

HEADQUARTERS
801ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO #03, U. S. ARMY

12 May 1945

SUBJECT: Summary, S-4, After Action Report, Period 1 April to 4 May, 1945.

TO : Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. During the period 1 April to 4 May 1945, Supply operations involving Classes I, II, III, IV and V were as follows:

a. Class I. Sufficient rations for the operation were on hand to insure supply of Battalion at all times. Three days operational rations and at times a fourth was necessary to accomplish the entire operation. "B" ration was issued whenever the tactical situation would permit and found to be essential and a definite morale factor while in combat. Reconnaissance elements made use of "K" rations only when operating or detached from the letter companies. During the above period no Class I shortage existed.

b. Class III. There were problems encountered in Class III supply which hampered the combat efficiency to a limited degree, particularly during the operations from the Rhine to the Harz Mountains. Due to the distance involved between Battalion and Corps dumps and the numerous pockets which had not been thoroughly cleared it was necessary at times to employ armored car protection with Class III trains. However, at no time during this operation did Class III become unobtainable. On the basis of 3,600 gallons of gasoline placed in a reserve status, this Battalion found it possible to overcome all problems and thoroughly carry out its tactical missions.

c. Class V. At no time during this period of operation was there a serious shortage of ammunition. The supply of Cal. .50 link-loaded was unobtainable for a short period. It has been found that the web belt load, Cal. .50 is impractical, particularly on Anti-Aircraft mounts. Basic Load was sufficient to carry the Battalion through the entire operation.

d. Class II. The Class II status during this period was non-existent. Supply dumps were beyond our zone of operation. This Battalion found it impossible to obtain Class II supplies for the entire period. However, the necessity for Class II during all tactical missions in this period was nonessential.

For the Battalion Commander:

T. F. Ferrant
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