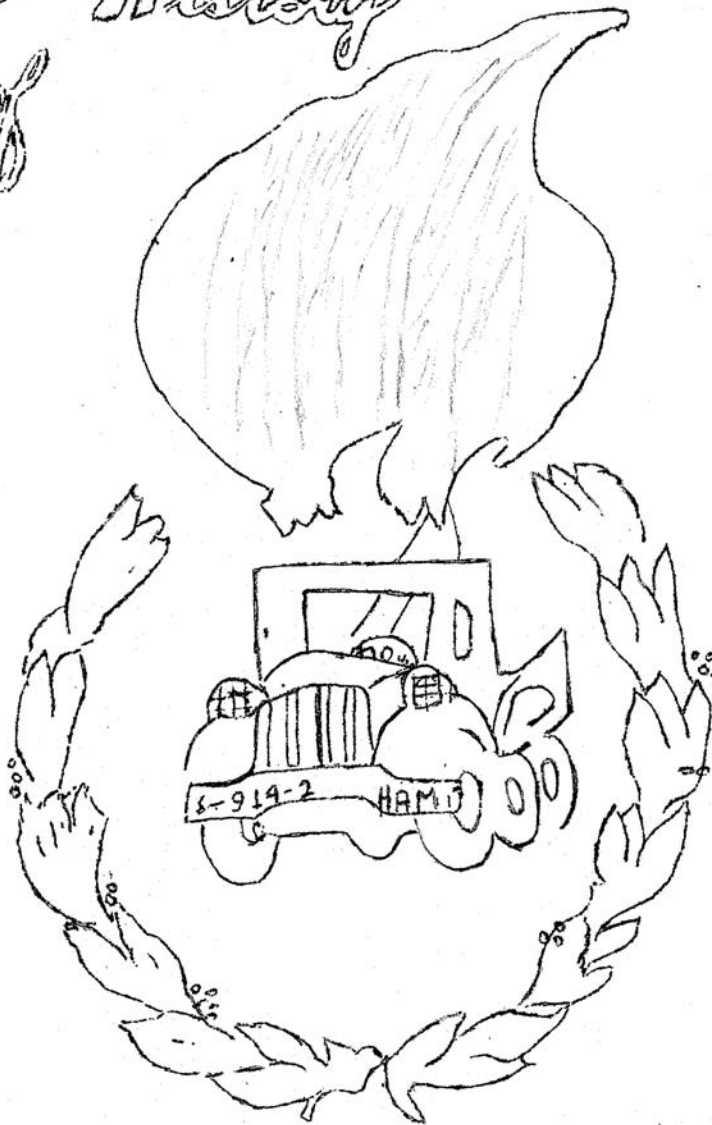

Unit History



914th Ordnance Heavy
Automotive Maintenance
Company

Hand Drawing by Artist Unknown

STAFF

ORIGINAL

Rank	Name	ASN	Duty
1 st Lt.	Chauncey M. Sanner	0-404997	Commanding
2 nd Lt.	James E. Caldwell	0-1555183	Maintenance Officer
2 nd Lt.	Robert E. Estes	0-1555201	Supply and Administration
2 nd Lt.	John R. Halisky	0-1554384	Motor Supply
2 nd Lt.	John T. Lampila, Jr.	0-1555243	Maintenance Officer
2 nd Lt.	Thomas L Tucker	0-1579234	Shop Officer
2 nd Lt.	John E. Weflen	0-1555310	Plans and Training

PRESENT

Rank	Name	ASN	Duty
Capt.	John C. O'Donnell, Jr.	0-1581305	Commanding
1 st Lt.	James E. Caldwell	0-1555183	Maintenance Officer
1 st Lt.	John R. Halisky	0-1554384	Supply General
1 st Lt.	John T. Lampila, Jr.	0-1555243	Shop Officer
1 st Lt.	Wilfred B. Ostmeyer	0-1556487	Maintenance Officer
1 st Lt.	Fordyce E. Morgan	0-2129231	Maintenance Officer

ACTIVATION

The 914th Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company was activated as the 914th Ordnance Heavy Maintenance Company (Q), 6 April 19 at Camp Polk, Louisiana under T/O 10-27; assigned to Third Army, attached to 24th Ordnance Battalion and III Armored Corps.

The original cadre consisted of one officer, 1st Lt. Chauncey M. Sanner; Commanding, and twelve enlisted men, of the 77th Ordnance Battalion, namely;

First Sergeant	Frank B. Secor
Master Sergeant	Joe E. Sigrist
Staff Sergeant	John W. Frank
Staff Sergeant	Weston E. Ganus
Staff Sergeant	Robert H. Greiner
Staff Sergeant	James E. Lewallen
Staff Sergeant	Glenn N. Lauffer
Staff Sergeant	Fred N. Williams
Tec 4	Salvatore L. Castagnola
Tec 4	Jack I. Kirschenbaum
Tec 5	James Hurley
Cpl	Lester H. Bogoff

Two hundred eighty six fillers (recruits) arrived 11, April 1943 from Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, and Fort Thomas, Kentucky, to complete the enlisted strength of the organization. These men well represented the Fifth Service Command, coming from the States of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

BASIC TRAINING

Although handicapped to some degree by the lack of Officer personnel, basic training was started immediately. The fillers were the rawest of recruits having no previous military training, being signed direct after processing at the reception centers.

At this time the rapid expansion of the Armed Forces made it necessary to interrupt the training program to construct a tent camp it was necessary to vacate permanent billets. This, too, served as training aid in that it gave the enlisted men a sample of Army Life under field conditions early in their Army Careers. The tent camp was completed 27, April 1943 and basic training resumed.

The enlisted men, although not yet oriented to the Army, did an excellent job of constructing the Tent City which, when completed, made them comfortable homes. In addition an assembly tent was erected to serve as a class room and day room which added to the comfort of the enlisted men. The later proved to be a great asset to them as it provided a more rugged life by keeping them in the out of doors and teaching field sanitation. As the majority of the men were of "teen" age it was not difficult for them to adjust themselves to this type of life.

The arrival of the following officer personnel approximately 1 May 1943 greatly relieved the strain of recruit training from the original cadre:

2nd Lt. James E. Caldwell
2nd Lt. Thomas L. Tucker
2nd Lt. John E. Weflen
2nd Lt. Robert R. Estes
2nd Lt. John T. Lampia, Jr.
2nd Lt. John R. Halisky

With the exception of 2nd Lt. Thomas L. Tucker and 2Nd Lt. John R. Halisky the officers were assigned direct from Officer Candidate School with these basis subject fresh in their minds and thus were of great assistance thru basic period.

During the basic period the following additions in enlisted personnel were made:

Staff Sergeant Luther E. Burnett assigned from Post Ordnance Detachment, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

75 EM of 527th Ordnance Company (HM) (TK) attached for Basic Training.

20 Privates First Class assigned from David Rankin, Jr. School Mechanical Trades, St. Louis, Missouri.

Sergeant William E. Hearn assigned from 804th MP Battalion (ZI) Mobile Force Special, MDV. Washington, D.C.

Staff Sergeant Harmon F. Canches assigned from Supply and Serv Detachment (ORD), Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

3 Privates First Class assigned from Mt. Rainier Ordnance School, Mt. Rainier, Washington.

With the above additions the enlisted strength of the organization for basic training was 399.

During the basic period there was no technical training due to lack of facilities to accommodate such a large number of men. Basic training was completed and Individual Training Period Test taken 28, July 1943 with a grade of very satisfactory.

The 914th Ordnance Heavy Maintenance Company (Q) was re-designated as the 914th Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company and reorganized under T/O and E 9-197, dated 2 April 1943. Effective date of re-designation and re-organization 1, June 1943.

For the splendid effort put forth during basic training the unit was rewarded with a 3 day trip to Lake Charles, Louisiana for rest and recuperation, after which the much talked of furloughs were begun.

TECHNICAL TRAINING

During Technical Training Period it was found that a majority of the enlisted men, being recently out of school, lacked the technical skill and practical experience necessary for an Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company. It was therefore, necessary to send approximately 50% of the personnel to Ordnance Technical Schools to gain the technical knowledge required. A small shop was set up for the remaining men for the purpose of acquainting them with the tools and equipment of an Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company. In connection with this training several Salvaged vehicles were acquired and dismantled.

During the Technical Training Period the men were making good progress, but before the Technical Training Period was completed the unit was ordered to participate in the Louisiana Maneuvers. As the unit had not received its authorized vehicles, and with a large percentage of the company attending Ordnance Technical Schools, it was a difficult task to prepare for the undertaking in the time allotted (3 days). Many substitutions of vehicles and equipment were made. An incomplete stock of automotive spare parts were hastily acquired. Preparations were finished and the unit departed for Louisiana Maneuver area, vicinity of DeRidder, Louisiana 5, September 1943.

Due to the change to T/O 9-197 from T/O 10-27 the unit was over-strength and was therefore necessary to transfer enlisted men to other organizations. No men were transferred until basic training was completed.

LOSSES DURING TECHNICAL TRAINING PERIOD

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pfc	Jack L. Dawson	489 th Ord Evac Company
Pfc	Walter Kisiewicz	“
Pfc	Carl T. McIntosh	“
Pvt	Richard E. Blair	“
Pvt	Eugene Boggs	“
Pvt	Hobart Bragg	“
Pvt	James B. Burns	“
Pvt	John L. Byrd	“
Pvt	Harden Campbell	“
Pvt	Floyd L. Chaffin	“
Pvt	Robert L. Clark	“
Pvt	Chester L. Clemens	“
Pvt	Neal E. Coleman	“
Pvt	Max W. Cooper	“
Pvt	Marvin H. Curtsinger	“
Pvt	Richard Davis	“
Pvt	Edmond Duffy	“
Pvt	Stanley L. Fenwick	“

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	Ercelle Q. Flanary	489 th Ord Evac Company
Pvt	William R. Gholson	"
Pvt	Maxie B. Gibbs	"
Pvt	Leo J. Gogel	"
Pvt	Aaron W. Griffith	"
Pvt	Demetrus J. Gavetis	"
Pvt	Windes C. Halcomb	"
Pvt	Wade Hall	"
Pvt	Floyd D. Higgins	"
Pvt	John M. Hogshead	"
Pvt	Thomas P. Hauck	"
Pvt	William R. Houser	"
Pvt	Theodore W. Huber, Sr.	"
Pvt	Alvin B. Ingram	"
Pvt	Bill Johnson	"
Pvt	Gerald S. Kowalski	"
Pvt	Winford D. Long	"
Pvt	Charles Lovely	"
Pvt	Robert L. McQuire	"
Pvt	John A. Marx	"
Pvt	Robert L. Mattingly	"
Pvt	Ernest T. Mayfield, Sr.	"
Pvt	Donald Meadows	"
Pvt	Billy B. Milligan	"
Pvt	Thomas A. Pappas	"
Pvt	Albert H. Patton	"
Pvt	Clinton P. Phillips	"
Pvt	Paul L. Phillips	"
Pvt	Rudolph D. Pinkston	"
Pvt	Walter Praeter	"
Pvt	Estil E. Preston	"
Pvt	Robert W. Puckett	"
Pvt	William E. Purvis	"
Pvt	Calvin Ratliff	"
Pvt	Carl Risner	"
Pvt	John J. Royer	"
Pvt	Max W. Scott	"
Pvt	Ivo D. Skaggs	"
Pvt	Mark L. Sloniker	"
Pvt	Edgar Stiltner	"
Pvt	John F. Strange	"
Pvt	Robert C. Sturwold	"
Pvt	Festal I. Tumey, Jr.	"
Pvt	Eugene E. Tyree	"
Pvt	Lawrence W. Ward, Jr.	"
Pvt	Homer L. York	"
Pvt	Arthur D. Archer	"
Pvt	Charlie Belcher	"
Pvt	William H. Freeland	"
Pvt	Guy M. Garrett, Jr.	"
Pvt	Floyd D. Henson	"
Pvt	George F. Hoskins	"

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	John M.G. James	489th Ord Evac Company
Pvt	Samuel W. Proctor	“
Pvt	Rudolph Rogers	“
Pfc	Roy W. Idapence, Jr.	527 th Ord Co (HM) (TK)
Pfc	Morris N. Weaver	“
Pvt	Thurston W. Ashbough	“
Pvt	John W. Crawford	“
Pvt	Norman B. Ellis	“
Pvt	Jimmy A. Harvey	“
Pvt	Kenneth E. Taylor	“
Pfc	Donald M. Krampe	Army Air Forces, Basic
Pvt	Clarence R. Osborne	“
Pvt	Malcomb L. Coomes	Det of Patients; Station Hosp, Camp Polk, La.
Pvt	Frank O. Sheffer	527 th Ord Co (HM) (TK)
Pfc	John A. Bethman	Army Air Forces; Basic
Pvt	Haskell E. Moore	Det of Patients, Station Hosp, Camp Polk, La.
Pfc	Robert W. Cooper	Det of Patients; Station Hosp, Camp Polk, La.
Sgt	Guy L. Bennett	24 th Ordnance Battalion

MANEUVERS

Upon Arrival in the maneuver area the organization was attached to the 590th Ordnance Battalion. Having arrived in the maneuver area early, the first week was devoted to making improvements in the mounting of equipment to facilities work in the field. The active maneuvers commenced 13, September 1943.

With the exception of the Commanding Officer and the first Sergeant this was a new experience.

Shortage of personnel and lack of experience, making long hours of work necessary, together with inclement weather made first stage of maneuvers a little discouraging.

The loss of Master Sergeant Joe E. Sigrist to the Hospital 17, September 1943, later transferred to Detachment of Patients, Station Hospital, Camp Polk, La. 16, October 1943, seriously handicapped the organization as there was no one immediately available possessing his technical knowledge and ability.

However, the return of personnel from Ordnance Technical Schools and experience gained in the field made the latter stages of maneuvers more successful.

1st Lt. John C. O'Donnell, Jr. was assigned and joined 27, October 1943 from 994th Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company, assuming duties of Shop Officer; vice 1st Lt. Thomas L. Tucker who was at that time awaiting transfer to the Army Air Corps.

WOJG Fordyce E. Morgan was assigned and joined 16, November 1943 from 3504th Ordnance Medium automotive Maintenance Company, assuming duties of Armament Machinist.

On 20, November 1943 1st Lt. Thomas L. Tucker was assigned and departed to Army Air Force Classification Center, San Antonio, Texas.

At the conclusion of maneuvers the Company was doing an excellent job of maintenance. However it was felt that a few older and experienced technicians were necessary to effect maximum efficiency. Therefore arrangements were made to transfer thirty of the lesser skilled technicians to two adjoining Ordnance Units in exchange for a like number of more experienced technicians. Twenty enlisted men were transferred to the 3527th Ordnance Medium Automotive Maintenance Company and ten enlisted men were transferred to the 902nd Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company.

Captain Chauncey M. Sanner, then commanding, was relieved from assignment with this organization and was assigned to the 158th Ordnance Battalion; 1st Lt. John C O'Donnell, Jr. the Shop Officer assumed command 17, November 1943.

Upon the completion of the maneuver period, 20 November 1943, the unit departed vicinity for De Ridder, Louisiana en-route to Camp Bowie, Texas.

The first day's journey brought the unit to Rusk, Texas. This Hamlet was not often frequented by Military Personnel and a GI was a welcome sight. The true Texas Hospitality was displayed when the Chamber of Commerce made arrangements for the unit to sleep in the High School Gymnasium and arranged a party and dance for the entertainment of the soldiers. The personnel were very appreciative of this display of Southern Hospitality. The second night the unit bivouacked in the park at Gatesville, Texas. Third day after leaving the maneuver area, 22, November 1943, the unit arrived at Camp Bowie, Texas.

LOSSES DURING MANEUVER PERIOD

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pfc	Norman D. Osborne	527 th Ord Co (HK) (TK)
Pfc	Charles E. Brown	"
Pfc	R. C. Wells	"
Pvt	Thomas G. Lane	"
Pvt	Herman Oliver	"
Pvt	Virgil F. Noff	"
Pvt	Clarence Sharp	"
Tec 5	John W. Frank	849 th Ordnance Depot Co
Tec 5	Richard J. Lee	Army Air Forces, Basic
Pvt	Owen W. Potts	Det of Patients; Station
		Hosp, Camp Polk, La.
M Sgt	Joe E. Sigrist	Det of Patients; Station
		Hosp, Camp Polk, La.

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	Jack I. Kirschenbaum	849 th Ordnance Depot Co
Pvt	John A. Nauert	“
Pvt	Clarence B. Wallace	“
Pvt	Clayton V. Richards	“
Pfc	William W. Clark	590 th Ordnance Battalion
Pfc	Walter J. Bernard	3527 th Ord MAM Company
Pvt	Joseph E. Crabtree	“
Pvt	James G. Ferguson	“
Pvt	Roland T. Fetter	“
Pvt	Roy L. Flesner	“
Pvt	Bernie A. Grant	“
Pvt	James L. Gresham	“
Pfc	Walter E. Hoehn	“
Pfc	Dale R. Jackson	“
Pvt	Robert L. Jones	“
Pfc	William D. Light	“
Pvt	Orval Lackard	“
Pfc	Carl D. Malone	“
Pvt	Vernard W. Marksberry	“
Pvt	Edward F. Miller	“
Pfc	Bert C. Neff	“
Pvt	Veron F. Shindelar	“
Pfc	Frank L. Smith	“
Pfc	Walter J. Von Fange	“
Pvt	William M. Walters	“
Tec 5	Eldon J. Barker	902 nd Ord HAM Company
Pfc	Junior Y. Doll	“
Pfc	Dorsel J. Hammel	“
Pfc	Joseph R. Newton	“
Pfc	George R. Noe	“
Pfc	Lester T. Oldfield	“
Pfc	Hugh K. Pribble	“
Pfc	Levi Ross	“
Tec 5	Charles E. Schultz, Jr.	“
Pfc	Roy Robinson	“
Tec 5	Leonzo V. Glidewell	ENL Det A-2, 1880 th Unit Camp Polk, Louisiana

GAINS DURING MANEUVER PERIOD

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Pvt	Lester L. Garmon	3527 th Ord MAN Company
Pfc	Joseph Sierocki	553 rd AAA AW Battalion
Pvt	Bernardo L. Ramirez	590 th Ordnance Battalion
T Sgt	Lloyd F. Staley	902 nd Ord HAM Company
S Sgt	Arthur A. Nesbitt	“
Tec 4	Donald J. Rooney	“
Tec 4	George Solo	“
Pfc	Clarence L. Broadwater	“
Pfc	James R. Nelson	“

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Pvt	Nick Bobich	902 nd Ordnance HAM Company
Pvt	Walter Glazowski	“
Pvt	Harold J. Jones	“
Pvt	Andrew Petrick	“
Tec 3	Howard B. Bryant	3527 th Ord MAM Company
Tec 4	Carl V. Davidshofer	“
Tec 4	Harry V. Porter	“
Tec 5	Zackery Burrus	“
Tec 5	Walter B. Douglas	“
Tec 5	Frank H. Hobson	“
Tec 5	Carl H. Larson	“
Tec 5	Edmund L. Martinson	“
Tec 5	Albert T. Koeppen	“
Tec 5	Guy E. Rigdon	“
Tec 5	Ira E. Wells	“
Tec 5	William L. Spencer	“
Pfc	Marion L. Gardner	“
Pfc	Vernon W. Scott	“
Pfc	Vincent A. Sitter	“
Pfc	Lewis F. Schlobohm	“
Pfc	William L. Werner	“
Pvt	Robert W. Sprengle	“
Pvt	Clarence V. Thompson	“
Tec 4	Howard E. Herrington	“

UNIT TRAINING PERIOD

Upon arrival at Camp Bowie, Texas, the organization was attached to the 332nd Ordnance Battalion and under supervision of the 7th Headquarters Special Troops, Third Army. Now, for the first time since activation, the EM was assigned to barracks. The men took great pride in beautifying the area and keeping things tidy as barracks had always been a dream not realized. There were sufficient buildings to permit a large day room, which provided additional comfort to the enlisted men.

At this time orientation was being encouraged to acquaint the personnel with the world situation. A section of the day room was used as the orientation center, displaying maps, pictures, clippings etc. For this orientation effort the unit was awarded a Certificate of Proficiency for the Best Orientation Center under the 7th Headquarters Special Troops, Third Army.

A large maintenance shop was operated performing a large share of the maintenance for the post. The mechanical experience gained on maneuvers enabled the organization to operate the maintenance shop most efficiently, with excellent results. A great deal of practical experience was gained from the operation of this shop.

During this period 2nd Lt. John R. Halisky and four enlisted men Tec 5 Walter B. Douglas, Tec 5 William T. Ely, Tec 5 Carl H. Larson and Tec 5 Edward C. Squires were placed on Detached Service with the 2nd Cavalry Division, Fort Clark, Texas for the purpose of inspecting and repairing all weapons. They were highly commended by Major Ronnie White 2nd Cavalry Division, for their efficient work.

With Christmas approaching, and with most of the personnel not being able to go home, every attention was turned to making Christmas as pleasant as possible. A Delicious Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings was served in the two main mess hall appropriately decorated for the Christmas Season. Printed menus with the complete roster of the company were presented to the men as a remembrance. Wives and friends visiting the members of the organization for the holidays, were invited and attended the dinner giving a more home like atmosphere.

While at Camp Bowie, Texas, the necessary Qualification in Arms, mental conditioning course and combat fighting in villages were completed, the following training tests were taken:

Unit Training Test	Grade	Very Satisfactory
Air Ground Test	Grade	94.7%
Physical Fitness Test	Grade	87.6%

The Unit Training Period Test consisted of a weeks bivouac in the vicinity of Camp Bowie, Texas under simulated war conditions. All the fundamentals of training were practiced and the unit graded accordingly. The unit was set up to do field maintenance, fully camouflaged so as not to be detected from possible air reconnaissance and attack, and accomplished maintenance.

The Air Ground Test consisted of simulated strafing of the convoy by the Air Force, testing discipline during attack; identification of Aircraft; use of identification panels and codes between Air and Ground forces; and camouflage of bivouac area. The bivouac area of this unit was so well camouflaged that it could not be detected from the air. It was necessary for the inspecting officer to land and visit the area and mark it so that it could be located from the air. Even then no sign of vehicles or activity could be seen from the air.

The Physical Fitness Test demonstrated the Stamina of the enlisted men of organization as they took the various physical tests in fine style. The grade of 87.6% was the highest on record at the 7th Headquarters Special Troops, Third Army.

Unit was relieved of attachment to 332nd Ordnance Battalion and attached to 7th Headquarters Special Troops, Third Army 20, January 1944.

Unit was relieved of assignment to Third Army and assigned to Fourth Army 26, January 1944.

Company relieved of attachment to 7th Headquarters Special Troops Fourth Army and attached to 321st Ordnance Battalion 26, January 1944.

2nd Lt. Wilfred B. Ostmeyer was assigned from 845th Ordnance Depot Company 12, March 1944 and joined this unit 31, March 1944; assumed duties of Supply Officer, Administrative.

2nd Lt. Robert R. Estes was transferred to the 709th Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Railway grand Division, TC, Transportation Corps unit Training Center, Camp Plauche, Louisiana 26, January 1944.

Unit relieved of attachment to 321st Ordnance Battalion and attached to 332nd Ordnance Battalion 13, April 1944.

LOSSES DURING UNIT TRAINING PERIOD

Rank	Name	Lost To
Tec 5	Donald E. Fowler	Det of Patients, McCloskey General Hospital, Temple Tx.
T Sgt	Lloyd F. Staley	214 th Ord HM Co (FA)
Pvt	Nick Bobich	129 th Ord MM Company
Pvt	Cecil Daugherty	"
Pvt	Walter Glazewski	"
S Sgt	Lester L. Bogoff	Army Air Forces; Basic
Pvt	Clarence M. Auld	Det of Patients, Station Hosp, Camp Bowie, Texas
Pvt	Robert L. Jolly	445 th Ord MAM Company
Tec 4	Howard M. Hancock	219 th Ord HM Co (FA)
Tec 5	Lewis F. Schlobohm	"
Pvt	Harry H. Hull	"
Pfc	William D. Wright	"
Pvt	Clarence W. Schreiber	321 st Ordnance Battalion

GAINS DURING UNIT TRAINING PERIOD

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Pvt	Harold J. Loeffler	328 th Engineer Battalion
Pvt	Gregory Gibbons	3 rd Headquarters Special Troops, Fourth Army
Pvt	Clarence M. Auld	465 th Ordnance Evac Co
Pvt	Robert L. Jolly	"
Pvt	Arthur W. Hughey	563 rd Ord HM Company
Pvt	John H. Gosse	325 th Ordnance Battalion
Pvt	Clarence G. Stafford	"
Pvt	Charles E. Tuttle	847 th Ordnance Depot Co
Pvt	Joseph J. Renus	3547 th Ordnance MAM Co
Pvt	John W. Kogut	465 th Ordnance Evac Co
Pvt	Stuart J. Firmschild	321 st Ordnance Battalion
Pvt	Clarence W. Schreiber	"
Pvt	George R. Bean	"

PREPARATION FOR OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

Then Came the long expected call to Foreign Service bringing with it numerous show-down inspections of clothing and equipment, IG inspections, and final adjustments of T/C personnel eliminating physically unfit personnel and acquiring suitable replacements. A grade of excellent was received on the IG inspections.

With all the adjustments completed and 914th Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company departed Camp Bowie, Texas 21, April 1944 along with the 321st Ordnance Battalion and 465th Ordnance Evacuation Company.

Three days of relaxation were enjoyed on the trip to the staging area. During the trip the cooks did an excellent job of preparing and serving the meals, which added to everyone's enjoyment and comfort during the trip.

The unit arrived at Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts the morning of 24, April 1944 where final adjustments in equipment and records were completed. While here the men made their last calls home and had their last fling in the good old United States. A rating of Superior was received as result of final inspection of records.

LOSSES DURING PREPARATION FOR OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	Harold J. Jones	3454 th Ordnance MM Co
Pvt	Max J. Pazik	"
Pvt	Edward Rainey	"
Pvt	Ollie W. Bratcher	219 th Ord HM Co (FA)
Pvt	Clarence C. Stafford	"
Pvt	John H. Grosse	"
Pvt	Charles E. See	Adjutant General, c/o Boston Port of Embarkation Replacement Pool

GAINS DURING PREPARATIONS FOR OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Pvt	Angelo Crisciono	Boston Port of Embarkation Replacement Pool

OVERSEAS VOYAGE

Unit embarked at Boston, Massachusetts on RMS Britannic 1, May 1944 and sailed 3, May 1944. This unit acted as the advance party onboard ship furnishing cooks, KP and dining room orderlies. The officers were given the following assignments:

Capt. O'Donnell	Police Officer
1 st Lt. Caldwell	Mess Officer
1 st Lt. Halisky	Baggage Officer
1 st Lt. Lampila	Special Service Officer
1 st Lt. Weflen	Compartment Commander
2 nd Lt. Ostmeyer	Compartment Commander
WOJG Morgan	Assistant Baggage Officer

During the voyage much time was devoted to emergency drills and inspections. Movies were available, talent solicited for deck entertainment and games and reading materials were available. With the availability of the above entertainment the enlisted men's time was well spent and with the exception of usual cases of seasickness the voyage was enjoyable.

UNITED KINGDOM

Land was first sighted 14, May and the 15, May the ship anchored off the bar at the entrance to Liverpool. The unit disembarked 16, May 1944 and immediately boarded a train for Crowe where a reception party was awaiting the unit's arrival with transportation to Doddington Hutted Camp, Cheshire.

While at Liverpool the personnel saw at first hand the ravages of war, thru the sunken ships in the harbor and the bombed buildings in the city.

Upon arrival in England, unit was assigned to the Third United States Army, and later attached to the 316th Ordnance Battalion 20, May 1944.

The first weeks in the United Kingdom were spent in physical conditioning and receiving vehicles and equipment. On 27, May 1944 the unit was relieved of attachment to the 316th Ordnance Battalion and attached to the XII Corps.

The organization was then assigned the mission of conducting a waterproofing school for the XII Corps, and left Doddington Hutted Camp, Cheshire arriving at Ogbourne St. George, Wiltshire 10, July 1944 for this purpose. The waterproofing school was conducted for one week from 18, July to 22, July 1944, and was attended by 13 officers and 40 enlisted men of the 80th Division. The unit was highly commended by Major William McCool, 80th Division Ordnance Officer, for the efficient manner in which the school was conducted.

With the completion of the waterproofing school, all time was devoted to mounting of equipment on unit vehicles in preparation for movement to the continent. Previous maneuver experience provided valuable in this respect as the problems of field maintenance were realized and the equipment mounted accordingly. An effort was made to make the unit as mobile as possible and still perform its primary mission. In addition, maintenance work was carried on for units located in the vicinity of Ogbourne St. George.

During the stay in England the organization was called upon to furnish the following officers and EM to assist at various Headquarters and Ordnance Depots.

XII CORPS HEADQUARTERS

Rank	Name
Pfc	Fred C. Begy, Jr.
Pfc	Willis M. Ward
Pvt	George R. Bean
Pvt	Angelo Crisciono
Pvt	John D. E. Curtsinger
Pvt	Charlie L. Downs
Pvt	Frank W. Kociara
Pvt	John W. Kogut
Pvt	William D. Magers
Pvt	Charles E. McCallister
Pvt	William H. Whitten

The above EM performed various administrative functions and details for the XII Corps Headquarters.

ORDNANCE DEPOT G-50

Rank	Name
1 st Lt.	John R. Halisky
S Sgt.	James R. Rutter
Tec 4	Charles W. Jarman
Tec 5	Elvin J. Sparks

ORDNANCE DEPOT O-640

Rank	Name
1 st Lt.	John E. Weflen
Sgt.	Jack H. Bowling
Tec 4	Marion L. Gardner
Tec 5	Roger W. Haynic

The above 2 officers and 6 enlisted men served as liaison personnel at the ordnance depots named above to help equip newly arriving Third Army Units.

ORDNANCE DEPOT O-616

Rank	Name
Tec 4	Francis W. Hearn
Tec 5	William T. Ely
Tec 5	William F. Lynch

The above enlisted men modified 5196 submachine guns, M-3, for the above named depot.

ORDNANCE DEPOT O-616

Rank	Name
Tec 5	Carl H. Larson
Pvt	William W. Davenport

The above 2 enlisted men operated machine shop and connection with modification of sub-machine guns, M-3.

Two enlisted men, Tec 4 Guy G Cook and Tec 5 Earnest Tomblin, were placed on Temporary Duty with XX Corps 20, July 1944 to help move 38th Machine Record Unit to France. Upon return, 29, July 1944, it was found their experiences were helpful in orienting the unit for movement to the continent.

A Change was made in the T/O eliminating ten basics (521). The ten basics were transferred to the 19th Replacment Depot 28, July 1944.

Unit departed Ogbourne St. George, Wiltshire and arrived at the Marshalling area four miles south of Dorchester, England 5, August 1944.

LOSSES WHILE IN UNITED KINGDOM

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	Angelo Crisiono	19 th Replacment Depot
Pvt	John D.E. Curtsinger	“
Pvt	John W. Kogut	“
Pvt	Harold J. Loeffler	“
Pvt	William D. Magers	“
Pvt	Charles E. McCallister	“

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	James L. Rodick	19 th Replacement Depot
Pvt	Joseph Renus	“
Pvt	Everette C. Vaughn	“
Pvt	William B. Whitten	“
Tec 5	Zackery Burrus	Det of Patients, 168 th Station Hospital
Tec 4	John B. Snedecker	10 th Replacement Depot
S Sgt	William B. Lynn	348 th Station Hospital

GAINS WHILE IN UNITED KINGDOM

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Tec 5	William Kancy	11 th Replacement Depot
Pvt	Lester R. Wolf	“

FRANCE

The organization embarked at Weymouth, England 7, August 1944 on two LCT's, one LCI and one LST, arriving at Omaha Beach France 8, August 1944. The various groups immediately departed by foot for Transit Area "B", located eight miles inland at St. Germain de Verreville, France, where vehicles and personnel were regrouped. Much of the debris from the action of "D" Day had not been cleared away and this helped considerably to impress upon the men the seriousness of the situation.

The following evening 9, August 1944, unit departed St. Germain de Verreville and arrived at Lucky Ordnance Concentration Area located at Brie Quebec, France.

The unit, now ready to launch upon its primary mission, departed Brie Quebec, France and arrived at bivouac area 1.3 miles southwest of Landean, grid coordinates vY39 85, 12, August 1944. Ordnance maintenance work was started at once, vehicles being drawn from 70th Ordnance Group Collecting Point for repair.

Movement was made from bivouac area 1.3 miles southwest of Landean to bivouac area 1.25 miles southwest of Mezieres-sous, grid coordinates 275 510, 17 August 1944. The mission of vehicle maintenance was carried on vehicles coming from using units and 70th Ordnance Group Collecting Point. The hard earned lessons of maneuvers proved of great value in performing maintenance in the field.

Two enlisted men, Sergeant Kenneth W. Christie and Technician Fifth Grade William E. Sanders, received commendations for meritorious service from Major John C. Hendrie, commanding officer of the 312th Ordnance Battalion 21, August 1944 for prompt action in clearing one of our Army's main supply routes of a wrecked vehicle the night of 18, August 1944. Sergeant Christie, realizing the seriousness of the road block, pulled his load to the side and immediately proceeded to clear the road of the wrecked vehicle, and in a very short time had traffic moving normally.

Continuing on its mission of maintenance of Third United States Army vehicles the unit departed the bivouac area 1.25 miles southwest of Mezieres-sous and arrived in the bivouac area 1 mile northeast of Champrond-en-Gatine, grid coordinates 092 005, 22, August 1944. Road Patrols of wreckers crews and mechanics were established to render necessary service along the highways and keep the supply lines clear of wrecked and stalled vehicles. This was a much-needed service and resulted in expediting many stranded vehicles.

On the trip from Mezieres-sous to Champrond-en-Gatine, the convoy was halted by an accident, which had happened a few minutes previously completely blocking the highway approximately 2 miles northwest off LeMans. A diamond T cargo Truck pulling and Engineer trailer loaded with a Bulldozer, had been crowded off the road and jack-knifed striking two French civilians on bicycles, seriously injuring one and pinning one underneath the rear wheels of the truck. First Aid was immediately administered by Sergeant Jack H. Bowling, this organization, to the injured civilian who was then rushed to a nearby Field Hospital. Meanwhile Sergeant Kenneth W. Christie and Tec 5 William E. Sanders proceeded with the task of raising the truck to permit removal of the second civilian. After the civilian was removed, the wrecker crew proceeded with the difficult task of clearing the highway of the wrecked vehicle.

The organization was further attached to the 312th Ordnance Battalion 25, August 1944.

The unit went on from Champrond-en-Gatine area and set up in a bivouac area ¼ mile north of Mountainville, France, grid coordinates 400 842, 26, August 1944. Maintenance of vehicles and patrolling of highways continued.

The unit then moved to an area 2.50 miles southwest of Fontainebleau coordinates vX 25 87, 4, September 1944. Unit was relieved of attachment to 312th Ordnance Battalion and attached to the 79th Ordnance Battalion 4, September 1944. No maintenance was accomplished in this area as further movement was to be made immediately. While waiting further movement orders passes were issued to the enlisted men to visit points of Historical Interest in Fontainebleau and vicinity.

On 7, September 1944 unit departed from area of Fontainebleau and arrived a new bivouac area 1.2 miles northwest of Varennes-en-Argonne, grid coordinates U 019 737, 8, September 1944. An overnight stop had been made en-route, 5.5 miles west of Vitry Le Francois, 7, September 1944.

While making a reconnaissance for the new area in the vicinity of Varennes-en-Argonne, France 8, September 1944, two German soldiers were encountered and captured, later turned over to the Military Police at Chalons.

Unit departed area of Varennes-en-Argonne and arrived at new area 6.4 miles northeast of Clermont, France grid coordinates U 125 640, 11, September 1944.

Maintenance work continued at a brisk pace in this locality, as it was located on the main supply artery. Road Patrols were used to full advantage.

On the 22, September 1944 move was made from vicinity of Clermont to bivouac area 1 mile west of Fresnos, grid coordinates vU 44 57. Weather conditions were against maximum efficiency due to much rain and increasing cold weather.

It was determined that billets and a covered work shop would be necessary to attain maximum efficiency of this type organization. Therefore the unit left the bivouac area in the vicinity of Fresnes, grid coordinates vU 38 34 5, October 1944.

All of the shop was now in buildings and not hampered by the weather. A large increase in production was immediately noticed and the unit approached maximum in efficiency. The men were now billeted allowing them more comfort and better rest. A pass program was inaugurated and movies were frequently available, thus helping the morale of all personnel.

An acute need for rebuilt units arose, thus the mission of this organization was changed from general maintenance to unit rebuild, and on 17, November 1944 the unit moved from St. Mihiel to Essey les Nancy, France. Grid coordinates vU 89 12, with shop buildings at St. Max, approximately 2 miles from the C.P. and billets.

From the period of general maintenance work from 14, August 1944 to 16, November 1944 the following job orders were completed:

General Purpose Vehicles	926
Combat Vehicles	2
Small Arms	1836
Miscellaneous Units	511

The organization vigorously launched upon its new mission of unit rebuild. Many changes were necessary in the automotive platoons to make possible a production line each for engines, transmissions and transfer cases. Much had to be accomplished in the way of engine stands and miscellaneous features necessary for efficient operation of the various production lines.

In addition to rebuilding units, metal spray was experimented with. One of the results of the experimenting was the building up of badly worn or scored brake drums with metal, and then turning the drums down to proper specifications. Successful results were obtained from this method, with many otherwise unserviceable drums becoming ready for use. Badly worn crankshafts were also successfully built up with metal spray and made serviceable. At this time the above critical items were not immediately available in the supply depots. This metal spray operation gave an excellent performance its mission of unit rebuild, considering the shortage of manpower caused by twenty enlisted men leaving for retraining a infantry rifleman, twenty one enlisted men guarding the Forts Joan De Arc and Driant at Metz, and one officer and five enlisted operating the Salvage and Reclamation Point for 79th Ordnance Battalion. On 25, December 1944 this unit experienced its first bombing. Several anti-personnel bombs were dropped about the area but no damage resulted.

During this time, three enlisted men, Tec 4 Francis W. Hearn, Tec 5 Walter B. Douglas and Tec 5 Robert W. Sprengel, were placed on temporary duty with the Third United States Army Rest Center in Nancy, France for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the small arms of soldiers brought back for rest. A letter of commendation was received from the Commanding Officer of the Rest Center citing the excellent work of this Small Arms Section.

While located at Essey Les Nancy a basketball court was obtained in Nancy for the use of the personnel. The basketball team played the French team of Nancy four different times and were victorious each time by a considerable margin.

Once again it became necessary to move to keep up with our advancing Third United States Army. On 31, January 1945 this unit moved from Essey Les Nancy to Longwy, France, grid coordinates vP 58 05. The need for general maintenance became acute and the mission for this organization changed from unit rebuild to general maintenance.

During the period 26, November 1944 to 31, January 1945, while engaged in unit Rebuild Work, the following job orders were completed:

GMC Engines rebuilt	286
GMC Transmission rebuilt	113
GMC Transfer Cases rebuilt (Banjo)	72
GMC Transfer Cases rebuilt (Split)	111
GPW Engines rebuilt	118
GPW Transmissions rebuilt	73
Brake Drums GMC	45
Hub and Drum Assemblies GPW	85
General Purpose Vehicles repaired	37
Small Arms repaired	3349
Miscellaneous Units repaired	3882

This unit carried on general maintenance work for the period from 1, February to 10, March 1945. During this period, the following job orders were completed:

Combat Vehicles repaired	5
General Purpose Vehicles repaired	347
Small Arms repaired	1337
Miscellaneous	696

The unit was relieved of attachment to the 79th Ordnance Battalion and attached to the 66th Ordnance Battalion 10, March 1945.

On 11, March 1945, this unit, in view of its excellent record, was selected to perform a mission called Operation "Q". The mission of Operation "Q" was to furnish mechanically serviceable trucks, cargo, LWB, 2.5 ton, 6x6 to replace all like vehicles in Third United States Army Quartermaster Trucking Companies in the shortest possible time.

An initial pool of seventy-five vehicles was given this unit for complete rehabilitation. Fifty of these were to be ready for exchange with the Quartermaster Trucking Company at the earliest possible moment. However when these Fifty trucks were ready to be exchanged there was an urgent demand for ammunition to be transported. As no other trucks were available, the fifty trucks scheduled for the Quartermaster Trucking Company were detailed to haul ammunition, and have remained in service for this project. Twenty-five men of this organization served as drivers for approximately one week and were replaced by men from other organizations.

On 14, March 1945 1st Lt. John E. Weflen was lost to the 193rd General Hospital.

On 25, March 1945 unit departed Longwy, France and arrived at Bouzonville, France, grid coordinates wQ 13 77 where Operation "Q" continued. In addition, a road patrol and tire patrol for the maintenance of the stranded vehicles was operated.

While at Longwy and Bouzonville three day passes to Paris were issued to the following personnel and enjoyed thoroughly by them:

Rank	Name
Capt	John C. O'Donnell, Jr.
WOJG	Fordyce E. Morgan
1 st Sgt	Frank B. Secor
T Sgt	Guy L. Bennett
T Sgt	Robert H. Greiner
Tec 3	Ervin H. Sieck
Tec 4	Raymond D. Dillon
Tec 4	Francis W. Hearn
Tec 4	Jacob W. Kraha

LOSSES WHILE IN FRANCE

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pfc	Fred C. Begy, Jr.	XII Corps
Pvt	Van O. Bough	2912 th Disciplinary Training Center
Pvt	Charles E. Tuttle	2912 th Disciplinary Training Center
Pvt	Daniel I. St. John	12 th Evac Hosp
Tec 5	Lloyd G. Belcher	26 th Infantry Division
Tec 5	Lee G. Corcoran	“
Tec 5	William T. Ely	“
Tec 5	Andy F. McNabb	“
Pfc	Champ Miller	“
Pfc	Ernest A. Stopp	“
Pvt	George R. Bean	“
Pvt	Andrew S. Gyuro, Jr.	“
Pvt	Frank W. Keciara	“
Pvt	William P. Zummerman	“
Tec 3	Hershel D. Somerville	95 th Infantry Division
Tec 3	Harry N. Warner	“
Tec 5	Howard Adams	“
Tec 5	George E. Cox	“
Tec 5	Robert L. LaPointe	“
Tec 5	Clenten E. Means	“
Pfc	Frank Lile	“
Pfc	Gerald E. Moon	“
Pfc	Donald A. Walker	“
Pvt	Arthur A. Mancuso	death
Sgt	William W.T. Salom	2 nd General Hospital
Tec 5	Fred J. Wodakind	34 th Evac Hospital
Pfc	Walter E. Moody	193 rd General Hosp
Tec 4	Joseph H. Lubbehusen	34 th Evac Hospital
T Sgt	Weston E. Ganus	“
Tec 5	Kenneth W. Keith	“
Tec 4	Harley F. Gildow	104 th Evac Hospital

GAINS WHILE IN FRANCE

Rank	Name	Assigned From
S Sgt	William B. Lynn	176 th Replacement Co
Pvt	Dalva Petrey	53 rd Replacement Battalion
Pvt	Sam Zaraya	“
Pvt	Fred J. Wedakind	“
Tec 5	Emery J. O’Laughlin	“
Pvt	Albert M. Fuller	38 th Replacement Battalion
Pvt	Mike C. Kwasniewski	“
Pvt	Kenneth W. Keith	“
Sgt	William W. T. Salom	17 th Replacement Depot

Rank	Name	Assigned From
Pfc	Raymond W. Bean	17 th Replacement Depot
Pvt	Sigmund J. Bojar	“
Pvt	Frank A. Mancuso	“
Pvt	Leon Sanchez	“
Pvt	Christopher C. Spencer	“
Pvt	Ivan R. Wells	“
Tec 5	Frank W. Jonkot	“
Pvt	Eugene Marchitella	“
Tec 3	Harry N. Warner	“
Tec 4	William E. Johnson	17 th Reinforcement Depot
Tec 5	Victor Ripple	“
Pfc	Walter E. Moody	“
Pvt	Tommie Lane	“
Pvt	George D. Williams	“
Pvt	Edgar T. Brooks	“
Pvt	Michael Cenkor	70 th Ordnance Group
Pfc	Lyman E. Wood	462 nd Reinforcement Co

GERMANY

Unit departed Bouzonville, France 3 April 1945 and arrived at Bad Krouznach, Germany, grid coordinates wM 08 38. No maintenance was performed at this location as unit was instructed to locate a new area in the vicinity of Hattersheim, Germany and move on immediately.

Unit departed Bad Kreunach, Germany 5 April 1945: crossed the Rhine River and arrived at Hattersheim, (Main) Germany, grid coordinates wM 54 62. At this location the mission was again changed giving priority to general maintenance for using units and repair of vehicles for the 70th Ordnance Group Pool. In addition Ordnance and Tire Patrols were in operation on the main supply routes.

On 6 April 1945 the unit was relieve from attachment to 66th Ordnance Battalion and attached to 164th Ordnance Battalion. On 9 April 1945 unit was relieved from attachment to 164th Ordnance Battalion and attached to the 66th Ordnance Battalion.

During the period from 11 March to 15 April 1945, during which time the primary missions have been Operation “Q” and general maintenance, the following job orders have been completed:

GMC Trucks processed	123
Small Arms repaired	879
Miscellaneous Units	193
GPW Vehicles repaired	60
Combat Vehicles repaired	1

While located at Hattersheim (Main), Germany seven-day furloughs were issued to the following named men to visit the U.S Riviera Recreational Area, France:

Rank	Name
Tec 3	Audley Terrell
Tec 4	Benjamin C. Neat, Sr.
Tec 5	Gerald L. Wahl

One officer and five enlisted men operated a Salvage and Reclamation Point for the 79th Ordnance Battalion from 1 January to 9 March 1945. One officer and seven enlisted men were detailed to operate a Salvage and Reclamation Point for the 70th Ordnance Group on 1 April 1945.

Statistical record of Ordnance work performed since arrival on the continent 8 August 1944 to 15 April 1945:

General Purpose Vehicles repaired	1397
Combat Vehicles repaired	8
Small Arms repaired	7401
Miscellaneous Units repaired	5382
Units rebuilt	903
GMC Trucks processed	123

CAMPAIGNS AND AWARDS

This organization participated in the Campaign of Northern France and had been authorized to wear the Bronze Service Star for the applicable Campaign per letter Headquarters European Theater of Operations United States Army file OpGA 200.6 dated 31 January 1945.

This organization also participated in the Campaign of Germany and has been authorized to wear the Bronze Service Star for the applicable Campaign per letter Headquarters European Theater of Operations United States Army file OpGA 200.6 dated 24 December 1944.

This organization was awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Placard for its excellent record during the period 15 November 1944 to 14 February 1945 per section II, General Orders 78, Headquarters Third United States Army, dated 12 April 1945.

SUGGESTIONS

It has been our experience in this theater that spare parts for major items of organizational equipment are critical and in most cases not available. It has frequently been found more expeditious to exchange the complete major item of the equipment than to obtain the necessary part.

It is therefore recommended by this organization that spare parts for major items of organizational equipment be included with initial issue of such major items. Below is a suggested list of critical spare parts to be included with initial issue of major items of organizational equipment:

2 plugs, 3 phase for Generator A.C. Portable Gas Engine Driven, 5000 Watts, 120V, 60 Cycle #17-G-2045.

3 Finishing Stones and 3 Roughing Stones for Valve Resurfacer Electric 5/16" to 5/8", Capacity 110 volt, Universal Current # 40-V-505

1 Dressing Stand Diamond and 2 sets Roughing and Finishing Stones for Valve Reseating Outfit #40-V-535.

1 D.T. 55 Complete Disk for Tester Distributor (Motor Driven) # 17-T-5540.

1-48800 Rheostat for Bench Test unit for Testing Generators, Starting Motors. # 17-B-13990.

1-3 way switch for Lathe, Engine Motor Driven 16" swing, 8 foot bed, 1½ HP, 110-220 V, 3 phase # 40-L-28-10

500 feet, 3 phase B. X. Cable, 100 male and female plugs and 1000 feet number 8 B.X. Cable for Kit Wiring Fixtures Electric #17-K-400

2 coil Steam Cleaner for Cleaner High Pressure Vapor Generating or Cleaning #40-C-1008-10.

1 Control Valve for Dispenser Grease Portable Small Engine Driven #40-D-180.

2 Throat Plate, 2 Arm Shaft Conner Bolt, 2 Hook Bobbin Case, 2 Hook Driving Pinion, 2 Needle Bar Thread guide and 2 Safety Clutch Throw in spring for Machine Sewing Portable Single Needle # 66-M-980.

3 Circular Saw Blades for Saw Circular Woodworking 11/2 HP 110/220 Volt, 60 cycle, single phase # 40-S-1350.

As a further suggestion the following additions to T/O and E 9-197, dated 27 May 1944 are submitted:

1 Truck, ¼ ton, 4x4, for use in the shop.

3 semi-trailers, 6 ton, 2 wheel, combination animal cargo, for use as Machine Shops and Carburation and Electrical Shop.

2 Tractors, 4-5 ton, 4x4, to make unit more mobile.

Tentage – More tentage is needed for shop operation in the field during bad weather. Also tentage is needed for GP, Shop Office and Motor Supply Office.

Thru the experience of the various missions performed by this organization it is our conclusion that no perfect T/O and E can be published. In our estimation T/O and E 9-197 dated 27 May 1944, with the suggestions above, is as near perfect for the organization of this type as can be devised due to the flexibility of missions, providing higher Headquarters will authorize the acquiring of additional equipment as necessary.

GENERAL

This organization at the time of arrival on the continent, was completely mobile, and able to efficiently perform general maintenance by replacement units. The fact the unit was mobile proved advantageous during the swift advance across France. As the fronts became more static the missions of this organization were frequently changed necessitating acquiring of new equipment and different type of parts. Due to the frequent changes of mission it has been necessary to retain additional equipment and parts, thereby making the organization less mobile, but by the same token more efficient.

Many difficulties were encountered in the transformation from a mobile maintenance unit to conform with requirements of various missions. In the transformation process considerable time was lost due to acquiring necessary parts and equipment and making new equipment. By efficiently overcoming these difficulties the unit has achieved versatility in maintenance. This unit has proven itself capable of performing any echelon of maintenance up to including fifth echelon of maintenance.

ANNEX TO COMPANY HISTORY

While at Hattersheim, Germany a volleyball and softball team were organized inaugurating the summer sport activities. Both teams were entered in the 66th Ordnance Battalion League and performed in an excellent manner.

On 10 May 1945 it was once more necessary for the unit to move. Unit departed Hattersheim, Germany and arrived at Furth, Germany, grid coordinates wO 36 00. General Maintenance work was also performed in the area.

With the war in Europe over, the personnel were able to travel around somewhat and see parts of Germany not previously covered. One of the concentration camps operated by the Nazi was visited by some of the members, establishing the truth of the treatment given by Germany to prisoners.

The athletic program continued with greater emphasis being placed on intra-company games. The softball games ended with the first platoon, lead by pitcher "Chuck" Prakel, winning four games and losing none while the second and third platoons both won one game and lost three. It was too much Prakel for them.

Secor's "Redeployment Tavern" was operated every night that beer was available, with Coca Cola also being served. This was an added attraction and compensated for the "no pass" policy in Germany.

1st Lt. John T. Lampila, shop office, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service by Lt. Colonel Grubbs, commanding officer, 66th Ordnance Battalion. The award was presented 21 May 1945 at Furth, Germany.

2nd Lt. Frank C. Holle joined the organization 7 May 1945 from the 17th Reinforcement Depot.

With the war in Germany completed the unit was directed to move back to France, and departed Germany 2 June 1945.

LOSSES WHILE IN GERMANY

Rank	Name	Lost To
Pvt	Brooks, Edgar T.	AWOL – 19 th Repl Depot
Pfc	Bean, Raymond W.	104 th Evac Hosp
Tec 4	Cummins, Herman A.	104 th Evac Hosp
Pvt	Greiner, Robert H.	521 st Ord HM Co (FA)
Tec 5	O'Laughlin, Emery J.	Reception Station, Fort Sheridan, Ill.
Tec 4	Garmen, Lester L.	53 rd Reinf. Bn.
Tec 4	Rooney, Donald J.	"
Tec 4	Solo, George	"

GAINS WHILE IN GERMANY

Rank	Name	Lost To
1 st Lt.	Holle, Frank C.	17 th Reinf Depot
Pvt	Powers, Jack	521 st Ord HM Co (FA)
Pfc	Moody, Walter E.	93 rd Reinf Bn
Tec 4	Gildow, Herley F.	53 rd Reinf Bn
Tec 4	Lubbehusen, Joseph H.	83 rd Reinf Bn

While in Germany, Tec 4 Albert T. Koeppen, Tec 4 George Solo and Tec 5 Carl H. Larson were placed on TD with 70th Ordnance Group for the purpose of inspecting ordnance material. Tec 3 Gustave R Schaser was placed on TD with Third U.S. Army for liason work coordinating machine-shop work in Luxembourg city for Third U.S. Army.

Enroute to Depot 0-644, Vincennes, Paris, France from Furth, Germany, overnight stops were made at Kaiserslautern, Germany on 1 June 1945, and at Verdun, France on 2 June 1945. The organization arrived at Depot 0-644, Vincennes, Paris, France 3 June 1945.

This organization was relieved of attachment to 66th Ordnance Battalion and 70th Ordnance group, relieved of assignment at Third U.S. Army and assigned to 12th U.S. Army Group per 12th U.S. Army Group Troops Assignment number 137, effective 28 May 1945. Relieved of assignment to 12th U.S. Army Group and assigned to Seine Section per Troop Assignment number 101 Headquarters ETOUSA effective 2 June 1945. Attached to 604th Ordnance BAM battalion, per SO 121, Headquarters Depot 0-644 effective 2 June 1945.

The big question in the mind of everyone now was whether or not the Company would stay in Europe as Army of Occupation or go to the Pacific theater either direct or indirect through the States.

The question was answered on 15 June 1945 when the unit was alerted for Direct Shipment to the Pacific Theater. This was a disappointment for everyone but was taken in good stride. Hope was in everyone's mind that orders would be changed, as each one was homesick for their loved ones.

The organization now began to transfer out men over thirty nine years of age and with more than eighty five points, as well as men not physically qualified for further duty in active theater.

On 19 June 1945 unit relieved of attachment with 604th Ordnance BAM Battalion and attached to Camp PA, Departed Depot 0-644, Vincennes, Paris, France and arrived at Camp PA, Villocoublay, France 19 June 1945. While at this location the organization crated and waterproofed all of it's equipment for shipment to the Pacific. Replacements were received and some men transferred out.

Captain John C. O'Donnell, Jr., Commanding Officer, was transferred to the 622nd BAM Battalion, 27 June 1945, as he had enough points to go home. 1st Lt. John T. Lampila, Jr. assumed command the same date. 1st Lt. Joseph V. Mazzei was assigned and joined the unit from the 310th Ord. Base Armored Vehicle Maintenance Company.

The next move of this unit was from Camp PA, Villacoublay, France to Camp Baltimore, T 647 622 Suippes, France.

At Camp Baltimore the processing of the unit was completed. All records were checked and found in excellent condition. Necessary immunizations were given.

Passes, Leaves and furloughs were plentiful while at Camp Baltimore. Several men were able to return to England to see friends or relatives stationed there. The men of the company were given a well earned rest, even if the monotony of not having anything to do, did begin to get on one's nerves.

The unit's equipment was shipped to Marseilles to be loaded for the Pacific, when the war with Japan ended. Everyone now wondered if we would still go to the Pacific or if we would be fortunate enough to go home or if we would go back to Germany. Rumors flew left and right. One day we were discouraged, the next encouraged.

Then came the news we didn't want to get. The 914th Ordnance Heavy Automotive Maintenance Company received orders to move back to Germany.

LOSSES WHILE IN FRANCE

Rank	Name	Lost To
Tec 4	Shaeffer, Clarence W.	3104 th Ord Base Armd Veh Maint Co
Tec 5	Broadwater, Clarence	"
Pvt	Powers, Jack	"
T Sgt	Burnett, Luther C.	3504 th Ord MAM Co
Tec 3	Hobson, Frank H.	"
Tec 5	Wolf, Lester R.	"
Tec 3	Davidshofer, Carl V.	3104 th Ord Base Armd Veh Maint Co
Tec 5	Wolf, Richard J.	"
Tec 3	Carmelia, Lion F.	3504 Ord MAM Co
Tec 4	Rogers, James F.	"
Tec 5	Cox, Carroll T.	"
Pfc	Petrick, Andrew	"
Pvt	Hart, Herbert W.	"
Tec 4	Neat, Benjamin C., Sr.	Det Patients, 4323th US Hosp Plant
Capt	O'Donnell, John C., Jr.	622 nd Ord BAM Bn
Pfc	Ferrante, Emanuel	100 th Inf Div

Rank	Name	Lost To
Tec 4	Kraha, Jacob, W.	104 th Reinf Bn
1 st Sgt	Secor, Frank B.	“
S Sgt	Caneches, Harmon F.	“
S Sgt	Lauffer, Glenn N.	“
Tec 3	Bryant, Howard B.	“
Tec 5	Bissonnette, Elton R.	“
Tec 5	Breckenridge, William F.	“
Pfc	Gibbons, Gregory	“
Pfc	Havard, Aubrey	“
Pvt	Wolinski, Lee	“
T Sgt	Grubbs, Percy C.	19 th Reinf Depot
S Sgt	Lynn, William B.	104 th Reinf Bn
S Sgt	Zwolinski, Walter J.	“
Tec 3	Herrington, Howard E.	“
Tec 5	Kancy, William	“
Tec 5	Pitts, Curtis	Det Patients, 191 st Gen Hosp
Tec 5	Lerch, John J.	19 th Reinf Depot
Tec 4	Mathis, Norman C.	104 th Reinf Battalion
Tec 3	Hilleman, Cecil H.	“
Tec 3	Myers, Paul L.	“
Tec 3	Schrecker, Albert C.	“
Tec 4	Kemp, Joseph C., Jr.	“
Tec 4	Larsen, Theodore L.	“
Tec 5	Bingham, Charles H.	“
Tec 5	Fraker, Lee M.	“
Tec 5	Groso, Welden E.	“
Tec 5	Mayor, Nicholas	“
Pvt	Lane, Tommie	“
S Sgt	Klucznik, Michael	342 nd Eng. G.S. Regt.
Tec 4	Conrads, Alfred M.	“
Pvt	Tracey, John E.	“
Tec 5	Irwin, Edward A.	Hq. Co, Camp Baltimore
Pfc	MacKenzie, Dumont B.	342 nd Eng G.S. Regt.
Tec 3	Smith, John C.	19 th Reinf Depot

GAINS WHILE IN FRANCE

Rank	Name	Gained From
Pfc	Ferrante, Emanuel	3504 th Ord MAM Co
Pfc	Havard, Aubery	“
Pfc	Pogue, David G.	“
Pfc	Reinke, Clarence A.	“
Pvt	Hart, Herbert W.	“
Pfc	Stepp, Ernest A.	3254 th Ord Base Depot Co
Tec 5	Bissonette, Elton R.	3504 th Ord MAM Co
Tec 5	Breckenridge, William F.	“
Tec 5	Fraker, Lee M.	“
Tec 5	Freeman, James W.	“
Tec 5	Grose, Weldon E.	“

Rank	Name	Gained From
Tec 5	Mayor, Nicholas	3504 th Ord MAN Co
Tec 5	Pitts, Curtis	“
Pfc	Brown, Bert L.	“
Tec 3	Hilleman, Cecil H.	“
Tec 3	Myers, Paul L.	“
Tec 4	Kemp, Joseph C., Jr.	“
Tec 4	Larsen, Theodore L.	“
Tec 4	Mathis, Norman C.	“
Tec 4	Rogers, James F.	“
Tec 4	Schuh, Joseph G.	“
Tec 5	Bingham, Charles H.	“
Tec 3	Bianchino, John D.	3104 th Ord Base Armd Veh Maint
Tec 3	Carmelia, Leon F.	“
Tec 3	Doberneck, James A.	“
Tec 4	Culwell, Odell O.	“
Tec 4	Durant, James T.	“
Tec 4	Gantor, Arthur E.	“
Tec 4	Litteau, Donald H.	“
Tec 4	Mattix, Russell G.	“
Tec 4	Nohren, Holly E.	“
1 st Lt.	MAZZEI, JOSEPH V.	“
T Sgt	Grubbs, Percy C.	6960 th Reinf Depot
Sgt	Marcello, Guisepppe	“
Sgt	Russ, Samuel H.	“
Pfc	Brecht, John J., Jr.	“
Pfc	MacKenzie, Dumont B.	“
Pfc	Muszynski, Alfred J.	“
Pfc	Wolinski, Lee	“
Pvt	Lohafer, Bruce W.	“
Tec 4	Rainey, Cecil M.	“
S Sgt	Klucznik, Michael	“
S Sgt	Zwolinski, Walter J.	“
Tec 4	Hedstrom, Sven	“
Pfc	Bolton, Robert E.	“
Pfc	Borders, Rey	“
Pvt	Olenicznak, Richard H.	“
Pvt	Underwood, Robert F.	“
Pfc	Marsh, Albert B.	492 nd Ord HAM Co
Pvt	Hucks, J.D.	6960 th Reinf Depot
Pfc	Mann, Wallace M.	“
Pvt	Tracey, John E.	“
Sgt	Brown, Ransome L.	“
Tec 4	Conrads, Alfred M.	“
Tec 4	LaShure, Harold M.	“
Tec 4	Knutsonn, Archie L.	“
Tec 4	Poole, Martin T.	“
Tec 5	Christenson, Claude M.	“
Tec 5	Grunke, Chris C.	“
Pfc	Pompeo, Rocco R.	“
Pvt	Mangieri, Joseph, Jr.	“
Pfc	Vince, Paul E.	“

Enroute to Esslingen, Germany from Camp Baltimore, Suippos, France the unit stopped at Metz, France for an overnight stop 23 September 1945; departed Metz, France arrived at Esslingen, Germany S-16 18, 25 September 1945.

AWARDS

The “Campaign Germany” battle participation credit was changed to “Campaign Rhineland”. The unit was authorized the Bronze Service Star for the “Campaign Central Europe.” 1st Lt. John R. Hallisky, 1st Sgt Frank B secor, T Sgt James E. Lewallen and Tec 3 Cecil H. Hilleman were awarded Bronze Star Medals for Meritorious Service; presentation was by 1st Lt. John T. Lampila, Jr., commanding officer, at Camp Baltimore.

UNFORGETTABLE INCIDENTS

George Purkey’s boxing matches.

Yancey going through the top of his pup tent, when he discovered a dead snake, while crawling into bed. He didn’t have time to go out the way he came in, but made a new exit.

The second week of maneuvers when rain made living and working conditions almost unbearable.

First Sergeant Secor falling in a Foxhole filled with water while patrolling the area to keep the men from goofing off.

Mr MORGAN reporting to the maneuver area, newly outfitted, looking like a dude compared to the veterans of the Louisiana Maneuvers.

Guy G. Cook jitterbugging with the girls from Rusk, Texas.

Captain O’Donnell while signing in immediately upon arrival at Camp Bowie, Texas, after a 3 day trip from the maneuver area, being reprimanded for not wearing a tie and not having his shoes shined.

The night the units security was to be tested during the Unit Training Period Test, Mr. Morgan capturing the guards of the 849th Ordnance Depot Company who were located nearby.

The last formation at Camp Myles Standish showed traces of an enjoyable last fling in the United States.

Difficulties sleeping in hammocks.

Men with their heads over the rail of the ship, not enjoying the beautiful sea.

Bicycle convoys to Nantwich, New Castle and Handley.

Military funeral given to “Wilbur” the pet duck, at Mezieres-sues. Poor Wilbur was run over by a vehicle while patrolling the area.

MEMORIES

Here's what I say and you can quote,
I don't want to go home in a Liny boat,
It goes so slow I might lose my breath,
If I don't do that I will starve to death.

I'll slip around on the worn out dock,
If I have good luck I won't break my neck,
All the time I was on board I was quite frantic,
I am afraid of that boat the Britannic.

We landed in England and went to Crewe,
Nantwech and Old Doddington too,
We drank the pubs dry of blimy bitters,
And we all developed a case of the jitters.

We bought a bicycle and went to town,
Some of the boys have never been found,
We rode the darn thing like we had no sense,
We stopped for nothing not even a fence.

We took off down to the Red Line,
We went to the bar and what did we find,
Plenty of bitters for one and all,
We staggered around the bloody hall.

Next to sleep and Grady's stew,
I had more fun at bloody Crewe,
I would drink mild beer warm and cool,
Once in a while I would visit Liverpool.

Then from there we flew the coop,
To land in St. George on a new loop,
Brake fluid was then in style,
You end up rougher than a file.

Then to Weymouth by the sea,
That's when my luck caught up with me,
I was afraid to take the chance,
But they shipped me right off to France.

They put me on an LST,
Did that ever scare me,
I went below to get a drink,
I thought the thing would surely sink.

It wiggled around over the brine,
I held my breath most of the time,
We landed on the beach,
I hung right on just like a leach.

Jerry came over in a bloody plane,
He came right back over again,
I said my Lord this will never do,
Take me back to Bloody Crewe.

The Battle for Brittany did loom,
So I grabbed right on to Smokey's wrecker boom,
I rode right along with Sgt. Canches,
Until we reached the city of Avranches.

I barely made it to my station,
Ralph R. handed me a C ration,
I did all this against my will,
Of bloody France I have my fill.

Here I set on the Moselle,
Cussing the Army all to hell,
This thing don't like my fancy,
Teake me away from the town of Nancy.

My hands are cold my feet are wet,
Double pneumonia I probably will get,
It will be hard to die so young,
Double pneumonia in my lungs.

If I get home I'll sure do well,
And the ETO can go to hell.

ADDRESSES OF ALL PERSONNEL

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Tec 4 4733 Calumet Ave., Hammond	Stanley L. Gupinski	ASN 35139551
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Tec 4 Daleville	Ralph R. Grady	ASN 35139380 ?
Tec 4 421 Pennsylvania St., Gary	Alvin L. Harrington	ASN 35139380 ?
Tec 4 903 W. Main St., Portland	Francis W. Hearn	ASN 35139383
Tec 4 2709 S. High St., Muncie	Wayne A. Hutson	ASN 35139175
Tec 4 Laurel	Charles W. Jarman	ASN 35139484
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Tec 4 Reynolds	Paul J. Ward	ASN 35577663

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Tec 5 Rt # 2, Wheatfield	Woodford C. Howard	ASN 35139662 ?
Tec 5 Rt. # 1, Cedar Grove	Edward A. Irwin	ASN 35139502
Tec 5 Tefft	Allan D. Jones	ASN 35139528
Tec 5 Rt. # 1, Newburgh	John J. Lerch	ASN 35728555
Tec 5 Coal City	William H. Love	ASN 35139452
Tec 5 1810 Virginia Ave., Connersville	William F. Lynch	ASN 35139703
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Tec 4 1518 Christy Ave., Louisville	Jacob W. Kraha	ASN 35700817
Tec 4 406 Stilz Ave., Louisville	Benjamin C. Neat, Sr.	ASN 35700820
Tec 5 3012 Hale Ave., Louisville	James E. Borders	ASN 35700589
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Tec 5 812 Mechanic St., Princeton	Haydon C. Cooper	ASN 35728608
Tec 5 Wickliffe.	William W. Davenport	ASN 35728729
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Tec 5 Rt. # 2, Upton	Marvin W. Fields	ASN 35699439
Tec 5 Rt. # 2, Bardstown	Joseph C. Greenwell	ASN 35700763
Tec 5 185 Vernon St., Louisville	Paul J. Kaelin	ASN 35700819
Tec 5 Rt. # 1, Bardstown	James W. Lindsey	ASN 35700770
Tec 5 131 Alabama St., Winchester	Woodrow W. Mays	ASN 35797494
Tec 5 406 Hill Ave., Owensboro	James L. McLimore	ASN 35728496
Tec 5 114 N. Adam St., Henderson	Roy E. Redding	ASN 35728162
Tec 5 2428 Saint Ann Court, Owensboro	Daniel E. Roby, Jr.	ASN 35728595
Tec 5 811 Barrett Ave., Louisville	Lawrence W. Schreck	ASN 35700816
Tec 5 S. 15 th St., Middlesboro	Jack R. Smith	ASN 35797441
Tec 5 215 S. Keats. Ave., Louisville	Charles E. Van Norman	ASN 35700818
Tec 5 1516 Locus Street, Louisville	Louis R. Weis	ASN 35700810
Pfc Samuels	Charlie L. Downs	ASN 35700754
Pfc Deatsville	James R. McMurray	ASN 35700752
Pfc 1935 Oakland Ave., Covington	Christopher C. Spencer	ASN 35884117
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T Sgt 518 51 st St., West New York	Guy L. Bennett	SN 32572856

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Tec 5 220 N. Florence St., Springfield	Charles F. Morris	ASN 35216055
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Tec 5 Roger W. Haynie ASN 35798264
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Tec 5 James A. Pack ASN 35656331
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This Reproduction typed in the same format and in total as found.

To commemorate the men of the 914th HAM Co. and all who shared duty to protect our freedoms and to stop the terrible world-wide aggression of Germany and Japan and their Allies.

This Unit History as discovered in my father's keepsakes and memorabilia from his time in the US Army.
The original document is preserved in our collection.

We hope that this help answer questions for other families or generations that also wondered
"What did my Father or Grandfather do in World War II?"

by
Gerald W Lynch (son)

For

William F. Lynch US Army 914th HAM Co.