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HEADQUARTERS, FIRST BATTALION
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. #464

/lk
10 November 43

SUBJECT: First Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment Journal for month of October 43.

TO : Commanding Officer, 540th Engineer Regiment, A.P.O. #464.

1. Submitted herewith is First Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment Journal for month of October 1943.

2. Personnel and equipment of this command were employed in Naples and vicinity. Certain of the most important of these activities are described as follows:

a. Port Clearance and Reconstruction:- Upon arrival in Naples soon after its surrender the units of this command were assigned to Port Clearance and Reconstruction duties. In this capacity personnel and equipment were employed in removing demolished steel structures and other stone debris from the area of the piers; and in filling in craters and general leveling of the entire area surrounding piers "F", "G", "H", and "K". Progress was rapid and ships began unloading in 4 days after the clearing began.

b. Mine Field Clearance:- On the beach at Bagdolio units of this command were assigned to the removal of the most hazardous minefield yet encountered. The area was mined extensively with booby trapped Teller mines arranged in a definite pattern. Interspersed between these were a large number of "S" type mines. Several "S" mines were exploded during these operations. However, the field was cleared without injury to the removing personnel.

c. Delousing Operations:- Numerous details were employed in detecting and removing booby traps and explosives from buildings, and installations in the Naples area.

For the Commanding Officer:

Olen B. Garrison
OLEN B. GARRISON
Captain, C. E.,
Executive Officer

