

HEADQUARTERS  
773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (SP)  
APO #03, U. S. Army

1 June 1945

**SUBJECT:** Report After Operations Against the Enemy.

**TO:** THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, Army War College, War Department,  
Washington 25, D.C.

**THRU:** COMMANDING GENERAL, Third United States Army, APO 403.  
COMMANDING GENERAL, XII Corps, APO 312, U.S. Army.  
COMMANDING GENERAL, 90th Infantry Division, APO 90, U.S.  
Army.

1. In compliance with Paragraph 10, AR345-105, as amended by  
Change 3 dated 9 March 1945, the following report is submitted.

2. The information contained herein has been extracted from the  
Unit Journal of the 773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (SP).

3. Report after Operations Against the Enemy -- Period 010001B  
May 1945 - 092359B May 1945.

1 May 1945

The Division completed the capture of the objective, clearing zone of  
enemy and securing a more suitable position on the E edge of the  
forests.

Bn Hqs - CHAM (581810). Hqs Co. - CHAM (581808). Recon Co. - CP at  
CHAMMUNSTER (607798). 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns - CHAMMUNSTER. Pioneer  
pltn - 8 men at CHAMERAU (6478); 11 men at RANKAM (6789), 11 men at  
ARNSCHWANG (6887). Pioneer Pltn - 8 men took over guard of hospital  
in CHAMERAU (6478) at 1100 hours. Two men on mail escort. 2nd pltn  
patrolled MSR from CHAM to MILTACH (6674), left CP at 0500, returned  
0715. 36 miles. One MB and two 1/4 tons left CP at 0630 to escort  
Division Rear to this area. Not returned as of 2400 hours. One 1/4  
ton left CP at 1330, escorted trucks (ammo) of 712th Tk Bn to NURN-  
BERG. Returned at 1630. 60 miles. 1st pltn received mission to  
run a clean up patrol, and left CP at 1030. Checked the following  
towns: SCHONTHAL (5395), HILTERSRIED (5098), KATZELSRIED (5000),  
STARY (5100), IRLACH (4901), HAAG (4708), MUSCHENRIED (4601). Re-  
checked KULZ (4200) and DIETERSKIRCHEN (3901) and bordering small  
towns. Picked up one Lieutenant and three PW (enemy) vicinity of  
DIETERSKIRCHEN. Returned to CP at 1800 hours. A Co. - CP at  
KOTZTING (731768), 1st pltn - KOTZTING (731768), 2nd pltn, HAIBUHL  
(837806), 3rd pltn - OBER FAUSTERN (773872). Company regrouped with  
357th Inf, as 2nd Cav Group uncovered Division right flank. Each  
pltn sent out patrols and 15 PSW were taken. B Co. - CP at WALD-  
MUNCHEN (600984), 1st pltn, SCHAFFER (578997), 2nd pltn - KLENEE  
(679055), 3rd pltn - N. POSTREKOV (660066). 1st pltn moved up to  
main road at 0700 and jumped off with 2nd Bn at 0800. Covered Inf.  
while they went in and took CHODOV (6903), firing 6 rounds HE.  
Received a little artillery fire. 2nd pltn jumped off at 0730 with  
3rd Bn for KLENEE. Had practically no trouble taking town and  
assumed defensive positions there for rest of period. 3rd pltn re-  
lieved at 0700 at STADLERN and moved down to HASELBACH (6102).  
Jumped off at 1245 with 1st Bn and moved ahead to STARY POSTREKOV  
(6708) without opposition. C Co. - CP and 3rd pltns at ARNSCHWANG  
(692873), 2nd pltn - CESEA KUBICE (716983), 1st pltn - 1st section at  
OBER HAPENDORF (730892), 2nd section at SCHWARTENBERG (753875),  
2nd pltn called upon to do some firing into woods NE and N of CESEA  
KUBICE, moved forward several hundred yards to fire and returned to  
former positions after firing was completed. Results of firing not  
definitely known but it is believed that many casualties were inflicted  
on the enemy and that receiving the fire. 1st and 3rd pltns inactive.

Weather, cool, scattered showers. **CANCELLED**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

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2047

2 May 1945

2nd Inf Div began sector of 90th Inf Div in place. 90th Div continue to patrol and to straighten out front lines.  
Bn Hqs - CHAM (U581810), Hqs Co. - CHAM (U581808), Recon Co. - CP, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns at CHAMMUNSTER (607798), Pioneer pltn - 11 men at RANKAM (6789), 18 men at ARNSCHWANG (6887), 8 men at CHAMERAU (64784). 2nd pltn left CP at 0500 ran patrol of MSR to MILTACH (6674). Negative report. Returned to CP at 0700. 18 miles. Two men on mail escort. MB and two 1/4 tons left CP at 0630 1 May to escort trucks of Div Rear. One MB and one 1/4 ton returned at 0430. Shuttled between BAYREUTH and SHARSSENSFELD. 370 miles. One 1/4 ton still escorting not returned as of 2400. 1st and 2nd pltns left CP at 1030. Mission to run clean up patrol and check towns in vicinity of PINZING (625864). German soldiers reported in town of PINZING. Checked woods and later at routes. Negative report. A Co. - CP at HOHENWARTH (782802), 1st pltn, ENGELSHUTT (653810), 2nd pltn, ENGELSHUTT (653810), 3rd pltn, RITTSFELD (661857). 1st pltn moved to above position at 0630. Ran a patrol but no resistance was met. 2nd and 3rd pltns moved to above locations later in the day. No action. B Co. - CP at GLEISSENBERG (633917), 1st pltn, WINDISCHBERGER (615828), 2nd pltn, WEIDING (652859), 3rd pltn, FAUSTENDORF (667865). 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns relieved by elements of 2nd Inf. Div. at 1400, 2000 and 1930, respectively, and moved to above positions. CP moved to GLEISSENBERG at 1400. Company now in reserve with 358th Inf. C Co. - CP at FURTH (706914), 1st pltn - 1st section at SRUBY (828925), 2nd section at (793943), 2nd pltn - BABYLON (715010), 3rd pltn - 1st section at SNOF (740995), 2nd section NE of PRENET (243979). 3rd pltn joined 1st Bn at FURTH, at 0730 hours and proceeded to LD, vicinity of CESEA KUBICE (7198) jumping off at 0900 hours to attack within zone. This pltn met stiff resistance throughout the day and was called upon to render heavy continuous, supporting fire for A Co., 359th Inf. in seizing and clearing PASECNICE (7401). This pltn then joined B Co., 359th Inf. in taking SNORY (74399). 2nd section, 3rd pltn also gave heavy supporting fire to C Co., 359th Inf. advance in the vicinity of PRENET. This pltn in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 1st pltn split in two sections with 2nd Bn, 359th Inf. 1st section encountered small arms and artillery fire while shelling SCHACHTEN (7894) and VSERUBY (8196). One heavy GP truck was KGD by this pltn vicinity of SCHACHTEN. 1st section in CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 2nd section still in Germany. 2nd pltn inactive during the day, moved out at 1830 hours to establish roadblocks in town of BABYLON (715010).

Weather, cool, light showers.

3 May 1945

Division is being relieved by 2nd Infantry Division.  
Bn Hqs - CHAM (U581810), Hqs Co. - CHAM (581808), Recon Co. - CP, 1st 2nd and 3rd pltns at CHAMMUNSTER (607798), Pioneer Pltn - 8 men in CHAMERAU (647784), 11 men in RANKAM (6789), 18 men in ARNSCHWANG (6887). 2nd pltn left CP at 0500, ran road patrol of MSR, returned to CP at 0715. 18 miles. Four men on mail escort. 1/4 ton left CP at 1100, escorted ammo truck of 712th Tk bn to NURNBERG (returned 1700 hours. 60 miles). Performed maintenance on all vehicles. 1/4 ton (left CP 1 May 45) returned from mission of escorting elements of Div Rear from BAYREUTH to present location. 526 miles.  
A. Co. - CP at HAIBUHL (837807), 1st pltn, OTTENZELL (824810), 2nd pltn - SV KATERINA (873887), 3rd pltn ZOLNEROUSKY (940852). 1st pltn no action. 2nd pltn on patrol got an M10 stuck in mud at coordinate 880895. Company maintenance was unable to get it out. 3rd pltn on patrol had one M10 destroyed (burned) by enemy fire at 942868.  
B Co. - CP at GLEISSENBERG (633917), 1st pltn, WINDISCHBERGER (615828) 2nd pltn, WEIDING (652859), 3rd pltn, FAUSTENDORF (667865) remained in Div reserve. C Co. - CP and 2nd pltn in KOTZTING (725763), 1st pltn at VSERUBY (807957), and SRUBY (828925), 3rd pltn, BLAIBACH (695755). 2nd and 3rd pltns relieved in place by elements of 2nd Inf. Div. 2nd pltn assembled at CP at 1950 hours. 3rd pltn closed into BLAIBACH (695755) at 2015 hours. 1st pltn, firing from VSERUBY into HAJEK (820970), destroyed two Mk IV tks, one of them burning. This was later confirmed by CO of C Co., 359th Inf. At 1530 hours, Colonel Spiess, Bn Cmdr, presented 10 Bronze Stars and 6 Purple Heart awards to members of this bn.

Weather, warm, occasional showers.

4 May 1945

The Div succeeded in accepting the surrender of the 11th Panzer Div. The 90th Div minus 2 Bns of 359th Inf. closed in new assembly areas.

Bn Hqs - moved to PRACKENBACH (714676) closing in at 0950 hours. Hqs Co. - moved to ALTRANDSBERG (659702), closing in by 1135 hours. Travelled 14.6 miles. Rcn Co. - CP, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns at CHAMMUNSTER (607798). Pioneer Pltn - 18 men in ARNSCHWANG (6287), 11 men in RANKAM (6789), 8 men in CHAMERAU (647784). All escort vehicles at CP as of 2400 hours. Four men on mail escort. Pioneer pltn - no change. At 1200 Company received mission to reconnoiter route for 11th Panzer Div (German) and to maintain road clearance during march from VSERUBY (8095) Czechoslovakia to ZELTENDORF (7278) Germany. Column enroute at 2400 hours. A Co. - CP at BLOSSBERG (770668), 1st pltn - TREMLOVSKY, 2nd pltn, WETZEL (733733), 3rd pltn, ARNERUCH (834722). Company was relieved in place and moved to above positions, closing in at 1530 hours. B Co. - Company, complete at ALT NUKSBERG (816642). Moved out at 0700 for Regimental Assembly Area. Made uneventful march of 35 miles and closed in at 1000 hours. C Co. - CP and 2nd pltn at KOTZTING (725764), 1st pltn VSERUBY (806955), and (797955), 3rd pltn, ELAIBACH (695755). 2nd and 3rd pltns - General cleaning and maintenance. 1st pltn as yet not relieved from attachment to 2nd Bn, 359th Inf. Will remain in position until the 11th Panzer Div passes through them.  
Weather, cold, rainy.

5 May 1945

After less than 12 hours in reserve, the Div attacked to seize a bridgehead through the "REGEN" Pass through which the 4th Armored Div is to pass.

Bn Hqs - PRACKENBACH (714676). Hqs Co. - ALTRANDSBERG (659702). Rcn Co. - CP, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns at CHAMMUNSTER (607798). Pioneer pltn - 8 men at CHAMERAU (647784). M8 and 1/4 ton left CP at 0500, escorted 15 trucks to WIESING (7969), picked up 2nd Bn, 357th Inf. Escorted trucks to MESTYS-ZELEZNA-RUDA (0074). Returned to CP at 1630 hours. Mileage - 114. M8 and 1/4 ton left CP at 0700 Destination unknown at time. Pioneer pltn relieved of guard duties at ARNSCHWANG (6787) and RANKAM (6789). 8 men remained on hospital guard in CHAMERAU. Two men on mail escort. 1st pltn continued mission of assembling 11 Panzer Div in vicinity of ZELTENDORF (7278). Maintained road control during march to assembly area and marked route. Mission completed 1330 hours. Returned to CP. A Co. - CP at MESTYS-ZELEZNA-RUDA (005744), 1st pltn, ZHIERE (074792), 2nd pltn KUNDRATICE (170781), 3rd pltn, CHLUMO (157806). 1st pltn moved with 1st Bn, 357th Inf. from TREMLOVSKY at 0600 to establish roadblock from W, N and E at important road intersection (037778). When 3rd Bn ran into trouble at 1600, 1st pltn with 1st Bn moved into their area at ZHIERE to protect their rear and assist on the N flank of attack. 2nd pltn moved at 0600 with 2nd Bn from vicinity of WETZEL (7573) to road intersection mentioned above. They proceeded down main road to E, cleaning out towns on the route and woods on either side of road for a couple of thousand yards. Pltn closed in at KUNDRATICE (170781) at 2030. 3rd pltn moved at 0600 with 3rd Bn from vicinity AMBRUCH (837722) to N BRUNT (0379) where they entered N part of sector to be cleared. Meeting small arms resistance and 37mm fire at ZHIERE. They set fire to several buildings, aided in the recapture of two M8s and two 1/4 tons. Proceeded along road to E where they encountered more small arms resistance at ST HUTE (0980) and ZEZULKA (1280). Closed in and established roadblocks at CHLUMO (1680). B Co. - CP at MESTYS-ZELEZNA-RUDA (006741) 1st pltn, DOBRA VODA (152777), 2nd pltn, GLASERWALD (123780), 3rd pltn, PASEK (092768). Company alerted at 1800 for movement. Moved out of assembly area at 1710 as a company. Moved to MESTYS-ZELEZNA-RUDA, closing in at 1940. Pltns joined their respective Bns at above positions.  
C Co. - Co. located vicinity of JESINI (040866). Moved at 1400 with 359th Inf. to assembly area vicinity of JESINI, closing in at 1600 hours.  
Weather, cloudy and overcast.

6 May 1945

The Division continued its attack on the NE expanding the Hagen Pass Bridgehead.  
Bn Hqs (Fwd CP) moved to ZWETAN (067798) closing in at 1150. Distance travelled 20.9 miles. Hqs Co. - No change. Ron Co. - CP, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns at ZWETAN (607798). Pioneer pltn CHAMERAU (647784). M and 1/4 ton trucks from escort duties, shuttled between BAYBORN and Div Hqs. (380 miles). Two men on mail escort. Pioneer pltn - no change. 8 men on guard at CHAMERAU (6478). Remainder of company performed clean up and motor and weapons maintenance. A Co. - CP at PERHANS (14086406), 1st pltn vicinity of 0886, 2nd pltn KOLSOVY (18008405), 3rd pltn DOLEJSI (14028103). 1st pltn moving along very poor black roads with 1st Bn, mired down all four destroyers vicinity 0886. 2nd pltn started from KUNDRATICE (1478) with 2nd Bn at 0800. Objective was reached at 1000, no action. One destroyer stuck but was pulled out later. 3rd pltn with I Co. ran into a small arms fight at ZHURINA (0779) 17 rounds HE were fired. Moved on to DOLEJSI, remaining there for the night. B Co. - CP at REJSTEJN (210765), 1st pltn TUSEV (225787), 2nd pltn 285752, 3rd pltn BAJEROV (280745). 1st pltn jumped off at 0850, moved along without opposition but over very poor roads. Took REJSTEJN (2176) at 1600, then moved to above position to cut main road. At 0630, 2nd pltn jumped off and moved without opposition clearing KASPERSKY HORY (237767) at 1630, then moved on over to above position. 3rd pltn moved along in reserve behind the assault Bns. C Co. - CP at JEBINE (048868), 1st pltn - STRAZOV (000930), 2nd and 3rd pltns VITEN (013911). 1st pltn attached to 2nd Bn, 359th Inf., 2nd pltn attached to 3rd Bn and 3rd pltn attached to 1st Bn which is initially in Regimental reserve. At approximately 1430 hours company moved as indicated without incident to assembly areas in preparation to attack NE through Czechoslovakia. Distance travelled 38 miles.  
Weather, warm and clear.

7 May 1945

Division made limited advances to establish defensive position in conformance with current instructions.  
Bn Hqs (Fwd CP) moved to DOL STANKOV (176850) closing in by 1015 hours. At 1315 hours moved to PETROVICE (146847) closing in complete by 1400 hours. Total distance travelled 29.7 miles.  
Hqs Co. - Company moved to EISENSTEIN (982723). Ron Co. - At EISENSTEIN (982723), closing in at 1245 hours. 1st pltn investigated situation concerning approximately 200 German troops at 9573. Troops previously surrendered to 357th Inf. Arrangements made to transport them to PSW collecting point. 3rd pltn sent out to investigate Polish refugees reported looting German civilians. M8 and 1/4 ton left CP 1600 hours to escort PSW truck to CHAM (5881). M8 and 1/4 ton left CP at 2345 to escort 11 PSW trucks to CHAM (5881). All mail escorts in at 2400 hours. A Co. - CP at BUDETICE (245925). 1st pltn vicinity (0886), 2nd pltn HRADUSICE (252969), 3rd pltn ZAVLEKOV (174980). 2nd and 3rd pltns moved to above positions without opposition. 1st pltn still stuck. B Co. - CP at REJSTEJN (210764), 1st pltn, NEZAMYSLICE (314906), 2nd pltn, MATSCHITZ (320867), 3rd pltn UNTER LIEDELHOFEN (247745). 1st pltn jumped off at 0800 and advanced without opposition to above position closing in at 1100 hours. 2nd pltn jumped off at 0800, advanced without opposition and closed in above position at 1130. 3rd pltn moved at 1200 to new reserve position. C Co. - CP and 2nd pltn at LUBY (035015), 1st pltn, CIHAN (128982), 3rd pltn, KOCHTIN (078998). CP 359 received orders to halt at 0800 hours and take up defensive positions, and fire only if fired upon.  
Weather, warm and clear.

8 May 1945

Division remained in defensive positions.  
Bn Hqs (Fwd CP) and Hqs Co. - No change. Ron Co. - At EISENSTEIN (982723). All escort vehicles returned to company as of 2400 hours. 1st pltn rounded up approximately 108 PSW at (9573) and turned them into PSW enclosure. 3rd pltn continued investigation of looting by displaced person at LAM. Maintenance cont. led.

8 May 1945

A Co. - CP at BUDETICE (245925), 1st pltn HARTMANICE (162793), 2nd pltn HRADESICE (252969), 3rd pltn, ZAVLEKOV (174980). 1st pltn moved to above position. No other action. B Co. - CP at REJSTEJ (210764), 1st pltn, NEZAMYSLICE (315908), 2nd pltn, MATSCHITZ (320867), 3rd pltn UNDER LIEDELHOFEN (246744). Pltns remained in same positions throughout period. Performed motor maintenance. C Co. - Located at LUBY (035015). No action.

Weather: warm and clear.

At 1530 hours, Colonel Spiess, Bn Comdr, presented awards to members of the battalion - 7 Bronze Stars and 3 Purple Hearts.

9 May 1945

Division began assembling preparatory to movement to the occupation area. At 1600 the Bn with the Division was put on a one hour alert because of a large column of German troops whose intentions were undetermined approaching from the East.

En Hqs (Fwd CP) no change. Hqs Co. - Moved to CHATESOV (083883). Recon Co. - At EISENSTEIN (982723). M8 and 1/4 ton returned from CHAM at 0930. Escorted hospital unit to this vicinity. (112 miles) 2nd pltn escorted 5 German officers and 12 enlisted men to woods vicinity of 9573; patrols formed and German officers and 12 enlisted men scoured woods for men formerly of their command. Pltn formed security at assembly area for returning patrols. Motor and weapons maintenance continued. A Co. - At ZAMYSL (09908575). All pltns closed in town at 1345 hours. B Co. - At RADOSTICE. CP, 112867. 1st, 2nd and 3rd pltns, 116862. Company was alerted for movement at 0900. Company assembled vicinity of SUSICE (2086) at 1430 hours then made uneventful march to above position closing in at 1515 hours. Company put on one hour alert at 1600 for possible enemy counterattack. C Co. - Located at LUBY (035015). No unusual occurrences.

Weather, warm, clear.

This concludes operations for the period.

*Frank G. Spiess*  
FRANK G. SPIESS  
Lt. Colonel, FA,  
Commanding.

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