

HEADQUARTERS
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
OFFICE OF THE SUPPLY OFFICER
A.P.O. #464

7 February 1944.

Subject: Journal for the month of January 1944.

To : Commanding Officer, 540th Engineer Regiment, APO #464.

1. The Regimental Supply, this month, devoted most of its time to preparation for an amphibious operation and to other work incidental to such an operation.
2. Approximately four thousand (4,000) additional men were attached to the Regiment. An additional problem was presented for supply, for it was necessary to feed the additional personnel and cloth them for the operation.
3. Special equipment was necessary for this operation and was obtained from various sources. Extra $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton and $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton trucks were allowed for the operation and were delivered just prior to embarkation. D-7 Angledozers, 16-ton trailers, and 6-ton prime-movers were allowed for beach operations. Cranes were supplied to each company for dump operation. Extra mine detectors were obtained; also, beach markers and lights.
4. Modification of Sumerfeld Matting for beach roads was completed at the Regimental Supply Rear Echelon. The purpose of the modification is two-fold; to make the roll of matting lighter, and to make the footing more firm. The matting is made lighter by removing four out of every five lateral rods. Six men can handle a roll when modified in this manner. The extra rods are used as pickets in staking down the matting for a road. The footing is made more firm by backing the wire matting with burlap. Thus the sand in which the matting is unrolled cannot sift through.
5. The forward echelon of S-4 came in shortly after the assault companies had landed and proceeded to establish beach dumps, to be run by attached unit due in at a later hour. The dumps were manned by personnel of the assault companies until the proper personnel had arrived. Later, dumps were turned over to Corps.
6. A recording system was developed, set up, and operated in conjunction with S-3. Supplies by class, vehicles, and personnel unloading were thus recorded.
7. Transportation, DUKWs and trucks, during the operation, was coordinated through S-4.
8. The month ended with the operation still in full force.

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