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THE

734TH ORDNANCE LIGHT MAINTENANCE COMPANY

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A

CHRONOLOGY

734 ORDNANCE COMPANY
A. P. O. 34 c/o P.M. New York



34th. INFANTRY DIVISION



1941 - 1945

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THE 734TH ORDNANCE LIGHT MAINTENANCE COMPANY

A CHRONOLOGY

The following "record of events" for the Ordnance Light Maintenance Company has been prepared so that each man will have a complete summary of all the moves made, and bivouac areas occupied, by the Company, and, further, a picture of the high spots in the history of the Company.

Briefly, the 734th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company began in February, 1941, when, as National Guard units the 109th Quartermaster Regiment, the 109th Ordnance Company, with the 34th Infantry Division was inducted into Active Federal Service. At that time Company "E" of the 109th Quartermaster Regiment was the maintenance Company for the Division, and the 109th Ordnance Company handled the Division Ordnance, which, at that time, did not include Motor Transportation. The first ten months of Federal Service was spent in Camp Claiborne, La., after which the Division moved to Fort Dix, New Jersey.

While at Fort Dix, and during the final preparations for the movement overseas, the 109th Ordnance Company was lost to the Division—becoming an Army Medium Maintenance Ordnance Company. A number of personnel were transferred from the 109th Ordnance Company to the Ordnance Section, Headquarters 34th Infantry Division.

The first contingent of the 109th Quartermaster Regiment, consisting of the 2nd Battalion with Service Company personnel, moved to North Ireland on 15 January, 1942. On 1 February, 1942, upon the triangularization of the 34th Infantry Division the 109th Quartermaster Regiment became a Quartermaster Battalion. Because of the necessity to absorb all personnel already overseas, all but 37 Enlisted Men were transferred from the Battalion to the 135th Infantry Regiment. The remaining detachment moved to North Ireland on 18 February, 1942, joining the balance of the Battalion. At first it was difficult to assign personnel due to the fact that there was considerable overage, and due, also, to the fact that the Battalion was scattered over North Ireland, with part of the Service Platoon and "A" Company (the truck company) in Antrim, and the Balance of Headquarters and Headquarters Company in Garvagh, Ulster. On 13 March, 1942, transfers were completed, returning personnel from the 135th Infantry Regiment, and reassignment was speedily affected.

On 1 June, the Headquarters and Headquarters Company moved from Garvagh to Castle Coole, near Enniskillen, and approximately two days later the Truck Company and Service section joined the Battalion there. This was the first time since arrival in North Ireland that the Battalion was united and could operate as such. Shortly thereafter the Battalion moved to the immediate outskirts of Enniskillen, and established its garrison in Nissen Huts.

During this time, the Ordnance Section of the 34th Infantry Division operated separately and was stationed with the Division Headquarters. Their first garrison was in the town of Ballymena, and on 1 June, 1942, moved to the city of Omagh, some distance North of Enniskillen. This Section controlled the supply of ammunition, and maintained and supplied the Artillery, Small arms, and fire control instruments for the Division.

While in these areas, the Division participated in the maneuvers "Atlantic" which took place in the entire southern sector of Ulster. Throughout all this time the two units were entirely separate, and had no connection insofar as Ordnance operations were concerned. The Division maintenance of motor transportation was handled by the Maintenance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 109th Quartermaster Battalion. In September, 1942, motor transportation became a part of the Ordnance Department, although it continued to function as part of the Quartermaster Corps.

While in bivouac at Breendrum, Enniskillen, North Ireland, the 109th Quartermaster Battalion trained for combat operations. Schools, marches, practice drills and lectures featured this period. Similar activities were carried out by the Division Headquarters.

Commencing on 21 October, advance details began leaving for England, the first of the many moves which were to follow. It was not, however, until 10 December that all unit transportation was shipped to Larne for movement to England, and on 14 December, the personnel of the 109th Quartermaster Battalion departed Enniskillen at 0200 hours, by train, headed for Larne—embarking point for England. On 15 December, at 0830 hours, Larne was reached, and personnel immediately embarked for Stranraer, Scotland, which was reached at 1400 hours. There was no stopping and, by train, movement was made to Northwich, England, arriving at 2230 hours. There our bivouac was at Marbury Hall, some distance outside the city of Northwich. The unit transportation arrived the following day. Headquarters 34th Infantry Division was located at the same spot. While in this area The Service Platoon was placed on special duty at Holmes Chapel, there to handle all supply for the Division. They returned to duty on 21 December.

Movement to the boats for "destination unknown" commenced immediately, and loading of all personnel and equipment was completed by 24 December. Personnel of the Division were scattered throughout the entire convoy, depending upon where equipment could be placed. The bulk of the personnel of the 109th Quartermaster Battalion shipped on the "Strathaird", the "Neuhellas" and the "Orantes". The Ordnance Section sailed on the "Empress of Australia".

The convoy set sail on 26 December, 1942, with ships leaving from Glasgow and Liverpool. On 1 January, 1943, the Orantes and Empress of Australia left the main convoy and headed towards Oran, North Africa, where a portion of the Battalion disembarked and bivouacked near St. Cloud, some distance east of Oran, on 3 January.

The balance of the convoy proceeded to Algiers, and disembarked on 3 January. All troops had completed unloading by 1800 hours, and marched from the docks to the "Maison du Peuples" in Algiers. On 4 January movement was made to the "Hotel de Ville", which was located on the water front.

By this time the troops which had landed in Oran had moved to the city of Tlemcen, and had taken up quarters in the Stade Municipal and the Caserne Bedeau, where they were to remain until the balance of the Division joined them.

In Algiers, equipment was being landed daily from the boats, and the "City of Chatanooga" (on which the bulk of Quartermaster equipment had been loaded) was cleared on 7 January. Dock details were assigned daily

for the purpose of unloading equipment, and it soon became necessary to have 24-hour shifts because of the pressing need for the materials. On 12 January a detail of 25 men, the first of the Algiers contingent, moved to the city of Tlemcen to join the balance of the Battalion. Movement continued as soon as equipment could be assembled for convoy, and on the 19th of January the second group detailed from Algiers left for Tlemcen. Because of the necessity to utilize all personnel, movement was made from the hotel to the Algiers woods, south of the city, where a dispersal area and assembly point had been established. The third serial left Algiers on 21 January to join the Division. This was the final group to leave, and their move was made on the same schedule as the preceding serials. The movement was made in two jumps--the first day terminated at Orleansville, midway between Algiers and Tlemcen, and the second night found the Battalion united in the Stade Municipal. By 23 January the Battalion was organized to institute Division support.

During the period from 26 January to 31 January, 1943, all efforts were again expended towards the reorganization of the 109th Quartermaster Battalion, which, on 1 February, 1943, became non-existent, and there was created the Quartermaster Company.

The Ordnance personnel, consisting of 3 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer, and 110 Enlisted Men were transferred from the Quartermaster to the Ordnance Section 34th Infantry Division. It was at this time, officially on 1 February, 1943, that the Ordnance Section of the 34th Infantry Division and the Maintenance Platoon of the Division became united into one unit--a provisional Light Maintenance Company.

The provisional unit was stationed with Division Headquarters at the Caserne Bodeau in Tlemcen, and it was there that complete reorganization was affected. The Division Ordnance Office, then a part of the Light Maintenance Company, departed for the front in Tunisia at 1100 hours on 1 February, and the balance of the Company remained on duty, making the final preparations for the move to the front, and for the support of the Division in actual combat.

Here, in Caserne Bodeau, Tlemcen, North Africa, starts the story of the present 734th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company. This account has, in practically all instances, been kept strictly impersonal. Those of you who have made the "long voyage" will need only a small reminder in order to recreate the whole story. Those of you who joined later wouldn't be interested in names, anyway, and can pick up the story at whatever point is important to you.

Day by day, the story will be written just as it is taken from the "historical records". It is no more than a chronology. It may seem incomplete, but it is the record of the bulk of the Company, of the Headquarters. Where a small detachment is separated from the main unit, contact is lost except for special incidents, and it is impossible to maintain accurately a record of those activities. For this reason, especially for the Division Ammunition Office, the Division Ordnance Office, and certain contact and advance parties, the record may seem incomplete. But, generally speaking, insofar as the entire Company is concerned, the dates and places are accurate.

February 1943

- 1 Division Ordnance Office departs Tlemcen for front at 1100 hours. Balance of Company performs usual duties at Caserne Bedeau, Tlemcen.
 - 7 Ordnance Light Maintenance Company leaves Tlemcen for front 1220 hours. Arrived Sidi Bel Abess 1830 hours.
 - 8 Departed Sidi Bel Abess 0900 hours. Arrive Orleansville 1815 hours.
 - 9 Departed Orleansville, North Africa, 0925 hours. Arrive L'Arba (south of Algiers) at 1845 hours.
 - 10 Leave L'Arba 1300 hours. Arrive bivouac area 3 miles West of Beni Monsourah at 1830 hours.
 - 11 Departed bivouac area near Beni Monsourah 0630 hours. Arrive Ain M'Lila (South of Constantine) 1740 hours.
 - 12 Departed Ain M'Lila 0745 hours. Arrived Souk Ahras 1830 hours.
 - 13 Departed Souk Ahras 1107 hours. Arrived bivouac area 4 miles West of Sakiet Sidi Youssef 1500 hours. Personnel Section leaves for Division Rear located at Le Kef.
 - 14 Departed bivouac area at Sakiet Sidi Youssef 1745, travelled 18 miles, were intercepted and returned to starting point, arriving there at 2230 hours.
 - 15 Departed bivouac again, leaving Sakiet Sidi Youssef at 1800 hours, and
 - 16 Arriving at bivouac area 17 miles Southeast of Sbiba at 0130 hours. Departed this bivouac at 2330 hours and
 - 17 Arrived at bivouac area in El Ksour at 0430 hours.
- (The Company remained in this area until 5 March 1943)

March 1943

- 5 Departed bivouac area at El Ksour and moved to new location in the vicinity of Rohia,
 - 27 Moved to new bivouac area near Kef-el-Amar Pass, some distance east of Sbiba.
- (The Company remained in this area until 6 April 1943)

April 1943

- 6 Moved to bivouac area 4 miles North of Hadjeb el Aioun at 2400 hours.

April 1943 (Cont'd)

- 16 Moved to assembly area near Maktar (night move). Division rear echelon moved to Kanquet Kef Touk)
- 23 Departed Maktar bivouac area at 2100 hours, and
- 24 arrived staging area at Roun-es-souk at 1230 hours.
- 26 Leave staging area at Roun-es-souk and arrived bivouac area 10 miles Northeast of Beja at 1700 hours.
- (The Company remained in this area until 5 May, 1943)

May, 1943

- 5 Departed bivouac area Northeast of Beja at 1000 hours. Move to bivouac area 10 miles South of Mateur, arriving at 1700 hours.
- 9 Move to bivouac area 5 miles south of Mateur.
- 17 Move to new area on Lake Bizerta, 1 mile East of Ferryville. (Personnel section from Rear Echelon rejoins company at this area on 18 May)
- (The Company remained in this area until 4 June 1943)

June, 1943

- 4 Leave bivouac area on Lake Bizerta and move to bivouac area in vicinity of Ain Rhelal, 12 miles East of Mateur on the Mateur-Tunis highway.
- (The Company remained in this area until 19 August 1943)

August 1943

- 19 Leave bivouac area near Ain Rhelal at 1400 hours, and moved 15 miles to Division staging area just south of Mateur,
- 20 Departed staging area and moved to bivouac area near Morris.
- 21 Departed bivouac area near Morris and moved to Ain M'Lila.
- 22 Departed Ain M'Lila and moved to Monsoura-des-bebains.
- 23 Leave Monsoura-des-bebains and moved to bivouac area at Affreville (south of Algiers)
- 24, Leave Affreville and move to permanent bivouac area 3 miles North of Bou Tlelis - 23 miles West of Oran.

(While in bivouac area preparations were completed for further combat operations. Here in Bou Tlelis the 112th Ordnance MM Company became the Divisions supporting ordnance, Upon completion of inspections, repairs, and replacements of Division Ordnance, the Division began its move to Italy.

By this time the Company had been designated the 2634th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, a provisional number, and it was at the 2634th Ordnance that the move was made. The Company completed the move in four sections, broken down as follows: Four officers and sixty-three enlisted men, as troops, sailed on a troop ship; 1 Officer and thirty enlisted men moved a portion of the unit equipment; another officer and 12 enlisted men moved additional equipment; and the balance of the company property was taken at a later time by seven officers and fifty-four enlisted men. The first of the company personnel and equipment landed in Italy on 21 September. The first three groups, above, departed Cran, North Africa, on 17 September, and the last contingent sailed on 19 September)

September 1943

21 7 Officers and 104 Enlisted Men disembarked on the beach 15 miles south of Salerno, Italy. Immediately moved to assembly area awaiting equipment to be cleared. First three contingents made trip without event.

22 Fourth contingent, enroute to Italy. Transport struck by torpedo at approximately 0735 hours. "Richard Olney" took on little water, and was towed to Bizerta. No casualties among Ordnance personnel.

In Italy, the company moved from assembly area to Batipaglia, Italy, where bivouac was established to await unloading of equipment.

(After unloading equipment at Bizerta, the fourth contingent bivouacked west of that city until transportation could be arranged, which was not until 2 October)

23 Company in bivouac near Batipaglia, vehicles began to arrive,
30 Ordnance Office established, and contacts made. Last of vehicles unloaded 26 September.

October 1943

1-3 Batipaglia.

4 Departed Batipaglia and moved to bivouac area 1 Mile North-east of Castelvetere. Fourth contingent arrived at beach 25 miles South of Salerno.

5. Castelvetere. Advance detail from fourth increment joins balance of company.

6 Castelvetere. Fourth contingent joins company, bringing unit to assigned strength.

8 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile Northeast Castelvetere 0730 hours. Arrived bivouac area 3 miles West of Montesarchio 1800 hours.

9 Departed bivouac area 3 miles West of Montesarchio 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1/2 mile South of Airola at 1400 hours.

October 1943 cont'd,

- 13 Departed bivouac area 1/2 mile South of Airola, Italy, 0700 hours. Arrived bivouac area Valle di Maddaloni, 0730 hours.
- 18 Departed Valle di Maddaloni at 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area 3 miles South of Caiazzo, Italy, 1400 hours.
- 20 Departed bivouac area 3 miles Southeast Caiazzo 0900 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles North of Caiazzo 1000 hours.
- 24 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 miles North Caiazzo 0900 hours; arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Southeast of Alife, Italy, 1100 hours.
- 29 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Southeast of Alife, Italy, 0900 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 miles Northwest of Alife, 1100 hours.

(The Company remained in this area until 3 November 1943)

November 1943

- 3 Departed bivouac area 2 miles Northwest of Alife, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles South of Pratella, Italy, 0915 hours.
- 8 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 miles South of Pratella, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 mile South of Prata, Italy, 0900 hours.
- 21 Division Ammunition Office separated from Company to establish office at point approximately 1 mile North of Venafro. 2 Officers and 10 Enlisted Men.
- 23 Ammunition office subjected to enemy artillery fire.
- 24 Ammunition office subjected to harassing enemy artillery fire. No casualties.
- 25 Ammunition Office rejoin company at 1100 hours.
- 30

December 1943

- 1 2634th Ordnance L Maint Company redesignated as 734th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, and reorganized in accordance with T/O and E 9-8, 1 March 1943. At Prata.
3. Division Ammunition Office separates from Company and establishes office 6 Miles North of Venafro.
- 9 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile South of Prata, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile Northwest of Alife 0900 hours.
- 13 Ammunition Office rejoins company at 1000 hours.

December 1943 (cont'd)

28 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile Northwest of Alife, Italy, 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area 6 miles Southeast of Venafro 1510 hours.

(The company remained in this area until 11 January 1944)

January 1944

11 Company, less Ammunition Office, departed bivouac area 6 miles Southeast of Venafro, 0830 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1/2 Mile West of Venafro 0900 hours.

16 Attacking enemy aircraft engaged by Allied aircraft over unit area. Three enlisted men receive light shrapnel wounds.

21 Ammunition Office rejoins company 1100 hours.

26 Division Ammunition office separates from company and establishes office in vicinity of Mignano, Italy.

28 Departed bivouac area 1/2 mile West of Venafro 0900 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile East of San Vittore, Italy, 1000 hours.

(The Company remained in this position, overlooking Cassino and Monte Cassino, until 14 February, 1944)

February 1944

14 Division Ammunition Office rejoins company at San Vittore. Company, less Ammunition Office, Ordnance Office and detachment of Automotive and Artillery Sections departed bivouac area 1400 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile Northwest of Alife, Italy, 1620 hours.

20 Detachment of Company from San Vittore area rejoins balance of company in Alife area at 1100 hours.

(The Company remained in this area until 7 March, 1944)

March 1944

7 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile Northwest of Alife, Italy, 1500 hours. Arrived bivouac area in village of San Martino Italy, 1815 hours.

18 Detachment of 5 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer, and 59 Enlisted Men and 1 Attached Medical Department man departed bivouac area San Martino 0900 hours. Arrived staging area West of Naples 1530 hours.

19 Detachment of company embarked LST at Misida docks, Naples, at 0930 hours. Departed docks at 1800 hours.

20 Advance detachment disembarked Anzio, Italy, 1030 hours. Proceeded to bivouac area 2 miles east of Nettuno, arriving at 1145 hours.

March 1944 (Cont'd)

- 21 Departed bivouac area 2 miles east of Nettuno, Italy, 0930 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile Northeast of Nettuno, 1000 hours. Personnel and vehicles dug in for maximum protection. Air raid alert from 2030 hours to 2045 hours.
- 22 Subjected to enemy artillery barrage from 0405 hours to 0415 hours. Approximately 35-50 projectiles of (estimated) light caliber landed around and within unit area. One enlisted man received light shrapnel wound in right shoulder. One truck received direct hit; evacuated. Three other vehicles receive light damage.
- 23 Rear installation departed bivouac area in San Martino and moved to Pianura, arriving 1815 hours. Permanent location. Forward echelon at Nettuno. Air raid from 2015 hours to 2030 hours.
- 24 Forward echelon. Air raid from 2000 to 2010 hours. Artillery fire, incoming, placed shells around unit area.
- 25 Forward echelon. Light artillery activity.
- 26 Air raid at Forward Echelon, 2100 to 2120 hours.
- 27 Forward echelon. Air raid from 1825 to 1935 hours.
- 28 Forward echelon. Air raid during early hours.
- 29 One officer and eight enlisted men join forward echelon from rear. Air raid 1525 to 1545 hours. Again from 2130 to 2200 hours.
- 30 Forward echelon. Two air raids, 2130 hours and 2200 hours.
- 31 Forward echelon, Nettuno area. considerable enemy artillery fire. Rear installation at Pianura.

April 1944

(During the entire month of April the forward echelon was located near Nettuno, and the rear detail remained at Pianura)

- 1 Two enlisted men joined forward area. Air raid from 2300 to 2330 hours.
- 2 One Officer and one enlisted man join forward unit.
- 3 Two enlisted men arrive from rear detachment. Air raid from 0320 hours to 0345 hours.
- 5 Heavy enemy artillery from 0100 to 1200 hours. A single projectile, 170-mm in size, landed in unit area, throwing some shrapnel.

April 1944 (Cont'd)

- 6 Two Officers and three enlisted men join forward installation from rear.
- 7 One enlisted man (Kuninger) returned to rear echelon from Nettuno area.
- 8 Light air raid at 2210 hours over forward area.
- 9 Forward area. Two air raids, one at 0045 hours and one at 0130 hours. Approximately 8 artillery shells, 170-mm, landed in unit area.
- 10 Forward area. Approximately 15-20 enemy artillery shells, 170-mm, landed in bivouac area northwest of Nettuno during period from 0100 hours to 0800 hours, causing no materiel or personnel casualties other than minor shrapnel penetrations. Continued shelling of this area compelled evacuation of this bivouac and movement to a new location one and one-half miles east of Nettuno. Heavy air raid from 2140 to 2220 hours, and again from 2305 to 2400 hours, inflicted no damage.
- 11 Air raid alert, forward area, at 0230 hours.
- 12 Air raid alert from 0005 hours to 0015 hours. Second air raid at 1815 hours.
- 13 One Officer returned to rear area.
- 14 Air raid alert at 2200 hours in Nettuno area.
- 15 Air raid from 0450 hours to 0510 hours.
- 21 Forward area. Continuous air raid from 0230 hours to 0630 hours.
- 22 One Enlisted man struck by shrapnel during enemy artillery barrage. (T/4 Robert W. Johnson). Wounds of minor nature.
- 24 Heavy air raid over forward area from 2200 to 2300 hours.
- 29 Air raid from 2130 hours to 2145 hours in Nettuno area.
- 30 Enemy artillery active during air raid from 2150 to 2235 hours.

May 1944

(During this month, the rear installation from Pianura joined the forward echelon east of Nettuno, and the move from the beach head began)

- 1 Usual camp duties performed by forward elements near Nettuno
22 and by rear elements stationed at Pianura.
- 23 16 Enlisted Men join forward elements from rear.

May 1944 (Cont'd)

- 24 5 Enlisted Men join forward unit from rear.
- 25 2 Enlisted Men join forward elements at Nettuno.
- 26 34 Enlisted Men arrive from rear detachment; rear detachment at Pianura closed as of this date.
- 28 Departed bivouac area East of Nettuno Italy at 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Northeast of Casale Campo Morto, Italy, 0900 hours.
- 30 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Northeast of Casale Campo Morto 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 3 miles Southeast of Velettri, Italy, 0840 hours.
- 31 Enemy air craft strafed Company area at 2215 hours. No casualties.

June 1944

(This month saw the rapid movement of the Division after the breakthrough at the Beach head, and the swift advance up through Rome)

- 1 One bomb, estimated 500 pounds, dropped in Division Pool damaging seven 1/4 ton trucks and one 2 1/2 ton 6x6 truck. Area strafed by enemy aircraft at 2300 hours.
- 2 South of Velletri. Two Officers Killed (Lt. Col. Youngs and 1st Lt. Becker) and One Officer seriously wounded (Capt. A. M. Branum) by exploding anti-personnel mines at a point approximately 5 miles south of Velletri. (These were the first major casualties suffered by this unit)
- 4 Departed bivouac area 3 miles South of Velletri, 1400 hours. Arrived bivouac area 3 miles West of Velletri, Italy, 1500 hours.
- 5 One 4-ton wrecker considerably damaged by exploding land mine. Right front wheel assembly smashed; numerous other penetrations. Vehicle evacuated. Departed bivouac area 3 Miles West of Velletri, 1645 hours. Arrived bivouac area 4 miles South of Rome, Italy, 1900 hours.
- 7 Departed bivouac area 4 miles South of Rome, 0700 hours. Arrived bivouac area 6 miles West of Rome, 0900 hours.
- 8 Departed bivouac area 6 miles West of Rome, 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area vicinity of San Marinella, Italy, 1600 hours.
- 11 Departed bivouac area vicinity of San Marinella, Italy, 1700 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Southeast of Tarquinia, Italy, 1800 hours.

During the period 12 to 21 June, 1944, the Company spent in rest and rehabilitation.

June 1944 (Cont'd)

- 22 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 Miles Southeast of Tarquinia, Italy, 0245 hours. Arrived bivouac area 5 miles South of Grosseto, Italy, 0730 hours.
- 24 Departed bivouac area 5 miles South of Grosseto, Italy, 0500 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Southeast Gavorrano, Italy, 0610 hours.
- 27 Departed bivouac area 2 1/2 miles Southeast Gavorrano, Italy, 1400 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 Miles Southwest of Campiglia, Italy, 1700 hours.
- 30 Departed bivouac area 2 miles Southwest of Campiglia, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 11 Miles South of Cecina, Italy, 0840 hours. Distance 11 miles.

July 1944

(The Company remained in the Cecina area until 5 July. After this there was little activity and at the close of the period moved into a rest and rehabilitation area)

- 5 Departed bivouac area 11 Miles South of Cecina, 0830 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 miles North of Cecina, Italy, 0930 hours.
- 14 Departed bivouac area 2 miles North of Cecina, Italy, 1400 hours. Arrived bivouac area 6 miles North of Cecina, Italy, 1420 hours.
- 26 Departed bivouac area 6 miles North of Cecina, Italy, 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area Rosignano Solvay, Italy, 1445 hours.

August 1944

(Practically the entire month of August was spent in a rest, training, and rehabilitation area in Rosignano Solvay. At the close of the period the unit was in a new sector)

- 24 Departed bivouac area Rosignano Solvay, Italy, 2355 hours
- 25 Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile Southwest of Castelfiorentino, Italy, 0400 hours. Distance 67 miles.

September 1944

(During this month the Division started moving again the Gothic Line)

- 6 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile Southwest of Castelfiorentino 1800 hours. Arrived bivouac area in Firenze (Florence) at 2020 hours.
- 10 Departed bivouac area in Florence, Italy, 1330 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile Northwest of Sesto, 1420 hours.

September 1944 (cont'd)

- 14 Departed bivouac area 1 mile Northwest of Sesto, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 5 1/2 miles North of Calenzano, Italy, 0920 hours.
- 23 Departed bivouac area 5 1/2 miles North of Calenzano, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile South of Barberino di Mugello, Italy, 0900 hours.

October 1944

(During this month the Company followed the 34th Division in its assault on the Gothic Line)

- 2 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile South of Barberino di Mugello, Italy, 0830 hours. Arrived bivouac area 2 Miles South of Brussoli, Italy, 1120 hours.
- 12 Departed bivouac area 2 Miles South of Brussoli, Italy, 1400 hours. Arrived bivouac area (on Mount Canda) 4 miles Southeast of Monghidoro, Italy, 1510 hours.

November 1944

(September found the Company in a static position practically the entire period, with inclement weather holding all activity to a minimum)

- 8 Company, less Division Ordnance Office and Armament Section departed bivouac area 4 miles Southeast of Monghidoro, 0900 hours. Arrived bivouac area Barberino di Mugello, Italy, 1200 hours.
- 10 Division Ordnance Office and Armament Section joined Company at Barberino di Mugello, Italy, 1000 hours.

December, 1944

(With the Division holding positions on the Gothic Line, in an active defense, the Company spent the entire month of December in Barberino di Mugello. The Armament Office and the Wrecker Section were located in the vicinity south of Monghidoro, Italy)

January 1945

(Practically the entire month was spent in a static position, with a single move, late in the month, down "Easy Street" into the Idice River valley)

- 8 734th Ordnance Company reorganized effective 10 December 1943 under T/O and E 9-8 dated 15 July, 1943.
- 14 Departed bivouac area in Barberino di Mugello, Italy, 0900 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 1/2 miles North of Frassineta, Italy (vicinity Caspeggio), 1300 hours.

February 1945

(This month was spent in a static position, with but a single move. Snow and rain complicated all work)

- 9 Company reorganized in vicinity of Campeggio, Italy, under T/O and B, 9-8, dated 17 November, 1944.
- 13 Departed bivouac area $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles North of Frassineta, Italy (vicinity of Campeggio) 1000 hours. Arrived bivouac area in Cavallino, Italy, 1230 hours.

March 1945

(The month was uneventful, and interrupted by but a single move)

- 5 Departed bivouac area Cavallina, Italy, 0930 hours. Arrived bivouac area in Monghidoro, Italy, 1130 hours. Distance 35 miles.

April, 1945

(April found the Division again on the move, with the Ordnance Company rapidly in pursuit)

- 4 Departed bivouac area Monghidoro, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area vicinity S. Benedetto di Querceto, Italy, 0945 hours.
- 15 Harassing Artillery Fire around unit area 0030 hours to 0500 hours. No damage inflicted.
- 21 Departed bivouac area S. Benedetto di Querceto, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area vicinity of Barbarola, Italy, 1000 hours.
- 22 Departed bivouac area near Barbarola, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area southern outskirts of Bologna, Italy, 1130 hours. Enemy air activity throughout entire night. No casualties.
- 24 Departed bivouac area Bologna, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area $2\frac{1}{2}$ Miles Southeast of Castelfranco, Italy, 0930 hours.
- 25 Departed bivouac area $2\frac{1}{2}$ Miles Southeast of Castelfranco, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles West of Modena, Italy, 0900 hours.
- 26 Departed bivouac area $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles West of Modena, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area near Cade, Italy, 0900 hours.

Departed bivouac area near Cade, Italy, 1300 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 Mile West of Castelguelfo, Italy, 1400 hours.

April 1945 (cont'd)

- 29 Departed bivouac area 1 Mile West of Castelgnelfo, Italy, 0600 hours. Arrived bivouac area at Brescia, Italy, 1930 hours.

May 1945

(May, with troops running rampant in the Po Valley, saw the end of the European War. There was much still to be done, but it was all anticlimatic to the preceding month)

- 1 Departed bivouac area at Brescia, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area at Pero, Italy (West of Milano), 1100 hours.
- 3 Departed Pero, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived Biandrate, Italy, 1030 hours.
- 4 Departed bivouac area at Biandrate, Italy, 0600 hours. Arrived bivouac area at Galliate, Italy, 0900 hours.
- 17 Departed bivouac area at Galliate, Italy, 0800 hours. Arrived bivouac area 1 1/2 miles West of Savigliano, Italy, 1800 hours.

Here the Company came to rest, servicing the Division, while final arrangements were being made with regards to prisoners, captured equipment and materiel. The war was over, and throughout the months of May and June personnel were being returned to the United States for reassignment and for discharge. New men were received to replace the losses. The sight of a familiar face becomes a rare thing. After two and a half years, it is a new 734th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company.

End