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

1 November 1943.

Subject: Daily Journal Report for October 1943.

To : The Commanding Officer, 540th Engr. Regt., APO #464, U. S. Army.

1. In compliance with Memorandum, Headquarters, 540th Engineer Regiment, APO #464, U. S. Army, dated 23 October 1943, the following Daily Journal Report for the month of October 1943, is hereby submitted.

1 October 1943: North of and adjacent to Paestum, Italy. Co. "D" assembled and disassembled Bailey Bridge at Engineer Dump. Co. "E" operated Red Beach North #1. Unloaded: Class I - 37 tons, Class II & IV - 17.5 tons, Class III - 63 tons, Class V - 242.5 tons; total tonnage discharged - 360 tons. Company "F" operating beach, dumps, and water point at Maiori, Italy. Completed the unloading of the "Bruce M", and LCT 199. Unloaded Class I - 48.3 tons, Class III - 22.2 tons, Class V - 18.4 tons; total tonnage discharged - 88.9 tons. Unloading operations at Maiori Beach ceased this date. Complete unloading statistics (Maiori Beach) from 25 September 1943 to 1 October 1943 incl.: Class I - 271.2 tons, Class III - 46.7 tons, Class V - 363.4 tons; total tonnage discharged for the above period - 682.3 tons. No enemy action.

2 October 1943: North of and adjacent to Paestum, Italy. Capt. Brown and 11 EM, Hq. Det., 2nd Bn. (advance detail), left bivouac area, Paestum, Italy for Naples, Italy at approx. 1830A. Arrived Naples, Italy approx. 2330A; distance traveled by motor convoy approx. 62 miles. Co's "D" and "E" operating Red Beach North #1 and preparing for proposed movement to Naples, Italy. Operations at Red Beach North #1 ceased this date. Unloaded: Class I - 39.5 tons, Class II & IV - 101 tons, Class V - 85 tons; total tonnage discharged - 225.5 tons. Complete unloading statistics at Red Beach North #1 from 13 September 1943 to 2 October 1943, incl.: Class I - 1543.8 tons, Class II & IV - 891 tons, Class III - 2314.2 tons, Class V - 3461.9 tons; total tonnage - 8210.9 tons; vehicles discharged - Combat (Halftracks, tanks)...240, Guns and SP Artillery...111, all others...1389. Personnel disembarked - 13325. Co. "F" having completed the operations of Maiori Beach, started transporting supplies from dumps by trucks, maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action. (Supplies transported from dumps at Maiori to Naples)

3 October 1943: North of and adjacent to Paestum, Italy. Co's "D" and "E" left bivouac area, Paestum, Italy for Naples, Italy at approx. 0630A this date. Arrived at Naples, Italy at approx. 1300A. Set up bivouac area. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples - maintaining water point, Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

4 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E" repairing and improving roads at Port Di Napoli, and improving bivouac area. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples, maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action. Capt. O'Brien having been ordered by the Fifth Army (Engr. Sec.) to investigate the damages done to the aqueduct Di Napoli by the enemy, estimate supplies needed, and length of time required to make the necessary repairs to the aqueduct, left this date to make his investigation.

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5 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E" building and repairing roads at Port Di Napoli, and continued to improve bivouac area. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks, maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. Co. "F" transporting supplies to Naples. No enemy action.

6 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" cleaning and repairing roads Port Di Napoli. 4 officers and 150 EM, Co. "E" started to repair aqueduct Di Napoli this date. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples - maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

7 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" cleaning debris from roads Port Di Napoli, completed construction of ramp to sea wall. Co. "E" repairing aqueduct Di Napoli. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples - maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. Intermittent showers during the day. No enemy action.

8 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" constructed LST ramp and dukw entrance and exit. Strung barbed wire on walls of Port Di Napoli, cleared roads and removed wreckage. Co. "E" repairing aqueduct Di Napoli. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples - maintaining water point - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

9 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" Port Di Napoli, continued stringing barbed wire around Port area. Improved dukw and LST entrance. Cleaned debris of blown cranes from Port streets. Co. "E" repairing aqueduct Di Napoli. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples. Maintained water point - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

10 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" Port Di Napoli, cleared and graveled dukw area. Improved and graveled LST landing point. Put Hold-Fast for LST's. Repaired barbed wire fence. Filled holes where cranes were blown out. Looked for mines and booby traps in sewers around Battalion area due to several time bomb explosions that occurred in vicinity of area. Co. "E" continued to repair aqueduct Di Napoli. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples. No enemy action.

11 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co. "D" Port Di Napoli, continued to gravel LST landing point, and filling in holes where cranes were blown out. Co. "E" repairing aqueduct Di Napoli, completed repairs on aqueduct this date. Summary of work done on aqueduct: At Canello - (bottom of hill) repaired two sections of 32 inch pipe - 45 ft long each. (top of hill) Canello, repaired valve chamber consisting of (3) 20 inch pipes, 70 ft long each. Included in repairs were valves and fittings. At Apria, repaired damage done to aqueduct which consisted of replacing of a 58 ft section. Concrete used in repairs as section was originally made of stone. At Accera, Italy, Company "E" repaired five mains as follows: 1 eight (8) inch diameter, 1 twenty (20) inch diameter, 1 twenty-eight (28) inch diameter, and two, thirty-two inch (32) inch diameter, approx. 55 ft long each. Co. "F" transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples - Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

12 October 1943: Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned and graveled roads in port area. Co. "E" repaired roads in port area. Co. "F" operating beach and transporting supplies from dumps by trucks to Naples from Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

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13 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned building and streets at berth 27. Cut out and removed old cranes. Finished the construction of dukw ramp at berth 35. Co. "E" repairing berth 36 for the landing of ICT's and LST's. Co. "F" operating beach and transporting supplies from dumps by trucks from Maiori, Italy to Naples, and maintained water point at Maiori, Italy. Water system of the city of Naples placed in operation this date. No enemy action.

14 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned building and removed debris from port area. Blew up two cranes at berth 27, and policed main port road. Co. "E" cleared building at berth 35. Prepared LST landing at berth 36, started construction of road to ration dump of 550th Q.M., extinguishing coal fire at Gas Plant. Co. "F" operating dumps at Maiori, Italy and transporting supplies by trucks from dumps at Maiori to Naples; also maintained water point. No enemy action.

15 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned out building and removed previously demolished cranes at berth 27. Co. "E" clearing building east of canal near LST landing between H & K, preparing LST landing at B-36. Continued extinguishing coal fire at Gas Plant. And continued constructing road to ration dump of 550th Q.M. Co. "F" continued operations of dumps and transporting by trucks from Maiori, Italy supplies to Naples. No enemy action.

16 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued cleaning out building at pier "C" - berth 27. Co. "E" clearing building east of canal near LST landing between H & K. Preparing LST landing at B-36. Put out coal fire at Gas Plant, continued constructing road to 550th Q.M. Co. "F" operating dumps and transporting supplies by trucks from dumps at Maiori, Italy to Naples. No enemy action.

17 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" repairing roads port area. Co. "E" cleared building east of canal near LST landing between H & K, and preparing LST landing at berth 36. Continued to construct road to 550th Q.M. ration dump. Co. "F" operating dumps at Maiori, Italy, and transporting supplies by trucks from dumps to Naples. No enemy action.

18 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued cleaning and repairing roads in port area. Co. "E" removing debris and buildings between berths 27-28. Continued construction of road to ration dump of 550th Q.M. Co. "F" operating dumps at Maiori, Italy and transporting supplies by trucks from these dumps to Naples, Italy. No enemy action.

19 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clear and repair main port road, filled bomb crater. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" repaired roads damaged by flash-flood, installed guard railing, repaired telephone lines. Transporting of supplies from dumps at Maiori to Naples completed this date. Complete tonnage discharged from dumps at Maiori, Italy from 2 October 1943 to 19 October 1943, incl.: Class I - 527.5 tons, Class III - 238.3 tons, Class V - 1513.2 tons; total tonnage - 2,279 tons. No enemy action.

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20 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clean main port road, filled in bomb crater. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" continued repair work on road damaged by "flash-flood", and policed beach area at Maiori, Italy. No enemy action.

21 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clear and repair main port road. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" left Maiori, Italy approx. 0930A, arrived Naples, Italy approx. 1130A; distance traveled by motor convoy approx. 37 miles. Set up bivouac area. First enemy air attack since arrival of Battalion in Naples occurred this date at approx. 1830A. Shattered windows throughout Battalion area, bombs dropped in vicinity of Battalion area. During this attack Pvt. Haner, Co. "E" and Pvt. Muschler, Co. "D", slightly wounded by shrapnel, not hospitalized. The following named officers assigned to this Battalion per SO #139, Hqs. 540th Engineer Regiment, dated 21 October 1943; and assigned to Companies as indicated:

2nd Lt. JOHN M. CAIRNS, JR.,	01112068	Co. "D"
2nd Lt. WALLACE C. BUDNY	01110967	Co. "E"
2nd Lt. ELLIOTT F. DRESSNER	01109905	Co. "F"

22 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clear main port road. Co. "E" cleaning debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" continued to set up bivouac area and motor pool, checked and repaired barbed wire fence around Battalion area. No enemy action.

23 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned and repaired main port road. Co. "E" continued to remove debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" improved bivouac area. Enemy air attack approx. 1830A, bombs dropped in the vicinity of Company "E" bivouac, T/5 Chatman slightly wounded, not hospitalized.

24 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaned and repaired main port road. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" care and cleaning of equipment and improving bivouac area. Regimental parade 1600A this date. T/5 Arvin, Co. "E", awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, 1st Lt. Wagner, S/Sgt Nuzzi, Sgt. Davison, Sgt McMillion, Co. "E", awarded the Soldier's Medal. 1st Lt. Clifford, Pvt lcl Festa, Pvt Campbell, Co. "D", awarded the Purple Heart. Pvt McLaughlin, Co. "E", awarded the Purple Heart. No enemy action.

25 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" cleaning and repairing main port road. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" improving bivouac area, and organizing heavy rescue squad. Co. "F" entered Gas Chamber 1300A this date. Co. "E" entered Gas Chamber at 1500A this date. No enemy action.

26 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clean and repair main port road. Entered Gas Chamber 0700A this date. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" training schedule. No enemy action.

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27 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clear and repair main port road. Co. "E" clearing debris and buildings where necessary between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" training schedule. No enemy action.

28 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D" and "E", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clean and repair main port road, tarred 100 sq. ft. of main port road. Co. "E" building roads between berths 27 and 28. Co. "F" training schedule. No enemy action.

29 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D", "E", & "F", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" improving berth 43, pier "F". Cleaned out building at berth 43 and berth 39. Co. "E" clearing and repairing pier "G". Co. "F" cleaning and improving area extending from pier "E" to beyond pier "C". Co. "D" also dismantled crane at pier 39. No enemy action.

30 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D", "E", and "F", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clean out buildings at berths 39, 42, and 43. Grading roads on berths 42 and 43. Completed cutting and dismantling of crane at berth 39. Co. "E" clearing and repairing pier "G". Co. "F" cleaning and improving area extending from pier "E" to beyond pier "F". No enemy action.

31 October 1943: Naples, Italy. Co's "D", "E", and "F", Port Di Napoli. Co. "D" continued to clean buildings at berths 39, 42, and 43. Co. "E" clearing and improving pier "G". Co. "F" cleaning and improving Port area extending from pier "E" to pier "G". No enemy action.

Casualties sustained by Battalion during month of October 1943:

Non-battle Casualties.....3

Battle Casualties.....0

Enemy actions encountered during month of October 1943:

Air Raids.....2

Battalion strength as of 1 October 1943:

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Enlisted Men</u>	
Hq. Det.	3	Hq. Det.	8
Co. "D"	4	Co. "D"	203
Co. "E"	4	Co. "E"	204
Co. "F"	4	Co. "F"	204
Med. Det.	2	Med. Det.	15
	<u>17</u>		<u>634</u> Total present and absent

Battalion strength as of 31 October 1943:

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Enlisted Men</u>	
Hq. Det.	3	Hq. Det.	8
Co. "D"	5	Co. "D"	202
Co. "E"	5	Co. "E"	204
Co. "F"	5	Co. "F"	200
Med. Det.	2	Med. Det.	15
	<u>20</u>		<u>629</u> Total present and absent

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Complete unloading statistics: Red Beach North #1 from 1 October 1 1943  
to 2 October 1943, incl.-

Class I.....	76.5 tons
Class II & IV.....	118.5 tons
Class III.....	63.0 tons
Class V.....	<u>327.5 tons</u>
	585.5 tons

Complete unloading statistics: Maiori Beach, Italy - 1 October 1943.

Class I.....	48.3 tons
Class III.....	22.2 tons
Class V.....	<u>18.4 tons</u>
	88.9 tons

Complete tonnage discharged from dumps at Maiori, Italy from 2 October 1943  
to 19 October 1943, incl.-

Class I.....	527.5 tons
Class III.....	238.3 tons
Class V.....	<u>1513.2 tons</u>
	2279.0 tons

*C. S. Monnier*  
C. S. MONNIER  
Major, C.E.,  
Commanding.