

OPD  
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HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #80 U.S. Army

6 March 1945

**SUBJECT:** After Action Report for period 1 February 1945 to 28 February 1945 inclusive. (Section I - Summary of daily operations and action).

**TO :** The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Channels).

1. NARRATIVE OF EVENTS:

a. At the beginning of the period, the 80th Infantry Division occupied defensive positions, 313th Field Artillery Battalion in position vicinity of ERMSDORF, LUXEMBOURG with the mission of general support of the division and reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. From 1 Feb through 6 Feb there was little activity either enemy or friendly. Schools were held for the new officers in the battalion. Gunnery schools, and radio schools were held for all forward observers and their parties. Defensive positions were improved. Some recreational facilities were available. During this period fire control was exercised over the tanks from Co A, 702nd Tank Bn.

b. On the morning of 7 Feb 45 the division attacked, in conjunction with a coordinated attack by the XII Corps, the SIEGFRIED LINE. The battalion fired a ninety five minute preparation and accompanying fire for the attack which was launched successfully. The OUR RIVER was crossed and the attack carried to the pillboxes and bunkers of the SIEGFRIED LINE. From the 7 Feb through the 12 Feb the battalion continued to reinforce the fires of the 905th FA Bn. During this time fire control was exercised over the fires of the tanks from Co A, 702nd Tk Bn and destroyers from Co B, 811th TD Bn.

c. On 13 Feb 45 the mission of the battalion was changed to direct support of the 317th Inf. The battalion displaced to new positions in the vicinity of BEAUFORT, LUXEMBOURG in order to support the attack by the 317th Inf which had been committed in that sector. The 512th FA Bn was given the mission of reinforcing our fires. The attack was continued and on 15 Feb 45 the howitzer batteries again displaced to the east.

d. On 16 Feb 45 the first elements of the battalion entered GERMANY when D Btry displaced to positions north of BOLLENDORF. Reconnaissance was made for positions for the remainder of the battalion and on 17 Feb the remaining batteries (less Service) crossed the OUR RIVER and occupied positions north of BOLLENDORF. The attack continued and on 17 Feb D Btry displaced to a new position in the vicinity of BIESDORF, GERMANY. Reconnaissance was made for new position in the vicinity of ROHRBACH, GERMANY and on 20 Feb 45 the battalion displaced to these positions.

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