

HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80, C/O POSTMASTER, NEW YORK, N. Y.

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. Transmitted herewith is completed After Action Report, in four sections, for the month of March 1945, for this Battalion, in accordance with paragraph 10, AR 345-105, as amended by Change 3, and Memorandum Number 64, Headquarters, 80th Infantry Division, dated 24 August 1944.

2. Unit and Staff Journals, together with their supporting documents, are attached.



*John W. Browning*  
JOHN W. BROWNING  
Lt Col, 905th FA Bn  
Commanding

5 Incls:

- #1 - Section I
- #2 - Section II
- #3 - Section III
- #4 - Section IV
- #5 - Unit & Staff Journals & Supporting Documents

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20 JUL 1945

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:  
RESTRICTED  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE, Aug. 1945

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Authority NND 735017

By ED NARA Date 9-23-60

HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80, U. S. ARMY

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy. (For the Month of March 1945)  
Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Action.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in direct support of the 319th Infantry. The mission of the 319th Infantry was that of defense along the Prum River. Company "A", 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion continued in its attachment to the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion reinforced the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. Radio and wire communications both were used to higher and lower echelons. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion used the British 25 pound gun on H & I missions. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was located in vicinity of Altscheid with Command Post in Altscheid (036581), "A" Battery at (037545-8475), "B" Battery at (0422258732), "C" Battery at (0402058385), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (0403558816). The 905th Field Artillery Battalion fired the following missions: 2 Infantry, 1 mortar, 10 TOT's and 4 propaganda.

2 March - Mission, attachments, and reinforcements remained the same. Cannon Company, 319th Infantry and Company "A", 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion displaced to vicinity of Philippsweiler; Cannon Company was located at (0318862226). No missions were fired.

3 March - The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was changed to general support. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion was relieved of its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. Company "A", 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion remained attached to the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to positions in vicinity of Bickendorf, Germany. Battalion Command Post located at (118604), "A" Battery at (1148959829), "B" Battery at (1162559646), "C" Battery at (1134059540), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (11833574). Mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was changed to reinforcing the fires of the 314th Field Artillery Battalion. The only mission fired was registration observed by the Air Observation Post.

4 March - Situation remained unchanged. A Battalion forward position was reconnoitered and selected in vicinity of Malbergweich, one gun from "B" Battery was taken forward for the purpose of registration and interdiction of a bridge in St. Thomas. Due to poor visibility and extensive patrolling by the Infantry the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was unable to register. No missions were fired.

5 March - Situation remained the same except for a short period of time when the 905th Field Artillery Battalion took over the direct support of the 318th Infantry, for the 314th Field Artillery Battalion. This was done while the 314th Field Artillery Battalion displaced. There were no missions fired. Radio and wire were both used for communications.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
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Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Actions. (Continued)

6 to 7 March (inclusive) - No changes in situation. No missions fired.

8 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was alerted and moved with the 319th Infantry as a Combat Team to vicinity of Salm. The 319th Combat Team was attached to the 76th Division. While enroute the mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was changed to reinforcing the fires of the 355th Field Artillery Battalion of the 76th Division. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion went into a rendezvous at darkness prior to receipt of this order. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion bivouaced in the vicinity of Helenenbergs (145405) with the Command Post located at (145423). No missions were fired. Company "A", 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion was relieved of its attachment.

9 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was relieved of its reinforcing mission with the 355th Field Artillery Battalion prior to going into surveyed in positions and with the 319th Infantry formed the 319th Combat Team. The 319th Combat Team was ordered back to the 80th Division. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion returned to Bickendorf, Germany, billeted the Battalion in town with the Command Post at (117603).

10 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was alerted for movement to XX Corps with the 80th Division to the vicinity of Menderff, Luxembourg (U9301). A quartering party was sent with the 80th Division quartering party for the purpose of reconnoitering for Billets.

11 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved from Bickendorf, Germany to Faulbach, France.

12 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved to Irsch, Germany (172121) with the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. The 313th Field Artillery Battalion was in direct support of the 317th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was permitted one registration which was observed by Corps Air Observation Post. Plans were received for 2 hours of accompanying fires, consisting of 30 missions, for an attack made by the XX Corps. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion Command Post was located at (171122), "A" Battery at (2146512095), "B" Battery at (2157711915), "C" Battery at (2104511830), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (2123911833).

13 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. The accompanying fires for the attack of the 317th Infantry were fired. This consisted of 30 concentrations and lasted 2 hours. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was alerted to take over direct support of the 319th Infantry when committed. It was anticipated that the 319th Infantry would be committed on the south flank of the 80th Division, therefore our Forward Observers and Liaison Officers were sent to the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 319th Infantry. Cannon Company, 319th Infantry was moved to a forward position at 22581092. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion fired 17 counter battery missions, 9 Infantry, 12 H & I's, 1 Smoke, 3 Registrations and 2 hours of accompanying fires.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO # 80, U. S. ARMY



Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Actions. (Continued)

14 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion's mission was to reinforce the fires of the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to the vicinity of Oberzerf, Germany with the Command Post located at (235108), "A" Battery at (2285509425), "B" Battery (2332509820), "C" Battery at (2313509576), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry (2258009110). The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion changed to direct support of 319th Infantry. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion was given the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion fired 13 TOT's, 1 counter battery, 1 Tank, 10 H & I's, and 2 Registrations.

15 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was in direct support of the 319th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to vicinity of Greimerath with the Command Post at (236075), "A" Battery at (2340207229), "B" Battery at (2348307069), "C" Battery at (2371407254), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (2333-007025). No missions fired.

16 March - No change in mission. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to vicinity of Bergen, Command Post located at (238041), "A" Battery at (2400004416), "B" Battery at (241103519), "C" Battery at (2519003455), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (2439004150). The 905th Field Artillery Battalion fired the following missions: 3 TOT's, 5 Counter Battery, 15 Infantry, 2 machine guns, 3 tanks, 1 enemy Observation Post, 2 Smoke, 1 preparation consisting of 7 missions, and 2 registrations.

17 March - The 319th Infantry started to move early with 3rd Battalion motorized. Cannon Company, 319th Infantry was given mission of direct support of 3rd Battalion and followed in column with the Infantry. Cannon Company took up position in Nun-kirchen (346659770). The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to positions in vicinity of Niederlesheim with Command Post located at (305005), "A" Battery at (3057201220), "B" Battery at (3033800866), "C" Battery at (3005500947). The 905th Field Artillery Battalion remained there approximately 6 hours while the 319th Infantry moved forward. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion then displaced to vicinity of Nun-kirchen with the Command Post at (348987), "A" Battery at (3482498895), "B" Battery at (3353898928), "C" Battery at (3396899806), and Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (3466597770). Communication by wire to Batteries and radio communication elsewhere. The Battalion fired 2 TOT's, 2 Counter Battery, 3 H & I's, and 3 Registrations.

18 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued with its direct support mission of the 319th Infantry. The Infantry movement was very rapid and the 905th Field Artillery Battalion made two displacements. The first was to vicinity of Niederhofen with the Command Post located at (429002), "A" Battery at (42560049), "B" Battery at (42760027), "C" Battery at (42900065). The second displacement was to vicinity of Theley with the Command Post located at (491001), "A" Battery at (4905900093), "B" Battery at (4907300152), "C" Battery at (4858199726), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry was in direct support of 2d Battalion and the Cannon Company only occupied one position which was at (5218097240). Communications primarily by radio - much valuable information regarding locations of friendly front lines was received from the Air Observation and by 905th Field Artillery Battalion were 2 TOT's, 1 Counter

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APO #80, U. S. ARMY

Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Actions. (Continued)

Battery, 4 Infantry, and 1 H & I mission.



19 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued with its direct support mission of the 319th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced and took up positions in vicinity of Winterbach with the Command Post at (544974), "A" Battery at (5378497312), "B" Battery at (5430298151), "C" Battery at (54425997836). Moved again to vicinity of St. Wendel with Command Post at (597961), "A" Battery at (5985195896), "B" Battery at (599669256), "C" Battery at (602029606). Displaced again to vicinity of Bubach with Command Post at (663965), "A" Battery at (6663996307), "B" Battery at (6650096582), "C" Battery at (743952). There was only one H & I mission fired. Communication was by radio because of the fast moving situation.

20 March - The progress of the attack progressed very rapidly. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion merely stopped in vicinity of Quirnbach as a rendezvous and then proceeded to Kaiserlautern and the Battalion took up positions in the town itself. Command Post at (028938), "A" Battery at (0391193906), "B" Battery at (0448794175), "C" Battery at (0427294286). Cannon Company, 319th Infantry merely in rendezvous. Through the day Cannon Company, 319th Infantry was in direct support of ~~1st~~ Battalion on its move to Kaiserlautern. "C" Battery was attached to 3rd Battalion for a portion of the day to be in direct support of the 3rd Battalion.

21 March - The 319th Infantry was motorized and proceeded towards Ludwigshafen. The 2d Battalion was in the lead followed by Cannon Company, 319th Infantry followed by the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion went into position in the vicinity of Maxdorf with the Command Post located at (405984). "A" Battery at (3886698492), "B" Battery at (3881998156), "C" Battery at (3908698332), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (3936198274). The 315th Field Artillery Battalion was relieved of its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The mission of the 319th Infantry was changed instead of taking the town of Ludwigshafen they were to take Mutterstadt. Before actually proceeding on this mission it was changed again. Two preparations were fired for the 11th Armored on the town of Mutterstadt. No other missions were fired.

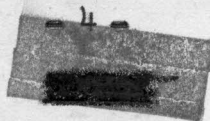
22 March - Mission of the 319th Infantry was changed and they proceeded to vicinity of Worms. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion in its direct support mission of the 319th Infantry displaced to vicinity of Pfeddersheim. The Command Post located at (391155), "A" Battery at (3832415677), "B" Battery at (3826515247), "C" Battery at (3905114961), and Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (3920914603). The position occupied was set up for a defensive situation. No missions fired.

23 to 26 March (inclusive) - On the 23rd, the 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved to vicinity of Dielkirchen with the Battalion Command Post in the City Hall of Dielkirchen. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion furnished numerous vehicles during the 4 day period for shuttling infantry to and from billeting areas. Prior to moving to Dielkirchen, Battery "A" started a registration. The registration was called off by

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Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Actions. (Continued)

Division Artillery. However, "A" Battery was the first Battery to fire over the Rhine River. On the 26th the Battalion was attached to the 319th Infantry in preparation for a movement.

27 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to vicinity of Bauschheim as part of the 319th Combat Team. The Battalion Command Post was located in Bauschheim at (46005136), "A" Battery at (4580751688), "B" Battery at (4586751930), "C" Battery at (4558151922), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (4488652106). Before arriving at these positions the 905th Field Artillery Battalion crossed the Rhine River on a pontoon bridge. The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was changed to direct support of the 319th Infantry. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion was given the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. There was one registration made and 4 missions fired on enemy AA guns being used as direct fire weapons.

28 March - The 319th Infantry crossed the Main River during the early morning hours. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to Bischofsheim with the Command Post located at (446548), "A" Battery at (4457655409), "B" Battery at (4447255065), "C" Battery at (4398454983), and Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (4500955073). At dusk the pontoon bridge across the Main River was completed and the 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved to Hochheim with the Command Post located at (443576), "A" Battery at (4435657763), "B" Battery at (442555775), "C" Battery at (4394657687), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry in rendezvous. Communications both by wire and radio. "B" Company, 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion still remained in attachment, and 315th Field Artillery Battalion continued with its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion.

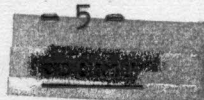
29 March - The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion remained the same. The Cannon Company, 319th Infantry accompanied the 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry motorized. One platoon of Company "B", 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion was attached to the 2d Battalion and one with the 3rd Battalion, 319th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to vicinity of Hofheim with the Command Post located at (503652), "A" Battery at (5021364947), "B" Battery at (5054765012), "C" Battery at (5011764749). The 905th Field Artillery Battalion again displaced to vicinity of Munster with the Command Post located at (519700), "A" Battery at (5176270280), "B" Battery at (520057-0433), "C" Battery at (5148070578). Attachments and reinforcements remained the same. Communication during the day was by radio because of the fast moving situation; however, at night wire communications were installed. No missions fired.

30 March - The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion remained the same. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion made a displacement to vicinity of Gressen Buseck with the Command Post located at (74237), "A" Battery at (7399523491), "B" Battery at (7428523432), "C" Battery at (7373823837), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (740622-4297). Attached and reinforcing units remained the same. No missions fired.

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Section I - Summary of Daily Operations and Actions. (Continued)

31 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion furnished vehicles to shuttle Infantry to forward location and upon the return of the vehicles the 905th Field Artillery Battalion displaced to the vicinity of Raboldshausen with the Command Post at (260585), "A" Battery at (26045902), "B" Battery at (25705874), "C" Battery at (26105850), Cannon Company, 319th Infantry at (25755822). The march was approximately 54 miles. Radio communication was used, no wire to higher echelons. No missions fired.



*Oswald H. Linck*

OSWALD H. LINCK

Maj, FA

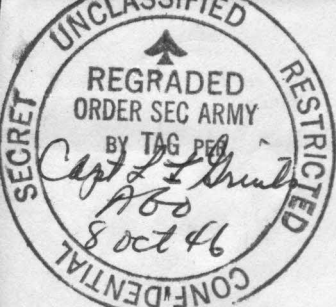
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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80, U.S. ARMY

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy. (For the month of March 1945)  
Section II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C.



1 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in direct support of the 319th Infantry Regiment. There was slight contact with enemy infantry elements in the vicinity of the 1st Battalion near Mael, Germany. Air observation posts of the 80th Infantry Division Artillery reported 9 enemy tanks during the morning. One dug in tank was destroyed by fire adjusted from the air observation post. In the early afternoon, enemy infantry were observed withdrawing north of Plutsheid and an enemy column was observed moving east in the vicinity of St. Thomas. Four propaganda missions were fired by the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. Infantry elements took 5 prisoners from Combat Team Kolp who reported they retreated one thousand meters during the morning due to the attack on their flank. The total prisoners thus far for the operation by the 319th Infantry Regiment are 1262.

2 March - A large ammunition dump was reported with booby traps attached to all types of ammunition. Air observation posts reconnoitered the Kyll River for possible crossing sites.

3 March - Some enemy artillery fire was received during the day. One nebelwerfer position was reported by the air observation post.

4 March - The enemy was cleared from the Kyllburg area during the period.

5 March - Prisoners of war reported an enemy minefield sown with American mines. Further progress of the 4th Armored Division was reported. Some enemy tanks and horse drawn artillery were observed by forward elements during the day. Several prisoners were taken from the 9th V.G. Division. Instructions were given to secure areas for the maintenance of equipment and the rehabilitation of personnel.

6-10 March - Rapid advances of the 4th Armored Division were noted.

10 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, as a component part of the 319th Combat Team, moved to the vicinity of Eisenach-Gilzem to reinforce the 76th Infantry Division

11 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion returned to the vicinity of Bickendorf, Germany--its reinforcing mission terminated. Approximately 15 rounds of enemy artillery fire fell in the vicinity of "D" Battery.

12 March - Forward observers and a liaison officer were sent to the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. Some artillery fire fell in the vicinity of Oberzerf. Resistance varied along the sector of advance. A ground observation post was surveyed in.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
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(Section II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc., continued)

13 March - Considerable resistance was reported in the vicinity of Greimerath, Germany. Friendly elements received heavy nebelwerfer fire in the wooded area to the north of Greimerath. Prisoners reported two nebelwerfer batteries in the vicinity of Greimerath. Tanks and self-propelled guns operated against forward infantry elements. Mortar fire was reported during the period. Task Force Davisson operated on the right flank of the 319th Infantry Regiment. Prisoners were taken from the 712th Regiment, 416th Division. Our infantry elements took 39 prisoners.

14 March - Fifteen tanks were reported south of Britten. The 905th air observation post destroyed two tanks during the afternoon. Our infantry elements received direct fire in their advance. The infantry took 28 prisoners. Units identified were Combat Team Klincke and Combat Team Hancke. Prisoners stated they were ordered to retreat to the vicinity of Britten. Nebelwerfer fire was received during the afternoon. Small arms fire was received from pillboxes in the sector of advance.

15 March - Enemy vehicular traffic into Losheim was noted. Enemy tanks were reported east and south of Losheim. Six rounds of 150mm artillery were reported. The 2nd Battalion met considerable resistance from pillboxes south of Greimerath. Enemy columns were reported withdrawing to the east. Our infantry elements took 72 prisoners who reported that they had detrucked in Losheim on the previous night and were ordered to counter-attack toward Britten on the night of 15 March. Prisoners reported the location of three 150mm guns and a nebelwerfer battery. Prisoners also reported enemy tanks in Britten and Losheim. Excellent results were obtained from TOTs on the town of Hausbach. The 2nd Battalion received small arms and machine gun fire on its move toward Losheim.

16 March - Infantry elements reported one self-propelled gun knocked out in Britten. Prisoners stated that Losheim was held by four companies of approximately twenty-five men each. One enemy tank was destroyed by our air observation post. Five guns were destroyed or neutralized west of Losheim. The exodus of the enemy from Losheim was noted. The 2nd Battalion received artillery and mortar fire in their attack on Losheim. The air observation post was especially helpful in reporting the forward location of infantry elements. Several rounds of light artillery fell in the "C" Battery position area. As a result of the TOT on Hausbach, on the previous evening, five nebelwerfers, two self-propelled guns, three halftracks, one volkwagon, two horsedrawn vehicles were destroyed or damaged. Groups of enemy dead attested to the effectiveness of our artillery fire. Our infantry elements took 585 prisoners.

17 March - "C" Battery took 4 prisoners. Several rounds of artillery, estimated 105mm, fell in the batteries position area near Niederlosheim. The 3rd Battalion moved with "D" Battery attached, from Britten in the shuttle movement behind the 10th Armored Division. The 905th displaced to Niederlosheim with the infantry elements moving forward slowly.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
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(Section II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc., continued)

17 March continued - Roadblocks, supported by small arms fire, hindered the advance of the forward elements. The air observation post reconnoitered for crossings of the Prims River. The 3rd Battalion received considerable nebelwerfer fire during midafternoon. Enemy guns in the vicinity of Bettingen, Germany, were fired upon. Enemy columns were reported moving to the east at 1500. An adjustment on a nebelwerfer was obtained by the air observation post and the location of an enemy battery was reported. One hundred eighty-four prisoners were taken. Roadblocks and some resistance by enemy infantry hindered the advance of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions.

18 March - The infantry elements rapidly advanced behind the 10th Armored Division. Enemy infantry were observed withdrawing to the east during the morning and afternoon. An air observation post located a three gun enemy battery west of St. Wendel. Headquarters Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion took one prisoner. Elements of the 10th Armored Division were held up by tanks, self-propelled guns, and infantry. Five U.S. tanks were destroyed west of St. Wendel. Approximately 300 prisoners were taken by our infantry elements during the period. Elements of the 10th Armored Division were fighting in Marpingen at the close of the period. Enemy artillery was sporadic throughout the day, but Marpingen received considerable artillery fire during the late afternoon and evening from the vicinity of Sotzweiler. Enemy defense lines extended in a semi-circle one thousand meters west of St. Wendel and on the high ground east of Marpingen where an estimated battalion of infantry was dug in. Our air observation post received machine gun and 20mm fire west of St. Wendel in the late afternoon.

19 March - The 319th Combat Team (motorized) followed the 10th Armored Division into St. Wendel and through to the east. Headquarters Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion captured eleven prisoners in the town of Bubach.

20 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion made a rapid motor march from Bubach to Kaiserlautern. Thirty-two prisoners were captured during the day.

21 March - Some artillery and small arms fire was reported in Ruchheim, Germany, during the late evening. Some artillery fire was reported in Oggersheim. Enemy civilians reported that the enemy was engaged in transporting poison gas across the Rhine in the vicinity of Ludwigshafen-Mannheim. Civilians further reported that fifteen field artillery pieces were in position in Ludwigshafen plus a number of tanks and green troops. After the artillery preparation on Mutterstadt, the enemy withdrew from the town after attempting to slow the advance of our armored elements with mortar fire. Our infantry elements took approximately 250 prisoners during the period. The location of one self-propelled gun was reported by a liaison officer.

22 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved to the vicinity of Pfeddersheim and liaison was established with the 11th Armored Division Artillery.

23 - 25 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion occupied an assembly area near Dielkirchen.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80, U.S. ARMY

(Section II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc., continued)

28 March - Infantry elements south of the Main River received some artillery and mortar fire. 88mm anti-aircraft guns, used as artillery, harassed towns behind the infantry lines. "D" Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion received fourteen rounds of artillery fire during the morning. A forward observer obtained adjustments on two enemy 88mm guns in the early evening. Some small arms and machine gun fire was received by the infantry as they moved across the Main River by boat. Six hundred and eighty-seven prisoners were taken by the 319th Combat Team. One anti-aircraft prisoner of war reported large numbers of 88mm anti-aircraft guns in the Weisbaden area. The use of dummy aircraft by the enemy was observed.

29 March - Infantry elements moved forward rapidly against no resistance. Prisoners and stragglers were easily taken.

30 March - The 319th Combat Team moved by motor on an autobahn to the vicinity of Grossen Buseck. There was no resistance in the sector of advance. Headquarters Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion captured two prisoners.

31 March - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion took fifty-three prisoners in Raboldshausen. Several enemy aircraft flew over the 319th Regimental sector during the period.

The end of the period found the enemy slowly facing destruction from encircling and pressure moves of allied forces. Elements of the 166th and 356th Divisions were attempting a fortress stand of Kassel and its vicinity. The breakthrough of the Saar Basin defenses, the crossing of the Rhine and Main Rivers, the destruction of enormous quantities of materiel and the capture of thousands of prisoners made further determined stands of the enemy questionable. The enemy was estimated to be capable of making small counter-attacks supported by tanks.

Comments and Observations:

1. Due to rapid movement in the Saar Basin breakthrough, maps of 1/100,000 scale often were the only scale available. The distribution of 1/25,000 maps lagged behind the tactical situation.

2. Radio communication was, in general, satisfactory despite distance, terrain, and the tactical situation.

3. Instruction on military occupation must be stressed. Orientation of all personnel on local situations is imperative.



*Eldred M. Swingen*  
ELDRED M. SWINGEN  
Capt, 905th FA Bn  
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By ED NARA Date 9-23-60



SUPPLY OFFICE  
905th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO 80, United States Army

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy  
Section III Logistics, Supply Procedure, Problems

TO : The Adjutant General  
Washington, D.C.



1. In accordance with Paragraph 10, AR 345-105, as amended by Change 3, the following report is submitted for the calender month of March 1945:

a. Class I Supplies: No problems.

b. Class II Supplies:

(1) Clothing and Equipment:

(a) Jacket field OD, M1943 - size 34-R difficult to obtain.

(b) Boot, service, combat - EE widths not available.

(c) Tire 750 x 20 - replacement slow.

(2) Expendable Supplies:

(a) Parts for range field M1937 - especially tube, fuel, air; stem, flame, valve; tube, manifold complete; - not available.

(b) Celluloid, transparent - not available in sufficient quantities.

c. Class III Supplies: No problems.

d. Class IV Supplies: None authorized.

e. Class V Supplies: No problems.

2. Medical Supply and Evacuation.

No new difficulties or problems were evident during the past month. Limitation of transportation continues to be our greatest problem.

3. Comments, Observations, Recommendations:

The rapidly moving situation during the last part of March immediately preceding and after the Rhine crossing focuses attention once again on the extreme limitations of our transportation facilities. Heretofor, this difficulty has been met and solved by shuttling the equipment and supplies not able to be carried on the first move. This is completely unsatisfactory when the organization moves as much as 50 miles per day without knowing when or where it is going to stop.

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By ED NARA Date 9-23-00

(1)

Class I & III Supply points, as well as the supporting Ordnance Company have been so far back that almost a whole day must be spent in traveling to and from their locations. This also, while expected in such a situation, puts an additional strain on our transportation. Can. only recommend the off repeated request that our transportation be augmented.



*Lester H. Salter*  
LESTER H. SALTER  
CAPT., FA  
S-4

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Authority NND 735017

By ED NARA Date 9-23-60

HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80, U. S. ARMY

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.  
Section IV, Personnel and Allied Administration for Month of  
March 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. In accordance with paragraph 10, AR 345-105 as amended by Change 3, the  
following report is submitted for calendar month of March 1945:

TABLE NUMBER 1.

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY  
(Figures taken from Battle Casualty Reports up to and  
(Source of Information)  
including 31 Mar 45 for period 1 Mar 45 to 31 Mar 45.  
(Date) (Dates)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>LIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>RTD's</u>
13 Mar			1			1	
14 Mar							2
15 Mar			1			1	
<hr/>							
TOTAL			2			2	2

TABLE NUMBER 2.

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PW's</u>
25 Mar	88
28 Mar	83
30 Mar	52
<hr/>	
TOTAL	223

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TABLE NUMBER 3.

REINFORCEMENTS RECEIVED  
(Including Hospital Returnees)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
14 Mar	2
15 Mar	1
25 Mar	1
26 Mar	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>5</u>



TABLE NUMBER 4.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Decorations awarded from 1 Mar 45 to 31 Mar 45, inclusive.  
(Date) (Date)

NO.

- 1 Silver Star
- 3 Oak-Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star
- 12 Bronze Star Medal
- 1 Soldier Medal
- 4 Oak-Leaf Cluster to Air Medal
- 1 French Award (Creix de Guerre)
- 5 Purple Heart

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2. Graves Registrations - None.
3. Battlefield Appointments - None.
4. Special Service - At every opportunity the Special Service Officer arranged movies for the men.
5. Comments, observations and recommendations:

All administrative and personnel work of the Battalion was satisfactorily accomplished by the Personnel Section in the Division Rear Echelon. All enlisted men and officers were paid for the month of March 1945 on 3 April 1945.



*William M. Gosman*

WILLIAM M. GOSMAN  
Major, 905th FA Bn.  
Exec and S-1

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by NND 735017

NARA Date 9-23-00