

HEADQUARTERS
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. # 758

5 November 1944.

SUBJECT: S-3 Monthly Activity Journal for October 1944.

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

1 - 4 October 1944

GRAY, France - Two-way, Class 40 fixed bridge at BAUME-LES-DAMES was completed and opened for traffic. Work was started on opening Highway N.460 from DARNÉY to EPINAL. This consisted of removing road blocks, reconstructing canal bridge in the vicinity of GIRAN-COURT, and removing debris from highway caused by demolition of RR overpass near junction with Highway N.66. Two canal bridges on N.57, just north of EPINAL were started on. Storm boat, ferry, and ponton training continued. A POW stockade was constructed in vicinity of the ST LOUP railhead. The south RR Bailey bridge at PONT D'AIN was being reinforced.

5 - 8 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - Regimental Headquarters moved from GRAY to MIRECOURT. River crossing training was completed at CAMP LA VALBONNE. The two canal bridges just north of EPINAL on Highway N.57 were completed. Extensive and detailed road and bridge reconnaissance was made of the newly assigned regimental area. Road maintenance in the new area, maintenance of the MOSELLE River bridges, and engineering work for Army installations in the new area were assigned and work begun. South RR Bailey bridge reinforcing was completed.

9 - 13 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - Work was begun on construction of two canal bridges on Highway N.57 near CREVECHAMPS and FLAVIGNY. Work started on installing utilities in buildings, constructing ramps between buildings, and construction of hopper ramp to power plant for the General Hospital in MIRECOURT. Canal bridge leading to the 98th Ord Co Shop at NOMEXY was reinforced to a Class 70. Work started to reinforce one of the two-way low-level bridges across the MOSELLE River upstream of the partially demolished main highway bridge at CHARMES. Canal bridge on Highway N.57 near CREVECHAMPS was completed.

14 - 17 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - One-way bridge at CHARMES was reinforced to Class 70 and work started to replace adjacent one-way bridge with a two-way Class 40 fixed bridge using the reinforced bridge as a base for the

14 - 17 October 1944
(Continued)

pile driver. Canal bridge on Highway N.57 near FLAVIGNY was completed. Hopper ramp to the heating plant at the 21st General Hospital in MIRECOURT was completed. Road and bridge maintenance continued, with hospital sites being prepared for 51st and 11th Evacuation Hospitals and roads built for ASP at BAYON and Class III Dump at CHARMES.

18 - 21 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - Canal bridge at NOMEKY on approach road to main highway bridge across the MOSELLE River at CHATEL was washed out and replaced. The center bent of the CHATEL bridge washed out and work started to replace it with a pile bent. On the next day, however, the adjacent trestle bent washed out and it was decided to widen and reinforce the entire bridge to a two-way, Class 40. This was done by replacing the washed-out trestle bents with double-pile bents and adding three piles and the necessary additional stringers and flooring to each of the existing 16 trestle bents that remained. Road system, RR cross-overs, and unloading area was established in the railhead at HYMONT. Work continued on construction of two-way, Class 40 fixed bridge across the MOSELLE at CHARMES until high water washed out the reinforced one-way bridge. It was decided to provide a crossing of the MOSELLE at CHARMES by the construction, instead, of a one-way, Class 24 Bailey bridge at the site of the partially demolished highway bridge.

22 - 26 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - Work was done to establish cinder stock-piles on main supply routes in the assigned area for use during conditions of ice and snow. Work was begun for providing the 93rd Ordnance AA Company with a shop area at NOMEKY. The Bailey bridge at CHARMES was completed. The finished structure was 290 feet of double-single construction. The fixed bridge at CHATEL was opened for traffic, the structure being 336 feet 6 inches long and 24 feet wide from curb to curb.

27 - 31 October 1944

MIRECOURT, France - Cribbing of each of the 19 spans of the CHATEL bridge was started. The German bridge just upstream of the CHATEL bridge was removed from the MOSELLE River. Work started on clearing the CANAL DE L'EST downstream of the CHARMES Bailey bridge. Work continued at the 21st General Hospital at MIRECOURT. Road system, culverts, turn-offs into dispersal areas were being constructed for an Ordnance Vehicle Depot just west of NOMEKY. Necessary engineer work was begun for the 9th Evacuation Hospital at RACECOURT. The canal bridge at NOMEKY was refloored, replacing the treads with solid decking. Road and bridge maintenance, establishment of cinder stock-piles, and engineer work

27 - 31 October 1944
(Continued)

for Army installations in the assigned regimental area was carried out. Center bent at BAYON bridge settled and was shimmed back to the proper height. Rock was placed around each of the already cribbed bents to protect them against scouring.

Main Duties of the S-3 Section During the Period 1 - 31 October 1944

1. Preparation of "Daily Report - Army Engineer Unit" and "Daily Construction Report".
2. Assignment of work projects to units of the command.
3. Preparation and reproduction of bridge designs and Bill of Material.
4. Assignment and supervision of road and bridge reconnaissance. Preparation of reconnaissance reports and overlays.
5. Dispatch of engineer equipment and allotment of trucks for operational purposes within the regiment.
6. Request and assignment of engineer equipment borrowed from 378th Engr Battalion through 7th Army Engineer Section.
7. Continuous supervision of all jobs assigned to the regiment.
8. Preparation of photographic reports on all bridges constructed during the period.
9. Liason with 7th Army Engineer Section.
10. Preparation of "Lessons Learned" and "Historical Report".
11. Establishing center line and levels for bridge jobs.
12. Installation and repair of electrical system for regimental headquarters.

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