

# JOURNAL

## 727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 1 February 1945

TO 4 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

TIME		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
In	Out				
			1 Feb	<p>"A" Company continues ship to shore movement of supplies and engineer equipment. Enemy planes make an attack on our troops and shipping and temporarily halt operations. No great damage suffered.</p> <p>"B" Company (-3rd Platoon) left Villasis <del>1000</del> and arrived at Manaoag at 1430 where new CP was set up. While enroute, Co learned of enemy position 2 miles NW of Manaoag in a rice field 100yds from road. The Maint section attacked the position with 1 LVT and 4 men and accounted for 2 dead Japs.</p> <p>1st Platoon set up CP at Urdaneta, 2nd Platoon at Binalonan, and 3rd platoon remained at Villasis on Agno river.</p>	
			2 Feb	<p>Twenty-four hour per day operation of unloading supplies from ships to White Beach continues. "A" Company tractors and crews underwent artillery fire of long range Jap guns located in the northern hills. This interrupted operation for a period of about two hours but no damage was inflicted on our troops.</p> <p>Company "B" relieved from attachment to 6th Div and reverts to I Corps effective 29 Jan 45 per General Order 16, Hq I Corp dated 29 Jan 45.</p> <p>3rd Platoon notified of Japs in hut 2 miles west of Villasis. Lt. Durrell and a patrol of 4 of his men attacked the enemy and killed 2 Japs.</p>	
			3 Feb	<p>Ship to shore movement of ammunition, rations and POL by "A" Company continues. Bn. maintenance carries on, giving 100 hour checks to dead-lined vehicles. Company maintenance employed in correcting minor faults and keeping LVT's in operating condition.</p>	

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 4 February 1945

TO 8 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

TIME		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
In	Out				
			4 Feb	<p>"A" Company continues unloading operations at White Beach, operating 40 LVT's on a 24 hour basis. Their dead-lined vehicles still undergoing repairs and 100 hour checks. Bn. Headquarters and Hq and Serv Company is setting up camp in a new bivouac area about 500 yards back from Blue Beach.</p>	
			5 Feb	<p>Company "A" carries on with ship to shore movement of military supplies to White Beach. Battalion Maintenance is proceeding with 100 hour checks and minor repairs on dead-lined vehicles.</p> <p>Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters and Service Company still setting up camp off Blue Beach.</p> <p>Company "B" completely relieved of Bridge security mission by 826th Amph Trac Bn. and prepares to move by platoons to the Bn. Bivouac area. Command of guerrillas also assumed by the 826th.</p>	
			6 Feb	<p>Company "B" moves its platoons from their respective CP's at Villasis, Urdaneta and Binalonan to the Bn. bivouac area.</p>	
			7 Feb	<p>"B" Company is now placed under Base "M" for unloading supplies and equipment from the ships in Lingayen Gulf. For 2 days all their vehicles were dead-lined for maintenance in order to have enough LVT's in operating condition.</p> <p>"A" Company tractors carrying on ship to shore movement of ammunition, rations, POL and various equipment.</p> <p>Both companies setting up new camp with Battalion. Battalion Maintenance continues giving aid to Co Maintenance Sections.</p>	

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 8 February 1945

TO 10 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<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>				
			8 Feb	<p>"A" Company continues ship to shore movement of supplies and equipment at White Beach. Also engaged in setting up new camp.</p> <p>Battalion received 6th Army order to prepare one platoon for secret mission under command of XI Corps. Lt. Corbin was assigned the task of taking 12 LVT's and 42 enlisted men from our bivouac area on Blue Beach in vicinity of Dagupan and proceeded to the LCT loading point at White Beach near San Fabian, Island of Luzon, Philippine Islands.</p> <p>The platoon was attached to the 151st Inf. Regiment of the 28th Infantry Division for operational control.</p> <p>Battalion Maintenance assisting Company "A" and Company "B" in higher echelon maintenance.</p>	
			9 Feb	<p>The platoon was embarked on 6 LCT's at 1100 on 9 February and sailed south from Lingayen Bay.</p> <p>Company "A" continues unloading operations at White Beach still working on a 24 hour basis.</p> <p>"B" Company still employed in maintenance work on its LVT's, replacing bogie wheels and one final drive.</p> <p>Battalion Maintenance doing 100 hour checks on "A" Company tractors and furnishing spare parts to "B" Company.</p>	

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 10 February 1945

TO 13 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<u>TIME</u>		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
In	Out				
			10 Feb	<p>Company "A" continues unloading operations on White Beach. Cargo consists mostly of large artillery shells.</p> <p>Company "B" and Battalion Maintenance Section are busy in replacing grouzers, final drives and bogie wheels, on "B" Company Tractors.</p>	
			11 Feb	<p>Company "B" commences working on unloading operations at White Beach. They work the hours of 2000 to 0800 while "A" Company works 0800 to 2000.</p> <p>Battalion Maintenance pulling 100 hour checks on "B" Company tractors and obtaining bogie wheels and other spare parts necessary for keeping LVT's in operating condition.</p> <p>Platoon attached to 151st Inf. Regt arrives at Subic Bay, Luzon, on 11 February 1945.</p> <p>During the night of 11 February the LCT's were beached in Subic Bay to allow for taking on water and refueling.</p>	
			12 Feb	<p>At 1530 our LVT's were discharged and the platoon camped on the beach awaiting further orders.</p> <p>Both "A" and "B" Companies commence unloading heavy artillery ammunition. The point of unloading is in the vicinity of Rabon, 5 miles north of San Fabian.</p>	

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## 727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 13 February 1945

TO 16 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<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>				
			13 Feb	The LVT Crews of Special Platoon were ordered to load LST's taking part in the operation. This work was started on 12 Feb and continued till all the LST's completed loading of bulk on 14 February 1945.	
			14 Feb	At <del>1030</del> on 14 Feb we loaded our LVT's on one LST and moved out of the harbor at <del>1800</del> for destination.	
			15 Feb	<p>At <del>0900</del> on 15 February, the 12 LVT's loaded with infantry of the 151st Regiment were discharged several thousand yards off shore in Mariveles Bay, Luzon, P.I., to make the assault landing on the beach.</p> <p>The LVT's took up their formation and made a successful landing at <del>1020</del> and moved inland to discharge the infantry in defilade positions. The LVT's supported the advancing infantry with overhead .50 Cal. and .30 Cal. MG fire. No casualties were suffered by our platoon. Enemy resistance was moderate and the infantry made a steady advance inland.</p> <p>The platoon was then attached to "F" Company of the 592nd Eng. Boat and Shore Battalion for purpose of unloading LST's. This operation was started at <del>1300</del> and continued into the night.</p> <p>Ship to shore movement of cargo resumed at White Beach. Cargo consists of petroleum, oil and lubricants.</p>	

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 16 February 1945

TO 17 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<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>				
			16 Feb	<p>Unloading of LST's was carried on till <del>0300</del> when the enemy started Q-boat attacks on our ships in the harbor. These attacks lasted for several hours until the attack of the enemy was neutralized, when unloading was resumed.</p> <p>These Q-Boat attacks consisted of the following tactics: The Q-Boats were small wooden, motor driven crafts equipped with mines and carrying a 2 man suicide crew in each one. They were trying to ram the ships and sink them by the explosion of these mines.</p> <p>By 1530 all LST's were unloaded and we moved our LVT's to a bivouac area on the beach to do maintenance work on the vehicles.</p> <p>The Mariveles beach area was heavily mined. The LVT's had several close escapes until mine field was cleared by Engineers.</p> <p>From our area we witnessed the naval bombardment of Corregidor and also the Parachute landing on that island by our troops.</p> <p>"A" and "B" Companies continue ship to shore movement from ships in Lingayen Gulf transporting various supplies, mostly POL and ammunition.</p>	

# JOURNAL

## 727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 17 February 1945

TO 21 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<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>				
			17 Feb	<p>Unloading operations continue at White Beach. Cargo consists of POL, rations, and ammunition.</p> <p>At 0835 we started to upload supplies and ammunition from LSM's on the beach and by amphibious operations, delivered them to the front line troops which had no other method of supply. On return trips to the beach our LVT's were used to evacuate the wounded and dead.</p>	
			18 Feb	<p>We continued to support the front line troops by amphibious movements of rations, ammunition and other supplies. More wounded and dead were evacuated to our beach-head.</p> <p>"A" Company takes over the day shift and "B" Company the night shift. Bulk of cargo consists of POL and is still being carried to dumps at White Beach.</p>	
			19 Feb	<p>Operations were the same as on previous day for the platoon on mission. Lt. Corbin sent radio message to the battalion at Dagupan requesting spare parts for the LVT's. He was able to obtain some parts at Mariveles from the 558th Ordnance Company. Other spare parts were flown to him from our location near Mangaldan.</p>	
			20 Feb	<p>Platoon on Mission continued hauling supplies and ammunition to the front line infantry troops and hauled the dead on the return trips to USA Cemetery #1.</p>	

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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 21 February 1945

TO 25 February 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<u>TIME</u> In Out		Serial No.	Time Dated	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	Action taken
			21 Feb	Operations are the same as on previous day. Four LVT's used in unloading rations and POL from LSM's.	
			22 Feb	Two LVT's were assigned the mission of reconnoitering the adjacent points for enemy caves and patrols. Two other LVT's continue to support front line troops by hauling ammunition and other supplies and hauling back the dead.  Many of the Japs were attempting escape by swimming from the Island of Corregidor to Bataan. Four LVT's were ordered to intercept them before reaching the mainland but several were killed because of their unwillingness to surrender.	
			23 Feb	Nine of the LVT's were used in ship to shore hauling of supplies. Other LVT's continue hauling supplies to infantry and returning with the dead.	
			24 Feb	Six LVT's continue ship to shore hauling of supplies. Several others continue support of the front line troops. One LVT is assigned to a chaplain to collect the dead and return them to the cemetery.  "A" and "B" Companies carry on with ship to shore movement of supplies at White Beach. Supplies consist of engineering equipment, medical supplies, rations, ammunition and POL.	



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727TH AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION

From 25 February 1945

TO 1 March 1945

Place Luzon, P.I.

<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>				
			25 Feb	Close support of infantry continues. Five LVT's engaged in ship to shore hauling of supplies while others are used in picking up the Japs swimming from Corregidor to Bataan, killing all those offering resistance.	
			26 Feb	Continue hauling of ammunition and supplies to the infantry and picking up Japs escaping from Corregidor.	
			27 Feb	Operations are the same as on previous day.	
			28 Feb	Platoon on mission continue same operations.  Companies "A" and "B" continue with ship to shore movement of war materials and supplies at White Beach.	