



**1023<sup>rd</sup> Signal Service Group**



**34<sup>th</sup> Service Group**

**Air Force Service Command**

**Army Air Force**

**Unit Records**

RECEIVED THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL SECTION		FEB-1941 AUG-1943	100 516-1023-41 (100)
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*Hi 10236 Div. 1 (E=)*  
*Jan 1941 - Aug 1943*

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12 FEB 1941

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY,  
SERVICE GROUP, APO 528.

CHRONOLOGICAL REPORT

- November 2, 1942 - First echelon embarked for overseas duty.
- November 19, 1942 - First echelon debarked at Casablanca, French Morocco, North Africa.
- December 1, 1942 - First echelon moved to Craw Field, Fort Lyautey, French Morocco. Established and maintained radio, teletype, and telephone communications; aircraft radio repair, and radio control tower. Detachment sent to Fes, French Morocco, to establish and maintain communications.
- December 12, 1942 - Second echelon embarked for overseas duty.
- December 24, 1942 - Second echelon debarked at Casablanca, French Morocco, North Africa.
- December 25, 1942 - Second echelon joined first echelon at Craw Field, Fort Lyautey, French Morocco. During month of January, 1943, detachments sent to Taza and Guercif, French Morocco, to maintain signal communications.
- March 10, 1943 - Entrained at Fort Lyautey for Telergma, Algeria.
- March 18, 1943 - Arrived at Telergma, Algeria; unloaded equipment; no operations.
- March 26, 1943 - Left Telergma by truck convoy for Thelepte, Tunisia. Established and maintained telephone, teletype, and radio communications for 34th Service Group and 47th Bomb Group.
- April 16, 1943 - Left Thelepte by truck convoy for Souk El Arba, Tunisia. Established and maintained telephone, teletype, and radio communications for 34th Service Group, 47th Bomb Group, and 321st Bomb Group. Established and maintained inter-communications with British First Army Rear.
- June 1, 1943 - Left Souk El Arba by truck convoy for Hamman Plage, Tunisia. Established and maintained telephone, teletype, and radio communications for 34th Service Group. Furnished telephone, teletype, and radio detachments to 1073rd Signal Company in conjunction with operations for the 3rd ASAC, Tunis; established and maintained radio station for 77th Service Squadron and 321st Fighter Group, Dry Lake, Bon Peninsula; furnished radio detachment to 47th Bomb Group, Grombalia; furnished telephone detachment to 12th Bomb Group, Sousse Area; and furnished telephone detachment to Q Movements, Sousse Area.
- August 4, 1943 - Left Hamman Plage by truck convoy for bivouac area approximately 5 miles northeast of Korb, Tunisia. Established and maintained telephone and radio communications for 34th Service Group. Continued to maintain radio station at Dry Lake. Furnished telephone detachment to 105 2nd Signal Company in conjunction with operations for the 2nd ASAC, Tunis.

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COMPANY HISTORY

This Company was activated on February 12, 1941, at Hamilton Field, California, under the command of Lt. Mehner. To start the Company, we had 35 enlisted men and one officer. We were then recognized as the 23rd Signal Platoon.

We left Hamilton Field, California, for our new station at Everett, Washington. Upon arrival there we had G. I. trucks there to pick us up and take us to the new field that was located about 5 miles south of Everett. It was raining that day, and when we arrived at the field there was one row of tents; we looked at the place, with much disgust, and wished that we were back in California. Well--we weren't getting any work done by looking, so we all jumped in and went to work unloading trucks, and putting up tents. It was still raining and after we got the tents up we were issued hip boots. The mud was getting worse, and it kept on raining without letting up at all. We were authorized 7 tents, and just after getting them up and our equipment issued, Capt. Knighty came around telling us to give the rest a hand with their stuff. We put up more tents--row after row. There was a regular city built over night.

The first name of our city was Everett Air Base. Col. Strickland was the base C. O. Lt. Mehner was transferred and Lt. Calkins took command of our company.

We later watched our barracks go up, and one fine day in March, 1941, we were given orders to move. Happily we all went to work cleaning up our new barracks, and a jovial company we were. After being there for about a month, the name of our station was changed. Our new designation was 23rd Signal Platoon, Paine Field, Everett, Washington.

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More men were coming into the company and we were getting up to strength according to our T/O. We did a lot of work, and we were looked upon as the best company at Paine Field. We put in all the installations of communications on that field.

There was a sad day in our life in late November of 1941. An order came through that we would have to transfer 14 men out of our company to a company that was going overseas. The men were put on orders, ready to leave, and after they had gone the days seemed to drag. We still carried out our duties as usual and then another disastrous day came when war was declared. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The troops that were transferred from our company previously were 500 miles out at sea, and all were returned to the United States. They never came back to our company, but we saw them quite often. They were stationed at Seattle, Washington.

Everything was progressing as usual in war time, and we got an order in May, 1942, to send 28 men to radio school in Chicago. They spent 3 months going to school there, and when they returned to the company on August 15, 1942, we were on alert to go overseas.

On July 5, 1942, 15 enlisted men left on the Great Northern Railway from Everett for Vancouver Barracks, Washington, and arrived that same evening. These men attended the Oregon Institute of Technology (Multnomah College) in Portland, Oregon; 9 men taking radio operations, and 6 men taking radio theory and mechanics. Around September 15, 1942, orders came by radiogram for these men to return to Paine Field, cutting their course of study short by approximately three weeks.

In the meantime (Around August 1st) all companies of the 34th Service Group had moved to a bivouac area, Silver Lake, approximately 3 miles from Paine Field proper.

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During the months of September and October, soldiers were constantly being transferred in and out of our company, getting the company in readiness for the overseas move. Also, in August, the name of our company was changed to 23rd Signal Company Service Group.

On October 5, 1942, T/Sgt. John R. Swinney of our company received his commission as Warrant Officer (jg). On October 7, 1942, 2nd Lt. Roger B. Tyler, Jr., reported to the 23rd Signal Company Service Group for duty, being transferred from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

From September 1 we were working night and day packing, crating, and painting boxes for our equipment. On October 15, 1942, our first echelon left for an unknown destination. The first echelon consisted of 35 enlisted men, 1st Lt. Wesley E. Calkins, and Warrant Officer John R. Swinney. We entrained at 2400 hours, October 15, at Everett, Washington. We spent 4 days on the train, and passed through many of the boys' home towns, but none could get off. We arrived at Fort Dix, New Jersey, on October 19, 1942, and detrained at 0930 hours. We spent the rest of the month at Fort Dix training for overseas duty.

The first echelon of the 23rd Signal Company boarded the troop transport USS John Erickson at Staten Island, New York, at 1500 hours on the afternoon of November 1, 1942. The first echelon consisted of the above-named officers, Rex F. Beach, 1st Sgt., and 34 enlisted men. The 23rd Signal Company was a part of the 34th Service Group, which group was formed at Paine Field, Everett, Washington, in September, 1942. The first echelon of the 34th Service Group consisted of approximately one half of each company in the group.

The convoy was a large one of some 50 vessels including several troop transports, but the bulk of the convoy was made up of cargo boats and oil tankers, plus a few odd destroyers and one small battleship. Quarters aboard the Erickson were quite crowded, and the food was not the best. Fortunately,

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an abundance of candy, crackers, and soda pop was carried by the ship's P.X. Complaints were prevalent as were rumors. Since no one knew definitely where the convoy was headed, every man on board became his own "good authority" on the subject of the Port of Debarkation. The first definite statement of the destination was given by Lt. Col. Anton Yotz, then C.O. of the group. That was the first news of the invasion of North Africa by the American troops.

On the 16th day of November, 1942, the convoy threaded its way into the harbor of Casablanca, French Morocco, past sunken vessels of every description. The 25rd Signal Company debarked at 1500 hours, 17 days almost to the hour since climbing aboard. Each man carried one barracks bag, his full field pack, with musette bag strapped on, and his gun. The skies were cloudy and threatened rain. Arrangements were made for transporting the bags to Cazes Airport by truck, but since transportation was so scarce, the personnel were scheduled to march. About 1600 hours "the rains came;" Africa gave those soldiers a rather damp welcome. Thoroughly drenched, the 54th Service Group went into marching formation and began the 6-mile jaunt to the airdrome. The march was a nightmare. Those six miles seemed more like sixty. The rain was continuous and heavy. Finally, after several wrong turns and frequent breaks for rest, the weary contingent arrived at what appeared to be an airdrome.

The 54th Service Group in its entirety (approximately 500 men) was quartered in a large hangar. The troops cleared the floor, unrolled blankets on the cold, damp concrete and slept. For a week the group remained at Cazes not doing much of anything. Then orders came for transfer to Craw Field, Port Lyautey, about 80 miles north of Casablanca.

On December 1st the group boarded a French train of air conditioned cattle cars and were off for Port Lyautey. The journey was covered in about 8 hours. Arriving at Craw Field, the company was quartered in a French

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concrete barracks. Part of the group shared a modern concrete and steel hangar with sailors and their PBV's. The field was then designated as an Army and Navy Base. Navy pilots flew their Catalina flying boats on coast patrol, ranging south to the Casablanca harbor and north some 50 miles of Port Lyautey.

The work of the 23rd Signal Company began immediately the next morning after arrival. Lt. Calkins studied the layout, and work began at once, stringing telephone lines, setting up radio station, message center, and headquarters. In addition to the handling of communications for the army; telephone, radio, and later teletype, the company was given the responsibility of handling the control tower. E/Sgt. Barnett was given a room where he set up a radio repair shop, and the repair section was very soon at work repairing aircraft receivers and transmitters. The 3 months spent at Crow Field were busy ones. Every man of the 35 in the company had a job which kept him occupied for at least 8 hours of the day and often more. During that period a communications detachment was sent to Fes, and later, after the second echelon of the company arrived, detachments were sent to Taza and Guercif (all three stations in French Morocco) to handle radio, telephone and teletype communications.

After the first echelon departed from Silver Lake on October 15, the second echelon carried on a small amount of communications, and underwent a physical and combat training course. The second echelon consisted of 35 enlisted men, with 2nd Lt. Roger B. Tyler, Jr., in command, and T/Sgt. Lawrence Feriera as Acting 1st Sgt.

The evening of November 16, 1942, the second and last echelon of the 23rd Signal Company, and the second echelon of the 34th Service Group, prepared to leave Silver Lake. This group of troops boarded the train in Everett, Washington, about 0100 hours November 17, and the train left the station at approximately 0500 hours that day. The second echelon of the 34th Service Group

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consisted of two passenger trains, and one freight train, under the command of Captain T. O. Garringer (who was promoted to the rank of Major at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey). The second echelon spent the first Thanksgiving, November 19, on board the train going through the state of Nebraska, celebrating it with a turkey dinner and all the trimmings. Many of the troops were permitted to wire ahead and have their families meet them at the various stations en route.

This echelon arrived at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, at approximately 1500 hours Sunday, November 22, 1942. The different companies of the echelon were assigned to various barracks and areas at the camp. We celebrated the last Thanksgiving, November 26, at Camp Kilmer. During the stay at Kilmer, we went through a physical training program; brought all records and documents up to shape; underwent numerous equipment inspections; and made ready to embark on overseas duty.

On Friday, December 11, this echelon of the 29th Signal Company and other units of the 34th Service Group, entrained at Camp Kilmer, and arrived at the ferry terminal in Bayonne, New Jersey, at about 1200 hours. From there we took a ferry across the harbor to Staten Island. The second echelon loaded on board the USS URUGUAY at approximately 1800 hours, December 11, and pulled anchor to sail around 0700 hours, December 12, 1942. We were continually joining more ships for approximately 24 hours and at last were in a convoy as far as the eye could see. It was said on board that the USS Uruguay was the flagship of all the troop carriers. Our ship was immediately surrounded by other troop carriers, among them according to rumor the USS Paraguay, sister-ship of the Uruguay; the second ring of ships being tankers and cargo vessels, and the last ring of ships was made up of cruisers, destroyers, and among them the US battleship New York. It was stated that the Uruguay was carrying 6000 personnel, composed of officers, army nurses (around 50 nurses), enlisted men, and sailors assigned to shore bases in Africa.

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Life on board ship was none too comfortable, but everyone lived through the ordeal. About the fourth day out at sea, we were given a pamphlet, "Pocket-guide to North Africa," which was the first information we had received as to where we were going. The Ship Stores carried a good supply of candy, light foodstuffs, and tobacco, which was a great help to the troops.

On Thursday, December 24, 1942, we sighted green foothills to the right of us, and were walled in by a line of destroyers on the left of us. The USS Uruguay docked in the harbor of Casablanca about 1600 hours the afternoon of December 24.

The 23rd Signal Company disembarked around 2100 hours that evening, and marched about 4 miles to a bivouac area outside the city. We pitched pup tents and spent the night on the beach. The following morning, which was Christmas, our company of 35 enlisted men and 1 officer, loaded on a French oilburning bus, with all our equipment, and were driven to Craw Field, Port Lyautey, arriving at about 1800 hours, where we joined the first echelon. We were greeted by Lt. Calkins, at which time Lt. Calkins was informed that he had been promoted to the rank of Captain; the news being brought from Camp Kilmer by Lt. Tyler.

The third and last echelon of the 34th Service Group arrived at Port Lyautey in the month of January, 1943.

After the consolidation of our company on December 25, our communications departments were reorganized, operations began running smoother, and the duties of the men became lightened.

In March moving orders came again. The Navy was to take over the entire base at Craw Field, so the Army was on its way.

From the stories told of them in the last war, the "40 and 8's" were quite a romantic vehicle. When the men heard that they were to ride the



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train to Telergma, some 800 miles distance, many of them looked forward to the ride with pleasurable anticipation, but at first sight of those sturdy coaches many a man's illusions were shattered. In due time 50 men were packed into each car and the train started. Credit must be given the men that they did not attempt to push each other out of the moving train in an attempt to get a good night's rest.

Telergma was reached on the 18th of March, after about 5 days traveling. The train was unloaded of men, equipment, and a bivouac area was set up beside the tracks. In a few days the group motor convoy arrived from Port Lyantey. Telergma is located approximately 40 miles southwest of Constantine, in the province of Algeria.

On March 26, 1943, a motor convoy containing our company's men and equipment left Telergma for Thelepte, approximately 100 miles distance. The town of Thelepte is located just a few miles inside the Tunisia boundary, and only about 5 miles from the well-known Kasserine Pass. The 23rd Signal Company bivouaced in pup tents in an orchard one half mile from the airfield. Group communications were set up immediately, in addition to a radio station.

The front line of the Tunisian campaign at that time was approximately 40 miles to the east of Thelepte, and ack ack fire was seen nightly to the southeast of us, around the area of Gafsa. The men of our company experienced their first sight of enemy action around 1230 hours, Monday, April 5th, in the form of a German air raid. Chow was just finished when a plane came streaking in low directly over the mess tent and as it passed, a gleaming cross could be seen on the fuselage and a swastika on the tail. He was gone in a flash flying over to the airfield, and dropping his bombs. About 6 more planes flew directly to the airfield, all of them coming over the mountain from the west, and dropped their bombs. A heavy ack ack barrage was sent up, but apparently no planes were hit. Fox holes had been dug previously, but after that

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air raid the soldiers did a little more work on them.

Friday, April 16th came, and the company was again on the move, along with the 34th Service Group. The first echelon of our Company left Thelepte around 0600 hours, and arrived at Souk El Arba about 1500 hours that day. Souk El Arba at that time was approximately 50 miles west of the front lines, and the airfield was a good target for enemy planes. The town itself had been almost completely demolished. Our company located at first on the west edge of the field, but after the first night there, and also the first air raid, the company moved farther away from the field.

That first evening about 1800 hours the first air raid came. Five of the radiomen were engaged in setting up a station on the field, close to several parked A-20's. A flight of planes appeared high overhead. There was a little speculating as to whether they were friend or foe, offered more or less in a joking manner. The planes came in from a northerly direction, circled the field to the west, and after getting the sun to their back, the planes dived on and bombed the east side of the field. There were 16 planes, each carrying two bombs. A heavy barrage was sent up just as the bombing began, and two enemy planes appeared to be crippled from the ack ack. The enemy (German) hit one A-20 on the field, and a few drums of aircraft fuel.

Immediately after someone remarked, "He dropped something!", everyone knew what had been dropped, and all, in one grand rush, hit a ditch alongside the highway. The noise of the exploding bombs, which dropped about one-quarter mile away, and the roar and crack of the ack ack guns was extremely loud.

The following evening, Saturday, April 17th, the second echelon arrived about 2000 hours at our new bivouac area. They had not been there more than an hour when a highly concentrated ack ack barrage was sent up to drive enemy planes away from the airfield at Souk El Arba. Planes were bombing a field

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north of us, and the barrage was sent up to drive them away from our field. The barrage covered an area of approximately 2 miles by 6 miles. No enemy planes got through the barrage to our field. During the company's stay at Souk El Arba, we had numerous air raid alarms, but experienced no more raids.

This proved to be another period of activity for the signal men. Again there were telephone, teletype, and radio communications to handle, and a busy radio repair section and message center.

On May 15th the war in Tunisia was over. - Trainloads and truckloads of Italian and German prisoners rolled by day after day. Souvenir hunters had their day. But the day for moving again came on June 1st.

On June 1, 1943, the 23rd Signal Company arrived at Hammam Flage, which is located on the extreme southern end of the Gulf of Tunis, and 20 kilometers east of the City of Tunis. The outfit found a fine location for a bivouac area. A grove of pine trees extending almost to the water's edge provided an excellent site. Beds were made from odds and ends of wire, wood, and metal scrap; they were lashed between trees and made quite comfortable beds and in addition kept the men off the ground and away from pests. Telephone, teletype, and radio communications were set up. A period of comparative inactivity followed.

During the month of July, 2nd Lt. Roger B. Tyler, Jr., was transferred to the Adjutant General's Department of the 12th Air Force Service Command in Algiers.

At the close of the Tunisian campaign, our organization was redesignated the 1023rd Signal Company, 34th Service Group.

During this company's period of operations at Souk El Arba, teletype and telephone detachments were assigned for duty with the British First Army Rear

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at Beaver. Also, during our stay at Hammam Plage a comparatively heavy run of communications detachments was made. These detachments included service with the 77th Service Squadron, Dry Lake; 47th Bomb Group, Grombalia; 3rd ASAC, Tunis; 12th Bomb Group, Sousse Area; and Q Movements, Sousse Area.

On August 3, 1943, 1st Lt. Robert J. Kemmer was assigned for duty and joined the 1023rd Signal Company at Hammam Plage, Tunisia. Lt. Kemmer's previous assignment was Signal Property Officer, Air Force General Depot Nr 1, La Senia, Algeria.

Another truck convoy was formed on August 4, 1943, and our company along with other units of the 34th Service Group convoyed to a bivouac area on the Cape Bon Peninsula approximately 5 miles northeast of the town of Korba, along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. A bivouac area was set up between 300 and 400 yards from the sea, but because of the blowing sand and lack of vegetation, the area was moved 5 days later to a distance of approximately three-quarters of a mile from the shore. Radio and telephone communications were set up immediately, and a detachment of telephone men were assigned for duty with the 2nd Air Service Area Command at Tunis. The radio detachment with the 77th Service Squadron at Dry Lake is still being maintained as of August 31, 1943.

On August 6, 1943, Captain Wesley E. Jenkins, Commanding Officer of the 1023rd Signal Company was detached for service with the 12th Air Force Service Command in Algiers.

*Robert J. Kemmer*  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st Lt. Signal Corps,  
Commanding.



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UNIT HISTORY

1. Name of Unit: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group
2. Where Activated Hamilton Field, California Date: February 12, 1941
3. Locations Trained: Hamilton Field, Calif. from Feb 12, 1941, to May 30 1941  
Paine Field, Wash. from May 30 1941, to July 25 1942  
Silver Lake Wash. from July 25 1941, to October 15 1942  
from 1941, to 1941  
from 1941, to 1941  
from 1941, to 1941  
from 1941, to 1941  
from 1941, to 1941  
from 1941, to 1941
4. Joined Service Group No. 34th at Paine Field, Washington Date: \_\_\_\_\_
5. (At U.S. \_\_\_\_\_)  
 (Staging Area) Fort Dix, New Jersey from October 20 1942, to November 1 1942
6. Departed U.S. from Staten Island, New York Date November 2, 1942
7. Arrived overseas at Casablanca, French Morocco Date November 18, 1942  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
8. What combat units were served? (Give places and dates in Chronological Sequence)  
81st Fighter Group, Port Lyautey, Fr. Mor., 1 Dec. 1942 to 18 Mar 1943.  
47th Bomb Group, Thelepte, Tunisia, 30 Mar. 1943 to 14 April 1943.  
~~310th Bomb Group, Souk el Arba, Tunisia, 15 April 1943 to 31 May 1943.~~  
47th Bomb Group, Souk el Arba, Tunisia, 15 April 1943 to 31 May 1943.  
47th Bomb Group, Hammamplage, Tunisia, 1 June 1943 to 2 Aug. 1943.  
310th Bomb Group, Menzel Huerr, Tunisia, 3 August 1943 to date.
9. Give resume of type of training received from time unit was activated until it began servicing combat units:  
RADIO REPAIR  
RADIO OPERATIONS  
TELEPHONE LINE WORK  
TELEPHONE OPERATION  
MESSAGE CENTER TRAINING  
SUPPLY TRAINING  
TELETYPE OPERATING  
TELETYPE MAINTENANCE

REMARKS:

None.

*Robert J. Kester*  
 ROBERT J. KESTER  
 1st. Lt. Signal Corps  
 Commanding

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THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE		OCT-1943	FILE NO. SIG-1023-H1 (20)
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Sheet no. 1

SPECIAL OUTLINE HISTORY

Month of October, 1943. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd Sig Co S G

- A. ORIGINAL UNIT - 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP  
Activated FEBRUARY 12, 1941--Hamilton Field, California.
- B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION - Organization remained under the jurisdiction of the 62nd SERVICE GROUP during the month of OCTOBER, 1943.
- C. STRENGTH -
1. October 1, 1943  
Commissioned - 3 (present)  
Enlisted - 50 (present); 17 (detached service); 1 (hospitalized)
  2. October 31, 1943  
Commissioned - 2 (present)  
Enlisted - 67 (present); 1 (hospitalized)
- D. STATIONS - October 1, 1943--Menzel Heurr, Tunisia, North Africa  
October 31, 1943--MANDURIA, ITALY
1. October 2, 1943 - 4 enlisted men reported for permanent duty at Menzel Heurr, Tunisia, from DS with the 77th Service Squadron, 324th Fighter Group, Dry Lake.
  2. October 4, 1943 - 13 enlisted men reported for permanent duty at Menzel Heurr, Tunisia, from DS with the II ASAC, Tunis, Tunisia.
  3. October 5, 1943 - 1 officer, Captain Wesley E. Calkins, was transferred to permanent duty with the III ASAC.
  4. October 14, 1943 - Organization and equipment left Menzel Heurr, Tunisia, enroute to permanent change of station, then unknown.
  5. October 29, 1943 - Organization arrived at MANDURIA, ITALY, permanent station.

  
ROBERT J. KRAMER,  
1st Lt., A.C.,  
Commanding.

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1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY  
SERVICE GROUP

MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1943

COMPANY HISTORY CHRONOLOGICAL REPORT

October 2 - The personnel, equipment, and P-40 planes of the 324th Fighter Group moved to the runway and small airfield at our present bivouac area, because the recent rains have made the Dry Lake airfield unusable.

The 4 enlisted men on Detached Service with the 77th Service Squadron, 324th Fighter Group, Dry Lake, were relieved of duty with that Squadron and returned to this company. Radio Station 04U shut down as of 1730 hours.

October 4 - Captain Wesley E. Calkins, Commanding Officer, was assigned to Detached Service with the II ASAC, per verbal orders of the Signal Officer, II ASAC.

The 13 enlisted men on Detached Service with the II ASAC, Tunis, were relieved of duty with that command and returned to this company.

October 5 - Captain Wesley E. Calkins, Commanding Officer, was transferred to the III ASAC. This placed 1st Lt. Robert J. Kemner in command of the company.

The 454th Anti Aircraft Artillery Battalion moved to the bivouac area on this date, being attached to the 324th Fighter Group. Communications installed by the 1023rd Signal Company were turned over to Headquarters, 454th AAA. Packing for movement overseas completed.

October 7 - Written orders were received from Headquarters, 12th Air Force, directing this unit to depart on this date from Menzel Esurr to Bizerte Staging Area, thence to Taranto, Italy, but the orders were cancelled before the movement was made.

October 14 - Upon verbal orders from Headquarters, 12th Air Force, this company departed from the bivouac area, Menzel Esurr, at 1730 hours, being directed to Philippeville, Algeria, and thence to Taranto, Italy. The movement to Philippeville was made with 3 jeeps; 10 company trucks loaded with equipment; 1 truckload of equipment and 4 truckloads of enlisted men hauled by the quartermaster trucking company.

October 15 - Convoy arrived Souk El Arba, Tunisia, 0530 hours, prepared breakfast, and departed 0830 hours.

Convoy routed north to coast highway, thence traveled east, passing through Bone, and arrived at Philippeville, Algeria, 1930 hours.

This unit bivouaced in British Park Number 9 for the night.

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1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

October 16 - The company moved to a bivouac area on the edge of the village of Danremont, a short distance from British Park Number 9.

October 17 - The company moved from Danremont to British Transit Center, approximately 5 miles east of Philippeville, on the coast highway. This unit occupied 9 tents, and rationed with the British Mess at the Transit Center.

Loading of the company vehicles and equipment started on this date, space being occupied on the British ships H.M.S. BRIGHTON and H.M.S. EMPIRE CAPILUA. Loading of the vehicles was finished on October 20. One jeep was removed from the ship, Empire Capilua, by British Port authorities, to be shipped at a later date. Knowledge of this was not reported to this company until after embarkation. One enlisted man accompanied the equipment to Taranto, Italy, taking passage on the ship, Brighton.

October 22 - One enlisted man was admitted to the British 67th General Hospital, Philippeville, with malaria, and therefore, did not accompany the unit movement to Italy.

October 24 - The personnel of this company arrived at the docks in Philippeville at approximately 0900 hours, and embarked on L.C.I. Number 163 at 1000 hours. L.C.I. Number 163, along with 3 other L.C.I.'s, departed from the Philippeville harbor at 1400 hours, enroute to Catania, Sicily, and thence to Taranto, Italy. There were 3 organizations, approximately 200 men, aboard L.C.I. Number 163.

October 25 - One L.C.I. left convoy and docked at Bizerte for loading on October 24-25.

Our convoy passed the island of Pantelleria at 1700 hours this date.

October 26 - The convoy docked at Catania, Sicily, at 1630 hours. The men aboard the ships were permitted to visit the city that evening, and also were permitted to spend two hours the following morning sightseeing and shopping. Catania proved to be a very thriving and interesting city.

October 27 - Convoy embarked from Catania, Sicily, at 1200 hours, enroute to Taranto, Italy.

October 28 - Convoy docked at Taranto, Italy, at 1630 hours, and the men spent the night aboard ship, due to a heavy rain.

October 29 - This unit disembarked at 1000 hours, and proceeded by truck convoy to Manduria, Italy, approximately 25 miles east by south of Taranto, and arrived in Manduria at 1200 hours. Quarters were established in an evacuated Convent. The company continues to be under the jurisdiction of the 62nd Service Group, which Group arrived in Manduria previously.

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1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

October 31 - One enlisted man reported for duty with this company, arriving by C-47 transport from the 54th Station Hospital, Tunis, where he had been hospitalized prior to the company's departure from Africa.

*Robert J. Feiler*

ROBERT J. FEILER,  
1st Lt./ S.C.,  
Commanding.

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THE ARCHIVES	
OF THE AAF	
HISTORICAL OFFICE	
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1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1943

COMPANY HISTORY

OPERATIONAL - -

From November 1 until moving to Brindisi, the company remained in the convent quarters at Manduria awaiting assignment.

On November 10, the day after arriving in Brindisi, the company began setting up its different departments and operations. Four rooms were occupied in a building at the airfield, where telephone switchboard, telephone repair, radio station, and message center were set up. The radio repair shop was set up in the company area.

Fifteen miles of field wire (single pair) were strung from Brindisi to Squinzano; a telephone circuit for the 1706th (MM) Ordnance Company. Civilian circuits were attempted but proved impossible.

On November 19 a teletype was installed at the airfield and operated by the company's teletype department until November 26, at which time the 98th Bomb Group installed their own machine, and took over the operation of it.

By November 28 this company had completely given over to the 98th Bomb Group the four rooms occupied at the airfield, and had moved our departments to the company area.

Warrant Officer Edwin J. Hoff and 12 enlisted men reported on November 29 for the purpose of installing VHF radio in B-24 bombers of the 98th Bomb Group. Radio personnel of this organization are assisting and shop facilities of the unit are being used. Warrant Officer Hoff is attached to this company, and the enlisted personnel are attached to the 34th Squadron, 98th Bomb Group.

Operations thus far have been negligible: telephone switchboard calls being minor; a moderate amount of radio repair work; and message center duties being confined to distribution.

GENERAL - -

The men of this organization have visited and shopped in Brindisi, and general opinion classifies Brindisi as a "fair" town. When going to the business district of town, the men have to cross the harbor in either a row boat, or motor boat ferry. The other alternative is to go around the harbor on the highway. The price on the row boats is 5 or 10 lire, and the price on the motor ferry is 30 centesimes. Many different types of American, English, and Italian ships are observed in the harbor from day to day. The company area is located about one-quarter mile north of the harbor.

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COMPANY HISTORY (CONT)

GENERAL (Cont) - -

Thanksgiving Day was celebrated by the company with a consolidated church service for all faiths at 11:00 a.m., and a turkey dinner at 2:30 p.m. Twelve turkeys, fruit, vegetables, and nuts were purchased by the company from the natives; and six turkeys were issued by the Quartermaster. A very good dinner was served, and was enjoyed by all members of the organization.

The enlisted men are furnished transportation twice weekly to attend the Allied showing of movie pictures at an Italian theater in downtown Brindisi.

Two enlisted men of this organization were admitted to the 84th General Hospital (British), Brindisi, on November 25 and 27, respectively.

Occasional air raid alarms were sounded during the month. Observation of a German reconnaissance plane was reported. On several occasions ack ack barrages of noticeable intensity were sent up.

During the month three enlisted men were reduced to the grade of Private.

Robert J. Kemmer  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st Lt., Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

SECRET

S E C R E T

1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY  
SERVICE GROUP

MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1943

CHRONOLOGICAL REPORT

November 3 - This unit became attached to the 1149th Quartermaster Company for rations only. A consolidated mess was established in the convent quarters at Manduria, operated by the 1149th Quartermaster Company and the 1023rd Signal Company. Previous to this, our unit had rationed with the Headquarters Squadron, 62nd Service Group.

November 9 - The personnel and equipment of this unit were moved by truck convoy from Manduria to their present location in Brindisi, Italy, on the Adriatic Sea coast, approximately 30 miles northeast of Manduria. Two trips were required by the company vehicles to cause this movement; one trip being made in the morning, and another trip in the afternoon. The company located in four wooden, portable, Italian barracks on the outskirts of Brindisi, and approximately one-quarter mile west of the Brindisi Airfield.

November 12 - One enlisted man of this company reported for duty, having been released from the 67th General Hospital (British) in Phillipeville, Algeria. This man took passage at Phillipeville on the British freighter, "PROMETHEUS," which ship sailed with a convoy, and arrived in Taranto, Italy, 7 days later. From Taranto, the enlisted man received motor transportation to the company's location at Brindisi.

November 16 - Two enlisted men, being assigned to this company by a replacement center in Oran, Algeria, reported for duty. These men embarked from Newport News, Virginia, October 7, 1943, on the British ship, "Express of Scotland," and debarked at Casablanca, French Morocco, on October 15, 1943. The men then traveled by train to the Oran replacement center, and then by truck convoy to the City of Tunis. They were assigned passage on a C-47 army transport plane, and flew from the El Aouina Airfield, Tunis, on this date, taking a course over Sicily, and landing at Bari, Italy. From Bari, the men received truck transportation to this Headquarters.

November 23 - Company orders were issued promoting two enlisted men to the rank of Private First Class.

November 28 - A list of promotions in rating became effective for enlisted men of this unit.

November 29 - Warrant Officer Edwin J. Hoff of the 915th Signal Company Depot (Avn) was attached to this company for rations and quarters.

S E C R E T



SECRET

CHRONOLOGICAL REPORT (CONT)

November 29 (Cont) - One enlisted man of this organization was placed on detached service with Air Force Chemical Ammunition Depot Number 5, Consorzio Bonofica, for the purpose of attending a chemical warfare class for approximately 10 days.

*Robert J. Kemmer*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st Lt., Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

SECRET

THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE	DEC-1943 S16-1023-H1 (14)
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 10.10.43

MICROFILMED



SECRET

Sheet No. 1

SECRET ONLINE HISTORY

Month of December, 1943. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd SCSG  
(Company Historian)

- A. ORIGINAL UNIT - 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP  
Activated FEBRUARY 12, 1941--Hamilton field, California
- B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION - Organization remained under the jurisdiction of the 62nd SERVICE GROUP during the month of December.
- C. STRENGTH -
  1. December 1, 1943  
Commissioned - 2 (present)  
Enlisted - 47 (present); 2 (hospitalized); 1 (detached service)
  2. December 31, 1943  
Commissioned - 2 (present)  
Enlisted - 47 (present); 5 (detached service); 1 (hospitalized)
- D. STATIONS - December 1, 1943--Brindisi, Italy  
December 31, 1943--ORLA, ITALY
  1. December 8, 1943 - 20 enlisted men reported to II ASAC, Bari, Italy, for temporary duty, including: 2 radio maintenance men; 1 mainframe man; 4 message center men; 2 teletype operators; and 11 radio operators.
  2. December 8, 1943 - Remainder of company, 2 officers and 47 enlisted men, proceeded to permanent station 2 miles west of ORLA, ITALY.
  3. December 10, 1943 - 3 enlisted men reported to the 376th Bomb Group, San Pancrazio, Italy, temporary duty, for the purpose of VHF radio installing, and installing of 4 SCR510 Altimeter sets in the B-24 bombers of that Group, which bombers are flying constant missions over Axis-held territory. Previously, from November 25, 1943, to December 8, 1943, the radio maintenance section made VHF and 1st radio installations in the B-24 bombers of the 98th Bomb Group, Brindisi, which Bomb Group was also flying missions over Axis-held territory.
  4. December 13, 1943 - Unit moved to bivouac area, permanent station, or outskirts of ORLA, ITALY.
  5. December 12, 1943 - 2 enlisted men reported to 351st Service Squadron, 147th Wing area, temporary duty, to operate telephone switchboard.
  6. December 12, 1943 - 20 enlisted men reported for permanent duty at ORLA, ITALY, from detached service with II ASAC, Bari, Italy.

Jul 37

Robert J. Kueper  
ROBERT J. KUEPER, 1st Lt., S.C.,  
Commanding.

SIG-7043-SU-RE-D

SECRET

Sheet No. 1, War Diary 1003rd Signal Company Serv Group CPA, ITALY

Month of December, 1943. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1003rd SOSG  
(Company Historian)

DAY

ENDING

2 1st Lt. Marshall B. Golablatz attached to this unit from the 15th Air Force per WCCG, for rations and quarters.

An airraid alert was sounded about 9:00 p.m.; two aircraft searchlights were turned on; and two bursts of ack ack were sent up.

We are still located in the Italian barracks at Brindisi; about 1/4 mile from the airfield.

4 The personnel had airraid shelter drill this morning; and barracks inspection was performed by the Commanding Officer.

6 A number of men were taken to the R.A. station showers about 1 mile north of Brindisi, but were unable to take showers because the shower rooms were being used to decontaminate sailors who had suffered burns from Allied mustard gas in the Bari airraid of December 2.

7 One enlisted man was promoted to the grade of Private First Class, per C/O this unit, dated 6 Dec 43.

8 Twenty enlisted men including personal equipment, and collapsible wooden bunks, were transported in two C2-ton trucks--very crowded traveling conditions--to the 15th Air Force Reception Center about 5 miles south of Bari. The men were detached for service with the II ASAC, and attached to the 10th Service Group for rations and quarters. The men traveled the coast road, and passed through many miles of olive groves; and upon arrival and subsequent days in Bari, observed the great amount of damage caused by the December 2 airraid at Bari.

Also, the remainder of the company moved from Brindisi to an Italian warehouse depot approximately 2 miles west of Oria. Oria is about 12 miles from Mendolita, in a northerly direction.

9 1st Lt. Marshall B. Golablatz and W/O (jg) Edwin J. Huff were relieved from attachment with this company and attached to the 331st Signal Company Depot (Avt).

Eleven enlisted men from the 331st Service Squadron were attached for rations.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 2, War Diary 3849-1 Sig. Co Company, Serv Group CPA, ITALY

Month of December, 1943. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry D. Hays, 1023rd SSG  
(Company Historian)

DAT

EVENTS

10 One enlisted man returned from detached service to duty from Chemical Warfare School, Consensio, Rome.

Three enlisted men were detached for service with the 376th Sig. Group, San Francisco, for radio installation work.

1st Lt. Harry C. Bennett was assigned to this company from XII AFSC, per SC 319 XII AFSC 30 Nov 43, absent enroute.

Dinner was furnished to a further detail of 27 enlisted men from the 62nd Service Group, who were hauling lumber from the warehouse area, Sub Depot No. 51.

11 One enlisted man was admitted to the 1st Platoon, 4th Field Hospital, Mardonia, for an appendicitis operation.

12 Two enlisted men were detached for service with the 331st Service Squadron to operate on switchboard duty at the 331st.

Three enlisted men from 376th, 75th AF Bn were attached for rations only.

13 The unit moved from the Italian warehouse depot to a tent area on the outskirts of Uria. The area is on a hillside, with grassy terrain, and olive trees; a perfect living area with a minimum of work, but somewhat windy.

14 The 3 enlisted men of the 376th AF Bn were relieved from attachment for rations.

The 11 enlisted men of the 331st Service Squadron were relieved from attachment for rations.

One enlisted man was sent to Philippeville, Africa, to find a jeep belonging to this company, which was lost at the Port of Morkation.

20 One enlisted man reported for duty from the 1st Platoon, 4th Field Hospital, Mardonia.

One enlisted man returned from Philippeville, Africa, the jeep having arrived during his absence.

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No. 3, War Diary 1023rd Signal Company Service Group ORIA, ITALY

Month of December, 1945. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Mann, 1023rd SSGC  
(Company Historian)

DAY

EVENTS

- 22 The 20 enlisted men who were on detached service with the 11th ABN, Bari, reported for duty. Transportation facilities included 24-ton trucks, and a medical trailer, providing more riding comfort than the trip to Bari afforded. The approximately 100-mile trip was made in 5 hours. The 20 men occupied an additional 4 pyramidal tents in the first ABN area.
- 23 Two enlisted men were promoted to lower grades, and 1 enlisted man was promoted for DD L11, dated December 21, 1945.  
  
A detail of 50 men was sent to the Italian warehouse depot operated by the 41st Air Depot Group to remove telephone poles from a warehouse, preparing the building for signal storage.
- 24 1st Lt. Daniel F. Amend, Jr., and 1st Lt. Gicle F. Copeland, and 5 enlisted men of the 26th Signal Inspection Battalion were attached for missions and quarters.  
  
Another detail of 25 men returned to the 41st Air Depot Group today to remove more telephone poles from a warehouse.
- 25 Protestant and Catholic church calls were held this morning, and then a very good roast turkey dinner was enjoyed by the company, at 2:30 p.m. The men were permitted to visit different localities en masse over Christmas.
- 26 Special Order No. 319, Para 2, was issued to read: 1st. Larry C. Bennett relieved from assignment to 1023rd Signal Company Service Group, per Message A-159-L, dated 11 Dec 45, as per XII AFSC (R).
- 27 The weather is getting quite cold, with a great deal of rain, and a light fall of snow this evening. Each tent is equipped with an army or hand-made stove, and green wood is issued from the Quartermaster. The men pick up a little dry wood here and there. Fire inspections are made by a special guard.
- 28 One enlisted man returned to duty from the 1st Platoon, 4th Field Hospital, Bari.

Tonight, as well as numerous other evenings, there is shooting and explosions from the direction of Orta. No one seems to know the reason for this. It is understood the Italians celebrate this season in that way.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 4, War Diary 1003rd Signal Company Ser. Group ARIA, ITALY

Month of December, 1945. Prepared by: S/Lt. Harry E. Wood, 1003rd SCSG  
(Company Historian)

DAY

DATES

29 The men were furnished transportation to attend the movie in Lamiaria tonight. Movies are shown each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights, and transportation is furnished for each show.

31 Laundry was sent out today to the 100th Quartermaster Laundry Company. The Co. Company has a one-day service, and takes laundry from this organization each Friday.

Preparations are under way to move to San Severo, north of Foggia, to service the 34th Service Group again. The Lieutenant has made a survey with the Group Commander, and says we'll have a big job to do.

*Robert J. Hemmer*

ROBERT J. HEMMER,  
1st Lt., S.C.,  
Commanding.

SECRET

THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL SECTION	
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SIG-1023-41

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1

SPECIAL OUTLINE HISTORY

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Hass, 1023rd SCSG

- A. ORIGINAL UNIT - 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP  
Activated FEBRUARY 12, 1941--Hamilton Field, California
- B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION - Effective January 1, 1944, this organization was relieved of assignment with the 62nd SERVICE GROUP, and placed under the command of the 34th SERVICE GROUP, per Hq., Army Air Forces/MTG general order no. 1, dated January 1, 1944.
- C. STRENGTH -
1. January 1, 1944  
Commissioned - 2 (present)  
Enlisted - 67 (present); 2 (detached service); 1 (hospitalized)
  2. Net increase - None
  3. Net decrease -
    - 3 Enlisted men--transferred in grade to the 1153rd Signal Company Service Group, per SO No. 5, Hq AAFSC/MTG (Adv), dated Jan. 8, 1944.
    - 1 Enlisted man--transferred in grade to the 876th Signal Company depot (Avn), per So No. 5, Hq AAFSC/MTG (Adv), dated Jan 8, 1944.
  4. January 31, 1944  
Commissioned - 2 (present)  
Enlisted - 65 (present); 1 (hospitalized)
- D. STATIONS - January 1, 1944--ORIA, ITALY  
January 31, 1944--SAN SEVERO, ITALY
1. January 2, 1944 - 2 enlisted men report for permanent duty with this unit at Oria, Italy, from detached service with the 331st Service Squadron, Manduria Airfield.
  2. January 2, 1944 - Personnel and equipment of this unit commenced movement to San Severo, Italy, in small groups, permanent change of station; Movement continuing until January 15, 1944.
  3. January 15, 1944 - Organization completed movement to permanent change of station, San Severo, Italy, approximately 20 miles northwest of Foggia, Italy. (movement covered in special accounts, attached hereto).

PHOTOGRAPHS - None available; Photographs pending.

*Robert J. Kemmer*  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st. Lt., S. C.,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1, SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP SAN SEVERO, ITALY.

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd SCSG  
(Company Historian)

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SPECIAL ACCOUNT - MOVEMENT OF COMPANY FROM ORIA, ITALY, TO SAN SEVERO, ITALY.

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It had been reported from different sources since around Christmas that this unit was going to move to San Severo, Italy, and minor preparations for the move were begun.

On January 2, 1944, the commanding officer received orders for the company to report for duty to the 34th Service Group, San Severo, Italy, per 12th Air Force Service Command (Adv) movement order No. 6, dated December 25, 1943; The company to report on or about January 5, 1944.

Preparations for the movement then began in full swing, and on January 2, 1944, the First Sergeant and 4 enlisted men left for San Severo, to get quarters in readiness for the remainder of the company.

From January 2, 1944, at which time the move was begun, until January 15, 1944, at which time the total equipment and personnel had reached San Severo, small groups of men and a load or two of equipment sent to San Severo every other day or so.

The movement involved the use of 1 2-1/2-ton radio van; 3 2-1/2-ton American trucks; 1 1-1/2-ton Canadian shop truck; 2 1-1/2-ton German trucks; 3 weapons carriers; 2 American jeeps; 1 German jeep; and four 2-wheel cargo trailers. These vehicles made a total of 49 one-way trips between Oria and San Severo. The conservative mileage of a one-way trip between Oria and San Severo is 160 miles, making a total of 7,840 vehicle miles driven in transporting the personnel and equipment of the company.

In addition to the above vehicle miles driven, 2 2-wheel water trailers; 1 2-wheel power unit trailer; and 1 1/4-ton jeep trailer were taken to San Severo; this also being company property.

While leaving San Severo for Oria, in conjunction with the movement, a truck driver of this company, driving a 2-1/2-ton truck, collided with a British truck on January 12, 1944, damaging this company's truck beyond repair, and both drivers sustaining slight injuries. A report of investigation was made by Lt Powell, Hq and Hq Sq, and findings relieved our organization of fault and responsibility, and directed a report of survey be initiated holding the British Government accountable. It was revealed that the British driver was on the wrong side of the road.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2, SPECIAL ACCOUNTS, 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP SAN SEVERO, ITALY.

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd SCSG  
(Company Historian)


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SPECIAL ACCOUNT - MOVEMENT OF COMPANY FROM ORIA, ITALY, TO SAN SEVERO, ITALY.

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The highways between Oria and San Severo are good, except in a few places, and other than the accident listed above, there was no undue or extreme wear and tear on the vehicles and equipment.

The movement was completed on January 15, 1944.

  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st Lt., S. C.,  
Commanding.



THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE		FILE NO. 516-1023-H1 FEB-1944 MAR-1944
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Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gr. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 23rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 319th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 35 E/A)

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 16 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 13 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North Africa Theater of Operation, United States Army, file AG 522.07/105 A-1.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED

- (1) At beginning of month: 1 O; 1 W/O; 66 E/A.
- (2) Net increase: 0 O; 0 E/A.
- (3) Net decrease: 0 O; 0 E/A.
- (4) At end of month: 1 O; 1 W/O; 66 E/A.

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 25 May 1941       |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival: 28 May 1941         |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 1 August 1942     |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival: 1 August 1942       |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 15 October 1942   |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 17 November 1942  |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival: 19 October 1942     |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 1 November 1942   |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival: 19 November 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure: 1 December 1942   |

SECRET

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Co. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 5th Grade

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| (6) Camp Kilmer, New Jersey                          | Date of Arrival: 22 November 1942   |
|  | Date of Departure: 11 December 1942 |
| (7) Crawford Field, Fort Lyantey,<br>French Morocco. | Date of Arrival: 1 December 1942    |
|  | Date of Arrival: 25 December 1942   |
|  | Date of Departure: 18 March 1943    |
| (8) Telergua, Algeria                                | Date of Arrival: 24 March 1943      |
|  | Date of Departure: 30 March 1943    |
| (9) Thelepte, Tunisia                                | Date of Arrival: 30 March 1943      |
|  | Date of Departure: 15 April 1943    |
| (10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia                           | Date of Arrival: 16 April 1943      |
|  | Date of Departure: 1 June 1943      |
| (11) Hammam Plage, Tunisia                           | Date of Arrival: 1 June 1943        |
|  | Date of Departure: 4 August 1943    |
| (12) Menzel Heurr, Tunisia                           | Date of Arrival: 4 August 1943      |
|  | Date of Departure: 14 October 1943  |
| (13) Philippeville, Algeria                          | Date of Arrival: 15 October 1943    |
|  | Date of Departure: 24 October 1943  |
| (14) Manduria, Italy                                 | Date of Arrival: 29 October 1943    |
|  | Date of Departure: 9 November 1943  |
| (15) Brindisi, Italy                                 | Date of Arrival: 9 November 1943    |
|  | Date of Departure: 9 December 1943  |
| (16) Oria, Italy                                     | Date of Arrival: 9 December 1943    |
|  | Date of Departure: 13 January 1944  |
| (17) San Severo, Italy                               | Date of Arrival: 13 January 1944    |
- e. MARCHES: None
- f. CAMPAIGNS: None
- g. BATTLES: None
- h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None  
(Unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. W. W. H. Wehner,  
12 February 1941 - 3 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Calkins, 4 July 1941 -  
4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Kemmer, 5 October 1943 - to date)
- i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None
- j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None.
- k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None available.

*Robert J. Kemmer*  
ROBERT J. KEMMER  
1st Lt Sig C Comdg

S E C R E T





SECRET

1023-111  
1 May 1944

Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of March 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 5th Grade

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 23rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 519th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 35 E/M)

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, file AG 322.07/105 A-M.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED

- (1) At beginning of month: 1 C; 1 W/O; 56 E/M.
- (2) Net increase: 0 C; 19 E/M.
- (3) Net decrease: 0 C; 3 E/M.
- (4) At end of month: 1 C; 1 W/O; 82 E/M.

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 28 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 18 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 1 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Company, Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of March 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

- 1 March came in like a lion with a miserable rain. The continues inclement weather that seems to never end, makes it necessary for fires in the tents through out the day and evening. The 1st Sergeant with the help of 5 enlisted men spent the fore part of the day in hauling a three day supply of wood.
- 2 Dang inclement weather brought an increased number of personnel to the doctors care. The decision of the Medical Officers, in counteracting the numerous colics, were the issuing of Multi-Vitamin tablets.

A former member of this unit paid a visit on the many friends that he had been separated from upon his transfer.

- 3 The dreaded day of the month was found to be at hand when our Group Surgeon was kept busy with his serum and needles inoculating the many EM of this unit.
- 4 The 4th day of the month being on Saturday, meant a weekly area and tent inspection that was held by the commanding officer. It was plain to see that the Commanding officer was well pleased with the general appearance of the command, from his pleasant disposition through-out the balance of the day.

The consolidation of many Signal property requisitions from the units serviced, made it necessary for the Signal Supply Sergeant to use a 2-1/2 ton truck in transporting property drawn from the Signal Depot.

A visit was made on Lt. Hammer, by Captain Samuel Gordon and Captain Edward G. Finnerty, of the 34th Service Group, of the Medical and Chaplain corps respectively.

- 5 A heavy rain continued throughout the day that inturn converted the earth to a slick, slushy mud that was tracked into every tent. Arguments could be heard during the day about who was going to have the few pair of overshoes which were issued. The linenmen received the overshoes as their type of work required it the most.
- 6 Lt. Bilg of an Anti Aircraft unit, visited his brother of this unit, after being separated from one another for over two years.

Pleasant smiles and conversation along with doughnuts, were received from the Red Cross girl who served us during the noon hour.

- 7 Several EM from the Photo Section of the 34th Service Group, were out taking pictures of our bivouac area and certain sections of the company.
- 9 Steady down pour of rain and strong wind made conditions rather miserable for the men in their tents. Men were even reluctant at leaving their quarters to draw their PX rations.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 2 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Company, Serv. Co. San Severo, Italy

Month of March 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 5th Grade

DAY	EVENTS
	After being reorganized under a new T/O for nine months, we found our company strength increased by the assignment of 11 more enlisted men. Five of the replacements were men assigned to T/S at Foggia, Italy, for operating telephone communications with Allied Air Force Area Command.
10	S/Sgt Traczynski and Technician 4th Grade Harley Moore, were selected as representatives of this unit for attending the Malaria School held in San Severo.
11	Lt. Kemner and 1st Sgt. Beach drove to Foggia and picked up four of the EM that were transferred to the unit on 9 March, while Sgt. Beckstrom with the assistance of four men hauled and restocked the company with fire wood.  Sgt Traczynski and T/4 Moore informed the Lt. that they had successivly completed their course at the Malaria school and were ready for the Malaria season.
12	With the transfer of eight EM from the 22nd Replacement Pool, into our company, rumors are plentiful regarding future movements. These men were rated in the states and came overseas just recently.
13	Our Warrant Officer Mr. Swinney, had a detail of Italian labor hauling gravel on our bivouac area. Several EM were busy helping spread the gravel on the drive-way, and filling in low spots. Gravel detail and all camp activity was brought to a halt by the arrival of Major Allison, the Group Surgeon who requested a physical examination of all EM.
14	While Lt. Kemner interviewed the newly assigned EM, Mr. Swinney was kept busy with his construction of roads within the camp. Many trucks loaded with gravel had to be unloaded by the EM after the Italians had put in their day. Several boys seeing that a detail was about to be called out immediatly checked out for town, all was well for them for the evening, but the next evening found them playing a big part on gravel detail.
15	Pfc Edwin H. Roper and Pvt. Emerick Owen of the Public Relations Office, Army Air Force Command, Mediterranean Theater of Operations, visited the camp taking pictures and getting information for release to the public. Pvt Emerick Owen had many points to discuss on Public Relations work that was taken care of in the orderly room.

There was much activity about the orderly room with Major Williams, of the Engineers calling on Lt. Kemner before inspecting our vehicles that he found to be satisfactory. When everything became quiet in the orderly room, we the EM working therein took advantage of the occasion and replaced the orderly room tent with a new one as the old tent was badly in need of repair.

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No. 3 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Company, Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of March 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

- Sgt. Beckstrom with the assistance of Sgt. Peterson and T/5 Patsic, had a big day in supplies after receiving clothing replaced on salvage.
- 16 A full size stampede of enlisted personnel that took in the majority of the company's strength, was in force until the herd came to the company supply where beer was being issued along with the regular weekly luxury ration. Beer issue was on the basis of one quart bottle per man for the first 50 men drawing rations. This was the first decent beer available since leaving the states.
- 20 Major Eddy, Commanding Officer of the 34th Service Group, inspected our camp area and quarters, in company with Lt. Kemmer, our Commanding Officer. Major Eddy expressed the fact that our area and quarters were very satisfactory.
- 21 In view of a ceremony, all enlisted men that could be spared from their duties, joined in a practice formation with other unit personnel, that was held in front of Service Center No. 34.
- 22 A company commanders meeting was called for at 0900 hours by Major Eddy. Lt. Kemmer made his appearance, and upon his return covered many of the subjects brought up by Major Eddy, at a meeting of enlisted men held in the mess hall during the noon hour. The chief subject discussed was strict compliance with driving regulations.
- Mail call was the big event of the day, most everyone received letters and packages.
- 23 Seven men drove to Foggia for eye refractions. They were given a eye-drop treatment and found it very difficult to see for some time after.
- 24 Captain Hurlbary of the 679th Signal Depot Company, along with Cpl. Gallop, a former member of this unit, called at the camp in regard to signal property available for issue.
- 25 Heavy rain prevented a practice ceremony formation that had been scheduled.
- 27 Our camp area was again inspected by Major Eddy this morning. Major Allison, Group Surgeon inspected the camp area and mess this afternoon.
- T/3rd Fischer, T/4th Dr. Moore and Pfc. Bellezza having successively been exempted by the aviation examining board, were transferred to Personnel Center No. 1, in Africa, where they will be sweating out transportation for the states. While these men were all smiles, many gloomy faces were noticed among the fellows that knew they would not see the states until the European war ended.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 4 War Diary, 102nd Signal Company, Serv. Co. San Severo, Italy

Month of March 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

- 29 Two EM of this unit, having made the acquaintance of 2 WAC girls, were given passes to Foggia to spend the day. Both men reported a good time.

A physical examination was again held by Major Allison.

With the mud drying up, a group of fellows put up the volley ball net and leveled off the ground for a court.. Before night many games of volley ball were played, while other fellows exercised themselves by pitching horse shoe.

- 30 At last the Coca Cola rumors turned out to be a reality. For the first time since leaving the states we were able to get our hands on the popular drink, that was issued in our PX.

- 31 Closing the month, pay day was the big event of the day. Very little activity was noticeable in the area, as most of the men were confining themselves to card games in their tents.

*Robert J. Heiler*  
ROBERT J. HEILER  
1st Lt Sig Co  
Commanding

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Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of April 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

a. CRIMINAL RECORD

- (1) Designation: 25th Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 31st Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 35 E/A)

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 2nd Signal Company, Service Group.
- (2) Place of redesignation: Faine Field, Everett, Washington.
- (3) Date of redesignation: 16 July 1942
- (4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.
- (5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.
- (2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.
- (3) Date of redesignation: 13 May 1943.
- (4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, file AG 382.07/105 A-M.
- (5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMPOSITION AND ENLISTED:

- (1) At beginning of month: 1 C; 1 W/C; 82 E/A.
- (2) Net increase: 1 C; 4 E/A.
- (3) Net decrease: 0 C; 1 E/A.
- (4) At end of month: 2 C; 1 W/C; 85 E/A.

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT AND PARTS THEREOF:

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Faine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 28 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 10 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Outline History, 102nd Signal Co., Serv. Co. San Severo, Italy

Month of April 1944. Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

(6) Camp Hilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22 November 1942
	Date of Departure:	11 December 1942
(7) Oraw Field, Port Lyautey, French Morocco.	Date of Arrival:	1 December 1942
	Date of Arrival:	25 December 1942
	Date of Departure:	10 March 1943
(8) Telergma, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	30 March 1943
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	16 April 1943
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16 April 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 June 1943
(11) Farwan Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1 June 1943
	Date of Departure:	4 August 1943
(12) Menzel Beur, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4 August 1943
	Date of Departure:	14 October 1943
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	24 October 1943
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	24 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	8 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	8 November 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 December 1943
(16) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 December 1943
	Date of Departure:	13 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	13 January 1944

e. WOUNDS: None

f. CAMPAIGNS: None

g. BATTLES: None

h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None  
(Unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. F. H. H. Jenner, 12 February 1941 - 5 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Galkins, 4 July 1941 - 4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Jenner, 5 October 1943 - 25 April 1944; Capt. Harold F. Thomas, 24 April 1944 - to date).

i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None

j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None.

k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None available.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Comdg

S E C R E T



SECRET

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of April 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

- 1 To everyone's delight April brought forth sunshine and prospect of less damp weather. Much activity was present in the orderly room with a supplementary payroll being signed and the receiving of cash for finance savings and P.T.A. \$305.00 was deposited in the Finance Deposit and \$590.00 was sent to the states by the P.T.A. system.

Lt. Kemmer drove out to the 319th Service Group to gain necessary information on telephone and teletype communication lines and circuits.

Our unit received 2 jeeps and one 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  ton truck that brought our transportation TBA up to authorizational allowances. Our transportation shortage began during the last of April a year ago while we were at Souk El Arba, Tunisia, when Lt. Tyler had a jeep stolen from him. During June while at Hammam Plage, Tunisia, we were instructed to turn over one jeep to combat forces for use in the Sicily campaign. Another jeep was stolen in Tunis from two officers of the Hq., Sq. 34th Service Group, when we were located at Menzel Heurr, Tunisia. The 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  Ton truck received was to replace one that was salvaged after being damaged beyond repair in a accident while moving from Oria, Italy to San Severo, where we are now located.

- 2 Most of the fellows devoted their leisure hours throughout the day by trying their skill at pitching horse-shoes. The day was ideal for out door activity. Very little time was taken throughout the day for bunk fatigue, the warmth of the spring air could not be avoided.
- 3 The one day of the week that everyone dreads to see brought Major Eddy, Commanding Officer of the 34th Service Group, to our area for his regular weekly inspection of quarters and mess facilities.
- 4 Many EM of this unit attended their first Opera, that was comprised of Italians, held at the Opera House in San Severo, Italy.
- 5 A small number of EM made a call on the Group Surgeon for inoculation and smallpox vaccinations.

Three EM of this unit left for Foggia on pass today. They left with smiling faces which makes us wonder if they have got acquainted with a few pretty Wacsdown there.

W/O Mr. Swinney, Cpl. Rosen and Pfc. Hirschman, were selected to represent this company at the chemical warfare defence course which is held at 34th Group Hq.

SECRET

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of April 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

The horse-shoe fans became dissatisfied with their court and are now devoting their effort in constructing a new one. By using salvaged lumber, they boxed in the stakes and filled the inside of the box with sand and clay.

- 6 Tech. 4th Grade, Arthur Wilkinson, was selected to replace Pvt. Robert Osborne on the switchboard at Allied Air Force Area Command, Foggia. Pvt. Osborne was transferred to this unit in March, having remained on D/S, he joined the company today for the first time.
- 7 5 EM of Jewish faith were furnished transportation with the necessary arrangements so that they could attend the annual Jewish Festival that was held at Foggia for all American and British forces.

Peggy Long, from the Red Cross received the attention of the entire company by serving us with doughnuts. After 17 months for most of the EM in foreign service among foreign women, Peggy's appearance and personality was admired by all.

Tech. 3rd grade Alfred Dunlavey and Tech 5th grade Micheal Prokop, were informed that they had been ordered back to the states on the "Rotation and return system". When first informed that they were on orders, neither could believe it and took it for another wild rumor. Disappointment was later experienced by T/3 Dunlavey, when the first order was revoked and his name was deleted from the second order.

- 9 A large number of EM attended church services, being that this is Easter Sunday.

Cpl. Daniel C. Allen, of the 691st Sig Co Depot (AVN), was transferred into our unit this morning. Cpl. Allen is a teletype machanic who replaces another EM of this unit who was supposed to return to the states for Cadet training.

- 10 Captain Harold F. Thomas, was transferred into our organization today. Capt. Thomas, spent a number of months in the South Pacific before entering this theater.
- 11 Capt. Harold F. Thomas, Lt. Robert J. Kemmer and 1st Sgt. Rex F. Beach left for Naples this morning in regards to orders pertaining to this organization.

The surprise of the day was the ice cream that was served for dinner, everyone was happy and enjoyed it very much.

- 12 Capt. Gordon, of the 34th Group Medics, inspected our Company mess and latrine facilities today.

The men that represented this unit in the Chemical Warfare course completed their schooling today.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of April 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

Capt. Thomas, Lt. Kemmer and 1st Sgt. Beach returned from Naples this afternoon.

- 13 With the arrival of the 314th Signal Company, Wing, to take over signal operations at the 90th Photographic Reconnaissance Wing, the majority of this company were relieved from the duties they had been performing since the middle of January. It was found that many of the men were unfamiliar with wing operations, that made it necessary for some of our men to continue to carry on their duties. Three Radio operators, one Message Center Chief, and five Teletype operators continued carrying on their duties, while three of the Radio operators accepted assignment on the Wing daily news paper.

In order that all of the men of this unit be assigned to regular duty, we took over the operation of the Camel switchboard at the air field and assigned additional men to tower operations. It had been the policy on the Camel S/B to close the board at 2000 hours, with plenty of men to assign to that operation it was decided to keep the board in operation throughout the night.

Rather than burden the Wing net with radio messages that pertained to Service Center we set up our own radio station. The Message Center and radio station were both set up in the same tent as long as there was only one transmitter being operated.

- 14 3 EM from this unit are now working at the radio control tower on the San Severo, Air Base. These men have had several months of previous training while at Port Lyautey, French Morocco.

The dentist from the Group Medic's was busy examining the members of this organization today. A number of men were found to have defective teeth and will be called in from time to time to suffer the agony of having repair work done.

S/Sgt. Lewis Peterson, our Supply Sergeant accidentally had a truck bed fall on his foot while removing the box from the truck. An x-ray proved that he had a small fracture in his foot and that he will be expected to be hospitalized for several weeks. Sgt. Peterson, is our star base ball pitcher which will mean a great loss to our team.

- 15 5 EM entered the track meet at San Severo today. They all admitted severe exertion do to lack of training and exercise.

Another pleasant meal for the day- the blond headed girl from the Red Cross served doghouse again.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of April 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

A message center and radio communication has been set up in a tent in our area and is now in operation. The men that are working in this center, formally worked at the 90th Photo Wing before being relieved.

T/Sgt Sturdivant and T/3 Rude, went to Foggia to draw Signal Supplies.

Number of men practiced base ball this morning, getting prepared for the tough schedual ahead.

The first EM to be sent back to the states on rotation from this organization was T/5 Michael Prokop. He left for Personnel Center No. 1, were he will be sweating out a boat. The rotation plan has been the main topic of discussion in our company since Mike left, everyone looking forward to the day when he will be the lucky one to return to the states.

16 3 Em are now operating the Camel switchboard on the San Severo, Air Field.

Our base ball team played their first game of the season, playing the 1149th Quartermaster and losing by a small margin.

17 Major Eddy, of the 34th Hq., inspected our quarters and camp area this morning. All men were required to have their mosquito bars installed in preparation for the malaria season. Atabrine tablets are also being issued to combat malaria.

Members of the company had to turn in their rifles and machine guns into the supply to have them inspected by the Ordnance. Rumors are that we will be going out to the rifle range one of these days.

18 Pvt. Yell of this unit was surprised to have his brother visit him today. His brother belongs to the combat Engineers and had many wild and weary tales to tell. This is the first time that these two boys have met since being in the Army.

Several EM are now being called to the dispensary each day to have dental work done.

19 3 EM from our message center cryptographic section had their pictures taken at the 34th Photo Lab. They are required to have their photos taken for identification and security measures.

20 3 new men were transferred in grade from Hq & Hq Sq, ASCMTO, to our organization today. These men came over from the states just recently.

A number of men attended the show "Stage Door Canteen" which was held at the 34th Hq., building.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of April 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

PK rations were issued again, the usual articles were given with a few more sweets than we have ordinarily been getting.

- 21 New telephone directories were made and delivered to various organizations.

Our teletype operators are also operating a teletype switchboard which was recently installed at the 90th Photo Wing.

1 EM reduced from Pfc to Pvt for misconduct.

- 22 The 3 new men that were transferred into our organization the other day are now working at 34th Hq's on mosquito control.

- 25 Our mess hall and kitchen is being closed in with mosquito netting to help prevent flies and other insects from getting in. Also a cabinet is being built for placing canned goods.

- 26 Cpl. Bancroft of our organization was appointed guard to escort a prisoner who is being taken to the Foggia hospital.

Physical inspection was held in our area by Capt. Gordon, of the Group Medics.

Rain and cold weather has again entered upon us. Many of the men have removed their stoves from the tents, but were forced to install them again. Also a new supply of wood was hauled in.

- 28 2 more of our men were assigned to the control tower at the air field. These men have not had any previous training in this work but are learning rapidly.

The men in the motor pool are busy constructing a trailer. The steel box and the chassis is from a salvaged Canadian truck.

- 29 Much activity is taking place in our area these days. A steel hut is being set up for a recreation and day room. The mess hall and kitchen is being moved a few yards away from the present sight to help improve sanitary conditions. We have the mess hall and kitchen in two separate tents now where we used to have it all in one. The vehicles and gas barrels near the motor pool are being re-arranged in a different locality which will make things a little more convenient. A detail of men are also hauling gravel to help improve conditions in our area.

- 30 Pay call was the main event of the day. Many of the men were confining themselves to card games in their tents.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Comdg

S E C R E T

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*Re 1023 Sig. Co. (G)*  
*7 Mar 1974*

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SECRET

Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gr. San Severo, Italy (m)

Month of May 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 23rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 519th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 35 E/M)

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk el Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, File AG 522.07/105 A-1.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

- (1) At beginning of month: 2 O; 1 W/O; 84 E/M.
- (2) Net increase: 0 O; 4 E/M.
- (3) Net decrease: 1 O; 5 E/M.
- (4) At end of month: 1 O; 1 W/O; 84 E/M.

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 28 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 16 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |

SECRET

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Outline History, 102nd Signal Co., Serv. Co. San Severo, Italy

Month of May 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Lanaro, Tech, 4th Grade.

(6) Camp Kilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22 November 1942
	Date of Departure:	11 December 1942
(7) Grew Field, Port Lyautey, French Morocco.	Date of Arrival:	1 December 1942
	Date of Arrival:	25 December 1942
	Date of Departure:	10 March 1943
(8) Telergna, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	30 March 1943
(9) Thelapte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	16 April 1943
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16 April 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 June 1943
(11) Hammam Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1 June 1943
	Date of Departure:	4 August 1943
(12) Menzel Mourr, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4 August 1943
	Date of Departure:	14 October 1943
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	24 October 1943
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	29 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 November 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 December 1943
(16) Gria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 December 1943
	Date of Departure:	15 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	15 January 1944

e. MARCHES: None

f. Campaigns: None

g. BATTLES: None

h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT LINEAGES: None  
 (Unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. F. M. E. Kemner,  
 12 February 1941 - 5 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Calkins, 4 July 1941 -  
 4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Kemner, 5 October 1943 - 25 April 1944;  
 Capt. Harold F. Thomas, 24 April 1944 - to date).

i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None

j. POWERS AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None.

k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None available.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Comag

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp., San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: William V. Jarney, Staff Sergeant.

a. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 15 enlisted men and 1 officer are assigned to the Headquarters section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation and mess for this organization.
- (2) Average period of performance of duty per day per man is 8 hours with one day free of duty every 10 days, with the exception of cooks that work on alternating days.
- (3) a Organization administration with 3 E/1 assigned are performing routine personnel and organization administration as pertains to the personnel of this unit.  
  
b In addition to company supply functions, supply personnel that consist of 2 E/1, utilized their leisure time procuring material from vehicle salvage dumps for the construction of a mobile supply room.  
  
c Of the 2 E/1 assigned to routine motor transportation dispatch and maintenance work, they performed the mechanical work in connection with constructing a shower in the camp area.  
  
d It being the decision of the commanding officer, that the sanitation and convenience of the kitchen and mess hall could be improved by relocating and reconstructing both, the kitchen personnel that consists of 6 E/1 were kept more busy than usual in making this change.  
  
e 2 additional E/1 were assigned to the Headquarters section throughout the month to take charge of construction work within the camp, in order that general sanitation throughout the camp area be put on a higher level.

b. TELEPHONE AND TELETYPE SECTION

- (1) a Enlisted personnel of the teletypewriter section are assigned to teletype duty with the 90th Photographic Wing Reconnaissance, teletype section. One chief teletype operator and 5 regular operators are working with the 15 E/1 of the Wing, making a total of 25 teletype operators. Two teletype mechanics are furnished from this organization to work with 4 mechanics from the 90th PWR, which makes a total of 6 teletype mechanics to handle the maintenance work connected with the operation of the 5 teletypewriters and 2 teletype switchboard that are in use.  
  
b E/1 of this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 52 hours.  
  
c During the month 267,659 groups were received and 267,447 groups were transmitted making a total of 1,135,506 handlers.

S E C R E T



SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History, 1025th Signal Co., Serv. p., San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: William W. Carrey, Staff Sergeant.

b. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION (CONTINUED)

- (2) a Enlisted personnel assigned to the operations of the 3 telephone switchboards operated by this unit are 3 E/M per board with a total of 12 operators. One board is located at the Allied Air Force Area Command, in Foggia, Italy, one is in use by the 34th Service Group, in San Severo, Italy, while the third one is located at the San Severo Air Field to facilitate base operations.

b Telephone operators work 6 hour shifts with 24 hours off duty following each shift.

- (3) a 6 E/M are assigned to the telephone maintenance section that service the lines and phones of the 34th Service Group and the San Severo Air Field.

b E/M of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off out of every 10 days.

c 6 days out of the month were used in laying and replacing 12 miles of wire, 6 days were utilized in burying lines, 3 days being utilized in exchanging, checking and maintaining phones, while 16 days of the month only routine line repair was carried on.

c. RADIO SECTION

- (1) Eight (8) E/M are assigned to the radio receiving and transmitting section for operating the net, with 2 E/M assigned to station maintenance work. This station is operating on two frequencies with 8 stations in the net.

- (2) E/M operating this station work 4 hour shifts with 24 hours off duty following each shift while the radio repairmen work alternating days rendering services whenever required.

- (3) Only 1 message of 41 groups was received during the month and no messages were transmitted. Very little radio communication is in use as a result of the excellent teletype circuits in operation.

d. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) Three E/M are assigned to the code room of the message center, and 3 E/M are assigned to the message center with 1 additional man assigned as a messenger. With the facilities of the 90th FRR close at hand little communication is routed through this section at this time.

- (2) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty for 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man in this section.

- (3) During the month, 3 coded messages were received and no messages were coded or handled.

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No. 3 Annex to Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp., San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: William W. Barney, Staff Sergeant.

e. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) One officer and 4 P/ are assigned to the signal supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the 24 organizations serviced.
- (2) 3/4 of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with 1 day free of duty every 10 days.
- (3) a During the month 21 consolidated requisitions were submitted to the Air Force Advanced Depot No. 55, at Reggio for Signal Supplies for all units serviced by this service center. Approximately 5/7 of the supplies placed on consolidated requisitions were received during the month.  
b Ten power units, PE-75's and 2 power units, PE-94's were turned in for repair by this service section for units of this service center.  
c 24 fully outs listing signal supplies issued to units of this Service Center were made for the month.  
d Requisitions are routed to this section through S-4 office, 34th Service Group and are consolidated at this section for submission to A.F.A.D. 55. Requisitions are re-consolidated after two issues for same from A.F.A.D. 55.  
e This section also services the 500th A.A.A. Btl. Bn. and requisitions are routed as above through S-4 office, 34th Service Group and are handled direct from Air Force General Depot No. 2, at Bari.  
f T/A equipment and Photographic supplies for the 90th Photograph Wing Reconnaissance, are ordered through A.F.G.D. 55, and frequent checks are made as to the possibility of obtaining same.

f. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE STATIONS

- (1) Six enlisted personnel are assigned to this section for servicing, replacing, repairing and installing radio sets used in the aircraft located on the San Severo Air Field.
- (2) 2/4 in this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 24 hours with 1 day off duty each week.
- (3) During the month 124 VHF radio sets and 29 Airborne sets were repaired and put back into service. Rewiring and installation of radio sets in nose of two F-35 aircraft were performed. 50 man days were utilized with the 52nd Photo Reconnaissance Squadron on VHF and 100 radio sets. One "Blackie" set was assembled and installed in the control tower at San Severo Air Field. Installation of one mile adapter in a A-20 aircraft was performed.

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 Annex to Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp., San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: William V. Barney, Staff Sergeant.

g. CONTROL TOWER OPERATIONS

- (1) Eight enlisted personnel are assigned to Control Tower Operations where there is a shortage of trained personnel from the units that normally perform this duty. Personnel assigned to this operation were trained at Caw Field, French Morocco, during December 1942, January and February 1943, when both the army and Navy were operating from the same field. The personnel assigned to this operation are from the Radio repair section where there is insufficient work to keep them busy at this time.
- (2) E/M in this section work an average of 9 hours out of every 24 hours.
- (3) The following aviation organizations are under the tower control when leaving and returning from the air field at San Severo: 21st Fighter Group, 32nd Photo Squadron, 60th South African Photo Squadron (British), 62nd Photo Squadron (British), and 409th Photo Squadron (British).

h. RADIO NEWS

- (1) Three enlisted personnel are assigned to the news section (inprints), of the 50th Photograph Wing Reconnaissance, for receiving radio news for the paper that is put into circulation throughout this area.
- (2) These E/M work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off each week.
- (3) Two legal sheets printed on both sides are put out daily, other than on Monday, giving the latest world news as received from BBC.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Signal Corps  
Commanding

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Lauro, Tech, 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENT

- 1 Major Ledy, our Group Commander, performed his weekly inspection of our area, leaving the camp pleased with the standards throughout the camp.

Three enlisted men of this unit that were surplus in their occupational specialties were transferred to other units: Pfc Harry M. Levine, Pfc Harry T. Berlin and Pvt Clin C. Duck were transferred respectively to the 91st, 891st and 17th Signal Companies Depot (AV).

Major Kahn, of the S-1 office of the 3rd Service Group, called at our area in regards to Signal Supply functions of this Service Center.

- 2 Captain Harold P. Thomas, our Commanding Officer and Mr. John R. Swinney our Signal Supply Officer, found it necessary to make a personal call at Naples regarding problems pertaining to Signal Supplies and communication lines.

Our Camp area being located only 1/4 mile from San Severo, it was found necessary to construct area signs printed in Italian to keep the many passing Italians out of the area in improving security measures.

A sporty base ball game was played with the 114th Quarter Master Company with a winning score of 4 to 0 in our favor.

- 3 With the kitchen located in the original sight from the first of January, it was found that the scrub water that had drained through the wooden flooring of both the kitchen and the messing tents were giving off a sour odor. It was the decision of the Commanding Officer that the best means of correcting unsanitary conditions was to move the kitchen and mess tent, setting them up in a new area separate from one another. This change being underway made it necessary for noon and evening meals to be served in the opening without shelter from the sun's ray.

All men of the organization were instructed by the CO that they had until the 10th of the month to have an individual slit trench near their tent with a minimum depth of 3 feet and a minimum length of 6 feet. Throughout the day all shovels within the unit were kept busy and as one fellow finished his trench another got underway on his trench, never giving the shovels a chance to cool off.

Sgt Raymond C. Bilg, spent the afternoon on his bunk after striking himself on the head with a maul during the morning when his maul was obstructed by a wire overhead. Sgt Bilg was not hurt to any extent but could not move around without causing his injury to bleed.

Much enthusiasm was noticed within the command when Special Service recreational articles were received to replenish our depleted supply.

SECRET



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

- 4 Much intercamp activity is going on in our area these days by improving sanitary conditions and recreational facilities. Both the kitchen and messing tent are being screened in and made as fly proof and sanitary as is possible with the material available. A new pit box is under construction that will be made fly proof for the new screened-in latrine tent that will surround the new pit that is also under excavation.

A fast base ball game was played with the 41st Engineers, even though we came out on the small end with a score of 3 to 1 everyone was pleased with the plays made.

- 6 With the grand opening of our day room close at hand, it was decided that a club committee should be elected to take charge of the day room and supervise the management of any refreshments that might be served on special occasion.

Defensive measures for this organization in meeting any logical enemy attack were pondered upon, and a new defense plan was drawn up by Captain Thomas.

- 7 Not only a base ball defeat with the 574th Service Squadron, with a score of 6 to 4 was experienced by some of the base ball players, but the loss of many personal articles were also suffered when their tent burnt up destroying both personal and government property. The origin of this tent fire could not be determined as it was located following supper when no one was in or about the tent.

- 9 Technical Sergeant John W. Sturdivant and Corporal Wallace W. Abernathy drove a 2-1/2 ton truck tooggia, to pick up Signal Supplies and to turn in a consolidated requisition.

The 86th Signal Detachment of 2 officers and 6 E/A who have been attached for rations for over 3 months moved to Cerignola, where they would be close to their field duty.

- 10 Our first replacement was received today when Corporal Kenneth L. Arnike replaced Technician 5th Grade Michael Prokop, who was transferred to the U.S. on rotation basis.

Much activity is present at the Company Supply today, the wood flooring in the storage tent is being removed and supplies are being segregated and inspected for future shipments.

The weekly dance held by the Red Cross at San Severo, gave 15 E/A of our company the opportunity to struggle about the dance floor with an American girl in their arms. This was the first Red Cross dance for many of the boys, and all that attended longed for the opportunity to attend another dance.

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 3 (ar diary. 1429th Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Le dro, Tech, 1429th Signal Co.

DAY

27 MAY

- 11 Individual slit trenches of a standard size were completed on the 10th. Captain Thomas inspected each trench and then expressed his approval that all the trenches were of his desired standards.

A general policing detail was formed and all sanitary areas of the camp were corrected, putting the area in a uniform condition.

Mr. Allan E. Sayles of the C.I.S. office at Foggia called at the camp to inspect security measures exercised by this organization.

- 12 Eight E/1 called on the Group Surgeon for the tickle of his inoculation needle this morning.

Three E/1 left for the Trieste rest camp and three E/1 returned reporting a pleasant 4 days while at Trieste.

Technician 5th Grade Charles Replogle was taken down with an appendix attack while visiting in an Italian home in San Severo. He was taken to the 14th Field Hospital where he was operated on without delay.

- 13 Technician 3rd Grade Alfred Dunlavy, a radio mechanic was notified that Special Orders had been received transferring him to Personnel Center #6-83, for transshipment to the U.S. At 0600 he bid the fellows far well and departed for the land we all long to see as soon as possible.

1st Sgt. Rex E. Beach and Technician 4th Grade Michael A. Greiv are busy with salvaged gas tank crates and mosquito bars mulling and screening in the orderly room tent.

Tech 4th Grade John J. Linley, completed the construction of a ping pong table from salvag lumber that is drawing the attention of many ping pong fans.

- 14 Sgt. Jesse W. Gibson, was admitted to the 14th Field Hospital with malaria fever. Sgt. Gibson was hospitalized with malaria fever during October 1943, while this organization was located in Africa, and was not returned to duty until the organization had moved to Italy.

Orders were received today authorizing the wearing of the summer sun tan uniform. This uniform is being welcomed by all men of the company with the warm weather that is approaching. The fellows working in the company supply are devoting their full attention to supplying each man with the complete authorized issue.

Captain Orton, from group Surgeon office gave a physical inspection of all enlisted personnel following the evening meal.

SECRET



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1429th Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Lindro, 5th Grade.

DAY

Events

- 15 All E/ other than the men on duty participated in gas chamber exercises that were held under the supervision of the Group Chemical Officer. Many red eyes were noticed following a direct exposure to tear gas.

The issue of canvas cots to the individuals of this organization was really welcome by all, for the men of the first echelon have been sleeping on improvised bunks for over 12 months.

- 16 To break routine operations throughout the company, the day was started by signing the payroll. Everyone was just as eager to sign the payroll as they would have been if they were receiving their pay on this day.

Three E/ returned from a four day rest at the Vieste rest camp refreshed and willing to get back to their regular duties. Three more E/ left for Vieste filling our quota for the next 4 days.

- 17 T/Sgt. Standivent and Cpl. Abernethy took the payroll to Foggia so that the E/ on detached service could sign the roll. These two were going to Foggia to pick up Signal Supplies from the advanced depot so the handling of the payroll saved another man from making the trip.

Captain Thomas and S/Lt. Jarney returned from Naples at 1400 hours reporting excellent results in accomplishments achieved while at Naples.

- 19 1st Lt. Robert J. Keller departed for Naples enroute to the 1429th Signal Company Service Group. Sergeant Alex Kobler and Technician 5th Grade Grove Lt. Keller to Naples in a jeep, taking a trailer along to carry his baggage.

A company meeting was held in the day room by Captain Thomas, following supper, for instructing the command on security measures that must be maintained.

- 20 Three E/ left for rest camp for a period of 4 days to replace those who are all ready there.

Inspection was held in our area again this morning by Major Day of Group Headquarters.

- 21 T/Sgt. Earl Fischer, one of the potential candidates for asset training, returned to our unit this morning after an absence of over 2 months spent in North Africa, waiting for a boat to the states. He was one of the 3 candidates which left our unit, but the orders were cancelled while they were at Casablanca French Morocco.

- 23 Our supply is busy handling salvage equipment this morning.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of May 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

23 Ben E/I left in a 2-1/2 ton truck for Foggia to pick up a large water tank for use in constructing a shower for our use. The men assigned to duty in the motor pool are busy in constructing a suitable hot water heater that will be used in heating the shower water. The men assigned to the duty of driving trucks were given the detail of constructing a grease truck that will make the greasing of all vehicles more convenient.

24 Many large numbers of fighter and bomber planes have been seen overhead during the clear weather, but none overhead today suggests that we have seen at one time.

Mr. Quincey and Tech 5th Grade Everett A. Brown drove to Foggia to pick up some salvage water pipe for the completion of the sewage plant. After it was found that the necessary pipe could not be procured locally.

Private Edwin McDonnagh was promoted to Private First Class, after demonstrating his ability as a excellent teletype operator during the past three months. Another E/I was restricted to the area for one week under the 14th Article of War.

27 The Radio Repair Section was called upon to install a post address system in the company area, so that radio programs could be heard throughout the camp.

The grand opening of our own shower was announced at 1900 hours, after Tech 3rd Grade James W. Watkins and Sergeants Alex Yobbezy and George A. Bennett, who had constructed them had the pleasure of the first showers.

29 A regular weekly inspection of our company area was held by Major Borg, during the forenoon. Major Allison the Group Surgeon, inspected our kitchen and latrine in the afternoon.

Technician 4th Grade Lawrence Moore and Private First Class Michael L. Bellocze returned to this command today. They left our unit approximately 2 months ago for Air Cadet training but were sent back as a result of changes in air crew training instructions. These men saw many places in Africa enroute back that they had not seen while this organization was located in Africa.

S/Sgt. Barney and Technician 5th Grade Eddie J. Kelly left for 2 days at the Isle of Capri rest camp this morning.

Staff Sergeant Lewis A. Peterson our best ball player was transferred to the Detachment of Patients, 26th General Hospital. Sgt. Peterson's transfer met with disfavor among the fellows as he was one of the old heads of the company and was liked by all.

31 The one day of the month when all enlisted men are present proved to be at hand when everyone was called to the orderly room for their pay. The only ones that were absent were men hospitalized at the 26th General Hospital and 2 that were assigned to a rest period at the Capri rest camp.

*Harold F. Thomas*  
HAROLD F. Thomas Capt Sig C Group

S E C R E T



THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL SECTION	
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Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains.

1. (1) Designation: Mr. David L. Jones, Service Group.
- (2) Time of registration: June 1961, Norseth, 4311 1/2 Ave.
- (3) Date of registration: 2 July 1962.
- (4) Authority for registration: General Order No. 69, Headquarters, Central Air Forces, San Francisco, California.
- (5) Source from whom personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit for registration.

2. (1) Designated: 12/21/41 at company service camp.  
(2) Place of re-education: 301 1/2 Ave., Boston.  
(3) State of re-education: 13 months.  
(4) Authority for re-education: Federal Government, and African  
League of Nations, 1100 Avenue A, New York City, 12/27/45.  
(5) Source of information: Federal Government, 1100 Avenue A,  
New York City.

P. GARDNER, JR., 1931. *Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer.* 24: 1-12.

- (1) At beginning of month: 1 0; 1 1/2; 1 1/4.  
(2) Not increase: 0 0; 1 1/4.  
(3) Not increase: 0 0; 1 1/2.  
(4) At end of month: 1 0; 1 1/2; 1 3/4.

d. SUBJECT'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE SOURCE

- |                                  |                     |                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| (1) William Hall, California     | Date of Activation: | 12 July 1941    |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 20 July 1941    |
| (2) Ralph Earl Hollinger         | Date of Arrival:    | 2 July 1942     |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942   |
| (3) Wilbur Laine, Oregon, was    | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942   |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942 |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 17 October 1942 |
| (4) Fort Linn, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 17 October 1942 |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942 |
| (5) Cassie L. Laine, Oregon, was | Date of Arrival:    | 1 November 1942 |
|                                  | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942 |

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2



# SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Outline History, 1943: Signal Co., Serv. Co. for Dover, Italy

Month of June 1943. Prepared by Alvin L. Lashro, Capt., 4th Regt.

(4) Camp Hill, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	28 October 1942
	Date of Departure:	11 December 1942
(7) Camp Hill, West Lyndsey, England	Date of Arrival:	1 December 1942
	Date of Departure:	1 March 1943
(8) Coleraine, Ireland	Date of Arrival:	24 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	30 March 1943
(9) Melrose, Ireland	Date of Arrival:	16 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	15 April 1943
(10) Central Area, Ireland	Date of Arrival:	15 April 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 June 1943
(11) Camp Hill, Ireland	Date of Arrival:	1 June 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 August 1943
(12) Central Area, Ireland	Date of Arrival:	1 August 1943
	Date of Departure:	14 October 1943
(13) Millersville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	13 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	21 October 1943
(14) Lendinara, Italy	Date of Arrival:	23 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	3 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	3 November 1943
	Date of Departure:	3 December 1943
(16) Liria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	3 December 1943
	Date of Departure:	15 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	15 January 1944

e. REMARKS: None

f. CAUTION: None

g. RAFFLES: None

h. UNIT HISTORY: None

(Unit has had following commanding officers: 1st Lt. J. E. Jenner, 12 February 1941 - 3 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Collins, 4 July 1941 - 4 October 1943; 1st. Robert J. Jenner, 5 October 1943 - 25 April 1944; Capt. Harold J. Thomas, 25 April 1944 - to date).

i. UNIT HISTORY: None

j. UNIT HISTORY: None

k. UNIT HISTORY: None available.

Harold F. Thomas  
 1st Lt. F. THOMAS  
 Capt. Sig. Co.

SECRET

Sheet No 1 Annex to Outline History, 129th Signal Co., Service Co. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

a. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 15 E/ and 1 officer are assigned to the Headquarters Section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation and messing for this organization.
- (2) Average period of performance of duty per day per man is 8 hours with one day free of duty every 15 days, with the exception of cooks that work on alternating days.
- (3) a. Organization administration with 5 E/ as signed are performing routine personnel and organization administration as pertains to the personnel of this unit.  
  
b. In addition to company supply functions, supply personnel that consist of 2 E/ utilize their extra time in constructing a trailer which is near completion.  
  
c. The motor pool had had 2-2 1/2 ton trucks, 2 Jeeps and 1 weapons carrier for major repair work at the finance company where they had 2 motors installed. The men of our transportation section are also helping to construct the trailers that are being built for this unit. They are servicing 10 vehicles at all times. Work for outside units such as welding and vehicle repair is being done.

b. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1) a. 17 personnel of the teletype writer section are assigned to teletype duty with the 90th Photographic Wing Reconnaissance. One chief teletype operator and 5 regular operators are working with the 15 E/ of the Wing, making a total of 22 operators. 2 teletype mechanics are furnished from this organization to work with 4 mechanics from the 90th AR, which makes a total of 6 teletype mechanics to handle the maintenance work connected with the operation of the 6 teletype writers and 2 teletype switchboards that are in use.  
  
b. 17 of this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 24 hours.  
  
c. During the month 291,655 groups were received and 664,970 groups were transmitted making a total of 1,156,625 groups handled.  
  
d. Equipment in use consists of 2 switchboards, 5 local line, 1 teletype switch, 1 tape transmitter, 1 tape reperforator, 1 tape cutter, 5 locals consist of 4 7-7's and 2 1-19's.
- (2) a. 6 E/ are assigned to the telephone maintenance section that service the lines and phones of the 94th Service Group and the San Severo Air Field.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No 2 Annex to Outline History, 1025th Signal Co., Service Co. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Technical Grade.

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION (COMMUNICATIONS)

5 / 1 of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off out of every 10 days.

c. Nine days out of the month were used in laying and replacing 16 1/2 miles of wire, 2 days were used for wiring trailer for power and installing symplex on Granite line. 1 day was used in picking up old Granite - Langel line. The remaining days of the month were used in routine repair and maintenance work. A telephone repair trailer which the 5 / 1 work on their leisure time is 3/4 completed.

c. RADIO SECTION

- (1) Eight (8) E/1 are assigned to the radio receiving and transmitting section for operating the net, with 2 E/1 assigned to station maintenance work. This station was operating on 2 frequencies with 3 stations in the net up to the 20th June, whereas they are now operating 2 frequencies with 4 stations in the net.
- (2) E/1 operating this station work 4 hour shifts with 24 hours off duty following each shift while the radio repairmen work alternating days rendering services whenever required.
- (3) One message was received and two were transmitted, consisting of 170 groups during the month. Very little radio communication is in use as a result of the excellent teletype circuits in operation.

d. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 officer and 3 E/1 are assigned to the code room of the message center, and 3 E/1 are assigned to the message center with 1 additional man assigned as a messenger. With the facilities of the 90th IIR close at hand, little communication is routed through this section at this time.
- (2) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty for 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man in this section.
- (3) During the month, 1 message consisting of 24 groups was sent and no messages were received.
- (4) 1 officer and 1 E/1 were to sail on 13 for a period of 2 days on official business pertaining to special instructions on cryptography.

e. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 officer and 4 E/1 are assigned to the Signal supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the 2 organizations serviced.
- (2) E/1 of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with 1 day free of duty every 10 days.

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No 3 Annex to Outline History, 1025th Signal Co., Service Co. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Technician Grade.

B. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION (CONTINUED)

- (3) a During the month, 29 requisitions were submitted to the Air Force advanced Depot No. 53, at Poggia, Italy, for Signal supplies for all units serviced by this service center. Approximately 3/5 of the supplies placed on consolidated requisition were received during the month of June.
- b Stand-by power equipment ordered for the 90th Photo Wing Reconnaissance per Tatousa, letter dated 26 May, 1944, file AF 112.11/113 Sig - C. Subject: "Issue of stand-by power equipment for active theaters."
- c 23 tally-outs were received from A.F.A.M. 100, Poggia during the month and 11 tally-outs were issued from this section listing signal supplies to units serviced by this service center.
- d Requisitions are routed to this section through S-4 office, 54th Service Group and are consolidated at this section for submission to A.F.A.M. 100. Requisitions are re-consolidated after 2 issues for same from A.F.A.M. 100.
- e Requisitions for 2/A and expendable supplies have been cancelled due to the end of current physical year and all units are requested to re-submit requisitions for all items previously requisitioned and not received to date. Requisitions for expendable supplies will be ordered twice monthly on the 1st and 15th of each month and units are requested to order a 15 day supply twice monthly.
- f Minor portion of 2/A equipment received for the 55th AAA BTL B from Bari on 1st June 44. These requisitions are routed through S-4 office, 54th Service Group and are handled direct from Air Force General Depot No. 5 at Bari.

F. RADIO REPAIR, WEXEL AND CABLE SECTION

- (1) 7 1/2 are assigned to this section for servicing, replacing repairing and installing radio sets used in the aircraft located on the San Severo Air Field. Total number of men working on 1/2 are 2, on 1/2 are 2 and the total of men working on Airborne and General repair are 9.
- (2) 3/4 in this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 24 hours with 1 day off duty each week. Total number of hours worked on 1/2 were 416, on 1/2 were 416, and on Airborne were 624.
- (3) During the month 75 1/2 radio sets were repaired and tuned, 17 1/2 were repaired and 47 sets on Airborne were repaired.

G. CONTROL ROOM OPERATION

- (1) 7 enlisted personnel are assigned to control tower operation where there is a shortage of trained personnel from the units that normally perform this duty. The personnel assigned to this operation are from the radio repair section where there is insufficient work to keep them busy at the present time.
- (2) 1/2 of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off each week.

SECRET



S E C R E T

Sheet No 4 Annex to Outline History 122nd Signal Co., Service Sp. Det. Salerno, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Technical Grade.

g. CONTROL TOWER OPERATION (CONTINUED)

- (3) The following aviation organizations are under the tower control when leaving and returning from the air field at San Severo: 1st Fighter Group, 80th South African Photo Reconnaissance Squadron (British), 62nd Photo Squadron, 882nd and 889th Photo Squadron (British) and the 1st and 2nd, 1st. transits.

h. RADIO NEWS

- (1) 5 E/ are assigned to the news section (in points), of the 80th Photo Reconnaissance, for the purpose of radio operations and publishing of the Reuters daily news which is circulated throughout this area.
- (2) There are 2 E/ Radio operators copying Reuters News, and 1 E/ who works on the mimeograph machine. These E/ work an average of 5 hours daily with one day off each week.
- (3) 2 legal sheets are printed on both sides daily, other than on Monday, giving the latest world news as received from BBC.

*Harold F. Thomas*  
HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Signal Corps  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1025th Signal Co., Service Sp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

LAY

SECRET

- 1 Major McConell is giving the E/ of this unit a review course of instructions on basics of the care and use in small arms.

3 E/ of this unit left for Vieste rest camp for a period of 4 days to replace the 2 E/ that have completed a 4 day rest period. All men that have visited the Vieste rest camp have reported much satisfaction in boating and swimming.

1/5 Siliigrini having been placed on temporary duty at Troia, Italy, left with a satisfying look in his eye, as it will give him the opportunity to spend his leisure time visiting with relatives located in Troia.

The E/ of this company that had been devoting their attention to the construction of a shower in the bivouac area, announced that their project was complete. Many days were spent by this construction crew in salvaging material from salvage yards for this project.

- 2 Capt. Thomas and 1st Lt. Gibson left for Bari, Italy in regard to matters pertaining to this command.

1/5 Replegle, was transferred from the 4th Field Hospital to the 26th General Hospital, for further hospitalization as the results of complications following appendicitis.

2 counter intelligence security inspectors were here today on a routine inspection checking on cryptographic personnel of this unit.

- 3 1/4 Lamp was admitted to the 24th Dispensary with malaria.

2 E/ returned from a 5 day period at the Isle of Capri after spending one night in Naples. The enjoyment expressed by their visit at Capri has brought about a great desire within this command, and everyone is sweating out the opportunity to go to Capri.

- 4 The 1st Sgt and several E/ spent the day driving to Bari to visit the 2 E/ that were transferred to the 26th General Hospital.

5 E/ replaced replaced the 5 E/ that had completed their 4 day rest period at the Vieste rest camp. Our new Sgt. was detailed the additional duty of transporting the subsistence to the rest camp.

Captain Thomas was a member of a Special Courts-Martial Board this morning.

- 6 Much excitement was at hand when news was received that the French coast was being invaded from England.

With the action in Western France going on and the advancement of the Italian front, many rumors are going around that we will be on the move again.

S E C R E T



SECRET

Sheet No. 2 War diary. 1153rd Signal Co., Service Gr. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th rate.

DAY

1st

Sgt. McConnell is giving the PVTs that missed out on his first course, their basics on the care and use of small arms. This class is being held during the morning rather than in the after noon when it is too hot to hold the attention of the individuals.

- 7 PVTs of the first class of small arms instructions were taken to the rifle range where good results were achieved as a result of thorough basic instructions.
- 8 PVTs of the second class of small arms instructions were given sighting instructions.
- 9 An exchange of 2 PVTs operating the Allied Air Force Area Command Switchboard was made this morning. This exchange was made in order that this unit could become better acquainted with the PVTs that have been on PVT since assignment to this organization.
- 10 More PVTs were taken to the rifle range for target practice, some very good scores are reported.
- 11 The rifle range was occupied by another unit today so Sgt. McConnell gave sighting instructions to the individuals that had been unable to attend previous instructions.
- 12 Captain Thomas called all of the PVTs that could be spared from routine duties, into the day room where he personally read and explained the Articles of War.

S/Sgt. Dury used a weapons carrier to deliver the 3rd Battalion to Santa Rosa camp. Several of the PVTs that had not been to Santa Rosa went along for the trip.

- 13 Another group of PVTs were called to them in the day room where Captain Thomas read and explained the Articles of War.

Many of the PVTs spent the afternoon in San Severo where the Red Cross mobile unit contributed refreshments and entertainment.

2 PVTs who formerly were with this company, visited their old pals here today. They are now with the 1153rd Signal Company, Service Group.

Capt. Thomas and PVTs left for G. I. B. I. to spend 2 days gaining information regarding signal corps codes.

- 14 From the number of mobile trailers that is being constructed within this unit by the various sections it is beginning to look like we will have a streamlined mobilized organization. The Chief radio mechanic and the wire chief are each building a mobile shop on 1 ton PVT trailers. The company supply Sgt has improvised a mobile trailer for a supply room from salvaged parts procured from local salvage dumps.

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No 5. War Diary. 1029th Signal Co., Service Co. Salerno, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landre, Tech. 5th Grade.

DAY

UNIT

By conserving on subsistence in barracks the mess it has been able to serve ice cream twice a week. A mail truck was able to deliver mail by all 17 where Sgt Mary served ice cream.

- 15 Capt Thomas and 1st Lt. Mial returned from Bari where they received instructions regarding engineering.

The signing of the pay roll drew the attention of all 17 that could be spared from their working sections.

S/Sgt Van Batta was the lucky one to rate and depart for a 3 day period on the Isle of Capri.

Many more good scores were chalked up at the target range as a result of the excellent instructions received from Major McConnell who served in the Infantry during the last World War.

- 16 2 E/ from this unit were assigned to the radio station at the 10th A. to help to help with the increasing traffic.

10 E/ went out to the rifle range, but returned shortly on account of a fire burning in a nearby field which obstructed the view of the target.

- 17 Captain Gordon of the Group Surgeons office made a physical examination on personnel of this unit.

T/sgt Sturdivant made a trip to Ogia with a 2 1/2 ton truck to draw signal supplies for the Service Center and to have the E/ that are on 1, 2 sign the pay roll.

- 18 Routine operations with 10 E/ receiving target practice was the extent of functions throughout the day.

- 19 A thorough police of the camp area was made following the morning meal. Area and personnel were put on a high standard for an expected inspection by the group Commander that never materialized.

Personnel of the line crew were detained from regular line maintenance to picking up telephone poles left in the bivouac area by the 74th A.F. company when they moved from this area.

7 E/ called on the group surgeon for the agency of having a typhus shot.

- 20 A new power unit was received for our company during the morning. This unit was badly needed for our old unit has been in service for many months, and is in need of a general overhauling.

SECRET



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War diary 1st Signal Co., Serv. Sp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of June 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Larkin, Tech Lt Grade.

DAY

EVENT

25 Major McDonnell having excess to the rifle range, took another group of 10 E/1 out for target practice.

25 Several E/1 drove to Bari to visit with former members of this company who are patients in the 2nd General Hospital.

5/1/ were promoted in grade.

S/Sgt Gury was replaced as mess sergeant by Sgt Wattenbarger, who had been working as a tower operator. S/Sgt Gury was assigned to duties in the motor pool.

27 Capt Thomas read and explained the Articles of War to the remaining personnel of this command, that had not heard them earlier in the month.

Captain Thomas and 1st Sgt Beach drove to Bari to pick up cryptographic material and a radio.

C/Sgt Sturdivant and S/Sgt Watkins drove to Foggia to pick up signal supplies for this area and to also pick up salvaged radio parts.

With the intense heat present in the orderly room tent throughout the day, personnel assigned to the J/1 put up a second tent over the present one leaving a 10 inch air space between the two. Very good results were achieved, reducing the temperature several degrees.

All personnel that could be relieved from their duties were called to group headquarters for hearing a lecture on malaria and also a sex morality lecture.

29 Major Allison held a physical examination of the personnel of this unit.

2 E/1 returned from Trieste rest camp prior to the completion of their 4 day period due to the closing of the rest camp. It was necessary to close the rest camp in order for the headquarters squadron of the 5th Service Group to make preparations for the movement of the squadron.

Drinks were issued this morning. Everyone was more than delighted to receive their first American beer since serving overseas.

A group discussion was held in the open air this evening. Problems pertaining to the unit were discussed by Captain Thomas.

30 Our first swimming trip was dispatched to a beach on the Adriatic. A 2 1/2 ton truck was used that was completely filled with E/1. Everybody returned and were well pleased with the beach and water.

Pay call was the main event of the day. Other than routine duties and card games very little activities were noticed in camp.

S E C R E T

*Harold F. Thomas*  
HAROLD F. THOMAS *gms*  
Capt Sig C Comdg.

RETURNED TO ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE	JULY-1944	SIG-1023-H1 (15)
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1023d Lig. Co. (S)  
 July 1944

5339-3/  
 MICROFILMED



S E C R E T

519-1023-41

July 44

Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of July 1944: Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 23rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 519th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 35 S/L)

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 16 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, file AG 322.07/105 A-1.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

- (1) At beginning of month: 1 O; 1 W/O; 83 E/L
- (2) Net increase: 0 O; 0 W/O; 9 E/L.
- (3) Net Decrease: 0 O; 0 W/O; 4 E/L.
- (4) At end of month: 1 O; 1 W/O; 88 E/L.

d. STATICS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 26 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 18 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |

S E C R E T

5339-21

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Out line History, 102nd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of July 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

(6) Camp Hilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22 November 1942
	Date of Departure:	11 December 1942
(7) Caw Field, Port Lyautey, French Morocco.	Date of Arrival:	1 December 1942
	Date of Departure:	18 March 1943
(8) Telergna, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	30 March 1943
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	16 April 1943
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16 April 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 June 1943
(11) Hammam Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1 June 1943
	Date of Departure:	4 August 1943
(12) Menzel Beurr, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4 August 1943
	Date of Departure:	14 October 1943
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	24 October 1943
(14) Manduraa, Italy	Date of Arrival:	29 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 November 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 December 1943
(15) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 December 1943
	Date of Departure:	13 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	13 January 1944

e. MARCHES: None

f. CAMPAIGNS: None

g. BATTLES: None

h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None  
(unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. F. W. H. Mehner, 12 February 1941 - 3 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Calkins, 4 July 1941 - 4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Kerner, 5 October 1943 - 23 April 1944; Capt. Harold F. Thomas, 24 April 1944 - To date).

i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None

j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None

k. PHOTOGRAPHS: Two.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Condg

S E C R E T



1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.

Sheet No. 3      Date of Survey March 8, 1967

Month of JUL 1944. Reported by: John L. Moore, District Agent.

100-33550

- ~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY~~  
(1) It is the policy of the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army, to maintain the security of the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army, and to protect the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army, from unauthorized disclosure of information.

- [illegible]

- [illegible]

- [illegible]

- [illegible]

2. The following information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to constitute an offer of insurance or any other financial product. It is not intended to be used as a basis for any investment decision. It is not intended to be used as a basis for any investment decision. It is not intended to be used as a basis for any investment decision.

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- [illegible]

2000

1-1-1-1

State of N. C. v. [Name], [Address], [City], [State], [Zip].  
County of [County], 1944. [Date]: [Time], [Day], [Month], [Year].

- (1) [Text]
- (2) [Text]
- (3) [Text]
- (4) [Text]
- (5) [Text]
- (6) [Text]
- (7) [Text]
- (8) [Text]

C. Particulars

- (1) [Text]
- (2) [Text]
- (3) [Text]

D. Particulars

- (1) [Text]
- (2) [Text]

1-1-1-1



1. 1941-1942 1941-1942  
1941-1942 1941-1942

2. 1943-1944 1943-1944  
1943-1944 1943-1944

3. 1945-1946 1945-1946  
1945-1946 1945-1946

4. 1947-1948 1947-1948  
1947-1948 1947-1948

5. 1949-1950 1949-1950  
1949-1950 1949-1950

6. 1951-1952 1951-1952  
1951-1952 1951-1952

7. 1953-1954 1953-1954  
1953-1954 1953-1954

8. 1955-1956 1955-1956  
1955-1956 1955-1956

9. 1957-1958 1957-1958  
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10. 1959-1960 1959-1960  
1959-1960 1959-1960

11. 1961-1962 1961-1962  
1961-1962 1961-1962

12. 1963-1964 1963-1964  
1963-1964 1963-1964

13. 1965-1966 1965-1966  
1965-1966 1965-1966

SECRET

On 10/10/41, the following information was received from the  
Office of the Director, Bureau of Naval Affairs:

1. RE: [illegible]
- (1) [illegible]
  - (2) [illegible]
  - (3) [illegible]
2. RE: [illegible]
- (1) [illegible]
  - (2) [illegible]
  - (3) [illegible]

Harold F. Thomas

[illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]

SECRET



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Mar Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., 54th Service Gp. San Severo Italy.

Month of July 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. William V. Carney.

DAY

EVENTS

- 1 Of the five EM that were transferred into this organization, from the 391st Signal Company (Avn) on 12 March 1944, and placed on DS for operating a telephone switchboard at Allied Air Force Area Command, in Foggia. 2 were reassigned to the 391st Sig Co and 2 were transferred to the Headquarters Squadron XV Air Force Service Command. Their presence were no longer required with the availability of Signal personnel located in that vicinity.

An organized recreational trip was scheduled to a beach on the Adriatic approximately 20 miles north of the unit bivouac area.

An inspection by the Medical Officer, Major Allison, was made on sanitation facilities in the camp area. Satisfactory results of his inspection was reported.

- 2 2 EM returned from Viesta rest camp before completing their authorized stay as a result of the disbandment of the camp.

Captain Thomas and First Sergeant Beach departed for Littoria Air Field, Rome to establish signal communication on the field.

A recreation trip was scheduled to Bari, Italy for EM wishing to visit hospitalized personnel formerly of this unit.

The serving of ice cream was a function of the EM's club following the evening meal.

With the CO establishing telephone, teletype, and radio communication at Littoria Air Field, it is rumored that this unit will move up to the Rome Area.

- 3 Unit Wire Chief and 4 linemen departed this morning for Littoria Field to set up telephone and Teletype lines for communication.

Several EM free of routine duties during the morning went out to the rifle range, some of the men had been out before but wanted to improve their score.

All personnel were called out during the afternoon for a thorough police of unit bivouac area. It being the day before Independence Day, it was decided that the camp should be put in tip top shape so that all could enjoy Independence Day to the utmost.

- 4 Many of the western men of this unit were furnished with transportation to Foggia to attend the Rodeo sponsored by the American Red Cross. All reported an amusing time.

- 5 7 EM were placed on DS at Littoria Air Field, for operating message center, Telephone switchboard and Teletype machines on the field.

Another group of EM were granted leave for the day to attend the Foggia Rodeo.

SECRET

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1629th Signal Co., Service Sq. San Severo Italy.

Month of July 1944. Prepared by: William W. Jarney, S/Sgt.

DAY

EVENT

- 6 4 More EM were placed on DS at Littoria Air Field with the Headquarters Squadron of the 34th Service Group, for taking part in signal communication on the field.

In order to balance signal operations at San Severo and Littoria it was necessary to spend several hours with section leaders reassigning personnel and altering past schedules.

- 7 A planned War Bond drive is under way for more sea sales among the personnel of this organization. Mr. Swinney is taking a very active lead in selling War Bonds. Individually each man is encouraged in cash purchases of bonds or establishing a class "B" allotment. A War Bond raffle is in operation within the Unit that is going very successful.

4 EM were given passes to attend the show "This is the Army", that was held at Foggia.

EM assigned to Control Tower Operations were called to attend a meeting at Base Operations. This meeting was based on problems that had come up in the past and consisted of a quiz, and questions of importance.

- 8 Men of the Motor Pool are utilizing their time in suppressing dust in the camp area by spraying the roads with diesel oil.

Three telephone lines were replaced by the line crew where the lines had been burnt out as a result of a fire on the air field.

Major McConnell and T/4th Cashill drove to Bari and back to pick up cryptographic material for this unit.

- 9 4 EM that had been on DS at Rome returned very much displeased as they had been pleased with their assignment while at Rome.

- 12 Another EM left by air for Littoria Field, to work in the Message Center.

T/Sgt Sturdivant used a 2 1/2 truck to pick up signal supplies at Bari. Our regular source of signal supply comes from Foggia, but on some occasions it is necessary to draw critical items from Bari.

- 13 Personnel of the company supply had their hands full today with the weekly issue of luxury rations that contained an additional amount of candy along with four cans of beer per man.

New Gas Masks were issued to replace the old type that was turned in.

Another group of men went out on the rifle range for target practice.



SECRET

Sheet No. 3 War diary. 1025rd Signal Co., Service Gp. San Severo Italy.

Month of July 1944. Prepared by : William V. Carney S/Sgt.

DAY

EVENT

- 14 M-1 carbine rifles were issued to the EI of this unit today. All of the 1918 modle 30 Caliber rifles were turned into the supply in exchange. This unit is now equiped with M-1 carbines and sub-machine guns, the sub-machine guns are only issued to the first three grades of Non-Commissioned Officers.

A three day pass was granted to 2 EI to visit Bari. These 2 men had been on DS at Bari during the later part of 1943 and had made acquaintance with EI there and took the occasion to call on them.

Salvage lumber is becoming very scarce with the fellows building themselves foot lockers. The personal appearance of the EI has been improved with the suitable storage facility for dress clothing.

Tech. 5th Grade Charles Replogle having returned from a 6 week hospitalized period at the 26th General Hospital, is again assigned to the motor pool section.

A War Bond raffle was held in our mess hall this evening. 5 - \$25.00 Bonds were raffled off as a result of Mr. Swimney's leadership in stimulating the sale of War Bonds.

- 15 S/Sgt. Van Natta drove to Foggia in a 2 1/2 ton truck to draw Signal Supplies. Most of the day was used in drawing the supplies as a large requisition was filled.

- 16 Several EI went to the Adriatic beach this afternoon to find relief from the over present heat. Our billating in tents during this hot period makes the beach all the more enjoyable as it is almost impossible to find any relief from the heat throughout the day in camp.

- 17 A general inspection of gas masks, rifles, quarters and the camp area was held by Captain Thomas during the morning.

The replacement of items of clothing and equipment turned in by individuals of this command as salvage was replaced with new items by the company supply.

- 18 Captain Thomas and First Sergeant Beach returned from Littoria Field after completing the establishment of Signal Communication on that field. Captain Thomas was hospitalized in Rome with an eye injury during the part of his stay in that area and was away from his command longer than he wanted to be.

- 19 A volley ball court was constructed in the area today. We had a court that we used during the late spring that we took down in order to utilize the area for relocating of the mess hall. Little participation is noticed in the playing of volley ball during the present hot season.



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Gp. San Severo Italy.

Month of July 1944. Prepared by: William V. Carney S/Sgt.

DAY

EVENTS

20 A photographer from the Public Relations Office called at our unit headquarters and photographed sections of the camp area for us. Most of the pictures taken were of improvised constructions that the fellows of this command had built in mobilizing parts of the operational sections. Photographs were also taken of our shower area.

21 A general meeting of Commanding Officers was called by the Group Commander in organizing a soldiers voting program. Mr. Swinney was appointed unit voting officer for this organization.

22 A open air meeting was held in our area by Captain Thomas during the evening. All members of this unit were present that could be spared from routine duties, and information on voting was explained. EM were also instructed to prepare their selves and their quarters for a General's presence that night visit the area.

30 EM attended a dance that was sponsored by the American Red Cross, in San Severo. Plenty of Italian girls and Red Cross workers were present making the dance a big success.

Mr. Swinney and 5 EM departed on SS for Littoria Field on matters pertaining to Signal Corps functions.

Much attention is being devoted in the preparation of a new telephone directory that will be in use for both the advance and rear echelon of the 34th Service Group.

25 The vast majority of personnel of this unit called at the group surgeon's office and received Typhus shots.

26 Several EM departed to join the advanced echelon of this unit at Littoria field where they will replace other personnel of this organization.

Two new Italian workers were hired to work in our mess hall and kitchen. They are being employed to replace Italian employees that have become lax in their duties.

Two EM of the 1033rd Signal Company, Service Group joined this organization by transfer, to work at their specialty, ~~that is~~ Cryptographic work.

Much excitement was noticed throughout the camp when a fire broke out in a near by field. The fire department came out and quickly extinguished it before any damage occurred to our government property.

Mr. Swinney and the 5 EM that accompanied him to Littoria Field returned in time for the evening meal. Satisfactory results were reported on operations at Littoria at present. It was reported that a change in teletype and telephone circuits would have to be made following XII Air Force Service Command move.



S E C R E T

SHEET No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Gp. San Severo Italy

Month or July 1944. Prepared by: William V. Carney S/Sgt.

DAY

EVENT

- 27 A rest camp has been set up by the advanced echelon of the 34th Service Group at Littoria. 5 E of this organization were placed on DS to this rest camp for a 3 day period. The men that will not have an opportunity to rotate on duty at Littoria will be given a rest period there.

Many fellows of this organization are boasting their bronze star for their participation in the territorial waters during the invasion of North Africa in November 1942.

Mr. Sales of the I.C.C. was here to gain information on cryptographic personnel.

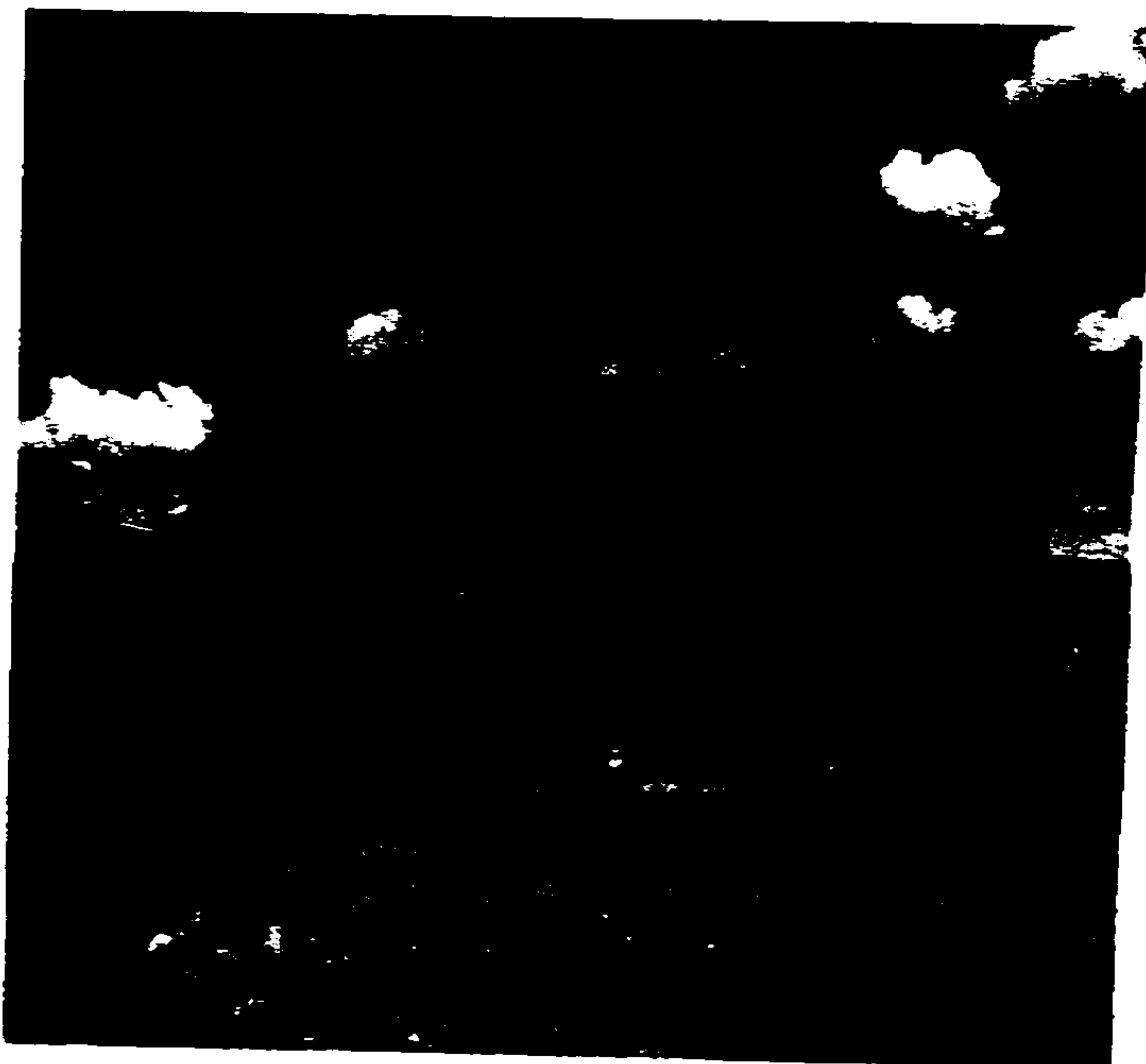
- 28 Five E that had been on duty at Littoria Air Field returned from DS. While some of the fellows regretted leaving Littoria, others were pleased to be with the rear echelon where they call home.

Many of the personnel attended a French Stage show held at the 34th Service Group Headquarters. The master of Ceremonies turned out to be a French man that conducted another French stage show in Africa while this organization was located there.

- 31 Regardless of the conditions, as usual the finance Office came through with the green backs. In place of the forgotten green back he gave us the familiar Italian Lire. That is being used while the Army is in Italy.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain Sig Corps  
Commanding



Radio Repair Section, 1023rd Signal Company (SC),  
located at San Severo Air Field, Italy.



This shelter located in the living area of the  
1023rd Signal Company (SC), San Severo, Italy.



RECEIVED THE ARCHIVES OF THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE	
AUG-1944	516-1023-H11(2)

516 1023h Log. 1. (23)  
 Aug 1944

MICROFILMED

5409-50

**SECRET**

**OUTLINE HISTORY  
AUGUST 1944**

Date of arrival - Camp Kilmer, New Jersey 12 August 1943. Authority: Par 2, SO # 159, Hq 57th Service Group, Lakeland, Fla. dated 10 August 1943.

Date of departure - Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, 20 August 1943.  
Authority: Movement Orders, Hq Camp Kilmer, N. J. dated 17 August 1943.

On board USAT Sloterdijk from 20 August 1943 to 6 September 1943.

Date of departure - USAT Sloterdijk 6 September 1943.

Date of arrival - Bivouac area near Biserette, Tunisia 6 September 1943.

Date of departure - Bivouac area, Biserte, Tunisia 9 September 1943. Authority: Movement Order # 25, Hq XII AFSC dated 1 September 1943.

Date of arrival - Air Force Ordnance Depot # 5, Djedeida, Tunisia 9 September 1943. Authority: Movement Order # 25, Hq XII AFSC dated 1 Sept. 1943.

B Date of departure - Air Force Ordnance Depot # 5, Djedeida, Tunisia, 4 October 1943. Authority: Par. 8, SO # 261, Hq XII AFSC dated 3 October 1943.

Date of arrival - Air Force General Depot # 4, Maison Blanche, Algeria 8 October 1943. Authority: Par 8, SO # 261, Hq. XII AFSC, dated 3 October 1943.

Date of departure - Air Force General Depot # 4, Maison Blanche, Algeria (1st detachment consisting of 2 Officers and 33 EN) 15 August 1944. Authority: Movement Order # 78, Hq. I ASAC (Sp) dated 13 August 1944. Date of departure: - Air Force General Depot # 4, Maison Blanche, Algeria (Unit, less detachment referred to above, consisting of 1 Officer and 53 EN) 24 August, 1944. Authority: Movement Order # 80, Hq I ASAC (Sp) dated 24 August 1944.

Date of arrival - Air Force Sub Depot # 12, La Senia, Algeria (1st detachment consisting of 2 Officers and 33 EN) 15 August 1944. Authority: Movement Order # 78, Hq I ASAC (Sp) dated 13 August 1944. Date of arrival - Air Force Sub Depot # 12, La Senia Algeria (Unit, less detachment referred to above, consisting of 1 Officer and 53 EN) 24 August 1944. Stationed at ASD # 12 at present time.

E. Marches - None.

F. Campaigns - None

G. Battles - None

H. Commanding Officers in important engagements - No important engagements.

I. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action. None

J. Losses in action, Officers and men - None.

K. Photographs of personnel, important scenes or events - None.

**SECRET**



519-1223-11  
4-4-42

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944: Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech., 4th Grade.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 34rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 519th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 55 E/M).

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 16 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Forces, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, File AG 322.07/105 A-M.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) At beginning of month: | 1 O; 1 W/O; 88 E/M. |
| (2) Net increase:          | 1 O; 0 W/O; 0 E/M.  |
| (3) Net Decrease:          | 0 O; 0 W/O; 1 E/M.  |
| (4) At end of month:       | 2 O; 1 W/O; 87 E/M. |

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 28 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 18 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |

S E C R E T

54-09-50

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Outline History, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month Of August 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

(6) Camp Hilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22 November 1942
	Date of Departure:	11 December 1942
(7) Craw Field, Port Lyautey	Date of Arrival:	1 December 1942
French Morocco.	Date of Departure:	18 March 1943
(8) Telergma, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	30 March 1943
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30 March 1943
	Date of Departure:	16 April 1943
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16 April 1943
	Date of Departure:	1 June 1943
(11) Harman Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1 June 1943
	Date of Departure:	4 August 1943
(12) Menzel Beur, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4 August 1943
	Date of Departure:	14 October 1943
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	24 October 1943
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	29 October 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 November 1943
	Date of Departure:	9 December 1943
(16) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 December 1943
	Date of Departure:	13 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	13 January 1944

e. MARCHES: None

f. CAMPAIGNS: None

g. BATTLES: None

h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None  
(unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. F.W.H. Wenner,  
12 February 1941 - 3 July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Calkins, 4 July 1941 -  
4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Kemmer, 5 October 1943 - 23 April 1944;  
Capt. Harold F. Thomas, 24 April 1944 - To date).

i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None

j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None

k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Comdg

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

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**A. HEADQUARTERS SECTION**

- (1) 18 E/M and 2 Officers are assigned to the Hq's section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation, and messing for this organization.
- (2) Average period of performance of duty per day per man is 8 hours with one day free of duty every 10 days, with the exception of cooks that work on alternating days.
- (3)
  - a Organization administration with 3 E/M assigned are performing routine personnel and organization administration as pertains to the personnel of this unit.
  - b The company supply which consists of 2 E/M and 1 Warrant Officer, utilize their time in drawing and issuing necessary clothing and equipment. In addition to their regular duties they issue PX luxury rations 1 day each week.
  - c The motor pool personnel which consists of 5 E/M with 1 additional man assigned on the courier, utilize their time in general repair and maintenance of vehicles. They have repainted 2 trucks and trailers, replaced a front drive on a weapons carrier. They haul water for our mess facilities each day. In addition to their regular duties, they have remodeled the shop truck and worked on our shower unit. They are servicing 17 vehicles and 2 power units at all times. Work for outside units such as welding and repair is also being carried on.
  - d 1 2 1/2 ton truck is being used for drawing signal supplies from Foggia, Italy, and 1 2 1/2 ton truck is being used on a steady run to Littoria Field, Rome, for transporting men and signal equipment. 1 jeep is being used for messenger runs and another jeep is being steadily used for transporting men on duty at 34th Hq's and the San Severo, Air Field.

**B. RADIO SECTION**

- (1) 10 E/M are assigned to the radio receiving and transmitting section for operating the net, with 2 E/M assigned to station maintenance work which makes a total of 12 E/M under this section. This unit has 2 stations in operation, one at Littoria Field Rome Italy and one at San Severo, Italy.
- (2) 66 messages were received and 82 messages were transmitted throughout the month, making a total of 148 messages handled consisting a total of 8,470 groups.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

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RADIO SECTION (Continued)

- (3) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty for 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man.

C. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 officer and 6 E/A are assigned to the 2 code rooms and message centers operated by this unit. 1 additional man is assigned as a messenger.
- (2) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man in this section.
- (3) During the month, 142 incoming messages and 142 outgoing messages were handled making a total of 7,156 groups.

D. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1) A total of 9 E/A are assigned to the teletype section. 1 chief operator, 1 regular operator and 1 teletype mechanic are assigned to teletype duty with the 90th Photographic Wing Reconnaissance, at San Severo, 2 operators are assigned to a station at the San Severo Air Base and 2 operators and 1 mechanic are assigned to the advanced command Littoria field, Rome.
- (2) Personnel from this unit performing duty at the 90th AR put in a total of 515 hours for the month of August. Personnel performing duty at the San Severo air base operate a schedule of 18 hours daily, with a total of 510 hours for the month, while the operators at Littoria field who operate on a 24 hour schedule worked a total of 744 hours for the month. Total number of hours performed by these men were 1259 for the month.
- (3) Total number of outgoing groups at the 90th Wing for the month were 1,031,235 total incoming were 239,024 groups. At the San Severo air field, a total number of outgoing groups handled were 2567, incoming 7201, total number outgoing groups handled at Littoria field were 25,980 incoming 620 groups.
- (4) Total equipment being used consists of 6 TC-7-B teletypes and 2 M-19 machines with transmitters, 2 teletype switchboards, 1 teletype swbd rectifier, 1 perforator and 1 transmitter - distributor.
- (5) 9 E/A are assigned to the telephone maintenance section that service the lines and phones of the 4th Service Group and the San Severo air field.
- (6) E/A of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off out of every 10 days.
- (7) A new switchboard was installed at the 4th Sqs and the balance of the month was used in regular routine repair and maintenance work.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944. Prepared by : Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

E. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 officer and 2 E/A are assigned to the signal supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the 24 organizations serviced.
- (2) E/ of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with 1 day free of duty every 10 days.
- (3) During the month, 17 requisitions were submitted to AFAD depot # 53, for signal supplies for all units serviced by this service center. 27 tally-outs were received from AFAD # 53 and 51 tally-outs were issued. Approximately 2/3 of supplies requisitioned during the month were received and issued by this section.
- (4) No Stand-by power units were received to date for units authorized stand-by equipment. We salvaged and requisitioned 1 PE-95 power unit for the 314 signal co. wing. No additional photographic supplies were received to date for units of the 90th FWR.
- (5) Expendable requisitions are submitted twice monthly and supplies will be drawn for a 15 day period.
- (6) Requisitions for the photographic supplies for units of the 90th FWR are submitted through this service center and forwarded through A.F.A.D. #53.

F. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE SECTION

- (1) 6 E/A are assigned to this section for servicing, replacing, repairing and installing radio sets used in the aircraft located on the San Severo air field. Total number of men working on VHF are 2, on IFF are 1 and the total number of men working on airborne and general repair are 3.
- (2) E/A of this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 32 with 1 day off each week.
- (3) Amount of work accomplished in repairing sets in transit aircraft were: 27 IFF sets repaired, 54 VHF sets repaired and 35 airborne sets repaired. 1 Iff was installed in a C-47 and 1 radio compass was installed in a P-38 aircraft.

G. CONTROL TOWER OPERATION

- (1) 7 E/A are assigned to control tower operation.
- (2) E/A of this section work an average of 5 hours daily with 1 day off each week.
- (3) The following organizations serviced from the tower are the 31st Fighter Group, 60th South African Photo Squadron (British) 32nd Photo Squadron, 662nd and 663rd Photo Squadron (British) and the 90th FWR Hq., Sq. Transits.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro T/4th Grade.

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H. RADIO NEWS.

- (1) 3 E/ are assigned to the news section (pinpoints) of the 90th Photograph Wing Reconnaissance, for the purpose of radio operations and publishing of the Reuters daily news which is circulated throughout this area.
- (2) 2 E/ radio operators are copying news, and 1 E/ operates the mimeograph machine. These men work an average of 5 hours daily with one day off each week. These 3 E/ are being relieved at the end of the month and will be placed in another section of the company.
- (3) 2 legal sheets are printed on both sides daily, other than on Monday, giving the latest world news as received from BBC.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig Corps  
Commanding

S E C R E T



SECRET

Sheet No. 1    Ter iary.    1025r Signal o., service comp.    San Severo, Italy.

Month of August 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Lindro. 10-1-44 refs.

DAY

100

- 1 The Group Dental Officer is present in our area this morning examining teeth of members of this unit who will be called up from time to time for having necessary repair work done.

An inspection of W's service records from this unit was held at JAG's camp headquarters this afternoon. Mr. [redacted] of [redacted] and 1st Sgt [redacted] were present to give necessary information that might be required.

A mechanical sprayer is being used in our area for exterminating flies and other insects. Each vent is being treated with a toxic dose of spray.

- 2 W/C Skinner, our soldier voting officer, is busy these days registering W/ of this unit for election ballots.

5. L E/ From this unit departs for the rest camp at Victoria today for a period of 3 days.

Several non-accidents occurred from this unit reported to the gas headquarters for instructions on the new line which was used so that they may give proper instructions to our unit personnel. Arrangements are to be made to use the gas chamber to check the fitting of the mask on all personnel.

- 5 our company supply persons. They are busy today moving their office from the tent into their mobile office trailer which they constructed this summer.

- 10 Captain Neal Albert who was formerly with the 101st Signal Company Service Group, was transferred into our organization as our principal supply officer.

- 11 Captain Thomas and his men left for Victoria in the morning, returning to this island.

The other pool personnel are also resigning. Our water heating unit for the mess.

- 16 in order was put out by our ... the morning in regards to bringing in a fence  
the land area. The fence is now been adjusted into the area largely for  
now on we are required to have proper permission before any more are put in.

- 14 Inspection of rifles and equipment was, quarters and area was held in organization this morning by W/ J. Schney.

Our supply is left for Mogria in a 2 ton so that necessary signal is sent.

our boundary staff personnel are busy handling claims of the

The signing of the "no roll" was the main event of the day as most everyone looks forward to pay day since we are allowed to pay money to bank.

Concentration of inhibitor (mole/l)	Rate of polymerization (mole/l·hr) - Series (a)	Rate of polymerization (mole/l·hr) - Series (b)	Rate of polymerization (mole/l·hr) - Series (c)
0	0.0008	0.0006	0.0004
0.0001	0.0006	0.0004	0.0003
0.0002	0.0005	0.0003	0.0002
0.0005	0.0003	0.0002	0.0001
0.001	0.0002	0.0001	0.0001

SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Air Diary. 1025th Signal Co., Aerial Recon. Sq. 30th Air Div., Italy.

Month of August 1944. Air diary by: Albert J. Brown, Captain, USAF.

DAY

- 16 An orientation lecture was held in our area this morning for all personnel of this unit. The subject was "The Air Force in Italy". The lecture was given by the unit commander. The lecture was very interesting and informative. It was a very good lecture and was well received by the personnel.

The personnel of the unit were very interested in the lecture and were very attentive. The lecture was very well organized and was very informative.

- 17 A 1/2 day leave was granted to the personnel of the unit for a period of 3 days. The personnel of the unit were very happy and were very grateful for the leave.

A raffle was held in our area this evening. The raffle was very successful and was very well received by the personnel.

- 18 The personnel of the unit were very happy and were very grateful for the leave.

A 1/2 day leave was granted to the personnel of the unit for a period of 3 days. The personnel of the unit were very happy and were very grateful for the leave.

Several of the personnel of the unit were very happy and were very grateful for the leave.

A steady shower of rain forced everyone to leave their tent early this evening. A good shower of rain is really welcome these days as the intense heat has hit most everyone down.

- 19 A 1/2 day leave was granted to the personnel of the unit for a period of 3 days. The personnel of the unit were very happy and were very grateful for the leave.

A large map of Italy is being kept up in our day room to familiarize ourselves on the latest war movements. The map is in charge and responsible in keeping the map up to date.

1st Sgt. [Name] left for the day today in regards to matters pertaining to this unit.

- 20 Several of the personnel of the unit left for the Adriatic sea this afternoon for swimming and recreational purposes and to secure relief from the intense heat that we have been having the past few days.

- 21 Our CO. held an inspection of quarters and area this morning.

Drawings were held this evening for the next group of personnel to go to the coast. Drawings are being held for all personnel who do not have the opportunity to go to Littoria Field on 10 so that everyone may have the chance to visit Rome.

SECRET



SECRET

Sheet No. 3 War Diary. 1025th Signal Co., Service Company. San Severo, Italy.

cont. of 1st 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Duffin, 1025th Signal Co.

DAY

21-25

22 Several of us went out to the rifle range to familiarize ourselves in the use of fire arms.

This unit was well represented at the San Severo parade to celebrate the end of the war.

23 A promotional film was shown in the mess hall and the last night of the war. "The End of the War" was shown in the mess hall.

24 The 1025th Signal Co. was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for its actions during the war.

25 3 of our unit were relieved of duty at the 1025th Signal Co. and were sent to work in the mess hall. These 3 were to be placed in various other positions of the company where they are most needed.

Our supply of food is several days ahead of the other units and we have been issued new carbine rifles.

Another rifle was held in the area this evening and the 1025th Signal Co. was also for refilling of several extra magazines, such as cigarette lighter, shaving lotion, hair oil etc.

26 Sgt Jacobson and 3 of our unit departed for Lintoria field and return to deliver signal supplies for the advanced section.

Capt Thomas went to Aggia to obtain salvaged pipe for construction of a running water system for our mess.

27 A general clean up was held in our area this morning prior to an inspection. Inspectors and mess were also inspected and all water barrels were refilled for fire prevention.

Our signal section was inspected and was repaired by 1st Lt. Thomas for improved reception.

Our mess hall and mess are native born but the 1025th Signal Co. is the favorite food from the war fronts.

Major Lewis and 1st Lt. Thomas then gave headquarters inspection of our area and returned this afternoon. They both expressed their satisfaction of the inspection.

28 Sgt Jacobson and several of our unit returned from Lintoria field and to visit a former member of this unit who is in the hospital.

Our mess hall and mess are native born but the 1025th Signal Co. is the favorite food from the war fronts.

SECRET

SECRET

West No. 1 Air Base. 102nd Air Div. C., San Severo, Italy.

Dated 27 August 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Moore, American base.

DAY

REPORT

28 2 civilian Italians have been hired to improve our latrine and sewage facilities.

2. Members of this organization are now wearing their own brass star. These were in the list of Alex Smith. The release of Alex Smith's name in November 1942.

New uniforms have been issued to the Germans who have lost theirs. The uniforms in San Severo are wearing on the 2nd day and are not yet delivered. The uniforms will be delivered.

The service of the area was a function of the 1st Air Division, the service area.

29 A group of 100 men and women were in which a train of 100 men and women about the 100 men and women were in which a train of 100 men and women in regards to our inspection last Saturday.

The 2 civilian employees are working for us are working in the area and improving conditions of the area.

30 Majority of the company attended the orientation lecture and picture show "Europe & Africa" which was held at the opera house in San Severo. Several of the men recognized the city of San Severo, which in the picture where we were stationed during part of the Russian campaign.

A 2-ton truck was used to haul several 7/ to the Adriatic beach for training and recreational purposes this afternoon.

One of the civilian employees had the misfortune to injure himself while scaffolding a fellow employee this morning. He received a slight concussion of the brain while the horse-lay and was immediately brought to the Italian hospital in San Severo.

31 Military rations and pay cash was the main event of the day. Many cars were noticed throughout the area between 7/ and were not on duty. The personnel clerk was also busy taking in money for 100 and deposits for finance savings.

*Harold F. Thomas*

ALVIN L. MOORE  
Capt Sig C  
Commanding

SECRET



RECORDED	SEP-1944
THE ARCHIVES	
THE AAF	
HISTORICAL OFFICE	

SIG-1023-H1(20)

Hi 1023d Lig. Co. (E3)  
 1944

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S19-1023-41  
SEPT-44

S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

OUTLINE HISTORY

FOR

SEPTEMBER 1944



S E C R E T

55-8495



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Outline History. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944: Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT

- (1) Designation: 23rd Signal Platoon.
- (2) Place of organization: Hamilton Field, California.
- (3) Date of organization: 12 February 1941.
- (4) Authority for organization: Not available.
- (5) Sources from which personnel was obtained: Transfer from 319th Signal Aviation Company (1 Officer, 55 E/M).

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

1. (1) Redesignated: 23rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Paine Field, Everett, Washington.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 16 July 1942.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: General Orders No. 69, Headquarters, Fourth Air Force, San Francisco, California.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.
2. (1) Redesignated: 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group.  
(2) Place of redesignation: Souk El Arba, Tunisia.  
(3) Date of redesignation: 15 May 1943.  
(4) Authority for redesignation: Letter Headquarters, North African Theater of Operation, United States Army, file AG 322.07/105 A-M.  
(5) Source from which personnel was obtained: Personnel retained in unit upon redesignation.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) At beginning of month: | 2 O; 1 W/O; 87 E/M. |
| (2) Net increase:          | 0 O; 0 W/C; 1 E/M.  |
| (3) Net Decrease:          | 0 O; 0 W/O; 2 E/M.  |
| (4) At end of Month:       | 2 O; 1 W/O; 86 E/M. |

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

- |                                 |                     |                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (1) Hamilton Field, California  | Date of Activation: | 12 February 1941 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 25 May 1941      |
| (2) Paine Field, Washington     | Date of Arrival:    | 28 May 1941      |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 August 1942    |
| (3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash. | Date of Arrival:    | 1 August 1942    |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 15 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 17 November 1942 |
| (4) Fort Dix, New Jersey        | Date of Arrival:    | 19 October 1942  |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 November 1942  |
| (5) Casablanca, French Morocco  | Date of Arrival:    | 18 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 1 December 1942  |
| (6) Camp Kilmer, New Jersey     | Date of Arrival:    | 22 November 1942 |
|                                 | Date of Departure:  | 11 December 1942 |

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Outline History: 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944 Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

(7) Craw Field, Port Lyautey French Morocco.	Date of Arrival: 1 December 1942 Date of Departure: 18 March 1943
(8) Telergma, Algeria	Date of Arrival: 24 March 1943 Date of Departure: 30 March 1943
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival: 30 March 1943 Date of Departure: 16 April 1943
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival: 16 April 1943 Date of Departure: 1 June 1943
(11) Harman Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival: 1 June 1943 Date of Departure: 4 August 1943
(12) Menzel Heurr, Tunisia	Date of Arrival: 4 August 1943 Date of Departure: 14 October 1943
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival: 15 October 1943 Date of Departure: 24 October 1943
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival: 29 October 1943 Date of Departure: 9 November 1943
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival: 9 November 1943 Date of Departure: 9 December 1943
(16) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival: 9 December 1943 Date of Departure: 13 January 1944
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival: 13 January 1944

e. MARCHES: None

f. CAMPAIGNS: None

g. BATTLES: None

h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None

(Unit has had following Commanding Officers: 1st Lt. F.W.H. Wehner, 12 February 1941 - July 1941; Capt. Wesley E. Calkins, 4 July 1941 - 4 October 1943; Lt. Robert J. Kemmer, 5 October 1943 - 23 April 1944; Capt. Harold F. Thomas, 24 April 1944 - To date).

i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None

j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None

k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C Comdg

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

ANNEX TO OUTLINE HISTORY

FOR

SEPTEMBER 1944



S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

A. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 20 E/M and 2 Officers are assigned to the Hq's section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation, and messing for this organization.
- (2) Average period of performance of duty per day per man is 8 hours with one day free of duty every 10 days, with the exception of cooks that work on alternating days.
- (3)
  - a Organization administration with 3 E/M assigned are performing routine personnel and organization administration as pertains to the personnel of this unit.
  - b The company supply which consists of 2 E/M and 1 warrant Officer, utilize their time in drawing and issuing necessary clothing and equipment. In addition to their regular duties they issue PX luxury rations 1 day each week.
  - c The motor pool personnel which consists of 6 E/M with 1 additional man assigned on the courier, utilize their time in general repair and maintenance of vehicles. They have repainted 3 vehicles, repaired tarps and bows on truck's and enclosed the back end on the shop truck. They maintain and care of all power supply. They are servicing 17 vehicles at all times. Work for outside units such as welding and repair are also being carried on.

B. RADIO SECTION

- (1) 10 E/M are assigned to the radio receiving and transmitting section for operating the net, with 2 E/M assigned to station maintenance work which makes a total of 12 E/M under this section. This unit has 2 stations in operation, one at Littoria Field Rome Italy and one at San Severo, Italy. Both these stations discontinued their operations at the end of the month to prepare to move to our new location at Pamigliano, Italy.
- (2) 100 incoming messages were received and 90 messages were transmitted throughout the month, making a total of 190 messages handled consisting of a total of 3,069 groups.
- (3) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty for 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Teen 4th Grade.

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C. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 6 E/M are assigned to the 2 code rooms and message centers operated by this unit. 1 additional man is assigned as a messenger.
- (2) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty 8 hours per shift with 16 hours off duty. One full day each week is free of duty for each man in this section.
- (3) Number of incoming messages handled during the month were 100, outgoing were 90 making a total of 1,009 groups.

D. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE SECTION.

- (1) 6 E/M are assigned to this section for servicing, replacing, repairing and installing radio sets used in the aircraft located on the San Severo, air field. Total number of men working on VHF are 2, on IFF is 1 and on airborne and general repair are 3 men.
- (2) E/M of this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 32 with 1 day off each week.
- (3) Amount of work accomplished in repairing sets in transit aircraft were:  
25 VHF sets repaired, 8 IFF sets, 35 airborne and general sets repaired and repairing of sets in the control tower.

E. CONTROL TOWER OPERATION

- (1) 7 E/M are assigned to control tower operation, located out at the San Severo airbase.
- (2) E/M of this section work an average of 5 hours daily with 1 day off each week.
- (3) The following organizations serviced from the tower are the 31st Fighter Gp, 60th South African Photo Squadron (British) 52nd Photo Squadron 682nd and 683rd Photo Squadron (British) and the 90th P.R. Sq., Sq. transits.
- (4) These E/M discontinue their operations at the air base on the 30th of September to make preparations in moving to Pamigliano, Italy on the first of the month.

F. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 officer and 2 E/M are assigned to the signal supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the 24 organizations serviced.
- (2) E/M of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with 1 day free of duty every 10 days.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

F. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION (CONTINUED)

- (3) During the month, 7 requisitions were submitted to AFAD depot # 55, for signal supplies for all units serviced by this service center. 10 tally-outs were received from AFAD # 55 and 55 tally-outs were issued. Approximately 2/3 of supplies requisitioned during the month were received and issued by this organization.
- (4) Expendable requisitions are submitted twice monthly and supplies will be drawn for a 15 day period.
- (5) Requisitions for the Photographic supplies for units of the 90th P.R. are submitted through this service center and forwarded through A.F.A.D. # 55.

G. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1) A total of 9 E/M are assigned to the teletype section. 1 chief operator, and 5 regular operators and 1 teletype mechanic are assigned to teletype duty at the advanced echelon Littoria Field, Rome. 1 teletype mechanic is assigned to duty with the 90th Photographic Wing Reconnaissance, at San Severo, Italy and 5 operators are assigned to duty at base operations San Severo air base.
- (2) E/M of this section work an average of 8 hours out of every 32 hours.
- (3) a Enlisted personnel assigned to the operations of the 3 telephone switchboards operated by this unit are 5 E/M per board with a total of 15 operators. One board is located at Littoria Field, Rome, Italy, one is located at 54th Service Center San Severo, while the third one is located at the San Severo Air Field to facilitate base operations.  
  
b Telephone operators work an average of 6 hour shifts with 24 hours off following each shift.
- (4) a 9 E/M are assigned to the telephone maintenance section that service the lines and phones of the 54th Service Center, base operations at San Severo Air Field and base operations Littoria Field.  
  
b E/M of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day off out of every 10 days.  
  
c The EM on DS at Littoria Field installed 8 miles of 5 and 10 pr rubber cable, 16 new terminal strips located at important points on the field, moved and relocated switchboard, picked up and salvaged approximately 75 miles of used field wire. The maintenance section at San Severo utilized their time in checking and maintaining phones, routine line repair and picking up field wire.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Signal Corps  
Commanding

S E C R E T



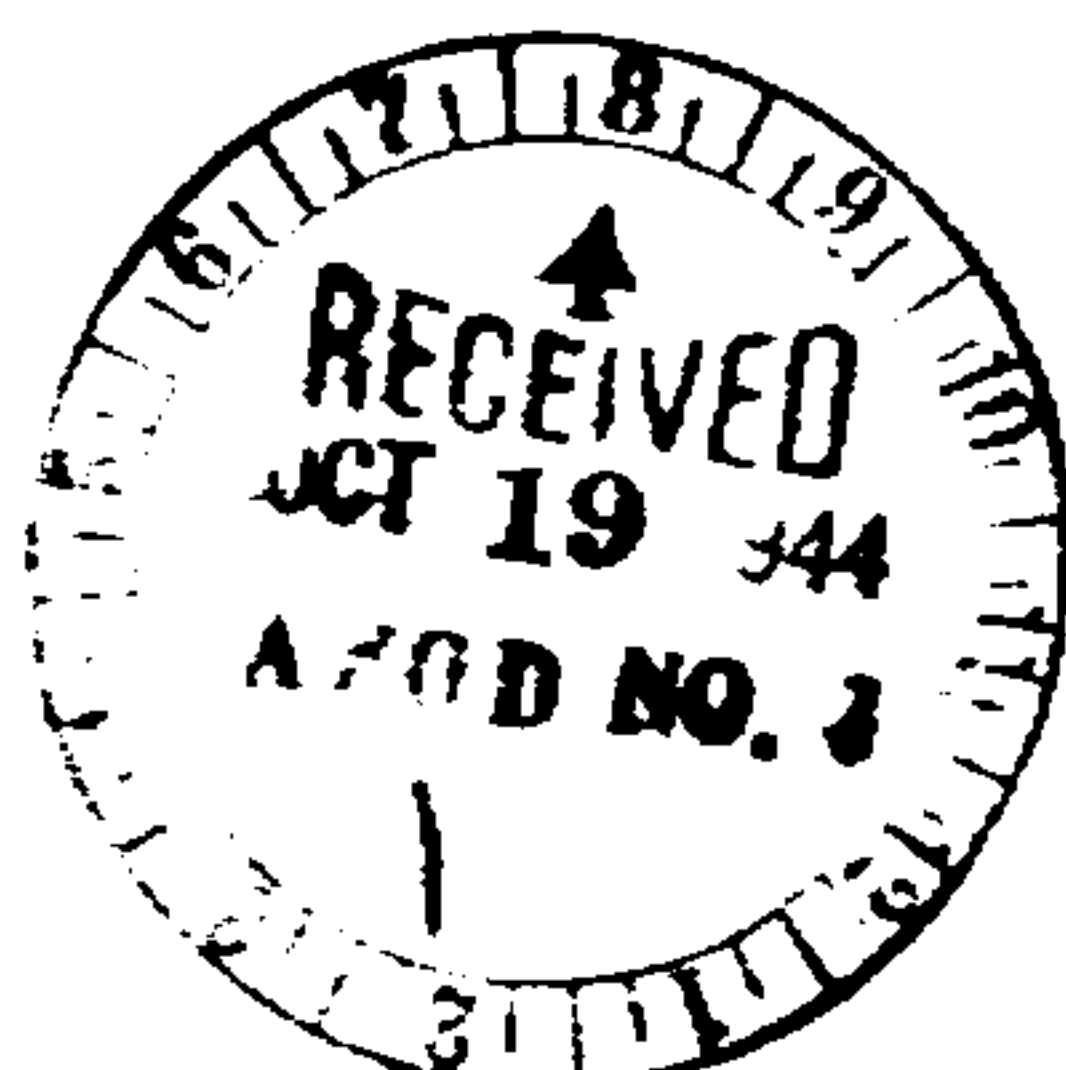
S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

WAR DIARY

FOR

SEPTEMBER 1944



S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month Of September 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

DATE

EVENTS

- 1 Captain Thomas, 1st Sgt Beach and Sgt Wattenbarger departed for Littoria Field on matters pertaining to this command.

10 E/M from this unit were present at the San Severo Stadium for a practice review this morning.

Lt , Col Eddy, Group Commander of the 24th Service Center, inspected our area and quarters this morning.

Major Kahn, from Group Headquarters was here to gain information on matters pertaining to signal supply.

- 2 Our area and quarters were policed up this morning again, rumors are that Gen Ecker may visit this vicinity in the near future.

- 4 S/Sgt Peterson from the 26th General Hospital was transferred into our organization today. Sgt Peterson was a former member of this organization up until last spring when he had the misfortune to injure his foot while removing a truck bed. He is now working in the company supply.

Our company supply personnel are busy rearranging boxes in the supply tent in preparation of repainting them in the near future.

Ice cream and cake were served in the day room this evening.

- 5 We recieved some badly needed recreational equipment from the Special Service today. Ping pong balls, playing cards, cribbage boards etc.

- 6 Approximately 45 E/M from this unit attended the orientation lecture and show held at the Opera House in San Severo this morning, the title "Why we Fight", showing the invasion of Poland up to the Blitz in England.

The mechanical fly sprayer was out to our area again this morning, spraying the tents and quarters against flies and mosquitos.

- 7 A picture show was held at the Opera House, showing the cause and results of syphilis. 2 shows were held, one at 1500 hr and the other at 1800 hr so that all members of the organization would have the opportunity to attend.

PX rations was the main function of the day.

- 8 Our signal supply Sgt went to Foggia this morning to draw necessary signal supplies.

T/S Parker, a member of our organization was admitted to the 4th Field Hospital for an appendicitis operation this morning.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

DAY

EVENTS

- 9 Major Seals, from Group Hqs inspected our area and quarters this morning. The inspection must have been satisfactory as he appeared very pleased with the results.

The fly spraying crew is out to our area again exterminating flies and other insects.

Red Cross girl from San Severo served doughnuts to us during the noon meal.

- 11 Several E/M left for Littoria Field and Rome this morning on DS and recreation. Several E/M from the 514th Service Squadron accompanied them there.

A large map of the European continent was placed in our day room so that we can familiarize ourselves with the latest developments on the war fronts.

- 13 An orientation show was held at the Opera House today. "Two Worlds" was the feature.

- 14 Motor pool personnel are busy with their paint sprayer, painting boxes for the company and signal supply in preparation for future movements.

Several new tents are being replaced in our area these days, several of the old ones are badly need of repair. Several E/M are busy patching the tents that are not too serious worn. This is all being done before the rainy season begins.

- 15 Physical inspection was held in our area this afternoon by the Group Medical Officer. Signing of the pay-roll was the main function of the day.

- 17 Several E/M returned from Rome this evening where they have been on pass.

1st Sgt left for Littoria Field today on matters pertaining to this unit.

- 18 T/Sgt Sturdivant and Cpl Abernathy left for Foggia to draw Signal supplies.

A group meeting was held in our area this evening, where our C O informed us about preparing for future movements.

- 20 This unit was well represented at the orientation show "Battle with Russia" which was held in the San Severo Opera House.

- 21 Plans are being made for loading trucks when we move. New boxes are being constructed and painted for the supply.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group. San Severo, Italy.

Month of September 1944. Prepared by; Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

DATE

EVENTS

- 21 Pfc Jack Morris of this organization left for the Replacement Depot to return to the states on rotation. Pfc Morris has over 2 years of foreign service in and is the 3rd member to leave this organization under this plan.
- 22 Mr. Swinney and S/Sgt Carney from this unit were appointed administrative inspectors to inspect Co records for the 1940th Qtr.
- Several E/M from this unit who are stationed at DS at Littoria Field, departed for Panigliano, Italy to set up installations.
- 23 Area and quarters were prepared for inspection this morning.
- 24 5 E/M departed for Panigliano Italy with a load of equipment where they will set up a radio station.
- 25 Several E/M are busy these days removing the day room and several tents which will be transported to our new destination. The shower room is also being taken down including the large tank and pipes.
- 27 Orders were postponed for several men that were to depart for Panigliano Italy this morning, the reason was due to the lack of room in the buildings that we are to occupy.
- T/S Parker returned from the 4th Field Hospital where he had been a patient for for the past 3 weeks.
- 28 Cold weather the past few days have forced many of the members to refill their mattress covers with straw.
- S/Sgt Haas left our organization for the Replacement Pool, he was informed by the Red Cross of the serious illness of his mother and is expecting a emergency furlough back to the states. Sgt Haas was our chief teletype operator and has been in this organization for the past 2 1/2 years, 21 months being spent overseas.
- 29 A severe hail storm took place in this vicinity this afternoon raising havoc with the olives and gardens in this area.
- 30 7 E/M from this organization received commendation from the 90th PRW for their excellent performance in handling traffic from the control tower at the San Severo Air Base.
- Pay Call was the main event of the day. The personnel section was busy handling P.T.A. and Finance deposits.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Sig C  
Commanding

S E C R E T



RESEARCH ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE	OCT-1944
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516-1023-HA (20)

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1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

OUTLINE HISTORY

FOR

OCTOBER 1944

S E C R E T

56.116-13



SECRET

Sheet No. 1 Outline History. 1023rd Signal Co., Serv Co. Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT: No Change.

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION: No Change.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

(1) At beginning of month:	2 O; 1 W/O; 86 E/L.
(2) Net increase:	0 O; 0 W/O; 0 E/L.
(3) Net Decrease:	0 O; 0 W/O; 1 E/L.
(4) At end of month:	2 O; 1 W/O; 85 E/L.

d. STATICS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

(1) Hamilton Field, California	Date of Activation:	12/Feb/41
	Date of Departure:	25/May/41
(2) Paine Field, Washington	Date of Arrival:	28/May/41
	Date of Departure:	1/Aug/42
(3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash	Date of Arrival:	1/Aug/42
	Date of Departure:	15/Oct/42
	Date of Departure:	17/Nov/42
(4) Fort Dix, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	19/Oct/42
	Date of Departure:	1/Nov/42
(5) Casablanca, French Morocco	Date of Arrival:	18/Nov/42
	Date of Departure:	1/Dec/42
(6) Camp Hilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22/Nov/42
	Date of Departure:	11/Dec/42
(7) Craw Field, Fort Lyautey French Morocco.	Date of Arrival:	1/Dec/42
	Date of Departure:	18/Mar/43
(8) Telerma, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24/Mar/43
	Date of Departure:	30/Mar/43
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30/Mar/43
	Date of Departure:	16/Apr/43
(10) Souk El Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16/Apr/43
	Date of Departure:	1/June/43
(11) Hamman Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1/June/43
	Date of Departure:	4/Aug/43
(12) Menzel Beurr, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4/Aug/43
	Date of Departure:	14/Oct/43
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15/Oct/43
	Date of Departure:	24/Oct/43
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	29/Oct/43
	Date of Departure:	9/Nov/43
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9/Nov/43
	Date of Departure:	9/Dec/43
(16) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9/Dec/43
	Date of Departure:	13/Jan/44
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	15/Jan/44
	Date of Departure:	5/Oct/44
(18) Pomigliano, Italy	Date of Arrival:	5/Oct/44

SECRET

SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Outline History. 1623rd Signal Co., Serv Gp. Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by Alvin L. Landro, Tech, 4th Grade.

- e. MARCHES: None
- f. CAMPAIGNS: None
- g. BATTLES: None
- h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT BATTLES: None
- i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None
- j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None
- k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain Signal Corps  
Commanding

SECRET



S E C R E T

102ND SIGNAL COMPANY SECTION GROUP

ANNEX TO OUTLINE HISTORY

FOR

OCTOBER 1944

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Pomigliano, Italy

Month of October 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

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A. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 19 EM and 2 Officers are assigned to the Hq's section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation, and messing for the organization.
- (2) Average performance of duty per day covers a period of 8 hours with one day free of duty every 10 days, with the exception of the cooks that work on alternating days.
- (3)
  - a Organization administration with 3 EM assigned are performing routine personnel and organization administration as pertains to the personnel of this unit.
  - b The company supply which consists of three EM and one Warrant Officer, utilize their time in drawing and issuing necessary clothing and equipment. All supply boxes and crates are now stored in the basement; one tent is used for storing some tent poles and some lumber. The office of our company supply is in a mobile trailer outside the building. In addition to their other duties, they draw FA luxury rations every 2 weeks and beer rations every week. "Coke" rations have not been regular, - one "coke" ration in 4 weeks.
  - c The motor pool personnel which consists of 6EM with one additional man as courier spend their time repairing and maintaining the vehicles and power units of the organization. They are servicing 17 vehicles at the present time. This month they have overhauled one Wisconsin Power Unit, put new brake shoes on one weapons carrier, re-painted 2 jeeps, repaired tarpaulins, and helped repair a building for the shop. Drivers also hauled gravel and picked up miscellaneous supplies for the company.

B. RADIO SECTION

During the past month the radio section has not been operating due to the excellent facilities of our teletype section. Also our present location does not demand a radio section. The men normally employed in this section have been working on the line-crew and on various details such as white-washing the ceilings and walls, hauling gravel, etc.

C. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE.

- (1) 6 EM assigned to this section servicing, repairing, and installing radio sets and IFF equipment in aircraft at Pomigliano Airport. 2 EM work on IFF, 2 EM work on VHF, and 2 EM work on airborne sets.
- (2) Section in operation at the field only for 2 weeks because of the recent movement. EM working 8 hours a day with one day off a week.
- (3) Amount of work accomplished during the month is as follows: 14 IFF sets repaired, 25 VHF units repaired, and 32 airborne sets repaired in addition to a few private radios repaired for men in the organization.

S E C R E T



SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

D. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 2 EM are assigned to the Signal Supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the organizations serviced by this unit.
- (2) EM of this section work an average of 8 hours daily with one day free of duty every 10 days.
- (3)
  - a During the month 17 requisitions were submitted to depot #755, Naples. 37 tally-outs were issued and 12 tally-ins were received. 16 items of signal equipment were turned in for repair and exchange.
  - b We requisitioned and received a BD-96 switchboard and BD-97 panel and cable for installing at Pomigliano Airbase. Received and issued 3 miles of cable to the 60th Troop Carrier Group for establishing communications at the base. Requisitioned common expendable items (15 day supply) for our own organization. Requisitioned and received 21,000 feet of cable for the 1023rd Sig Company for installation on this base. Issued radio equipment and parts turned in for salvage to the 60th Troop Carrier Group, salvaged 5 power units, which were our own property.
  - c New instructions have been issued to each unit serviced by service center on the proper procedure for requisitioning signal supplies.

E. CONTROL TOWER OPERATION

None of our towermen are assigned at this time as the tower at Pomigliano Airbase is operated by the RAF.

F. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1)
  - a 9 EM are assigned to the telephone maintenance section, servicing and maintaining telephones and lines at Group Hq and Base operations at Pomigliano Airport. EM from other sections of the organization helped the line-crew lay cable during the month.
  - b This section works on an average of 8 hours daily with one day off in every 10 days.
  - c 10 pr cable was installed underground from Granite switchboard at Group Hq to Base operations at Pomigliano Airport. Installation started on cable to barracks area, 8 - 5 pr rubber cable to be put in overhead.
- (2)
  - a 8 EM including a chief operator are assigned to this section. They are operating 2 switchboards at the Group Hq building.
  - b The telephone operators average 6 hours a day with one day off in every 7 days.

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech 4th Grade.

F. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION (CONTINUED)

- (3) a 4 EM are assigned to the teletype section; 1 Chief operator and mechanic, and 3 regular operators.
- b EM of this section work a 24 hour shift and are off 48 hours with the exception of the chief operator and mechanic who is on call 24 hours a day.
- c 2 teletype machines are set up, model #19. One is used on the City current and the other is a standby in case the Italian current fails; thus uninterrupted operation is assured. The outgoing traffic for the month was 22 messages and a total of 1042 groups. Incoming traffic was 42 messages and a total of 5154 groups. 3 teletype operators and 1 teletype mechanic are attending 6660th Signal School, Naples, Italy for further training.

G. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 5 EM are assigned to this section.
- (2) Personnel performing duty in this section are on duty 1 day and off duty 4 days. The personnel of this section have spent much of their time performing other duties in the company area such as gravel details, white washing of walls and ceilings, and other details working on the improvement of the company area. Very little traffic is handled through the message center inasmuch as our Radio section is not in operation and most of the traffic goes through the teletype section.
- (3) During the month the traffic was as follows: incoming messages were 16, consisting of 1511 groups; 11 outgoing messages totaling 800 groups.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commanding

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

WAR DIARY

FOR

OCTOBER 1944

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 102nd Signal Bn., Service Group. Ponigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by. Frank V. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

1944

- 1 Today was an exceptionally busy day as everyone was loading trucks preparatory to our moving to Ponigliano, Italy. As usual there were a few things SMAFU'd; one truck became stuck in a fox-hole and required a wrecker to lift it out. Also, the 2nd sent out the wrong trucks and fortunately the error was discovered before any trucks were loaded. And of course a movement wouldn't be complete without a little rain; and so the trucks were loaded in one of the heaviest rains we have had this Fall.

With the return of S/Sgt Haas to the States on emergency furlough, T/4 Dilg is now chief of the Teletype Section.

- 2 Seventeen trucks and thirty-five enlisted men, the first echelon, left this morning for Ponigliano, Italy. The weather was nice for moving, -sunny, but a little cool. (See Special Accounts).

- 3 The rest of the tents were taken down and the last bit of equipment was loaded onto the trucks for the movement of the 2nd echelon to Ponigliano, Italy.

The scramble of Italians, young and old, to pick up the cigarette butts that had accumulated under the floors of the tents was amazing; there was hardly any need to police-up the areas.

- 4 The day began with 1st Sgt Beach putting everyone on details of one kind or another; tents that had been folded wet had to be set up and dried, every apartment was thoroughly cleaned, boxes and crates had to be unloaded and stored in the basement, and all in all, it was a very busy day.

2 EM left for DS in Naples as radio operators.

- 5 One of our jeeps was stolen in the night.

Several of the men were busy installing our own 110 volt electric system throughout the building; the present 160 volts (Italian) is too high for our lights, radios, etc.

- 6 An amplifier has been installed in the orderly room and a speaker placed on each floor including the messhall in the basement. (There will be no dodging details now!).

Everyone is gradually getting settled and the worst of the hustle and bustle is over.

- 7 While the kitchen and the mess-hall are in the basement, our mess-kit water is in the courtyard in the rear of the building. Several men have been busy making a brick walk out to the mess-kit line as well as a brick floor all around the tubs. The bricks make a neat walk and prevent a great amount of dirt from being tracked into the building.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Penigiano, Italy.

Month of October 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

8 The two men sent to Naples as radio operators on the 4 October were returned as they could not type fast enough. T/3 Jude and Sgt Giltvedt were sent in their places.

5 EM were also sent to the 6660th Signal School Company, Naples, Italy. 4 EM are to study teletype operation and one man is to study telephone and telegraph carrier equipment.

Since some men have not received their State ballots for the coming General Election, it was decided that all that were eligible under their State laws should go to Group Hq and cast their vote for the coming Presidential Election. 5 EM voted by Federal ballot; incidently, all were Republicans. This is probably the first time in the history of the United States anyone ever voted for a president on a Sunday; if the Democrats hear about this particular case, they will probably void all five votes!

9 Company Supply drove into Naples to pick up our PX rations for the week. How we all love the supply boys on this particular day; but wait until Salvage day and they refuse those "clean" socks!

10 W/O Swinney and S/Sgt Beckstrom drove to the Pisa-Florence area to look for our stolen jeep.

A call was put out for type "O" blood donors and 16 EM responded. For an organization of 85 EM, 21% volunteering for a blood donation is pretty good.

A bed check is to be taken every night beginning tonight.

Our CO, Captain Thomas, made an inspection tour of all the barracks today.

11 Overshoes were issued to the entire company today. With some of the wet weather we have been having they are most welcome especially to those men who have been out stringing wire and laying cable.

12 The entire organization was present at the 227th Medics for a physical and dental inspection today.

A meeting was held after evening chow for all the men in the unit. The 1st Sgt. layed down all the rules and regulations governing passes, curfews, and uniforms.

13 The big event of the day was our getting our PX rations. We received a two week supply which means if we are not careful it will be a long time between smokes.

14 Today was our lucky day! We recovered our stolen jeep. Sgt Jacobson phoned from the motor pool that the jeep was seen headed into Naples. Sgt Beach and Sgt Jacobson chased the stolen jeep into Naples only to discover an MP was returning it to the proper authorities.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

37 EM marched in a review held at the football field near Group Hq. A T/Sgt in the 354th Service Squadron was awarded the Legion of Merit for speeding up the work on plane engines.

T/4 Camp was transferred to the 1052nd Signal Company. At the present time he is in the 52nd Station Hospital with malaria so we haven't seen him much since being here. This is about the third time he has entered a hospital in the last 12 months for this same trouble; that should make us all realize the importance of all the precautions taken to guard us against malaria.

Colonel Elser here on matters pertaining to this Command.

- 15 A beautiful and warm Sunday. Many of the men went to church this morning. In the afternoon a number went to the airport and surrounding area to walk and take snapshots.

Our baker made a delicious pineapple turnover cake which everyone enjoyed at our evening meal.

- 16 1st Sgt Beach drove to Rome with T/5 Neoglogle to pick up the 4 EM on DS as telephone operators.

Unit Historian meeting at the 3rd General Depot this afternoon.

Major Calkins, the former CO of this organization, stopped in to see Captain Thomas our present Commanding Officer.

- 17 A layout inspection got the day off to a flying start; the purpose, to catch all woolen clothing shortages.

An Administrative Inspection was made by Major E. B. Roth, Adm Inspector, A-GE #3.

Several EM went to the 227th Medics for booster shots.

1st Sgt Beach and the 4 EM on DS at Rome, Italy returned to the company.

The signing of the payroll rounded out a rather busy day.

- 18 Captain Thomas made a tour of inspection of the barracks. All extra light bulbs were removed from the rooms as the drain on the power unit has been too great especially in the evening when fuses have been popping like firecrackers.

The Duty Officer made an inspection of the mess-hall.

- 19 Whitewashing of the walls and ceilings in the kitchen and mess-hall was begun.

Horseshoe pitching is the main recreation these days. In the evenings the majority of the men have been attending the movies out "under the stars" at Group Hq. The biggest portion of the pictures are the latest releases from the States.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1025rd Signal Company, Service Group, Fomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by: Frank L. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

PAY

EVENT

- 20 The Arrangement Committee for our 2nd Anniversary Overseas Party, Sgt Caskill and 1st Sgt Beach, went into Naples today to arrange for a party and dance to be held 2 November 1944, celebrating the organizations two years overseas. They rented a large hall in town capable of holding 500 people; with all the girls we hope to have, this should be large enough!
- 21 Further arrangements were made for our 2nd Anniversary Party and dance. The AACB, AFS, and WTS were contacted, but prospects of many coming are a bit remote. Many of the girls say they have steady boy friends, -others say they have had too much experience at parties of this nature and apparently aren't interested. Is our party to develop into a stag affair?
- 22 An Italian orchestra was auditioned for the Party, but proved to be "no bueno". It rained hard during the evening and caught many fellows at the outdoor movie at Sq. But most everyone pulled their raincoats over their heads and sat right on through the show; you see what 2 years overseas does to a man!
- 23 We have finally secured a GI band for our party. The "Safar", a fivepiece orchestra with a singer and a couple of acts all for \$40.00. We think we made a pretty good deal as the Italian band wanted \$100.00 for about the same thing with the exception they had a couple of more acts.
- Today was Salvage day with the usual trading in of wornout clothing.
- 24 A list of all names was placed on the bulletin board in order to secure the right sizes for each man for the new field jackets to be issued soon.
- 25 Sgt Traczynski, chief linenman, was stricken with a heart attack during the night and taken to the 52nd Station Hospital.
- Cpl Abernathy and T/5 Focht drove to Poggia area to pick up straw for several of the men who had no mattresses for their beds. They also purchased a quantity of supplies for the bar.
- The 86th Signal Inspection and Maintenance unit moved in for a short visit. They are the same outfit that spent Christmas with the organization last year. They were also with us for a few weeks this summer.
- 26 Several men have become interested in the courses offered by the Armed Forces Institute. T/5 Miami sent for a course in highschool algebra in order to complete his highschool credits. T/4 Dilg, who plans to enter into business for himself after the war, enrolled in a course in bookkeeping.
- A wonderful fried chicken dinner was the big treat of the day.
- 27 We received a Coca Cola ration of 4 bottles per man this week. But it was mutually agreed that the entire ration of "cokes" be held for use at our party next week.

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Ronigliano Italy.

Month of October 1944 Prepared by: Frank M. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

Our latrine was found to be too close to the mess-hall and was moved about two or three hundred feet away from the old spot; one needs a compass and a guide to find the thing now.

28 The only bit of news today was an inspection of our chemical warfare equipment.

29 The day began warm and sunny and many men went to church and on pass to Pompei and Mt. Vesuvius. But before noon it clouded up and the rest of the day was rainy and cloudy,- very poor for picture taking.

The 86th Inspection and Maintenance boys moved out. We were sorry to see them go as they had a couple of good singers and one chap who could really play a guitar. However, we managed to get in one good jam session.

30 There was an inspection of rifles this morning.

Also in the morning was an Orientation Lecture by T/5 John Miller. His talk was entitled "Our Post-war position in China". He supplemented his talk with brief reviews of Lin Yutang's "Between Tears and Laughter" and Walter Lippman's "Our Foreign Policy". The subject was well presented, but, as usual, the discussion deviated from the original subject. The discussion periods following the talk should be conducted a little more formally in order to keep the men on the original subject.

31 And of course the big event of the day was pay call. There were usual Soldier's Deposits and PTA applications.

We no longer have to volunteer 50% a month for KP's as beginning October 14th the Government is paying the wages of all civilian help.

SECRET



S E C R E T

1025RL SIGNAL CORPANY SERVICE GROUP

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR

OCTOBER 1944

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 1 Special Accounts, 1025th Signal Company Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of October 1944. Prepared by, Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

SPECIAL ACCOUNT - MOVEMENT OF COMPANY FROM SAN SEVERO, ITALY TO POMIGLIANO, ITALY.

Rumors were prevalent from about the first of September that this unit was to move, but the exact time was not known until AA7/TC, General Order #46, dated Sept 16, 1944, relieved this unit from the 50th Photo Wing Reconnaissance, as of 1 October 1944.

Upon receipt of our movement orders, definite plans were formed for moving. It was decided to move in two echelons with the exception of three men who were to remain behind and pick up all our wire not in use and also to make one last check in our old bivouac area to be sure nothing was left behind.

All of the men of this unit who were on AS at Littoria Airfield, Rome, Italy had already departed for Pomigliano, Italy on 22 September 1944. Captain F. J. Albert, Signal Supply Officer left San Severo on the 26th September for Pomigliano, for the purpose of directing the receiving and assigning of personnel and equipment to the proper place.

As all packing and crating was finished before 1 October, the unit was ready to move on a moments notice. The 194th CI was to assist us so this made the whole problem much easier. Sunday 1 October in a pouring rain, trucks were loaded and covered with tarpaulins, - very miserable weather for such work. The guard was doubled that night to insure safe keeping of all the trucks and equipment.

Monday 2 October, everyone was up bright and early for show. The 55th to leave in the first echelon packed and loaded their personal gear and the trucks began to move out. 17 trucks and the 55th left about 0800 or 0900 and all arrived safely in Pomigliano. The trucks were unloaded as fast as they arrived and the men were sent to their pre-assigned rooms. The weather was clear and everything went smoothly. The following day the 2nd echelon, consisting of all except the three linemen, left San Severo with the balance of the tents and gear etc not included in the first echelon. The trip was uneventful and all the trucks and personnel arrived safely at Pomigliano.

The roads from San Severo to Pomigliano are good except for one or two diversions where bridges had been bombed out sometime before, but in several places there are very steep grades to contend with; this condition along with the heavy traffic made the going slow.

By 5 October the entire personnel were quartered in the barracks at Pomigliano and the work of cleaning up and getting settled was underway. This is the first time the unit has lived in barracks for some 10 months or so, since Rimini, Italy, tents have been used entirely. The building we occupy were apartments constructed for Italian war-workers who labored in the factories at the nearby airfield. Our section of the building consists of 12 apartments with three rooms to each apartment. There are from 2 to 4 men in a room depending on the size of the room. The officers quarters are in another building one block west of the barracks.

The movement was completed on October 5 1944.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Capt Signal  
Commanding

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 TO THE ARCHIVES  
 THE AAF  
 HISTORICAL OFFICE  
 516-1023-H11 (Co)  
 NOV-1944

Re 1023d Div. H. (Co)  
 15/1944

MICROFILMED

5710-41

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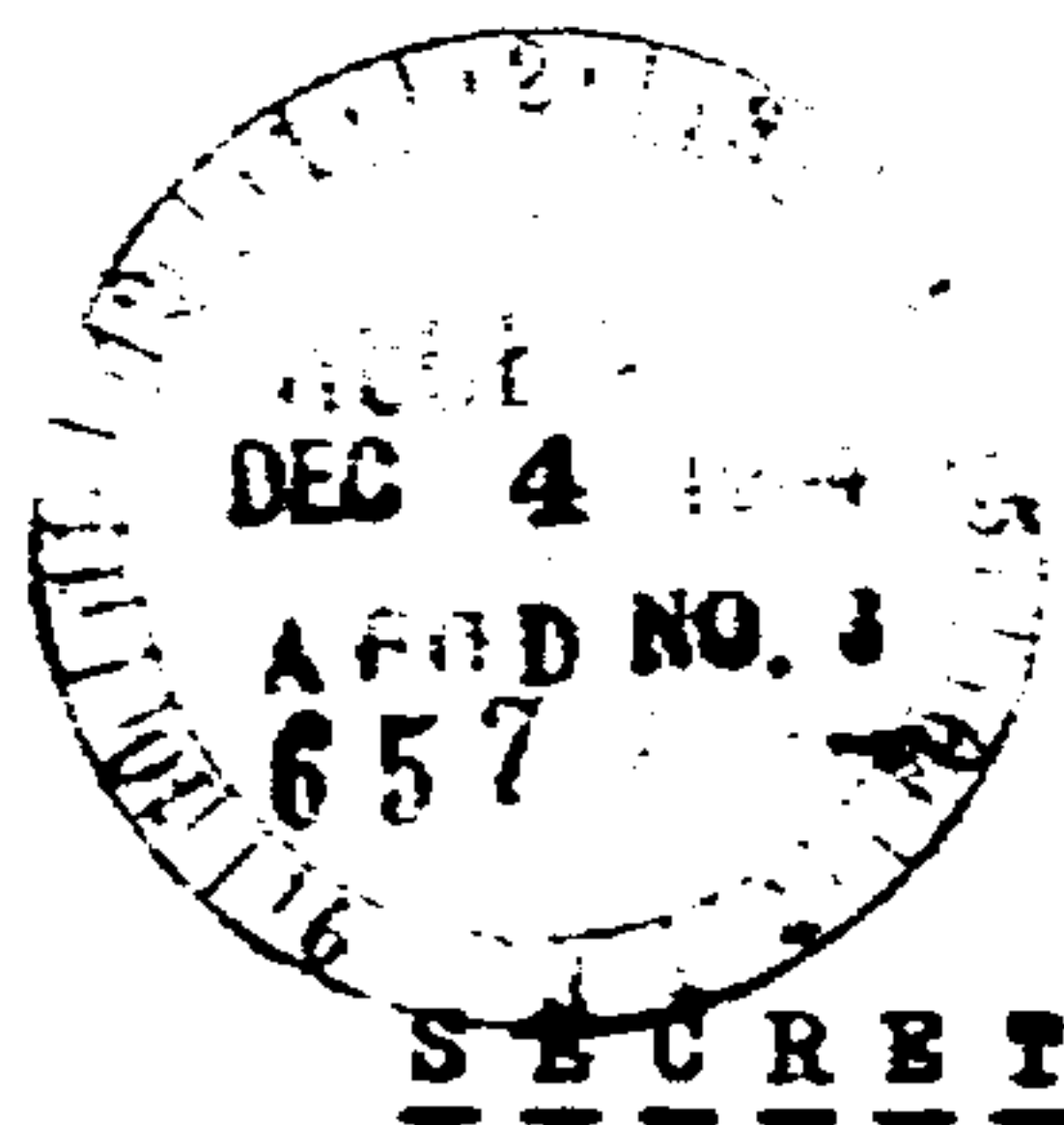
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1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

OUTLINE HISTORY

for

November 1944



5710-41



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

- a. ORIGINAL UNIT: No Change.
- b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION: No Change.
- c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:
  - (1) At beginning of month: 2 Off; 1 W/O; 85 EM.
  - (2) Net Increase : 0 Off; 0 W/O; 0 EM.
  - (3) Net decrease : 0 Off; 0 W/O; 1 EM.
  - (4) At end of month : 2 Off; 1 W/O; 84 EM.
- d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF: No Change.
- e. MARCHES: None
- f. CAMPAIGNS: None
- g. BATTLES: None
- h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None
- i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None
- j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION: None
- k. PHOTOGRAPHS: Seven (See Special Accounts).

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

ANNEX TO OUTLINE HISTORY

for

November 1944

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, (SG), Pomigliano, Italy.  
Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

A. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 19 EM and 2 Officers are assigned to the Hq's section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation, and messing for the organization.
- (2) Average performance of duty per day covers a period of 8 hours with one day free approximately every 10 days; with the exception of the cooks who work every other day.
- (3)
  - a 3 EM are assigned to organization administration and handle all routine personnel and administrative reports as pertains to this unit.
  - b Company Supply consists of 1 Warrant Officer and 3 EM whose work involves drawing and issuing necessary clothing and equipment for the organization. In addition to their other duties, they draw PX luxury rations every two weeks and beer and coke rations once a week. With the exception of tagging and storing all suntans in waterproof boxes until such time as they are needed again, Supply had a rather quiet month. All of which gave one man a good opportunity to spend a week at the AF Rest Camp in Rome.
  - c The motor pool personnel now consists of 8 men as two jeep drivers were appointed during the month to drive for our officers. The balance of the personnel consists of 3 mechanics and 3 drivers of 2½ ton trucks. This section spends their time repairing and maintaining vehicles and power units of this organization. 17 vehicles are being serviced at the present time. During the month 2 jeeps were repainted, one generator-power unit was rebuilt, welding was done for various outside organizations, and improvements were made on the shop itself. Certain nights a week one of our drivers is required to transport EM into town to the Power Dive Club.

B. RADIO SECTION

Our radio section has not been operating this past month inasmuch as our present location does not call for or demand a radio section. Our teletype section is well able to handle all the traffic required. The men normally employed in the radio section have been working on the linecrew and on various other details around the company area.

C. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE

- (1) 6 EM assigned to this section servicing, repairing, and installing radio sets and IFF equipment in aircraft at Pomigliano Airfield. 2 EM work on IFF, 2 EM work on VHF, and 2 EM on airborne equipment.
- (2) The personnel of this section work approximately 8 hours a day with 1 day off per week.
- (3) During the month 80 VHF sets were repaired, 15 IFF sets repaired, and 40 airborne and other commercial sets were repaired. 60 new modified VHF sets were replaced in planes of the 60th Troop Carrier Wing in place of the old sets they had.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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D. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 2 EM are assigned to the Signal Supply storage and issue section for handling signal supplies for the organizations serviced by this unit.
- (2) EM of this section work 8 hours daily and have one free day every 10 days.
- (3) a During the month 24 requisitions were submitted to AFGD #3. 26 tally-outs were issued to units serviced by this organization while 25 tally-ins were received from AFGD #3 during the month.  
  
b One power unit PE-95 was repaired and returned to this section by AFGD #3. 5 power units PE-75 were turned in for repair to the AFGD #3, but to date have not been returned to this section. T/BA and T/E shortages requisitioned for the 60th Troop Carrier; a partial issue was made and the other items placed on back-order by the AFGD #3.  
  
c Consolidation of "Materiel in Hands of Troops Report" by this Service Center discontinued and individual reports are to be submitted direct to S-4 Officer of our Group. Approximately two-thirds of the supplies requisitioned were received from the AFGD #3 this month.

E. CONTROL TOWER OPERATION

None of our towermen are assigned at this time as the tower at Pomigliano airbase is operated by the RAF.

F. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 4 EM are assigned to this section.
- (2) 2 EM have left this section the past month. T/4 Joe Bacon returned to the States on Permanent Rotation while T/5 John Y. Miller entered the 6660th Signal School near Naples to attend a course in Message Center Procedure. Due to the loss of the above personnel, Sgt Alex Yobbagy returned to work in the Message Center. Personnel performing duties in this section are on duty one day and off duty 4 days. Very little traffic is handled through the message center inasmuch as our Radio Section is not in operation at the present time.
- (3) During the month the traffic was as follows: incoming messages were 2 consisting of 253 groups; outgoing messages were 2 totaling 174 groups.

G. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1) a 9 EM are assigned to the telephone maintenance section, servicing and maintaining telephones and lines at Group Hq and Base Operations at Pomigliano Airfield. EM from other sections of the unit helped the line-crew lay cable.  
  
b This section works 8 hours daily with one day off in every 10 days.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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G. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION (CONTD)

- 6 Cable installation completed to barracks area. Cable installed to Motor Transportation building and building to be occupied by 77th Service Sqdn. 1 additional 5 pr cable was installed to take the place of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a 10 pr cable previously installed, but now faulty. The bad section of this cable was re-routed to the Motor Transportation building. During the month routine maintenance was carried on. In the repair section a number of telephones and headsets were repaired.
- (2) a 8 EM including a chief operator are assigned to this section. They are operating two switchboards at the Group Hq building.
- b The telephone operators average 6 hours a day with one day off in every 7 days.
- (3) a 4 EM are assigned to the teletype section; 1 chief operator who is also a mechanic, and 3 regular operators.
- b EM of this section work a 24 hour shift and are off 48 hours with the exception of the chief operator and mechanic who is on call 24 hours a day.
- c 2 Teletype machines are set up, Model #19, with one serving as a standby in case of trouble on one machine. The outgoing traffic for the month was 28 messages totaling 1198 groups; incoming traffic was 33 messages which consisted of 1884 groups.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

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S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

WAR DIARY

for

November 1944





S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

- 1 As the weather has begun to get a little chilly, stoves were put in the day room and the mess-hall; the heat feels good these cool evenings.

A meeting was held in the day room for the purpose of drawing the names of the 29 EM of the first echelon eligible for rotation and furlough. The mens' names were drawn from a hat and the results were as follows:

Permanent Rotation

T/4 Millstone  
1sgt Beach  
Sgt Hale  
Sgt Trawczynski

30 Day Furlough

Sgt Carpenter  
T/4 McConnell  
Sgt Wattenbarger  
Sgt Yobbagy

Naturally there was much interest in this event and the eight men whose names were picked were walking in the clouds the rest of the day.

The Personnel Section was busy with PTA and Soldiers' Deposits during the day.

- 2 Today is the 2nd anniversary of the date the first echelon sailed for overseas. And tonight is the big party and dance celebrating the event. Everyone was busy all day preparing for the party,- after all, it isn't every day that such an event is celebrated. There were all the usual last minute jobs to be done,-barber shop, shower, go to the tailor to pick up clothes, and other little things. A light meal was served about 1615 and everyone was ready to leave by 1730 (See Special account).

Mosquito bars and headnets were turned in to Supply.

- 3 A detail was sent to pick up the equipment left overnight at the party hall. Many beer and coke bottles were missing even though the things had been locked up the night before; some 60 beer bottles and about 18 Coca Cola bottles. The usual "morning after the night before" feeling made everyone a bit sleepy this morning, but the good old remedy of GI coffee put everyone back to normal in short order.

T/5 Orta returned from the hospital where had been treated for some bothersome boils.

- 4 A truck took 13 men to Pompei to visit the ruins. It was real sunny all day and the men had some good opportunities to take some pictures of the ruins, but late in the day it turned cool and by evening was very cold.

Sgt Harley Moore, Cpl Daniel Allen, Pfc Edward Conklin, and Pfc Donald Plaisance all returned from the 6660th Signal School in Naples where they had been taking short courses in various subjects. Cpl Louis Rosen remained on at the school to take a Message Center course.

- 5 A bright sunny day and everyone not on duty went on pass. Some of the boys finally made it to the top of Mt. Vesuvius; rain and clouds had stopped their two previous tries. The nights are becoming too cool to sit outside and watch a movie.

- 6 T/3 John Willis went to the 52nd Station Hospital diagnosed as a malaria case.

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

There is much talk, but little actual betting on the Presidential Election to be held back in the States tomorrow,- the split seems to be about 50-50.

A new frame latrine was set up to replace the tent we had been using; much better as it isn't so drafty!

Cpl Paul Spranger, Cpl Bancroft, and T/5 John Cambra returned from Rome rest camp where they spent a pleasant five days.

- 7 1sgt Beach made a general announcement about the new EM club, the Power Dive, which is to open 17 November, sponsored by the AFGD #3. Many men are interested in joining as the facilities are quite numerous, such as a snack bar and a "Date room" where a GI can take a girl if he wants to.

Sgt John Sturdivant, T/4 Sam Millstone, T/5 Sam Siligrini, T/5 George Grubb, and T/5 Richard Henton went on a 7 day furlough to San Severo, Italy.

A detail was employed filling in the large hole in the rear of the building; with some of the improvements that are going on, these grounds are going to look a lot better when we leave than they did when we moved in here.

- 8 Four EM, Cpl Sol Silverman, T/5 John Miller, T/5 John Cambra, and Pvt Richard Melcher left for 6660th Signal School in Naples. All will study Message Center Procedure except Cpl Silverman who is to take a Telephone Carrier course.

- 9 A physical inspection right after noon chow.

Another tour today to Pompei, but rain spoiled the trip for the 7 or 8 men that ventured out.

- 10 Today the company had a bit of bad luck; "Hoefflich" the company mascot was lost somewhere along the Via Roma in Naples. He is a little brown dog with white paws and chest and not too short hair. He had been with the outfit since they were stationed at Souk el Arba in North Africa and was liked by everyone. He was as good a guard as the company ever had, for he never failed to bark at any Italians that tried to enter our company area; he seemed to sense that they weren't wanted around and he made it his business to keep them away.

A meeting was called by Captain Thomas in the mess-hall after supper. The new plans for re-opening our bar were discussed and the announcement was made that stoves would be put in each apartment. This was most welcome news as the weather continues to get colder.

- 11 A letter was written to the "Stars and Stripes" requesting that an ad be placed in the lost and found column in an effort to locate "Hoefflich" our missing mascot. It is the hope of all that he will be found,--but quick!

This was a happy day for many men as a large bag of Christmas packages began rolling

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

in and one man received as many as eleven packages. Now those late evening snacks of sardines and crackers will begin again.

Stoves were put in the personnel section and most of the apartments as it is becoming too cold to sit around and work or write without some sort of heat.

12 A very cold, but clear Sunday and more men decided they needed stoves in their rooms.

"Hoefflich" has not returned as yet; it appears as though we have really lost him this time. It is too bad as he was such a neat and well-mannered little dog.

After church many of the men went on pass to Naples while others took long walks around the nearby town,-- it was a wonderful day to take a long walk in the country,-- very much like one of our Fall days at home.

13 The manager of our bar, T/4 Murray Caskill, drove to San Severo to pick up supplies.

S/sgt Lewis Peterson, S/sgt Harley Moore, and T/4 Rellus Studer secured permission to start a cleaning and pressing service for the company. They expect to get into operation within a day or two.

14 A very large group of men went for shots this morning.

T/5 Woodie Kelly and T/5 Andy Potsie left for the Rome Rest Camp for 5 days.

Our bar re-opened with a very quiet evening. An Italian decorator was secured for painting and decorating the walls of our day room and bar.

A meeting was held to decide what to do with \$80.00 which represents a pool on the outcome of the European War, that is, the winner to be decided the day the war ends. Since the pool covered the period 15 September to 15 November of this year, either new dates have to be drawn by each participant or the money now held has to be returned; no terms could be decided upon so a vote will be taken in the next few days.

15 The decorating of the day room and bar room continues.

Cpl Wallace Abernathy, T/5 Charles Replogle, and T/5 Jacob Focht returned from the vicinity of Rome where they had been sent to haul supplies.

The payroll was signed today.

16 Orders from headquarters came thru for transshipment of two men to the United States. T/5 Everett Brown received a 30 day furlough and T/4 Joe Bacon is to go home under the permanent rotation plan. They expect to leave tomorrow.

T/4 John Finley completed a ping pong table for our day room and you can bet it was well baptized the first day.

17 About 25 or 30 BM went into Naples to the opening of the Power Dive Club which is spon-

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1025rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

sored by the AFCD #3 for all EM under their command. Inasmuch as it was the first nite there was a tremendous crowd and much confusion, but it appears as though the Club will be quite popular as the facilities are many and worthwhile.

AFCD #3 conducted a sanitary inspection today.

T/4 Bacon and T/5 Brown began the first leg of their long trip back to the States. They were both well liked and we were all sorry to see them leave; but of course we expect to see Brown back in a couple of months or so.

- 18 Our unbeaten, undefeated, untied, and untrained basketball team (the reason being we haven't played any games up to this time!) went down to the Depot #3 and along with a few rooters defeated the 1149th QM by the overwhelming score of 37 to 14. We were a little bit surprised ourselves! It appears as though we might have a pretty good combination for the tournament; the fact that the only practice anyone had was the throwing of a few baskets in the net set up in the rear of the building yesterday, seems to be a good indication that the boys might fare pretty well.

- 19 Another beautiful, but warm Sunday. Many of the men went to church in the morning.

Some men went on pass into Naples and Sorrento, but the majority of the men either pitched horseshoes or practiced basketball in the court back of our barracks.

- 20 The work decorating the day room and bar was completed. It wasn't the best job in the world, but certainly makes the rooms appear better than they did.

The nice weather continues with more basketball practice and some horseshoe pitching.

- 21 An Orientation lecture was delivered by T/4 Murray Caskill on the subject "The GI Bill of Rights". It proved a more interesting subject than any of the previous lectures since it seems to be a topic a little closer to the average GI. When the subject of "Our post-war situation in Asia" or something like that is brought up the average GI will say, "What do I care about things away over there",-- and so it goes!!

Straw was obtained for the men who do not have mattresses.

- 22 T/4 John Finley replaced all missing window panes in the building with cell-o-glass and this should improve the heating situation to some extent.

Late in the evening the cooks and our baker began preparing for our Thanksgiving Dinner tomorrow. They expect to work all night, and let us hope their efforts are worthwhile!

- 23 Thanksgiving Day - Not much work done today; everyone eagerly awaiting the big dinner in the afternoon. A light breakfast was served so that everyone would be plenty ready for the big dinner. Dinner was served at 1400 and what a grand feast it was! Turkey, chicken, dressing, fresh mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, olives, hot biscuits with real butter, coffee, and pumpkin pie. The turkey was good and tender and there was plenty for all; everyone enjoyed the meal immensely. And maybe you think the old sacks didn't take a beating after that big dinner!! Most of the men got up enough ambition in the evening to go to the local outdoor theater to round out a pleasant holiday.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

24 All rifles were cleaned, tagged with name and serial number, and turned in to Supply for inspection by the 3rd Depot. Two NCO's from the Depot also were here for an administrative inspection.

We had a rather rough game of basketball tonight. We played the colored boys over in the 1948th QM outfit and very nearly lost the game. They led us all the way until about the last 30 seconds of play; they received a free shot, - and missed, - and an instant after that we managed to score putting us ahead 16 to 15. A rather breath-taking finish!

25 The mail has been rather slow lately; just a few V-mails is about all that has come in.

1st Sgt Rex Beach left on a 3 day pass leaving T/Sgt Lawrence Pereira in charge.

26 The basketball team practiced in the court over at the airport this morning. It is an old bombed-out factory and while the floor is good, the court is too narrow.

The first Sunday edition of the Stars & Stripes came out this morning. It contains mostly feature articles, but they say they hope to include some comics soon.

27 Our basketball team played the 12th Sqdn. tonight and we lost our first game by the score of 19 to 15. It was a fast and close game until the last few minutes of play when our men just didn't seem to have any wind left, but they played a fine game and they couldn't have fought any harder.

Captain Thomas, our CO, left for the Isle of Capri for a few days. Captain Albert will be the Acting Commanding Officer during his absence.

28 Received our coke ration of 6 bottles as well as 2 bottles of Italian beer.

We have been without movies for several days now and everyone misses them as we were seeing some of the best and latest pictures from the States.

29 Cpl Louis Rosen, Cpl Sol Silverman, T/5 John Cambra, T/5 John Y. Miller, and Pvt Richard Melcher returned from 6660th Signal School in Naples

A Physical exam was held at the 34th Dispensary today.

A meeting was held in the mess-hall right after dinner to promote the sales of War Bonds for the new Sixth War Loan Drive now in progress. In addition to the regular payroll deduction plan and cash purchase plan, it was decided to hold a raffle, the prizes being the new \$10.00 War Bonds.

30 PX luxury rations and pay call vied with one another as the big attractions of the day.

The winners of the big War Bond raffle were as follows: T/5 Dean Sherwood won 3 of the \$10.00 bonds while Sgt Jesse Gibson, Sgt Alex Yobbagy, T/4 Ray Dilg, Cpl Paul Spranger, and Pfc Claire Krueger each won one bond.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
CAPTAIN SIGNAL CORPS

S E C R E T

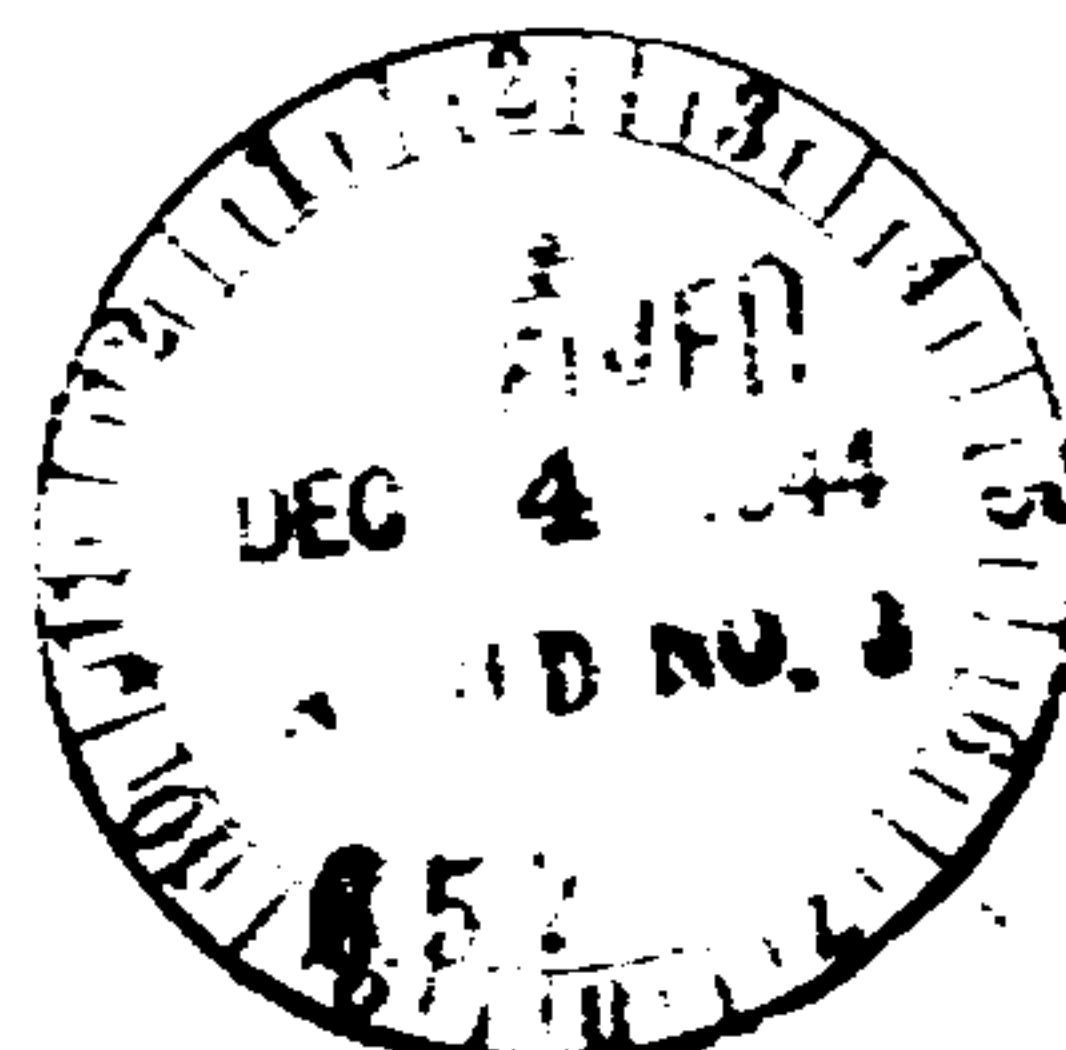
S E C R E T

1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

for

November 1944



S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Special Account. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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SPECIAL ACCOUNT - 2ND ANNIVERSARY OVERSEAS PARTY AND DANCE, 2 NOVEMBER 1944

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On November 2, 1942 the first echelon of this organization sailed for North Africa. In the two years that have elapsed since then, the outfit has traveled far and had many experiences, some good, some bad; but the organization is still all together so it was decided to celebrate the 2nd year overseas with a party and dance.

Sgt. Caskill was appointed Chairman of the Arrangement Committee with 1st Sgt. Beach his assistant. They spent a good two weeks making all the arrangements and apparently it was no easy task. Securing a suitable hall and hiring the orchestra was no special problem, but have you ever tried to get together enough food and drink for a party of 150 people during these war-time conditions? But considering everything, the boys did a marvelous job. There was plenty to eat; several kinds of sandwiches, potato chips, chocolate cake, and ice cream. The question of drinks was solved by the entire company agreeing to withhold our "coke" and beer ration for a week, all to be used at the party. We had 240 bottles of beer and 324 Coca Colas, also some grapefruit juice to be used as a mixer. Liquor for the mixed drinks consisted of 15 bottles of Cherry Brandy, 10 bottles of Rum, and 7 bottles of Cognac at a total cost of \$95.60. Italian waiters were hired to serve the drinks thereby avoiding confusion at the bar. The party was held at Via #104 Costantinopoli, Naples. The facilities at the hall were ample; two large rooms for dining and dancing with adjoining rooms for the bar, checkroom, etc.

The party was scheduled to start at 1900 and it was very close to that time when the first truck arrived with some of the men from the company. Arriving shortly thereafter were our officers accompanied by Major Calkins and Captain Tyler, guests and former CO's of this organization. Later in the evening, Lt. Col. Eddy and Major Smith dropped in to join in the festivities. Another former member of the organization, and guest, was M/Sgt. Katherine who was accompanied by an attractive young WAC. Incidentally, she was the only representative of the WAC's at the party. Among our other guests were five ATS girls, and two American girls who work for FNB. These girls were quite popular at the party especially one of the FNB girls who was above the average in looks and personality. The balance of the girls at the party were Italian, perhaps 35 or 40 in all.

The affair got off to a slow start, but this condition was alleviated once the drinks began rolling out. It is strange how a little liquor mixed with some coke can transform a "wallflower" into a blooming "rug-cutter". After the ice was broken, the dance floor was crowded all evening. Most of the girls were good dancers, especially the Italian girls who have picked up our American style of dancing quickly and well. The orchestra was very good for dancing, striking a happy medium between the sweet and the hot stuff.

The liquor ran out about 8:30 p.m., but perhaps it was just as well as that probably prevented an otherwise enjoyable affair from developing into a drunken orgy. The beer was then served and lasted until almost the end of the party.

The high point in the evening was the drawing of names and numbers for the door prizes. Each girl was given one-half of a playing card and the other half of all the cards was placed in a hat. Four boxes of chocolate candy were raffled off and one \$10.00 Merchandise Gift Certificate from Gutteridge & Company, Naples. An ATS sergeant won a box of candy and three Italian girls won the other three boxes of candy. And, by some

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Special Account. 1023rd Signal Co., Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of November 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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SPECIAL ACCOUNT - 2ND ANNIVERSARY OVERSEAS DANCE, 2 NOVEMBER 1944 (CONTD)

---

strange "coincidence", the attractive PWB girl won the \$10.00 award; needless to say, all the men of the organization were glad to see she had won. The mens prizes were 4 boxes of chocolate candy and a fine wrist watch. Names of all the men present were placed in a hat and the drawing began. There was much interest by the men in this event since the wrist watch was a most worthwhile prize. But when it was announced that "Jackie" the PWB girl who had won the \$10.00 prize, was to give a kiss to each winner, the cheer that went up was terrific; a picture of Jackie could explain why better than all the words that might be written here. Boxes of chocolate candy were won by Captain Tyler, S/Sgt Pereira, M/Sgt Katherine, and Pfc Walter. The wrist watch was won by T/5 Williams. And every time a winner received his kiss from Jackie, a huge cheer went up from the crowd; it seemed as though the spectators enjoyed it as much as the participants, -goodness knows why! But it was all in good fun and Jackie was a good sport about it.

Like all good things eventually do, the end of the party came too soon. No one had noticed the time fly by and before we knew it it was eleven o'clock and time to leave. Here and there was some GI kissing a girl goodbye, perhaps making a date or who knows what; but this was all interrupted by the call to get on the trucks. Rather reluctantly the fellows all climbed aboard and the trucks headed for home in a very heavy downpour. And it was a tired but happy bunch that finally hit the old sack that night.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T





The ice is broken with a fast dance number.



Soon everyone is quite chummy.....



...."Let's dance this sweet and slow"....



Little Red swings out!





....Wonder why this spot was so popular?



The lucky winner....amor, amor!!



The Officers' table.



RECEIVED THE ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL SECTION	DEC-1944
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S16-1023-H1 (Co)

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HEADQUARTERS 1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY

34TH SERVICE GROUP

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OUTLINE HISTORY

for

DECEMBER 1944

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Outline History. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

a. ORIGINAL UNIT: No Change.

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION: Disbanded as per GO #117, AAF Service Command, MTO, APO 528, dated 28 December 1944.

c. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED:

(1) At beginning of the month:	2 O; 1 W/C; 84 E/M
(2) Net Increase :	0 O; 0 W/O; 0 E/M
(3) Net Decrease :	1 O; 0 W/O; 4 E/M
(4) At the end of the month :	1 O; 1 W/O; 80 E/M

d. STATIONS (PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY) OF UNIT OR PARTS THEREOF:

(1) Hamilton Field, California	Date of Activation:	12 Feb 41
	Date of departure:	25 May 41
(2) Paine Field, Washington	Date of Arrival:	28 May 41
	Date of Departure:	1 Aug 42
(3) Silver Lake, Everett, Wash.	Date of Arrival:	1 Aug 42
	Date of Departure: (2)	15 Oct 42 (17 Nov 42)
(4) Fort Dix, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	19 Oct 42
	Date of Departure:	1 Nov 42
(5) Casablanca, French Morocco	Date of Arrival:	18 Nov 42
	Date of Departure:	1 Dec 42
(6) Camp Kilmer, New Jersey	Date of Arrival:	22 Nov 42
	Date of Departure:	11 Dec 42
(7) Craw Field, Port Lyautay, French, Morocco	Date of Arrival:	1 Dec 42
	Date of Departure:	18 Mar 43
(8) Telergma, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	24 Mar 43
	Date of Departure:	30 Mar 43
(9) Thelepte, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	30 Mar 43
	Date of Departure:	16 Apr 43
(10) Souk el Arba, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	16 Apr 43
	Date of Departure:	1 Jun 43
(11) Hamman Plage, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	1 Jun 43
	Date of Departure:	4 Aug 43
(12) Menzel Heurr, Tunisia	Date of Arrival:	4 Aug 43
	Date of Departure:	14 Oct 43
(13) Philippeville, Algeria	Date of Arrival:	15 Oct 43
	Date of Departure:	24 Oct 43
(14) Manduria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	29 Oct 43
	Date of Departure:	9 Nov 43
(15) Brindisi, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 Nov 43
	Date of Departure:	9 Dec 43
(16) Oria, Italy	Date of Arrival:	9 Dec 43
	Date of Departure:	13 Jan 44
(17) San Severo, Italy	Date of Arrival:	13 Jan 44
	Date of Departure:	3 Oct 44
(18) Pomigliano, Italy	Date of Arrival:	3 Oct 44
	Date of Disbandment:	28 Dec 44

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 2 Out-line History. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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- e. MARCHES: None.
- f. CAMPAIGNS: None
- g. BATTLES: None
- h. COMMANDING OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS: None
- i. LOSSES IN ACTION: None
- j. FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:
- k. PHOTOGRAPHS: None.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commanding.

SECRET



S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY

34TH SERVICE GROUP

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ANNEX TO OUTLINE HISTORY

for

DECEMBER 1944

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 1 Annex to Outline History. 123rd Signal Company, Service Group, Ponigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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A. HEADQUARTERS SECTION

- (1) 19 EM and 2 Officers are assigned to this section to handle administration, company supply, motor transportation, and messing for the organization.
- (2) Average performance of duty per day covers a period of 8 hours with one free day approximately every ten days, with the exception of the cooks who have every other day off.
- (3)
  - a 3 EM are assigned to administration and handle all routine personnel and administration reports as pertains to this unit. This department was very busy the end of this month because of the disbandment; extracts, indorsements, rosters, etc. took up most of the time.
  - b Company supply consists of 1 Warrant Officer and 3 EM. whose work consists of drawing clothing and equipment, PX rations, beer, Rations, etc for the unit. This month was very busy issuing sustans which had been stored and inventorying all equipment preforatory to disbandment of the organization.
  - c Motor Pool personnel now consists of 4 EM, 2 are jeep drivers.
    - a 2 are jeep drivers for our officers, 3 are mechanics and 5 are drivers of 2-ton trucks.
    - b Overhauled and replaced 2 new motors in power units in addition to repair and maintaining 16 vehicles of organization.

B. RADIO SECTION

- (1) Our radio section has not been operating as ~~there~~ is no call for such service inasmuch as the teletype section can handle all the traffic.

C. RADIO REPAIR, FIXED AND MOBILE

- (1) 6 EM are assigned to this section servicing, repairing and installing radio sets and IFF equipment in aircraft at Ponigliano airdrome. 2 EM are on IFF, 2 on VHF and 2 EM on airborne equipment.
- (2) Personnel work 8 hrs a day with 1 day off each week.
- (3) During the month this section repaired 50 VHF, 20 IFF and 41 Airborne sets. Due to the disbandment of the organization 1 of the small arms mobile repair trucks was assigned to one of the new groups along with 2 of the test equipment except where only one of a set was on hand.

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., Serv. Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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D. STORAGE AND ISSUE SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 2 EM are assigned to this section (Signal Supply). They handle all signal supplies for the organizations serviced by this unit.
- (2) Personnel work 8 hours a day with one days off in every ten.
- (3)
  - a During the month 25 Requisitions were submitted to AFCD #3. 30 Tally-in's were received and 39 Tally-out's were issued to AFCD #3 during the month.
  - b All power units in for repair were either repaired or replaced with new units and returned to the proper organization.
  - c Approximately 2/3 of the supplies requisitioned from AFCD #3 were received.
  - d At the end of the month this section was very busy taking inventory of all the signal supply equipment; also calling in all flashlights, tools, etc. that had been issued to men of the organization. All this work was in preparation for the disbandment of the unit.

E. CONTROL TOWER

None of the towermen assigned at this time as the RAF operates Pomigliano Airport.

F. MESSAGE CENTER SECTION

- (1) 1 Officer and 5 EM are assigned to this section.
- (2) Very little traffic handled in this section as only our teletype section is in operation. All material was turned in to company supply excepting the coding devices in anticipation of the disbandment of the unit.
- (3) During the month traffic was as follows: Incoming messages-21 consisting of 905 groups; outgoing messages- 10 comprising 615 groups.

G. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION

- (1)
  - a 8 EM are assigned to this telephone maintenance section, servicing and maintaining telephones and lines at Group Hq and Base Operations at Pomigliano, Italy.
  - b This section works 8 hours daily with one day off in every ten.
  - c During the month routine maintenance occupied the time of this section. In connection with the disbandment, an inventory was made of all tools and equipment. Part of the equipment went to Hq. Sq. of the new Group and the balance went to the Engr. Sq. of the new Group. Only enough equipment was left set-up to maintain telephone communications.
- (2)
  - a 7 EM including chief operator are assigned to this switchboard section. They operate tw. switchboards at Group Hq.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 Annex to Outline History. 1023rd Sig Co., Serv. Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

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- (2)
  - a 7 EM including chief operator are assigned to this switchboard section. They operate two switchboards at Group Hq.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 Annex to Outline History. 1025rd Sig Co., Serv. Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944. Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

G. TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SECTION\* (CONTINUED)

- b The telephone operators average 6 hours a day with one day off in every seven.
- (3) a 7 EM are assigned to the teletype section; 1 chief operator and 6 EM are regular operators.
- b EM of this section work 24 hour shift with 48 hours off excepting the chief operator who is on call 24 hours a day.
- c A new type teletype machine, TC 16 typing and perforator, was installed this month for testing and checking purposes. Inventory of all the equipment in this section and packing of all but one of the teletype machines comprised all the work at the end of the month towards disbanding the unit.

*Harold F. Thomas*

HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 1023RD SIGNAL COMPANY  
34TH SERVICE GROUP

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WAR DIARY

for

DECEMBER 1944

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

1. The new month began rather quietly; Finance Deposits and P.T.A. requests were the only unusual activities of the day.

2. Today was a beautiful Fall day,- the kind of day that makes one feel life is really worthwhile and something to enjoy. All over, the Italians are burning the old dried brown leaves. To drive along the roads these days leaves one with a very nostalgic feeling for the wonderful Fall days back home.

The mail call proved fruitful this morning with plenty of Christmas packages for all.

A meeting was called at Depot No. 3 at 1400 for the personnel clerks of all units for the purpose of calling attention to the proper entries and corrections to be made in many of the Service Records of some of the organizations. Previous inspections had revealed the fact that many omissions and corrections are necessary to bring the Records up-to-date.

In the evening our basketball team played the 456th Squadron at the Depot No. 3 gym. It was one of the cleanest and best games we have played in this tournament. But the boys were a little too good for us and we ended up on the short end of an 18 to 16 score,- a tough game to lose.

The big Army-Navy Football game was broadcast from the States this evening. There were several pools and many bets made throughout the organization so almost everyone listened to the game. The final score was 25 to 7 favor of the Army, and a mighty good game it was.

3 Sunday morning and many of the men went to church.

4/Sgt Donald Barnett and Cpl Paul Spranger went to Rome on DS for 5 days.

T/5 John Y. Miller was transferred out of the organization and was supposed to fly to Casablanca, North Africa, but due to the excess weight of his baggage, he was forced to turn many clothes and equipment in to Supply in order that he could proceed by plane.

A basketball game scheduled for the evening was postponed as the time set was agreed to be too late in the evening.

4 Blankets were accepted by Supply today for the purpose of cleaning. They are returned the same day so no one will be inconvenienced. A very good system except that a man does not always get back the same good blanket he turned in, but sometimes receives a worn and perforated one.

T/Sgt Earle Fischer, and T/5 Rodney Williams, and Pfc Leonard Walter went to Rome Rest Camp for a period of 5 days.

Chicken, baked potatoes, and chocolate cake made our supper a fine treat.

5 Beer ration received today,- 2 bottles per man.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

Mr. Swinney, T/Sgt Pereira, and Cpl Rosen went to Chemical Warfare school this morning.

4 PM started serving as permanent guards over at the airport. The men are Pfc Claire Krueger, Pvt. Clarence Garland, Pvt. Richard Melcher, and Cpl Louis Rosen, the latter acting as Corporal of the Guard.

6 T/5 Alfred Miami left for the Isle of Capri for 4 days.

7 Cpl Sol Silverman returned from the 6660th Signal School where he had been studying a telephone carrier course. He is now to be transferred to the 14th Fighter Group as a radio repairman.

8 Today was Salvage day with the usual turning in to Supply of worn-out clothing.

Captain Harold Thomas read the Articles of War to the entire organization this afternoon.

In the evening our basketball team met the 354th Service Squadron. The first game we won 28 to 20; and we could have won by a higher score, but we put in our 2nd and 3rd teams to give them more practice. The 2nd game was between the 2nd teams of both organizations and we didn't do quite so well, losing 17 to 16. It was decided to play a 10 minute practice game using the first teams of each outfit and we did ourselves proud, -the score: 27 to 6. The boys were hotter than a firecracker and had no trouble sinking them this time.

9 Cpl Silverman left for the 14th Fighter Group.

The following promotions came thru today: Sgt Jack Mattenbarger to S/Sgt, T/4 Raymond Dilg to Sgt, and Cpl Paul Spranger to T/4.

Pvt Wilber Gallop and Pvt Wilburn Camp, previous members of the organization, visited the company today and had a few drinks with the boys!

10 M/Sgt Donald Barnett and T/4 Paul Spranger returned from Rome late today. Also among the returning men were T/3 Carlyle Rude and Sgt Henry Gilthvedt who had been on DS in Naples. All of which helps to confirm some of the current rumors about the outfit possibly breaking up. About all anyone talks about these days is "When are we going to break up?".

T/5 Meryl Dixon went to the 52nd Station Hospital diagnosed as a malaria case.

Despite the cold weather, many of the men went to the show in the evening and enjoyed a very funny comedy. Work has been started on an indoor theater, but is progressing very slowly. It appears as though Spring will be here before it is finished, but maybe we won't be so what difference does it make?

11 Pfc Clifford Curless left for a wire construction course at the 6660th Signal School.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

The good news came through that three men are to leave for 30 days furlough in the U. S. The names had already been drawn by lot and the three lucky men are S/Sgt Wattenbarger, Sgt Carpenter, and T/4 McConnell. They expect to leave in less than a week; and maybe you think they aren't happy!

Rumors have been prevalent for several weeks as to what is to become of the Group. The latest rumor being that the Group is to be the nucleus for two new Special Groups, but so far everything is just rumors.

1st Sgt Beach left for Rome to pick up some of our equipment. T/Sgt Ferreira is acting first sergeant in his absence.

12 Today was ration day for beer and Coca Colas,- we received 2 beers and 6 cokes a piece.

A physical inspection was held for all men of the organization.

T/4 Sam Millstone is to be our new Mess Sergeant as S/Sgt Wattenbarger will be leaving soon for his furlough in the States.

13 Sgt Henry Jacobson left on a seven day furlough.

New names were drawn for submission to Headquarters for the next men who will be lucky enough to go home on a 30 day furlough. The winners were S/Sgt Howard Beckstrom, T/4 Leon Chaney, and T/5 Carl Johnson,- and are they happy!

T/5 Meryl Dixon left for the 6660th Signal School for a wire construction course.

14 All the last issue of Coca Colas recalled as the Medics claimed them unfit for consumption.

PX rations were issued today; plenty of good candy bars this time.

A steel hanger is being erected near our barracks for use as a theater. The framework was completed today. It will be good to know we can go see a show whether it rains or not.

15 The number of months required to be eligible for rotation was increased to 29 months so we heard today. There were plenty of comments about that, you can be sure.

From the "GI Sense of Humor is Still Alive" department comes this typical example of Dogface humor. As you know the custom back home is to put a Service Star in the window when a person goes into the armed forces. And as the names of all the men in each room are on the door of each room, someone blocked off the names of the three men going home on furlough and put a big star next to their name!

16 The cokes recalled by the medics were replaced with approved bottles today.

The men to appear in the Review Sunday were drilled by Captain Thomas and T/Sgt Ferreira this morning.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4 War Diary. 1025th Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank L. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

Orders came thru for the three men going home on 30 day furlough; they are to leave Monday 18 December 1944.

Many of the men went to the out-door theatre over at Hq this evening. The picture was "Saratoga Trunk" and the majority agreed that it is one of the best pictures seen this year.

17 Rain postponed the review this morning much to everyone's delight.

The three E1 leaving on TD for 30 days in the States had their physical exam today; they are all very excited and nervous in anticipation of their long trip home,--but then who wouldn't be after an absence of over two years?

Our canine contingent was increased when T/4 Murray Caskill returned to the barracks with a little 3 months old puppy some girl in town sold to him,-- a female at that!

18 The big event of the day was the departure of S/Sgt Jack Mattenbarger, Sgt Owen V. Carpenter, and T/4 James McConnell for a nearby "Repple-Repple" as the first stop on their long trip home. Let's hope they enjoy every minute of their leave.

19 Rumors of re-organization of the unit have completely waned the past few days,-- to be or not to be, that is the question?

A drawing was held to decide who should be given the opportunity to go to the Isle of Capri for a three day rest. Sgt Alex Yobbagy was the lucky man.

20 Everyone was up very early this morning as the review was finally held for the purpose of awarding the Soldiers Medal. The award was given to 1st Lt Elden Jones of the 77th Service Squadron for saving the life of an RAF officer back in North Africa.

T/4 Paul Spranger made a string of Christmas lights for our Christmas tree in our bar. The tree was set up and the lights were put on; tomorrow the rest of the decorations will be put on the tree such as tinsel etc.

21. Sgt Yobbagy left for a three day rest at Capri.

The balance of the decorations were put on our Christmas tree so now the bar-room has a real Yuletide air about it.

Everyone is much concerned over the big German counter-offensive thru Belgium and part of Luxembourg,-- it is said the Jerries have penetrated almost 50 miles.

22 A meeting of the unit CO's of the Group was called by Lt. Colonel Eddy this morning. Verbal orders were given that the Group is to be inactivated and reformed, but the exact date and all the details are not known. It is known that two new special Groups will be formed. Immediate plans are being made in this unit for final action on such matters as inventories, personnel records, etc.

It turned very cold this evening, with a strong wind coming up out of the East.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 5 War Diary. 1023rd Signal Company, Service Group, Pomigliano, Italy.

Month of December 1944 Prepared by: Frank D. Hirschman, Private 1st Class.

DAY

EVENT

23 1st Sgt Rex F Beach left for Rome on a three day pass.

All sections were busy taking inventories in final preparation for the inactivation of this organization.

24 There was lots of mail today to help boost everyone's morale at this Holiday season.

Despite the extreme cold weather, many men went to church at midnight in the nearby town.

25 Christmas Day! This is the third Christmas overseas for many of the men in the unit; it's getting rather monotonous they say!

Our Christmas turkey was especially good along with fresh mashed potatoes, dressing and some excellent gravy. Beans and peas, pickle relish, coffee, raisin pie, and candy completed a fine dinner.

A very, very cold day so most of the men stayed in the barracks and kept warm. It was a rather quiet Christmas, and, let's hope, our last one overseas.

26 Captain Harold Thomas called a meeting of all men of the organization and explained the tentative set-up for the new squadrons, -that is, what each man's job will be, and other pertinent information. Both Captain Thomas and Mr Swinney expressed their pleasure as having been our officers. It really seems a shame to break up an outfit that has been together so long and gone through so much together; but the army is no place for sentiment.

The work of inventorying all supplies in the various sections continues.

27 Word was received that the unit will be inactivated as of tomorrow. This news kept supply busy issuing cots to all the men that had been using the iron beds that were in the building when we moved in.

All sections were busy making final preparations for the inactivation of the unit.

28 General Orders were received for the disbandment of the Group as of today. Two new Special Groups are to be formed under new T/O's and it is expected one of the new units will be ready to move out at once.

This writes the finis to an organization that has been together for three years, ten months, and sixteen days; our travels started on the West coast of the United States and carried us all the way across the States, across the Atlantic Ocean, through most of North Africa, and covering practically all of Southern Italy. While all the men dislike seeing the outfit disbanded, it is everyone's hope that the new units will be able to quickly take their place "in the field" and speed the finish of this war.

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S E C R E T

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 1025RD SIGNAL COMPANY  
34TH SERVICE GROUP  
APO 528

SC-HFT-fdr  
28 December 1944

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

for

DECEMBER 1944

NEGATIVE REPORT IS HEREBY SUBMITTED.

*Harold F. Thomas*  
HAROLD F. THOMAS  
Captain, Signal Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T



SIG-1023-S4-RE-D JAN-1944	
ARCHIVES THE AAF MEDICAL OFFICE	

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SIG-1023-30-RE-D

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1, War Diary 1023rd Signal Company Serv Group SAN SEVERO, ITALY

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd S C S G  
(Company Historian)

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DAY

EVENTS

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- 1 This unit is still located at the bivouac area on the outskirts of ORIA, ITALY.

The company enjoyed a very good roast turkey dinner today, with all the trimmings, celebrating New Years Day of 1944.

- 2 This company has been ordered to report for duty to the 34th SERVICE GROUP, SAN SEVERO, ITALY, per 12th Air Force Service Command (Adv) Movement Order No. 6, dated December 25, 1943, reporting on or about Jan. 5, 1944.

The 34th Service Group has been ordered to service the 90th PHOTOGRAPHIC RECONNAISSANCE WING, SAN SEVERO, ITALY. San Severo is about 20 miles northwest of Foggia, Italy.

This unit, 1023rd SIGNAL COMPANY SERVICE GROUP (AVN) has been assigned to the 34th SERVICE GROUP, per Headquarters Army Air Forces/ATO General Order No. 1, dated January 1, 1944, and has been relieved of all previous assignments, thus automatically relieving this unit from assignment to the 62nd Service Group.

The First Sergeant and 4 enlisted men left today for San Severo, to get quarters in readiness for the remainder of the company to occupy. Quarters were established in an Italian apartment house in San Severo, with accommodations for about 25 men.

Two enlisted men returned from detached service with the 351 Service Squadron, Manduria Airfield, to permanent duty with the company.

- 3 One truckload of equipment and several enlisted men left for our new location at San Severo.

- 4 The Commanding Officer and 2 enlisted men left for San Severo, traveling as far as Bari, Italy, and spending the night there.

- 5 1st Lt. Kemmer and the 2 enlisted men proceeded on to San Severo today.

The personnel of this unit are rationing with the Hq. Sq., 34th Service Group, until our own mess equipment and personnel arrive.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2, War Diary 1023rd Signal Company Serv Group SAN SEVERO, ITALY

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd S C S G  
( Company Historian )

DAY	EVENTS
6	Another group of enlisted men proceeded to San Severo today.  One enlisted man report for permanent duty with the company from the 4th Field Hospital, Manduria, where he had undergone an appendicitis operation.
7	The enlisted men at San Severo reported for duty at the M A P R C Headquarters, being assigned to different departments, and being shown the routine procedure of that Headquarters' operations.
8	Three radio repairmen and the company's radio repair van moved to the San Severo Main airfield.
10	The 1st Sergeant and 1 enlisted man returned to Oria, Italy, to assist in the movement of the remainder of the company to San Severo.
11	The men at San Severo started setting up a bivouac area for our company today. It is located about one-half mile north of San Severo, also about one-half mile north of the MAPRC Headquarters building--in an olive grove, and on comparatively high, grassy terrain.  The 1st Sergeant, 13 enlisted men, and 5 truckloads of equipment arrived from Oria, Italy.
12	A truck driver of this company, driving a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck, had a collision with a British truck today, damaging the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton beyond repair, and both drivers sustaining slight injuries. A report of investigation cleared our driver of all blame, revealing that the British driver was on the wrong side of the road. The report of investigation was made by Lt. Powell, Hq & Hq Sqderon, and findings relieved our organization of fault responsibility, and directed a report of survey be initiated holding the British Government accountable.
13	The 2 officers and 5 enlisted men of the 86th Signal Inspection Detachment were relieved from attachment for rations and quarters with this unit.
14	Part of the men in the Italian apartment house moved to the bivouac area today. The Land Lord and the Town Mayor hates to see us go. There was no heat, and latrine facilities were lacking any way.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3, War Diary 1023rd Signal Company Serv Group SAN SEVERO, ITALY  
Month of January, 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd S C S G  
(Company Historian)

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DAY

EVENTS

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- 15 One enlisted man was transferred in grade to the 875th Signal Company Depot (Avn); and 3 enlisted men were transferred in grade to the 1153rd Signal Company Service Group, per SO No. 5, Hq AAFSC/MTO (Adv), dated January 9, 1944. The 4 men departed from this company today. These men will form Cadres for respective new organizations.
- The remainder of personnel and equipment of this company arrived from Oria.
- 16 The first three graders were called to the Orderly Room for a meeting. Area Rules and Regulations were covered.
- The entire personnel of the unit had a group photograph taken today, the men being dressed in Class A uniform.
- 17 The company started eating in our mess hall today, making it much more convenient than going by truck to the Hq. Sq., mess hall. There are 2 storage tents tied with a small storage tent for a kitchen. We have wood floors and a radio. It is used also for a day room and teletype practise room.
- A number of men received inoculations and booster shots at the Hq. Sq., Dispensary.
- One enlisted man was admitted to the 34th Service Group Dispensary.
- 18 The enlisted man who was admitted to the 34th Service Group Dispensary yesterday, was taken to the 61st General Hospital, Foggia, today. Diagnosis:- Pneumonia; and a cook, too.
- The Message Center Officer of MAPRC had a meeting of all personnel of the message center and teletype department, getting procedure and schedules straightened out. Also, the Signal Officer gave a talk on security measures.
- 19 Large formations of bombers and fighters have been going over the last few days, indicating a great deal of air activity against the enemy.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 4, War Diary 1023rd Signal Company Serv Group SAN SEVERO, ITALY

Month of January, 1944. Prepared by: S/Sgt. Harry E. Haas, 1023rd S C S G  
(Company Historian)

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DAY

EVENTS

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- 20 This day was designated for making application through the Orderly Room for potential Aviation Cadets and Bombardiers. Lt Kemmer and Mr. Swinney wrote many recommendations.

Two enlisted men of the 90th Photo Recon Wing were attached to this unit for rations.

- 21 A large quantity of mail was received today, making everyone happy.

- 23 The men had fried chicken for supper; also, P X luxury rations were issued.

- 24 A light rain came today, the first rain experience for the past several weeks.

- 26 It has been raining, windy, and chilly all day today.

The men were taken to the 34th Service Group Dispensary for short-arm inspection.

Joe E. Brown visited San Severo today, and put on two performances in the Opera House. Both shows had a packed audience.

Company clothing salvage was taken today.

- 27 P X luxury rations were issued today; and the ration card system was put into effect at this unit.

- 28 The men were warned to stay out of San Severo today, because the Italians were holding elections to send a representative to the Italian Governmental Congress to be held at Bari, Italy, and trouble was expected to arise between the different Italian parties.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Bogart, accompanied by two G. I.'s, gave a performance at the Opera House tonite, and the show was a great success, and enjoyed by a very large audience.

- 31 Pay call was held this morning.

*Robert J. Kemmer*  
ROBERT J. KEMMER,  
1st Lt., S.C.,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

SIC-1023-S4-RE-D	
NATIONAL ARCHIVES THE AAF HISTORICAL OFFICE	FEB-1944

*War Diary*  
*193d Sig. Bn. (M)*  
*Jan 1944*

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Company., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

1. Lt. Holland visited Unit Headquarters making inquiries regarding chemical warfare defensive measures and Special Service supplies.

Fresh hamburger served for dinner was enjoyed by everyone.

Pvt. Martinez invited two Canadian Infantry men for supper this evening; they expressed their appreciation of the American ration.

2. 34 enlisted men were guests to the 34th Service Group Surgeon's Office for inoculation shots today.

1st Sgt. Beach accompanied several enlisted men of the 46th Service Sq. to Naples this morning.

Lt. Kerner inspected our shoes and canteen bottles this morning.

3. PX rations were issued today. He received 7 packs of cigarettes. The enlisted men have been paying for their luxury rations for several months now.

Two enlisted men went to Bari in a 2-ton truck to draw signal supplies.

Capt. Fahn, S-4, and another officer of the Hq. Sq. visited our camp today in regard to supply matters.

\$430.00 in finance savings deposits was made by enlisted men of the company, and \$750.00 was transferred to the U.S.A. by P.T.A.

4. W/C John R. Swinney left for Naples today with a supply man, to look after signal supply matters.

5. Lt. Kerner inspected our tents this morning. Shoes, gas masks, and canteens were displayed and inspected.

6. W/C John R. Swinney, 1st Sgt Beach and our Supply Sgt. returned from Naples this afternoon.

Capt. Herlihy of the 875th Depot Co. (AWF) visited us today. He was checking on signal supplies.

Fried chicken was enjoyed by all for dinner today.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 2 War Diary, 1025th Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

7. Telephone directories were completed and distributed throughout the various organizations.

Doughnuts and roast beef was enjoyed by all for dinner today.

This has been a disagreeable day with rain, snow, and wind.

8. Lt. O'Donnell and 2 enlisted men visited our company in regard to Signal supply matters; they also stayed for dinner.

9. A carrier pigeon was captured by the MP's at San Severo this morning. This bird had a band attached to its leg with the initials ITALIA on it, and we have been trying to identify it, where it came from, and who it belongs to. Lt. Henner has been driving throughout this vicinity trying to locate pigeon lofts. It was found to be a stray bird and not belonging to any British lofts in this area. No message.

10. Cpl. Robert Clavier was here to visit with Sgt. Beach today. Cpl. Clavier and Sgt. Beach are from the same home town.

An enlisted man from the Headquarters Photo Lab was here taking pictures of different company sections, and our area this afternoon; which will be forwarded in a later report.

11. W/Sgt. Lyons and T/Sgt. Rouch of the 41st, Chemical Warfare, inspected our gas masks and other chemical warfare equipment this afternoon.

A physical examination was held in our area this morning by the Group medic.

12. Company inspection of rifles, shoes, helmet, bunk, and camp area was held this morning.

15. Our 12-drop switchboard was replaced with a 40-drop switchboard at the telephone section today.

16. This has been another miserable day with rain, wind and snow.

17. PX luxury rations issued to the members of this company today. We received 7 packages of cigarettes and also candy and gum.

10 enlisted men of this company went to Foggia for their physical examinations for cadet and bombardier training. 9 men had their applications in for cadet training and 1 man for bombardier training. 7 men successfully passed their first examination, and 3 men were eliminated.

S E C R E T



S E C R E T

Sheet No. 3 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944 Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

W/O John B. Swinney and two enlisted men went to Bari with two 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton trucks to get signal supplies today.

18. 7 enlisted men went to Foggia today for their personal interview before the Cadet Examining Board.

The 7 men, 1/Sgt. Barnett, T/Sgt. Fischer, S/Sgt. Haas, Sgt. Jacobson, 1/A Moore, E/O Matternlager, and PFC Bellezza, were verbally informed that they had all passed the complete examination, and would probably hear from P & S within a period of 2 or 3 weeks.

The Group Adjutant was notified that in case these men were transferred from the company, replacements would be required in order to keep the company in operational strength.

19. Lt. Renner held an inspection of tents and camp area this morning.
20. Two enlisted men were released from the 4th Field Hospital and returned to our company.
21. Dental inspection for the men of our company was held in our area today.
22. Detail of men hauled gravel to put around the mess hall, and to fill in water holes and low spots in our camp area.

Large numbers of bombers and fighters were seen flying this morning.

One enlisted man was promoted to T/5 and another was promoted to PFC today.

23. Major Williams, Engineering Officer, and Lt. Donald A. Steele, Transportation Officer were here to inspect our vehicles at the motor pool this morning. They found all our vehicles in satisfactory condition.
24. PX luxury rations issued to the men of our company today.
- A group of enlisted men hauled gravel for our bivouac area today.
25. One of our civilian LP's was relieve from kitchen duty today.

S E C R E T

SECRET

Sheet No. 4 War Diary, 1023rd Signal Co., Serv. Gp. San Severo, Italy

Month of February 1944, Prepared by: Alvin L. Landro, Tech. 5th Grade

DAY

EVENTS

Our company motor pool was issued a second hand jeep today. Our motor pool Sgt went to the 177th Ordnance to bring it here. This vehicle appears to have had very rough use so no doubt it will require some mechanical adjustments.

Lt. Leamer and one enlisted man drove to Foggia to visit the Communications Officer, III AF.

On returning to Foggia Lt. Leamer and driver, Sgt. Laskill, witnessed a collision. An American jeep scratched a British truck and the jeep turned over, throwing 3 of 4 occupants and crushing one underneath. Lt. Leamer and Sgt. Laskill transported the men to a hospital in San Severo and reported the accident. The jeep belonged to the 11th Fighter Group. The driver was too close to the center of the road, apparently.

26. Lt. Leamer inspected our tents, bunk, shoes, rifles, and camp area this morning.

The enlisted men of our company had physical examination today.

We hired another civilian E4 to work in our kitchen today.

28. A young Italian boy was caught in our company supply during night hour. Our Supply Sgt found him hiding under the bed; he had a carton of cigarettes in his possession so we took him to San Severo to the MP station.

A detail of men hauled gravel to put around the motor pool today.

The men in the motor pool put up a large tent, so they can have shelter while working on their vehicles.

29. We had our regular monthly payroll this morning.

A total of \$455.00 was made by the enlisted men for deposits in the Finance, and \$270.00 for P.I.A.

A total of \$502.05 for orders of Easter flowers was collected today from the Officers and enlisted men by our supply section. The flowers are to be delivered to addressees in the States for Easter.

*Robert J. Leamer*  
ROBERT J. LEAMER,  
1st Lt., S. C.,  
Commanding.

SECRET



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FE8-1941	FE8-1944
THE ARCHIVES OF THE AAF HISTORICAL SECTION	

*Hq 1024th Sig Bn, (SG)  
 Feb 1944 - Feb 1944*

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Researched by Roger Montemayor,  
son of the late Technician Fifth Grade Arthur J. Montemayor, 1029<sup>th</sup> Signal Company.

Constructed by Leonard H. Cizewski

May 11, 2023