

HEADQUARTERS
505TH ENGINEER LIGHT PONTON COMPANY.
A.P.O. 513, U.S.ARMY

COMPANY HISTORY - MONTH OF OCTOBER 1944

a. Original Unit:-

- (1) Designation - 505th Engineer Light Ponton Company.
- (2) Date of Organization - 15 May 1942.
- (3) Place of Organization - Camp Gordon, Georgia.
- (4) Authority for Organization - General Order No. 15, Headquarters Eastern Defense Command and First Army, dated 15 May 1942.
- (5) Sources from which original personnel were obtained.

(a) Officers

1. Company Commander - Captain Archibald E. Sutton, O-304319, C.E., by transfer from the Engineer Replacement Training Center, Fort Belvoir Virginia.
2. Executive Officer - 1st Lt. Gerald L. Bilbro, C.E. by transfer from the 75th Engr. L. Pon. Co., Camp Beauregarde, La.
3. Platoon Commanders and Motor Officer - By assignment from the Fourth Engineer Officer Candidate School, Fort Belvoir, Va. as follows:

Francis F. Carnes, 2nd Lt., C.E. O-1100038
James J. Carnes, Jr. 2nd Lt. C.E. O-1100039
Burrell D. Carney, Jr. 2nd Lt. C.E. O-1100041
Francis M. Carson, 2nd Lt. C.E. - O-1100043

(b) Enlisted Men.

1. Enlisted Cadre of twelve (12) N.C.O's by transfer from the 75th Engr. L. Pon. Co, Camp Beauregarde, La. in May 1942 as follows:

First Sergeant - Morton Kamm - 6878116
Master Sergeant - George Underwood --
Mess Sergeant - S/Sgt. John W. Fritchett - 6966756
Supply Sergeant - S/Sgt. William Blankenship --
Motor Sergeant - S/Sgt. Kenneth F. Whitehead - 33035175
Platoon Sergeant - S/Sgt. Carlton L. Allen - 6994429
Platoon Sergeant - S/Sgt. Thomas L. Beckham - 6971589
Platoon Sergeant - Sgt. Earl Northrup - 32033188
Mechanic - Cpl. Ival Cooper - 32035482
1st Cook - Pvt. Spec 3rd Cl - Stanislaus J. Andersiak - R-2340718
1st Cook - Pvt. Spec 4th Cl - J.B. Walker - 7088340
Co. Clerk - Cpl. Robert M. Mayo - 7086178

2. Two (2) Mechanics by assignment from the Engineer Heavy Equipment School, Fort Belvoir, Va. on 15 May 1942, as follows:

Pvt. Balmer E. Sinegar - 33118318
Pvt. Harold A. Geese - 38047063

3. Enlisted Fillers.

The first group of Enlisted Fillers consisting of eleven (11) Selective service Privates were received on 29 September, 1942 by transfer from Co. "D" of the 82nd Ordnance Battalion, Camp Gordon, Georgia, per

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Authority NND 73507

By D.E. NARA Date 8-21-6

S.O. #54, 3rd Hq. & Hq. Det. Sp. Troops, 2nd Army, dated 29 Sept. 1942. The second, and principal group of Enlisted Fillers, consisting of 210 Selective Service Privates, were received by transfer from the 1222nd Reception Center, Camp Upton, New York, on 5 December 1942, per par. 1, S.O. 332 Hq. 1222nd Reception Center, Camp Upton, New York, dated 3 December 1942.

b. Changes in Organization During Period.

- (1) Company was attached to 1105th Engr. C. Group, and assigned to First United States Army during the entire period.

c. Strength - Commissioned and Enlisted:

- (1) Officer strength at beginning of Period - 6

Francis M. Carson, Capt. C.E. O-1100043 Company Commander
Gilbert F. Moore, 1st Lt. C.E. O-446357 Executive Officer
Howard D. May, 1st Lt. C.E. O-1110097 Platoon Commander
John A. McDonald, 1st Lt. C.E. O-1115692 Platoon Commander
Randal Holden, 2nd Lt. C.E. O-1114169 Platoon Commander
* Clifton M. Hanks, 2nd Lt. C.E. O-116497 Platoon Commander

* Lt. Hanks was Lost to Hospital on 6 Oct. 1944 due to injuries received in a vehicle accident.

- (2) Enlisted Strength:

- a. Beginning of Period - Present 201 - Absent - 1
b. Increase during Period - 2

Davis, Herman - Pvt. 15063856
Parmer, Harry C. Pvt. 33802679

Above two E.M. assigned to organization by 3rd Reinf. Depot and reported for duty 8 Oct. 1944.

- c. Decrease during period - None

- d. Enlisted Strength at end of period - Present 203 - Absent - 1

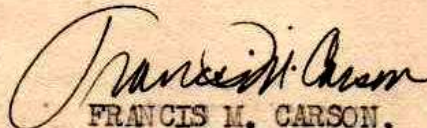
- e. Stations: Company was located at Vierset Barse, Belgium, K-274123, during the entire period.

OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

The two Bridge Platoons were engaged during the entire period in the transportation of Engineer Supplies and Equipment from various sources into the 1st Army Engineer Depot at Modave, Belgium, and later during the month, on up to the new location of the Depot at Montzen. The vehicles of these two platoons were kept going continuously, stopping in the bivouac area only to sleep, or have repairs made. Most of the time the demand for this equipment was normal; the trucks being run only during the day. Occasionally, when certain materials would be needed more urgently, hauling was continued at night.

On 28th October the Company took over the guard and maintenance job on a Class 40 Armored Steel Treadway Bridge in Liege. This detail utilized half the personnel of one section. While the job itself was not difficult, life in Liege was most unpleasant due to the heavy buzz bombing attacks.

Refresher training on Infantry Support Raft and Infantry Footbridge construction and operation was conducted by the Light Equipage Platoon at a training site on the Meuse River in Huy. Also the Light Equipage Platoon provided Infantry Support Rafts, outboard motors and outboard motor operators to "A" Company of the 61st Engr. Combat Battalion to assist them in experimental work on construction of Floating Boom Cables. This experimental work was also conducted on the Meuse River in Huy, and was in preparation for the Rhine River Crossing.



FRANCIS M. CARSON,
Capt., 505th Engr. L. Pon. Co.
Commanding.

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