

S E C R E T

*Auth: CG, XIX Corps
*Init: *HMS*
*Date: 3 January 1945

- UNIT REPORT -
NO. 7

From: 010001A December 1944
To : 312400A December 1944

2nd TD Group
031430 January 1945
KORNELLMUNSTER, GERMANY

Maps: GSGS 4416. 1/100,000.

1. ENEMY: During the month of December, the ROER RIVER provided a natural obstacle to any enemy armor which might have had designs on operating offensively in the XIX Corps sector.
- Enemy armored activity during the period, was confined to direct fire on our troops from dug in tanks and SP guns on the E side of the ROER RIVER.
- While the German Panzers remained offensively quiet, their movements and concentrations were the heaviest reported to date.
- Early in December the Sixth Pz Army (1, 2, 9, 12 SS Pz Divs) began concentrating E of the ROER within the XIX Corps zone of advance. It was thought that this large armored force would be employed against our eventual bridgeheads over the ROER. The tank strength of this Army was estimated at 350, with upwards of 100 SP guns.
- Throughout the period covered by this summary, our artillery fired on numerous tank movements and concentrations - the results of which were unobserved. Tac/R picked up heavy movements in and around the HAMBACH FOREST where the 12 SS Pz Division was believed located. Our dive-bombers made this forest their primary target on numerous occasions but results were unobtainable.
- On 22 December, the XIX Corps took over the VII Corps sector. Enemy armor in the new sector was content to remain out of contact. However heavy movements in and around the SCHEMIDT area was reported.
- The constant heavy movement and large concentrations of armor E of the ROER and in the SCHEMIDT area, can be traced to the German offensive in the S which began 16 December 1944.

2. OWN SITUATION:

- a. Does not apply.
- b. See overlay XIX Corps:
- (1) 2nd TD Group - K904378, KORNELLMUNSTER, GERMANY, atchd XIX Corps (US)
 - (2) 692nd TD Bn (T) - K966475, atchd 104th Infantry Division.
 - (3) 893rd TD Bn (SP) - K909285, atchd 78th Infantry Division.
 - (4) 817th TD Bn (T) - F029378, atchd 8th Infantry Division.
- c. See overlay XIX Corps.

2. OWN SITUATION: Cont'd.

d. 2nd TD Group - At beginning of period, Group was at HEERLEN, HOLLAND, atchd XIX Corps (US). For period of December 1st to December 22nd, conducted school for training personnel from Towed TD Units in Corps in maintenance and operation of the 3-inch Gun Motor Carriage M-10. During this period, also made frequent inspections of the antitank defense of the Corps sector, made plans for future operations, and coordinated the employment of TD units within the Corps zone of action. During period 01 December to 16 December, 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to Group, during which period, Group supervised and coordinated employment of the Battalion in indirect firing. 16 December, issued movement order for movement of 705th TD Battalion, per TWX, Ninth US Army. 221230A December, moved from HEERLEN, HOLLAND, closing in KORNELIMUNSTER, GERMANY, 221429A Dec. During period 22 December to 31 December, Group supervised employment of Tank Destroyer units within Corps sector and assisted in movements of Tank Destroyer to First US Army. Made frequent inspections of Tank Destroyer and antitank gun positions and prepared extensive plans and overlays of antitank defense of Corps sector, coordinating all defenses with Tank Destroyer and antitank weapons, demolitions, minefields, road blocks, and AA weapons. At close of period, Group at K904378, KORNELIMUNSTER, GERMANY, atchd XIX Corps.

BATTALIONS UNDER CORPS CONTROL:

692nd TD Bn (T) - Atchd 104th Infantry Division.
817th TD Bn (T) - Atchd 8th Infantry Division.
393rd TD Bn (SP) - Atchd 78th Infantry Division.

e. Combat Efficiency; Excellent:

f. Results of Operations: Trained 75 Enlisted Men in operation and First Echelon Maintenance of 3-Inch Gun Motor Carriage M-10. Trained 34 Enlisted Men in Second and Third Echelon Maintenance of 3-inch Gun Motor Carriage M-10, and 28 of these men also were trained in operation and First Echelon Maintenance of this vehicle. Supervised and coordinated employment of 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion in its secondary mission of indirect fire. Planned AT defense of Corps sector, inspected positions of defenses and made plans for future operations.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE:

a. Status of Strength:

- (1) Officers - Fifteen (15)
- (2) Enlisted Men - 72
- (3) No replacements required.