enemy bombing and strafing attacks.</p> <p>Bn. Commander's tractor moves to 24th Inf. Div. C.P. to act as liaison vehicle.</p> <p>Tractors engaged in moving X Corp from Beach to town of Pawing. Others used in hauling materials for road repairs.</p>	
			25 Oct	<p>Two tractors dispatched to 1st Cav. Div. Supplies to Inf. & Artillery units in vicinity of Palo continues via Palo River Route.</p>	

Contd.

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 25 October 1944

TO 1 November 1944

Place Leyte, P.I.

<u>TIME</u> In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			25 Oct	<p align="center">(Contd)</p> <p>Tractors transported 85th Chemical Co. to new position west of Palo.</p> <p>X Corp tractors engaged on wire laying missions to AA positions from Red and White Beaches. Also used on supply missions to forward areas.</p>	
			26 Oct	<p>Bn bivouacs in town of Palo.</p> <p>Supply missions for 34th Inf. and 1st Cav. Div units performed in vicinity of Castilla. X Corp tractors continue supply to forward areas.</p>	
			27 Oct	<p>Tractors carry supplies via Palo River to Inf. & Artillery units in and around Palo. Other tractors move part of 19th Inf. to vicinity of Pastrana. X Corp tractors employed as on previous day.</p>	
			28 Oct	<p>Tractors engaged in hauling supplies up the Palo River to dumps in Palo.</p>	
			29 Oct	<p>Supplies to Palo dumps via river continues. X Corps tractors engage in salvage operations of bombed and sinking LST. Other tractors being used in laying communication lines for anti-aircraft unit.</p>	
			30 Oct	<p>Battalion moves from bivouac area in Palo to new location on Red Beach.</p> <p>Tractors carry supplies to Palo dumps via Palo River.</p> <p>X Corp tractors engaged in moving X Corp Hqs. to Alangalang.</p>	
			31 Oct	<p>Tractors still employed in transporting supplies on Palo River route.</p>	