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402, NNDG 735017, W.G. LEWIS (N.M.), NARS, SEPT 1982*

AFTER-ACTION REPORT

23RD TANK BATTALION

April 1945

PRELUDE TO NARRATIVE: As this narrative begins, the 23rd Tank Battalion was billeted at Bolzhausen, Germany. We were still attached to Combat Reserve, 12th Armored Division.

This Battalion was halted for a little rest as to perform maintenance on all vehicles. This was one continuous operation since we left Zimming, France on the 17th of March 1945.

April 1, 1945.

At 0100A this date, column moved out. Ex O sent message to CC-R. Alert message given to all companies that each vehicle will have an alert guard at daylight. The column has been split up on account of a tanker falling asleep. In the message the Ex O requested of CC-R the situation and your location. (CC-R answer: Location 430 055 (vicinity Konigshaven). A defended road block is there. At 0715, enemy planes strafed our column. Ex O message to CO: two welding trucks and one man injured as a result of strafing by planes. CC-R message to CO: try to cross stream vicinity Edelfugen, then continue northeast. Leading elements 4301 (Dambach). Info received that CC-A was at 490325 and 5035 CC-B 4914. 92nd Ren was at 3807 and 3606 0837. At Dambach Battalion had 119 Morrocans in the vicinity. Message sent to CC-R requesting them to attend to them. At 0840, enemy planes bombed column. Co D message at 0855 to Ex O that they ran into enemy doughs vicinity Edeffinger; also D/23 sent message that road was petering out and tanks had hard time to pass if clearing it. Vehicle would be just 100 yards from town in open. Liaison reported a road block on way to town. Road we were using from S-3 to Ex O. 1052. Also D/23 reports two enemy vehicles loaded with troops seen heading into town, also attacking Edelfingen at 749030. 11053. Message to CC-R that attack is slow, terrain tough. Ex O sent message to S-3 that Assault Guns on the way down to your position for support.

At 1315, Ex O reports to CO that infantry with B/23 spotted enemy in town, some machine gun fire. Artillery falling on friendly units in town of Edelfingen. B/23 CO reported woods in vicinity of town were cleared of enemy preparing for assault of town. At 1330, enemy planes again strafed Battalion area. Air reported friendly units with armor in Danda 420097. Message from CC-R at 1336...(indecipherable) ... advising us we had to halt.....supporting fire in that flags were waving, possibility of going into town. Liaison plane were trying to locate enemy artillery positions. Message to CC-R: our elements proceeding into Edelfingen, stopped temporarily by heavy enemy artillery fire. At 1427, message from Co D/23 to Ex O: send one platoon of provisional company down column to CO

right away. Tanks all in the town. Received message from CC-R that friendly unit to left of 17/AIB was unsuccessful in attack of Konigshaven and were found to withdraw, continue on your mission. Enemy were preparing for counterattack. At 1604, message sent to CC-R: Enemy infantry moving into Edelfingen from town on the right. Co B/17th Infantry moving dismounted through town, infantry tracks following tanks. CO told Battalion Maintenance to stay where they are until further notice and told Medical Aid to move to edge of woods and set up Aid Station. AG Platoon message at 1628 to CO: biggest threat from town on right. B Co CO told CO to have concentration practically on threat from town on right. BN Co CO told CO to have concentration practically on threat from right. At 1650, CO B/17 wants Provisional Company in town immediately. CC-R requested location of forward elements and answer on objective. B/17 needed additional Provisional men before dark, only had one platoon. CO Baker of Provisional Company is bringing rest of company at 1707. Also get set for night, will send trains after dark. Message from Ex O to CO, B/17. B/23 advised that they were getting AT fire from southeast, one halftrack knocked out. At 1725, CO advised B/23 to remain in present position for tonight. At 1740 Ex O sent message to CC-R requesting air support for us over Edelfingen as Jerries are flying. At 1745, CC-R responded air support cannot be obtained. At 1751 B/23 CO requested air also as they were being bombed heavily. Ex O again messaged CC-R that air protection was imperative. At 1755 message from CO, D/17: AG Platoon to direct fire on buildings to right of town (they look like barracks), fire believed coming from that point. At 1900, S-3 Periodic Report for CC-R. Battalion preparing to set up a defense and prepare to repulse counter-attack on town of Edelfingen when at 2200 Battalion plus all attachments were ordered to withdraw from town back to Unterschupt (413035) to outpost town, prevent enemy counterattack. Withdrawal began at 1045 and by 1100 everything out of town, except one 6x6 truck and one light tank which were lost. Battalion reached Unterschupt at 1145, set up for night, town outposted by 17th B Company and 23rd and awaiting further orders.

April 2, 1945.

Battalion remained in Unterschupt, Germany. Status reports forwarded to higher headquarters at 0730. Message from CC-R to send 1 platoon tanks, A/23, to Grunefield, attached to 1 Bn 22 Inf to be used as support until objective line reached. See OI #27 for objective line. One FO is to accompany A Co to 22 Inf. Message received by messenger: CO 23 to report to CC-R immediately. At 0900, Liaison Officer brings down order for Battalion to jump off in the attack at 1100 this morning for objective line, see OI #27. At 0930, COs all companies assembled and given OI #27, CC-R for the attack at 1100R to clean enemy east of Tauber River. At 1030, Liaison Officer brought orders to pursue enemy to the east and cut escape route on road between Wurzburg and Urenburg. See attached OI #28, CC-R Hq and OI #9, Red Tk. All companies advised. Battalion awaits orders to jump off into the attack. At 1745 planes over town. S-2 orders to CO to withhold fire until ack ack unit opens up as planes may be friendly. At 1800, CO went to CC-R to check on situation and returned at 1860 with following information: 92nd Recon on our right ahead of us, 10th AD is driving up in the rear, CC-A and CC-B are being passed through by infantry north of our position; our mission remains the same, to cut the road. At 2035 CO went to

CC-R and returns advising the Battalion moves to an assembly area where we still protect ourselves from south and southeast ; assembly area is in the vicinity of Sanderhofen (6213). At 2345, CP track follows column in its movement to assembly area, vicinity Sanderhofen. (Note: copy OI #28 CC-R; OI #9 Red Tank Bn.)

April 3, 1945.

Battalion is on the move to assembly area vicinity Sanderhofen. At 0625, CC-R notified our present location as 388-121 (vicinity Tiefenthal). CO tells all units to extend all vehicles on right and left of road and to disperse vehicles at first opportunity. S-2, CC-R notified S-2, Red Tank upon arrival in assigned sector to outpost all roads of your sector a minimum of 3 KM out. At 0710, CO orders column reformed and to follow 17th AIB into assembly area. At 0715, CC-R gives their location as 572130 (Gaurettershein). CC-R orders CO to follow infantry into assembly area ahead of artillery. At 0800 column moves on into assembly area, closing in at 0830. S-2, CC-R notifies S-2, Red Tank that 92nd Recon have received no artillery, AT or mortar fire. Estimated 2 or 3 Battalion of infantry oppose us on east. Dispersed attack of 90 enemy at (736142) at 0714B. Enemy dug in along railroad from (7421) south to (7716). At 0945 Co A reports to CO 23rd that his tanks are now back with the Battalion (Co A was attached to 22nd Inf Regt). At 1115 S-2, CC-R notifies S-2 that 2000 or 3000 enemy located at (685085) also SS troops. No tanks seen. One OCS company, most of the men are real young or old. PA say they are to be consolidated. At 1134, CO ordered to report to CC-R Hq immediately. CO receives OI #29, CC-R, Hq (Note: CO returns from CC-R 1220 and gives the Company Commanders the CC-R (OI #29) to attack (Uffenhein) (8150080) our present location being vicinity Sanderhofen (618140). Companies will move out as soon as they are ready. D Co will be leading elements, followed by B/23 and B Infantry. At 1345 CC-R notified that Battalion moved out. S-2 CC-R notifies S-2 that 15 to 20 enemy digging in (north?) of Re____, 3 mortars vicinity (775137). Information message received. Friendly recon reports enemy now dug in along following coordinates: (7421) south along railroad (7811) then west, along road through following coord (7613, 730105, 685085). Machine gun fire opened up on our trucks from woods 2500 yards range (woods 6010). Note: Our trucks were ambushed from this woods and casualties to 6 drivers resulted. One truck was captured by the enemy. A Co tanks proceeded to the woods and sprayed vicinity with machine gun fire while medics evacuated wounded truckers. At 1442, Ex O reports to CC-R: leading elements through first town (Bolzhausen), nothing to report. At 1445 Battalion Inf reports to CO that it looks like too many people farming terrain. I believe they are disguised enemy soldiers. CO tells CC-R that friendly troops at Phase Line 3 reported by Liaison. (Note: Phase Line three was an artillery map coord code.) D Co reports to CO that friendly troops on my left front, road 600 yards ahead halftrack and wheeled vehicles. D Co notified CO that PA say the Germans left Saturday but they are in next town (Ollingen). S-3 tells CO that American prisoners reported in a town 7 Km away. At 1501, CO tells D Co to proceed with caution and to fire a few rounds into next town (Osthausen). S-3 suggests several time fires to see if friendly troops occupy town of Osthausen. B Co tells CO: Jerries in civilian clothes reported to occupy town we are to pass through - SS troops. Co D tells CO: Phase Lines secured. Ln plane to see if town is friendly from air. Town filled with friendly

troops supporting CC-B. (This was later found out to be untrue and no friendly troops occupy town of Osthausen.) Forward observer reports that snow-white flags displayed in town. Air field badly battered. Town still not proven either friendly or enemy held. B Co tells CO: woods at coord (6011) will be subjected to artillery fire. Enemy machine guns in there are firing at our trucks. At 1607 three trucks machine-gunned by enemy troops at (6011). I have sent tanks to investigate; they were my trucks. CC-R...(indecipherable)... Trapped men will then be able to get away. S-3 tells CO to send rocket tanks. ...(indecipherable).....will determine whether there are friendly troops there (Osthausen). S-3 to AG Platoon: bring your platoon forward to base of hill, then come forward to pick your positions. A Co to CO: send medics to pick up dismounted men at woods who were injured by enemy MGs. (Note: there are truck men who were fired on from woods (6011), S-3 tells mortar platoon to come forward and get into position.) CC-R to CO: get your tanks clear of woods (6011) as we will have air brought down on that woods. S-3 to CO: investigate through higher headquarters column of light tanks moving into our objective (Osthausen). S-3A to S-3: CO orders you to hold up fire until you find out who friendly light tank column is, but fire if you can avoid hitting column. One monster (rocket tank) to move into position. Others stay in present position. S-3 to CO: friendly unit was recon unit from our own outfit. They insist town is full of SS troops in civilian clothes. At 1728, A Co is still in vicinity of woods where enemy machine-gunned our trucks and CC-R sends CO Message to have A Co clear woods when planes report for bombing unit. B/17 to CO: have Infantry come forward to base of hill mounted (vicinity Osthausen). A Co to CO: A Co reports that wounded and their tanks have cleared woods, planes to move in. At 1758, CC-R informs CO that planes cannot be had for now. CO, B/17 to CO: preparing to lay artillery concentration on town (Osthausen) and then send the doughs in. At 1845, fires were lifted on town of (Osthausen) and Battalion moved on in. At 1910 S-3 tells CO: no resistance met (Osthausen). Shall we push off for the next town (Ollingen). (Note: CO tells S-3 that if he thinks no enemy resistance will be met in next town, to try to occupy it.) Ex O to CC-R: location of leading elements (6812) (Osthausen) . At 1900, S-3 Periodic Report sent to CC-R. At 1930, CO, CC-R is on his way to see CO/23. S-3 to CO: (indecipherable) completely covering town (Osthausen). No enemy troops found. Civilians given permission to go to next town back. No sign of any resistance in next town (Ollingen). Shall we attack? At 1931 CO tells S-3 to push off for next town (Ollingen). A dismounted patrol is going in if no resistance is met. We will move in. At 1950, Col Gordon visits with CO and CO gives him the situation. At 1950, dismounted patrol which was sent into (Ollingen) met stiff enemy opposition and Battalion CO decided to withdraw Battalion into town of Bolzhausen to wait until morning before sending the tanks and Infantry into the town. CP was set up in Bolzhausen. At 2100, Companies were withdrawing back into Bolzhausen. The roads were muddy and some vehicles got bogged down but all companies returned with most of the vehicles and those that were stuck were retrieved by Battalion Maintenance by 0800 the next morning, 4 April 1945. At 2140, CC, CC-R tells CO he will attack strong points vicinity (7011) (vicinity Ollingen) daylight 4 April 45. After capturing this strong point, continue your attack in compliance with OI #29, dated 3 April, this Hq. 17th AIB in conjunction with 92nd Recon Sqd attacks north from vicinity Herrnberghthein (041000B April) to capture Iffigheim and Oberndreit, 92nd Cav left.

April 4, 1945.

The Battalion pulled back to Bolzhausen to await daylight before attacking Ollingen. Battalion is in bad need of resupply, rehabilitation, reinforcements and maintenance and CC requests CO, CC-R permission to allow Battalion to remain in present location in order to rest; permission is granted. CO sent message to CC-R at 0200: I did not take that town, but pushed back to the town I saw you in yesterday. Overlay showing security CP system, S-3 sent to CC-R for Bolzhausen. CC-R at 0925 requests location of forward elements; location sent as 654132, Bolzhausen the town which we are outpostting and is our front line. Most forward CP is at 668126. Info from S-2, CC-R to S-2, Battalion: 9 PWs taken overnight in 7613. Orders to let tanks (indecipherable), stop infantry estimated 1000 to 1200 men to the ___ and at woods 8715. Ln C at 1230 reported attached to CC-R, holding in present location for time being. CC-R message to CO OI #30, CC-R Hq (for info) . Message to CC-B at 1654, requesting whether Ln C has reported. Message confirmed that Ln C has reported. At 1710, CO to Company Commanders, following points discussed:

- a. Looting stopped.
- b. CO gives situation.
- c. S-1 notice on replacements. Battalion in Div Reserve to be used in case of counter-attack. After objective 12th AD taken, CC will try to get Division rest.

At 1835, CO message to CC-R requesting info regarding Platoon of our A Company which is attached to 92nd Recon Sqdn. CC-A informs that Platoon tanks will stay with 92nd Recon. At 2115 message sent to CC-B to Battalion for Vehicle Report. Report requested was sent to CC-R at 1800B (CC-R to send report to CC-B). (Copy OI #30, CC-R)

April 5, 1945.

At 0600, some enemy activity was reported by C/119th Engineers on CP, vicinity Bolzhausen. Tanks called to support; 8 PWs were captured and sent to CC-R cage. S-3 message to B/17 CO at 0808 that it was necessary for his company to man outpost system in as much as Provisional Company under order to CC-R to pursue another mission. B/17 therefore this company has to take over outpost system. S-3 tank at 0900 moved out to coordinate fires vicinity of Bolzhausen, preparing to fire on known enemy positions. At 0945, Company Commanders meeting and following points discussed:

- a. Provisional Company released.
- b. All companies to turn in ordnance and personnel check.

At 0958, Mortar Platoon alerted to do firing. Message to CC-R that 1 Tank Platoon and Mortar Platoon engaged in firing on enemy positions at ...(indecipherable ...) Message to CC-__ that enemy AT gun spotted vicinity 702119 (indecipherable)... S-2 message confirming above info on AT gun. Message from CC-R at 1750 to CO: best equipped tanks Company to move to vicinity of (7916) Bullhein to relieve C/23 which company was to move to your location for rest. (Note: B/23, the company to

move, alerted to move to relieve C/23.) Message from CC-B at 1710 to Ex O: due to increased enemy patrol activity, all units will immediately double security to prevent further infiltration. S-3 Periodic Report sent 1800 to S-3, CC-B. Trains for C/23 to revert to our command. B/23 to 17th AIB. Message from S-3 to Serv Co: repair B Co Tank without delay. Send to B/23 when completed. All rocketed ammo on hand to be available to B/23 through Red Inf. Message from S-5 to CO: moved to position in CC-R Trains Area. Closed 2028. Ex O message to CC-B report hourly as of 2100, negative. 17th AIB message to Ex O that B/23 need to rocket ammo 2240. Report to CC-B, 2200, negative. Message to 17th AIB that rocket ammo arrive first thing in morning, notified Service Company to get rocket ammo to B Co as above. Reports to CC-B as of 2300 and 2400, negative.

(Pages 149 – 160 of this document are missing...)

April 6, 1945.

This day was spent outpostting Bolzhausen, which was our front line at the present time. Although there was no enemy activity observed. Our mortar and assault gun platoons set up in position on the outskirts of Bolzhausen, Germany to deliver supporting fires in defense of this area. At 0728, Ex O notified that vehicle carrying rocket ammo to B Co, which is attached to 17th AIB, is missing. CO of Engineer Platoon of the 119th which has a CP set up on the outskirts of Bolzhausen, reports that he is ordered back to his parent unit. At 1030, CO, Co C reports to CO that his company is closing in Bolzhausen. At 1615, we made radio contact with patrol of 116th Cavalry which will maintain CP in Osthausen, next town east of Bolzhausen, after 1800. At 1700, our S-3 Periodic Report was sent to CC-R. At 2018, CC-B was told to have Ln Officer, which is with them, to report to CC-R in the morning, as we will revert back to their control.

Hourly reports were made to CC-B concerning our situation up until 1500 when orders were received to discontinue.

April 7, 1945.

At 0750, CO was notified to move his Battalion as early as practicable to Geisslinger (N713143). At 0830, billeting party was to report to Battalion Headquarters at 0900. Also at this time all companies were notified to be ready to move by 1000. All Company Commanders will report to Battalion Command Post at 0930. Our billeting parties departed for Geisslinger, Germany at 0900. The Company Commanders meeting was held as ordered and the following OI #10, Headquarters, Red Tank Battalion, was issued. Movement to vicinity Geisslinger (714145).

HEADQUARTERS 23RD TANK BATTALION
APO 262 U.S.ARMY

HQ RED TK BN
N654132 Bolzhausen, Gy.
070900 April 45

OPERATION INSTRUCTION)
NUMBER..... 10)

Map: 1:100,000 U4

1. SITUATION:

- a. Enemy: Active on flank.
- b. Friendly Troops: Elements 4th Div active to S & E, elements 12th AD moving to S & E.

2. a. Bn will move to assembly area in vicinity GEISSLINGEN N7114.

b. MARCH FORMATION AND TABLE

IP

CLEAR IP

Unit

B Co 17th AIB plus A Co 23rd

1000

Hq & Hq Co

All Cos will maintain in with preceding unit in

C Co

order to cross IP at 10 min interval.

3. MARCH DETAIL

- a. Route: RITTENHAUSEN, HOFFENSTAT, GEISSLINGEN.
- b. IP : RJ 636134.
- c. March Interval: 10 min.
- d. Rate of march: 12 MPH.
- e. Distance between vehicles: 50 yards.
- f. Billeting Party: Depart 0900 – Lt Watson in Charge.
- g. Guides: Ren Plat depart 0930.
- h. Reports: Closing in assembly area.

4. a. Axis of Evac personnel: Route of march.
b. Axis of Evac Maint: Route of march.

5. a. Radio silence.
b. CP will be at Hq Co column.

SCHRADER
Comdg.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Spencer

/T/ Spencer

S-3

At 0935, CO ordered to report to CC-R Headquarters at 1300 this date and to bring with him status of personnel and equipment. At this time a message was sent to CC-R stating that we would move from Bolzhausen at 1000. At 1000, leading elements moved out of Bolzhausen. Our CP moved out at 1010. CP reached new location in Geisslingen, and Battalion was closed in by 1100. Our Ln Officer then brings OI #1, CC-R Hq (giving routes of Division Objective, CC-R's being Anslach).

HEADQUARTERS COMBAT COMMAND "R"
12TH ARMORED DIVISION
APO 262 U.S. ARMY

7 April 1945.

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)

NUMBER..... 1)

1. Upon arrival in assembly areas, units will assure that area is cleared of enemy and immediately commence rehabilitation and maintenance preparatory to early movement to the southeast. A maximum period of rest will be afforded consistent with south security.

2. Be prepared to move to the southeast: CC-R generally along the line UFFENHEIM – ANSBACH; CC-B generally along axis MAINBERNHEIM – NEUSTADT – NURNBERG. 92 Ren along axis UFFENHEIM – ROTHENBURG.

By order of Colonel GORDON:

/s/ James H Tirey

/t/ JAMES H TIREY

Major, Infantry

At 1300, our CO reported to CC-R Hq as ordered. At 1310, S-2 informs all companies that all houses to be checked thoroughly in company areas, and also all suspicious characters be picked up. CO returns from CC-R and gives Ex O following information. C Co to report to 17th AIB and B Co will return to 23rd Tank Battalion. R Co will billet in this town, Service Co will remain in present location (Wolzhausen). B Provisional returned to Battalion. At 1700, B Co reports to CO that he is closed in. At 1800, Co Commanders meeting held, and the following points discussed. We may start rolling tomorrow morning. Division drives in three directions. CC-B objective, Nurnburg, CC-R, Ansbach, 92nd Cavalry, Rothenburg; 4th Infantry is engaged in mopping up enemy; CC-R CO says very little night movement to be conducted. Keep men from bunching up. Make sure of security at night. Destroy town if resistance

is shown. Infantry will proceed tanks into town. One tank to reconnoiter flanks when other tanks are in firing position on towns. No resistance will be by-passed; S-3 gives tactical set up plan; Ex O says "Battalion Maint will have N32 with emergency trains; Battalion Mt will be with Service Co. Last vehicle to be reported by Co, No and coord of their locations; S-4 to get all W Nos corresponding with Co Nos; Service Company will be responsible for Service Company trains. Kitchens will be with the emergency trains; First Sergeants will maintain liaison with forward and rear CPs; Rocket tanks to have rocket launcher removed because of no ammo available. S-3 gives situation. At 1800, our S-3 Periodic Report was sent to CC-R Hq at 2130. CO was notified that he would attack. (One) medium tank company to 101st Cavalry, eff 080800B April 1945. Establish liaison with 101st Cav CP. 101st Cav (Dislelhausen) (N4112) Tank Company must have twelve (12) tanks, one gas truck and one ammunition truck. Initially tank company will remain in present location. At 2300, telephone contact made with 101st Cavalry Group and they will inform us later where tank company is to report. This company is B Co, 23rd.

April 8, 1945.

At 0630, B Co departs for the 101st Cav Gp where it is now attached. Our Battalion continued habilitation and maintenance during the day. The town of Geisslinger was still being outposted by Battalion as this was our front line. CC-R notifies Ex O that report on captured enemy material which is a weekly report as due 081600B April 1945. CC-R notified that our B Co which went to the 101st Cav Gp at Riedenheim (618-088). Remainder of B Co to Galchsheim (650107) to 116th Cav Gp (Note: 116th Cav is part of the 101st Cav Gp). At 0845 all companies notified that Catholic Service will be held at 0930 today near the Battalion CP, Protestant Church Service will be held also near the Battalion CP at 1100. At 1600, Operation Memorandum #2 from CC-R Hq, which prohibits firing at aircraft, was received by Battalion. This information was passed on down to all Battalion.

HEADQUARTERS COMBAT COMMAND "R"
12TH ARMORED DIVISION
APO 262 U.S. ARMY

8 April 1945.

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)
NUMBER..... 2)

1. Firing of small arms and Cal .30 and .50 cal MG at aircraft is strictly prohibited, except when attacked or on order.

By order of Colonel GORDON:

/s/ James H Tirey
/t/ JAMES H TIREY
Major, Infantry

Distr:

At 1720, CC-R orders one officer and three light tanks to report to that Hq immediately. This detail is to protect truck picking up reinforcements. At 1800, S-3 Periodic Report sent to CC-R Hq. At 2130, enemy aircraft dropped bombs vicinity of Geisslingen; no casualties in personnel or vehicles.

April 9, 1945.

Morning of this date was spent mostly by troops attending church services and maintenance of vehicles and weapons and personal items. At 1400, Company Commanders meeting held. (CO, CC-R was present). S-2: No men will leave billets at night unless on business; B Co now with the 116th Cav Gp. Med O: Trying to keep men emotionally unfit away from duty until they are able to do the job right. CO: Brings up commission of EM; trying to shorten time it takes to commission a man. Whereabouts and effect of bombing last night. W Nos and Co Nos to be submitted by all Companies. Colonel Gordon gives tactical situation: our next move appears to be to the south and east. We are waiting to gather a few more supplies and mop up pockets of resistance. Situation will be a little tougher than before as a few lines are being reported that weren't before. We may be able to move across country which will be better. We are going to try to drop some surrender pamphlets and a broadcast on towns, and if white flag is shown, let's respect it. Tank Infantry teams to work together. Be careful of bunching up. Meeting over 1505. At 1505 received phone call from CC-R to alert command for immediate movement. At 1620, Ln O brings down orders from CC-R which reads as follows: Move your command without delay along axis Herrnberchheim (1307), Geckenheim (8110), Uttenhofen (8307), Neuhberg (8404). Friendly troops now hold Herrnberchtheim (7813). At 1625, CO gives Co Commanders order for the attack on Neuherberg verbally. CC-R tells CO that friendly elements are now fighting in town (8111) Geckenheim, and 8112 (vicinity Geckenheim). Our leading elements moved out of Geisslingen (1715). CO D reports that he is halfway to 2d town on our route. Nothing but a lot of smoke seen. Note (Friendly column crossing leading elements front). Later reports that column on our front is elements who are supposed to be on our left flank (17th AIB). B 17th reported some type of shell landed at coord (751134) vicinity Rodheim. The unit contacted to our front is now doubling back to the left and road we are traveling on is correct route. Ex O tells Co D if he thinks road is mined, he should stop and wait for CO. Ex O asks D 17 if they have any repetition of shells anymore. Ex O requests to know if the column is moving and if they can give location of where reported minefield is. Co D tells us that the column is moving, but we are approaching minefield and are coming to a halt. Mines area is just to the approach to the underpass going into the town (Herrnberchthen). Co A notified Ex O that Platoon Leaders tank, 2d Platoon just knocked out by mine. S-3 requests we have engineers come forward to check road for mines (Note: Platoon Engineers of C, 119th was working with us in the attack). S-2 reports to CC-R that column was being held up by mines coord (766134) also enemy artillery fell at coord (751 134). At 1845 B 17th reports a larger buzzing in the power lines – can you get tanks to knock out some of the poles, also we are receiving artillery fire at minefield. Ex O requests artillery fire at minefield, Ln plane to check on artillery coming from the west. CC-R tells Ex O, Ln plane is working on it now. AG Platoon tells Ex O he thinks he has the artillery spotted. It's coming from (745115) vicinity Rodheim. S-3 says town ahead has not been entered (Herrnberchtheim). CO says to move on up and requests reports on

friendly units, reports of friendly units say they were up to the edge of town but were pushed back. CO says move on forward but proceed with caution, contact friendly units for all information possible. At 1945, S-3 reports forward elements are out of town. Also contacted AG Platoon and sent them forward (Herrnberchtheim). Ex O tells CO that strong enemy resistance has been reported 1000 yards out of town which was reported cleared when we left and the enemy now on our route. Enemy at (7912) just out of Herrnbachtheim). Ex O asks D Co if they have seen any enemy. They report that they have seen none. They also state they are not moving due to the fact that the forward elements have pulled back due to enemy action. Ex O wants to know what kind of unit is in the front of you. D Co reports the unit I have contacted is a cavalry unit. Note: Town of Herrnberchtheim was passed through without enemy resistance was not at Geckenheim. At 2017, CO departed from Ex O track to go forward and lead elements into town of Herrnberchtheim for the night and push off into the attack in the morning. Ex O tells CC-R that leading elements at (795124) just outside Herrnberchtheim. Ex O also requests that CC-R pick up seven PWs which we now have on hand. Reliable PW reports road from Herrnberchtheim to Geckenheim mined. CC-R tells Ex O to hold PWs until morning. PWs also report two companies 100 men each company at Geckenheim. Weapons machine guns and Panzerfaust. Note: We have stopped for the night in (7813) Herrnberchtheim. Leading elements met enemy resistance outside of town. We are outpostting this town. At 2125, Company Commanders meeting held at CP to coordinate CPs and to get information on attack in the morning and are ordered to report at 0500 in the morning.

April 10, 1945.

Battalion was holding up for the night in Herrnberchtheim preparing to push off early in the morning. This position is our front line. At 0050, two enemy planes in our area. We were strafed by one plane at 0045B. No casualties. CC-R notifies us that low flying aircraft will be flying over our vicinity at 0645B and 101000B. Do not fire at those planes, will be either medium or fighter bombers, friendly. At 0500, Company Commanders and Order personnel meeting at Battalion CP; they are given order for the attack today. (See order.) Objective is taken, town of Geckenheim N8111 and continue attacking to the southeast to Neuherberg, N844648. Ex O reports to CC-R that attack jumped off at 0645B. At 0735, S-2 requests CC-R to pick up PWs which we were holding in the Battalion cage at Herrnberchtheim. At 0739, CO, CC-R stops in CP and advises Ex O that friendly cavalry will work on our right flank during the attack. Ex O also gives him our tactical setup. Ln O from friendly cavalry is here and coordinates attack with the Ex O. Part of 116th Cav Gp is the unit. At 0751, Ex O advises all stations that friendly cavalry is operating on right flank. He also advises D Co which is operating on our right flank to support the attack anyway possible after he is relieved by cavalry unit. At 0807, Ex O advises CC-R that Battalion is encountering SA and machine gun fire in their attack on Geckenheim. 17th Infantry advises us that this CP located (8014) Ippesheim and that their forward elements mopping up (820130) Reusch. CC-R informs us that PW cage is located at 7813 Herrnberchtheim. At 0830 Ex O requests to know if town is cleared yet from Co A. He is advised that town is not clear, that the troops are not in there yet. (Town in Geckenheim) At 0842 Ex O tells CC-R that our leading elements are meeting machine gun and other SA fire to their front and left flank. It is being neutralized at the present time. CC-R notified that one

round of mortar fell near CP area in Herrberchthein. D Co reports approximately 25 enemy reported in vicinity (78810) dug in. On main highway vicinity Gollhofer. Ex O tells CC-R that enemy tank has been sighted in town Geckenheim (8111) and our troops are trying to bring artillery fire on it. At 1015, Co A reports that our infantry is now moving into town. Tanks in full support but have not entered. Reports state town seems fairly clear. At 1023 doughboys and tanks have now moved into town. One platoon A Co is in town, the other preparing to go in. Not much activity heard. This information sent to CC-R. Ex O tells CC-R one tank reported by Ln plane to be 500 yards north Uppenheim. Also town cleared 1015 (Geckenheim). Few enemy have escaped and are approaching town in which CP is located, Herrnbachthein. (Note: Approximately CC-R PW cage which was located in same town as CP.) CP track moved out at 1100 from Herrnbachthein. At 1115 CC-R notified that CP was moving into Geckenheim. Note: Reorganization was conducted in Geckenheim and preparations made to push on to the southwest. S-2 also advises CC-R that one enemy tank destroyed, Mark IV. 17th AIB informs Ex O that leading elements of this Battalion are at (822120), vicinity South Reusch and that they are receiving small arms fire from left flank. Ex O informs 17th that he has report that enemy is at (840108), woods southeast of Wergenheim which is on 17th's axis. S-2, CC-R tells S-2 Red Tank that Uffenheim has considerable activity by the enemy. He also reports that PW statements say 300 SS dug in along road (812113), vicinity North Reusch to (825150), vicinity Schlfrankenberg, also reports that enemy in groups of four and five located using road (853081) to intersection (853070), east – west. At 1410 AG were ordered to fire on enemy tank which was trying to get away also on town on right (Uffenheim) on possible CPs in that town because much artillery fire was being received on our forward elements from that direction. Battalion was then in the attack on the town of Uttenhofen (8308). Ex O tells CC-R that during the attack on Uttenhofen, the CO was wounded by shrapnel and the following message sent to CC-R: Our Sunray has been wounded, he is being evacuated (Note: Ex O was there in charge of the Battalion.) Ex O tells S-3 that Sunray has been wounded and that he is to operate the same. Sunray Minor (Ex O) will operate the same from back here (CP) track in Geckenheim for the remainder of the day. S-3 tells our Ex O that our leading elements are having a hard time with the enemy artillery fire up here. In answer to this, another Ln plane up in the air. Also an air strike has been requested from higher hqs and that another Ln is requested to search for the enemy artillery positions. At 1450, leading elements report what the situation is. The artillery fire on us has let up a little. The AG's are firing on town to our right (Uffenheim) where the suspected artillery fire was coming from. The following message was sent to CC-R: Our leading elements have been held up temporarily by artillery. We need an air strike and observation on town of (805080) Uffenheim badly. At 1500, Ex O advises Co A to reorganize and push on to next objective as soon as the enemy artillery fire permits. CC-R notifies us that air observation is still looking for enemy artillery position. At 1520, Co A to Ex O: I will assemble, what is plan, are they to push on as soon as possible. Ex O says, Yes. At 1530, leading elements could not advance due to the heavy mortar and artillery fire which was coming from direction of Uffenheim right flank. CO calls all Company Commanders back to CP in Geckenheim and says that he plans to hold up in Geckenheim for the night and to organize outpost of town. At 1600, CC-R advises CO that an air strike is on the way in Uffenheim; wants to know if we have any designated targets. CO tells CC-R that enemy is dug in all around Uffenheim and that we have no designated targets. At 1630, our planes

strafed and bombed enemy positions in Uffenheim. At 1635, enemy jet propelled plane flew vicinity Battalion area but no attack made on Battalion. At 1805, Company Commanders are again assembled at CP in Geckenheim and CO gives them following information: We are going to stay here tonight; plan on jumping off at 0615, 11 April 1945. All order personnel to report to CP at 0500B, 11 April to receive order. At 1800, S-3 Periodic Reports sent to CC-R, also propaganda leaflets will be dropped on Uttenhofen (our objective) (8303) within 20 minutes by cub. CC-R reports that German CP in mill at (784-109), soldiers there have panzerfaust,

(page 172 of the source document is missing. Following appears to be order written the following day, April 11th ...)

- h. Mud ditch outskirts Gukenheim – then along route advance.
 - i.
 - j.
 - k. All troops will prepare to move in same formation from Uttenhofen in direction Rudolzheim.
4. ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:
- a. Evacuation Personnel: Route of Advance.
 - b. Evacuation Vehicles: Route of Advance.
 - c. Supply: Geckenheim initially – then route of advance.
 - d. Traffic Details:
 - e. Trains: Combat Trains in Geckenheim, remainder with Service Co.
 - f. PW Collecting Points: Geckenheim.
 - g.
5. SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS:
- a. SOI – Current.
 - b. Radio – Operative.
 - c. Pyrotechnics Signals: None.
 - d. Axis of Communications: Route of Advance.
 - e. I will be at Guckenheim initially, then route of advance.

COMDG

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Spencer

/t/ SPENCER

S-3

Our Battalion then prepared to push off into the attack at 0615. At 0715 two medium tanks lost by enemy tanks, these tanks belonged to Co A. At 0725, Co A reports that AT guns are in Uffenheim,

and our right flank element, Cav, 116th, is notified to be on the alert. At 0730, Cav informs our S-3A that their forward elements hear enemy armor moving in Uffenheim. The message concerning the AT fire and two tanks was sent to S-2, CC-R. At 0746, receive reports from our forward elements that enemy was in woods (821088), enemy in Uffenheim. Woods (820083) all reported to have armor. CC-R requests what we had seen in the line of armor. At 0803, S-3A reports to CC-R that armor is located in woods at (820088), one Mark IV enemy tank. The CP vehicle cannot move on route of advance until threat is cleared. Friendly doughs are in Uttenhofen. Creek crossing before town is causing trouble. S-2 also tells CC-R that one tank believed to be in building at (821087) vicinity (Uffenheim). CC-R tells CO that four planes upstairs with bombs, it is alright to bomb woods. (Note: Forward elements report only hearing armor in the woods and number of enemy vehicles there cannot be determined. S-3A is given permission by the S-3 to have planes bomb and strafe that area, CC-R is informed. At 0824, S-3A reports the strike was OK. It was on the woods we wanted it on. Reports state that enemy armor is reported pulling out and is heading for Uttenhofen (town which our troops are in). CO requests our right flank element, the cav if they can observe armor fleeing towards Uffenheim. They report they can hear it but cannot see it. At 0846, B-17th reports that the enemy armor took out along highway and railroad along the axis of evacuation. Request Ln plane to spot the armor. At 0850, S-3A sends following message to CC-R: We are very much in need of a Ln plane, can you get a cub up over woods where air strike has been laid. The armor is moving out and we want it watched.

CC-R replies that they will attempt to do all possible. S-2, CC-R tells S-2, Red Tank that they are sending truck with MPs to us for prisoner evacuation during the day. These trucks are to be relieved by 1930 tonight. At 0852, S-34 reports following: Co Commanders of enemy tank Co now PW with us, one enemy tank knocked out at our objective. Enemy officer had four tanks in his command, their location unknown to him. One is in building previously reported. If no air strike is available, would like to send foot troops down to drive him out, because if armor is taken over ridge, enemy will be able to shoot at it. At 0900, Ln plane is now up in our area. At 0907 Flash Message: Two enemy planes in our vicinity, be on the alert. S-2 reports that enemy planes bombed column to our left. At 0945, B/17 reports forward elements located (830-085) 1 Km north of Uttenhofen. And that they are reconnoitering for stream crossing. S-2, CC-R requests what kind of resistance we are meeting. S-2, Red Tank reports two tanks from air strike on woods direction Offenheim. One enemy tank, Mark V or VI, reported (8500 114 5) vicinity Weiganheim. At 1045, CO, CC-R to move tanks on up so Infantry can advance. CO to CO, CC-R: Enemy strongpoint holding us back, we are trying to reduce it. We have one tank company and doughs in town (Uttenhofen). Tank you see are AG and we will move them up as soon as it is clear. (Note: CO, CC-R was on high ground vicinity Uttenhofen observing our activities from his position.) At 1045, friendly troops are moving in on strongpoint now. At 1100, S-2 reports to CO that tanks located in woods we fired this morning, also fire coming from house near railroad track (1 km west of Uttenhofen). Request another air strike on woods. Our doughs are getting enemy artillery fire and cannot work right. At 1105 CO tells CO, CC-R that he is still unable to move rest of his elements forward because of strongpoints still existing at (8300890) and (82088). Request air once again. At 1125, CC-R notified that troops have entered strongpoint. Building entered containing communications which has been destroyed.

Make sure air strike does good job. At 1146 CO to S-3: Have artillery mark targets, air strike is on now. S-3 to CO: Artillery is now marking targets. At 1155, air begins to bomb and strafe but they mistakenly attack Uttenhofen which our troops are now occupying. At 1200, S-3 to CO: Stop air attack, they are blasting town we are in (Uttenhofen). CO to S-3: We have contacted higher Hq and attack is stopped. (Some personnel casualties and one friendly halftrack knocked out.) CC-R tells that planes will make a dry run and to notify them if it is the right target. CO report to CC-R that forward elements report that area is too close for safety, have air attack switch to Uffenheim. At 1227 planes attack Uffenheim. At 1235 CP moves out of Geckenheim for new location in Uttenhofen. Reached new location in Uttenhofen at 1330B. At 1325, CC-R orders CO to bypass next town on route (the town is Rudolshofen N857060) vicinity Seinheim. At 1430, CC-R was notified that our CP was located Uttenhofen. At 1445 S-3A notifies CC-R: Leading elements are in objective (N845049) Neuherberg and reorganizing and preparing to continue the attack. At 1450, S-3 reports the town is clear (Neuherberg). Battalion does not have any further route of attack and request is made from CC-R for the route. CC-R orders Battalion to reorganize and route will be brought down later. At 1515 CP moved out of Uttenhofen for new location in Neuherberg. At 16120, CP reached new location. At 1700 Battalion jumped off into the attack. Route was received, as follows: Axis of attack: Ermetzhofen 847, Ohrenbach, 7999, Langensteinach, 7702, Simmershofen, 7306, Pfahlenhein, 7209, and Hammersheim, 7009, 17th AIB will take route generally to our left flank, their objective being Aub, 6808. At 1729, S-3 to CO: Leading elements on edge of town (Ermetzhofen). At 1731, S-3 to CO: Troops have entered town (Ermetzhofen). This report sent to CC-R at 1734B. At 1735, enemy aircraft strafed our column. At 1748, CP track moves out from Neuherberg to follow Battalion in the attack on Ermetzhofen, was reached at 1755. Battalion is reorganizing in this town. At 1800, S-3 Periodic Report sent to CC-R. At 1835, Battalion pushed into the attack from Ermetzhofen. At 1855, CC-R given location of leading elements at N810818 approximately 1 km east of Hinter-Pfnerach. At 1900, D Co, the point, reports having a little difficulty finding route through woods vicinity Hinter-Pfnerach but at 1950 reports that column is straightened out and is proceeding on. At 2017, leading elements report that they have cleared Hinter-Pfnerach and are moving on route to objective. At 2018, Co D, the point elements, reports seeing flashes which look like artillery fire. Higher Hq has no information on friendly troops in that area. Point element ordered to proceed cautiously. At 2043 leading elements reached outskirts of objective, town of Ohrenbach N795997. A dismounted patrol is sent into this town. They report no resistance. At 2115, leading elements into town and secure it. At 2130, CP entered town and is set up. Battalion will outpost Ohrenbach for night and push off into the attack in morning. Ex O tells CC-R that no resistance, now occupying objective and securing outpost. CC-R tells Ex O to be prepared to continue attack at 120730B.

April 12, 1945.

At 0615, Company Commanders and order personnel meeting. They were given order for attack on Hemmersheim (N705097).

HQ RED TK BN
12 April 1945
Ohrensach N793997.
0615B

OPERATION INSTRUCTION)
NUMBER.....)

Map:

1. INFORMATION:
 - a. Enemy: No resistance encountered – Civilian reports indicate troops in area withdrew to south and west. Possible enemy line to north and west.
 - b. Friendly: 17 AIB moved on parallel route to our left, 495 AFA Battalion in support.
2. DECISION: Formation, Objective, general Direction of Attack, scheme of Maneuver, purpose.
 - a. Bn plus atachment will move mounted along route Reichardsroth, Langensteinach, Simmershofen, Pfahlenheim, Hemmersheim to clear towns in route to seize and hold Hemmersheim.
 - b. Intermediate Objectives:
 - c. Boundaries between units:
 - d. LD: NW edge of Enunbach.
 - e. Time of Attack: 0730.
 - f. Zone of Action:
 - g. Report Lines:
 - h. Misc:

3. Plan:

- a. Battalion will move in following order:

Section D/23	Pro Co/17
Plat A/23	Battalion CP
Plat B/17	Med Det
A/23	Emer Tns
B/17 plus Plat Pr Co/17 atchd	Medics
AG Plat	Maint
Mort Plat	Sec D/23
Eng Plat/119	

All units will move mounted on route until deployed in Battalion order.

Point will deploy immediately if fired upon.

4. Administrative Details:
 - a. Evacuation Personnel: Route of Advance.
 - b. Evacuation Vehicles: Route of Advance.
 - c. Supply: With column
 - d. Traffic Details:
 - e. Trains: With column.
 - f. PW Collecting Points:
 - g.

5. Signal Communications:
 - a. SOI: Current.
 - b. Radio: Operations.
 - c. Axis of Communications: Route of Advance.
 - d. I will be at Bn CP.

COMDG

OFFICIAL:

Spencer,
S-3

At 0615, Company Commanders and order personnel meeting; they were given order for attack on Hemmersheim (N705097).

At 0645, 17th AIB reports following counterattack. We are being counterattacked. We are laying mortar fire along road leading southwest out of center of this town. Unable to give estimate of number of enemy. No assistance needed as yet. At 0713 CC-R tells CO to continue the attack at 120730B. And the attacked was launched at 0730B.

The 17th AIB reports that counterattack by about 40 or 50 enemy infantry neutralized. Enemy withdrew to northwest. We are reorganizing to continue the advance. CC-R at this time requests location of our leading elements every half hour. At 08120, Co D, leading elements report 2 ME 109 on ground in field at their left, vicinity (Reichardsroth). They destroyed these planes by fire. S-23 CC-R tells us that Polish PWs say two artillery pieces, no ammunition, vicinity Steinsfell, 799943, three more artillery pieces with ammo active at Wallmersbach 765055. At 0900 leading elements passed through Reichardsroth. They were ordered to continue on route. At 0905 leading elements entered Langensteinach (770025). A few PWs were captured. Reports state enemy left taking artillery pieces with them. At 0910 leading elements ordered to hold up in Langensternach until unit on our left (17th AIB is located). At 0930 B Infantry requests letter for wounded enemy. At 0932 PW report enemy battery in position 7550812, vicinity Brackenlohr. PW also states that one tank in that town. Battery is a small patch of woods which may not show on map. Inf is also reported in that town. At 0942, leading

elements in town Langensteinach, have become subjected to heavy shelling by artillery. At 0957 B-17 reports that PW states enemy generally located at 783040, approximately 2 KM northeast Langensteinach, also enemy armor moving in on our front, possible firing on our elements. At 1001 PWs report enemy armor ahead of us. Ln plane requested to cover axis of advance. (CC-R reports that Ln plane is now up.) At 1011 S-3A reports to CC-R that leading elements are still at location reported previously. Cleaning up town. Number of PWs captured. Reorganizing and preparing to push on. At 1012 leading elements report finishing bus load of Panzerfausts in town. They request S-2 to take care of it. At 1023 B Inf reports an artillery battery at 760030. They are going to assault this position dismounted with four tanks, it will be approximately ¼-hour mission. 3rd Prov/7A is going to attack dismounted, one position 775020. Our artillery is firing at enemy battery at 785038. At 1105 B/17th reports that pieces are remaining in place but enemy gun crews have scattered. At 1122 CO requests information on troops operating in our northern sector, from higher Headquarters state our route of evacuation and supply is being manned by Tigers. Our Service Co is being held up by heavy mortar and artillery where we received it yesterday at coord 805090. At 1130 Service Co reports enemy position 805095 and 850095, that is putting fire on both sides. At 1137 message received from Service Company stating that trains were not in the fire, that they were stopped by the fire. At 1200 Service Co reports that detached big boys are trying to find a different route to proceed in. At 1210 AG Platoon received AT fire on road going into town Langenstein from coord 7803. At 1217 B 17 reports that one of their vehicles was knocked out coming into town. At 1218 enemy tank reported vicinity 7803, one of B 17 tracks knocked out entering town, leading elements in that town. At 1238, this unit is being held up by enemy tank, very large type, taking steps to eliminate it. PW statement says 76MM artillery CP at 825975 and 752996, BG Busse four Cos in Aub. At 1247 Co A reports they knocked out unmanned AT gun at 763-033. At 1250 CC-R orders Battalion to leave a covering force of a few tanks in that vicinity when Battalion advances. At 1315 B 17 at his objective. One more AT gun knocked out. Enemy doughs taken under fire by leading elements. At 1330, Inf leaving Det to hold what they have taken. Remainder of tanks and doughs returning to town.

At 1310 Air is requested on our final objective (Uffenheim). Enemy activity in Woldmanshofen is reported by column on our left. At 1605 CC-R reports that friendly elements are moving into our objective, Simmershofen, and into town, 2 KM east of Adelhofen. At 1630 leading elements reported they are approaching objective. At 1652, enemy aircraft flew over column. S-3A reports WP is being fired northwest of objective and wishes to know something about it through higher headquarters and they report no WP firing is known. S-3 is given the information. He reports no WP falling in the last two to four minutes. WP is falling on town due north of our objective. CO informs S-3 that when he gets into the town, reorganize and prepare to move east towards Adelhofen. At 1730 S-3 requests for engineers to report to town to clear up mines which have been reported in town. At 1732 approximately 25 enemy doughs were seen moving into woods to right, Simmershofen. Friendly cavalry unit is pushing enemy into us. AGs are firing on enemy doughs. They were routed. At 1835 leading elements report all roads in town except one are mined. Road blocks are mined. Engineers estimate two hours to clear. At 1836 hills northwest of town are not clear. Estimated 1 1/2 hours to

reorganize. How far will we travel tonight. At 1838, ridge and woods must be cleared. Mines must be cleared to get tanks to clear hill. At 1839 Ex O tells CC-R it will take until dark to accomplish mission. CC-R tells Ex O mop up road and town, move into town for night (Simmershofen). At 1825, we were requested to pack up our trains. North of where 17 (aub). When this town is clear we should send guide to pick them up. At 1925, CO tells S-3A that attack on ridge is progressing very well. Mines are being removed. One road block blown two or three more. We must make sure roads are clear before we move vehicles in. (This information sent to CC-R at 1926.) At 2030 road is reported clear by S-3, Inf is mopping up. CP ordered to move into town. At 2035, the ridge and woods have been cleared, road block reduced, mines cleared, road block reduced, vehicles are moving into town. At 1944, S-23 CC-R requests location and number of enemy equipment destroyed today. (S-2 reports as requested; see text for enemy equipment destroyed.) At 2100 CP vehicle reaches Simmershofen and sets up for the night at this location. At 2115, CO requests permission to pick up trains tomorrow, as we have enough fuel and ammo on hand now. CO, Red Tk to CC-R: Pending further orders we plan to move 130645B. At 2140 message received, pick up fuel and ammo tonight. Be ready to attack on early tomorrow. At 2155 CC-R reports be ready to attack on my order at 130630B, details later. At 2200 message received shows axis of attack for 13th April Operations: 23rd Tank, Summershofen 7306, Wallmerslack 7605, Welkhausen, 7906 Uffenheim. 23rd attacks 130730B, 17th attack 130715B (Note: our objective was same as 17th AIB, Uffenheim N005080) At 2238, CC-R notifies us that due to condition of road, Trains will not be available until 13 April 1945.

April 13, 1945.

At 0250 message received from Higher Headquarters: CO Service Co missing in action. One officer with him was killed, and President of the US dead. (Later proven that CO, Service Co was only slightly wounded and he returned to organization; other officer was killed due to enemy action.) At 0215, we were ordered to have section of light tanks alerted by daybreak to accompany engineer company from your location to bridge location. Engineer company will come from CC-R to you and tanks will accompany them to Cameron 17th AIB and back. At 0600 Company Commanders meeting, given order for the day (see order). Our objective is Uffenheim. At 0730 our Battalion pushed off in the attack on Uffenheim. Battalion cleared first town on way to objective (Adelhofen N 752066) and no resistance met. At 0817 Battalion CP moves out of Simmershofen to follow Battalion in the attack. Co D point element reports they are entering town of Blauberg, 2d on route to objective. At 0831 leading elements passed through 2d town on route to objective. CO requests information on plans for coordinated attack on objective (Uffenheim). At 0832, CC-R tells CO that when they arrive at N85078 to await orders from them. At 0832 Co D, our point, reports that they have reached the requested location and are awaiting orders. He also sees enemy equipment in woods, 800065, abandoned by the enemy. Message sent to Higher Headquarters to this effect, and that we are awaiting further orders. At 0930 friendly elements (Cav) are entering our objective (Uffenheim). Do not fire artillery. Town is surrendering. This message was sent to all stations. At 0940 Ln Officer of C Troop, 116th Cav stops at CP track and reports his unit is on our objective and it has surrendered. At 0958 S-3A to CC-R, our C is making contact with friendly troops who are entering objective, meanwhile our troops are flushing

woods to right flank; several PWs taken. At 1007, S-3 calls for all Co Commanders to assemble at head of column. After orders from CO, CC-R were given to him at 1000, following is the order: Clear wooded area N7807, the town Gollachostheim N7410, Lipprichhausen N7210, and Hemmersheim N7009. S-3, CC-R tells S-3 to have Battalion continue to clear woods but to wait at present location for further orders he just gave our S-3. At 1045, CC-R tells CO to assemble his command in Simmershofen (7306) and Uttelhofen (7506) and await further orders. CO requests to assemble Battalion in Simmershofen and his request is granted. At 1050 Battalion begins to move back into Simmershofen to await further orders. CP track reaches Simmershofen and Headquarters is set up. Message sent to Higher Headquarters to this effect. At 1200 CO sends one platoon of D Co and one platoon of 3rd Prov Co to outpost town of Adelhofen. G-2 reports mines following location: between Boldersheim and Aub, between hospital outskirts of Aub and village of Aub and Auershofen. At 1400 one platoon of A Co tanks and 2d Platoon of 3rd Prov 7th Army sent to clear woods southwest of Aub and hill west of Aub, N6808. At 1840 Task Force of one platoon of A Co and 2d Platoon of 3rd Prov, 7th Army report back that the woods are clear and the hill clear; they captured 5 PW. At 1845 Platoon C/119th Engineering, which was attached to our Battalion during this operation, was ordered back to their unit.

April 14, 1945.

At 0130 your command is on a 3 hour alert starting at daylight. Message sent out to all companies to this effect. At 0815 Battalion receives new Battalion CO, Ex O is relieved of the command and resumes his duties as Ex O. At 0913, B Co reverts to your control assemble then at Simmershofen. At 0945 Battalion notified to be prepared to move on order. At 1000 CC-R sends following message: Commanders report to me without delay for further order. And be prepared to move from present location. At 1055 Co Commanders meeting, CO gives them order he received from CC-R. Operation Instruction Number 32, order for Battalion to attack Westheim (9398):

HQ CC-R, 12 AD
Uffenheim, Germany
(N8008)

OI No 32

MAP: Central Europe, 1,100,000.

1. a. The enemy is apparently establishing defensive line generally along stream line and wood line from 8497, 0107, 2713, NORTH EAST.

b. 101st Cav Gp holds line NABELSSE (8299), SCHWEBHEIM (8901), 8th RCT follows CC-R.

2. CC-R attacks 141130B Apr 45. Axis of attack:

17 AIB

ERMETZHOFEN (8303)

HOCHBACH (8500)

BURGBERNHEIM (8797)

BERGEL (9096)

23 Tk Bn

UPPENHEIM (8008)

RUDOLYHOFEN (8505)

PFÄFFENHOFEN (8503)

SCHWEBHEIM (8901)

WESTHEIM (9398)

3. a. 17 AIB will attack on axis given.
 - b. 23 Tk Bn will attack on axis given.
 - c. 495 AFA Bn reinforced by 937 FA will support the attack.
 - d. B/116 Cav initially remain in present location.
 - e. C/119 Engr attach platoon to each 17th and 23d.
 - x. Check points: 8500, 8901, 9200, 9599, 9398, 9098, 8797, 9096, 9497.
4. Tns UFFENHEIM (8008).
 5. CP, CC-R initially UFFENHEIM.

GORDON

Col FA

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Tirey

/t/ TIREY

S-3

Battalion will move in the following formation: Sec D Co, Platoon B/17, Platoon A/23, Platoon B/17, A Co (-), B/17 (-) plus one platoon 3rd Prov 7th Army. AG Platoon, Mortar Platoon, C/119 Engrs, Battalion CP plus one ambulance, 3rd Prov 7th Army (-) Emergency Trains, Medics, B Co will join tail of column until needed and then will bypass column. Note: B Co, 23rd had not joined Battalion at this location.

Battalion to bypass resistance, use artillery and air location enemy fire and try to eliminate. Move out as soon as possible. CC-R notified that leading elements moved out 1145B. At 1217 leading elements moved through 2d town on route to objective. At 1220 CP track moved out of Simmershofen to follow Battalion on axis of advance. At 1334, leading elements are at coord (883030) vicinity Pfoffenhofen. At 1338, one troop friendly cavalry in town near check point 6 (Schwebheim), last report one enemy inf co in town at check point 1 (Ottenhofen). Mines reported around town near check point 7 (Urfersheim). Reported Battalion and Battalion CP of Inf in large town 4 KM northeast check point 7 (Lenkersheim). One Tiger tank reported zesterdaz loose in area. Town 3 KM west of check point

1 (Burngbernhein) reported clear of enemy. Three enemy tanks were knocked out yesterday one KM northeast check point 6 (Schwebhein). Friendly patrols have been south as far as 2 KM north of check point 1 (Coord 9000). At 1410 enemy visible in town of Illesheim. Two Tiger tanks reported in town. Airport nearby. Planes on ground appear to be destroyed. Leading elements preparing to assault this town. At 1515 artillery shells fell in vicinity of CP in column (approx one KM northwest of Schwebhein) on main road. Co B joins column at this point. At 1540 attack started, 1523B everything progressing smoothly. At 1547, S-3 reports civilians coming out of Illesheim with white flags, no resistance met. At 1548, S-3 reports to Ex O that ridge behind Illesheim has plenty of enemy on it. At 1615, leading elements now in town. Vehicles starting to move in. At 1620, CO, CC-R stops at CP Track and calls CO, consulting on situation. At 1635, S-3 reports that friendly cav say that 2 Battalion is scurrying to attack from southwest. Requests Ln plane check same. Will prepare to hold town if CO desires. At 1654, S-3 requests contact made with 101st Cav to find out what situation is. At 1800 Battalion pushes out of Illesheim into the attack southeast. At 1815, leading elements are at outskirts of Urfersheim (926763). Note: Large stores of gas protective equipment and airplane parts and large quantity salvageable radio equipment found in Illesheim. The Battalion moved out of Illesheim to follow the attack. At 1850 Battalion is receiving direct fire from possible enemy position on high ground in back of Westheim (S935988). At 1905, S-3 reports many enemy vehicles moving south out of town of Bergen (S905966). At 1907 leading elements report they are 80 yards from Westheim, receiving fire every once in a while from high ground. At 1922 PW reports 2 to 3 batteries mortars expected 80MM and 105MM. 2 Battalion Daeger Regt operating this area. 5 Cos each Battalion, 2 heavy 3 light. 2 – 88MM guns Colmberg S9487. At 2010, leading elements just entering Westheim. At 2100 Battalion secured Westheim and preparations were made to bivouac for night in this town. At 2130 Battalion CP reached Westheim and set up for the night. Co Commanders were called in and coordinates CPs set up and they are told to report for meeting at 0615 in the morning. At 2145 Order personnel meeting at 0615, 15 April 1945. Be prepared to move out at 0730. Co who have FO attached will notify them that they will attend this meeting. At 2310 CO asks Higher Headquarters to exchange 1st Tank platoon in Division Trains. They answer that is possible provided security of Division Trains is not impaired. At 2318, friendly units may move pass our location tonight. All outposts are alerted.

April 15, 1945.

At 0615, Order Personnel meeting, given order for the attack. Objective Werhenzell (T1087).

At 0715 Ln O arrives from CC-R and has OI No 33, CC-R Hq, 12 AD dated 150700 April 1945.

HQ, CC--R, 12 AD
BUCHHEIM, GERMANY
(N870)

OI No 33

MAP: Central Europe, 1,100,000.

At 1030 troops were still being subjected to heavy mortar (observed from ridge and woods at coord (S950983). At 1050 request air strike on ridge. At 1051, S-3 reports that one enemy tank has been located 1 Km east of check point 4 (1 Km east of Sontheim). At 1055, S-3 reports that two American POWs from Air Corps were released by enemy. At 1105, S-3 requests Ln plane to observe possible enemy armor moving in on our friends to right (17th AIB). CC-R orders 3 light tanks to report to their Hq for further orders. (Note: 4 light tanks were sent and they were to report to be attached to 2d Bn 8th Inf Regt, 4th Inf Division.) At 1152, CC-R informs CO that no air strike is available due to the visibility being too low. At 1201 S-3 tells Ex O that there is some mortar fire falling in his vicinity (Sontheim). Considerable opposition on ridge. Receiving observed fire when we stick nose out of town. At 1230 CO Bn, CO, 17 AIB and CO, 8th Inf Regt, 4th Inf Div meet together to coordinate an attack to clear ridge which has been holding up the advance of our troops. At 1145, air burst fell in CP area (Westheim). At 1445, CO returns from meeting with other commanders and B/23 is to aid infantry in attacking ridge by fire. C/23 will also aid with tank fire. At 1500 Ex O tells S-3 who is in charge of our forces in Sontheim that "Attack of friendly unit with our big boys attached and Cameron's big boys attached (C/23d) starts at 1500. Artillery preparation precedes the attack. Sit tight and report what you can observe." At 1630 attack on woods and ridge vicinity S950983 underway. Ex O reports attack is progressing smoothly. No artillery or mortar on our troops, some burp gun fire. Ex O has CP in church steeple in Westheim observing the attack. At 1652, S-3 reports to Ex O that our leading elements in Sontheim are receiving high velocity fire, coming from right and banging the town very heavily. At 1653, attack progressing as planned, our leading elements in other town are receiving high velocity fire from right. Ex O sends following message to S-3: Prepare to hold your position for tonight. Inf track will depart for your location. Have room for them. Bn CP will remain in Westheim for night and will join forward elements in morning. At 2037 CC-R notified that Inf Tank attack was successful. Inf making progress cleaning woods. We resume advance on assigned axis at 0730, April 16, 1945. At 2230 Ln O brings order for next day's attack on Wernsbach (0787).

HQ CC-R, 12 AD
Buchheim, Germany
(N8702)
152230B Apr 45.

OI No 34

MAP: Central Europe, 1/1,00,000.

1. a. Enemy resistance is strong along hill mask and wooded areas on east and west of BERGEL (9096). Cavalry troops met light resistance to the east of this hill mask.

b. 8th RCT will continue to mop-up woods east and west of BERGEL, 16 Apr 45 and then will attack south, on west side of BERGEL-ANSBACH highway. 101st Cav Gp will continue reconnaissance to the south and east on the east flank of CC-R.

2. a. CC-R will attack southeast, battalions abreast 160600B Apr 45.

b. Combat Command will move through friendly Cav and attack along the following axis:

23 Tk Bn

ICKELHEIM (9501)
LENKERSHEIM (9604)
JOBSTGREUTH (0203)
UNT-ALTENBERNHEIM (0399)
RUPPERSDORF (0492)
MORATNEUSTETTEN (0976)
WEIHENZELL (1087)

17 AIB

WESTHEIM (9398)
ICKELHEIM (9501)
BREITENAU (9899)
OB-ALTENBERNHEIM (0199)
SONDERNOHE (0297)
NEUSTETTEN (0294)
FLACHSLANDEN (0192)
BRUNST (0488)
WERNSBACH (07870)

3. a. 23 Tk Bn move from assembly area at 160600B Apr 45 and attack along axis given.

b. 17 AIB will follow 23 Tn Bn from assembly area and attack along axis given.

c. 495 AFA Bn reinforced by fire of 937 FA Bn will support CC-R in attack. CC-R artillery will not fire west of the BERGEL-ANSBACH highway.

d. B/116 Cav will be prepared to move on order of this Hq along axis 17 AIB. Maintain Ln between 8th Inf and CC-R until CC-R has advised S of 8th Inf troops, and then the troop will protect right flank CC-R.

e. C/119 Eng (-2 Plats, plus C/256 Combat Engr) support CC-R.

f. A/5723 AAA (-), no change.

g. Check points issued 14 and 15 Apr 45 still in effect.

4. Tns: No change.

5. a. CP, CC-R initially BUCHHEIM (8702).

b. Units will report locations of forward elements every 30 minutes.

GORDON

Col FA

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Tirey

/t/ TIREY

S/3

April 16, 1945.

At 0430 AG Platoon, Engr platoon and Ren platoon went forward with instruction to S-3 who was located in Sontheim (S948995). He was in charge of B/17, B/23, in that town. At 0445, meeting in Battalion CP for order personnel bivouacked in Westheim (S937990), Mort Platoon, B/23rd, 3rd Prov/7th Army. Following information given to order personnel: Move 0600B. Change in route is shown on overlay. Order of March forces in Sontheim, Mortar Platoon, B/23rd (-), 3rd Prov, 7th Army (-). Battalion CP, Emergency Trains, Objective, Werhensel (T1088). At 0615 leading elements moved out. CP ordered to stay in Westheim until further orders. At 0645, leading elements at Ickelsheim on route to objective. No resistance met. Coord N952010.

At 0654, CP ordered to move out of Westheim and follow Battalion on axis. At 0720 leading elements located on KM southeast of Lenkersheim (N969040). At 0800 leading elements located at Marlheim, Germany (N992048). At 0825 leading elements enter Sternach, Germany (00401). No resistance. At 0855, elements halted at 00401 to make reconnaissance for new route vicinity Steinach. At 0903 Ln plane reports no enemy activity sighted vicinity our column. At 0904 light enemy resistance consisting of Panzerfaust at woods coord TY035985. (B/17 AIB is clearing woods out. At 0940 leading elements met resistance in woods vicinity Unt Altenbernheim (T035985) at 0935). (Note: Point contacted enemy vehicle blocking road in this woods and the Inf B/17 AIB investigated to see if it was manned.) At 1010 elements in Unt Altenbernheim receiving some artillery fire. At 1021 two PWs captured in woods, one an officer; he states he has one company in the area. This information sent to higher Hq. At 1030 civilian reports 300 to 400 enemy passed through Unt Altenbernheim two days ago. At 1035 two rounds of artillery received at forward elements. At 1043 ridge is cleared; reform column and prepare to move on. Putting fire on next objective; when fire is completed, they will advance on town. Enemy is reported to have left town. At 1203 Ex O tells CC-R that they are attacking town of Wimmelbach (T040970). At 1325 leading elements in town (Wimmelbach); town clear. Twenty PWs taken there. Sixty enemy reportedly left town approx. 1230. At 1310 CC-R reports that two German HE 210 will fly over this afternoon. These planes will bear American markings. Personnel cautioned not to fire on these planes. They are American-flown. At 1420 Task Force Lee (B/23d, 3rd Prov/7 Army, Mortar Platoon/23rd passing attack-next town, Fladengreuth (T055964). Task Force Ebbage attacking Obern-Bibert (045955). At 1421 leading elements now continuing advance on next town on route (Obern-Bibert, T045955). At 1515 mortar shell fell on CP area which was located in Unt Altenbernheim. At 1550 Task Force Ebbage attacked Obern-Bibert while Task Force Lee had attacked Fladengreuth (T055964). At 1715 Task Force Lee reports finding enemy equipment in Fladengreuth; ample for 100 men, amounting to rifles and machine guns. At 1720 Ln plane looked at Rugland (T0720321). A large migration to east from there. Med artillery just put 5 Bn volley on town. There are now people moving east out of town. At present time air is being put on town and no large column of enemy vehicles moving to the east. At 1730 town of Obern-Bibert is practically cleared and Task Force Lee is moving out of Fladengreuth. At 1735 B Co Task Force Lee reports they just uncovered new type of bazooka in town of Fladengreuth (T055964). At 1740, destroy the guns at Fladengreuth (T055964). At 1752 Task Force

Lee reports receiving two rounds estimated 150 MM artillery from the west on ridge vicinity Fladen-greuth (T056963). At 1753 CO notified that enemy equipment has been destroyed except a couple of samples of bazooka ammunition. At 1845 Obern-Bibert has been cleared and Task Force Ebbage is moving to clear wood approx 1 Km south. At 1825, Task Force Ebbage encounters roadblock in woods. At 1925, both forces have reached Urten-Bibert (T067953) and town is reported clear.

At 2030 CP moves into Urten-Bibert to set up for the night. At 2120: Co Commanders meeting will be in Battalion CP at 0615, 17 Apr 45. FO will be brought to meeting. Be prepared to move out at 0730B. At 2145, civilian report of unknown number of enemy tanks in woods (T985015).

April 17, 1945.

At 0615, CO meeting: orders for the day and overlay showing route of advance. Also message showing towns that will be showered with propaganda leaflets. Battalion pushed off 0730, message to CC-R 0730. At 0830 roadblocks encountered vicinity Stockheim (T0503). Engineers sent to clear it. At 1023 message to CC-R that engineers working on same roadblock. Ex O receives message from CC on change of route, then Rugland and T07592. At 1145 town of Rugland occupied, no opposition. Rugland cleared, Task Force Lee clearing Rosenberg, 1150. Rugland and Rosenberg cleared with no opposition. Enemy observed running 3000 yards to south. At 1300 B/23 encountered bazooka fire and artillery on road about 1 Km south of Rosenberg; five rounds of artillery landed in woods and Rugland (T0793). Enemy resistance encountered 500 meters southeast of Rugland. Message to CC-R from Ex O at 1310: enemy appears to be armed with SA and Panzerfaust fire. At 1335 Task Force Lee preparing to assault next objective from Rugland. Message from CC-R at 1310: All messages, info documents ex material found, to this Hq for proper action, not to be forwarded direct to higher Hq. Info given to S-2. At 1336 Task Force Lee reports seeing enemy south of Rugland in woods. At 1905 CP moved from Urten-Bibert (T069954) to Stockheim (T055940). Task Force Lee reports that he has advanced from Rugland to Neubrown (T0891). At 1425 message from S-2, CC-R: 300 enemy reported by civilians to have left Neubrown headed for Diethenhofen. S-3 to CO: Task Force Ebbage (B/17 – A/23) AG Plat /23 planning to clear woods south of Rugland. Task Force Lee pressing to Moratneustettin. At 1447 message to CC-R from Ex O: Task Force Lee moving to take town Moratneustetten. Task Force Ebbage clearing woods 500 meters southeast Rugland. At 1530 Task Force Lee cleared Moratneustetten, town outposted. At 15430 Task Force Ebbage cleared woods 200 meters southeast Rugland, moving to pass through Task Force Lee. At 1645, Task Force Ebbage to assault Zellinglingen (T092887), with Infantry mounted. S-3 message to Ex O: At 1700 Task Force Ebbage passes through Zellruglingen, continues attack area Wiehenzell (T1088). Infantry now moving in on town. Message at 1730 Ex O to CC-R: Town Wiehenzell is being entered by our Task Force Ebbage. At 1741 CP moving to Neubrown. At 1805 Wiehenzell is taken and clear. Horse-drawn enemy vehicles seen going over hill. Tanks put direct fire on them and artillery plane is up. Same time fire from enemy landed vicinity of woods, T0988. At 1810 message to CC-R: request to hold up for night in Wiehezell. At 1825 CC-R message to Ex O: Organize the positions in Weihenzell. Be prepared to continue attack 18 Apr 45. At 1845, CC-R sent to CO, 23 requesting

report on major difficulties encountered. Release 1 Prov Plat, report to CC-R after daylight Apr 18. Route will be delivered by Ln O and objective. This will probably be a coordinated attack on objective depending on Cameron and how he makes out tonight. At 1900 Task Force Lee moves into Zellruglingen; Task Force Ebbage securing Weihenzell. At 2030 Battalion CP moves to Weihenzell, closing at 2030. Task Force Lee outpost Zeebruglingen; report to CO 2100. CO tells Co Comdrs to report to CP at 0615, 18 April to receive orders.

April 18, 1945.

At 0615, Co Commanders meeting in CP: OI No. 36, CC-R Hq, 1815 Apr is given to CO. Initial objective Leuterohausen, S9481. Formation: two Task Forces (Tank Force Lee and Tank Force Ebbage). D/23 assists both forces. At 0730 Battalion moves out from Wiehenzell after artillery preparation. Ex O message to CC-R at 0845: First town on route, Wernsbach (T075877) taken. Message at 0851: Lead elements cleared Wernsbach. Message from CC-R at 0740 reports friendly troops in Ansbach. S-2, 23rd to S-2, CC-R: civilian reports road between the town the unit stayed in last night and Petersdorf mined. At 0930, message from CC-R to CO: Change direction of attack at Rossenhoff (0586) and march on Ansbach, relieve Battalion friendly Infantry now fighting in that town. Coordinated attack with 17/AIB. Ex O received message from CC-R at 0930: to our knowledge friendly troops entered Ansbach from northwest and hold that part of town; friendly troops reportedly hold ½ of town. Ln plane reports no friendly troops in northeast part. Message to CC-R at 0958: leading elements approaching Roshof (T055867), no resistance. At 1010 B/17 sent message to Ex O that Ln reports roadblocks spotted on route, entrenchments and enemy doughs. At 1022 S-3 reports that leading elements are located at coordinate T054860, approx. 800 meters south of Roshof. S-3 message to Ex O to 1030: enemy has road blown and blocked at R1053840. Many installations. At 1050 Task Force Lee is ordered to move the whole column, picking up engineers on way, turn south vicinity Schonbronn (T0628712) toward Ansbach. Message from B/17 to CO, 23rd: civilian reports roadblock with nine bombs; also, Infantry dug in; civilian was in objective one week ago. Also artillery barracks southeast and southwest of objective. Artillery emplacements outside of town. Troops in objective are SS. CO to Ex O at 1135: request air reconnaissance on resistance on location 2 ½ Km south of Roshof, vicinity RJ053840. Woods to east of that point extending across west. At 1145 Task Force Lee reports his position 1500 past turn off on Schonbronn. Firing on woods (T0786). Infantry going in dismounted. Message to CC-R requesting air strike on road at T053840. No edge of woods and woods west of RJ, we can mark target with smoke. At 1215 Lee runs into two roadblocks. On his route if he is successful in clearing entire column, to swing to his route. At 1430 S-2, CC-R reports AT guns at 054823 and 058827. Road between Kuchidout and Strueth is ready to be blown up by bombs hidden along road. Message report picked up on higher Hq channel from Infantry in Ansbach: hold two blocks in Wedgetown (0538116). CC-B is approx. 3 ½ Kms east of objective. Doughs will go in with 17th if he is there when 17th is there. Estimate 300 enemy in town. At 1530, message to CO from CC-R gives no fire. The lead elements cleared roadblock at 1520 and now located vicinity Egloffswincler (T073850), now moving to next town. At 1700 Task Force Lee being fired on by friendly troops of CC-B. Info at 1745, friendly elements are in objective west of no-fire

line and north of highway. Leading in from northeast. Elements CC-B thru objective, could find no enemy. Message from Ex O to CC-R at 1815 reports own troops moving into objective on northeast of town at 1810B, going in as far as possible until resistance met. At 1820 answer to CC-R message regarding resistance: Task Force Lee receiving fire from friendly troops. At 1900 report to CC-R that Task Force Lee entered town from north, now at south end of row house that ran northeast to southwest – Photomap Ansbach. No resistance; friendly fire being received. Mines at bend of road. Engineers on way to clear. Lee will continue south from that point, Task Force Ebbage will follow moving on Lee's left. At 1908 CO-R message to our CO as follows: Initiate reconnaissance without delay on route assigned you this AM except do not move southwest but continue west to Seuterhausen (S9481). Request information on where you can move. Our CO sent message at 1915 to CC-R: request information as to whether whole force to move on; just reconnaissance until then, also, are we to continue attack on Ansbach. At 1916 CO, CC-R message: you are to mount up and move on location given you this morning, Leuterhausen (S9481). The S-2, CC-R received message from S-2, 23rd at 2000 that 47 PWs were received and request MPs to Hennenbach. At 2015 CP to Ansbach: Bridge blown (T056821) therefore, plans for coordinating security in Ansbach were made. At 2120 message to CC-R from CO, 23rd, that Task Force Lee had been able to cross river bridge run forced by engineers. Lee and Ex O have contacted other friendly infantry from southwest. Only troops south of river in town are Task Force Lee and friendly dough outfit. Ex O still looking for route out of town. All roads found so far blocked. Our friendly elements CC-B and CC-A are north of river and are planning to stay here for tonight. At present, does not look like we can get through town tonight. If we stay here, security is a problem in south part of town; still looking for a road open going out of town; request further instructions. CO, CC-R message to CO at 2122: mission of CC-R to clear town and continue to objective, as given in OI today. At check point 11. Clear what you can tonight. Continue reconnaissance for route on straight line to check point 11. We want you to move on that road as early as possible. Note: Battalion remained in Ansbach through the night.

April 19, 1945.

At 0615, Co Commanders meeting: CO gives order for attack on Leuterhausen (S942812). Ex O had made reconnaissance at 0530B and had guides posted along route out of Ansbach.

Enemy continues to delay and defend with scattered forces in conjunction with roadblocks and mines. 12 AD continues its attack to the south; 101 Cav on its left east flank; 4th Inf Div on its right west flank, with CC-A and CC-R abreast; CC-R on the right. CC-R initial objective Leuterhausen (S91481). Axis of Advance will be for 23rd Tank Battalion: Ansbach, Lengenfeld, Leuterhause, Weissenkirchberg, Dombuhl, Dorfgutingen. Axis from this point south to be prescribed later. 23rd Tank Battalion will move on Leuterhausen as early as possible, 19 Apr 45; continue the attack south along axis given. Tns: Lehrberg, Germany (T0186). Units will report leading elements every 30 minutes.

At 0938, leading elements halted again at second underpass. It has demolitions with new type of detonator. Engineer O looking at it. Column will proceed in a few minutes. At 0952, column now

moving again. Demolition previously reported on underpass was set for demolition with 3500 pound bombs sufficient TNT to set them off. It was set with time fuse which had not been detonated. The fuse was first removed and rendered harmless, the column is now proceeding. At 1003, friendly reconnaissance elements reported moving to your first objective from northwest. Our reconnaissance elements entering same town. At 1025, B, 17 AIB is in objective, no opposition met. At 1035, leading elements one in the objective. The point indicates that he has run into mined road leading out of town to southwest. Engineers are coming up to investigate. At 1045, leading elements report bridge blown on route just outside of town. Stream is very wide, about 25 yards. Bridge is not to walk on and is still intact. If possible, put another strip on other side, bridge can be made passible.

At 1135, blown bridge is only highway bridge out of northwest of town, Leuterhausen. Mine field location previously reported was erroneous, engineers report. Engineers say they can repair bridge in two hours for our traffic. At 1145, contact was made with friendly cavalry in our objective. They report two other friendly columns operating in our area, one moving southwest from Ansbach, the other moving north from where we are going. Request information on these units from higher headquarters and their location. Engineers are now working on bridge. At 1210, what reconnaissance have you made for route northwest and southeast. At 1211 I have made personal reconnaissance of both routes mentioned. 423 is where we are working (note: 423 is bridge crossing on our route), Sundial did not go beyond 423 to northwest. The roads southeast and south are blocked by blown railroad overpasses. At 1245, no change in leading elements since last report. At 1355, leading elements moved out of Leuterhausen. At 1425, CO reports new elements in column (Plat of 116th Cav Rcn). At 1452, leading elements at Sleintachlein (S9181). At 1455, we now have a platoon of 116th Rcn attached by authority, your Headquarters. At 1505, leading elements are at Neureth (S883805). At 1515, B 17 AIB reports a field piece with broken tow left in Steinbachlan (S-4 will pick it up). At 1526, leading elements are at Schellingsfurth (S835795). At 1645, leading elements now in town of Wemitz (S824760) and have contacted friendly elements. At 1705, friendly troops in town of Schillingsfurst have troops five Km south of town and are working in a zone extending south, left boundary is approx. a north-and-south line through that town. They have cleared mines on part of our route. Other friendly elements somewhere east but exact location unknown. At 1705 leading elements held up by blown bridge at first stream south of Wemitz (S824760). At 1800 message from CC-R by messenger to CO: clear Feuchtuangen (S8866), prepare to move to assembly area west of that town in coordination with CC-B. Begin maintenance and rehabilitation. At 1805, a bypass has been formed on our route, following message sent to CC-R: At 1910, leading elements one Km west, 2 ½ Km north CP #65 (approx. 1 Km northwest of Hofen (S868741). At 1945, leading elements are located at coordinate S860735. At 1957, CO, Co A reports seeing enemy Red Cross vehicle and cloud of dust which may indicate enemy vehicles to his left approx. 300 yards south of railroad, vicinity S856750. At 2050 leading elements bypassed roadblock around woods and are in town of Dorfgutingen (S868717) and will hold town for tonight. At 2130, Battalion CP moved into Dorfgutingen to set up for the night at 2200. Following message received from CC-R: Dihedral (127 AIB) will move to assembly area in vicinity your location just after daylight. Have Sunray (CO) report to this CP at 200700B. At that time we will make plans with other COs for

attack on town Feuchtwangen. We are trying to get your location of Diplomat. Dihedral will come down behind you and be prepared to move at the usual time. No attack until orders from this Hq. At 2215, Co Commanders are assembled and told to be ready to move at 0630 next morning. Co Commanders meeting will be held when CO returns from CC-R.

April 20, 1945.

At 0515, Reconnaissance Unit attached was sent out to proceed the Battalion in the advance to objective (Furchtuagen S8966). Encountered a small amount of SA fire but enemy offered very little resistance. At 0615, CO reports to CC-R as ordered (their location Dombuhl, S8576). Returns at 0745B. Gives assembled order personnel instructions as contained in OI #38, CC-R Hq, 12 AD, dated 200730B April 1945: attack south on Feuchtwangen in conjunction with CC-B. 23rd Tank Battalion will attack along main highway from Dorfgutingen (S8771) and attack Feuchtwangen from the north. At 0839, Task Force Lee moved out in the attack 200810B. At 0835, Task Force Norton and Task Force Fields (CC-B) are on both sides of objective, they are firing on targets south of town. Task Force Fields has advanced toward west of town on high ground. At 0835, Task Force Lee made contact with our attached Cav unit. At 0805, S-2 is ordered to return immediately all 1/5000 Photomaps of Ansbach. At 0840, S-3 reports that leading elements are now entering Benzenweiller (S877696) and have made contact with our reconnaissance units; also, two PWs coming back down column. At 0840, Task Force Lee suspects enemy activity in town left of Benzenweiller, town of Leipezell (S884692) and fires into town. Doughs of Task Force Lee are in Benzenweiller. At 0910 PW reports Battalion defends town (Feuchtwangen, approx 210 men and 70), reported armed with panzerfaust and rifles. CC-B reports they discouraged their retreat with artillery fire; reports state town is to be defended to last man. At 0917 CP track moves out of Dorfgutingen to follow Battalion in the attack. At 0925, friendly elements moving in little town outside of objective (Krebshof S882675). Our cavalry unit receiving little enemy sniper fire. At 0925 CC-R tells CO that CC-B will attack town and we will assist them. We are to have Task Force Lee get into position so thaty he can assist CC-B by fire if they ask for it. Also, artillery fire line is 68 Grid Line south thereof. At 0930, our Cavalry Unit reports his position is now 1 KM from objective but will pull back 500 meters to observe everything from there. He reports five or six enemy seen dug in around tow. At 0940, Task Force Lee has cleared out all opposition north of objective. He has deployed on a 1000 yards front overlooking the objective. He is in position to support CC-B if called upon. At 1007, my men are guarding 20 PWs at northwest edge of town which we took yesterday (Durfgutingen, along route of advance). At 1045, Italian civilian laborer reports 200 enemy withdrew through this sector yesterday between 1800and 1900. Note: Battalion did not attack Feuchtuangen nor assist in the attack with fire. CC-B reported town clear by 1300. At 1330: do not move any troops into the objective until ordered by this Hq. At 1800 CO orders all units to proceed into town. At 1915 Companies closed in Feuchtuangen. CO calls meeting of Order personnel. At 1930, Order personnel meeting, following points discussed: A. Trains are released immediately. B. Best to hope for is to stay here until day after tomorrow. C. No more tracks for vehicles. D. No time to tear down motors and repair engines. E. Maintenance work will be done first thing in morning. At 2317, outpost system established by the S-3 for Feutwangen.

April 21, 1945.

The morning of this date was spent in maintenance of vehicles and weapons. At 1320, radio message received from CC-R to alert command for immediate movement. At 1330 Order personnel report to Battalion Hq to receive the orders. CO returns at 1400 and gives the orders: A. Move out within next 1 ½ hour. B. Route runs south. C. We move and sit on Division objective. D. Order of march will be: Task Force Ebbage with one section light tanks attached. Task Force Lee with one section light tanks attached. Battalion Hq Engr Trains, Med Det, Sv Co, Battalion Mt, two light tanks to tail the column for security. E. Highway from Lauchheim to Nordlingen will be general area. At 1400 message saying that trains would move with us. At 1420, CO to CC-R to receive further instructions on the movement. CO returns at 1440, gives Order personnel instructions as contained in OI #39, Hq, CC-R, 12 AD, Feuchtwagen, Germany, dated 211330, April 1945: scattered enemy resistance composed of stragglers may be expected along axis of march. CC-R moves without delay to assembly area vicinity Bopfingen and Lauchheim. Be prepared to continue the attack south or southeast, 22 Apr 45. Route of march: Feuchtwagen, Schopfloch, Dinkelsbühl, Wort, Zenbeingen, column splits and 23rd Tank Battalion follows Baldern, Rottingen, and Lauchheim. Units will sweep route of march of enemy stragglers. Unit trains march with units. Units report location of leading elements every 30 minutes.

At 1550, Task Force Ebbage, which consists of B Co/17 AIB attached to 23rd Tank Battalion, Assault Gun, Platoon/23rd, A Co, 23rd, moves out of Feuchtwagen to move to new area. At 1610 Battalion CP halftrack moves out to follow Battalion. At 1620 leading elements cleared second town on route, Lehengutingen (S8655595). At 1700 leading elements located 2 Km west, 3 Km north of CP #9 (Wolfertebronn, S8554). At 1715 leading elements located in Wort (S853510). At 1805 leading elements located in Walxheim (S891146). At 1835 leading elements now held upon Walxheim. Reconnaissance is being made of route and possible bypasses. At 1850, B Co captured two enemy during halt, request information on friendly troops in woods (8943) and (S885432). This request is made to CC-R and they have no information on these woods. B Co opens fire on this area to clear woods. At 1925, bypass is not passible, column which had halted us is moving out, we are resuming our original route, woods are now clear. At 1930, plane or glider washed to left of column vicinity Walxheim. AG Platoon leader investigates and finds it similar to a Piper Cub, with two seats side by side, has no armament, wing is torn off on left side. At 2105, column moved out again. At 2112 town of Lauchheim (8433) not cleared. You occupy town of Rottingen (S875347). Rottingen is where CC-R CP was to be. CC-R CP will be in town of Baldern (S8937). At 2237 leading elements entering town of Rottingen. At 2320, plan is to take a look at Lauchheim in morning. At 2350, Ex O requests S-3 to send guide back to lead CP and rear vehicles into Rottingen. All Companies and CP were closed in by 0005B, 22 April 1945.

April 22, 1945.

At 0045, Co Commanders and Order personnel are assembled and given order for the attack of Lauchheim, this date; following orders were given: Lauchheim (S8433) is still our objective. Reconnaissance unit will move at 0600 to investigate what is in town. Patrol will be sent to

investigate possible enemy operations east of town. Plans will be made after reconnaissance is made. At 0615, patrol of B/17 assisted by B/23 and A/23 made reconnaissance in vicinity of Lauchheim. They reported back 0715 and gave following information: enemy dug in around town and our reconnaissance elements were fired upon by the enemy. At 0730, patrol left to reconnoiter approach to objective and objective. At 0910 the following message was sent from CO, 23rd to CO, CC-R: Patrol has returned, it reached point approx. 1 ¼ KM south CP #19. Received fire from what was believed to be panzerfaust. Apprehended civilian now on way to your Hq, reports approx. 1000 troops generally in woods south of highway and east and west of objective. Terrain gives distinct advantages to enemy. Now working out plans for assault of town. Civilian also reports 10 to 12 medium artillery pieces and 10 tanks in the immediate vicinity. No artillery fire has been received as yet. At 0935, CC-R reports that there are no friendly troops to our right or right rear. At 0945, Order personnel are assembled and given order for the attack on Lauchheim.

Order given to Personnel: Reports state 1000 enemy in woods south of highway and east and west of objective, armed with 8 or 9 medium artillery pieces. Troops consist of SS, Volkstrum and Luftwaffe. CC-A, 12 AD attacks southeast. 17 AIB occupies Boffingen (S9232). This Battalion attacks to south and west in two columns, Task Force Lee on right, Task Force Ebbage on left, to seize and hold Lauchheim and railroad tunnel east thereof. All units and trains be prepared to move to Lauchheim on order. Current SOI, radio operative 1030. Axis of communication: axis of attack.

At 1142, Task Force ordered to coordinate fire on objective so Task Force Ebbage will be in position to cover the other end of town. At 1200 Task Force Ebbage is warned that some friendly troops of our provisional company will be at hole in the ground; do not fire upon them. At 1200, Co A and elements of Task Force Ebbage report that it is impossible to see if enemy is escaping from big town due to smoke. At 1203, we have heard transmission of friendly cavalry on this net. Do you have any recent information on friendly troops in or near our area? At 1210, Task Force Lee notices approx. 40 enemy to right on route. Fire has been brought on them. Also Task Force Lee is preparing to launch attack on first town on route to objective (Lippach S845363). At 1214, friendly cavalry attacking along axis west of route taken by CC-A. Cavalry last reported approximately 10 Km north of you moving south. At 1242 we are just about to assault first town 1 ½ Km north of check point #19, Lippach. Going into town as originally planned could easily result in a serious situation as enemy may command high ground south and west of town. CC-R CO tells CO to conduct operation as he sees fit, also CC-A is on the Danube River. At 1245, Task Force Lee tells CO he is now assaulting town of Lippach (845362) mounted. Two PWs were captured just before assault began. At 1310, Task Force Lee observes enemy and asks to keep his tanks firing at town. He is going to send his dismounted doughs in as soon as he halts his fire. Task Force Ebbage's situation is that his mission is very heavily obscured by smoke and he is not in town but has his men dismounted preparing to follow the attack. At 1315, all firing to cease, civilians coming out with white flag, one platoon big boys going in. At 1317, Task Force Lee's forces are entering town; Company A, part of Task Force Ebbage, is still firing and attempts are being made to contact Co A. It was later learned that CO, Co A's tank was hit by panzerfaust. His Company was stopped, however, and Task

Force Lee's troops are continuing to enter town. Note: on CO's tank, four crew members escaped and the driver was killed. At 1321 panzerfaust fire received from woods 600 meters north of CP A (S850366). At 1350 Task Force Lee occupies town. Task Force Ebbage is ordered to proceed into town; SS PW reports there was approx. 100 SS troopers in town. At 1352, Task Force Lee reports that heavy enemy artillery is now coming in town. SS PW says he knows nothing. Task Force Lee orders all troops to take cover as expecting heavy artillery fire may come on town. Sounds like rocket is nebelwerfer fire. At 1355, S-3 reports he heard eight rounds enemy artillery in his vicinity. At 1405, Task Force Lee reports artillery fire is coming from high ground vicinity of our objective. Request artillery fire. He will try to knock down all high buildings in his vicinity. At 1437, a civilian recently questioned in town just assaulted said bridge in road to our objective is mined, and also enemy is dug in along river in right angle trenches. At 1705, CO 23rd and CO, CC-R carry on the following radio transmission: We are receiving little artillery. We are preparing to push on to final objective. Stream line is mined. Bridge leading toward town is mined. CP reported 40 minutes ago that 200 enemy moved in from west. Enemy reported digging in at edge of high ground overlooking tunnel. Road is not open. Request someone to follow axis up to protect our supply and evacuation route. CC-R: Your mission is to block east and west highway, is it blocked? CO: No, it is not blocked by me. CC-R: Do you have any direct fire weapons to use on it? CO: No, I need all I have. CC-R: We must block the highway. CO: Do you still want town or do you want highway blocked? CC-R: I want town if it can easily be reasonably obtained, but I want highway blocked. CO: I don't think town can be reasonably obtained. CC-R: Then block highway. At 1640, our artillery CP was forced to leave his position due to his radio communication being out and was fired upon by the enemy as he returned. Nothing damaged. At 1800, elements of both Task Forces are returning back along route through Rottingen to get into position to cut highway from Lauchheim running east. At 1910, sighted enemy troops of undetermined number. Disposition scattered coming from a castle on high hill to the south of Lauchheim. We have taken them under fire. West of crossroads, observed an American peep running near edge of thick pine. The position of peep 50 yards south of middle of tunnel. (Note: this peep was later found to be the Ex O peep which was lost during patrol action this morning. At 1945, ground observation reports dummy or camouflage village one Km south and 1 ½ Km east of checkpoint #12. Please check as to what it might be. Coord 815330. At 2050, CO, CC-R and CO, 23rd carry on following radio transmission: CC-R: What is situation? CO: Road is physically and effectively covered by fire. CC-R: Any indication of withdrawal? CO: CP observed column moving south. CC-R: What artillery preparations are made? CO: Harassing on town tonight, interdiction on road block, interdiction and harassing fires on small town to north. CC-R: Make preparation to take town tomorrow, it must be taken tomorrow.

April 23, 1945.

At 0615, Co Commanders meeting. Given order for the attack on Lauchheim.

Operation Instruction issued by this Headquarters, 230600B Apr 45. 12th AD continues attacks; CC-A reported on Danube; CC-B is following TDs, has passed through CC-R lines. 17 AIB concentrated in

Bopfingen, S9232. 23d attacks south and west in two task forces through area now occupied by Task Force Lee (S865340). Task Force Lee on right, Task Force Ebbage on left to seize and hold Lauchheim. LD: S865340. East and west highway from Lauchheim-Bopfingen. Current SOI. Radio: operative.

At 0745, leading elements moved to attack position, coord 860335. At 0815, Task Force Lee reports visibility is about 50 yards. Tanks cannot see each other. He has a PW. Will interrogate and report what he finds. At 0825 Task Force Lee reports that PW reports 200 enemy in Lauchheim. There were 800 this morning. Enemy concentrated in Rulen, coord S824317. PW also reports enemy armed with carbines and panzerfaust. At 0830, CO tells Task Force Lee not to jump off until he gives the order. Also, Task Force Ebbage reports he is in position. S-3 reports task force still in position, visibility very poor. At 0944, Task Force Lee reports hearing friendly machine gun fire due west of our position. Request we check with higher headquarters on friendly troops. At 1000, CO reports visibility still bad but fluctuating, cannot see objective. Attack will commence as soon as visibility permits supporting fire.

At 1050, Task Force Lee reports he can see town now and can provide supporting fire. Also that he has captured two PWs. At 1105, firing heard was identified as coming from American guns. It is not considered possible to send out patrol because of distance involved and present situation. At 1125 Battalion moved in on the attack of Lauchheim. At 1159 Task Force Lee's foot troops are entering town, little resistance met, some bump gun fire but it was eliminated. At 1227, Task Force Lee reports his troops have occupied whole of objective and have town outposted at north end. At 1245, Task Force Ebbage also in town. Reports his position of town clear. At 1400, CC-R tells Ex O: We are going to move to an assembly area down on the Danube River, to town of Lauingen (S985005). Contact CO and tell him to prepare to move command. Overlay will be down later. At 1446 CC-R notified we can be ready to move by 1530B, if order and overlay are available. CC-R informs Ex O that 17 will mop up area, that we are to leave guard at tunnel vicinity Lauchheim unless relieved by CC-R. At 1539, artillery reverts to General support under Division artillery. Dihedral, 17 AIB takes over tunnel. At 1600, OI #40, Hq, CC-R, dated 23 Apr 45, movement to new assembly area on Danube is brought to new assembly area by Ln O. Overlays are made up of route and distributed to Cos in Lauchheim by the Ex O. At 1625, message from CC-R: Move your command without delay to assembly area Lauingen (S9800) by route overlay. Be prepared to attack in any direction upon arrival. At 1710, CP and emergency trains depart from Rottingen to join column coming from Lauchheim. At 1717, CC-R tells Ex O when they arrive in assembly area, establish Ln with CC-A. Their CP is in T0301, Dillengen. Ex O tells CC-R he would like our Ln O to be released to us. Please send him back now, so that he may come with us. At 1730, head of column moves out of Lauchheim. The whole column was formed by 1800 and proceeded on to new area. At 1805, leading elements entering Michelfeld. At 1809, leading elements entering Olriffingen (S885288). At 1830, CO informs CC-R that our Ln O is with us. At 1835, CC-R tells CO that guard on tunnel vicinity Lauchheim taken over by 17 AIB effective 1800. At 1840, leading elements going through town of Alchinen (S866247). At 1930, column halts getting on correct route vicinity Dillingen. At 2005, leading elements are in town Neresheim (S910205). At 2032, leading elements are passing through Dunstalkingen (S970866). At 2045, leading elements are moving through Balmertshofen, coordinate

S938115. At 2145, column has become split; one element at Wettislingen (S975057), the other at Unt-Bochingen (S933053). At 2200 columns have been coordinated, S-3 in charge of one section. They begin to move into Lauingen. At 2215, instructions to send Ln O to Dillingen first thing in the morning. At 2325, columns are in Lauingen preparing to settle in town.

April 24, 1945.

At 0045, Battalion CP reaches present location in Lauingen (S990005). Total mileage of trip from Lauchheim to Lauingen, 32 miles. At 0700, CO departs for CC-A in Dillengen (T030015) to check on their situation. Returns at 0930B. Note: CC-A has established bridgehead across Danube vicinity Dillingen. Our mission is to help defend the bridgehead. The Battalion spent the morning of this date on maintenance. Note: At 1430, message from CC-R to alert our command, less trains, for immediate movement; Battalion CO report this Headquarters immediately for orders. At 1515 CO returns and gives order for Battalion to attack bridges across Danube vicinity Leipheim. 23rd Tank Battalion moves immediately after 17 AIB. Order of attack: Task Force Ebbage, Engineer Platoon, Task Force Lee, Battalion CP. Trains (Emergency). Task Force Ebbage seize and hold bridge, Leipheim. Task Force Lee, 2d RJN Leipheim, seize and hold bridge. Rcn Platoon in front to pick our roads. Battalion trains remain present location. Current SOI. Radios – Operative.

At 1608, message received by intercept, bridge was blown at Gundelfingen (S940982) which was on route of 23d Tank Battalion. This bridge held up the 17 AIB, therefore Battalion could not move out. Reconnaissance was sent out to reconnoiter route to west and Battalion moved out at 1905 to bypass blown bridge. At 1910, message sent to CC-R that column moved out of Lauingen (S985005) into the attack. At 1835, CC-R tells Ex O that friendly Cav in vicinity Nornheim (S917867). At 1938 bridge completed 1925B, now moving across, this message from 17 AIB. At 2015, leading elements now in vicinity Gundelfingen (S945990). At 2019, S-3 notes rockets being fired from town Unt-Nedlingen (S918008), appear to be falling in Gundelfingen. At 2205, friendly Cav (101st Cav Group) vicinity of Unt-Nedlingen will establish contact with our leading elements and will work our right flank. At 2050, leading elements now located approx. 2 Km northwest of Gundelfingen. At 2121 CC-R notified that we are located at Gundelfingen (S9498). The bridge which went out estimated completion time 2200. We have patrols out of town to the south. There has been no resistance so far. We sent a force a short distance to west to clean out enemy; they then went south. At 2135, leading elements located vicinity Bachingen (S905970). At 2150, CC-R notified that no change in head of column from last report, trouble getting through terrain. It's pretty muddy. Patrols out for new route. At 2210, CO requests to know if there are any enemy or friendly airports in vicinity Gundelfingen; a plane appeared to be taking off flying across the column going south. And CC-R says there are none in the vicinity. At 2320, present location vicinity Bachingen, coordinate 900974. At 2347 no change in leading elements as last reported.

April 25, 1945.

At 0115, 101st Cav contacted us and will join column as we go by. At 0715 leading elements located at (S903977) vicinity Bachingen. Held up by canals, bridges in town blown, also bad terrain. Battalion was held at this position until 1145. This message sent to CC-R Hq. At 1105, friendly Cav requests observation by Ln plane on woods one Km northwest coordinate 9000 and town of Brenz (8999) for AT positions. At 1145, CC-R tells CO to assemble his Battalion in town he just left yesterday, Lauingen, Germany (S990005). At 1205, friendly Cav (1001st) states they have orders to cooperate closely with me and comply with my orders. Do you have any instructions? From CO to S-3, CC-R. At 1206, S-3, CC-R tells CO that 101st Cav has a mission of their own. They need no further instructions. Send your billeting parties to this town, Lauingen. Report to this Hq when you get back. At 1220, leading elements moved out vicinity Bachingen. At 1340, CP track moves out to return to Lauingen. At 14445, CP track reaches location in Lauingen (total mileage to area vicinity Bachingen and return to Lauingen: 12 miles). At 1600, CO called to CC-R. Battalion alerted for movement. At 1700 CO returns and gives order personnel, who had been assembled in Battalion CP, the following information: CC-R will establish defensive position in accordance with overlays. CC-R OI #43. 23rd moves to establish defensive position in four towns, Waldkerchen (Y030903), Winterbach (Y035888), Eichenhofen (Y025880), Hafenhofen (Y00988800). Route: Lauingen, Dillingen, Weisingen, Glott, thence four towns mentioned above. Order of march: Task Force Lee, Task Force Ebbage, Engr Plat, C-119th. Assignment town, Task Force Lee, Hoffenhofen, Eichonhofen. Task Force Ebbage with Engrs attached, Winterbach. Battalion CP, AG Platoon, Hq and Emergency trains occupy Waldkirch. Battalion trains move to Aislingen. At 1905, leading elements moved out of Lauingen. At 1925, CP track moved out of Lauingen to establish new location in Waldkirch. At 2030 leading elements report one enemy aircraft attacks head of column; one bomb was dropped to left of road. At 2045, head of column located at outskirts of Glott (Y028920), temporarily halted by herd of horses. At 2150, CC-R notifies Ex O that their CP is located at Rieder (Y990926). No further orders anticipated tonight. At 2045, CC-R notified that Battalion is closed in assigned areas. At 2200, S-3 established outpost system as shown on overlay. At 2300, message sent to be prepared to move 0730; personnel will be available for meeting any time after 0655 and report to CP on call. Battalion is notified that friendly infantry would be passing through our area. No enemy activity reported in our area.

April 26, 1945.

At 0025, 17 AIB tells CO that the 17 AIB CP located at Konzenbert (X995870). They are establishing Ln with us by patrol. At 0810, CO out to check Task Force Lee and Task Force Ebbage outposts, returns 1100B. At 1115 CO, Lt Col Clow, departs for his new assignment at CC-R. Major William A Edwards, who was a PW, a former CO of Battalion, is assuming command. At 1240, CC-R notifies Battalion that their CP is located at Durrlauingen (X9989). At 1230, CO departs for hospital, 82nd Med Battalion, and is held there as a patient; Ex O assumes command. At 1700, Service Co gives their location, Monstetten (0090). At 1914, CC-R notifies Ex O to alert his Battalion for immediate movement.

At 1930, CO to CC-R to get information, returns 2035 with information. We have been alerted to move to vicinity Dinkelscherben (Y1176). We move on Division order when Cav gets out of way. We will leave our area from Honhofen, go south, hit autobahn, then south to Dinkelscherben. Order of march, Task Force Lee; Task Force Ebbage, Platoon, C-119, Battalion CP, emergency trains. At present, establish security and prepare for movement, maybe tonight or early morning. Forces will be alerted by radio, keep radio alert. May be an adm march.

April 27, 1945.

At 0515, message from CC-R to alert our command for movement by 0700B vicinity route to be sent to you (Lt Col Clow, Commanding, Major Edwards is in hospital). At 0630, Ln O brings March Order, OI #43, CC-R Hq, 12 AD, dated 270530B April 1945, and overlay. Overlays are made up for Battalion and given to order personnel. At 0700, leading elements moved out. At 0730, CP track moves out of Waldkirch.

At 0804, Task Force Lee leading elements located at Jettingen (Y0080). At 0910, leading elements are located at Munsterhausen (Y0277). At 0945 column held up, CO changing route a little, vicinity Channhausen (Y025685). At 0950, CC-R tells Ex O to notify them when leading elements have reached Check Point 12; we will instruct you then as to assembly area 1 or 2. At 0950 CO tells Ex O that friendly infantry extends from town of Ziemetshausen (Y0770) westward for two Km. CC-A trains immediately behind them. Tail CC-A in town Thannhausen. Head of our column is at tail of CC-A trains. Friendly infantry is just about to resume movement. We will follow CC-A. At 1045, CO tells Ex O friendly infantry held up by broken bridge vicinity Ziemethausen. Their engineers are making it possible. A few vehicles have already crossed it for testing purposes. Friendly infantry are key people in mission today. At 1050, vehicles moving across bridge slowly, at request squad engineers. At 1107, leading elements located at Ziemetshausen. At 1120, CC-R tells CO to assemble at assembly area #2. At 1244, CC-R tells CO to assemble his command and refuel vicinity Konghausen (Y105592). Be prepared to continue attack from there, orders will be sent to you. At 1257, leading elements and column halt at designated position and are refueling. At 1315, Ln O brings following order from CC-R. Attack without delay along axis Immelstetten (1056), Oberanhoffen (1254), Schnierzhofen (1452), Ettringen (1749). 17 will attack along axis Traunried (1755), Siebnack (1752), Ettringen (1746). Elm's CC-A now in Ettringen. At 1325, CO, CC-R stops at CP track to consult re situation with CO. At 1330 Lt Lee and Ebbage Task Force Commanders are called to CP and given following information: A. Enemy appears to be weakening. B. They have been bombed and strafed. C. CC-B to follow our route. D. Elements CC-A is in Ettringen (1749), elements 23d attacks along following axis. Same as above. At 1432, Task Force Lee moved out 1425 and Task Force Ebbage moved out 1436. At 1525, Task Force Lee swung ahead of Ebbage and has taken town of Immelstettin. At 1530, S-2 to CC-R, leading elements entering the town of Immelstetten, report many PWs. We are evacuating PWs to town of Millet. At 1542, unestimated amount of enemy guns, truck, automobiles, motorcycles captured in woods (Y1157). Engineers given mission to take care of it. At 1600, Ex O tells CC-R requests that higher Hq round up SA in woods, grass, etc. In addition to

the number of PWs, reports state there are at least 200 men, includes two majors and some other officers. At 1615, Ex O tells CC-R that large number of SS troopers went through Immelstetten early today, approx. 500. 17 AIB has a force in Ettingen and is sending a force up into Schnershofen (140522). We will not attack that town. At 1618, Task Force Lee now approaching town of Oberanhofen (Y123545). At 1700, Task Force Lee reports he captured approx. 150 PWs. He has passed through north edge of Market Wald and has not cleared town yet. At 1705, CO tells Ex O to have Task Force Lee clean up Market Wald and reorganize and await further orders. At 1710 bridge reported out between Immelstettin and Oberanhofen (Y123545). Engineers working on it. At 1730, CO asks for someone to unload enemy Nebelwarfers at his locations. Two enemy PWs are used to unload weapons. At 1752, CO tells Ex O Lee has cleaned up Market Wald. His troops are assembled there and awaiting further orders. Eggage is working on other two towns, Anhofen (Y1354) and Steinekirsch (Y139542). Prisoners are still being found and marched back. At 1815 CC-R tells Ex O that US 1st Army and 1st Ukranian met on the Elbe at 1640B. At 1855, CO orders Task Force Ebbage to move his command to Lee's town (Market Wald) and prepare for the night. At 1935, occupation is complete of Market Wald. At 2010, CC-R tells Ex O to be prepared to move within short notice. I have no further orders but anticipate some. At 2150, CO Commanders meeting: A. Only unauthorized (sic) clothing will be worn. B. Steel helmet worn and weapon carried. C. Fraternization is to be enforced (sic). D. Only weapons will be taken from PW. E. In searching buildings, the only thing to search for is weapons and PWs in house. F. Coordinate attack when working in two Task Forces. G. We have been told to be ready to move at any time. Meeting over 2210.

April 28, 1945.

At 0600, CO calls meeting of all order personnel. At 0825, CC-R tells CO to alert his command for immediate movement, orders are enroute to your command now. At 0830, all order personnel sent for. At 0855, Ln O brings OI #44, Hq, CC-R, 12 AD, dated 280800 Apr 45.

OI #44

MAP: Germany, 1//100,000.

1. CC-R follows CC-A and CC-B across Lech River on all available bridges; bridges to be constructed vicinity (3247) and (3343), and assemble vicinity WEILHEIN (Y5521).

2. CC-R marches at once across WERTACH River at HILTENFINGER (Y2155).

Order of March:	17 AIB
	A/459 AFA
	Hq & Hq Co CC-R (plus A/572 AAA)
	23 Tk Bn
	495 AFA Bn (-)
	C/82 nd Med
	C/119 Engr

Route of march to bridge: 17 AIB and 23 Tk Bn via STEVNACH (Y1752), HOFEN (Y1955). All other units via route: MITTELNEUFNACH (Y1257), BOFEN (Y1955). Route after crossing WERTACH RIVER: route will be announced. Units will establish Ln with units they follow.

3. Tns, CC-R control; move on orders of this Hq.

At 0910 CO issues following order of movement to order personnel: A. Approx 5000 PWs taken yesterday by the Combat Command. B. CC-R moves across Lech River and assembles vicinity Weilheim (Y5521), follow CC-A and CC-B. C. Order of march: 23d Tk Bn, Task Force Ebbage – Plat C/119 Engrs, Task Force Lee, Battalion CP, Med Det, Emerg Trains. D. 23d follows 17 after it clears Niebnach. E. Rcn platoon establishes Ln with 17 AIB and Hq, Hq, CC-R and control movement of Battalion passed critical points. F. Form column immediately and get on the road. G. 10th AD on our south approx. 10Km.

At 1005, column moved out. At 1045, CC-R notified that head of column is in position to join entire column of CC-R. At 1047, CC-R notified that we are now moving out of first critical point behind the people ahead of us: 17 AIB. At 1115 CO receives new route. He has been given information. Route: Hillengfingen (Y215555), Schwabmunchen (Y2458), Lamerdingen (Y236480), Dillishausen (Y2344). At 1338 leading elements arrived at destination at 1330B. CC-R was notified. At 2045, CC-R tells Ex O to be prepared to move at daylight, order of march same as today.

April 29, 1945.

At 0710, CC-R tells Ex O that it is anticipated that we will move around 291030. Also says PW reports possible assembly area for 200 or 300 enemy preparing for counterattack vicinity (Y3558) at 290830B. At 1300, CC-R notifies Ex O to have all units send one officer and 3 EM guides to Engr bridge. Report to our Ex to guide troops over both bridges. Report at 1400. (Note: These engineer bridges are over Lech River in vicinity of Kaufering (Y3448).) At 1345 Ln O reports that CC-R will move at 1410. We follow CC-R. Order personnel informed of movement and given route as Kaufering to Weilheim (Y5521). At 1535, engineer column has cut our column and causing a little delay in our procedure over bridge. At 1538, Ex O tells CC-R the situation. We have two places to cross. Plan is to send some one way and one another. Controlled by rcn platoon leader. Engr outfit cut across our column at one bridge site and 12 AD Hq cut across other. At 1716, Task Force Ebbage reports his column has cleared bridge. Requests CC-R column location. At 1745, all vehicles except 4 have cleared bridge. At 1905, leading elements located at Noit (Y418288). At 1940, billeting parties called up to head of column to proceed group into town of Weilheim (Y5521). At 2100 companies begin closing in Weilheim. At 2200, all companies closed in Weilheim.

April 30, 1945.

At 0700, CC-R tells Ex O to be prepared for prompt movement. At 1205 CC-R tells CO to prepare one platoon medium tanks immediately for attachment to 101 Cav Officer enroute to pick them up.

(Note: Co B was given the mission, three 75MM and one 76MM medium tanks departed 1300B.) At 1815, CC-R tells CO to alert his command for immediate movement. CO, Doctor (23d Tk Bn) and Dihedral (17 AIB) report to this Hq for orders. At 1830 all order personnel assembled at Battalion CP and given the order.

OI #45.

MAP: GERMANY, 1,100,000.

1. CC-R will move immediately to clear area between Ammer-See and Wurm-See, south of the 40 grid line, paying particular attention to the main roads west of Wurm-See. Combat Command will assemble in the vicinity Starnberg (Y6940), be prepared to attack southeast on Div order.

23 Tk Battalion will send its main force along the following route: Weilheim, Kochschloss, Traubing, Starnberg, 23 Tk Battalion will also send a light force through: Pahl, Pischen, Erling, Landstetten, Parchting, Starnberg. Tns remain in present location, under CC-R control. PWs will be evacuated to axis of Hq CC-R.

At 1919 leading elements moved out. At 1926, light column moved out. Main column held up because of cross track of 17 AIB. We will have to wait until intersection is clear. At 1935, main body moves out. At 1955, CC-R is notified that light force of Task Force Lee is located at coord (Y5529), vicinity Pahl. Main body is located at (Y575290), Koshschloss. At 1950, leading elements report that SS troops are reported in Unt Hausen (Y555238). At 2004, Task Force Lee is given mission of clearing reported SS troops from town of Unt Hausen (Y555238) and Wielenbach (Y559254). He leaves column at 2022. At 2037, Task Force Ebbage located vicinity Traubing (Y6333). No opposition met as yet. At 2059, Task Force Ebbage head of column passing through Pocking (Y3665). There is a white flag on a wire stretched across the road. No opposition, only civilians in town. At 2114, Ex O tells B/17 to make coordination and occupation in objective as compact as possible. CP is pretty far back with trains. At 2200, CC-R is notified that all troops have reached objective north of the 40 grid line. At 2245, CO tells order personnel assembled at CP to plan on staying in objective but be prepared for anything.

CASUALTY REPORT FOR APRIL 1945

KILLED IN ACTION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Date Killed</u>	<u>Location</u>
Walter J Little	2d Lt	01031571	12 April 1945	Ollingen, Germany
Ward F Hilemen	Tec 5	34433405	15 April 1945	Aub, Germany
Philip W Kempf	Tec 5	11067374	22 April 1945	Feuchtwangen, Ger
Jesse E Springer	Sgt	33243148	10 April 1945	Geckenheim, Germany
Billy T Raines	Pfc	38437036	1 April 1945	Konigshofen, Germany
Maynard McFerren	Pfc	37447140	1 April 1945	Sachsenflar, Germany
Maurice J Storey	Tec 5	364404212	4 April 1945	Geinsslingen, Germany
Timothy F O'Brien	Sgt	36052917	4 April 1945	Geinsslingen, Germany

DIED OF WOUNDS

Bland F Seabaugh, Jr	Pfc	17133269	2 April 1945
Wayne F Guitteau	1 st Lt	01013625	1 April 1945
Kenneth J Detrick	S/Sgt	33666522	10 April 1945
Warren E Patterson	S/Sgt	33341687	22 April 1945

WOUNDED IN ACTION

			<u>Date Wounded</u>
Arthur Ostergaard	Tec 4	39685146	15 April 1945
William H Wards, Jr	Tec 4	38467208	1 April 1945
Howard W Sexton	Cpl	35636447	2 April 1945
Frederick H Dahnke	Pfc	36456034	4 April 1945
Harry A Mogle	Pfc	35883326	16 April 1945
Jerome W Schrader	Major	0456102	10 April 1945
Bernard S Feinberg	1 st Lt	01533779	15 April 1945
Joseph C Visco	Tec 4	32110521	1 April 1945
Matt H Smith	Tec 5	34282078	1 April 1945
Warren R Hudson	Tec 5	33382268	1 April 1945
Christopher J Mugavere	Pfc	32573614	4 April 1945
Michael J Manfineeli	Pfc	32523585	4 April 1945
Durward Dingler	Tec 4	38300377	1 April 1945
Herman E Gerhard	1 st Lt	01018685	13 April 1945
Herman E Gerhard	1 st Lt	01018685	21 April 1945
Michael J Jabbour	Tec 5	33485423	18 April 1945

WOUNDED IN ACTION, Continued

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Date Wounded</u>
Willard J Smith	Sgt	36534681	5 April 1945
Lawrence W Benz	Pvt	33685490	11 April 1945
Eugene A Doutrich	Pfc	33243192	15 April 1945
Prosper P Berthelot	Pvt	38243171	15 April 1945
Elvis L Funderburk	Pfc	39400440	15 April 1945
James H Howard	Pvt	35816169	15 April 1945
Edward T Chmiel	Sgt	31193940	15 April 1945
Richard A Short	Cpl	20325964	22 April 1945
Lawrence E Staats	Pvt	36847792	22 April 1945
James R Pryor	Pvt	35208746	22 April 1945
James D Wells	Tec 4	38278500	23 April 1945
Harry T Richart, Jr	Capt	01012729	12 April 1945
Owsley C Costlow	2d Lt	01019221	18 April 1945
Roy W Anthony	Cpl	37502390	1 April 1945
Charley Davis	Pvt	38325455	4 April 1945
George L O'Brien	Pvt	38344632	10 April 1945
Hal H Kasper	Pfc	35906303	15 April 1945
Alfred A Hall, Jr	Tec 4	13137905	12 April 1945
Raymond H Couture	Sgt	31184693	17 April 1945
Garrett L Connors, Jr	Pfc	35530711	1 April 1945
John C Lee	1 st Lt	0444563	1 April 1945
David W McBride	2d Lt	0547635	1 April 1945
William C Barnard	Pvt	38607123	1 April 1945
Lockeley V Archer	Tec 5	38691858	1 April 1945
Donald W MacConnell	Cpl	32567030	1 April 1945
Jessie B Thrasher, Jr	Sgt	38004436	1 April 1945
Franklin A Garnett	Pfc	12198751	1 April 1945
Henry Hook	Pfc	37541751	1 April 1945
Lewis J Tidwell	Tec 5	382293371	1 April 1945
Archie M Hampton	Tec 5	36720810	1 April 1945
Wilburt O Probst	Pvt	31472273	1 April 1945
James T Sadler, Jr	2d Lt	0526676	4 April 1945
Leon Lebowitz	Pfc	12127777	4 April 1945
Carlyle D Morton	Pvt	33845575	10 April 1945
Thomas S Atkins	Pvt	35816109	10 April 1945
Robert L Mitas	Tec 5	37653953	10 April 1945

WOUNDED IN ACTION, Continued

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Date Wounded</u>
Earl J Polzin	Pvt	37588917	10 April 1945
George J Schubert	Cpl	12022153	10 April 1945
Michael Crosco	Pfc	32473590	10 April 1945
Paul E Stalter	Cpl	35423298	1 April 1945
Joseph J Pietrowski	Tec 5	32552551	2 April 1945
Maurice E Dosier	Pfc	35654745	4 April 1945
Arthur J Blackburn	Tec 4	36533247	4 April 1945
Charles B Dockham	Tec 4	36404213	18 April 1945
Peter Pinto	Tec 4	32897825	18 April 1945
John J Brunetta	Tec 5	31454005	15 April 1945
Philip R Beach	2d Lt	01018214	1 April 1945

MISSING IN ACTION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Date Missing</u>
James H Wiedenhoeft	1 st Lt	0101907	3 April 1945
Paul E Feather	Tec 5	33370123	3 April 1945
Robert C Holloway	Tec 5	39685274	3 April 1945
Robert R Clark	Pfc	38341507	3 April 1945
Edmund V Uniatowski	Pvt	33104024	3 April 1945
Floyd W Adkins	Tec 5	37457193	3 April 1945
James B Welch	Cpl	39400385	4 April 1945
Robert L Cook	Tec 5	37395403	13 April 1945

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS REPORT

Silver Star

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Date of Deed and Authority</u>
JeromeW Schrader	Major	0456103	19 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec 1, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45

Bronze Star Medal

Virgil L Thorp	Capt	01010513	30 Mar 45 – GO 33, Sec VIII, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 19 Apr 45
Edward D Lucas	Lt Col	023225	17 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec X, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Albert D McElroy	Pfc	17099925	22 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec IX, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Russell Dye	Sgt	15041767	19 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec VIII, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Edward C Allen	Cpl	18072665	19 Mar 45 – GO 31, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
John L Hedrick	Tec 5	34867711	14 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec X, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Donald W Gemmill	Sgt	36863888	19 Mar 45 – GO 33, Sec IV, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Harry Basse	1 st Lt	01015542	21 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec X, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
David W McBride	2d Lt	0547635	23 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec X, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45

Bronze Star Medal, Posthumous

John E Powell	1 st Lt	01019120	18-24 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec III, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
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Certificate of Merit

Virgil L Thorp	Capt	01010513	18 Mar-7 Apr 45 – GO 31 Sec VI, Hq 12 AD dtd 14 Apr 45
Emanuel Golinko	Tec 4	39540176	19 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec VI, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
James Y Hollingsworth	Sgt	38444222	22 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec V, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
James J McCloskey, Jr	Sgt	32562559	22 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec VII, Hq 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45
Charles F Harper	Pfc	17071404	19 Mar 45 – GO 31, Sec VI, Hq, 12 AD, dtd 14 Apr 45

OFFICERS ROSTER FOR APRIL 1945

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Changes and Transfers</u>
Major	Jerome W Schrader	0456103	
Capt	James P Fortenberry	01013701	
Capt	Alan L Hann	01012557	
Capt	Harmon L Spencer	0340939	
Capt	Virgil L Thorp	01010513	
1 st Lt	Carleton B Lucas	01017716	
1 st Lt	James H Wiedenhoeft	01015907	
2d Lt	John T McBride	0547636	
2d Lt	Robert A vonDoenhoff	01315117	
Capt	Harmon L Spencer	0340939	Principle Duty changed to S-3 as of 3 Apr 45
1 st Lt	Joseph C Watson, Jr		Asgnd & Jd fr Hq Co as of 3 Apr 45; Principle Duty changed to S-2
1 st Lt	James H Wiedenhoeft		BC MIA in Germany on 3 Apr 45
Maj	Jerome W Schrader		BC LWA in Germany and trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat 10 Apr 45, Relieved of Command
Capt	James P Fortenberry		Assumes command of Battalion as of 10 Apr 45
Lt Col	Kelso G Clow	019784	Asgnd & jd fr Hq, CC-B, 12 AD, Prin Duty Bn Comdr
Maj	William A Edwards		From MIA to duty as of 24 Apr 45

Headquarters Company

1 st Lt	Howard T Rabe	01018181	
1 st Lt	Joseph C Watson, Jr	01014750	
2d Lt	Francis J Gallagher	02011676	
1 st Lt	Joseph C Watson, Jr		Trfd to Hq as of 3 Apr 45; Relieved of command of Co
1 st Lt	Howard T Rabe		Assumes command of Co as of 3 Apr 45; Principle duty changed to Hq Co Commander
2d Lt	Robert J Andre	02011787	Commissioned from enlisted status & assigned & joined from Hq Co as of 11 Apr 45; principle duty changed to Mortar Platoon Leader
2d Lt	Kenneth S North	02011504	Assigned and joined from Co B, this Battalion as of 22 Apr 45; principle duty assigned Recon Platoon Leader

Medical Detachment

Capt	Herman F Van Ark	0481465	
1 st Lt	Bernard S Feinberg	01533779	
1 st Lt	Bernard S Feinberg		BC SWA in Ger. on 15 Apr 45, trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat

OFFICERS ROSTER FOR APRIL 1945, Continued

Service Company

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Changes and Transfers</u>
Capt	Joseph R Tomkinson	01010418	
1 st Lt	Herman E Gerhard	01018685	
2d Lt	Walter J Little	01031571	
CWO	Raymond R Richardson	W2123153	
WOJG	Ronald Sutherland	W2135352	
2d Lt	Henry O Coovert	02011786	Commissioned from Enlisted Status & assigned and joined from Service Co as of 11 Apr 45
2d Lt	Walter J Little		KIA in Germany 12 Apr 45
1 st Lt	Herman E Gerhard		BC LWA in Germany 13 Apr 45; BC LWA in Germany 21 Apr 45

Company A

1 st Lt	Ernest H Garneau	01013626	
1 st Lt	Francis L Perkins	01018137	
1 st Lt	Cecil D Walston	01017342	
2d Lt	Owsley C Costlow	01019221	
2d Lt	Leslie B Miller	02010594	
1 st Lt	Francis L Perkins		NBC fr Duty to Hosp as of 28 Mar 45; Fr Hosp to Duty as of 31 Mar 45; Assumes comd of Co as of 3 Apr 45
1 st Lt	Ernest H Gerneau		Trfd to Co C this Battalion as of 3 Apr 45
2d Lt	Leslie B Miller		NBC fr Hosp to Duty as of 5 Apr 45; NBC fr Duty to Hosp as of 7 Apr 45; fr Hosp to Trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat as of 8 Apr 45; fr trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat to Duty as of 30 Apr 45
Capt	Harry T Richart, Jr		BC fr MIA to LWA in Germany on 12 Apr 45; trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat on 14 Apr 45.
2d Lt	Owsley C Costlow		BC LWA in Germany on 18 Apr 45 and trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat

OFFICERS ROSTER FOR APRIL 1945, Continued

Company B

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Changes and Transfers</u>
1 st Lt	John C Lee, Jr	0444563	
1 st Lt	Harry Basse	01015542	
1 st Lt	John E Powell	01019120	
2d Lt	David W McBride	0547635	
2d Lt	Kenneth S North	02011504	
2d Lt	Charles A Rigler	02011505	
2d Lt	Charles A Rigler		Transferred to Co D, this Battalion, as of 28 Mar 45
1 st Lt	John C Lee		BC LIA in Germany on 1 Apr 45, not hospitalized
2d Lt	Kenneth S North		From DS with 9 th Reinf Depot to Duty 20 Apr 45; trfd to Hq Co this Battalion as of 22 Apr 45
2d Lt	David W McBride		BC LIA in Germany on 18 Apr 45, not hospitalized

Company C

1 st Lt	Wayne F Guitteau	01013625	
1 st Lt	Henry S Andersen	01018179	
2d Lt	James T Sadler, Jr	0526676	
2d Lt	Edward P Vickless	02006848	
1 st Lt	Wayne F Guitteau		BC SWA and DOW on 1 Apr 45
2d Lt	James T Sadler, Jr		Assumes Command of Co as of 1 Apr 45
1 st Lt	Ernest H Garneau		Assigned and joined Co A, this Battalion on 3 Apr 45; assumes command of Co on 3 Apr 45
2d Lt	James R Bridge	02014860	Commissioned from enlisted status to assigned and joined as of 20 Apr 45

Company D

2d Lt	Philip R Beach	01018214	
2d Lt	Anthony Pawloski	01017046	
2d Lt	Raleigh B West	01017462	
2d Lt	Charles A Rigler	02011505	Assigned & joined from Co B this Bn as of 28 Apr 45
2d Lt	Philip R Beach		SWA in Ger. on 1 Apr 45 & trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat
2 nd Lt	Anthony Pawloski		Assm Comd of Co as of 3 Apr 45; prin dy chg to Co Cmdr
2d Lt	Raleigh B West		BC fr Hosp to trfd to 7 th Army Det of Pat as of 4 Apr 45