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**AFTER ACTION REPORT  
No. 7**

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\*Auth: CO, 771 TD Bn \*  
\*Init: WAP \*  
\*Date: 1 June 1945 \*  
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From: 010001B May 1945  
To : 312400B May 1945

Unit: 771 TD Bn  
Date: 1 June 1945  
Place: FRIEDRICHS-  
WERTH, Germany

MAPS: GSGS 4416, Sheets M5 (Salzwedel), M6 (Wittenberge), M5 (Braunschweig), N6 (Stendal), P5 (Halberstadt), P6 (Magdeburg). Scale 1:100,000. R5 (ERFURT)

**1. ENEMY**

a. During the entire period the Battalion was out of contact and engaged solely in military government activities, screening civilians and rounding up stragglers. One (1) Ortsgruppenleiter, one (1) Gestapo informant, seven (7) SS members and 142 PWs were turned over to the CIC and PW Cage.

b. The population appeared rather docile at the beginning of the occupation and no overt acts were committed after the cessation of hostilities. One enlisted man was, however, wounded by an unknown person on 030210B at KASSIECK (543497).

c. Only scattered instances were noted in which civilians failed to turn in weapons after being notified and there seemed to be no organized effort to build up caches in the Battalion areas for possible future use. No "Werewolf" activity was found, but what looked like a fresh grave in the cemetery at EILSLEBEN (379000) produced arms and ammunition.

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**2. OWN SITUATION**

- a. See overlay #1
- b. See overlay #1
- c. See overlay #5

At opening of period the entire Bn. was conducting Military Government in assigned area. Bn. CP located at LINDSTEDT (574504); Co. A at KASSIECK (543498); Co. B in HEMSTEDT (504474); Co. C, CP at HEMSTEDT (506474) and two Plats. in TRUSTEDT (551467), 3rd Plat. was located at airport (513507) performing guard duty; Rcn. Co. in ALGENSTADT (513507) (see overlay #1).

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The Bn. searched area by kilometer squares finding small amounts of abandoned clothing and abandoned equipment, all un-serviceable equipment destroyed, uncrated Panzerfausts and hand grenades destroyed by Pioneer Platoon, Rcn. Co.

On the 2nd of May during search of area, 30 German field pieces were found at (553445) most of which had been burned or completely destroyed, and all were absolutely worthless. Also 91 reels of wire cable were found and turned into 102nd Division collecting point.

At 0210 on the 3rd of May a guard of A Co. was shot while on a road block, by an unidentified person. A complete sweep of towns and area was made by all companies but no results were obtained.

The Battalion moved into newly assigned area on the 4th of May, clearing old area at 0830 and closing in new area at 0900 (see overlay #2).

Bn. CP and Hq. Co. --CALBE (472570); Co. A CP--445655, 1st Plat. (419654), 2nd Plat. (457641), 3rd Plat. (405622); Co. B CP (496675), 1st Plat. (506310), 2nd Plat. (492668), 3rd Plat (480632) Co. C CP (496606), 1st Plat. (559588), 2nd Plat. (525572), 3rd Plat (576615); Rcn. Co. CP 399573, 1st Plat. (389502), 2nd Plat. (440558), 3rd Plat. (530444). Rcn. Co. assumed responsibility of food stores in KAKERBECK (399573). Co. C put guard on Russian PW / Camp at BERKAU (546556). C Co. guarding Radar Station (480576)

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Bn. evacuated Russian and Polish DPs to GARDELEGEN DP Camp (490429) from DP Camp at CALBE (470570) on May 5th.

102nd Division MPs relieved C Co. of responsibility of Radar Station (480576) which was to be used as FW Cage.

On 6th, 7th, & 8th of May Bn. continued screening and searching, picking up FWs in uniform and civilian clothes and evacuated them to FW Cage. Road control posts on main roads had been established.

A Co. assumed responsibility of guard at Luftwaffe hospital at WERNSTEDT (437552) on May 9th relieving guards of 9th Army MPs. Areas of responsibility of companies were changed (see overlay #3).  
Rcn. Co. (no change) 1st Plat. BADEL (418650), 2nd Plat. ZETHLINGEN (405622), 3rd Plat. WINKELSTEDT (423595). A Co. CF (no change), 1st Plat. VIETZEN (476634), 2nd Plat. GUSSEFELD (458641), 3rd Plat. JEETZE (492669). B Co. CF (no change), 1st Plat. KAHRSTEDT (501631), 2nd Plat. VIENAU (533634), 3rd Plat. BUSTE (577614). C Co. CF (no change), 1st Plat. FORITZ (548585), 2nd Plat. KARRITZ (526572), 3rd Plat. BERKAU (542556). All companies closed in new locations as of 091200H.

All road control posts established radio communications with their respective Co. CFs.

The 548 AAA relieved A Co. of guard responsibility on Luftwaffe hospital at WERNSTEDT (437552) on May 10th at 1500. Bn. evacuated 319 Russian IWs from camp at BERKAU (546556). C Co. uncovered dump containing telephones and wire equipment and posted guard on dump at WINKELSTEDT (423595).

On the 12th of May the Battalion had four installations under guard: Telephone supplies (424594); DP Camp (German WAC) (473572); Aircraft engines (398575); Signal supplies (526674). During the day the companies evacuated 213 DPs plus functioning as military government, continuing screening and searching of area. All companies made an inventory of foodstuffs within their area of responsibility.

Inventories of output of bakeries in sector were made on May 13th. Some maintenance work was being performed. 1B Russian DPs were evacuated to KLOTZE (320530). A warehouse containing helmets, switchboards, gas and gas equipment was discovered by C Co. at (515546) and was put under guard.

On May 14th 122 DPs were evacuated by companies. Reconnaissance was made of new area to be occupied in vicinity of EILSLEBEN (383604).

Battalion assumed responsibility of area in vicinity of EILSLEBEN (see overlay #4), relieving the 823rd TD Bn, at 1200 May 15. A Co. taking over guard of synthetic gas and Diesel plant at (303989) and mine and brickette factory at 303989. Rcn. Co. posted guard on salt mine and German ammo dump at 293102, and Bn. Hq. took over responsibility of sugar refinery 384002 and 20 locomotives in EILSLEBEN (384003). Location of Bn. CF - EILSLEBEN (384003); Rcn. Co. CF BEENDORF (293102), 1st Plat. ERXLEBEN (397082), 2nd Plat. IVENRODE (386140), 3rd Plat. Gr. BARTENSLEBEN (305102).

A Co. CF VOLPKE (302988), 1st Plat. BADELEBEN (321996), 2nd Plat. SOMMERSDORF (290018), 3rd Plat. HARBKE (264043).

B Co. CF at OVELGUNNE (422000), 1st Plat. UHRSLEBEN (414062), 2nd Plat. WORMSDORF (368985), 3rd Plat. HAKENSTEDT (414040).

C Co. CF WACKERSLEBEN (253910), 1st Plat. BARNEBERG (289968), 2nd Plat. HOTENSLEBEN (250964), 3rd Plat. OHRLEBEN (229930).

Hq. Co. CF at WEPENSLEBEN (343040).

A Displaced Persons Camp at BEENDORF (293102) was being cleaned and made ready for occupation on May 16th. A report on Banks operational and non-operational was submitted to 102nd Division Artillery.

A warehouse containing radio and Radar equipment was located by C Co. at (251961) on May 18th and put under guard. Seventy-four Western Europeans were evacuated to HESSLINGEN. On May 19th a German Ammo warehouse was located and guards were posted. Also 330 Toles were evacuated to DP Camp at BEENDORF. May 20th, 21st, and 22nd the Battalion continued Military Government and evacuation of DPs with a total of 1354 being taken to camp at BEENDORF. On

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May 22nd a brick kiln containing Radio and Radar equipment was located at (261912) and put under guard by C Co.

On the 23rd of May a thorough search of sector disclosed a sugar factory (326068), containing 2200 tons of sugar and 12,000 burlap bags by A Co. All companies checked area for sawmill and lumber. 457 Polish DPs were evacuated.

While checking the railroad yards at EILSLEBEN (387006) Lt. Kane of Hq. and Lt. Crowell of Pioneer Platoon of Rcn. Co. discovered two (2) carloads (500) machine guns (German) and 10 carloads parachute silk, guards were posted from Pioneer Platoon.

The following two days besides Military Government functions area was checked for air raid shelters and all found were destroyed by civilian personnel (by orders).

Preparation was being made on May 27th to turn over assigned sector to British. All installations being guarded by Bn. were turned over to British forces May 28th. British also relieved Battalion of all Military Government functions.

The balance of month entire Battalion was performing maintenance and general preparations were being made to move to newly assigned area.

Seven (7) destroyers and crews (C Co. 6; A Co. 1) were moved to new area (998745) by tank retrievers May 29th. Six (6) destroyers (C Co.) and one T-2 (Co. A) were moved to new area (998745) May 31st.

Bn. forward CP opened at TUNGEDA (998745) at 1200 May 31st, Bn. in process of moving to new area and in preparation for assumption of responsibility (see overlay #5).

**3. ADMINISTRATIVE**

a. Status of Strength of Command and reinforcements needed.

(1) Officers and Warrant officers:

	Authorized	Assigned	Shortage
Hq. Co.	15	13	2
Rcn. Co.	7	7	0
A Co.	6	5	1
B Co.	6	7	1*
C Co.	6	6	0
Med. Det.	1	1	0

\* overage

(2) Enlisted Men

	Authorized	Assigned	Shortage
Hq. Co.	105	103	2
Rcn. Co.	115	110	5
A Co.	124	121	3
B Co.	124	120	4
C Co.	124	119	5
Med. Det.	15	16	1*

\* overage

b. Casualties

(1) Officers and Warrant officers:

	Killed	Sick, Gassed, Wounded		Captured	Missing
		Evac	Non-evac		
Hq. Co.	0	1	3	0	0
Rcn. Co.	0	0	2	0	0
A Co.	0	0	3	0	0
B Co.	0	0	1	0	0
C Co.	0	0	2	0	0
Med. Det.	0	0	0	0	00

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(2) Enlisted Men:

	Killed	Sick, Gassed, Wounded		Captured	Missing
		Evac	Non-evac		
Hq. Co.	0	3	24	0	0
Rcn. Co.	0	3	18	0	0
A Co.	0	2	17	0	0
B Co.	0	4	22	0	0
C Co.	0	7	18	0	0
Med. Det.	0	0	0	0	0

c. Prisoners captured: None.

d. Evacuation casualties divided approximately as follows: Ninety per cent through Battalion Medical Detachment and ten per cent through other Medical Installations.

e. (1) The following officers were assigned to the Battalion during the month of May 1945.

C Co.	2nd Lt. Frank Hillgardner	Exec Officer
C Co.	1st Lt. John H. Petersen	TD Unit Comdr.
Rcn. Co.	1st Lt. John C. Sturgis	Unit Comdr.

(2) The following officers were lost to the Battalion during the month of May 1945.

Hq. Co.	Major Frank F. Wilkins	Bn. Exec. Officer
A Co.	1st Lt. Frank J. Richardson, Jr	Flat. Comdr.
Rcn. Co.	1st Lt. John F. Butler	Exec Officer

f. Decorations awarded during month of May 1945.

(1) Purple Heart	
Officers	0
Enlisted men	9
(2) Bronze Star	
Officers	9
Enlisted men	54

(3) Silver Star	
Officers	1
Enlisted men	1

g. Status of Supply

At the close of the period, the units of the Bn. were engaged in making complete physical checks and inventories of all personal clothing and equipment and organizational equipment.

Several items have been and continue to be critical:

One Carriage Motor, M-36 with 90mm gun has not been replaced from battle loss, as of April 1945.

At present the Bn. is located in an area infested with flies, mosquitos, and other disease carrying insects; and the issue of insect control items (screen, DDT powder, mosquito netting; fly residual and paper) has been found to be far from adequate.

The lack of parts has practically brought to a standstill all maintenance work, except first echelon. Both general purpose vehicles and tanks are deadlined because of this lack.



DAVID DeG SMITH,  
Lt. Col., FA,  
Commanding.

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771 T.D. BN (SB) 4 JUNE 1945

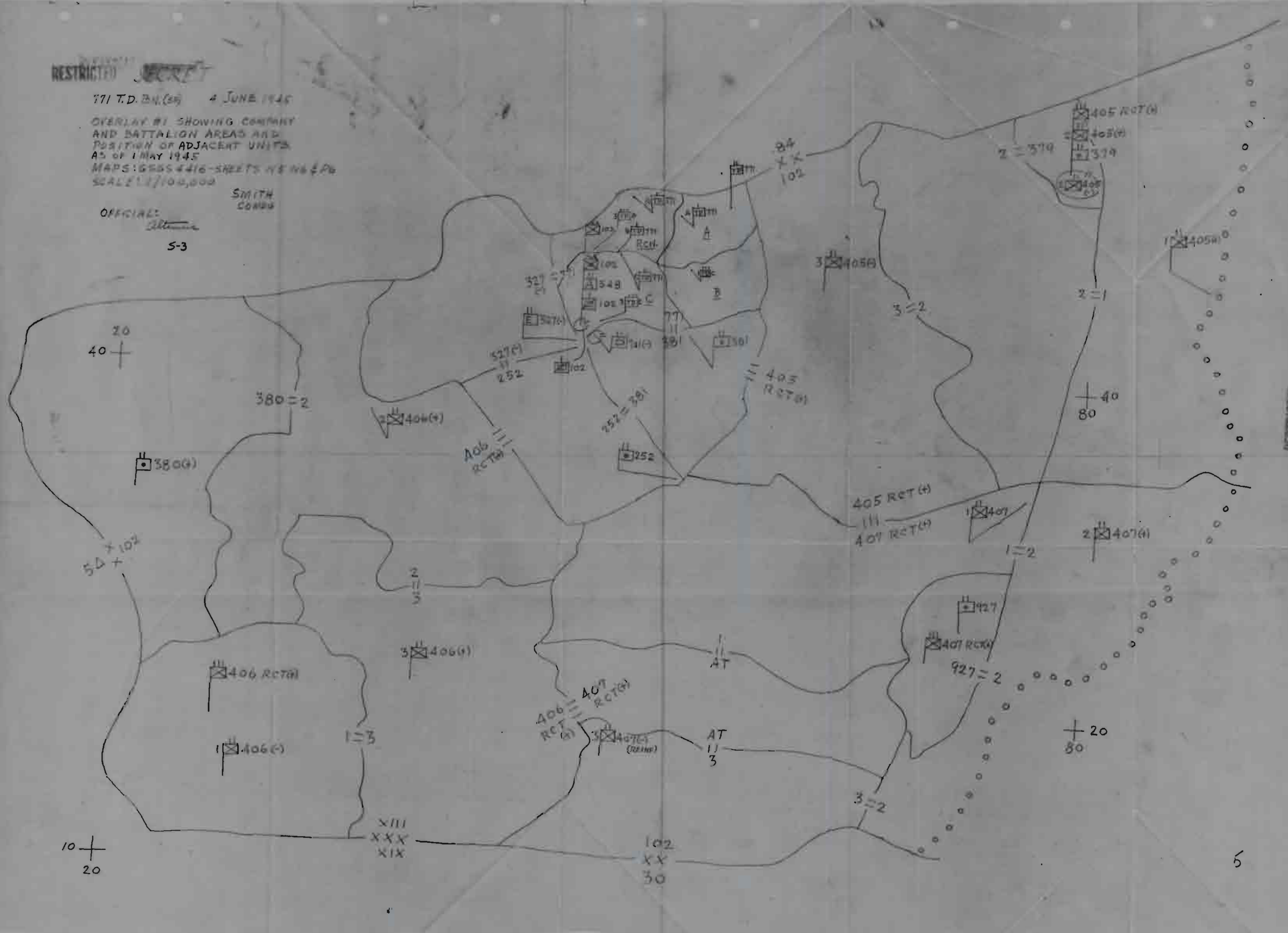
OVERLAY #1 SHOWING COMPANY AND BATTALION AREAS AND POSITION OF ADJACENT UNITS AS OF 1 MAY 1945

MAPS: GDS 4416-SHEETS NO 16 & 20 SCALE 1:100,000

SMITH COMBO

OFFICIAL: *Altman*

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771 T.D. BN. (SP) 4 JUNE 1945

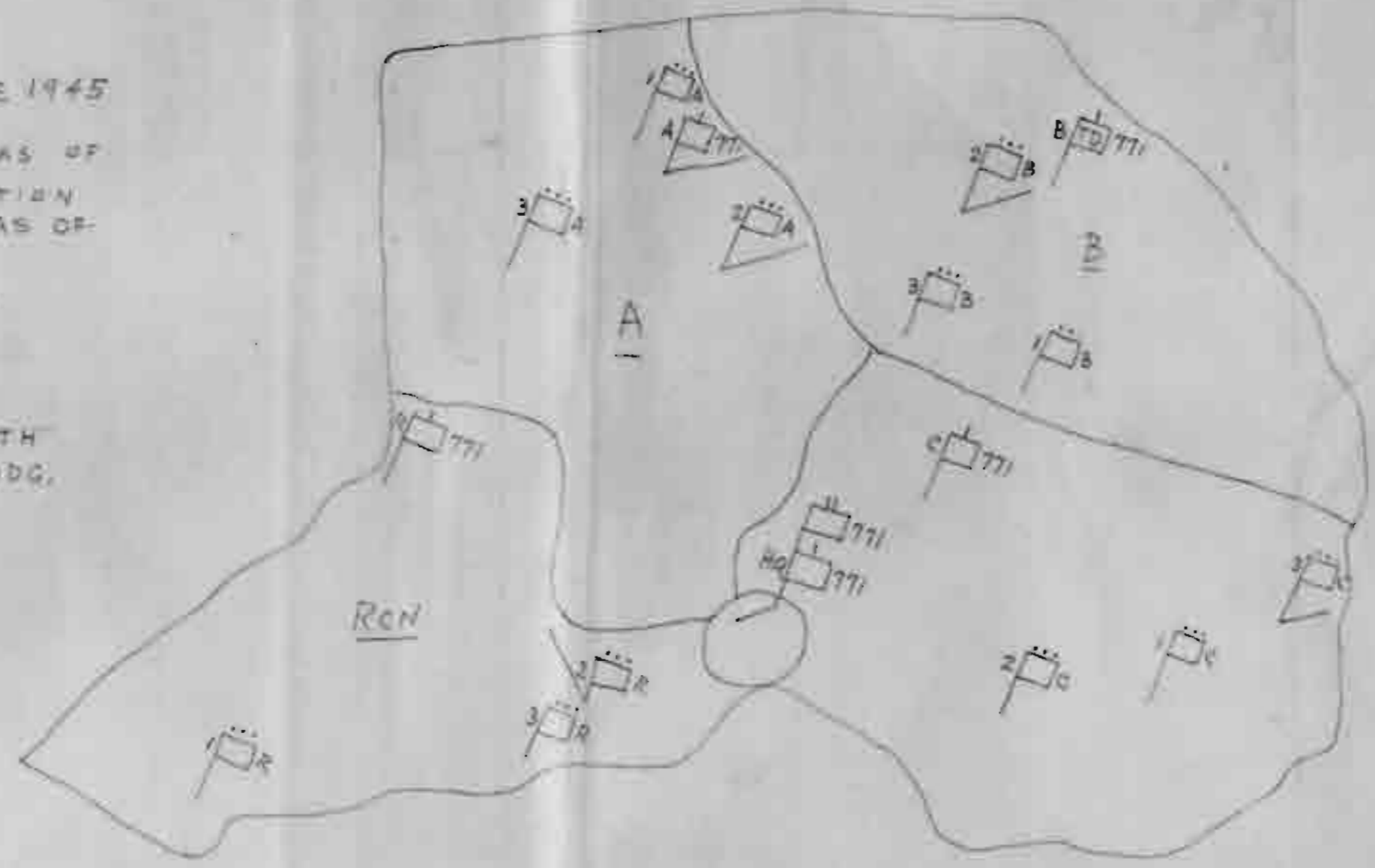
OVERLAY # 2 SHOWING AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND LOCATION OF UNITS IN BN. SECTOR AS OF 4 MAY 1945.

MAPS: G.S.G. 4416, GERMANY SHEETS: M5-6, N5-6

SCALE: 1/20,000

OFFICIAL:  
Attomas  
5-3

SMITH  
COMDG.



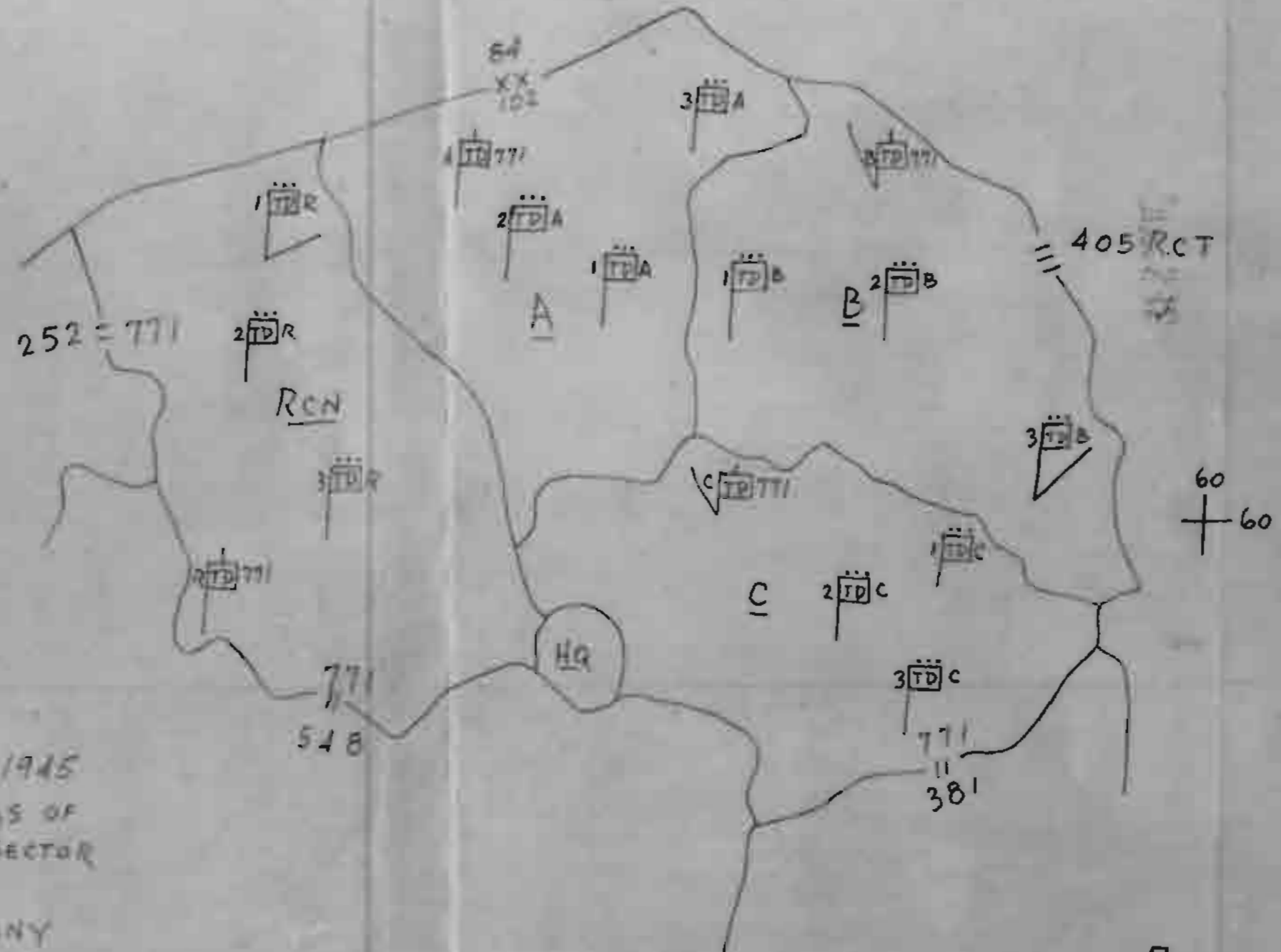
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771 T.D. BN. (SP) 4 JUNE 1945  
 OVERLAY #3 SHOWING AREAS OF  
 RESPONSIBILITY IN BN. SECTOR  
 EFF. 091200B MAY 1945  
 MAPS: GSGM 416, GERMANY  
 SHEETS: M5-6, N5-6  
 SCALE: 1/100,000

OFFICIAL:  
 Altman  
 S-3

SMITH  
 CAIDG

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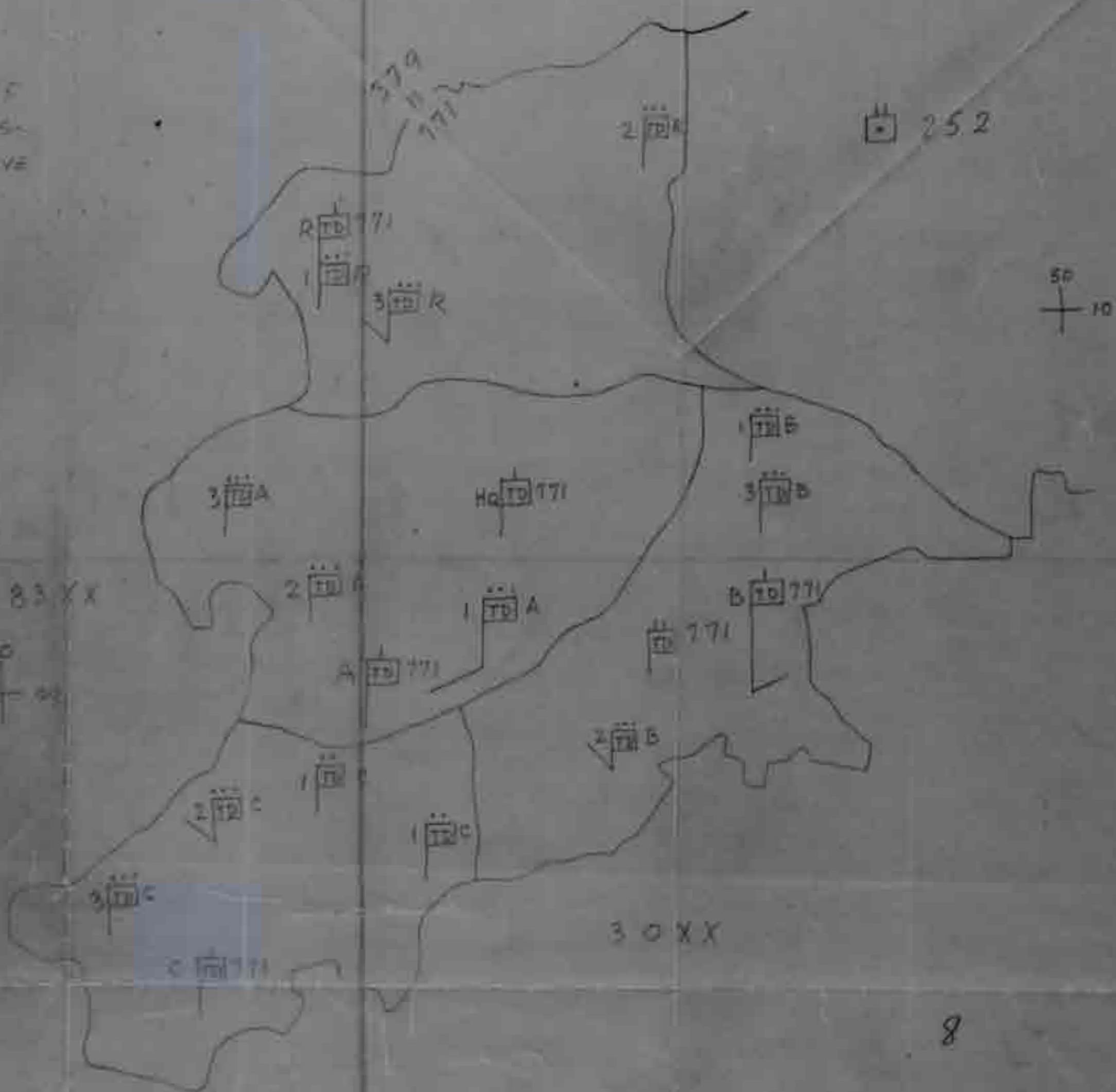
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77. TD BN (SP)                      4 JUNE 1945  
 OVERLAY #4 SHOWING AREAS OF RES-  
 PONSIBILITY IN BN SECTOR EFFECTIVE  
 151200D MAY 1945.  
 MAPS: 6663, 4416 GERMANY  
 SHEETS NS, PS-6  
 SCALE = 1/100,000

OFFICIALS                      SMITH  
*Altman*                      COMDG.  
 S-B



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711 TD, BN (30) JUNE 45  
OVER **RESTRICTED** AREA SHOWING  
NEW AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ADJACENT  
UNITS AT CLOSE OF  
PERIOD - 31 MAY 1945  
MAPS GSGS 4416  
GERMANY  
SHEET T-5

SCALE: 1/100,000

OFFICIAL: SMITH  
DATE: COMOG  
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