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U.S. ARMY: UNIT RECORDS,  
Tenth Tank Battalion, 1943-1945

1,560 pages (approximate)  
Boxes 162-164b

On September 20, 1943, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Battalion of the 34<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment was re-designated as the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion and attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. The Battalion spent the remainder of that year training in the United States at Pine Camp, New York, being transferred to Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania, on December 8. Arriving in England on February 24, 1944, the next five months were spent training and outfitting in preparation for combat action in France. The Battalion arrived in France on July 27 and became a part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army on August 1. Through August and September the Battalion participated in the advance through France and attacked the Siegfried Line on the Our River. These months saw the first serious casualties inflicted on the Battalion. Through October the Battalion was pulled back for rest and reinforcements in Moderscheid. For November and December the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion was attached to the First Army, V Corps, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, for the purpose of advancing through the Hurtgen Forest near Kleinbau. During the German counteroffensive, the Battalion took up defensive positions around Rotgen and Eupen but saw little action, finally being returned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division on December 24. The Battalion participated in the advance through Germany during the first months of 1945, then was placed on occupation duty through the summer months. On August 19, the first orders for movement back to the United States were received. The majority of the Battalion reached port in Boston on October 8, 1945.

The records of the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion cover the period from September 1943 to October 1945. There is extensive and consistent documentation of operations during the latter half of 1944 and the first half of 1945, which is when most of the combat for the Battalion took place. Periodic reports, overlays, maps, casualty lists, and daily journal records give a detailed history of this unit's activities in Europe. The material has been arranged into six subseries according to the classification scheme of the Departmental Records Branch.

The first folder contains a detailed monthly history of the Battalion from its inception to the end of 1944. This history describes each engagement and movement, as well as lists for soldiers killed, wounded, and missing in action for each month. The S-1 file consists of a monthly and daily journal from August 1944 to May 1945. Similarly, the S-2 file contains journals from August 1944 to August 1945, as well as Intelligence summaries, after action reports, and a surrender announcement for May 1945. The largest amount of information for the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion is located in the S-3 file. This file holds journals from August 1944 to October 1945, detailing every operation and campaign the Battalion took part in during this time. Complete with after action reports and attached overlays, the S-3 file gives both a visual and textual account of the Battalion's activities. Printed maps are also included in separate folders. The S-4

file contains journals and logistical reports from August 1944 to July 1945. The Staff Section contains a detailed journal kept by the Battalion from August 1944 to May 1945, referred to as a Consolidated Vehicle Record, which records the quantity and type of vehicles passing through Battalion Maintenance. Most of the information for the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion can be found in the S-2 and S-3 files, along with both the attached and independent overlays.

## CHRONOLOGY

September 20, 1943	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tank Battalion, 34 <sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment is re-designated the 10 <sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion and assigned to the 5 <sup>th</sup> Armored Division.
September-December 1943	The Battalion trains in the United States
February 24, 1944	The Battalion arrives by ship in England
February-July 1944	The Battalion spends its time training for deployment in France
July 27, 1944	Arrival of the Battalion in France
August-September 1944	Assigned to the Third Army, the Battalion participates in campaign through France, reaching the Siegfried Line
October 1944	The Battalion is rested and re-outfitted in Moderscheid
November-December 1944	Attached to First Army, the Battalion moves through the Hurtgen Forest
December 1944	The Battalion takes up defensive positions near Rotgen and Eupen in reaction to the German counteroffensive
December 24, 1944	The Battalion is re-assigned to the 5 <sup>th</sup> Armored Division
January-April 1945	The Battalion participates in the campaigns through Germany
May-October 1945	The Battalion is placed on occupation duty in Germany
October 8, 1945	The Battalion reaches port in Boston and is deactivated

## DESCRIPTION OF SUBSERIES

<u>Box Nos.</u>	<u>Subseries</u>
162	<p>I. GENERAL HISTORICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORTS. 1943-1944. 1 folder.</p> <p>A monthly history of the Battalion, including personnel killed, wounded, and missing in action. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
162	<p>II. S-1 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 5 folders.</p> <p>S-1 Personnel reports and journals, detailing unit strength. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
162	<p>III. S-2 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 6 folders.</p> <p>Intelligence summaries and journals concerning enemy activity and order of battle, psychological operations, and counter-intelligence. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
163- 164a	<p>IV. S-3 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 17 folders.</p> <p>Daily journals covering the operations and movements of the Battalion; Periodic Reports; After action reports; Field Orders; maps and overlays. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
164b	<p>V. S-4 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 2 folders.</p> <p>Route Delivery Lists; Periodic Reports; Daily logistics journal. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
164b	<p>VI. STAFF SECTION REPORTS. 1944-1945. 4 folders.</p> <p>Field Orders; Periodic Reports; Consolidated Vehicle Record for Battalion Maintenance. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
162	<p>SUBSERIES I: GENERAL HISTORICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORTS</p> <p>Monthly unit history, casualty list by month September 1943-December 1944</p> <p>SUBSERIES II: S-1 REPORTS</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports October- November 1944</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports December 1944- January 1945</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports April- May 1945</p> <p>S-1 Monthly Journal, Periodic Journal August 1944- May 1945</p> <p>Awards, Movement Orders August- November 1944, 19 August 1945</p> <p>SUBSERIES III: S-2 REPORTS</p> <p>S-2 After Action Reports, Journal August- September 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal August- September 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal October- November 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal December 1944- January 1945</p> <p>S-2 Journal February, April 1945</p> <p>S-2 Journal May- August 1945</p>
163	<p>SUBSERIES IV: S-3 REPORTS</p> <p>S-3 After Action Reports August- December 1944</p> <p>S-3 After Action Reports 1945</p> <p>S-3 Periodic Reports November 1944 (1)</p> <p>S-3 Periodic Reports November 1944 (2)</p>

S-3 Periodic Reports November 1944- September 1945

S-3 Journal August- November 1944

S-3 Journal December 1944

S-3 Journal January- April 1945

S-3 Journal April- October 1945

Overlays September 1944- September 1945

Overlays Not dated, c. 1944- 1945

164a Maps, France and Belgium

Maps, Germany

Maps, Germany and Central Europe

Unaltered maps, Europe

Field Orders November 1944- April 1945

Frag Orders November 1944- May 1945

Letters of Instruction, Orders, Memoranda February- August 1945

164b SUBSERIES V: S-4 REPORTS

Route Delivery List August- November 1944, May 1945

S-4 Journal December 1944- July 1945

SUBSERIES VI: STAFF SECTION REPORTS

Field Orders, Periodic Reports August- November 1944

Consolidated Vehicle Record November- December 1944

Consolidated Vehicle Record January- February 1945

Consolidated Vehicle Record April- May 1945