

WORLD WAR II JOURNALS
THIRD BATTALION
124TH INFANTRY REGIMENTAL
COMBAT TEAM

DRINIUMOR RIVER CAMPAIGN

These Journals Belonged to Pat Harrison Bullock

Seminary Mississippi

*Written by Lt. Col. George Williams, They Contain Day by Day Records of The
Battles in New Guinea and The Philippines*

The original copy of these journals belonged to my Uncle Pat Bullock. He was in the Army during WW11 and fought in the battles described. The journals were kept beneath his bed in his Army Trunk with other memorabilia from the Philippines. The copies had aged and yellowed, was about to fade out, some of it was already unreadable. I re-typed it to the best of my ability. I am sure there are some typing errors. There were a few misspelled words in the original. I believe many of the names are misspelled. I hope the journals will be on-line for others to read.

Jean Jordan

November, 2010

ARE YOU TIRED AND HUNGRY?
LOOK AT THE JUNGLE GI'S

BY Arthur Veyseym, Chicago Press Service

WITH US FORCES IN NEW GUINEA, 14 AUG., 1944

Next time you feel tired and worn out you should see the boys coming out of the Driniumor River jungle between Aitape and Wowak in New Guinea, where American troops have surrounded a Japanese force which several times has attempted escape from its trap.

Most of the men have been in the jungle several weeks without a single meal because of transport difficulties. Many of them went without food and water for three and four days when their outfits were cut off and surrounded by Japs, outnumbering them ten to one.

Since then their only food has been dropped from planes - cans smashed open or crackers ground to bits by the crash.

Many Sleepless Nights

"thought these crackers were cereal for several days", one GI said. Since the most containers were most always shattered, a simple way to fix food was to dump it all in a helmet and heat over a fire.

Not one night in all those weeks have they been able to sleep uninterrupted. Many nights they didn't sleep at all. And when they could drop off on a mattress of boughs laid on the bottom of foxholes they had a fear they would be knifed in their sleep by Japs. Nearly every night they went into their holes wet. When the temperature dropped they got so cold in their wet clothes their teeth chattered. Often during the night a deluge would fill their foxholes to the brim. It got so bad that the wounded had to sleep atop the ground or they would drown.

Feet are Swollen

Most of them are still wearing the same clothes they wore in the same jungle those long weeks ago. As a result the feet of some are a mass of jungle-rot, red and swollen, skin peeling off in big hunks, deep cracks leading far into the flesh and itch like mad.

They slogged down a trail on a last seven mile walk. No vehicles can travel in. Their shoulders droop as they weighted down with an eight pound granade rifle. Their faces - most are clean shaven and none with more than a ten days beard - are taunt. Their hair is almost long enough to put in curlers. They try to climb into trucks and have to push and pull another. As they stretch, tears and rents in their clothes spread apart. The skin underneath is caked with dirt. You ask them a question... They move a hand slowly, look at you with deep eyes for a minute and then say, "What was that question". And these boys are the lucky ones on the Driniumor River. The unlucky ones are buried back there in the jungle.

UNIT JOURNAL
And
CASUALTY REPORT
THIRD BATTALION

124th Infantry Regimental Combat Team

DRINIUMOR RIVER CAMPAIGN

July 12 to August 10, 1944

Lt. Col. George D. Williams, Infantry

Commanding

HISTORICAL RECORD

THIRD BATTALION

124th Infantry Regimental Combat Team

Lt. Col. George Williams, Infantry

Commanding

FOREWARD

During the period July 12-August 10, 1944 the 3rd BATTALION of the 124th Infantry under went their first combat mission as a member of a TASK FORCE.

This campaign, which we will call the Driniumor River Campaign, can aptly be divided into three phases.

First: The restoration of the old Martin Line that had been broken by a terrific thrust by the Japs on the night of July 10th.

Second: The attack east of the Driniumor River, which accounted for fifteen days of hard fighting.

Third: The attack east of the Driniumor River, when the 124th Infantry, with the 2nd Bn of the 169th. Infantry attached. Attached to the East from the Driniumor in an effort to sever Jap communication and supply lines that were servicing large enemy forces south and east of Afua.

T's Campaign proved hard but very successful, the entire BATTALION under Command of Lt. Col. George D. Williams performed as a seasoned campaigners and the BATTALION alone accounted for 1500 of the enemy dead.

Reference:

Notes taken from the Unit Journal
Third Battalion, 124th. Infantry

Jackson
S-3

HISTORICAL RECORD

Third Battalion, 124th. Infantry

Lt. Col. George D. Williams
Commanding

At 1300 July 5, 1944 personnel of the 3rd Bn Combat Team landed at Aitape to join the remainder of the 124th. Infantry Combat Team to reinforce the defense of Aitape.

After several days of occupation of the inner defensive perimeter, a series of quick changes followed including plans for a proposed amphibious operation on Nyaparake.

On the morning of July 12, 1944 the 3rd. Battalion received an order to prepare for movement to Koranal Creek, and the following morning, attack to the south and east from Anamo, along the Anamo Trail, as a member of a Task Force including the 1st and 3rd Battalion of the 124th Infantry, and the 1st Battalion of the 128th Infantry, 32nd Division.

The night of the 12th was comparatively quiet with little activity. Friendly Artillery fired intermittently throughout the night and the rain was continuous.

At 0700, 13th, July part of the load was dropped and the Battalion moved east along the coast to Anamo Trail intelligence reported Japs were known to be in scattered groups on the Anamo Trail as we had anticipated.

The Battalion moved down the trail in order I, K, Hq, M, L and at 0800 contacted a Jap trail block. By 0815 the trail block had been reduced, and 3 Japs were killed. We had no casualties.

The march continued at 0815. Although the sky was clear the trail was muddy and movement was difficult. At 0935 a Jap Light Machine Gun that had been bypassed by the entire column, opened up on the last Company. Fortunately no one was hit and Company L quick to recover, killed 1 Jap, captured the machine gun and routed the remainder of the crew.

At 1115 a patrol of 9 men from the 127th Infantry joined the column and proceeded with us. This group had been isolated, from its unit for a period of 4 days and were very glad to see friendly troops.

The march continued without event until 1630 when after letting the 2 leading Companies pass through, several Jap rifleman and a light machine gun ambushed the Headquarters group. Here the Battalion suffered its first casualty. Company I returned to relieve the pressure on the Headquarters Company. Lipscomb, was killed, by a rifleman. The enemy was destroyed and the column reorganized for movement

Immediately thereafter the Battalion went into its perimeter for the night. Due to the terrain the perimeter was, by necessity very small.

At 2230 it began to rain very hard. The Japs who had evidently located our position attacked us continuously throughout the night. Without a doubt this was the longest night of the campaign. An estimated 15 Japs were killed.

The Battalion moved at 0800 on the 14th and proceeded southeast toward the Driniumor River. Without opposition the Battalion reached the river at 1000 and contacted the 1st Bn 124th Infantry who had arrived at the river the previous night.

By 1130 the Bn had occupied a semicircular perimeter on the Driniumor with the right flank extending west to deny the enemy access to our position. The Command Post was in operation by 1200 and the Regiment was notified of our location.

At 1630 the first Japs were sighted from the new position. There were several of them bathing on the west side of the Driniumor River. Artillery was instantly laid on them with good results.

The first supply patrol contacted the Bn at 1645. The load consisted mostly of ammunition and food. The route of delivery for ammunition supply was very difficult and very seldom was it possible for the supply trains to reach us more than once a day.

During the night a hard fight took place. 20 Nips were killed; we suffered 7 casualties 4 of these were killed, the other 3 seriously wounded. Those killed were Capt. George L. Cellos, I Company Commander, Zeldin (CO I), White (CO I), and Medlin (Medical Aid man attached to CO I).

At 0930 on the 16 July a patrol was sent from K Company commanded by Lt. Baerrels. The mission was to contact the Bn on the right. Reported to be 1000 yds. south of us. At the same time a combat patrol was sent west to locate enemy units reported in our rear. The 2nd Bn supply train arrived, after having met some resistance along the trail, at 1300. By 1400 both patrols had returned and reported making contact with large enemy resistance, but we had no casualties. This did reveal to us that we had enemy on the right flank and to the rear. The Bn was alerted because indications were that the enemy must attack to relieve pressure on their forces.

The first rations were dropped by plane (C 47) at 1715 and they were sorely needed. At nightfall orders were received for movement to the south the following morning. At 1600 a large patrol of the 122nd Calvary contacted us and spent the night reinforcing I Company. The night was uneventful.

The movement was underway at 0700 16 July when I Co was pinned down by what was estimated as 75 Japs on the right flank, mortar fire was called for and 2 platoons were committed in an effort to flank the enemy. In this encounter Oneal (Co I) was killed and Lt. Britt (Co M) was wounded. By 0930 the enemy lost 50 men and the remainder withdrew. Both the 81 and 60mm mortar proved invaluable in this engagement, driving the enemy in to the open where they were picked off easily by our rifleman. We lost Wellington (Co I) had 6 men wounded before the attack was concluded. At 1120 the move continued and by 1230 the Bn had made contact with the 3rd Bn, 127th Infantry. In moving into the defensive sector the rear of the column was again cut off by a small group of Nips, believed to be the remainder of the fords contacted earlier. Moore (Co K) Taylor (K Co) were killed. 3 men wounded. Because of the contact made prior to dark K, I, Hq, M Companies were unable to close with L Company. Both groups went into separate perimeter leaving a gap of 300 yds, along the river.

The following morning 17th July, Capt Griffin, senior Commander of the north group sent a platoon to contact L Company on the south. This was accomplished but not without a hard fight, in which 16 Nips were killed and lots of equipment captured. From information captured the enemy was identified as a portion of the 237th Infantry, part of the Jap 41st Infantry Division. By 1300 the Bn was again intact and for the first time both flanks were tied in with friendly units. Work was under way preparing the defensive sector.

At 1945 an estimated 150 Japs attack from the west side of the Driniumor. This attack was repulsed. The 60mm mortar illuminating shell proved for the first time it's value.

The following, July 18th 75 nips were counted in the river including several machine guns, 3 Jap officers and 1 Medical officer. By 1030 the native train arrived led by Major Logan and Capt. Beard of Regimental Hqs. During their stay a sniper that couldn't be located fired intermittently into the CP area.

Another ration drop at 1400, including a note of encouragement from, the plane crew.

During the night of the 18th K Co killed 12 of a group of Japs that attacked them from the rear. No casualties.

Two patrols left early the morning of the 19th. One to the east, the other to the west and both returned early afternoon. They made no contact.

Several Nips were found in the afternoon and they seemed to be making a study of our positions from the rear. One was killed 50 yds from the CP. Artillery registered the remainder of the afternoon and we prepared for the night.

the rear. Grenades were used mostly and the attempt failed. 20 Japs were killed and we lost Whitt (Co I). Who died on the 20th, by machine gun fire. 3 men wounded. During the 19th a platoon of dogs commanded by Lt Hear reported to the CP and were attached. Patrols aided by dogs will be used hereafter.

On the 20th, I and L Co patrols, submitted negative reports, but there seemed to be plenty of action to the south. As on the previous night Japs again tried to infiltrate our positions accurately with automatic weapons and CP installations marked for destruction.

Col. Starr, the Task Force Commander, arrived at the CP early on the morning of the 20th, with valuable information concerning the operation. During this day the patrols were accompanied by 2 sections of scout dogs. Day and night was quiet with only occasional artillery fire with the Battery firing a concentration hourly.

Early on the 21st it is known that Mathews (I Co) was killed by fragments of our own Artillery. 2 Japs killed with same concentration. Mathews was killed on the 20th. At 0645 Major Block, Commander of the Block Force, visited the CP and conferred with Col Williams. Our patrols were again active to the east and west with some success. Col Williams, Capt. Jackson, Lt. Grosman Visited the first Bn CP to coordinate a shift of positions. The river line has been reinforced by additional troops, which allowed us to reduce our frontage. Giving us a better plan of coordinated fires. Crispal (Co K) killed by one of our own anti-personnel mines at 1600. Several rounds of enemy artillery fell within our lines at 1615.

An advance party of the 2nd Bn 169th Infantry arrived at the CP at 1800 the following morning. Their Bn is to take a portion of our defensive sector. No one realized the series of events that followed.

During the night of the 21st strong fords of Japs estimated at first to be 2 X companies, moved behind our lines with the intentions of severing our lines. One force hit Co I and the other hit Co L. Morning found them well dug in with plenty of automatic weapons and knee mortars. This was the Bn's hardest and most successful fight.

The Battalion was under constant fire for nearly 9 hours. There were snipers everywhere and the Japs fought desperately using knee mortars with good effect against our CP group. As was positions they too were soon engaged with the enemy.

The situation was summed up thus. What was thought at first to be 2 Jap companies was later discovered to be 2nd Bn's with one on each of our flanks. It was a

grave situation for Co L who had 2 platoons trapped in their positions and cut off from the remainder of the Bn.

At this time Company G 169th Infantry was employed on our right with 1 platoon of K Co. They were unable to move far because of the superior automatic fire of the enemy. The situation was becoming desperate.

A group of 19 men and 3 officers from Company L and the Headquarters Company including 1 Medic fought desperately to release their comrades. Killing 35 Japs and eliminating their drive with a bayonet charge did release the remainder of L Co from their positions. 1 platoon of the 169th was left in position to hold the line until the balance of the Bn could move in. Here another problem confronted us. Upon moving out the two platoons of Co L we found that a large group of Nips had again moved in behind us. This strategic move by the enemy necessitated the taking of the same positions again. This time those positions were taken by the 2nd Bn, 169th Inf.. Who, not contemplating a fight, fought desperately to restore the line. Then upon restoration of L Co's sector the shift of forces was completed and the situation was again well in hand. The next morning over 350 Nips were buried and 300 of them were accounted for by L Co. Company I was credited with 50. Their attack repulsed by our counterattack seemed to completely disorganize the Jap force to our rear and thereafter we were not molested. The Japanese Bn's were identified as member of the 239th Infantry, a part of the force that broke through the Driniumor Defense on July 10th. 11 Jap machine guns and 10 knee mortars were taken.

Our casualties were heavy. Woodall (K Co) Datiolo (K Co) Duke (L Co) Walker D. E. (L Co) Kelly (L Co) Rakestraw L.C. (L Co) Urkoski (K Co) Crumbley W. L (I Co) Hemphill (I Co) 21 men wounded. The Bn's field strength after this action was 585 EM and 31 officers.

The following day 23rd July was uneventful with only patrol action and no contacts reported. Our Sunday church services were held by Chaplain Rogers, with a large attendance.

The Battalions sector was without action during the next 5 days. But it rained constantly. On the 29th of July Lt. Callum was ordered to take a combat patrol east across the Driniumor River with the mission of securing a prisoner. Although being ambushed twice by large forces of Japs, Callum fighting constantly through out the day returned his patrol intact just before nightfall. Four men of the patrol were wounded in the action, the most serious being Rapp (Hq Co) who suffered multiple wounds, but carried his 300 Radio until the mission was completed, 25 Japs were killed by this patrol and many were wounded.

Mourning of July 30th, orders were received for the Bn Commander and staff to report to the 1st CP where a conference was to be held by Col. Starr, including all units of the Task Force (the 124th Inf and 2nd Bn 169 Inf). As had been anticipate earlier.

Orders were issued for an attack east of the Driniumor and then south to sever Jap supplies and communication lines.

Our plan was to attack to the southeast on the 31st of July, to proceed on an azimuth of 103 degrees. The first objective designated to be Niumen Creek, 2200 yds east of the Driniumor. There we were to contact the remainder of the Task Force.

On the morning of July 31st the Bn moved with I and K Companies abreast on a frontage of 200 yds. L Company echeloned to the right rear. First and 2nd Bn's on the left and the second Bn, 169th Inf. Was to the right rear 1000 yds.

By 1530 the Battalion had reached the objective and a half hour later was preparing its position. Lewis Forge (2nd Bn 169th Inf) had the mission of trying on the right flank and extending west to deny the flank of the task force. They were in position at 1600. No contact was made with the 1st Bn and the Bn settled for a peaceful night.

Next morning, the 1st August, 7 men who had been patrolling during the move to Niumen Creek were reported missing. By 1400 all missing men had been located. At 0800 L Company was sent north along Niumen Creek to establish contact with the 1st Bn. This day was spent quietly. Patrols were out but no contact was made. Word was received at 1600 that Co L had contacted the 1st Bn and our Niumen Creek line was intact.

On 2nd August all previous orders were rescinded, orders were received from the Task Force Commander, to hold present positions until the rest of the force closed with the Bn. We were to be prepared to attack south the following morning at 0800. By 2000 the Task Force had made contact, moving into positions prepared by Lewis and Williams.

During the night, one man was killed, from the 2nd Bn 124th Inf, accidentally by his own unit.

On the morning of Aug 3rd the Bn moved as planned on an azimuth of 160 degrees. It was raining very hard and movement was difficult. The 2nd Bn 169th Inf moved to the right and south of the 124th Inf. Unit T

By 0830 K Co our leading Co, was engaged with what was estimated to be a Co of Japs. At the same time the 2nd Bn 169th made contact with a similar group. Snipers were deadly and both Bns only moved 150 yds during the entire day. Besides being one of the most disappointing days of the campaign, our casualties were heavy. Williamson (Hq Co) Jones (I Co) Davis (I Co) Williams (K Co) Suhribiex (K Co) Hagen (K Co) Atkinson (K Co) Kemp (K Co) Sheldon (K Co) O'Quain (K Co) were killed. 26 men wounded. The 2nd Bn 169th Inf also suffered heavy casualties.

At 1030 although still in contact the Bn withdrew 100 yds and set up the nightly perimeter. There was no action throughout the night.

After a ration and ammunition drop by plane on the 4th of August again the Bn moved as proposed the day before. The objective for the day was to move southeast 1700 yds to the Afua Trail. Heavy Arty barrages preceded the move. Excellent progress was made until 1330 when a company of enemy was surprised in bivouac. 8 killed and the remainders were routed by Arty fire. By 1430 the Bn was astride the Afua Trail cutting the Jap line of communication. The 1st Bn and Regt Hqs quickly closed in behind the Bn. With a short reconnaissance I Co boldly moved east along the southern branch of Niumen Creek. Terrain was fast becoming more difficult and high hills ran along both sides of the creek. Possibility of ambush was great in this Nip held country. But as before it was the enemy who was surprised.

I Company hadn't advanced more than 150 yds along the creek when they encountered two walking wounded Nips. They were killed instantly. This proved that we're holding their route of evacuation. Several other stragglers were killed before the fighting day is concluded. That night the perimeter established with the Bn left flank on Niumen Creek.

On 5th Aug. the Bn moved on the same route of advance as previous day. By 0900 a small Jap bivouac was surprised. Without awaking any of the 16 Japs were killed, by I Company. Numerous times throughout the day small Jap parties were hit. Although many escaped 25 were killed. At 1440 a Jap supply train heavily laden was ambushed and a half hour later organized resistance was encountered on the junction of the Afua Trail, and Niumen Creek. An established Co was placed on a high hill overlooking the Afua Trail. Mortars and automatic weapons were employed with good results. 50 Japs were killed and 2 Chinese coolies were captured. Although still engaged the Bn was ordered to withdraw 100 yds and set up a perimeter. This was accomplished by 1830. Goolesby (Co I) Delarobba (Co I) were killed.

Plans were made for movement the following day. No one realized what was about to take place. On the night of Aug. 5th and the next day the second hardest encounter of the entire campaign took place, Butler (Hq Co) Salzwedel (L Co) killed by ration drop.

At 0300 the perimeter was attacked from all sides by approximately 2 companies. The enemy was desperate and in effort to keep his supply lines intact through wave after wave of suicidal attempt to destroy us. Our casualties were mounting and by morning the entire perimeter was under constant heavy machine gun fire from surrounding hills.

At this time the 2nd Bn was ordered to pass through but they too were unable to advance. Finally they withdrew and moved to out flank the enemy from the

north. At the same time L and K companies were employed to flank south of the second Bn. Mortars reduced several installations and by noon some gain had been made. Raining very hard morning and afternoon. We had killed over 200 Japs but in doing so had 10 men killed and 24 wounded. In this perimeter or near by enemy fire. Hales (HQ Co) Phelps (HQ Co) Ingram PFC (HQ Co) Janick (I Co) Gillen (I Co) Himler (K Co) Quail (K Co) and Rhodes (L Co).

Unable to continue our advance the Bn at 1515 was ordered to withdraw and move to the northwest to establish a position, on high ground. The withdraw was successful even though Japs fought our rear guard throughout the move. It was after dark when the Bn finally closed into a perimeter made up of Regt. Hdqs, Anti Tank Company and the 3rd Bal. The terrain was the most difficult that had encountered and because there were so many litter the progress from here onward would be slow.

The morning of 8th August again the Bn moved. Soon were in contact with the 2nd Bn and moved at the rear of the 2nd Bn column with Regt. Hdqs. This force is the column was to contact the 1st Bn who was blocking the Afua Trail. By 1200 contact had been made and the remainder of the day was spent in moving litter 500 yds to a new perimeter. The night was without action.

Early on the 9th of August the Task Force continued west in order to reach the Driniumor River as soon as possible. Although there was no contact with the enemy thereafter, the trip took 2 days.

A native train contacted us at 1500 on the 9th and evacuated the wounded with the Bn moving as protection.

The morning of the 10th of August , found the entire Bn intact east of the Driniumor River.

August 10th 1944 wrote FINIS to the FIRST CAMPAIGN of the THIRD BATTALION, 124TH INFANTRY. Though inexperienced in jungle warfare their record was enviable. The THIRD BATTALION alone accounted for ever one fifth of enemy destroyed in the entire Aitape Campaign.

Compiled from Unit Journal, 3rd Bn, 124th Inf.

BY

Lonnie M. Jackson
 Capt Inf
 S3

UNIT JOURNAL
3rd Battalion
124 Infantry Regimental Combat Team
July 12 to August 10, 1944

1100K
12 July 44 This unit en tricked at Tadj Plantation (Coconut Grove) near Aitape. A part of a task Force to proceed the Martin Line on the Driniumor River. Under command of the 11th Corps. Orders to proceed to river and go south and east and take back the area held by Japs, held by American forces before a previous Jap breakthrough.

1200K
1700 Destructed at Nigia River march southeast along Coast
cross Konronal Creek and establish a perimeter for night at junction of Loronal Creek and ocean on East side of stream.

2200K
Thrusday Friendly Arty fire to Southeast and most of night.
Drop part of our pack loads and start to Anamo. Order of
0700K March I, K, Hq M.L. Encounter Jap Trail block south of Anamo
13 July 44 Williams and Jackson with leading Companies.
0830K Continuing Mission. Weather clear. Japs 12 (Company L)
0935 L Company hit LMG nest Japs 1 (Co L)
1025K Friendly Arty Barrage west of us.
1115K Meet 9 man patrol. 127th Inf and they accompany us.
1630 Ha Co in column ambushed. I & K Co Squad proceed toward enemy fire. Japs withdrew. Lipscomb Co I KIA, Japs 21MG.

1700K Perimeter Defense 3917-17.6 raining
2230K Japs try to infiltrate, much firing mostly our guns. Boys plenty trigger-happy.
Friday Estimate 15 Japs killed during night. Many dragged away by
0700K their forces. REM WIA continue to go Southeast
1130 Reach Driniumor River. No skirmishers en route. Partly cloudy.
1600K Communication by Arty. Report to Regt our position. Constant with Unit on left.
Perimeter established. Right flank open.

1630K Japs bathing across river.
1645K Supply Patrol of Hq Co in from base on beach.
2000K Probable 2 Japs patrols attack rear and Flanks.

Saturday During night, 3 Em WIA. Capt. Celles, Kia, White (Co I) C.
0700K Zeldin (Co L), A. Medlin (Medico) KIA. Japs 20 K&L Co. patrol
0930K to flank and rear. Panels laid for supply plane. Unit supply train in.
1000K WIA&KIA to base by A&P Pltn.
1300K Hq Co supply train in from base. One EM WIA. Patrols in,
1400K encountered skirmishes. No casualties, nearly all trains in from base encounter Jap ambush. A&P Train in with AMMO.
1700K out again with litters, plane ration drop.

Sunday Quiet night. Order: prepare to move south along river, as
0700K Unit starts move I Co. pinned down. Est 75 Japs on right
0800K flank. We use mortar fire. R. Oneal (Co I) KIA Lt. Britt (Co M) WIA one EM WIA
pinned down by Jap MG. Unit
0930K sends 2 Pltns to flanks. B.K. Wellington (Co I) KIA 6 EM WIA pinned down

1120K 6 EM WIA 50 Japs information taken of Jap dead. Infallible such as maps etc.
Column moves on. Rear of column I,K, parts of M

1430K Hqs Co. cut off by Jap ambush. Japs using LMG. T.M. Taylor (Co K) and H.D. Moore
(Co K) KIA. 1 EM WIA in rear section of column. CP 18.1-38.1 Forward part of
column prepares night defense. Williams, Jackson, Bush, Sausville, L Co, M Co present.
Reported to Regiment.

Monday 17 July 44, quiet night.

1000K Communications to Regt. Thru Baldy & Brock. Part of Hq, M & I, K, Co to CP, while
coming to CP Japs 16 forward line, line being tied in, I,K,L Co. on the line.

1400K pest of rear column into perimeter.

1600K Jackson with Co I 5 EM WIA since yesterday 1200K

1945K Co K attacked. Use Mortar Flares. By 2400K quiet.

Tuesday No casualties. Japs 75, 3 Officers, 1 Medical Officer and 1

0700K MG (Co K) got valuable information, Native train in with CIC

1000K & Logan, Beard, also Ammo and Supplies. Few sick out. Sniper making things a little
uneasy.

1500K Plane drop. Plane crew drop cigarettes, wish me luck and say "Giv'em Hell" "Wish we
had more cigarettes."

1700K Raining hard, foxholes are filled with water almost.

1945K Co K had skirmish. Japs: 12 and 1 Capt. Wet night, Quiet.

Wednesday No casualties. Few sick out when train comes. K and L Co

1030K patrols out at 0800. Supply train come in. Plane ration drop.

1035K Co I patrol in. went across river 1000yds no casualties.

2000K Co K patrol in from back of the rear 1000yds. Japs One.
Sniper near CP accosted and wounded by DeMacsschalch (P*38, Hq Co). Co L patrol
could see Jap blood stains but Jap was dragged away. Arty, Unit to front. Arty registers
in each evening at 1700K.

2400K Japs try to infiltrate at rear of CP. Scattered fire during night.

Thursday H.M. Whitt (COL) KIA 3 EM WIA (Co L). Japs: 20 wounded out.

1025K Col Starr to CP.

1130K Co L patrol to front. Trainers and dogs for patrolling to CP. Co I patrol to rear.

1400K Col Starr left CP.

1415K Co L patrol in. Negative report.

1530K Co I patrol in saw 2 Jap patrols & bypassed them.

2030K Few Japs try to infiltrate CP. Dogs alerted. Grenades thrown. Unit Arty barrage. J.P.
Matthews (Co I) KIA

2400K Quiet rest of night. Arty periodically all night.

Friday Japs: 3 Co I patrol rear. Co L patrol with dogs to front.

0845 Block to Cp on way to beach,

1115K Unit supply train in

1400K Williams, Jackson, Grossman to 1st Bn

1450K Co L patrol in. Observed number unknown of Japs across river dogs alerted. Japs
were bypassed.

1530K Co I patrol got 3 Japs and Jap MG.

1600K E.L. Crispel (Co K) KIA b own anti-arsenal mine. 1400K party returned. Col Stars
Order; Move down river at 0730 next.

1800K Jap Arty 1 round in Co I line 2 EM WIA.

1830K Party of 169yh into CP to stay the night. 2400 quiet night.
 Sat. 22 July 44 Japs attack right flank, small arms and knee mortar.
 0730K Estimate Jap patrol. Now sniper fire prepare to move.
 1000K Sniper fire, Co I pinned down by estimated Jap Co on left flank.
 1130K Japs dug in behind both flanks. A lot of action.
 1200K To Co I "use mortars & Unit Arty to subdue Japs." Parts of Japs
 1400K blown into trees etc. Japs: 44 and 2 Mt Gurs Co I.
 1200K to----W.L. Crummly (Co I) E.L. Hemphill Co I KIA, 5 EM WIA on left
 1430K contd. Flank on right flank Japs are estimated to be a Bn. Small arms fire and MG
 account for most of Jap dead. Got 212 Japs. Later 169th sent word they buried over
 300 Japs, after we left the area that day. Got Jap 9 LMG, 2 H?G and 4 knee mortars.
 J.B. Woodall Co X, S.D. Dattalo Co K, P.F. Urkeski Co K. M.B. Duke Co L, D.E.
 Walker Co L, E. L. Walley Co L, L.C. RakeshawCo L KIA. 21 EM KIA. CP moves
 north. Co L still in action in old area right flank. Cp. 18.3—39.2 wounded evacuate.
 1700K Co L still in action in old area right flank Williams with them there.
 2400K Quiet night new CP.
 Monday 24 July 44 Clear, K Company patrol to east. Prepare to move CP from
 0700K kunia patch to small grove near by. I Co patrol to the west.
 1000K Cat trkr train in. I Co patrol in. no Japs encountered.
 1445K Supply train in. hot meal ham & bread. Awful good. Chap Colgan, in, Colgan had
 services
 1650K K Co patrol saw 2 Japs, wounded one of them. Dogs with the patrol alerted. Magr Dog
 made 2 complete trips to CP from patrol and was on 3rd trip when patrol came in. the
 dogs have gave a good account of themselves. Colgan to stay night.
 2000K 3 Jap MG fire from across the river. Mortar flares. Lot of firing from unit on our right
 flank. Firing ceases. No casualties
 Sunday 23 July 44 All's well. Williams to CP with Co L. reported to
 0900K Regt. Section of yesterday.
 1030K Co I patrol across river. Bn. Strength in field today 585 EM 31 Offs attached. Williams
 to front lines.
 1430K Chaplain rogers had services on edge of river under a lone tree
 1500K Williams to CP
 1630K Co I patrol in. saw dead Japs 2 or more days old probably by Arty fire. Saw no enemy
 movement. 1900K All's well, quiet night.
 24 July 44 0845K
 Tuesday raining hard. Foxholes full of water, K Co patrol to the rear.
 1030K Supply train in. Skelton to CP.
 1400K After a bite to eat Skelton left CP.
 1430K K Co patrol in, negative report. L Co patrol made recon of east bank of river. Noted
 pacts, holes of probably Jap Pltn which fired last night.
 1800K prepared position today, All's well.
 2400K I Co had little action during night.
 Wednesday 26 July 44
 0700K I Co got 5 Japs last night. They were attempting to cross to the east side of the river.
 Raining. Foxholes still filled with water. 1000K Supply train in L Co patrol to rear.
 1200K Ted to CP. I Co patrol across river. River is high, coming through our area and

swamping us. Flood Stage.

4

1230K Ted left. CP. 1500K L Co patrol in, negative report. I Co crossed river, raining. All's well and wet.

2000K Friendly Arty concentration to right of Baldy. (112 Cal) all night.

Thursday 27 July 44

0700K Dry night. 1st ¼ moon. 0845K K Co patrol to the east,

1000K I Co patrol toe the west 1100K Supply train in.

1500K Supply train again with hot steak & bread. Ration drop by plane. I Co patrol in, went to Anopopei Trail 1000 yds west noted Jap Bivouac area of sizable force dug in small perimeters. No enemy contact.

1600K K Co patrol in. Crossed river and east 2500 yds. Saw friendly patrol in. going east. No enemy contact. Beard sent airmail envelopes. 2000K. Arty Barrage to south.

Friday 28 July 44

0700K dry night moon till 2400

0800K L Co patrol to east to Niumen Creek. Plane ration drop.

0930K K Co patrol to rear. A&P supply train in.

1915K At supply train in. Bookout to CP. Men doing letter writing.

1030K Loga, Dismukes to CP. 1200K 1030 party left CP

1250K I&R to patrol to rear.

1400K L Co patrol in, negative report. Went to Niumen Creek. Bookout left with above messages. Sent message and overlay of bodies buried by Sgt. Cubbly (M) of some of American soldiers not of our Unit, to Regt. (Gaye & Davis) buried Davis remains. Saye's dog tags were found near Davis but no trace of remains. Sent overlay of 43 Div Chap who buried Urkosko & Dattole (K) along the Anomo Trail. His Mag was dated J July 24/44 and forwarded to Regt. K Co patrol in. went to Kornal Creek. Negative report.

1600K I&R patrol back to beach by Anomo Trail. Negative report.

1800K All's well. 2400K Co I fires a few shots.

Saturday 29 July 44

0700K No Japs no casualties.

0800K L Co patrol to rear. I Co patrol to Niumen and beyond. Col Starr orders that a patrol bring in a live Jap if patrol has to stay out 3 days.

1450K L Co patrol in Negative report. Raining hard I Co patrol radioed enemy front and rear beyond Niumen. Williams orders patrol in.

1750K I Co (Callum) patrol in. went 200 yds beyond Niumen Creek ran into possible Regt. Of Japs, killed 9 Japs. Ambushed later by probably co of Japs, killed 11 Japs. The last action 1000 yds east of our camp. We had 4 WIA. Tapp Hq hit worse but carried on with radio, hit with shrapnel. The other three MIA were I Co.

1820K Unit Arty barrage in area where I Co patrol accosted last section.

2400K All's well bright moon.

Sunday 30 July 44

0730K Bn supply pltn out to base on beach.

0800K K Co patrol across river to east.

0955K Williams, Jackson, Rausville to Regt Camp.

1030K Supply train in EM strength today 712 EM, 24 off.

1110K 0955K arty to CP.

1300K Bn supply pltn unit 00 meet at camp. Order: proceed on 103 degrees As. Beyond Niumen Creek. 2 companies abreast. I Co on right and K Co on left. Move 0800 next. Sent Beard 11 lbs. Airmail envelopes, all ready received for Bn.

1430K AT&AP Pltns. Into stay with unit.

1600K Raining.

Monday 31 July 44

0700K Unit prepares to move out.

0800K Column moves across river. Trainers and dogs stay with unit taking over our river positions, "26th M War dog pit. Lt James J. Neal (unreadable) Nitro 153.

1130K Jap opposition, reported to Regt by plane. Plane gave us our position, now North 135 degrees was raining.

1400K 2nd Bn 169 on our rear.

1530K reported to Regt by 284 reached objective. Position 21.1-36.9

1600K (unreadable) company has 7 EM missing. Co K has 1 man missing.

Tuesday 1 Aug 44

0700K All's well

0800K Company L to north to contact 1st Bn. Co I patrol to east.

1200K Co I to control in. negative report. Sunshine

1500K plane ration drop, Hq radio man hit by ration while at radio.

1600K Co. L into first Bn. An all day trek. Col Starr orders this unit to close gap.

1800K Williams order to Co.: Move on 20 degrees az at 0800K. Next to contact 1st Bn

Wednesday 2 August 44

0700K Clear night. Moon. Move is ordered canceled and we stand by. 1st, 2nd.Bn and Regt to contact us and RCT to move in southwest direction when contact is made.

1400K Ration drop by plane. 1/3 ration. 2Bn gave us 20 cases of rations.

1700K Col Starr & Staff 1st 2nd Bn & Co L to CP for night.

1800K the missing men previously reported are found. Clear

Thursday 3 Aug 44

0130K Rain. Man of 2nd Bn killed in perimeter by trigger happy individual.

0700K Drizzling rain.

0730K at Co man shot himself in foot through carelessness.

0800K 3rd Bn moves out. Co K. L. Hq. N. I. 2nd Bn 169 on right flank the balance of Regt to follow.

1600K Sniper all day. Can't see them. Gained 300 yds today. Perimeter, F. H. Williamson (Hq) H. S. Williamson (K) T.E. Kemp (K) R.H. Atkinson (K) ????? O'Quinn (K), M.J. Sheldon (K), L. K. Suhrebeen (K), C.G. Hagen (K), S.H. Davis (I), W.B. Jones (I), KIA. Lt. Baerreis Berger, Johnson, and 26 EM KIA. Order: no. trees be cut in perimeter partly cloudy.

Friday 4 August 44

0700K Clear. No action during night. Col Starr orders 3rd Bn on left flank as RCT moves forward.

0800K Ammo, rations by plane, unit Arty concentration on area we are to take today.

0900K Scattered fire. Raining.

0400K Saturday Co I lead K Hqs, M, L, 1st Bn following.

0900K Scattered fire raining.

100k Report to Regt. By 284. it is that we hit rear guard of supply train of Japs. More action
6

at front now. Column still moves up creek bed.

1200K Reported to Regt by 284. Jap strength undetermined.

1230K Unit Arty & Mortar called for, still raining.

1245K Concentrations laid down.

1430K Captured 2 Chinese boys, held by Japs as laborers.

1800K CP at 2016-35.0 north side of creek. Japs: 50 H.D. Goolesby (I), J. Kelarobba (I) O.D. Butler KIA as he sent mag by radio during ration drop from plane. Almost 1 ration per man.

Sunday 6 Aug. 44

0700K Cloudy. Sniper fire from surrounding steep hills. Jap MG nest have moved in range of CP. Japs open up as leading Co of 2 Bn start to by pass us. Co I, on upstream side of CP, and leading Co of 2 Bn pinned down.

0730K Co L ordered to right flank. Call for Arty and Mortar on trail to south west of CP, Jap MG's still firing.

0945K C.L. Hales, M.--Phelps (HQ) KIA Chap Rogers, Lt Sausville (Hq) WIA, 2 EM WIA, Co I went to get Jap MG nest, front center.

0900K Jap sniper and MG firing continues.

1100K report to Regt by phone. Co L ordered to take next hill west. Order: No more than 3 men to foxhole.

1200K Co K can't progress up hill without being shot down. Arty & Mortar concentrations to west. Observers with point of C, L. Jap mortar on Mt. Gun fire very close and are believed to have our flange. Raining.

1400K Williams to Regt. Order: Abandon Hill and follow 2Bn around hill to west. P.C. Ingram (HQ) KIA on trail, J.A. Gillen, S.J. Janick (I), R.E. Himler, ?K Quail (K) , E.E. Rhodes (L) KIA. Man litter patients to evacuate. Men are tired of fatigued with heavy loads and short ration.

1800K CP on steep razor like hill top. Jap patrol reptd following rear end of column to CP 20.4-35.0. not time for digging in. rain has stopped. Japs: 150, litters were miraculous taken up the last steep grade at dusk on a most slippery clay trail.

Monday 7 Aug. 44

0700K Forces to move southwest at 0800. Bn to left to converge with us at next hill, order of March K. ST, Co Rq, Hq 3rd L.I. Rough trail.

1000K Contact with 2nd Bn weather clear. Williams with Ted. 2nd. Bn leading on Afua Trail.

1400K Column moving very slowly. Litter bearers are worn out. Rough trail, no food today. Whole Bn helping with litter cases.

1725K Ti area on ridge 20.0-34.9 just off the Afua trail no casualties.

Tuesday 8 Aug 44:

partly cloudy. Ration detail to 1st Bn former perimeter for plane ration drop.

0830K William to Regt. CP

0845K Williams Order: leave guard with ration detail's equipment, move Bn out behind 2nd. Bn. K Co help at carrying litters.

100K 112 Calv patrol in, they stay 45 min. for patrol to Driniumor

1300K to 1st. Bn former perimeter. You can see the ocean from here how good it looks. Plane ration drop and appreciated. Raining a bit, Ted has fever, and to be evacuated by litter this P.M. Williams Actg RCT Co.

1415K native train in to carry out litters. Rain has stopped.

1600K down to the trail to the Driniumor.

7

1700K Plasma is needed badly for litters ahead.

1800K CP on east side of Driniumor at junction of Afua trail and Driniumor. Litters on the 18th Field Hospital helped by I & L Co's. I & L stay night near Baldy CP. River looks inviting and Bn goes in for dip clothes and all.

Wednesday 9 Aug 44;

0700K Raining a bit, quiet night.

0900K Bush and Grossman make recon for CP on other side of river.

0950K 0900K party back.

1015K Bn moves to 18.5-35.4. panels laid for ration drop.

1030K Into camp ration drop.

1400K Bn moves to 18.5. Bn bathing, washing, sleeping, and eating. Morale exceptionally high. Butch & Fowlers Bn near Cp.

1600K Bn 169 in area we were in yesterday. Raining, 2nd Bn 169 will stay night there.

1700K Williams order: March to beach at Driniumor, Jet at 0730K next 3rd Bn Regtl Hq, 1st Bn, 2nd Bn. 2nd Bn Arty 169 will start from this area at 0730K next and tie on to 2nd Bn Arty trkr, trlrs will pick up heavy equip at 1100K next at this Cp.

1900K All's well.

Thursday 0700K

10 August 44 I Co leads Hq, M, K, L Regtl Hq down Driniumor wading across river, many times.

100K Bn reaches beach. It really looks good.

1100K Trucks arrived to carry us to Tadjji Plantation.

1200K Cp set up tents have been put up for us, kitchen is ready for hot meal. Beautiful world.

Boys at this base has worked hard to have things ready for us.

FINISH

CASUALTY REPORT

July 12 to August 10, 1944

Williamson, Frank H.	Tec. 5	08/03/44	KIA	Hq
Butler, Oliver D.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	KIA	Hq
Hales, Ottis L.	S/Sgt.	08/06/44	KIA	Hq
Phelps, Maynard W.	S/Sgt.	08/06/44	KIA	Hq
Ingram, Prentiss C.	Sgt.	08/06/44	KIA	Hq
Lipscomb, Wade	Pfc.	07/13/44	KIA	I Co
Celles, George L.	Capt.	07/15/44	KIA	I Co
White, William S.	Pvt.	07/15/44	KIA	I Co
Kovosses, George S.	Pvt.	08/04/44	KIA	K Co

Chavin, Ira J.	Pfc.	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
Lennox, Glenn W.	Pvt.	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
Matore, Vincent	Pvt	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
Collins, Richard J.	Pfc.	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
McCarey, Guy	Pfc.	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
Cooper, Cecil C.	Pfc.	08/05/44	KIA	K Co
Lira, Sibero	Pvt.	08/09/44	KIA	K Co
Henson, Jesse O.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	KIA	K Co
Brasher, Dewel G.	Pfc.	08/09/44	KIA	K Co
McRae, Edward W.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	KIA	K Co
McCloskey, James R.	Pvt.	07/15/44	KIA	L Co
Eloy, Roland T.	Pfc.	07/20/44	KIA	L Co
Ludane, George C.	Pfc.	07/20/44	KIA	L Co
Doby, Winnich H.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Goolsby, Bennie F.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Garrison, Lymnuel H.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Greenfield, Irving	Pfc	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Ackerman, Clarence R.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Moton, Rufus	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Tow, Vernon E.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Meader, Marion T.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Williams, Oscar	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Densmore, James R.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Pike, Gooce K.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Markovitch, Anthony T.	1 st . Lt.	07/22/44	KIA	L Co
Ramond, Jack	Capt.	07/30/44	KIA	L Co
Spencer, Carl R.	Sgt.	07/30/44	KIA	L Co
Mills, Dewey I.	Pfc.	08/06/44	KIA	L Co
Britt, John F.	2 nd . Lt.	08/06/44	KIA	M Co
Kirwin, Peter P.	Pfc.	07/17/44	KIA	M Co
Williams, Donald	S/Sgt.	07/22/44	KIA	M Co
Morris, James H.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	M Co
Moss, John W.	Pfc.	07/22/44	KIA	M Co
Reid, Charles Q.	S/Sgt.	08/09/44	KIA	M Co

Pyron, Steve C.	Sgt.	08/09/44	KIA	M Co
Phillips, George R.	Pfc.	08/09/44	KIA	M Co
Moleno, Raymond	Pvt.	08/09/44	KIA	M Co

TOTAL WIA 100

CASUALTY REPORT

JULY 12 TO AUGUST 10 1944

Manning, Andrew	Pfc	07/16/44	I Co
Sherim, Joseph F.	1 st Lt	07/22/44	I Co
McClendon, Mitchum L.	Pfc	07/22/44	I Co
Allen, Carl R.	Pfc	07/22/44	I Co
Robbins, Forest D.	S/Sgt	07/22/44	I Co
Brewer, Charlie	Pfc	07/22/44	I Co

Carter, Wallace R.	Pfc	07/22/44	I Co
Miller, William H.	Pfc	07/22/44	I Co
Jones, Claude K.	Pfc	07/24/44	I Co
Strong, F. D.	T/Sgt	07/31/44	I Co
Cantrell, Norman J.	Pvt.	07/30/44	I Co
Burger, Grady L.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	I Co
Thompson, Harry E.	Pfc	08/03/44	I Co
Gerringer, Counsel L.	Pfc	08/03/44	I Co
Page, Nathern H.	Pfc	08/03/44	I Co
Hebert, Donald H.	Pvt.	08/04/44	I Co
Black, William G.	2 nd Lt.	08/05/44	I Co
Rhodes, James C.	T/Sgt.	08/06/44	I Co
Wade, Walter C.	S/Sgt.	08/06/44	I Co
Bowling, Charles	Pfc	08/06/44	I Co
Dunnam, Anthony	Pvt.	08/06/44	I Co
Morgan, James D.	Pfc.	08/06/44	I Co
Chajka, Peter A.	2 nd Lt.	07/14/44	K Co
Churchill, Chesley	Pvt.	07/14/44	K Co
Dickey, Talmadge	Pfc.	07/15/44	K Co
Autry, Louis L.	1/Sgt.	07/16/44	K Co
Ragland, Lonnie L.	Pfc.	07/16/44	K Co
Reynolds, William L.	Pfc.	07/16/44	K Co
Mead, Paul C.	T/Sgt.	07/16/44	K Co
Hash, Charlie L.	Sgt.	07/17/44	K Co
Washington, J.T.	Pfc.	07/17/44	K Co
Sachetelli Louis	Pvt.	07/18/44	K Co
Griffin, Aubrey D.	Capt.	07/18/44	K Co
Manzer, Burland	Pfc.	07/18/44	K Co
Lowery, Floyd	Pfc.	07/20/44	K Co
Olsen, Bernie	Pfc.	07/20/44	K Co
Mannard, Homer	Pfc.	07/20/44	K Co
Unreadable Vincent J.	Pvt.	07/20/44	K Co
Sullivan, Travis	Pfc.	07/21/44	K Co
Davis, Robert	Pvt.	07/22/44	K Co

McCall, Floyd F.	Pvt.	07/22/44	K Co
McCarney, Robert	Pvt.	07/22/44	K Co
Agent, Erley	Pfc.	07/22/44	K Co
Haynie, Saint K.	Pfc	07/22/44	K Co
Baerreia, Philip C. Jr.	2/Lt.	08/03/44	K Co
Shenport, William R.	Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co
Osbirn, Bufford	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co
Chandler, Leslie J.	Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co
Holmquiet, Vincent A.	Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co
Voessnor, George I.	Pvt.	08/03/44	K Co
Holmes, Edward L.	Pfc.	08/03/44	K Co
Whalon,Robert C.	Pvt.	08/03/44	K Co
Key, Harold D.	Pvt.	08/04/44	K Co
Oneal, Raymond	Pfc.	07/16/44	I Co
Wellington, Byron E.	Pfc.	07/16/44	I Co
Mathews, James P.	Cpl.	07/20/44	I Co
Crumbly, Woodrow L.	T/Sgt.	07/22/44	I Co
Hemphill, Elbert L.	Sgt.	07/22/44	I Co
Jones, Winley	Pfc	08/03/44	I Co
Davis, Stephen H.	Pfc	08/03/44	I Co
Goolesby,Howard D.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	I Co
Delerobba, John	Pfc.	08/05/44	I Co
Jannick, Stannely J.	Pfc.	08/06/44	I Co
Gillen, James A.	Cpl.	08/06/44	I Co
Taylor, Tom M.	Pfc	07/16/44	K Co
Moore, Harold D.	S/sgt.	07/16/44	K Co
Crispell, Ernest L.	Pfc	07/21/44	K Co
Woodall James B.	S/Sgt.	07/22/44	K Co
Dattalo, Sam D.	Pfc.	07/22/44	K Co
Urkoski, Bernie F.	Pfc.	07/22/44	K Co
Williams Frank S.	Pfc.	08/03/44	K Co
Sughibies, Leo K.	Pfc.	08/03/44	K Co
Hagan, Carl G.	Pvt.	08/03/44	K Co
Atkinson, Ray H.	S/Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co
Kemp, Thomas E.	Sgt.	08/03/44	K Co

Sheldon, Marvin U.	Pfc.	08/03/44	K Co
O'Quain, Wiliford	Pvt.	08/03/44	K Co
Himler, Robert E.	Sgt.	08/06/44	K Co
Quail, Peter D.	Pvt.	08/06/44	K Co
Zelden, Charles P.	Pvt.	07/15/44	L Co
Whitt, Harold M.	S/Sgt.	07/20/44	L Co
Duke, Bates G.	S/Sgt.	07/22/44	L Co
Kelly, Erskine L.	Pfc.	07/22/44	L Co
Rakestraw, L.C.	Pfc.	07/22/44	L Co
Walker, Donald E.	Pfc.	07/22/44	L Co
Salzewedel, Vernon A	Pfc.	08/05/44	L Co
Rhodes, Eugene E.	Pfc.	08/05/44	L Co
Medlin, Austin J.	Pfc.	07/15/44	Med.

TOTAL KIA 43

CASUALTY REPORT

July 12 to August 10, 1944
EM Wounded in Action. WIA

Sink, Thomas	Pfc.	07/22/44	Hq Co
Olsen, Charles J.	Pvt.	07/24/44	Hq Co
Rapp, William L.Jr.	Tec. 4	08/04/44	Hq Co
Sausevillem, William C.	1 st Lt.	08/06/44	Hq Co
Rogers, Fedrick	Cpt.	08/06/44	Bn
Murphy, Gerald D.	Pfc	08/06/44	I Co
Wright, Joseph	1 st Lt.	07/15/44	I Co
Crumbley, Ruffus	S/Sgt.	07/16/44	I Co
Baker, Fred A.	S/Sgt.	07/16/44	I Co

UNIT JOURNAL

THIRD BATTALION 124th INFANTRY APO 31

MEDIVAC CAMPAIGN

April-May-June 1945

Compiled by:
S-1 Section

Maps: Mindanao
1/50,000

April 17

0900 L and F Companies embark LCI's in Division Area at Morotai, NFI.

April 18

0500 Hq, I and M companies breakfast.

0545 93rd Division trucks arrive.

0630 Troops board LCM's/// at Red Beach thence to LST #754 in stream. LST crowded.
Troops sleep beneath vehicles and other places, large enough to recline.

Apr. 19

0610 Raise anchor. Convoy of ship form and sail east north east. Weather hot and clear. Nine packs of cigarettes issued troops.

1800 Northern end of Morotai almost out of sight. News by radio: "35 mile beachhead established on Mindanao by 24th Division. Blackout is in order.

Apr. 20

1000 Twenty minute air alert. Cloudy and rain squalls. Moving west.

Apr 21

0700 Sighted small Island believed to be Talaud. Moving north north west. Cloudy and cool.

1800 Sighted Mindanao, Philippine Islands.

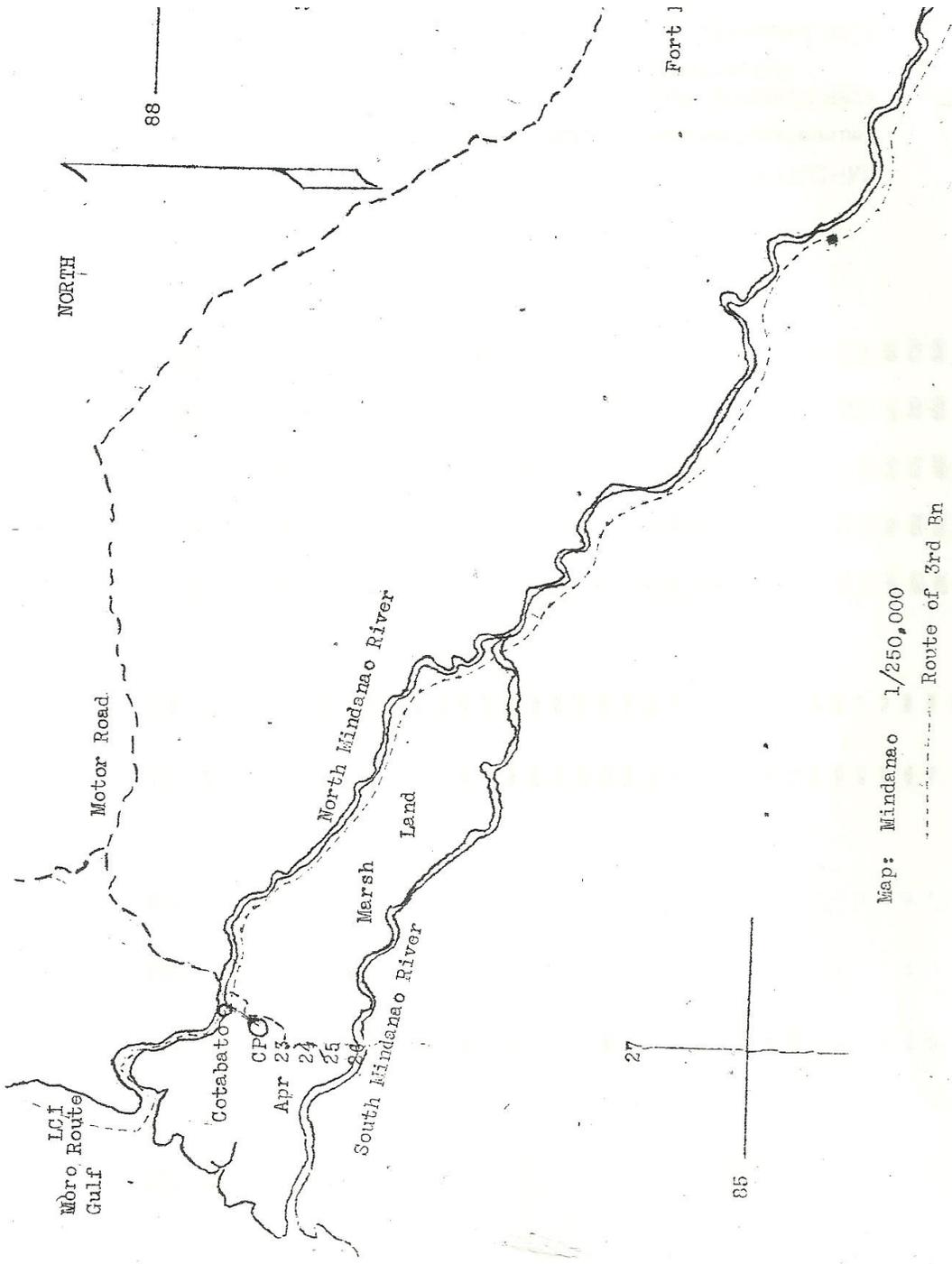
Apr 22

0600 Entered Pollock Harbor at Parang, Mindanao.

- 1030 Pappy ashore. (Pappy is Lt. Col. George D. Williams, Commanding 3rd Inf.). Our radio communications established with 124th Infantry Regiment ashore.
- 1230 Pappy boards ship after conferring with Ted, (Ted is Col. Starr, Commanding 124th Infantry Regiment).
- 1800 Vehicles being unloaded from LST to LCM's in the stream.
- 2400 Unloading continues. Vehicles must be ashore by 0800 next.

Apr 23

- 0400 LST docks at Parang. Vehicles still being unloaded.
- 0800 Vehicle unloading finished. Troops board LCI's along side LST's.
- 1000 LCI's sail south and into north Mindanao River.
- 1130 LCI's aground on sandbars in river mouth, must wait for high tide. Very hot. Monkey are first seen on river bank.
- 1430 LCI's move up river toward Cotabato, Mindanao
- 1600 Troops debark at Cotabato after 6 mile river cruise. Along the river route many Philippines waving and shouting, " Faqubay" meaning "long life". Observed rice paddy's. Many inland canals off river, canals are used extremely for transportation and



Map: Mindanao 1/250,000

Route of 3rd Bn



travel. In dugout canoes in this fertile Mindanao river valley. Note banana groves, water buffalo, and nipa huts on stilts.

1715 Battalion searches south of Cotabato . L and K Companies arrived at this area the day previous. Kitchen trucks and vehicles in by overland route from Parang. Hot supper.

Apr 24

1800 General camp improvement. Dodge (Lt. Dodge Battalion Transportation Officer) and balance of Battalion vehicles into Bn Cp. (Cp-Command Post) from Parang. Very hot.

Apr 25

1100 Pappy to Regiment to attend meeting.

1899 Generator set up, lights and radio on.

Apr 26

1500 Received Regtl Order "Battalion vehicles will move by road to Fort Pikit at 1800." (about 75 miles) "troops will embark LCM's at Cotabato and proceed to Fort Pikit at 2200" (50 miles up Mindanao River). Battalion strike Bivouac and prepare to move.

1700 received Regtl Order "Battalion troops will not move until following morning some time." Troops pitch shelters for the night.

1830 Dodge clears Battalion area of vehicles and ferry across north Mindanao River by LCM.

Apr 27

1030 Battalion Troops embark LCM's at Cotabato. LCM shuttle movement. Cpt Rice (M Co Commander) in charge of rear element of the Battalion. 9 meals C rations issued per man. Battalion will clear Cotabato by 1730.

2115 In darkness aboard C. LCM Pfc. Claude R. Williams 34530968 Company M, is knocked off boat by trees overhanging river. Rescue attempt fails and man cannot be found in the murky water. Williams-missing in action.

2130 forward elements of the Battalion debarks at Fort Pikit (Coordinates the 25.0-54.0). Vehicles arrived at Kabacan (39.0-63.0).

2300 Trucks shuttle troops to Carmen Ferry from Fort Pikit (12 miles).

2400 Troops cross Mindanao River by LCM Ferry and assemble on Sayre Highway #3 (38.5-64).

Apr 28

0100 I,K,L Companies truck shuttle north to 2nd Battalion 124th Infantry on Sayre Highway some 8 miles.

0330 Pappy, Jackson (Capt. Jackson Bn S-3) , Clapshaw (Lt. Clapshaw Bn S-2) forward to 2nd Bn. The point of advance

0800 Truck shuttle was slowed because of road conditions and security reasons. Rear elements of Bn moved north on foot.

1200 Very hot.

1600 Battalion closed in with 2nd Bn 10 miles north of Carmen Ferry Bivouac at 38.0-78.0. AP and AT Platoons of Hqs Co. left at Carmen Ferry. Will follow Battalion advance with supplies and serve as bridge guards.

1800 Ted to Bn Cp. Vehicles cannot close with Bn because of fired and blown bridges. Japs flee north after fire fight with 2nd Bn.

1815 Ted leaves Cp. Ted orders "3rd Bn to point of advance at 0700".

Apr 29

- 0600 Battalion moves out. Order of march I, K, Hq, M, L, Pappy, Jackson, and Clapshaw leading Company.
- 0700 Move through 2n Bn. Fill canteens at good deep-drilled well.
- 1030 I Company meet resistance, Jap machine gun and sniper fire.
- 1045 149th Field Artillery firing concentration.
- 1100 K Company flanks left at 36.7-88.5 together leading companies reduced enemy block. Crossed swift stream. Large wooden bridge had been burned beyond repair. RRTR (radio report to Regiment).
- 1200 Moving steadily. Crossed another stream on timbers of the blown bridge.
- 1300 Jap supply dumps found and destroyed.
- 1500 Have met enemy sniper fire all day. Leading Company has been successful in reducing some and able to progress steadily. It is estimated a company of Japs are fighting small delaying actions. Destroyed one 7.7 Jap machine gun, 10,000 rounds of ammo, 6 cases of plastic land mines, 220 rds. 50mm mortar ammo. Captured 2 Jap trucks which are being used as water, supply and heavy weapon hauling since our organic cannot cross the many small and large destroyed bridges. Kill Jap horse and mule that were seriously wounded. RRTR.
- 1600 Establish bivouac 36.7-88.5 and dig in. Bivouac is near an old enemy division CP. Destroy 4 separate dumps containing rice, dumps containing medical supplies, leather goods, piles of Jap invasion money. Rumor that Germany surrendered__false.
- 1800 received Regtl order "1st Bn will pass through you tomorrow so that you may secure rations by plane". 149 FA registers in for our perimeter support. Rations are depleted. Summary: 70 Japs killed. 1 man (L Co) LWA (Lightly Wounded in Action).

Apr 30

- 0600 Our perimeter receives several rounds of Jap mortar and sniper fire during night. No damage.
- 0730 Ted to Pappy radio msg "3rd Bn will continue leas advance and secure ration dropping grounds".
- 0800 Bn moves out L, I, Hq, M, K. Pappy, Jackson, Clapshaw with loading company.
- 0900 Point meets sniper fire but is not held up for long.
- 0930 Ration dropping objective reached. K Company at rear of column attacked by Jap machine gun and rifle fire. M Company heavy mortars are brought into the action.
- 1015 Litters and litter bearers are called to the rear.
- 1030 Action ceases and K company in to the assembly area. 14 Japs killed. 2 men (K Co) 1 man (M Co) WIA (Wounded in Action).
- 1100 WIA men are evacuated to rear by Jap truck (captured), thence pecp, thence ambulance. RRTR. Ted to Pappy "Ration drop at 1400". Sgt Edwards, Medico, captures a Korean, a prisoner of the Japs.
- 1330 General MARTIN (Division Commander) and Col STARR visit point of advance. L Company is ordered to continue advance while balance of the Battalion gather and distribute rations.
- 1400 L Company moves out. C47 drop rations.
- 1500 some of the Bn vehicles catch up to us. 3 meals K rations per man issued. Weather is very warm.

- 1630 Bn move out with rations with L Company.
 1640 Knobby to Pappy radio msg "Have reached 40.5-960 high plateau objective. Captured 3 Trucks , 37mm gun, radios, telephones and saki. Had light skirmishers with Jap Demolition rear guard engineers. Killed 16. Destroyed a 75mm gun and 6 cases of Ammo".
 1830 Bn closes in to L Co, perimeter established and dig in. 2nd Bn close in to our rear. Summary: 30 Japs killed. 2 men (K Co) 1 man (M Co) WIA.

May 1

- 0700 Quiet night some sporadic sniper fire, no damage.
 0800 Bn moves out at point again. K, I, Hq, L, I order of advance. Pappy, Jackson and Clapshaw with leading company. AP and AT pltns of Hqs Company are guarding Bridges as -06 (unreadable) repair them.
 0900 Bn I Company killed 1 Jap. Very hot and canteens are near by, water not so plentiful on this Plateau. Very little opposition and advance is swift.
 1030 Column held up while Marine Hell-divers bomb and strafe positions on the far bank of The Mulita River Gorge. Japs are withdrawing as fast as they can, fighting delaying Actions. Bombers drop 6 tons of bombs. Marine Liaison Officer with the point of our Unit reports that planes destroyed several enemy supply dumps. Col Starr visits point of advance.
 1200 Battalion crosses swift river, bridge has been burned and blown. No opposition. Men are allowed to wash and bathe.
 1230 As a 2nd Bn ford river one of their men is swept downstream with full field equipment on. Man was rescued by Chaplain Bisscher. S/Sgt Adams (then T/4) and T/4 Zapf (then Pfc) all of Hqs Co. 3rd Bn proceeds the advanced to a point 1000yds beyond the river and rests until 1500. Weather is warm.
 1500 Battalion moves out, same order as earlier in the day.
 1545 Light skirmishers, destroy a 1000 lbs rice, 4 cases of grenades, TNT, 30 Jap .25cal. Rifles, blankets and other supplies.
 1630 K Co hits stronger resistance and is pinned down by machine guns. I Co, 2 plts of L Co M Co, heavy weapons committed. Objective is high open ground for the night perimeter
 1700 Calling litter bearers at front.
 1730 Resistance broken and perimeter established. 51.3-02.3 RRTR.
 1900 2nd Bn closed into us. 1st Bn behind Bn. Summary: 7 Japs killed. Pfc Angelo Gulino, 32798169(K Co) KIA (killed in action), 1st Lt. Harry Jacobs 0-1322228 (M Co)WIA to DOW (died of wounds), 1 man each (Hq Co), (I Co) (K Co) (M Co) WIA. Jap dog-tags taken signify engineer units majority add 5 men (K Co) WIA.

May 2

- 0700 Some small arms fire during night.
 0800 1st Bn ordered through us to take advance, 2Bn , and 3Bn.
 1000 C-47's dropped rations. 4 meals per man, 3nd Bn will move out at 1130.
 1130 Move out K, I, Hq, M, L. K company killed 1 Jap as we leave area.
 1300 Reach wooden and steel bridge which is intact over the Mulita River Branch. First bridge we have found intact. 1st Bn has reported no opposition. In our advance we have fought and marched 37 miles from Carmen Ferry. Our division objective Kibawe, where the Japs are reported to be using a trail to supply their Davao sector, is about 11 miles

forward. The terrain thus far has been woody, hilly, deep gorges, hairpin curves in the highway necessary in gaining the Bukidnon Plateau.

- 1600 Gen. Martin and Col Starr passed toward point Battalion.
- 1730 Column moving steadily. Raining.
- 2030 March continues forward. Raining. Objective is to be taken today. In the darkness, Jeeps and trucks become bogged and stuck in the muddy unkempt road.
- 2200 Battalion reaches Damulog Airstrip in a downpour of rain. No opposition. 1st Bn obtained Kibawe. Perimeter is hurriedly made and troops attempt sleep in the continuous rain.
- 2230 Regimental Hqs passed through to set up CP at Kibawe. Summary: 1 Jap

May 3

- 0700 Rained until dawn. Foggy. Everyone cold and wet.
- 0900 L Company ordered left of road to secure Damulog Airstrip.
- 0936 Airstrip secure. No opposition Japs evacuated. Regimental CP with 1st Bn at Daneogan.
- 1000 Battalion less L Company moves to perimeter around left (unreadable)
- 1100 Pappy, Jackson, Bookour, Clapshaw to Regiment (unreadable) strip of weeds for the landing of planes. Balance of Battalion vehicles and Lt Dodge in to CP.
- 1200 Volunteer patrols back to the bypassed supply dumps. Captured 2 horses and destroyed supplies and (unreadable)
- 1300 Wire communication in to CP from Regiment .
- 1800 Ted orders "I pltn back to guard the wooden and steal bridge". K Company pltn selected and (unreadable) to bridge. 4.2 mortar unit set up for Regimental support. 169th FA have not been able to cross the rear streams over which bridges were blown. 2nd Bn advance 1700 yds. On the trail toward Davao. Engineers clear a Jap mine field south of Kibawe, near us. Rations depleted at breakfast this morning.

May 4

- 0800 All personnel work on strip cutting grass with machetes.
- 1100 Massingill (Capt, Hqs Co CO and S-1), Bookout and party back to bombed supply dump. En-route back to CP capture another horse. M Company now has 2 horses to carry some of their heavy weapons. 1 horse Hqs Company to carry 284 radio and equipment.
- 1600 Strip cleared so that Gen MARTIN landed his cub plane. Pappy at strip to greet General
- 1800 C-47's Drop rations, 3 meals issued per man. L Company furnish guard for ration dump. Company (unreadable) officers and men: Hqs 116, I 160, K 145, L 165, M 133 (unreadable) 179 (represents strength in field.)

May 5

- 0900 Clapshaw, Swartz, (Lt. (unreadable) communication Officer). Feale, Palazola(M Co) Knight (Hq Co) en-route to CP from airstrip rout 3 Japs. Japs ran and 2 killed, one was halted and questioned, later tried running escape and was killed. One Jap was an Officer.

- 1400 Catholic Mass at CP. K Company pltn bridge guard back to Bn area.
- 1600 C-47 lands on strip, evacuate 1st Bn wounded. Strip not large enough for cargo planes. Ted orders "Bn advance 0700 next."
- 1800 A Bn volunteer patrol returned from Jap supply dumps. Encountered Japs in surprise move and killed 12. Patrol finds flags, dry goods, Jap personal items and 4 year old whiskey. Reported to Regt ration issue: 2 meals. Summary: 15 Japs killed.
- 2000 Raining hard. K Company guarding Regt supply dump and water point.
- May 6
- 0700 Bn moves out, I, L, Hq, M, K picking up K Co as we pass Regt. 3rd Pltn. L Co remains at air strip as guards. 1st Bn leading advance.
- 1200 Reach blown bridge 1800yds south of Lake Pinalay. 1st Bn pinned down on the road near the lake. Have marched 8 ½ miles since 0700.
- 1300 Ted orders, "3rd Bn left flank enemy positions." Bn moves out. And west off road at 61.8
- 26.8.
- 1600 L company takes point of advance. Have moved 1000 yds west and are proceeding north and using all available terrain cover.
- 1700 Raining. Column advancing in dense (unreadable) and swamp. Marine Bombers bombed Jap positions (unreadable).
- 1730 (THROUGH 1930 UNREADABLE)
- May 7
- 0600 Foggy night a very wet night.
- 0645 Pappy to Ted radio, "Reached objective 061935. No signs of enemy activity. Am astride road at 61.6-21.5." 3 pltns K Co, enact from swamp to CP.
- 0730 1st pltn L Co and MG (machine gun) section control by road to north. 2nd pltn L Co east of road.
- 0830 4.2 mortar shrapnel falling in our area as they support 1st Bn in the attempt to break the enemy block to our rear.
- 0905 Ted to Pappy "When Curley (Lt Col Koonce Co 1st Bn) clears woods you lead off and secure Maramag Strip 1." Weather hot and clear after fog clears. 2nd Pltn L Co to CP. Negative report.
- 0915 L Company patrol at point 2 miles north and establish road block. No enemy opposition en route. Upon order of Ted, "Bn will move forward and secure strip # 1 at 1000." Order of march K, L, Hq, M, I.
- 1000 Column moves left of road forward. Pappy, Jackson, Clapshaw with leading Company.
- 1015 K Company and all of L Company with exception of its Hqs Pltn clear perimeter area. Troops in perimeter receives sniper and machine gun fire from Japs which have moved in on our right and rear. Column is broken as rear of the column moved to wooded section for cover and deployment. I Company attempt flank move, pinned down.
- 1030 Men wounded during the initial attack are given aide, but aide men and litter bearers are driven from the open field perimeter by Jap knee mortar concentration. Impossible to get some of the wounded to safety. Jap origin of fire cannot be located.
- 1040 Arty observer plane radio us that leading elements of column are 18 yds from airstrip.
- 1100 Japs have closed in for hand to hand combat. Capt Gifford (Medical Section) kills 2 Japs with his pistol after being hit in lower jaw. Troops extend 300 yds into woods.

- 1130 Action ceases as DeRouen (Major Bn Exec) orders withdrawal and reorganization, in deep woods. Marine planes bombing Japs behind us. Massingill and party from I Co returned scene of action in search of missing and wounded. Temporary perimeter established.
- 1200 Assemble litter cases and plan route of march to forward elements of the Battalion. Planned order of march -2 Pltn of I Co, Hqs Co, remnants of M, L and I Companies. It is learned that a 26 man patrol of A Co 1st Bn in an attempt to contact us, became cut off from their unit and elected to dash across open fields to our line. Only 12 of the patrol got through.
- 1330 Massingill and party, Fowkes (Capt FA LN) Sherin (Lt I Co) and Markovitch (Lt L Co) Missing in Action.
- 1335 DeRouen to Ted radio "In woods back of last nights perimeter, digging in, Japs overrun rear of columns. Can't move until help arrives. Need medical aide."
- 1350 Ted to DeRouen "Help will not arrive until Curly is through woods" decide to move. As Azimuth 340 degrees. Entire organization is utilized in carrying litters.
- 1400 Troops move out.
- 1500 Ted to DeRouen "Fowkes spotted by FA plane. Plane is guiding him to you."
- 1530 Column is hold up after woods so that Fowkes and other missing personnel might catch up.
- 1600 DeRouen to Ted "Give us Pappys location."
- 1610 Fowkes and small party arrive. Ted to DeRouen "Pappy is astride the road at the bridge only 600 yds northeast of you. Join him at earliest possible time today. Plasma will be dropped."
- 1630 Ashley (Lt. L Co) and two squads contact rear column. Pappy sent the patrol back to guide DeRouen to him. Forward elements of the Battalion secured air strip with no opposition. Plasma dropped by cub plane.
- 1645 Column moves out after wounded attended.
- 1700 Marine planes bombed Jap positions in 'Colgan' Woods (so named for Catholic Chaplain Colgan killed there while ministering rites to wounded). Planes used fire and demolition bombs.
- 1730 Battalion assembled in large perimeter at air strip 62.2-31.6.
- 1745 Pappy to Ted, "Need 10 units of Plasma, litters, bandages." Rations are depleted with yesterday dinner. Raining.
- 1800 Summary: Japs unknown, count 10. 10 men (I Co) 1 man (K Co), 1(Med), 4 men (L Co), and 2 men (M Co) all WIA. Massingill (Hqs Co), Sherin, Gelman, Fusek, Freiman, Billington, Richalis, Gawronski (all I Co), Witkus (M Co), Calvin Smith, Lt Markovitch (L Co) and Yates (Medico) all MIA (Missing in Action). Hawkins (3rd Bn Medic) Dennison (106 Medic) KIA (Killed in Action).

May 8

- 0800 Sporadic firing during night. Pappy to Ted, "Received Jap artillery fire, 4 rounds at 0745 from about azimuth 40degrees". M Co machine gun position on road killed 2 Japs during night. Dog tags of dead Japs stated 74th Infantry. Sniper is now firing from our right rear into the perimeter. Reported to Regt the names of yesterdays casualties, also asked for all kind of ammo troops are hungry.

- 0910 Ted to Pappy "Ration drop today hold present position making every effort to close situation at your rear."
- 1000 G-47s circle field but don't drop rations.
- 1100 Cub plane dropped Plasma. 11 Marine dive bombers circling Jap block position, peel off and fire bomb.
- 1200 Helldivers still bombing and strafing.
- 1500 Cub planes drop a few K rations. No word of our MIA men.
- 1600 Radio again for Ammo. Planes bombing again.
- 1630 C-47s dropping rations. Issue 5 meals. Ration strength: 87 Hqs Co, 144 I Co, 119 L Co 114 M Co total 584
- 1930 Our machine guns are firing on the outer rear perimeter. Raining. Summary: 2 Japs killed.

May 9

- 0700 Japs harassing perimeter all night as estimated Pltn attacked L Co sector. Killed 5 Japs. 2 men (L Co) WIA.
- 0900 Litter train of 13 patients with Lt Taylor (K Co) in charge, and pltn, move out in flanking movement to regiment.
- 1100 Cub planes dropping Ammo, wire, sound phones.
- 1300 Received word that litter train arrived at Regiment safely. Marine planes are again bombing and strafing. Colgan and Berlin Woods (the road separates the 2)
- 1315 Regiment reports MIA men Massingill, Fusek, Freiman, Billington, Richlis, Gawronski, (unreadable) at Regiment. No news of other MIA.
- 1330 Part of SOI (L Co) lost. Reported to Regiment.
- 1450 Ted orders, "Clear airstrip by noon tomorrow."
- 1500 (UNREADABLE) Ration drop. Raining
(UNREADABLE) (SEVERAL LINES ON BOTTOM OF PAGE).
- 1700 Ammo train in from Regiment with Massingill and party, 3rd Pltn L Co previously left at Maramag Strip. Raining. No ration drop. News received concerning Germany's surrender. Massingill reports on May 7 He and his party were able to get 2 A Company men out and to safety.
- 1800 Enemy block at our rear has not yet been broken. Hell divers and 4.2 mortars have bombed and shelled the positions all day.
- 2000 Nine rounds of Jap mortar received in perimeter. No damage. Raining. Summary: 5 Japs killed. And 2 men (L Co) WIA.

May 10

- 0700 No firing during night.
- 0745 Ted to Pappy "Send patrols northeast. Check bridge to rear."
- 0830 Pappy orders "50% of men to airstrip with machetes to clear grass for Cub landing."
- 1130 Grass cutting detail finished.
- 1145 Radio from Regiment "Sherin at 1st Btn. Sgt Pratt K Co both men from MIA to duty."
- 1200 Panel laid for ration drop.
- 1300 I Co patrols to east. K Co patrols to northeast.
- 1330 Hell divers still bombing Colgan and Berlin Woods.
- 1400 Cub planes using strip. Bring in socks, clothes, ammo.
- 1500 Pappy to Ted "What about Rations?"
- 1525 I Co patrol found 100 250 lb. American bombs. K Co patrol found 1 dead Jap Lt. Ted to Pappy, "L-5 (Cub plane to bring rations)."

- 1600 5 C-47's over strip and drop ammo including 4.2 mortar ammo. Cubs bring in rations 1 meal per man.
- 1730 Pappy to Ted "Received C-47 drop of ammo and 4.2 mortar."
- 1745 Pappy to Ted "Bridge to rear can be by passed. Bridge burned 20 foot long, 10 foot high."
- 1750 Ted to Pappy "C-47 made mistake and dropped everything to you. Make list of items and notify."
- 2000 Enemy fires 24 rounds of artillery at perimeter, no damage as missiles pass harmlessly over. Men complaining of hunger, have missed 9 meals in past few days.
Summary: 1 Jap found dead.

May 11

- 0600 Japs fire 20 rounds artillery at perimeter again no damage. Artillery thought to be 75 MM. Some firing during night.
- 0700 L Co reports killing 2 Japs during night. Men searched dead Japs for rice to relieve hunger.
- 0730 Bookout (Lt. Bn S4) lands by cub plane and brings 1 meal per man.
- 0800 Pappy orders "50% of men to cut grass for C-47 Strip."
- 0930 4 men M Co evacuated by L-5's, 2 were accidental gun shot wounds.
- 1300 Corsairs dropped fire bombs on Berlin Woods.
- 1330 Patrol of L Co east to Pulangi River. K Co patrol north east to Maramag Village.
- 1430 General Hutchinson arrived by cub and to CP. Got overlay of our positions.
- 1500 Marine plane bombing the woods again. Tough going for 1st and 2nd Bns there.
- 1530 General left CP.
- 1625 K Co patrol negative. L Co patrol found trails used recently running north and south (unreadable).
- 1630 7 cub planes bringing in K rations. 1 meal per man issued.
- 1900 L Co observes (unreadable) platoon of Japs to north west. We put 81mm mortar fire on them, results unknown.
- 1915 Raining. Japs fire 35 rounds at our perimeter. No damage.
- 2000 M Co heavy mortars in support of L Co fire 4 rounds at unknown number of Japs as they enter and escape through the west side of the perimeter. Summary: 2 Japs.

May 12

- 0700 Quiet night after 2000.
- 0800 Issue K rations brought in by cub plane. 2 meals per man.
- 0900 I Co patrol to north 3 ½ miles. C-47s dropping rations, ammo. Regimental Field Artillery support is now in position.
- 0930 Cub plane evacuates 3 sick men.
- 1030 Ted to CP by cub.
- 1115 Ted orders "L Co to replace G Co back in Berlin Woods, to move at once to position, attack after artillery concentration."
- 1125 Ted to Becker from Cp "Move G Co only to Berlin Woods immediately, where they will be met and guided to Pappy. L Co is on way back to Berlin Woods. Suggest you put mortar fire on Berlin Woods immediately, but do not hold up G Co movement. Have G Co meet L Co in northeast edge of Berlin Woods."

- 1135 Ted leaves CP. L Co moves out.
- 1142 DeRouen to Burns (Regimental Exec.) "5 C-47s are dropping rations and ammo here. Equipment now being dropped for hospital. Please stop dropping here."
- 1222 Pappy to Ted "Please furnish me by cub a copy of photo strip to north."
- 1230 Ted to Pappy "Photos are on the way."
- 1315 G Co arrives at our perimeter, strength: 92 men. Lt. Crisovan commanding. G Co fills L Co gap in perimeter.
- 1330 1 man sick evacuated by cub. 20 bombers attack Berlin Woods.
- 1335 I Co patrol to the north saw 1 Jap and small fire, bypassed to high ground. Saw no other movement in village west of Maramag RRTR.
- 1400 All available men of Battalion carry rations and supplies which were dropped from the 47s to dump inside our perimeter. 149th FA fire 2 or 3 100 rds concentrations on Berlin Woods where the Japs are still holding out from their defensive position. K rations issued, 5 meals per man.
- 1550 DeRouen to Bookout at Regiment "Secured 348 cases of rations, 7500 rounds of M-1 ammo, 6000 rounds MG1 (machine gun) ammo, Yank Magazines, 4 oxygen tanks, 4 tents, poles, pigs, 600 cartons of cigarettes."
- 1630 Marine planes bombing ' Colgan Woods '.
- 1800 149th FA registers in on points near our perimeter.
- 1840 Pappy to Ted, "Would appreciate information if Knobby (Capt Knoblauch, CO of L Co) arrived."
- 1845 Ted to Pappy "Knobby arrived with Bob (Lt Col Fowler CO 2nd Bn) jumped off at 1600 and passed through woods with little opposition. Bob should be somewhere just south east of you. Further instructions in morning." The Japs have finally been forced from their positions. Summary: Calvert (L Co) Meid (L Co) LWA. 3 Japs.

May 13

- 0700 Quiet night within the perimeter. Loud explosions heard far to our front. Believe Japs are destroying bridges and ware houses.
- 0743 Ted to Pappy, "Our mission today is to secure a strip #1 only by moving north. However you will await my orders before moving. Hanna (Col Hanna CO of 155 inf) will pass through you early today. Patrol strongly east of #1 to river. Contact Bob he is responsible for strong patrolling east of road through woods to river behind you. Burns and Beard(Capt Regtl Adj) coming."
- 0745 Pappy to Ted "5 loud explosions, demolition, between 2045 and 2115, 5 more this morning between 0530 and 0615. No activity against perimeter during night."
- 0900 L Co in yesterdays action had 2 men wounded. (as noted in summary of May 12th). L Co with elements of 2nd Bn jumped off yesterday at 1600. Encountered enemy machine gun fire, withdrew, and had 149 FA lay down concentration. Advanced in skirmish line steadily thereafter. Established perimeter in Colgan Woods and are to proceed by road to our 3rd Battalion CP today. Witkus (M Co 1st Sgt.) from MIA to duty.
- 0910 K rations issued, 3 meals.
- 1000 C 47s dropping rations. Burns and Beard to CP.
- 1300 L Co into CP leading 2nd Battalion. G Co reverts back to 2nd Battalion and L Co fills their former position in 3rd Battalion perimeter. L Co got 2 Japs this morning.

- 1318 Pappy to Ted "Bob is now in my CP."
 1330 155th Inf. (Hannas outfit) go through us. 2nd Battalion in position 700 yards to our rear.
 1400 5 C47s land on strip with rations, tractor and mowing machine.
 1450 Fowkes to Ted "Cub observer report bridge over Maramag River blown." 116 FA into our perimeter.
 1500 Bn patrols return with negative reports.
 1530 Regiment reports that Gelman (I Co) Lt. Markovitch (L Co) bodies were found. Status report-from MIA to deceased. Lt. Sherin (I Co) (Heretofore noted MIA to WIA and reported to 1st Battalion) lay 3 days and 4 nights after the action of May 7. He was searched by Japs and left by them as dead. He was shot through cheek and shoulder. Yates (Medic) Calvin Smith (L Co) bodies found.
 1600 Ted orders "move forward 1000 yards at 0700 next). "
 1700 Rear echelon vehicles of 155 infantry moving to our perimeter also 106 engineers are beginning work on bypass for the burned bridge immediately forward of us.
 1730 Several Japs crawled to our perimeter. Are firing at 116 FA as they prepare positions for their 105 howitzers. We killed 3 Japs. Japs identified as 7th Co 74th Regiment.
 1745 Chaplain Visscher has protestant service. 81mm mortars registering in for the night. 165th Infantry units still proceeding through us and forward.
 1800 Summary: 1 man (L Co) 2men (M Co) WIA. Lt Markovitch (L Co) Yates(Medico) Calvin Smith (L Co) Gelman (I Co) from MIA to deceased. Japs 5
- May 14
- 0700 Battalion moves forward one mile to form large perimeter around strip, Division Hqs, Regimental Hqs, ration issue: 5 meals.
 0830 Wire communication from regiment to CP.
 0930 I and K Co patrol east to Pulangi River. L Co patrols west.
 1100 Battalion vehicles, kitchens, Hqs Co A&P pltn to CP.
 1200 Beard reports Williams (M Co) drowned and body found in Mindanao River. MIA to deceased.
 1400 Hqs Co Anti Tank Platoon to CP after assisting Anti Tank Co in picking up bodies in Colgan and Berlin Woods.
 1600 Platoon reports negative.
 1800 Clear and warm evening. Dive Bombers land on strip.
- May 15
- 0700 Spasmodic perimeter firing during night. 2nd Bn at our rear are in a fire fight and have been since 0530 this morning.
 0900 Light tanks pass through toward the 155th Inf front.
 1000 Company or more of Japs attacked 2nd Bn this morning. Fire fight has ended. 73 Japs dead. 2nd Bn had several casualties.
 1130 General Eichelberger by B17 to strip thence to Division.
 1500 1st Bn through toward front.
 1730 Generator set up, have lights at CP and radio news.
- May 16
- 0700 Quiet night.
 0800 2nd Bn through toward front. L Co takes over positions held by 2nd Bn.

0925 Ted to CP.
 0935 Ted leaves.
 1000 Troops are paid April pay. Regiment moving to strip #2.
 1400 Wire communication to Regt.
 1700 Raining. Ted to CP. Much talk of the point system.
 1710 Ted leaves CP. We 3rd Bn, have advanced approximately 60 miles since crossing river at Carmen Ferry.

May 17

0700 Quiet night except for the one Jap L Co killed on perimeter.
 1000 167th Infantry contact made by advance party of 167th officers at CP.
 1200 Division says we'll move at 1430. We await orders from Ted.
 1420 Ted orders forward move of about 11 miles.
 1430 Troops move out. Order of march K, I, Hq, M, L,.
 1730 Begin truck shuttle movement of troops.
 1830 Bn perimeter formed around division artillery at the extent volcano. 70.3-54.4. Moved forward 12 miles.
 2030 Vehicles and kitchens to CP. Kitchen serves coffee and hot rolls. Clear evening moon shining.

May 18

0700 Rain in the early morning. Quiet night.
 0900 Bn strength: Hq 131, I 153, K 144, L 161, M 127, Medics 36. Total: 735.
 1300 Ted orders forward move at 1400.
 1330 Bn vehicles move out. 155th Infantry leading the point of advance up highway some 10 miles in front of us.
 1400 Troops move out. Raining.
 1700 Perimeter set up at north end of Balencia Air Strip in front of Division advance CP and regiment. Communications in. We've moved 5 or 6 miles. Position Coordinates 75.3-61.7.

May 19

0700 Quiet night.
 0800 Hamburger and fresh eggs for breakfast.
 1000 Chaplain Visscher conducted services.
 1130 Ted orders "No move prior to 1400." Men wash clothes and bathe.
 1200 Concentration of Japs sighted across Pulangi River to southeast about 5 miles by cub plane observer. About 1000 in 1 area and 600 in another. Artillery concentrated on the areas. Results unknown.
 1700 Artillery again fires on the Jap area.
 1745 Pappy calls meeting of Company CO's and orders move forward some 10 miles at 0700 next.
 1830 Raining. Movie shown in area.

May 20

0700 Troops move out. L, K, Hq, M, I.
 1030 Arrive Mailag. Fill up all canteens at Artesian well. Engineers have completed bridge across Manupali River. Former bridge of steel was blown.

- 1200 Troops halt for an hour at pump beyond Mailag. Vehicles catch up.
- 1300 Troops move out.
- 1330 Battalion arrives at crossroads near Linabo. 79.0-75.3.
- 1600 Move forward again and set up perimeter, on a bald hill at 79.0-77.5 Battalion to protect our Marine liaison radio station. Heard that 1100 this morning 155th was fired on by Jap 75mm mountain gun. Raining hard.
- 1800 Vehicles and kitchens in and well dispersed. Our artillery firing periodically now and all night.

May 21

- 0700 No action on perimeter during night. Battalion will stay in position.
- 1200 I Co patrol 3000 yds. east.
- 1630 Patrol return, negative report.
- 1700 Three I Co men go to a brook east of the road for water. On way they investigate a native shack and found 3 armed Japs. Japs ran and were killed. Japs today 3.

May 22

- 0700 Regimental order, "More to Malaybalay by truck at 0800."
- 0800 Troops and trucks move out. Ration issue- 6 meals.
- 1030 Battalion intact at Malaybalay.
- 1045 Troops began fording Sawago River. Cable is stretched across river to support combat laden troops as they cross the swift river. Engineers start work on a Bailey Bridge across river. Regimental CP set up on high ground near river. Troops remove shoes, socks, and trousers prior to the crossing. Battalion mission is to proceed through Malaybalay, east by trail into the mountains. Japs reported as using trail to evacuate Malaybalay garrison and supplies.
- 1215 Battalion assembled across river and moved through Malaybalay. 3 Filipino boys with us as guides. Order of march K, I, Hq, M, and L.
- 1400 No opposition as we reach crest of first high ridge overlooking Malaybalay. Encountered 2 dead Japs, cased of ammo, supplies, dead caribou. Japs had evidently worked feverishly to hurry the evacuation. Find parts of mountain gun and 75mm ammo.
- 1430 Established perimeter on east side of first ridge. RRTR
- 1615 Regimental wire team run wire to our perimeter. 80.2-87.6.
- 1645 Pappy to Ted by phone, "Will need wire for communications to the next ridge to the east of us. Will move out at 0800 next. No contact during day. Saw 4 dead Japs in all. Will report when next ridge is reached."
- 1650 149th FA registering.
- 1830 Raining. Summary: 4 Japs found dead.

May 23

- 0730 Quiet night. Bn moves out. I, L, Hq, M, K. Jap artillery firing over us. Some 15 rounds or more no damage.
- 1100 Battalion gained crest of bridge. Encountered 2 and killed 2 Japs. Through binoculars DeRouen sees a number of Japs on the trail in the valley. Pappy to Ted via radio, "No opposition. 2 Japs converted to good Japs."
- 1130 149th FA fires on observed Japs. Japs scatter results unknown. RRTR

- 1200 Perimeter on knoll below ridge. Knoll overlooks valley. 1 Jap more reported killed. Perimeter coordinates 34.2-87.6.
- 1400 Clapshaw to Barnes (Regimental S-2 Major), "Identified dead Japs as 2nd Company 30 FA, 1st Company 30 Engineers."
- 1430 Broadway, Butler, (Hq Co) Trask (M Co) and 2 Filipinos to CP from Malaybalay. As they were leaving the village they killed 1 Jap in a shack. C-47's dropped rations. Issued 3 meals.
- 1730 Japs again noted in the valley. Put 81mm mortar on them. Results not known.
- 0745 Pappy to Ted, "70 boxes of rations recovered."
- 1800 2 rounds of 81mm mortar fired on sighted Japs again.
- 1820 149th FA fire for effect on known Jap's area. Results unknown.
- 1900 Ted to Pappy, "Move your Battalion west to previous 1st ridge just east of Malaybalay. At 240730. Call on arrival." Summary: 4 Japs.

May 24

- 0645 Issue rations out of temporary dump. 1 meal per man completes dump.
- 0730 Battalion moves back toward May 22 perimeter as per Teds order. Order of march L, K, Hq, M, I, .
- 1000 Battalion clears first steep ridge en-route back.
- 1015 Pappy to Ted, "Head of column to designated place."
- 1100 Battalion intact in May 22 perimeter. No opposition. Wire communication to Regt.
- 1200 Pappy, Jackson, Rice, Fowkes, proceed on in the regiment.
- 1445 Raining.
- 1715 Pappy (at Regt) to DeRouen, "Move to Malaybalay at once. K Co platoon and 1 section of M Co stay on ridge pass until 0700 next."
- 1730 Battalion moves out. L, K, Hq, M, I.
- 1830 Perimeter established on the Provincial Capitol Park Lawn. Eat hot meals prepared by kitchens.
- 2000 Pappy meets with Company CO's "Will move at 0800 next. Route; Silae Trail. Objective; Silae."

SILAE TRAIL CAMPAIGN

May 25

- 0630 Breakfast. Issue 6 meals K-rations per man.
- 0700 K and M Company guard to CP from pass on the ridge.
- 0800 Battalion moves north the east of Malaybalay on Silae Trail. Order of march K, I, Hq, M, L. Chaplain Visscher notified to stay back for new assignment with paratroops.
- 1100 Trail turns east south east. Pass 2 Jap light tanks on trail, had been previously knocked out by our planes or destroyed by their own hands. Because of terrain and mud.
- 1300 106 Meaideby litter back to regiment because of gunshot wounds (GSW).
- 1330 Firing up front. Dive Bombers Bombing and strafing trail to our front. 3 missing.
- 1545 Pappy to Ted, "Perimeter established 600 yds northwest of our May 23 position. Coordinates 85.2-89.0. CP is in rice patty. Kills 17 Japs, scattered, found 12 dead. Captured 1 Jap Howitzer, 3 machine guns, 2 mountain guns, 3 tanks and much ammo. Road can be improved 2000 yds of our present bivouac. Tracked vehicles could use

stream bed and reach here.”

- 1630 Ted to Pappy, “Will control air strike. Keep us informed of your forward elements and targets.”
- 1635 Clapshaw to Barnes, “Japs killed were of 2nd, 6th, 9th Companies of 77th Regiment. One, a 1st Lt. Condition poor, no shoes and 1/3 of them had 1917 Enfield riffles.”
- 1640 Ted to Pappy, “Guerrilla officer report that natives have made traps along trail. They are camouflaged pits with bamboo spikes in the bottom.” Raining.
- 1645 Bookout to Pappy “Request coordinates for ration drop early tomorrow, send coordinates by 1800 each day.”
- 1653 Pappy to Bookout, “Check all kitchens and move all combat troops, without EMTs (Emergency Medical Tag). With supply train to join us tomorrow.” Pappy notify's I Co to advance at 0800.
- 1800 Ted to Pappy, “Cub will guide marine bombers. Mark forward elements with panel.”
Summary: Japs killed and found dead 29.

May 26

- 0700 K Company got 1 Jap during night. Fairly quiet night.
- 0800 I Company moves out. Battalion will wait for ration drop.
- 0805 Pappy to Ted, “Minor attempted infiltration. 1 Jap killed identified as 5th Co 77th Regt. Need Plasma and sulfur drugs with supply train today.”
- 0825 Ted to Pappy, “Marine bombers received AA fire yesterday from positions 700yds east of you.”
- 0835 Bookout to Pappy, “Checked kitchens, all men have slips or have entered hospitals.”
- 0900 Ted to Pappy, “Supply train on way. Cub will drop medicine.” I Co received fire from 2 Jap Mgs located on ridge south of trail, killed 1 Jap destroyed some ammo and tentage dumps.
- 0915 Pappy to Ted, “Will remain in present position on advice of Battalion Surgeon as 60% of command have acute gastritis and dysentery and 50 men went in yesterday. Will patrol vigorously to east.”
- 1000 Pappy to Woody (I Co CO) by semi ford and radio, “Hold where you are until further orders.”
- 1030 Ration drop. 6 meals per man. L Company killed 1 Jap near their sector.
- 1100 Pappy ordered I Company to withdraw to ridge right of trail. I Company destroys 6 cases 7.7MG Ammo in banana grove.
- 1200 SBDs bomb strafe trail forward.
- 1230 Pappy to Ted, “Causality train in to you, be on lookout.”
- 1300 149th FA shell Jap position which were located by I Co.
- 1330 Hq, K, L, M, take rations to I Co 1500 yds to front.
- 1400 3 SBDs bomb Jap position. Hit and ammo dump and destroys position. Forward observers stated that 3 Japs were blown into the air.
- 1430 Supply train arrives from regiment with mail, medicine, etc.
- 1500 Woody reported to Pappy, Advanced 900 yards. While locating a perimeter came upon Jap bivouac area and 2 Mgs. Killed 1 Jap and located ammo dump. Moved Company across stream to high ground right of trail. Bombers scored direct hits with good visible results. No casualties.” K Company gets 2 Japs during the day near their sector. Japs identified of 30 FA Regiment.

- 1545 Pappy to Ted "Coordinates are 86.5-88.5."
- 1600 Ted to Pappy, "Casualty train arrived."
- 1730 Several shots being fired in L Company Sector.
- 1735 Men of L Company yell over to CP "Chalk up another one." RRTR.
- 1825 Pappy to Ted, "Will resume advance at 0800 next." Summary: 6 Japs

May 27

- 0610 Battalion perimeter and I Company fired on by Japs 75mm and smaller artillery. No damage. RRTR. 149th FA prepare to fire.
- 0700 Jap artillery silenced after 149 FA counter fire.
- 0800 L Company moves out at point of advance. K, Hq, M, I, to follow.
- 0900 Balance of Battalion moves out. Casualty train moves out to Regiment, Massengill (sick) in charge. L Company moving ahead with no opposition.
- 1400 Battalion perimeter on high ridges some 2 miles or more from rice patty. Waded stream most of the way. Perimeter coordinates 87.6-88.6. Sighted many old Jap bivouacs along the stream.
- 1430 Pappy to Ted, "Close in at 1400. Killed 5, Japs found 7 dead. Will resume advance at 28, 0300."
- 1530 Heavy Rain. 106 Medic Train, Lt. Sibley in charge, arrived from Malaybalay. Enemy ammo destroyed today; 6 cases 7.7 MG ammo, 4 cases 50mm mortar ammo, 2 cases 75mm mountain gun ammo, 2 cased dynamite, 2 cases land mines. Summary: 12 Japs killed, 4 dead.

May 28

- 0630 Rifle and grenade fire during night and early morning. Japs attack K Company sector of perimeter. 1 man (K Co) WIA, 1 man (K Co) KIA. Killed 6 Japs. Japs were armed with rifles, grenades, and explosives.
- 0800 K Company moves out at point. Battalion will await ration drop. Litter train out to regiment. Prather (I Co) and Russell (Hqs Co) called in by regiment to accept field commission.
- 0845 K Company in a fight. Stan (Capt. Grossman K Co CO) to Pappy, "Japs using knee mortar and MG's, asking for our artillery support." 1 man (K Co) WIA. RRTR
- 0945 149 FA fire for affect on the known enemy positions. 1 man (Hqs Co) WIA by shrapnel of our artillery's close in firing.
- 1015 K Company forward immediately after artillery concentration.
- 1100 Ration drop by C-47's. 3 meals per man issued. 1 man (K Co) WIA
- 1200 Ted to Pappy, "Ashley, Massengill, Chapman, eligible for Army Readjustment Program. Do they desire it?"
- 1205 Pappy to Ted, "Massengill and Chapman are in hospital in rear area near you. Ashley says, yes."
- 1245 Pappy to Ted, "Recovered 46 cases of rations. 1 drop went to the Japs." Strength of Battalion in field this date. Hqs 65, I 132, K 136, L 109, M 84, Medics 44, Arty. Ln. 16 total 570. I Co ordered to line with K Co then turn right and take high ridge right of high ridge right of trail. I Co moves out.

- 1300 K Co encounters Jap light artillery in stream bed supported by flanking machine guns. Pappy orders K Company to withdraw and hold while I Company gains ridge on right.
- 1400 Japs fire knee mortar on I Company as they ascend steep slopes. We use 81's to good advantage, fire being observed by cub plane. 1 man (I Co) WIA 1 Jap killed. We use artillery for effect.
- 1600 I Company has ridge secure. K Company ordered back into I Co's old perimeter position.
- 1620 Pappy to Ted, "Due to MG, mortar and rifle fire, also light artillery, advance of loading elements limited to 1000 yds. 5 known Japs dead. Our artillery used to good effect but results undetermined. Terrain is densely forested with mountains on both sides of trail. Japs have prepared positions on next 3 ridges. Will resume advance at 0800. Forward movement will be slow. "
- 1635 Reported WIA's to Regiment.
- 1640 Raining.
- 1730 Pappy to Ted, "Need BAR, Mortar, M1 ammo and grenades."
- 1830 Ted to Pappy, "One of Bob's Companies will join you tomorrow." Bob is in our former rice patty Perimeter. Summary: 12 Japs, Pratt (K Co) KIA. 2 men (K Co) WIA. 1 Man (Hqs Co) WIA.

May 29

- 0430 Jap artillery, believed to be mountain guns, firing at our Perimeter. No damage. Jap mortar and machine guns firing into Perimeter most of the night.
- 0740 Pappy to Ted, "Minor attacks during night at 2000 and 0430. Japs used rifle, MG, mortar, Mt. Guns. 1 man slightly wounded 1 Mt gun brought under our mortar fire at 0645. Jap casualties unknown. Moving as planned. Casualty train leaving at 0800." Cub plane used again to observe mortar fire.
- 0800 K Company moves out as advance unit up creek trail.
- 0930 C 47's drop ammo, I Company patrol out to the sector on the ridge on which we placed mortar fire. Found and captured 1 Mt. Gun. K Company is fired on by mortar and MG. 2 men (K Co) WIA.
- 1000 K Company withdraws for 149th FA concentration on the known Jap positions.
- 1015 G Company with 90 men report to Bn. CP. K Company advances quickly after the artillery fire is lifted.
- 1030 K is penned down as before, our artillery cannot penetrate the dug-in Japs positions in the deep gorges. We used 81's.
- 1100 K Company forward again. 1 man (K Co) KIA. 3 men (K Co) WIA. K withdraws for artillery. Jap column, estimated to be a Pltn, observed front left in draw of perimeter. Put 81's on column. Results unknown.
- 1200 149 FA puts another concentration on Jap emplacements in deep gorge. Believed Japs were hit as they could be heard screaming.
- 1230 K Company advances again.
- 1400 K Company fighting. 1 man (K Co) KIA, 1 man (K Co) WIA. K Company continues to maneuver forward and reduce 1 MG position. Have one more MG emplacement to knock out. I Company sends 1 pltn to right flank the MG from the ridge. Captured Jap 37 mm gun.

- 1500 K Company put 81's on the position. K Company strength; 80 men, have organized into 2 pltns. Litter train toward rear to be met by 2nd Bn Train.
- 1600 K flanks MG and break the block are meeting sniper fire. 1 man (Medic) WIA and will stay night with K Company.
- 1730 K Company secures high ridge to the left of trail and establishes Perimeter. K carrying casualties with them. Stan to Pappy, "Hills secure, place is crawling with Japs." RRTR.
- 1845 149 FA registers in. Stan to Pappy, "1 man WIA. Japs above and all around my position but believe we can hold them off." RRTR Bn strength Hqs 75, I 128, K 96, L 106, M 85, Medics 26, including 106 Medics, Total 516. Weather Clear. Wire team from regiment to CP. Bn CP still in old perimeter position. Summary: 5 Japs, 5 men (K Co) WIA. Hutchens (K Co) KIA RRTR

May 30

- 0600 Bn perimeter received 25 rounds of Jap artillery fire at 2000 and 2200. No damage. K Company received Jap mortar and MG fire. G Company kills 1 Jap. RRTR
- 0630 Cub observes our 81mm mortar fire.
- 0730 Our artillery firing concentrations on the forward trail.
- 0745 K Company causality train starting back from their position. Clapshaw and Scouts proceed to I Company. I Company has orders to advance up their present ridge then turn left and go down ridge to creek trail. This will put I Company on the trail to the front of K Company.
- 0800 I Company moves out.
- 0900 C-47 drops rations. 6 meals per man issued. Dropped wire and ammo.
- 1100 I Company secures objective against light opposition.
- 1130 L Company and balance of Bn advance up creek trail.
- 1200 Column moving slowly as Hqs and G Company carry rations for K and I Companies.
- 1300 L Company in a fight against mortar, MG and rifle. L Company kills 6 Japs.
- 1400 Japs put mortar fire on L Company. 1 man (L Co) KIA, 6 men (L Co) WIA.
- 1430 L kills 18 more Japs in flanking movement, but have to withdraw for artillery support.
- 1545 114th FA firing 155mm's in concentration. 1 round is left and short explodes in K Co perimeter. 1 man (K Co) KIA, 1 man (K Co) WIA, to DOW, 2 men (K Co) WIA.
- 1630 L Company ordered to hold. Bn CP set up between K Company and creek trail, on a steep hill side. I Company is on right of trail forward. G Company on small knoll on creek at rear of CP. Raining.
- 1845 I Company observes Japs pulling back in the gorge. Artillery is placed on them. A lot of screaming, results unknown. Summary: 25 Japs. Adams (K Co) KIA. Lemke (L Co) KIA. 1 man (I Co), 5 men (K Co), 6 men (L Co) all WIA.

May 31

- 0600 Quiet night.
- 0800 our artillery firing concentrations on forward sectors of trail. Battalion strength Hqs 63, I 119, K 79, M 86, G 93, FA Ln and Medics included total 539.
- 0900 G Company ordered to lead advance. RRTR
- 1000 L Company kills Jap near their perimeter.
- 1030 G encounters Jap mortar fire litters called up front. Hqs Company buried Hankins near 1st knocked out 37mm Jap gun. G Company pinned down.

- 1100 I Company, less 1 platoon to hold ridge, ordered to right flank draw of G Company.
- 1120 Japs still mortar our forward elements. 1 man (G Co) 1 man (Medic) WIA.
- 1200 Hqs Company litter bearers start toward rear. C-47 drops ammo.
- 1215 G and I Companies pull back for artillery concentrations.
- 1245 G and I attack.
- 1330 Advancing slowly. 1 Jap killed. Hqs litter train ambushed. Japs throw grenades at the men caring litters down the rocky stream bed. 1 man (Hqs Co) LWA
- 1400 Squad of K Company ordered back to assist litter train.
- 1420 Litter train personnel had reduced the hold up, had killed 2 Japs before K Company squad arrived. Train continues back toward rear.
- 1515 Chaplain Melton reports to CP from Regiment.
- 1545 Raining. I Company asks for ammo.
- 1600 G Company establishes perimeter left of creek trail on knoll in front of L Company. Met heavy resistance all day at creek forks. I Company less 1 pltn to perimeter up right fork 100yds. 8 Filipinos, 4 (unreadable) to CP from regiment with wire and signal equipment. Will stay with Bn and (Unreadable) carrying heavy loads. Ammo carrying party to I Company is fired on by Jap MG at forks.
- 1700 Wire communication is out of order to regiment. Pappy to Clapshaw, (with I Co. platoon on ridge top) "Bring the platoon off ridge and knock out Jap MG in draw below you at 0700 next."
- 1905 Ted to Pappy, "Report situation and activity."
- 1914 Pappy to Ted, "Woody advanced 300 yds on right of creek. Cris (Crisovan G Co CO) did not advance. Renewing attack at 0700. Japs today 24." Summary: 24 Japs. Ledbetter (K Co) WIA, May 30 DOW, 1 man (Hqs Co) 1 man (I Co) WIA.

June 1

- 0600 Quiet night bright moon.
- 0720 Pappy to Ted msg by cub plane "We need 12 units of Plasma and other medical supplies."
- 0900 Casualty train moves out to rear. Clapshaw with platoon advancing down draw, 1 man (I Co) LWA.
- 0930 I Company Pltn killed 1 Jap, encounter empty Jap positions. Captured 1 37mm gun at creek forks, 20mm gun, 2 heavy MG's, found 100 dug in positions with hole to hole line communication. This information imparted from Clapshaw to Pappy by radio. Wire line to regiment is in again. RTR.
- 0935 Pappy to Knobby, "You push to and meet Clapshaw at creek forks. On reaching forks push up left fork trail."
- 1030 Clapshaw reaches fork. Ordered to hold. L Co encountering sniper fire. Progress is slow.
- 1040 L Company meets Clapshaw and proceeds up left fork.
- 1200 L pushing slowly, kills 1 Jap, Clapshaw to CP, returns to front.
- 1210 L Company fighting up front again. Mortar and MG's. G Company behind L Company. L Company 300yds up trail from forks. L is calling for litters. 4 men (L Co) WIA. Raby (L Co) Hill (Medic) KIA. Clapshaw (WIA). 25 Filipinos arrived at camp to carry litters.

- 1400 Pappy and Jackson to front. L Co pulls back for artillery.
- 1430 We concentrate artillery fire. Jap MG firing from point across creek from CP no damage!
- 1445 L Company pushes again. Clouds closing in. C-47 makes 1 run over dropping area, fired on by Japs. Because of the low ceiling in these mountains plane carries its load of rations back to strip. Bookout guides C-47 crews and accompany s plane on all ration drops.
- 1530 Raining. J Company pushing slowly.
- 1700 L Company breaks block and gains 400 yds of the toughest kind of terrain and opposition. L Company's perimeter on knoll commanding trail.
- 1730 Pappy, Jackson, Clapshaw, Fowkes, returned to CP. Summary: 15 Japs. Clapshaw LWA. 1 man (I Co), 4 men (L Co) WIA. Raby (L Co) Hill (Medic) KIA.

June 2

- 0600 Japs assault L Company perimeter early morning with grenade and mortar. Young (L Co) Eckstrom (L Co) KIA. 2 men (L Co) WIA. Japs were driven off.
- 0715 Our artillery concentrate forward of our position.
- 0800 I Company ordered and moves through to L Company to lead advance. Bn strength Hqs 54, I 124, K 74, L 89, M 75, G 90, Medics 13. Total 519
- 0830 I Company on trail abreast of L Company meet heavy resistance. 4 men (I Co) WIA. I Company ordered to pull back.
- 0930 We concentrate artillery fire. Litter train to rear. Pappy, Jackson, Clapshaw and Fowkes to front. 4.2 mortar outfits joins our Bn and killed 1 Jap on way to our CP.
- 1045 Traffic fire fight up front as I Company attempts advance.
- 1100 4 C-47's drop rations. 7 meals per man. I Company holds and G Company ordered to flank left up steep mountain.
- 1400 Rations gathered, which is no small job after the planes drop them all over the mountain side. Many boxes are broken badly. K and Hqs Company carry rations forward to I, L and G Companies.
- 1445 Cub plane crashes on K Company Perimeter Ridge. Pilot is scratched and bruised but otherwise ok. Stays night with Bn CP.
- 1500 Bn CP moves to fork of creek. G Company still attempting flank tacit over most difficult terrain.
- 1515 Chaplain Melton buried Lemke, Eckstrom and Young 100 yds forks. Battalion destroyed 2 cases Pnt, 2 cased of 37mm ammo.
- 1630 G Company has attained right flank ridges. Kills 17 Japs after a stiff fire fight. Had some casualties. Impossible to evacuate casualties tonight.
- 1715 Pappy and party to CP from front. Reported casualties to Regiment.
- 1900 G Company is ordered to return to CP tomorrow since they have so many casualties to bring down the steep slopes. L Company has 1 casualty up front with them, WIA by sniper fire.
- 2100 Firing and grenade explosions up front. Raining. Summary: 18 Japs 4 men (L Co) WIA. Eckstrom (L Co) Young (L Co) KIA.

June 3

- 0600 Battalion to reorganize. G Company reports they have 6 litter cases,
- 0700 I Company ordered to send 1 pltn to help G Company get out. Pappy goes with I Company Platoon.
- 0900 Big casualty train start toward rear, 33 patients.
- 1045 I Company reports their pltn with them, G Company coming out behind them, Pappy on way to CP. RTR. Ted says, Bob will arrive tomorrow as support.
- 1130 Pappy meets all CO's at CP. Plan made for next days advance. I Company will lead attack after heavy mortar and artillery concentration. Bn strength Hqs 58, I 92, M 66, L 81, M 59, G 57, Arty Ln 6, Medics 11, total 430.
- 1200 4.2 mortar pltn set up on edge of air dropping clearing. Another litter train out, 3 litters, 6 walking patients.
- 1300 C-47 drops ammo. Ration drop tomorrow.
- 1600 Raining. 4.2 mortars registering in. 4.2 mortar FO (forward observer) with Knobby.
- 2300 K Company outpost above CP kill 3 Japs. Estimated enemy squad had attempted to enter perimeter. Summary: 3 Japs. Carothers (L Co) WIA June 2 to DOW. Billington (I Co) WIA June 2 to DOW. 1 man (I Co) WIA.

June 4

- Quiet night except for few MG bursts and grenade explosions.
- 0745 4.2's and 155mm artillery put down heavy concentration of fire forward of our positions after our forward units move back.
- 0800 I Company moving forward right of creek. L Company left of creek. Regiment called 21 men from Battalion to report to regiment at once for possible discharge per Army readjustment program.
- 0815 K Company follows I and L by trail. Pappy, Jackson, Clapshaw and Communication personnel forward with L and K. DeRoeun to Regiment sick. Rest of Hqs Co and G Company stay in position.
- 0900 Casualty Train out to Regiment.
- 1030 Firing up front.
- 1145 Bob into CP with his command, E, F, H Companies. G Company moves out and back midway to rice patty to help litter trains.
- 1230 Knobby to aide station sick. Point has advanced 300 to 400 yds, he said.
- 1400 Raining. No ration drop because of closed in weather conditions. Firing at front. Now Lts Russel and Prather and 27 men in to CP from Regiment. Many of the men are assistant vehicle drivers. Men are needed badly in the field. Battalion is some 400 or more men under strength.
- 1700 Pappy and party, including communication personnel, called by phone to the unmoved 3rd Bn rear CP. Pappy has established forward CP up front. Pappy to Ted by phone, "Got 18 Japs, 2 MG's, 3 knee mortars, have 3 litter cases. Are in a deep gorge, visibility 10 yds. Tough going. Advanced about 1000 yds. Found 80 to 100 Japs dead by our artillery. Japs found dead still in their fox holes. Forward CP located in gorge at 'the Hook' in the creek. Coordinates 91.0-87.4.

1800 Raining. Regiment reported that DeRouen arrived there. Summary: Japs killed and found dead 111. Cates (I Co) WIA June 2 to DOW, Hummer (L Co) WIA to DOW. 8 men (I Co) WIA. 1 man (K Co), 3 men (L Co) WIA, 1 man (M Co) WIA.

June 5

0550 Advance CP received 10 rounds of Jap Howitzer fire. No casualties.
 0700 Ted to Pappy, "Take high ground east of trail, then 2nd Bn will go through you." 1 Jap was killed during the night.
 0745 L and K Companies moved to take east high ground left of trail. I Company takes high ground right of trail. Rations are to be dropped for both 2nd and 3rd Bn's this morning. Rear 3rd Bn CP will move to Pappy's advance CP when rations are collected. 2nd Bn stayed on perimeter of 3rd Bn rear CP area.
 0900 I Company has ridge on right secure. K and L Companies have secured positions on left of trail. Ration drop. 6 meals per man.
 1010 2nd Bn patrol reaches Pappy at the 'hook'. Companies send details to rear CP for the carrying up of rations. RTR.
 1130 Rear CP personnel in advance CP. Chaplain Melton buried Raby on the way to CP at the 'Hook' .
 1200 2nd Bn passes through. Chaplain buried Hummer.
 1400 Rations are all carried in to CP and distributed. 2nd Bn up front is having a fire fight.
 1700 Raining. Summary: 1 Jap. 1 man (I Co) 1 man (K Co) 4 men (M Co) WIA.

June 6

0700 Rained all night. Very little firing. Bn strength: Hq 60, I 79, K 57, L 70, M 65 Medic 12. Total 343
 0915 Casualty train out, Clapshaw and about 30 others.
 1045 C-47's drop ammo at air dropping clearing
 1115 Division wire team in to CP.
 1555 Reported to Regiment. DeRouen is getting along OK.
 1810 Japs shelling 2nd Bn about 200 to 300 yds up the gorge from us. Raining very hard. Holes filling with water.

June 7

0700 Uncomfortable night, holes filled with water.
 0830 Ration issue. 2 meals per man. Larson and Rouse (Hqs Co) to rear sick. (Later) on the way Larson and Rouse kill 1 Jap and capture 1 Jap. They take the prisoner on in to Regiment for questioning minus pants.
 0930 Casualty train out, 27 men. Received Ted's order, "Move back to Regiment after being relieved by 3rd Bn 108 Inf."
 1200 Pappy meets with all CO's at CP. Order, "Move out at 1300 back to 27th Portable Hospital located in rice patty. Pappy with K Co will stay in present position until 3rd Bn Inf arrives. Pappy will orient CO of 3rd Bn 108 Inf. Jackson will command Battalion en-route to rice patty and until Pappy catches us."
 1300 Bn moves out.
 1630 Battalion in to rice patty. Passed 3rd Bn 108 Inf en-route.

- 1715 Pappy and K Company arrive in rice patty perimeter. Anti Tank Company is set up here and assist with litter trains as casualties return from front. Raining. Summary: 1 Jap killed, 1 Jap Prisoner of War.
- June 8
- 0700 Order of Pappy, "Battalion will move in to Malaybalay at 0800 or when the 12 litter cases or made to move from the 27th Portable Hospital."
- 0730 Pappy and small party move out in advance of the Battalion to Regiment.
- 0800 Battalion moves with litters over 2 ridges, same route the Battalion used May 24th. Trail is very slippery and progress is slow going up and down the steep slopes with litters.
- 1200 Pappy and party arrive at Regiment DeRouen has Battalion kitchens set up and area arranged for the Battalion to move. 78.3-86.6.
- 1430 Battalion arrives with litters. Battalion litter bearers were met at crest of last ridge by Dodge and party of rear echelon drivers and men. They carry litters to waiting ambulances. Kitchens have good hot meal prepared. Iced tea later.

END OF SILAE TRAIL

- Have been on the Island of Mindanao, P. I. 47 days. Subsisted on K rations 39 days.
- June 9
- 1400 General HUTCHINSON to CP.
- June 10
- 1300 I Company moved to Malaybalay air strip as guard. Newly assigned Chaplain Barnett conducts services.
- 1430 Col STARR and Maj Becker to CP. Special service issues cold cokes to men.
- June 11
- 0800 L Company ordered to send patrol 6 kilometers north to investigate Filipino report of 50 Japs in area.
- 1400 L Company back. Negative report. Division Band entertains in Battalion area.
- June 12
to
- June 19 -----Nothing special to report.
- June 20
- 0730 K Company reinforced order to patrol north the east to Dila River. K moves out.
- 1545 Radio Stan to Pappy, "On high ground at 74.0-99.9 over looking river. Saw 7 Japs east of river. Will send patrol east at 210800."
- June 21 K moving east to river killed 2 Japs at 76.1-99.4.
- June 22 K sends out patrols, negative. Received rations by air.
- June 23
- 0730 Ted to Stan, "Remain in present location. Send out local patrols Cannon Company will be in position to support your advance this PM."
- 1110 Stan to Ted, "Captured 1 Jap prisoner, no identification."
- 1200 Stan to Ted, "Local patrols returned. No activity."
- 1650 Stan to Ted, "Plan to move south 240800. Rich (Capt CO Cannon Co) has fire

preparations.”

24

June 24

- 0955 Stan to Ted, “Am at approx. 76.0-98.0. River trail very rough for gunshot wound litter case. Am moving south cross country to Kalasungay.”
- 1300 Stan to Ted, “At 76.4-94.7 should be in Kalasungay 1630.”
- 1510 Stan to Ted, “At 75.6-93.5 investigated positions at 76.7-99.1 found saber, no Japs. Plane reported 2 miles of river cleared before we turned south.”
- 1726 Ted to Stan, “Stay in present position tonight. Investigate position at 78.5-97.1. Send litter case back to Kalasungay as planned.”
- 1730 Regimental Radio Section to Rapp (3 Bn Radio Section) “Please stay on the air at all times until you are given permission to leave. We have called for 2 hours and no answer.”
- 1735 Rapp to Costello (Regt Radio Section) “You invent a way to walk and operate and we will.”

June 25

- 1135 Stan to Ted, “Am at 77.5-97.3 killed 30 Japs counted, in gardens. Am moving south east along creek.”
- 1140 Stan to Ted, “Captured Filipino, a prisoner of the Japs.” “Filipino says 100 Japs east of river. Will try to have Cannon Company adjusted to area.”
- 1212 Stan to Ted, “Cannon Company fired mission. My patrol investigated and found 2 dead Japs.”
- 1310 Ted to Stan, “When patrol completes recon, return to base Camp.”
- 1825 K Company intact in Battalion area. Stan reports to Pappy on today's early morning action. “We were proceeding back to river and as we gained the crest of a ridge we saw in the valley 2 gardens and a large number of Japs gathering food. We deployed, advanced, set up MG's with rifle men forward on lower slope. On signal weapons were fired. Japs were taken fully unaware.”

June 27

Bn en-trucks to Del Monte.

July 24

Bn en-trucks to Del Monte strip. Duty; Infantry training Battalion in new weapons for X Corps combined Arms School.

Sept 2

War Ends! Training ends!

THE END

T/Sgt. Strahan, Bn Sgt. Major

UNIT JOURNAL
and
CASUALTY REPORT
THIRD BATTALION
124th Infantry Regiment

MINDANAO CAMPAIGN
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

April 18 to September 2 1945

Lt. Col. George D. Williams, Infantry
Commanding

Williams, Claude E.	Pfc.	M Co.	Drowned	April 27
Guline, Angelo	Pfc.	K Co.	KIA	May 01
Jacobs, Harry	1 st . Lt.	M Co.	DOW	May 01
Hawkins, Leonard C.	Cpl.	Medic	KIA	May 07
Dennison		106 med.	KIA	May 07
Golman, Harry	Pfc.	I Co.	KIA	May 07
Markovitch, Anthony P.	1 st . Lt.	L Co.	KIA	May 07
Yates, Allison R.	Cpl.	Medic	KIA	May 07
Smith, Calvin E.	Pfc.	L Co.	KIA	May 07
Pratt, Ernest J.	Sgt.	K Co.	KIA	May 28
Hankins, Louis A.	Pfc.	K Co.	KIA	May 29
Lenke, Gerald A.	Pfc.	L Co.	KIA	May 30
Adams, Ranson L.	Pfc.	K Co.	DOW	May 30
Ledbetter, D. C.	Pfc.	K Co.	DOW	May 31
Raby, Charlie F.	Pfc.	L Co.	KIA	June 01
Young, John L.	Sgt.	L Co.	KIA	June 02
Hill, Alfred B.	T/5	Medic	KIA	June 01
Ekstrom, Arna V.	Pfc.	L Co.	KIA	June 02
Billington, John	Pfc.	I Co.	DOW	June 03
Carother, Bennona B.	Pfc.	L Co.	DOW	June 03
Cates, Joe	Pfc.	I Co.	DOW	June 04
Hummer Fred S.	Pfc	I Co	DOW	June 04

Total: 22

WOUNDED IN ACTION

Headquarters Company	4
I Company	24
K Company	23
L Company	27
M Company	3
Medical Section	2

TOTAL 83

JAPS KILLED AND FOUND DEAD

Total 459

2 Prisoners of War