

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 2002 735617
By KK NARA Date 7-25-08

SECTION I
Personnel And Morale

RER:

A ORGANIZATION

1 Name:

Twenty-Seventh United States Infantry, activated by Authority of the Congress of the United States and by direction of the Secretary of War, 2 February 1901.

2 Organization:

Table of Organization and Equipment 7-11, 26 February 1944, effective in the 27th Infantry 25 April 1944, amended by Change 1, 30 June 1944.

3 Strength:

	Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted Men
a At Beginning of Period:	159	5	3040
b Net Increase Each Month			
1 - 31 October 1944:	0	0	0
1 - 30 November 1944:	0	0	70
1 - 31 December 1944:	0	0	0
c Net Decrease Each Month			
1 - 31 October 1944:	1	0	31
1 - 30 November 1944:	1	0	0
1 - 31 December 1944:	0	0	95
d At End Of Period:	157	5	2984
e Losses In Action:	N	0	N - E
f Commanding Officer:			

Colonel DAVID H BUCHANAN, O 17 746

B STATIONS

- 1 From 1 - 31 October the regiment was camped at its Base Camp between Oua Tom and Bouloupari, 60 miles west of Noumea. This camp was established when the regiment moved to New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands.

S - E - C - R - E - T

S - E - C - R - E - T

UNIT HISTORY
TWENTY-SEVENTH UNITED STATES INFANTRY
October - November - December
Nineteen Forty-Four

By Direction Of
Colonel Philip F Lindeman
Commanding Officer

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SECTION I, continued

- C 2 factor was misrepresented in the United States Press. Because the matter was first introduced in the U S Congress a misunderstanding arose in most soldiers' minds, and a great majority were of the opinion that the War Department policy was an actual law.

Largely due to articles in magazines and newspapers, many members of the command were under the impression that the percentage per theater indicated by the War Department circular constituted the true basis of Rotation, and they seemed to disregard the other important provision: the authority of field commanders to determine the extent of Rotation dictated by the tactical situation in their respective theaters.

Thru Orientation discussions attempts were made to educate the members of the command as to the true status of the War Department policy as well as the problems confronting the large-scale tactical aspects of the war in the Pacific.

3 Post Exchange:

A centrally located post exchange was operated by the regiment. Beer was available on the basis of approximately 24 bottles per man per month. With the exception of a cigaret shortage of around two weeks' duration, there was an adequate supply of the more popular post exchange supplies.

4 Motion Pictures:

An outdoor theater was operated in the vicinity of the post exchange. Regular Division Special Service channels supplied an average of three films per week; however, by special arrangements by the Athletic and Morale Officer with Island agencies, films were shown about six times a week.

When subordinate units were away from the Base Camp for training purposes, arrangements were usually made to run a late showing for them.

Although in some instances the showings were a repetition of films shown previously, the attendance for repeat showings was almost as large as for the first run. The practice of showing a motion picture almost every night was one of the foremost favorable morale factors during the stay on New Caledonia.

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SECTION I, continued

- B 2 From 1 - 7 November the regiment was bivouaced at Uitoe Beach, 5 miles east of Tontouta, New Caledonia, during a phase of amphibious training.
- 3 On 8 November the regiment returned to Base Camp.
- 4 On 15 December the regiment embarked on transports at Noumea Harbor for a water move to Luzon, Philippine Islands.
- 5 Move from Noumea Harbor: See Station Log, Annex I-1.

C MORALE

The period covered by this report was purely one of intensive training to fit the unit for combat. In order that no personnel would miss any of the important aspects of this phase the principal recreational factors were those that could be exercised during off-duty hours in the near vicinity of camp.

During the last quarter of 1944 the regiment was completing a ten-month stay at New Caledonia, and the last combat period had ended a year before, in October of 1943. The Base Camp was quite some distance from the only town of any appreciable size, and consequently some distance from the Island's recreational facilities, the latter being located in the immediate vicinity of Noumea.

The following are the more important factors affecting the morale of the command:

1 Mail:

The mail situation continued generally good. The average length of delivery of First Class Mail was 16 - 18 days. Air Mail deliveries required approximately 9 days, and surface mail required about thirty days. Second, Third and Fourth Class Mail required approximately five to six weeks.

A regimental branch of the Division Post Office was established, and money orders, Registry, and Parcel Post facilities were readily available to all personnel.

2 Rotation:

One of the largest items affecting morale was Rotation, and it was extremely unfortunate that this particular

-two-

S - E - C - R - E - T

BOAT TRANS

JLP/sal

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By *KK NARA DMC 7-25-05*

1. The 27th Combat Team during the amphibious training will consist of:

27th Infantry Regiment
8th Field Artillery Bn
E Company, 65th Engr Bn
C Company, Medical Bn
1st Pltn, D Company, Medical Bn
Shore Party, 3d Bn, 35th Infantry
B Battery, 90th Field Artillery Bn
Hq Battery, Division Artillery
Detachment, Ordnance Company
Defense Pltn, Division Hq Company
Detachment, Band

2. The Combat Team will be divided into four (4) landing teams:

1st Bn Landing Team
2d Bn Landing Team
3d Bn Landing Team
Provisional Bn Landing Team

3. The 1st Bn Landing Team consists of:

1/27	5 Officers	91 Battery Personnel	14 Liaison & F.O.'s
A/8	1 Officer	38	
1/B/65 Engrs	2 Officers	31	
1/C/25 Med		286	
Bn Shore Party		8	
1/Mine/41/27			

4. The 2d Bn Landing Team consists of:

2/27	4 Officers	93 Battery Personnel	14 Liaison & F.O.'s
B/8	1 Officer	42	
2/B/65 Engrs	1 Officer	32	
2/C/25 Med		285	
Bn Shore Party		8	
2/Mine/41/27			

5. The 3d Bn Landing Team consists of:

3/27	5 Officers	94 Battery Personnel	14 Liaison & F.O.'s
C/8	1 Officer	43	
3/B/65 Engrs	2 Officers	33	
3/C/25 Med	6 Officers	50	
1/D/25 Med		285	
Bn Shore Party		8	
3/Mine/41/27			

-1-

Annex III-1

S - E - C - R - E - T

SECTION I, continued

C 2 U S O and Special Service Shows:

A variety of stage shows were presented. Because of the limited itinerary assigned them, the Bob Hope and the Jack Benny Shows were performed for a divisional audience. Other shows which remained within the divisional area for one to two weeks were presented in the regimental theater.

6 Passes:

Because of the intensive phase of training any extensive system of passes was impractical. During the two weeks prior to departure, however, a limited number were granted for leave to Noumea. As the camp area was 60 miles from town, a schedule was established to provide government transportation to and from Noumea.

7 Athletics:

Special Service equipment was furnished to units such that each company was able to maintain a volleyball and a horseshoe court. Boxing, Baseball, softball and volleyball leagues were initiated as a competitive factor.

8 Radio Facilities:

Each company had purchased a radio set from its Company Fund. An American Expeditionary Station was operated by the New Caledonia Island Command at Noumea, and personnel heard news broadcasts and transcriptions of the more popular programs of United States networks.

9 Food:

The supply of fresh food was considerably better than the first three-quarters of the year. The basis of issue was the "B" Ration, supplemented by certain fresh products. The post exchange, by discontinuing the sale at the exchange building, furnished sufficient quantities of ice cream to serve one cup per individual an average of every ten days. Remuneration was paid the post exchange from Company Funds and from collections from personnel. The Island Quartermaster issued ice cream an average of twice a week. Fresh meat was issued on the average of three times per week, butter almost daily, and fresh vegetables from Island farms were issued an average of once a week.

-four-

S - E - C - R - E - T

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Second Wave:

Command Group of each assault company.
Support Platoon of each assault company.
Weapons Platoon (less 2 Bazooka squads) of each assault company
attached to HMG Platoon.
F.A. Forward Observer Party - 8 men.
An aid man in each landing craft.

Third Wave:

Advance Bn Command Post.
Advance Bn Aid Station (Asst Bn Surgeon, Litter Squad - 4 men, 3 aid station men, 6 company aid men).
Advance Shore Party Group.
Naval Gunfire Liaison Party - 6 men.
Reserve Rifle Company
Reconnaissance Personnel from Mortar Platoon.

Fourth Wave:

Remainder of Bn Command Group
81mm Mortar Platoon
Assault Team
Mine Squad
1 & R Platoon
2 Aid Station (Bn Surgeon, 2 Litter Squads - 8 men, 5 aid station men).
Elements of Shore Party
Bn AT Platoon
F.A. Liaison Party

Fifth Wave:

Platoon of Collecting Company
Elements of Shore Party
Elements of Artillery
Engineers Elements

Sixth & Succeeding Waves in This Priority:

1. Balance of Shore Party
2. Engineers
3. Balance of Artillery
4. Bn S-4, A & P Platoons, Administrative Sections of Company Headquarters
5. Clearing Platoon (For 3d Bn only).

A TRUE COPY:

Ralph B. Reeves Jr.
RALPH B. REEVES JR.
1st Lt, 27th Infantry

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By KK NARA Date 7-25-08

6. The Provisional Bn Landing Team consists of:

Bn Hq - Lt-Col. Christianson	- C.O.	
Capt. Kaulakis	- Exec. O.	
Lt. Reeves	- S-3	
Lt. Bailey	- S-1	
Lt. Curtis	- S-4	
Hq/27		155 (plus staff section)
Sv/27		95 (less staff section and personnel section)
Cm/27		118
AT/27 (less Mine Pltn)		134
B/30		105
Hq/PA/25		74
Det/Crd/25		7
Defense/Hq/25		26
Det/Band/25		23
Hq/8		116
Sv/8		59
Hq/B/65 Engrs		35

7. Rosters of attached personnel may be obtained from the Regimental S-1.

8. All boat teams within a Battalion Landing Team will be numbered as follows:

First Wave	11-19
Second Wave	21-29
Third Wave	31-39, etc.

This does not mean that there must be nine boats in each wave.
In column the boat teams will be as follows:

11
12
13, etc.

Deployed, the boats will be as follows:

18 16 14 12 11 13 15 17 19

9. It will be assumed that no LCM's will be in the first three waves.

10. One bazooka team from the weapons platoon will be attached to each assault platoon.

11. One heavy machine gun platoon will be attached to each assault company.

12. The composition of waves will be as follows:

First Wave:

C.O. or Executive Officer of each of 2 assault Companies.
Messengers, SCR-536 Operator, and Wiremen to lay a wire in each assault company zone from the beach behind the assault platoons leaving one man with a sound-power phone on the beach end of the wire.
2 assault platoons of each of 2 assault companies.

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E X T R A C T

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1-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

ANNEX "C"
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR 26TH U.S. INFANTRY DIVISIONFOUR DAY SCHEDULE OF TRANSPORT TRAINING
(FOR USE WHEN TRAINING WITH TWO LST'S)4 November, 1944
(This Annex "C" super-
cedes Annex "D" dated
18 October, 1944.)

LSI (ATA)

Annex III-2

DAY	TIME	SUBJECT	PLACE	REMARKS
1st Day	0630 To Completion	Combat Load	Blue Beach	Operation to be accomplished by Landing Team and Transport Quartermaster as directed by Landing Team C.O.
	1330-1600	Embark Personnel	Blue Beach	Operation to be accomplished by Landing Team C.O. Troops to receive evening meal aboard.
	1600-	Ship's Drills	Operation Room	Explanation of emergency drills by ship's officer.
	2000-2100	Instruction of Boat Team Leaders	Operation Room	Duties of Boat Team Leaders. Plans for following day's exercise.
2nd Day	0800-0845	Demonstration in Tying Equipment		
	0900-1130	Preparation for Troop Exercise	Compartments	Boat Team Leaders organize teams, inform personnel for afternoon exercise.
	1330-1700	Debarcation Exercise	LSI	Two debarcation exercises into small boats. No landing.
	1900-1930	Darken Ship	LSI	Prepare for Night Exercise.
	1930-To Completion	Night Debarcation Exercise	LSI	Each boat team to descend and ascend twice once.
3rd Day	0800-1130	Landing Exercise	Blue Beach	Tactical problem to initial phase line beyond first cover, under control of Landing Team C.O.
	1330-1630	Landing Exercise	Blue Beach	
	2000-	Plans for Final Landing Exercise	Operation Room	Meeting to be held by Landing Team C.O.
4th Day	0445-Hour	Final Landing	Blue Beach	Hour, Dawn. Exercise to be in accordance with plan and orders of Landing Team C.O. Times for Reveille, mess and debarcation of troops to be arranged by Landing Team CO and Comdr. of LSI.

A TRUE COPY:

RALPH E. REEVES Jr.
1st Lt., 26th Infantry

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By *KK* NARA Date *7-25-08*

S-E-C-R-E-T

ANNEX "A" TO CTU 77.9.1 TRAINING ORDER A2-44 (Continued)

There are three adjacent beaches suitable for beaching landing craft in the Tere Area of GUADALCANAL. These beaches are each about 900 yards wide and are designated from left to right AMBER, GRAY, and PURPLE. See the diagrams and beach sketches attached.

TransDiv Charlie will land the 35th Regimental Combat Team over Beach AMBER, with the 2nd Battalion landing team on the left, the 1st Battalion landing team on the right, and the 3rd Battalion in Reserve.

TransDiv Baker will land the 27th Regimental Combat Team over Beach GRAY, with the 1st Battalion landing team on the left, the 2nd landing team on the right, and the 3rd Battalion in reserve.

TransDiv Able will land the 161st Regimental Combat Team over Beach PURPLE, with the 1st Battalion landing team on the left, the 3rd Battalion landing team on the right, and the 2nd Battalion in reserve.

4. General Instructions.

Corrective instructions, supervised training in proper methods, strict adherence to the Transport Doctrine, a full test of communications and equipment, and a thorough test of unloading facilities, boat control, and beach and shore party organization and equipment is the desired objective.

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A TRUE EXTRACT

Ralph B. Reeves Jr.
RALPH B. REEVES JR.
1st Lt, 27th Infantry

SECRET

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

ANNEX "A" TO
COMMANDER TASK UNIT 77.9.1
TRAINING ORDER NO A2-44

OUTLINE OF SHIP-TO-SHORE MOVEMENT AND TRAINING EXERCISE
TETERE BEACH, GUADALCANAL, B. S.

1. General.

This training exercise should not be considered a dress rehearsal for an assault operation since the tactical scheme of three regimental combat teams landing abreast is for the stated purpose of training the combat teams, whereas in assault the plan is for two RCTs to land abreast, with one in reserve. For an unopposed landing over secured beaches at the objective, it is planned to land three regiments abreast, without formal wave schedules, and with the beach and shore parties landing an advance reconnaissance detachment first to organize and mark the beaches followed by the remainder of the shore and beach parties and debarkation of troops.

However, as far as the transports are concerned, most of the features of an amphibious assault are present and with a bit of improvising and imagination, all of the benefits of a full scale rehearsal can be obtained.

2. Command.

At some time in the approach to the transport area, CTU 77.9 who has been OTC for the movement from NOUMEA, will direct CTU 77.9.1 to take command of the transport group and execute the ship-to-shore movement. Transports will have set condition 1-A in accordance with their individual time requirements, so that upon arrival at assigned stations in the transport area, and when directed by CTU 77.9.1 to land the landing force, they will be ready to lower boats promptly and commence the ship-to-shore movement.

For training purposes and in order to preserve the tactical unity of embarked troop unit, the NOUMEA TRANSPORT GROUP has been reorganized into special transport divisions Able, Baker and Charlie. This reorganization by troop tactical units will also form the basis for cruising formations enroute to the objective.

3. The Landing.

The landing exercise will simulate as closely as possible the assault landing of an Army Division with three Regimental Combat Teams abreast, with two battalion landing teams of each regiment abreast and one in reserve. It will be assumed that there is an additional regimental combat team, reinforced, afloat in reserve and immediately available with own ships boats.

Annex III-8

SECRET