

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority *AND 87354*
 By *CD* NARA Date *12/10/08*

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

2 September 1944.

Subject: Daily Journal Report for the month of August 1944.

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

1. Daily Journal Report for the month of August 1944.

1 August 1944: Company "D", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Operation of water point. Issued 1,050 gallons of water. Cleaning and care of equipment. Company "E", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule: Close Order Drill. Hike. Special Schools as announced. Organized athletics and swimming. Company "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Enlisted Men and vehicles to staging area. Training Schedule (same as Company "E").

2 August 1944: Company "D", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Operation of water point. Issued 1,115 gallons of water. Cleaning and care of equipment. Company "E", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule: Close Order Drill. Hike. Special Schools and Training as announced. Organized athletics and swimming. Teaching men how to use new heavy equipment. Company "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule (same as Company "E").

3 August 1944: Company "D", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Operation of water point. Issued 2,050 gallons of water. Hiked seven (7) miles. Mass athletics. Company "E", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule: Close Order Drill. Hike. Special Schools and Training as announced. Organized athletics and swimming. Teaching men how to use new heavy equipment. Company "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Enlisted Men and vehicles to staging area. Training Schedule (same as Company "E").

4 August 1944: Company "D", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Operation of water point. Issued 3,525 gallons of water. Hiked six (6) miles. Cleaning and care of equipment. Company "E", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule: Hike. Special Schools and Training as announced. Organized athletics and swimming. Teaching men how to use new heavy equipment. Company "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Enlisted men to staging area. Training Schedule (same as Company "E").

5 August 1944: Company "D", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Operation of water point. Issued 3,550 gallons of water. Taking down water point and showers. Preparation of practice landing. Company "E", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Training Schedule: Hike. Special Schools and Training as announced. Organized athletics and swimming. Teaching men how to use new heavy equipment. Company "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Enlisted Men to staging area. Followed Training

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority *AWO 87354*
 By *CP* NARA Date *12/10/06*

Basic - Daily Journal Report, August 1944. Hqs. 2d Bn., 540th Engr. Regt.

Schedule.

6 August 1944: Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Battalion participated in practice landing problem.

7 August 1944: Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Battalion returned from practice landing problem.

8 August 1944: Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Preparation for proposed movement. Cleaning and care of equipment.

9 August 1944: Companies "D", "E", and "F", approx. seven (7) miles northwest of Qualiano, Italy. Preparation for proposed movement. Cleaning and care of equipment.

10 August 1944: Battalion at sea. Headed for Beach Assault Operation. Destination unknown.

11 August 1944: Battalion at sea. Headed for Beach Assault Operation. Destination vicinity, Frejus, France (Map FRANCE 1/25:000, Frejus S.E. 568338).

12 August 1944: Battalion at sea. Headed for Beach Assault Operation. Destination vicinity, Frejus, France (Map FRANCE 1/25:000, Frejus S.E. 568338).

13 August 1944: Battalion at sea. Headed for Beach Assault Operation. Destination vicinity, Frejus, France (Map FRANCE 1/25:000, Frejus S.E. 568338).

14 August 1944: Battalion at sea. Headed for Beach Assault Operation. Destination vicinity, Frejus, France (Map FRANCE 1/25:000, Frejus S.E. 568338). Lt. Hudson, Company "E", awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

15 August 1944: Battalion arrived at shores of France at 0630B hours. Remained off shore until 1430B hours when an attempt was made to land on Red Beach (Beach 264A) but could not land due to beach obstacles and shelling. Landed on Green Beach, Agay, France at approx. 1620B hours to 1745B hours. Moved to Yellow Beach for beach operations. At approx. 1800B hours an "F" Company D-7 dozer was damaged by a mine when it attempted to clear beach to facilitate unloading of craft. Pvt. Fritchman, Co. "D", WIA, Pvt. Stecher, Co. "D", KIA, S/Sgt. Ross, Med. Det., WIA, Tec 4 Sholes and Pvt. Chatman of Co. "E", WIA, in enemy mine field at approx. 2130B hours, in vicinity of Yellow Beach. Air-raid at approx. 2055B hours.

16 August 1944: Agay, France. Company "D". Operation of water point. Issued 7,390 gallons of water. Pioneer Group cleared 11 mines from two (2) LCT landing roads for LCT's on Yellow Beach. Laid four (4) rolls of Summerfelt matting. Fenced road. On one (1) LCT landing used 30 bangalores to destroy an estimated 20 enemy mines. Used 12 packs of tetratol for clearing landing for Navy craft LCT's. Destroyed 20 mines. Used five (5) packs of tetratol clearing landing

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority AMS 87354
 By CP NARA Date 12/10/06

Basic - Daily Journal Report, August 1944. Hqs. 2d Bn., 540th Engr. Regt.

for LCM's and clearing road exits. Destroyed 30 mines. Laid 12 rolls of Summerfelt matting. Operated beach from 0800B-1900B hours. Unloaded 640½ tons of supplies. Company "E", Agay, France. Setting up bivouac area. Laid Summerfelt matting on Yellow Beach to facilitate unloading of craft. Company "F", Agay, France. Setting up bivouac area. Laid Summerfelt matting on Yellow Beach to facilitate unloading of craft. Air-raid at approx. 2050B hours.

17 August 1944: Company "D", Agay, France. Operation of Yellow Beach: Unloaded 41 tons of Class I, 98 tons of Class II and IV, 194 tons of Class III, and 347 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 680 tons. Operation of water point. Issued 13,795 gallons of water. Company "E", Agay, France. Operation of Yellow Beach. Unloaded 625 tons of supplies. Company "F", Agay, France. Operation of Yellow Beach. Air-raid at approx. 2050B hours.

18 August 1944: Company "D", Agay, France. Operation of water point. Issued 15,025 gallons of water. Operation of Yellow Beach. Unloaded: Class I 12 tons, Class II & IV 75 tons, Class III 223 tons, and Class V 160 tons. Total tonnage 470 tons. Company "E", Agay, France. Operation of Yellow Beach. Unloaded 1075 tons of supplies. Company "F", Agay, France. Reconstruction of port installations of San Raphael. KIA by result of enemy mines at approx. 1045B hours, at Port of San Raphael. PFC Hughes, PVT. Kranz, and Pvt. Lawson of Company "F". WIA by result of enemy mines at approx. 1045B hours at Port of San Raphael: Pvt. Kriegal, Pvt. Pomeroy, Pvt. Richman, Pvt. Crosby, Pvt. Branch, Pfc Loy, Pvt. Moss, Pvt. Snelson, Pfc Polks, Pvt. Barry, Pfc Bernard. Pvt. Fillinger (Company Aid-Man), Pvt. Agard, Pvt. Palermo, Pvt. Mara, Pfc Galvin, Pfc Michalski, Pvt. Schreurs, Cpl. Motley and Sgt. Turner. Air-raid 2100B hours. Pfc DeMarc, Co. "F" KIA by enemy mine at approx. 1045B hours at Port of San Raphael, France.

19 August 1944: Company "D", Agay, France. Operation of water point. Issued 15,220 gallons of water. Company "E", Agay, France. Operation of Yellow Beach. Unloaded 345 tons of supplies. Company "F", Agay, France. Reconstruction of port installations in Port of San Raphael. Air-raid at approx. 2045B hours.

20 August 1944: Battalion Headquarters, Companies "D", "E", and "F" and Medical Detachment moved from old bivouac area, Agay, France, to new bivouac area, approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Setting up new water point. Operation of Port of San Raphael, France. Unloaded: 108 tons of Class II & IV tons and 112 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 220 tons. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of Port of San Raphael, France. Unloaded 300 tons of supplies. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Reconstruction of port installations of Port of San Raphael. Air-raid at approx. 2050B hours.

21 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Completed construction of Battalion Showers. Operation of water point. Issued 2840 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 69 tons of

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority *87354*
 By *CP* NARA Date *12/17/06*

Basic - Daily Journal Report, August 1944. Hqs. 2d Bn., 540th Engr. Regt.

Class I, 72 tons of Class II & IV, total tonnage 141 tons of supplies. Care and cleaning of equipment. Company "E", Approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of Port of San Raphael. No supplies unloaded. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Reconstruction of port installation in Port of San Raphael, France.

22 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 3,050 gallons of water. Operation of port of San Raphael. Unloaded $73\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Class II and IV supplies. WP SR-10, Swept port roads. Opened Ave. Amiral from Harbor Road to Road Block at Felix Martin St., in port of San Raphael. Care and Cleaning of equipment. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Working at harbor. String concertina at Ration Dump, completed around QM Dump Class I & II. Using cranes at harbor. Hauling cargo from harbor. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael. WP SR-11, removing water from basement of Port CP. Reconstruction of port installation in port of San Raphael.

23 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 29,521 gallons of water. Operation of port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 126 tons of Class III and 271 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 397 tons. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Checking at Railhead. Checking for mines at Class V Dump and Airport. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Removing water from basement of Port CP. WP SR-10, Widening of intersection. Reconstruction of port of San Raphael; setting of cribbing and driving piles. Clearing of mines in theatre of San Raphael.

24 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 24,282 gallons of water. Operation of the Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 23 tons of Class I, 41 tons of Class II & IV, $303\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Class III, and 354 tons of Class V. Total tonnage $721\frac{1}{2}$ tons. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael. Loading rations at Railhead. WP SR-15, Making repairs at airport for storage of supplies. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-10, Clearing of rubble. Clearing of port area; cribbing of jetty, driving piles, sweeping streets and blasting of road blocks.

25 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 30,205 gallons of water. Operation of port of San Raphael. Unloaded: $36\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Class I, $79\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Class II and IV, $263\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Class III, and 191 tons of Class V. Total tonnage $570\frac{1}{2}$ tons. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading trains at Trejus railhead. WP SR-15, Filling holes with rubble and completed clearing. WP SR-19, Removing wire from poles. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Widening of corner at intersection, WP SR-10. WP SR-16, Mine Details. WP SR-22, Mine Detail completed. Clearing of Port Area; clearing of rubble and rubbish, completed cribbing, driving piles, drilling holes for blasting. Sgt. Bourgeois, Company "E", KIA as a result of enemy mines while clearing a mine field on road to Boulouris, at approx. 0930B hours.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *AWW 87354*
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Basic - Daily Journal Report, August 1944. Hqs. 2d Bn., 540th Engr. Regt.

26 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 28,600 gallons of water. Operation of port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 50 tons of Class III, 64 tons of Class IV, and 11 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 125 tons of supplies. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading trains at Railhead. WP SR-21, Completed POW enclosure. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-10, Widening of intersection. WP SR-25, Repairing road surface at entrance #1 to Port Area, 100% complete. WP SR-29, Reconnaissance of Radar Station at Green Beach. Clearing of Port Area; driving piles, policing of timbers, hauling of crushed rock and clearing of parking area.

27 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 32,910 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 42 tons of Class I, 118 tons of Class II & IV, 400 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 560 tons. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading cars at Railhead. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-10, Widening of intersection. Clearing of Port Area; hauling crushed rock and drilling pill-box.

28 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 31,580 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 9 tons of Class I, 241 tons of Class II & IV, 51 tons of Class III, and 488 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 789 tons of supplies. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading trains at Railhead. WP SR-33, Clearing loading space at the Railhead. Started removal of coal scuttles and railroad rails and poles. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-10, Widening of intersection. WP SR-34, Repaired broken water main at Frejus, job 100% complete. WP SR-36, Repaired road in front of Excelsior Hotel, job 100% complete. Clearing of Port Area in San Raphael; hauled crushed rock and constructed decking on jetty, filling in trenches.

29 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 34,025 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 45½ tons of Class I, 216½ tons of Class II & IV, 57½ tons of Class III, 374 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 693½ tons of supplies. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading cars at Railhead. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-10, Widening of intersection, job 50% complete. WP SR-39, Repaired road La Cigale Hotel, job 100% complete. Clearing of cement bags and equipment from Railhead area. Clearing of Port Area; finishing of decking on jetty, job 90% complete.

30 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 24,335 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael. Unloaded: 42 tons of Class II & IV and 367 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 409 tons of supplies. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading cars at Railhead. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Hauling cement from Railhead to Engineer Dump.

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority 87354
 By CP NARA Date 12/10/06

Basic - Daily Journal Report, August 1944. Hqs. 2d Bn., 540th Engr. Regt.

Hauling rock and pouring cement on jetty, job 100% complete. Erected two (2) five (5) prop bents; hauled rock, cement and sand, erected braces.

31 August 1944: Company "D", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Operation of water point. Issued 32,670 gallons of water. Operation of Port of San Raphael, France. Unloaded 21 tons of Class I, 123 tons of Class II & IV, and 338 tons of Class V. Total tonnage 482 tons of supplies. Company "E", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. Loading cars at Railhead. WP SR-41, Fire control measures made available at all dumps: 35 shovels to gas dump, 4 loads of sand and 8 shovels to dump #13, 20 shovels to dump #4, 6 water type extinguishers to Signal dump, 10 loads of sand to drum dump on Red Beach. Company "F", approx. one (1) mile north of San Raphael, France. WP SR-40, Construction of one-way bridge in Cannes; pouring of cement, placing of shims on caps and policing of material for fill and rail. WP SR-45, Widening of intersection, job 100% complete. Removing cement from Railhead area to Engineer Dump, job 100% complete.

Battalion Strength as of 1 August 1944:

Officers - 18 (Incl. Med. Det.)
 Enlisted Personnel - 615 (Incl. Med. Det.)

Battalion Strength as of 31 August 1944:

Officers - 21* (Incl. Med. Det.)
 * 3 Officers on T.D.
 Enlisted Personnel - 633 (Incl. Med. Det.)

Casualties sustained by Battalion during the month of August 1944:

Battle Casualties - 30

Enemy action encountered by Battalion during the month of August 1944:

Air Raids - 6

Unloading Statistics: Yellow Beach, Agay, France. 16 August 1944 to 19 August 1944.

Class I	335 tons	Vehicles - 3	Personnel - 5
Class II & IV	1131 "		
Class III	1060 "		
Class V	<u>2453</u> "		
	4979 "	(Total tonnage discharged)	

Unloading Statistics: Harbor of San Raphael, France. 20 August to 31 August 1944.

Class I	272 tons
Class II & IV	1278 "
Class III	885 "
Class V	<u>3053</u> "
	5488 " (Total tonnage discharged)

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Unloading Statistics: Harbor of San Raphael, France. 20 August to 31 August 1944.

Vehicles - 140

Personnel - 746.

S. A. Knapp Jr.
S. A. KNAFF, JR.
Major, C.E.,
Commanding.