

HEADQUARTERS  
505TH ENGINEER LIGHT PONTON COMPANY.  
A.P.O. 513, U.S.ARMY

COMPANY HISTORY - MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1944

a. Original Unit:-

- (1) Designation - 505th Engineer Light Ponton Company.
- (2) Date of Organization - 15 May 1942.
- (3) Place of Organization - Camp Gordon, Georgia.
- (4) Authority for Organization - General Order No. 15, Hq. Eastern Defense Command and First Army, dated 15 May 1942.
- (5) Sources from which original personnel were obtained.

(a) Officers

1. Company Commander - Captain Archibold E. Sutton, O-304319, C.E. by Transfer from the Engr. Repl. Training Center, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.
2. Executive Officer - 1st Lt. Gerald L. Bilbro, C.E. by Transfer from the 75th Engr. L. Pon. Co., Cp Beauregarde, La.
3. Platoon Commanders and Motor Officer - By assignment from the Fourth Engr. Officer Candidate School, Ft. Belvoir, Va. as follows:

Francis F. Carnes, 2nd Lt., C.E. O-1100038  
James J. Carnes, Jr. 2nd Lt. C.E. O-1100039  
Burrel D. Carney, Jr. 2nd Lt. C.E. O-1100041  
Francis M. Carson, 2nd Lt. C.E. - O-1100043

(b) Enlisted Men.

1. Enlisted Cadre of twelve (12) N.C.O.'s by transfer from the 75th Engr. L. Pon. Co. Cp Beauregarde, La. in May 1942 as follows:

First Sergeant - Morton Kamm - 6878116  
Master Sergeant - George Underwood -  
Mess Sergeant - S/Sgt. John W. Fritchett - 6966756  
Supply Sergeant - S/Sgt. William Blankenship -  
Motor Sergeant - S/Sgt. Kenneth F. Whitehead - 33035175  
Platoon Sergeant - S/Sgt. Carlton L. Allen - 6994429  
Platoon Sergeant - S/Sgt. Thomas L. Beckham - 6971589  
Platoon Sergeant - Sgt. Earl Northrup - 32033188  
Mechanic - Cpl. Ival Cooper - 32035482  
1st Cook - Pvt. Spec 3rd Cl - Stanislaus J. Andersiak - R-2340718  
1st Cook - Pvt. Spec 4th Cl - J. B. Walker - 7088340  
Co. Clerk - Cpl. Robert M. Mayo - 7086178

2. Two (2) Mechanics by assignment from the Engineer Heavy Equipment School, Fort Belvoir, Va. on 15 May 1942, as follows:

Pvt. Balmer E. Sinegar - 33118318  
Pvt. Harold A. Geese - 38047063

3. Enlisted Fillers.

The First group of Enlisted Fillers consisting of eleven (11) Selective service Privates were received on 29 Sept. 1942 by transfer from Co. "D" of the 82nd Ord. Bn., Cp Gordon, Ga. per SO 54, 3rd Hq. & Hq Det. Sp. Troops, 2nd Army, dated 29 Sept. 1942. The second, and principal group of Enlisted Fillers, consisting of 210 Selective Service Privates, were received by transfer from the 1222nd Recep. Cen., Cp Upton, N.Y. on 5 Dec. 1942, per par. 1, SO 332 Hq 1222nd Recep. Cen, Cp Upton, N.Y., dtd 3 Dec. 1942.

b. Changes in Organization during Period.  
Company assigned to First United States Army and attached to 1105th Engr. C. Group during entire period.

c. Strength: - Commissioned and Enlisted.

(1) Officer Strength at beginning of period. - 4

Francis M. Carson, Capt. C.E. O-1100043 Company Commander  
Gilbert F. Moore, 1st Lt. C.E. O-446357 Executive Officer  
Howard D. May, 1st Lt. C.E. O-1110097 Platoon Commander  
John A. McDonald, 1st Lt. C.E. O-1115692 Platoon Commander

2nd Lt. Randal Holden, O-1114169, Assigned this organization from Headquarters Third Repl. Depot and joined 1100 hours 13 Sept. 1944.

(2) Enlisted Strength.

a. Beginning of Period: - Present 190 - Absent - 2.

b. Increase during Period - 13.

Franklin, Leroy M. - Pvt. 37725787  
Porteous, Norman W. - Pvt. - 31327129  
Johnson, Robert C. - Pvt. - 39413320

Above Three E.M. assigned to this organization from Hq. Third Reinf. Depot, and reported for duty 1700 hours 22 Sept. 1944.

Marko, Joseph J. - T/5 - 33149010  
Sansone, Joseph D. - Pvt. - 36585707

Above two E.M. assigned this organization from Third Reinf. Depot and reported for duty 1600 hours 23 Sept. 1944.

Kinsella, Mathew P. - Pvt. 32641117  
Kastan, Leon Pvt. 31076081  
Bilik, Mike, Jr. Pvt. 33033881  
Comes Flying, Elmer G Pvt. 37475834  
Harrison, William H. Pfc. 36592014  
Czelusniak, Sigmund Pvt. 20517515  
Candelora, Patrick J. Pvt. 31327121  
Southard, Jack E. Pvt. 35580608

Above Eight E.M. assigned to this organization from Third Reinf. Depot, and arrived for duty 29 Sept. 1944.

c. Decrease during Period. - 3

Cohen, Milton - Pvt. 32644724  
Iacovetti, Carlo J. - Pvt. 32644959

Above Two E.M. lost to hospital as non-battle casualties on 9 Sept. 1944

Beam, Andy L. - Pvt. 38278058

Above E.M. lost to hosp. as non-battle casualty on 17 Sept. 1944.

d. Net Gain During Period - 10

Enlisted Strength at End of Period - Present 201 - Absent - 1.

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## d. Stations:

- (1) At beginning of period Company was stationed at LaMadeline, France, Q-965075.
- (2) On 2 Sept. Co. headquarters moved by motor convoy to Trilport, France, S-534498.
- (3) On 5 Sept. the Co. moved to La Capelle, France.
- (4) On 14 Sept. the Co. moved to Vierzet Barse, Belgium, remaining there through the end of the period.

## e. Marches:

All travel between station locations (see par. d above) was accomplished by infiltration type motor marches. The Company made no marches as a complete unit during the period.

OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

On the morning of the 1st of Sept. vehicles of the two Bridge Platoons returned from the town of Meulan, on the Seine River north of Paris, where equipment had been delivered for a floating bailey bridge which was constructed by the 234th Engr. C. Bn. The Light Equipage Platoon was engaged in transporting Engineer Supplies from the Army Engineer Dump at Alencon to the new dump at Senonches. Re-supply of Bailey Equipment necessitated a trip to Caen, France where replacement bridge was obtained from a British Dump. The total trip took five days.

On 2nd Sept. while the line platoons were engaged in the above operations, Company headquarters moved from La Madeline, through Paris to the vicinity of Trilport, just East of Meaux.

On the 4th of Sept. after delivering a load of Engineer Equipment to the new location of the Army Depot at Trilport, the Light Equipage Platoon returned to the Company's previous location near La Madeline, to pick up the platoon basic equipment.

On 5th Sept. a 336 foot Infantry Footbridge was delivered to the 1110th Engr. C. Group near Compiègne. No information regarding the construction or use of this bridge is known, since the equipment was simply unloaded on the ground at a spot designated by the Group requesting the equipment.

Company headquarters moved again on 6 Sept. 1944 to the vicinity of Buironfosse, near LaCapelle, France. The company location was selected for its proximity to the new location of the Army Engineer Dump at La Capelle.

The two bridge platoons completed clearing out a small bridge dump near Laon, and moving the equipment forward to the main Army Depot at La Capelle. Upon completion of this job on 9th Sept. the company, completely assembled, remained idle until the 11th Sept., when the bridge platoons were loaded with Floating Bailey Bridge and transported it to the new location of the Army Engineer Depot at Modave, Belgium.

Company headquarters and the Light Equipage Platoon moved on 14th Sept. to Vierzet-Barse, Belgium, near the new location of the Army Engineer Depot at Modave. The two Bridge Platoons continued to bring forward Engineer Equipment to the Army Depot at Modave, until 20 Sept. when they were returned to the Company loaded with Floating Bailey Bridge, and were held there in readiness.

No further operations were engaged in for the remainder of the period.

*Francis M. Carson*  
FRANCIS M. CARSON,  
Capt. 505th Engr. L. Pon. Co.  
Commanding.

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By DE NARA Date 8-21-6