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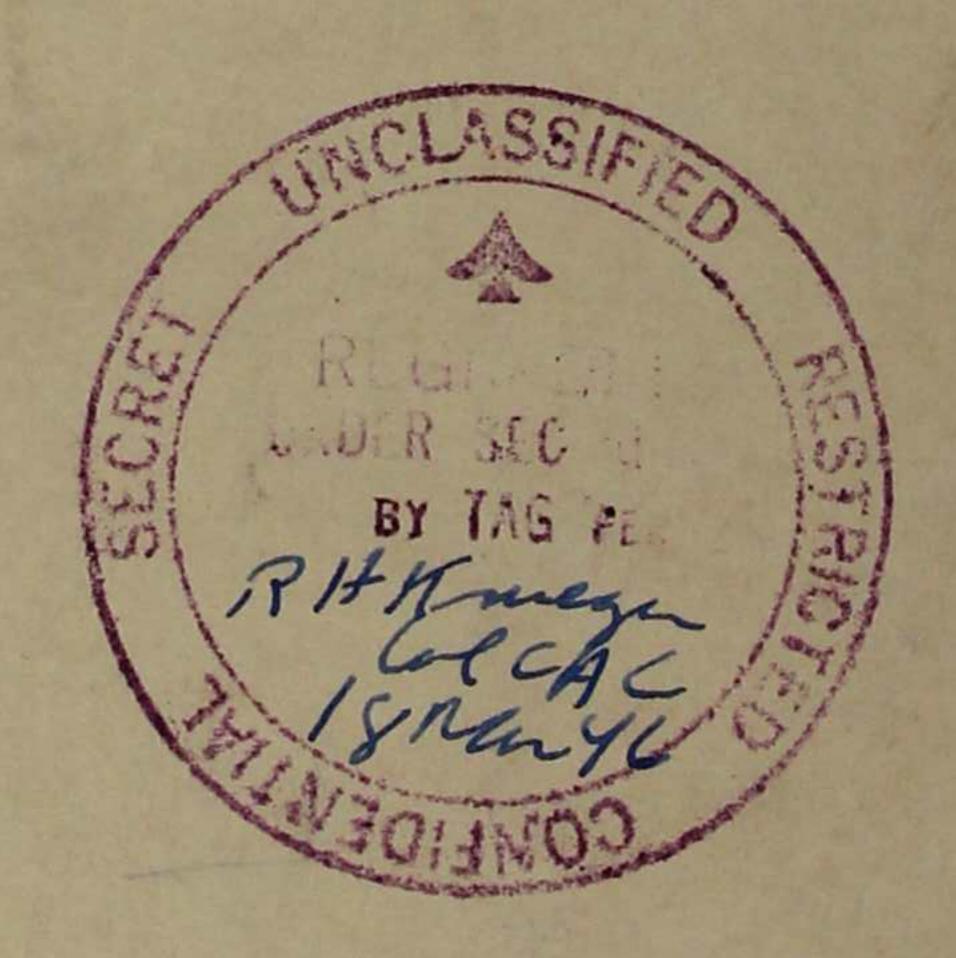
ANNEX NO. 15

111TH MEDICAL BATTALION A.P.O. # 36

OPERATIONS IN ITALY NOV 1943

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# SECTOR

HEADQUARTERS
111th MEDICAL BATTALION
A.P.O. #36

5 December 1943

SUBJECT: "OPERATIONS IN ITALY" 17th through 30th November 1943.

Commanding General, 36th Infantry Division, APO #36, U. S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith Historical Data of the 111th Medical Battalion for its "OFERATIONS IN ITALY" for the period 17th through 30th November 1943.

JAY W. PICKENS,
Major, Med Corps,
Commanding.

Encls - 1 Historical Data.

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HEADQUARTERS
111TH MEDICAL BATTALION
A.P.O. #36

# \*\*\*\*\* OPERATIONS IN ITALY

17th to 30th NOVEMBER 1943

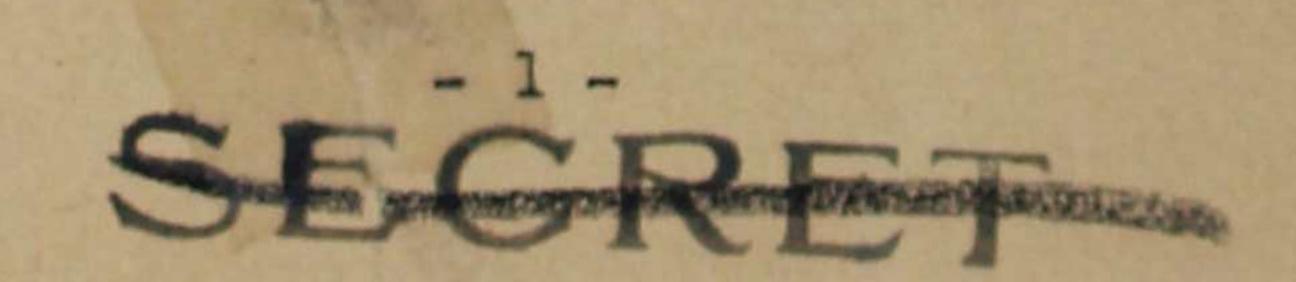
The 111th Medical Battalion commanded by Major Jay W. Pickens, as part of the 36th Infantry Division, began moving to the front to relieve the 3rd Infantry Division in the Mignano sector of the Fifth Army on the 15th November 1943.

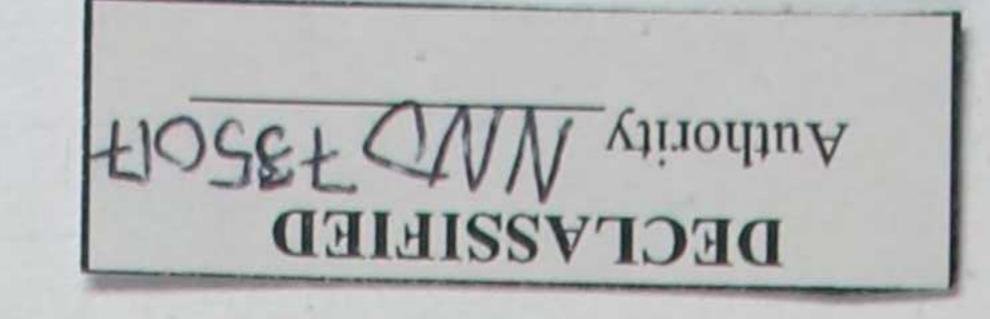
The move was successfully accomplished by infiltration. The Collecting Companies, Companies "A", "B", and "C" were attached to their respective combat teams, 141st Infantry, 142nd Infantry, and 143rd Infantry, and established their stations in the same locations that were formerly occupied by the Collecting Companies of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Collecting Company "A" commanded by Captain Joe H. Roberts established the Collecting Station at 017081 (Map - Italy 1,100,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172). Due to the lack of sufficient defilade and cover from enemy observation, the kitchen and motor pool were established at 045072 (Map - Italy 1,100,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172). During period from 17th to 19th November Company "A" suffered 6 battle casualties due to enemy artillery fire. On the 19th November 1943, the Collecting Station was moved back approximately 1 mile due to enemy artillery fire. Their old position was located near a heavily travelled road.

Collecting Company "B" commanded by Captain Herbert R. Farber established the Collecting Station at 994030 (Nap - Italy 1,100,000 Sheets Nos. 151-172) on 15th November 1943. An advanced station and loading post was established at 993060 in a cave which afforded excellent protection from enemy artillery shells.

Collecting Company "C" commanded by Captain Allen E. Markowitz established a Collecting Station at 032065 (Map - Italy 1,100,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172) on 15th November 1945. An ambulance loading post was established at 994109 (Map - Italy 1,100,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172). Due to restricted







cover near the Station Platoon the Motor Pool was established at 047073 (Map - Italy 1:100,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172).

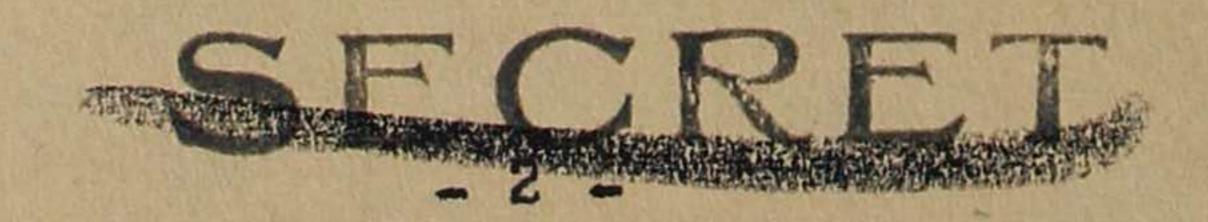
The Clearing Company, Commanded by Captain Charles B. Dildy, sent one platoon of the Clearing Station forward on the 15th November 1943, and it was established at 066033 (Map - Italy 1:1000,000 Sheets Nos. 161-172). A section of the Division Medical Supply, under the supervision of Mr. Lucien B. Campbell, W.O. (Jg), was attached to this platoon. Head-quarters Detachment, Commanded by Captain Victor H. Morganroth Jr., with the second platoon of the Clearing Company attached, moved up to the above location on the 17th November 1943. The 54th Medical Battalion attached 6 ambulances to the Clearing Station for the evacuation of casualties to the 56th Evacuation Hospital and the 94th Evacuation Hospital.

One platoon of the 11th Field Hospital, consisting of three General Surgical Teams and one orthopedic Team, was attached to the Clearing Station for handling the non-transportable casualties.

The weather during this entire period has been inclement, as a result many roads became impassable, particularly the road to the Clearing Station. The road was kept open by employing personnel from the Clearing Station and Headcuarters Detachment for hauling rock and gravel, also the 19th Engineers furnished a bulldozer and dump trucks.

Soon after the Clearing Station was set up, several batteries of heavy artillery moved into the area. Several batteries were placed about 500 vards to the rear of the Station, another group about 300 vards to the right and one group about 250 vards to the left. As a result the Clearing Station was exposed to counter-battery fire on the nights of 22nd and 23rd November 1943. One shell demolishing the kitchen of the 11th Field Hospital, wounding two enlisted men and one nurse. The constant concussion from these artillery batteries necessitated the immediate evacuation of certain type of casualties, who otherwise would have been held in the Station.

The greatest difficulties found during this operation has been the replacement of litter bearers who were becoming exhausted due to the long litter hauls over rugged mountain terrain. One such haul took three hours to traverse from the ambulance loading post to the battalion aid station. The regular assigned litter bearers soon proved inadequate. A request was made to II Corp for additional litter bearers. On the 18th November 1943, 61 litter bearers were received from the 54th Medical Battalion and on the 25th November 1943, 50 additional litter bearers



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were received from the 161st Medical Battalion. The first group received were allotted to the Infantry Regiments and the second group of 50 were sent to the Collecting Companies. This relieved the situation temporarily. Toward the end of the month the loss of personnel in the companies due to illness became so acute, that a request was made for additional litter bearers. In this respect the cooperation of Corps units and especially the II Corps Surgeon's Office has been very gratifying.

The function of the Division Medical Supply has been normal, although much time could have been saved had the advence unit of the Supply Depot, situated approximately 5 miles to the rear, carried sufficient quantities of critical Medical Items to fill requisitions for the Division. As it was, the Division drew Medical Sup lies from the Medical Supply Depot at Caserta, Italy, which is approximately 30 miles to the rear.

CASS J. MIGHT.
Captain, Med. Adm. Corps.
Adjutant.

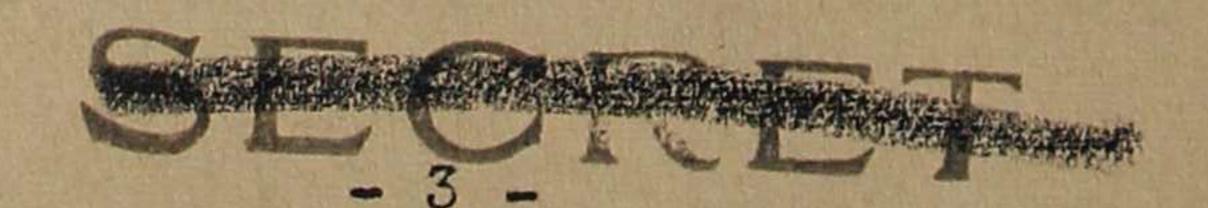
#### Annexes - 4

#1 - Daily Journal

#2 - Maps and Overlays

#3 - Casualties suffered by 111th Med Bn.

#4 - Consolidation of casualties processed through Clearing Station.



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The 36th Division Archive



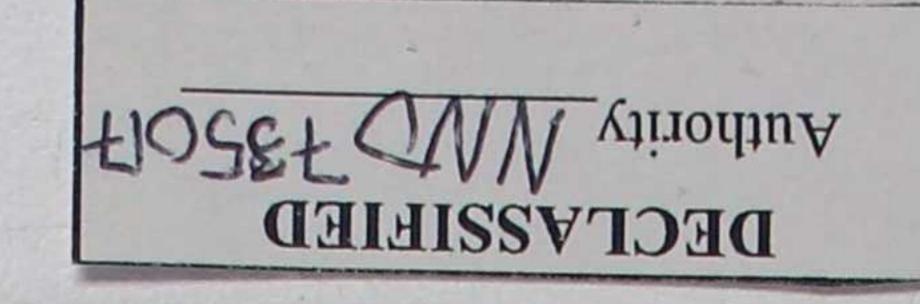
### DAILY JOURNAL

### lilth MEDICAL BATTALION

"OPERATIONS IN ITALY" for the period 17th through 30th November 1943.

(Annoy No. 1, Daily Journal, attached to original copy of the Historical Daily.

ANNEX NO. 1



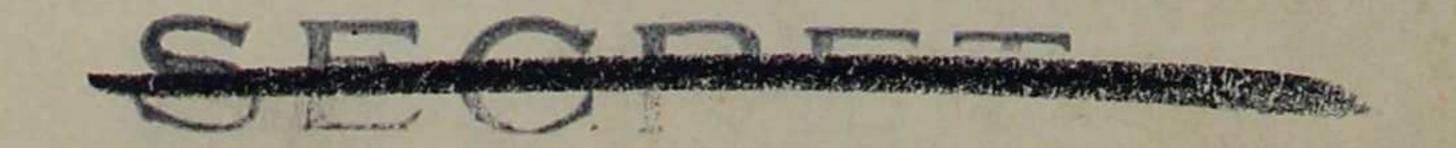


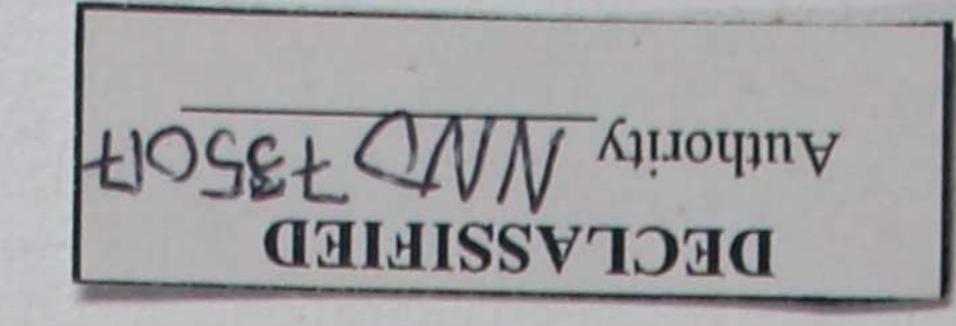
17 November 1943

The lilth Medical Battalion, after approximately two months of rest and reorganization, since their landing on the beach of Salerno, Italy, was committed once again into active combat at 1200 17 November 1943, relieving the 3rd Infantry Division. The three Collecting Companies, Companies "A", "B", and "C" were attached to their respective combat teams, 141st Infantry, 142nd Infantry and 143rd Infantry for the evacuation of casualties (See attached overlay for positions). Headquarters and Headquarters Detachement and Clearing Company located approximately 4 miles to the rear of the Collecting Companies (See attached overlay for positions). Casualties are very light and they are mostly due from Artillery fire. Heavy rains are making the terrain very muddy and making enemy and friendly action almost negligible.

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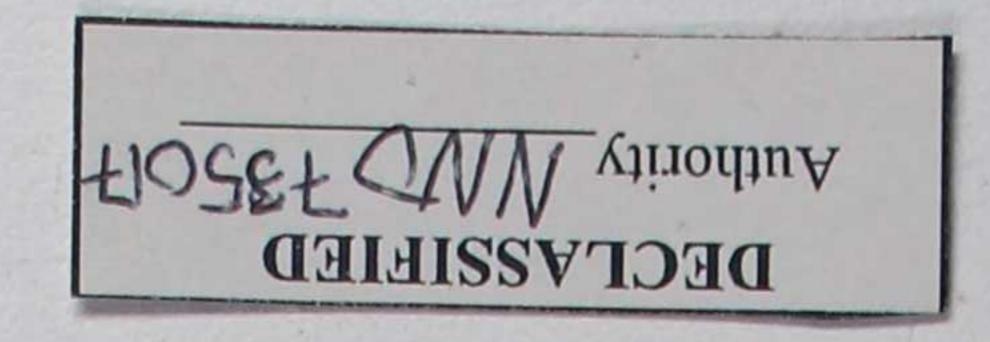


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MESSAGES SENT 17 NOVEMBER 1943





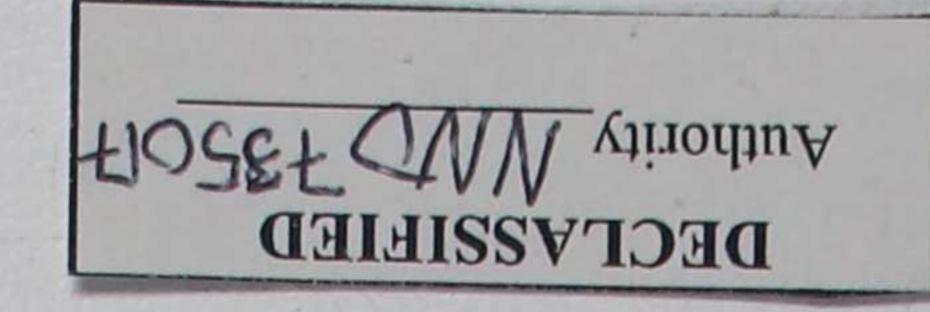
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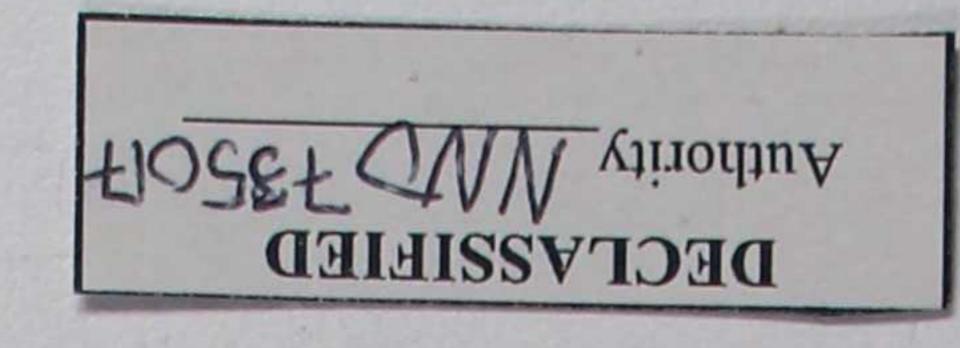
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17 NOVEMBER 1943

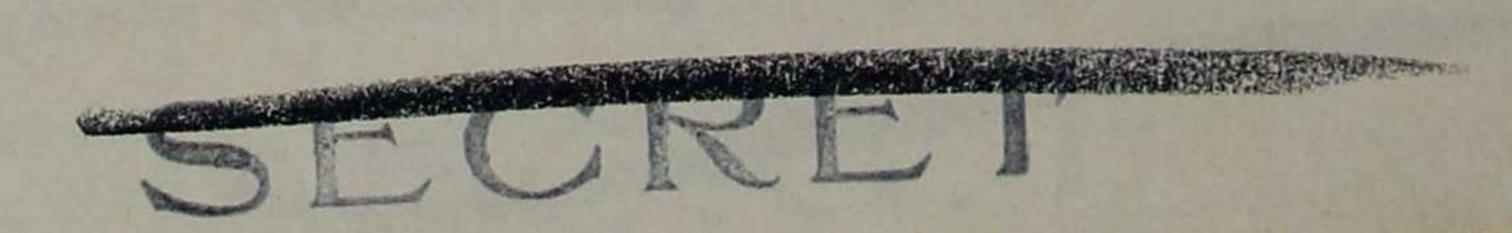
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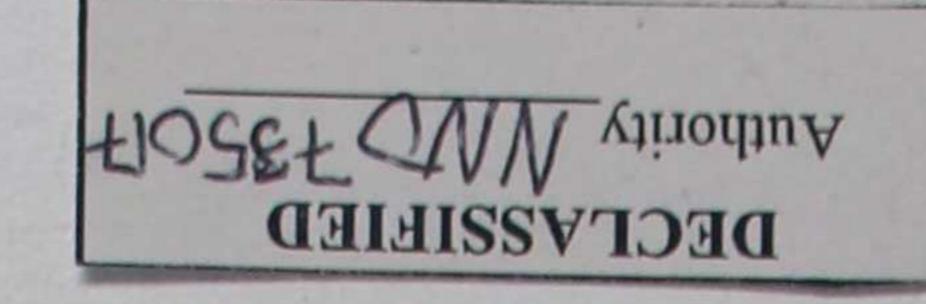


# 18 November 1943

Continuous rain is making the road from the main highway, highway
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No. 6 to the CP and Clearing Station almost impassible. Men have
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### 19 November 1943

Enemy Artillery was very active last night. Weather continued to be very bad. Collecting Company "A" has moved from their original location due to intense enemy artillery fire. Casualties very light.

# 20 November 1943

Friendly artillery fired almost all night. Weather continued to be very rainy and muddy. Wire communication has improved but still very unstable and unreliable. Men are still working on the roads and are improving them somewhat. Casualties continue to be very light. Battalion Motor Pool sent a crew up to the front to remove ambulance bogged down in mud. This was done under enmy fire. No change in location of units.

# 21 November 1943

Collecting companies continue to ask for more litter bearers needed because of the long hauls over difficult terrain. Weather somewhat better, but area and roads are very muddy. Heavy artillery fire by both enemy and friendly batteries. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

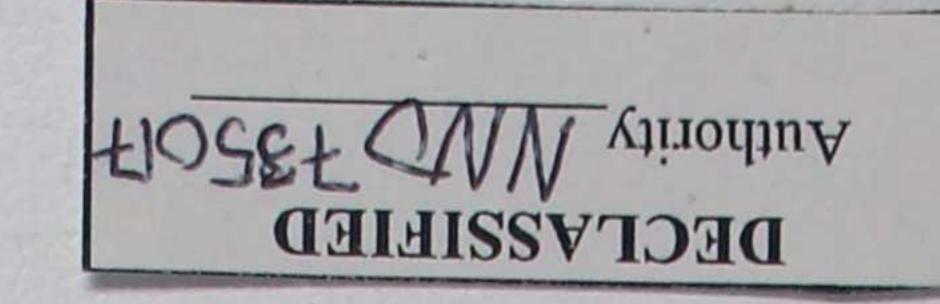
# 22 November 1943

Enemy artillery fired almost all night with shells hitting within our bivouac area. One Ward tent of the 11th Field Hospital, attached this Unit, was hit, wounding two enlisted men and a nurse. Shrapnel pierced a few tents within our area, but no casualties. Weather clearer and warmer. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

#### 23 November 1943

Weather very bad, rainy and muddy, Although road conditions within our own area have improved, because of the constant hauling of ruck and gravel to maintain the roads. Wire communication has also improved and is almost normal. Casualties very light. Collecting Company "A" lost one ambulance due to enemy action. No change in location of units.

SEGET





#### 24 November 1943

Weather cloudy with frequent showers, making roads very slick, Artillery fire light both friendly and enemy. Collecting Companies continue to ask for more litter bearers. Litter bearers becoming exhausted from the long haul. Casualties continue to be very light. No change in location of units.

#### 25 November 1943

Weather still cloudy with frequent showers. 50 litter bearers were received today to help relieve some of the pressure, but more are needed. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

#### 26 November 1943

Weather fair and warmer. Collecting Company "B" received 10 litter bearers from the 54th Med Bn. Collecting Company "A" lost 2 jeeps due to enemy action. Contact and communication with the Collecting Companies has been good all through this operation to date. No change in location units. Casualties light.

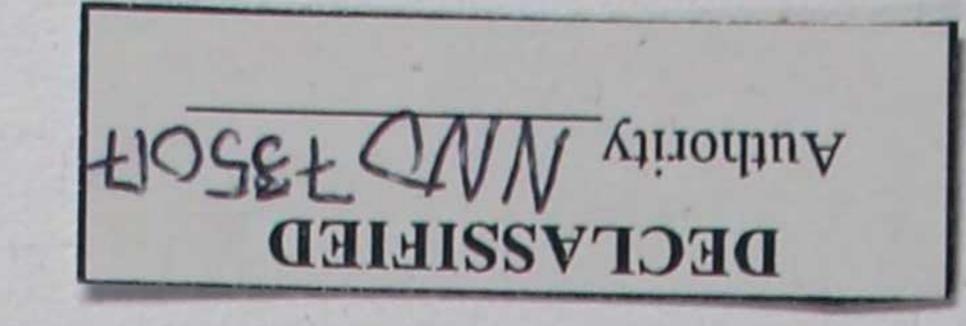
#### 27 November 1943

Weather fair and warm. Casualties light and still mostly from Artillery fire. No change in location of units.

#### 28 November 1943

Weather cold but clear. Road condition greatly improved. Collecting Company "C" put in request for more litter bearers. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

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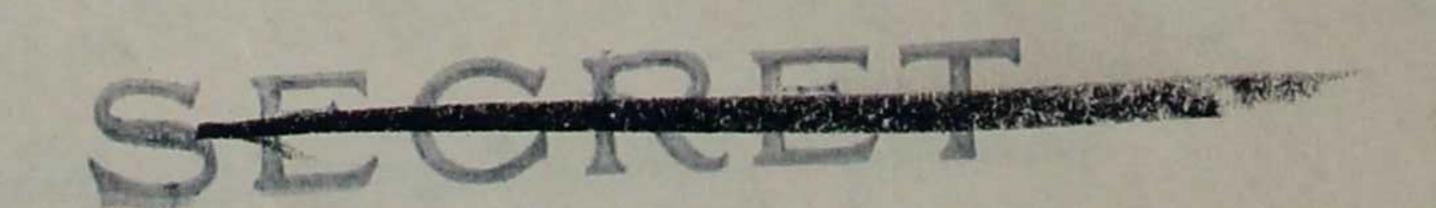
## 29 November 1943

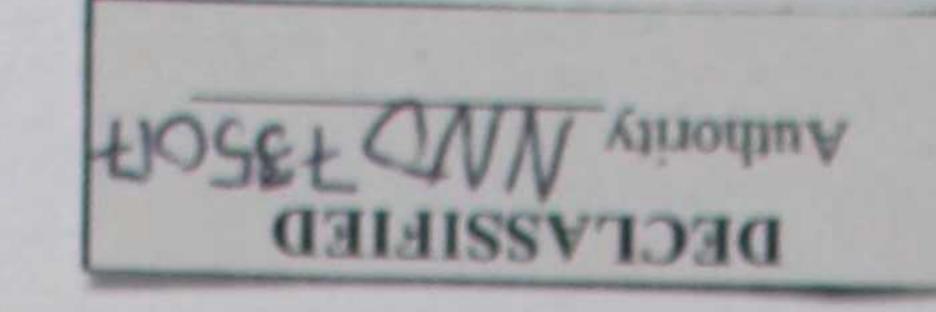
Weather partly cloudy with light rains during the day making roads very slippery. Casualties continue to be very light. The usual artillery barrages. No change in location of units.

## 30 November 1943

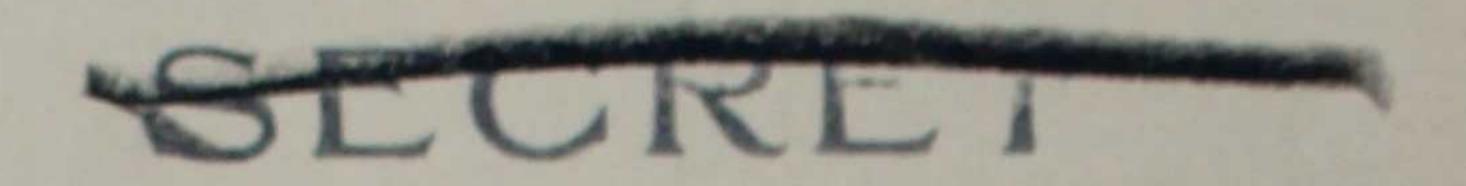
Weather: occasional showers. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

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#### 29 November 1943

Weather partly cloudy with light rains during the day making roads very slippery. Casualties continue to be very light. The usual artillery barrages. No change in location of units.

#### 30 November 1943

Weather: occasional showers. Casualties light. No change in location of units.

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