

HEADQUARTERS
661 TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 250, U.S. Army

* AUTH: CG 69th Inf Div *
* DATE: 2 April 1945 *
* INIT: M M *

2 April 1945

AFTER ACTION REPORT
(S-2 Section)

I. ATTACK PHASE: 010001 - 082400 March 1945.

- a. Tank Destroyer companies were in direct support of Infantry Regiments. The Battalion received timely information thru direct lines from Company Executive officers in Regimental CPs. Coordinated OPs N and S of Hellerath were maintained by Battalion S-2 section.
- b. No patrolling.
- c. Enemy information received from higher headquarters and adjacent units was sent to the companies in a daily intelligence summary. 35 PWs were taken during the period.

II. SECURITY & TRAINING PHASE: 090001 - 210700 March 1945

- a. S-2 issued daily Intelligence Summaries.
- b. All personnel received training in mines and booby traps, map reading, and counter-intelligence measures.
- c. The Battalion was the only unit occupying the town of Mulheim (19-22 March). Close liaison was maintained with the Burgermeister. Civilians were screened, curfew enforced, and fire-arms were turned in and evacuated to Ordnance. During this period three PWs were sent to PWE and three questionable civilians were turned over to CIC.
- d.
 1. Companies were kept informed of the enemy situation at the Remagen bridgehead. Available information on bridge saboteurs was compiled and given to the companies in preparation for the defensive mission on the West bank of the Rhine.
 2. All personnel were informed of the non-fraternization orders. One EM was tried by court-martial for violation of these orders.
 3. On 13 March the Battalion S-2 was evacuated to the hospital. Liaison officer No. 1 assumed duties of S-2.

III. DEFENSIVE PHASE: 210700 - 312400 March 1945.

- a. Prepared reconnaissance plan of road net west of the Rhine in Division sector. Plan executed by Reconnaissance Company. After crossing Rhine on 27 March, section prepared reconnaissance plan in Corps sector as far as Limburg. Executed by Reconnaissance Company. On 30 March, prepared reconnaissance plan in Corps zone as far as Schweinsberg-Hemburg. Plan executed by Reconnaissance Company on 31 March.
- b. No patrolling.
- c. Personnel received additional training in map reading, mines and booby traps, and counter-intelligence measures.
- d. From 23 March to 27 March occupied town of Konigsfeld with Divisional troops. Had no occasion for screening of civilians. From

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28 March to 30 March occupied former German barracks at Nieder-Lahnstein. All firearms and weapons were turned in and evacuated to Ordnance. Evacuated 15 PWs to PWE and 2 civilians to CIC. One civilian was former Burgermeister of Nieder-Lahnstein, possessing numerous photos of himself in party uniform, officiating at German military reviews. Occupied Eschmanau 30 March, 31 March. Fire-arms were turned in and evacuated to Ordnance. Evacuated one civilian without proper identification to CIC, 31 March. No PWs were taken in Eschmanau.

- e. Screening of civilians has been difficult because of numerous foreign workers who lack identification. Some German civilians have been encountered who claim identification papers have been lost through bombing raids and fires.

IV. CONCLUSIONS:

- a. While operating with companies attached to or in direct support of Infantry Regiments, the flow of timely information was best obtained through a company officer present at the regimental CP.
- b. A combined S-2 and S-3 Journal was kept by the unit. A copy of this journal is attached to the S-3 After Action Report.

For the Commanding Officer:

MILLER
Lt. Col.

OFFICIAL:

Higgins
HIGGINS
1st. Lt.,
S-2.