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By W.D. NARA Date 4/25/00

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS 88TH INFANTRY DIVISION
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 88

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OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

NO. 51

COMPOSITION OF BATTALION MOUNTAIN COMBAT TEAMS

1. The standard organization of Battalion Mountain Combat Teams within the division will normally be as follows:

- 1 battalion of Infantry.
- 1 battery of Pack Artillery with mule detachment from Pack Artillery Service Battery.
- 1 company chemical mortars with pack mules.
- Personnel from AT and Cn Cos as required by the situation to protect routes of supply, escort supply trains and assist in carrying supplies.
- Medical personnel including litter bearers from regimental Collecting Company in number required by the situation.
- Porters and pack mules--size of detachments to be determined by number available and the situation.

2. No engineers will be attached to the battalion combat teams. The Engineer Battalion will support the mountain operations by opening trails, constructing bridges, etc., and detachments can be made available for special missions as required by the combat teams.

3. The heavy weapons companies will carry light machine-guns as a substitute for the heavies and two 81-mm mortars instead of six. Rifle companies will carry only two 60-mm mortars each--the extra mortar crews to be used to carry additional ammunition.

4. The battalion headquarters anti-tank platoon will be employed in its primary role just as long as possible. By so doing, it can assist the advance with direct fire on pillboxes and bunkers. When it is no longer feasible to move the AT guns, the personnel of the anti-tank platoon will be used to mark the trails followed by the battalion and to furnish guards for radio relay posts.

SLOAN,
C.G.

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A TRUE COPY:

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