

SHELBYVILLE IS SEIZED BY 'TD'

Platoons Which 'Captured' Columbus Unite in Raid on Neighboring Town.

Uniting as a company, the same three platoons of the 773rd Tank Destroyer Reconnaissance company from Camp Atterbury which "captured" Columbus recently swooped down on Shelbyville by surprise Wednesday and took over the Shelby county seat within a matter of minutes.

Pouring into town without warning, the complete company of more than 130 men grabbed all key points in the city. As was done in Columbus, the troops fired blank ammunition from their armored vehicles. Smoke screens also were used in the maneuver at Shelbyville, something that was not done in the platoon invasion here.

The problem worked out at Shelbyville was similar to the one here, except that all three platoons were used in the one raid. In the local maneuvers Columbus was invaded on three mornings, each time by one of the three platoons of the company.

Approximately 40 vehicles took part in the problem at Shelbyville and roads leading into the city were "blockaded."

A further touch of realism—in addition to the guns and smoke screens—was given the Shelbyville invasion by the handing out of a proclamation, giving orders to be followed by all citizens of the community.

Of the invasion, the Democrat, Shelbyville newspaper, said, "The whole maneuver provided the most exciting episode of the entire war for Shelbyville."

1943-11-26 Shelbyville is seized by 773rd Tank Destroyer Recon

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