

MISSING      SEVERAL  
PAGES

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BATTALION  
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT  
A.P.O. #758, U. S. ARMY

1 September 1943.

Subject: Daily Journal Report of the month of August 1943.

To : Commanding Officer, 540th Engineer Regiment, APO 758, U. S. Army.

1. Daily Journal Report of August 1943.

1 August 1943. Company "D", Palermo, Sicily. Operation of the Port of Palermo, and doing dock work. Company "E", Palermo, Sicily. Moved in morning to new station Iascari, Sicily, approx. 9.3 west of Cefaul, Sicily. Company "F", Palermo, Sicily. Operation of the Port of Palermo. Working on dock. Guard of harbor area.

2 August 1943. Company "D", Palermo, Sicily. Started operation of beach, approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily at 2200 working LST 375. Unloaded approx. 70 tons of supplies in two (2) hours. Company "E", Approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Started operation of beach, located approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily at 2200 working LST 375. Unloaded approx. 70 tons of supplies, in two (2) hours, with Company "D". Established supply dumps. Company "F", Palermo, Sicily. Interior guard, Port of Palermo, Sicily.

3 August 1943. Company "D",  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Loaded following LCT's 153, 26, 24, 31 (all made two trips) with two Battery's of Artillery to forward area (including guns, vehicles and personnel) with Company "E". Continued work on LST 375, unloaded approx. 310 tons of supplies with Company "E". Company, "E",  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Loaded following LCT's 153, 26, 24, 31 (all made two trips) with two Battery's of Artillery to forward area (including guns, vehicles and personnel with Company "D"). Continued working on LST 375, unloaded approx. 310 tons of supplies with Company "D". Company "F",  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Interior Guard, Port of Palermo, Sicily.

4 August 1943. Company "D", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Completed unloading LST 375 at 1257 with Company "E". Unloaded approx. 970 tons of supplies with Company "E". Clearing mines and booby traps from bivouac area. Removed approx. 6. Company "E", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Completed unloading LST 375 at 1257 with Company "D". Unloaded approx. 970 tons of supplies with Company "D". Company "F", Palermo, Sicily. Left bivouac area, vicinity of Palermo, Sicily at 0810 hours, by motor transport enroute to bivouac area and new station, approximately 3 miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Arrived at new station at 1430 hours. Distance travelled approx. 67.2 miles.

5 August 1943. Company "D", approx  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Usual camp duties. Unloaded 12 truck loads of rations, water and gasoline and oil into dumps for Special Mission, working with Company "E". Company "E", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Usual camp duties. Unloaded 12 truck loads of rations, water and gasoline and oil into dumps for Special Mission, working with Company "D". Company "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Clearing mines in area. Removed approx. 250 Teller Mines.

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6 August 1943. Company "D", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Usual Beach and Dump operations, loading and unloading supplies. Construction of roads making improvements in beach, guarding of dump, policing enemy ordnance, clearing mines (280 mines cleared). Preparation for Special Mission. Company "E", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Usual Beach and Dump operations, loading and unloading supplies. Construction of road, making improvement in beach, guarding of dump, policing enemy ordnance, clearing mines. Preparation for Special Mission. Company "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Usual Beach and Dump operations, loading and unloading supplies. Construction of road, making improvement in beach, guarding of dump, policing enemy ordnance, clearing mines. Preparation for Special Mission.

7 August 1943. Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Continued operation of Beach ammunition dump work - loading for forward areas and unloading (from trucks) guard for dumps, policing enemy ordnance, constructing ramps and dead men for craft, operation of water point, improving roads, 308 tons of ammunition unloaded from trucks. Special assault mission behind enemy lines. Prepared for mission loading craft ---- rations, ammunition, water and gas - 1100 cases "C" rations, 1467 cases "K" rations, 120 - 5 gal. water cans, and 5 ton of ammunition. Personnel loaded - 1080. Vehicles - 27 tanks and 72 wheel, and 16 horses and mules. Lt. Wagner, Company "E", this regiment, with 51 EM and 1 EM Medic accompanied mission (Vehicles - 2 angledozers and 16 Dukws).

8 August 1943. Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Twenty-seven (27) EM returned from Special Assault Mission. Guarding ammunition and gas dumps, policing enemy ordnance, maintaining turn-around, operation of water point, maintaining road to gas dump. Unloaded approx. 269.8 tons of ammunition from trucks. Loaded three (3) LCT's for Special Mission with personnel and vehicles. Preparatory work on Red Beach, approx. 12 miles east of present station. Completed survey for mines, work on roads, etc.

9 August 1943. Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Lt. Wagner, Company "E", this regiment, and balance of EM returned from special assault mission. Operation fo two (2), "Torremuzza" and "Buzza" Beach, including dump work, operation of water point, policed enemy ordnance, uncrated ammunition. Embarkation of Company of Engineers on Special Mission. Unloaded LST 350, approx. 249.9 tons of ration, CWS and ammunition and also 138 troops (replacement being worked) on "Torremuzza" Beach. Unloaded LST 369 - Discharged four (4) Scorpions (being worked) from Buzza Beach.

10 August 1943. Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of San Stefano, Sicily. Lt. Wagner, and 50 EM left on Special Amphibious assault mission behind enemy lines, accompanying infantry combat team units, Vicinity of Brolo, Sicily. Continued usual Beach and Dump operations at "Torremuzza" Beach and also "Buzza" Beach. Unloaded rations and ammunition from LST 350 and 369. Provided guard for dumps and operation of water point. Unloaded LST's 350 and trucks (68 tons of supplies). Unloaded 254 tons of supplies from LST 350 on "Torremuzza" Beach. Unloaded LST 369 (316 tons of supplies) on "Buzza" Beach. Also assisted in loading out Infantry and attached units on Special Amphibious assault mission.