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* AUTH: CG, 87th Inf Div *
* INIT: CB *
* DATE: 3 May 1945 *
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HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

HISTORICAL RECORD

(After Action Against the Enemy Report)

1 April 1945 - 30 April 1945 Incl.

1-43

ANNEXES

A. S-3, S-3 Journal.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

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APR. '45

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3. Own Operations:

1 April 1945 - 4 April 1945: Battalion in assembly area in vicinity Villmar, Germany, Coor: WM3299, Map #131, Germany, 1/50,000. During this period Battalion doing maintenance and care and cleaning of material.

5 April 1945 - Battalion displace to positions in vicinity Dienkilrode, Germany, Coor: MH5145, Map #131, Germany, 1/50,000. Bn not in firing position.

6 April 1945 - Battalion displace to positions in vicinity Asbeck, Germany, Coor: WH9440, Map S-5, Germany, 1/100,000. CP established. Btries laid and ready to fire.

7 April 1945 - Battalion displace to positions in vicinity Unt Schonau, Germany, Coor: WJ0138, Map S-5, Germany, 1/100,000. CP established. Btries laid and ready to fire.

8 April 1945 - 9 April 1945: Battalion maintaining positions in vicinity Unt Schonau, Germany. Firing on enemy personnel.

10 April 1945 - 17 April 1945: During this period the Battalion moved forward daily. Fired daily on enemy personnel. Listed below is a list of the CPs established during this period:

TIME & DATE	CP LOCATION	COOR
101200 Apr 45	Oberhof, Ger.	WJ1138, S-5, Germany, 1/100,000
111500 Apr 45	Elgersberg, Ger.	WJ3820, " " "
111700 Apr 45	Unterporlitz "	WJ2638, " " "
121030 Apr 45	Grafinau Arngstald	WJ4038 " " "
121530 Apr 45	Rottenback, Ger	WJ4237 " " "
131030 Apr 45	Bad Blankenberg	WJ5037 " " "
131700 Apr 45	Aue Am Berg, Ger	WJ5335 " " "
141500 Apr 45	Kamesdorf, Ger	WJ6334, S-6, Germany, 1/100,000
141930 Apr 45	Ranis, Ger	WJ7036 " " "
151400 Apr 45	Kila, Ger	WJ7036 " " "
151700 Apr 45	Volkmannsdorf, Ger	WJ8231 " " "
161000 Apr 45	Wustendiffsdorf	WJ9128 " " "
161330 Apr 45	Mehelheuer, Ger	WK0525 " " "
161700 Apr 45	Neundorf, Ger	WK0189 " " "
171115 Apr 45	Oberlosa, Ger	WK1416 " " "

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16 April 1945 - 26 April 1945: Battalion maintaining position in vicinity Oberlosa, Germany. Firing daily. Bn doing maintenance and care and cleaning of material.

27 April 1945 - 30 April 1945: Battalion remains in position in vicinity Oberlosa, Germany. Firing each day. Following drill schedule and doing maintenance and care and cleaning of material.

NOTES: During the month of April the Battalion has moved forward rapidly. Have always been in the support of the Infantry. Morale has been extremely high throughout the month due to the successes of the Allied Forces. During month of April Battalion fired 95 missions for a total of 1844 rounds expended.

4. SUPPLY:

a. Class I - During the entire month of April the only food supplies available were K, C, or 10/1 rations. It is believed that K and C rations are inadequate over long periods of time. 10/1 rations are more desirable and palatable.

b. Class II - Due to the rapidly moving situation Class II supplies were very limited and often non-existing.

c. Class III - Supplies of gasoline and oil were generally satisfactory. As our offensive progressed supply stocks became smaller while our demands increased. Though supplies never became extinct, oil stocks got so low as to cause considerable concern at one time. However all shortages were made up in time so as to not hamper operations.

d. Class IV - No activity.

e. Class V - Ammunition supplies were more than adequate for the situation. However, white phosphorous smoke was never available in the quanities desired.

f. General: All supply difficulties during April were caused by the rapidly moving situation. Difficulty was had in maintaining contact with supply agencies and it was only through the combined maximum efforts of every man concerned that supplies continued to move forward fast enough so as not to hinder operations.

5. LESSONS LEARNED:

a. In a fast moving situation, reconnaissance parties should not be limited to a few vehicles. Two per Battery is a good number plus a half-track with a 50 Cal. AA mount. This half-track in itself acted as a good "convincer" to bypassed Germans.

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(Par 5 - Lessons Learned Contd)

b. During the fast moving situation we found it necessary to have a computor and S-3 or Assistant S-3 ride in radio vehicle near leading Battery, to keep abreast of the situation and be ready to pull off road and start shooting when called for.

c. We used the 1/100,000 for all control; grid sheet for firing chart. Found the 1/100,000 sufficiently accurate for any firing, but made a point of registering in any H & I fires which would be unobserved during the night.

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INIT:
DATE: 3 May 1945

HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

3 May 1945

Extract of Unit Journal

Location: Villmar, Germany
WM3299, Map # 131
Germany, 1/50,000

Date : 1 April 1945

L-643

1 Apr 1945

0930 Bn now under Div Arty control.
1000 Gen Ford arrives CP.
1030 Gen Ford & Bn Comdr dept for Btries.
1130 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1300 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1430 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1800 Bn a waiting orders to move. Now in assembly area. Church Services held for the Battalion.

2 Apr 1945

0900 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1030 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1100 Bn doing maintenance and care & cleaning of material.
1300 Bn furnishes trucks to Regt to haul PW's.
1600 Bn Comdr dept for Div Arty.
1930 Bn Comdr rt to CP.

3 Apr 1945

0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1000 Bn furnishes trucks to haul Infantry forward.
1045 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1300 Bn doing maintenance and care & cleaning of material.
1630 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1730 Bn Comdr rt to CP.

4 Apr 1945

0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1030 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1300 Bn S-1 with Fwd party dept for new area in new zone.
1600 Bn receive orders to motor march 6 April 1945.

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5 Apr 1945

0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1100 Bn receives orders to cross IP at 1300, 5 April 1945.
1115 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1300 Bn cross IP in order "A""B""C" Hq & Sv.
1930 Bn arrive new positions in vicinity Dienkilrode, Germany Coord: WH5145, Map #131, Germany, 1/50,000.
2000 Bn not in firing position.

6 Apr 1945

0230 CP guard captures 2 prisoners. 1 escaped.
0730 Bn Comdr dept for Div Arty.
0900 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1000 Bn Comdr & party dept forward on rcn.
1645 Bn dept for new positions in order "A""B""C" Hq & sv.
2045 Bn arrives new positions in vicinity of Asback, Germany. Coord: WH9440, Map S-5, Germany, 1/100,000. Btries displaced in position to fire. CP established.

7 Apr 1945

0800 No firing throughout night.
0815 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
0915 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
0930 536th FA Bn now reinforcing Bn.
1000 Infantry moving forward. 1st Bn & 3rd Bn meeting little resistance. 2d Bn in reserve.
1300 Bn Comdr & party dept forward on Rcn.
1400 Bn dept on mtr march in order "A""B""C" Hq & Sv.
1705 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity of Unt Schonau, Germany. Coord: WJ0138, May S-5, Germany 1/100,000. Btries laid & rdy to fire. CP established.

8 Apr 1945

0600 No firing throughout night.
0900 OLC presented to 1st Lt Holloway by Bn Comdr
0930 949th FA Bn now reinforcing Bn.
0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
0945 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1000 Observation being made fr air. Mission being fired by plane.
1000 Bn Comdr dept on Rcn.
1130 Bn Comdr rt to CP
1200 Gen Ford arrives CP.
1300 Rec report that Liaison plane shot down. 1st Lt Holloway and S/Sgt Rheinhardt unaccounted for.
1400 Rec report that Lt Levy WIA while trying to get to wrecked plane.
1500 "A" Btry displace to new positions 100 yds N of "B" Btry.
1500 Bn firing registration.

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S E C R E T

9 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty - 205 rds ex, 2 Reg, 7 H&Is, 4 TO.
0900 Infantry meeting resistance. Bn supporting Infantry with observed fire and scheduled fires.

10 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 155 rds ex, 1 reg, 3 H&Is, 1 TO.
1200 Bn displace to positions in vicinity Oberhof, Germany. Coord: WJ1138, Sheet #5, Germany, 1/100,000.

11 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 427 rds, ex, 1 Reg, 2 prep, 6 H&Is, 6 TO.
1300 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1500 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Elgersburg, Germany, Coord: WJ 3820, Sheet S-5, Germany 1/100,000.
1630 Bn Comdr & party on Rcn for new positions.
1700 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Unterporlitz, Germany, Coord: WJ2638, Map S-5, Germany, 1/100,000.
2000 Registration by "A" Btry completed.

12 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-190 rds ex, 1 Reg, 5 H&Is, 5 TOs.
0900 Bn Comdr & party dept on Rcn.
1030 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Grafinau Arngstald, Germany, Coor: WJ4038, Sheet S-5, Germany, 1/100,000.
1530 Bn displace to Rottenback, WJ4237, Sheet S-5, Ger,1/100,000.
1600 336th FA Bn reld of Reinforcing Bn.
1600 334th FA Bn now reinforcing Bn.

13 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-81 rds ex, 1 Reg, 1 prep.
0900 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1030 Bn displace to positions in vic Bad Blankenberg, Germany. Coord: WJ5037, Sheet S-5, Germany 1:100,000.
1400 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1700 Bn displace to position in vic Aue Am Berg, Germany. Coor: WJ5335, S-5, Germa ny, 1/100,000.

14 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-193 rds ex, 1 reg, 1 prep, 6 TO.
0900 Bn Comdrdept for Regt CO.
0930 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1500 Bn displace to positions in vicinity Kamesdorf, Germany. Coor: WJ6334, Sheet S-6, 1:100,000. Germany
1530 Jeep of Btry "A" in wreck while with Rcn party fr this position; Capt Taylor Culbert, Wounded; 1st Sgt Evert L. Fillip, Wounded; Cpl Shermany Long, died while enroute to hospital.

14 Apr 1945 Contd

1930 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Ranis, Germany. Coor: WJ7036, Sheet S-6, Germany, 1/100,000.

15 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-30 rds ex, 2 H&Is.
0900 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1000 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1300 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1400 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Kila, Germany. Coor: WJ7036, Sheet S-6, Germany, 1:100,000.
1700 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1730 Bn displace to positions in vicinity Volkmansdorf, Germany. Coor: WJ8231, Sheet S-6, Germany, 1:100,000.

L-643

16 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-103 rds ex, 1 reg, 4 TO
1000 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Wustendiffsdorf, Germany, Coor:WJ9128, Sheet S-6, Germany, 1:100,000.
1330 Bn displace to Mehlheuer, WK0525, S-6, Germany, 1:100,000.
1700 Bn displace to Neundorf, WK0189, S-6, Germany, 1:100,000 & while reconnaisance was being made for this position 104 Nazis were captured by the Rcn Party.

17 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-69 rds ex, 1 reg, 2 H&Is
1000 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1115 Bn displace to new positions in vicinity Oberlosa, Germany, Coor: WK1416, S-6, 1:100,000.
1200 Bn rec orders that Division's mission is defensive.
1300 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material.

18 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 19 rds ex, 1 Reg.
1200 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material.
1400 Bn planning to move in near future.

19 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-17 rds ex, 1 reg, 1 H&I.
0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1115 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1200 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material.
1800 Bn Comdr presents Sgt Medina and Sgt Lasher with Bronze Star.

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20 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 41 rds ex, 1 Reg, 1 TOT
1030 Gen Ford arrives CP.
1045 Gen Ford with Bn Comdr dept CP to inspect Btries.
1115 Gen Ford speaks to troops in "B" Btry Area.
1400 Bn Comdr presents Cpl Niemczak with Bronze Star Ribbon.
1600 No action on front. Bn to maintain present position.

21 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-61 rds ex, 1 reg, 3 [redacted]s.
0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1100 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1400 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1600 Bn Comdr rt to CO.
1800 Bn receives notes fr Higher Headquarters in regard to contact with Russians in near future. This Bn to maintain present position.

22 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-50 rds ex, 1 reg, 2 TO.
0930 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1030 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1500 Protestant services held for Bn.
1600 Bronze Star Ribbon presented to Cpl Charles O'Neil by Bn Comdr.
1800 Bn maintaining present position. Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material.

23 Apr 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 8 rds ex, 1 TO
1200 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material. Front is quiet. Div remains on defensive.

24 Apr 1945

0600 A m rpt to Div Arty- 8 rds ex, 1 TO.
1200 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material. Div remains on defensive.

25 Apr 1945

1200 Bn doing maintenance and cleaning of material. Div remains on defensive.
1500 Am rpt to DivArty-9 rds ex, 1 TO.

26 Apr 1945

1800 Bn doint maintenance and cleaning of material.

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26 Apr 1945 Contd

1300 Bn S-3 departs for Div Arty.
1500 Am rpt to Div Arty- 13 rds ex, 1 reg.
1730 Bn S-3 rt to CP.

27 Apr 1945

1200 Bn following drill schedule.
1500 Am rpt to Div Arty- 21 rds ex, 1 TO

28 Apr 1945

1200 Bn following drill schedule.
1500 Am rpt to Div Arty- 34 rds ex, 2 H&Is, 1 TO.

L-673

29 Apr 1945

1200 Bn given opportunity for church services.
1500 Am rpt to Div Arty-46 rds ex, 1 reg, 3 H&Is, 1 TO.

30 Apr 1945

1200 Bn following drill schedule.
1500 Am rpt to Div Arty-64 rds ex, 4 H&Is, 2 TO.
1500 Gen Ford arrives CP.
1630 Bn Comdr presents Sgt H.L.Long with Bronze star Ribbon.

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HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

3 May 1945

L-6-43
(1)

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of April 1945.

TO : AG, U S Army, Washington, D. C.
(Through Channels)

1. Personnel:

a. Total effective strength:

(1) At beginning of period 1 April 1945:

Officers	33
Warrant Officers	2
Enlisted Men	467

(2) At end of period 30 April 1945:

Officers	32
Warrant Officers	2
Enlisted Men	469

b. Killed in Action:

Officers	0
Warrant Officers	0
Enlisted Men	0

Wounded in Action

Officers	2
Warrant Officers	0
Enlisted Men	0

Missing in Action

Officers	0
Warrant Officers	0
Enlisted Men	1

c. Reinforcements:

Officers	2
Warrant Officers	0
Enlisted Men	5

d. Other changes: 1 O's ES; 1 O's RTD; 1 O's Trfd:
17 EM ES; 15 EM RTD

2. Enemy Artillery Action: None

CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 27 May 46

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