

HEADQUARTERS  
227<sup>TH</sup> FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
A.P.O. #29, NEW YORK

10 January 1944

SUBJECT: Historical Record, 227<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, for the Calendar Year 1943

TO : The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D.C. (Thru Channels)

1. In compliance with the provisions of Par. 11b, AR 345-105, dated 18 Nov 1929, the following history of the 227<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion is submitted:

- a. Original Unit

- (1) Designation: 227<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion
- (2) Date of Organization: 12 March 1942
- (3) Place of Organization: Fort George G. Meade, Maryland
- (4) Authority for Organization: General Orders 13, Headquarters 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, dated 11 March 1942 (Auth: WD Ltr AG 320.2, 25 February 1942, Subject: Reorganization of the 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 28 February 1942).
- (5) Sources from which Personnel Obtained: Personnel of this battalion were obtained by transfer from 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 176<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment (Redesignated 176 Field Artillery Battalion) upon organization, and later by replacements from the various replacement training centers.

- b. Changes in Organization: This battalion was reorganized on 1 October 1943 under Tables of Organization 6-35, dated 15 July 1943. This Tables of Organization reduced the authorized enlisted strength from 593 to 500, the Officer and Warrant Officer strength remaining unchanged.

At the outstart of the calendar year Lt. Colonel Matthew C. Fenton, Jr. was in command of this battalion; however, in accordance with War Department policy on Return of Officers to the United States, as cited in Letter, Hq., ETOUSA, dated 27 April 1943, Lt Colonel Fenton was relieved of command and departed this station en route to the United States on 31 July 1943, Lt. Colonel Neal W. Harper (then Major) assumed command of this battalion, and maintains this command at present.

- (1) During this calendar year the following changes in grades allotted by Tables of Organization were made:

- (a) Battalion and Battery Mail Orderlies were authorized rating of Technician 5<sup>th</sup> Grade under the provisions of War Department Circular 192, dated 27 August 1943.

- c. Strength, commissioned and enlisted

- (1) At the beginning of period: 31 Off. 1 W.O. 438 E.M.
- (2) Net increase or decrease each month:

| Month    | Total Strength |      |      | Net Strength |      |      | Net Decrease |      |       |
|----------|----------------|------|------|--------------|------|------|--------------|------|-------|
|          | Off.           | W.O. | E.M. | Off.         | W.O. | E.M. | Off.         | W.O. | E. M. |
| January  | 29             | 2    | 526  | 0            | 1    | 88   | 2            | 0    | 0     |
| February | 31             | 2    | 505  | 2            | 0    | 0    | 0            | 0    | 21    |
| March    | 32             | 2    | 499  | 1            | 0    | 0    | 0            | 0    | 6     |
| April    | 29             | 2    | 488  | 0            | 0    | 0    | 3            | 0    | 11    |
| May      | 29             | 2    | 477  | 0            | 0    | 0    | 0            | 0    | 11    |
| June     | 31             | 2    | 548  | 2            | 0    | 71   | 0            | 0    | 0     |
| July     | 28             | 2    | 551  | 0            | 0    | 3    | 3            | 0    | 0     |

|           |    |   |     |   |   |    |   |   |    |
|-----------|----|---|-----|---|---|----|---|---|----|
| August    | 27 | 2 | 590 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 1 | 0 | 0  |
| September | 29 | 2 | 579 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| October   | 29 | 2 | 562 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| November  | 34 | 1 | 571 | 5 | 0 | 9  | 0 | 1 | 0  |
| December  | 37 | 1 | 609 | 3 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 0  |

d. Stations of unit or parts thereof:

(1) At the beginning of the calendar year 1943 this organization was temporarily stationed at the Royal Artillery Practice Camp No 2, Okehampton, Devon, England, participating in service practice in preparation for 29<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery Firing Tests.

(a) Return to home station from Okehampton, Devon to Tidworth Barracks, Wiltshire

Departed Okehampton, Devon by truck, 040830 January 1943; arrived Tidworth Barracks, Wilts 041655 January 1943. Distance traveled – 130 miles. Roads – Fair; Weather – Rain and Snow.

(2) (a) Temporary change of station from Tidworth Barracks, Wilts to RAPC No. 2, Okehampton, Devon to participate in the 29<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery Firing Tests.

Departed Tidworth Barracks, Wilts 180800 January 1943 by truck; arrived RAPC No. 2, Okehampton, Devon 181650 January 1943. Distance traveled 130 miles. Roads –Fair; Weather –Rainy.

(b) Return to home station from Okehampton, Devon to Tidworth Barracks, Wilts.

Departed Okehampton, Devon by truck 010800 February 1943; arrived Tidworth Barracks, Wilts 011645 February 1943. Distance traveled – 130 miles. Roads – Fair; Weather –Rainy.

(3) (a) Temporary change of station from Tidworth Barracks, Wilts to Studland Range, Dorset to participate in 29<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery Field Exercises: Departed Tidworth Barracks, Wilts, by truck 071030 April 1943; arrived Studland Range, Dorset 071745 April 1943. Distance traveled 66 miles. Roads – Good; Weather –Fair.

(b) Return to home station from Studland Range, Dorset to Tidworth Barracks, Wilts.

Departed Studland Range, Dorset 090930 April 1943 by truck; arrived Tidworth Barracks, Wilts, 091700 April 1943. Distance traveled – 66 miles. Roads –Good; Weather – Fair

(4) Permanent change of station from Tidworth Barracks, Wilts, to Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon. Participated in 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Field Exercises en route.

(a) Departed Tidworth Barracks, Wilts 250900 May 1943 by truck; arrived Wylie Camp Grounds, Wilts 251115 May 1943. Distance traveled -24 miles. Roads –Good; Weather –Fair.

(b) Departed Wylie Camp Grounds, Wilts, 260800 May 1943 by truck; arrived Honiton, Devon 261300 May 1943. Distance traveled – 44 miles. Roads – Fair; Weather – Rainy.

(c) Departed Honiton, Devon 270600 May 1943 by truck; arrived RAPC No. 2, Okehampton, Devon 270920 May

1943. Distance traveled – 58 miles. Roads – Fair;  
Weather – Rainy.

- (d) Departed RAPC No. 2, Okehampton, Devon 301700 May 1943 by truck; arrived Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon 301730 May 1943. Distance traveled – 2 ½ miles. Roads – Good; Weather –Fair.

(5) (a) Temporary change of station from Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon to Lynton, Devon to participate in 29<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery Service Practice.

Departed Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon by truck 181000 November 1943; arrived Lynton, Devon 181630 November 1943. Distance traveled -47 miles. Roads –Good; Weather –Fair.

(b) Return to home station from Lynton, Devon to Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon.

Departed Lynton, Devon 222300 November 1943; arrived Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon 23 0435 November 1943. Distance traveled 48 miles. Roads- Good; Weather –Fair.

(6)(a) Temporary change of station from Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon to U.S. Assault Training Center, Braunton, Devon to undergo course in assault training.

Departed Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon 290800 November 1943 by truck; arrived U.S. Assault Training Center, Braunton, Devon 291245 November 1943. Distance traveled – 42 miles. Roads – Good; Weather – Fair.

(b) Return to home station from U.S. Assault Training Center, Braunton, Devon to Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon.

Departed Braunton, Devon 041215 December 1943 by truck; arrived Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon 041630 December 1943. Distance traveled -42 miles. Roads –Good; Weather –Fair.

(7) This Battalion participated in Exercise “Duck,” which was conducted by V Corps, ETOUSA; however, Battery “A” was the only unit to be processed, lifted and to actually participate in the assault. Battery “A,” 227<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion departed Showground Camp, Okehampton, Devon, 281930 December 1943 by truck; arrived Falmouth, Cornwall 290930 December 1943. Distance traveled – 89 miles. Roads – Good; Weather – Fair.

This unit embarked on LST 400, 311230 December 1943 and was at anchor in Falmouth Harbor when the calendar year 1943 expired.

- e. Marches: See Paragraph 1 d.
- f. Campaigns: NONE
- g. Battles: NONE
- h. Commanding Officers in important engagements: NONE
- i. Losses in action: NONE
- j. Former or present members who have distinguished themselves in action: NONE
- k. Photographs of personnel, important scenes or events: None available.

l. This Battalion constructed a Battle Indoctrination Course at Royal Artillery

Practice Camp No. 2, Okehampton, Devon which was used by the 29<sup>th</sup> Division Artillery as a whole. Several demonstrations were conducted for notables of both the British and American Armed Forces.

(signed-Neal W. Harper)

NEAL W. HARPER  
Lt. Colonel, F.A.  
Commanding