

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

6 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 inclusive. (Section I - Summary of daily operations and action).

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

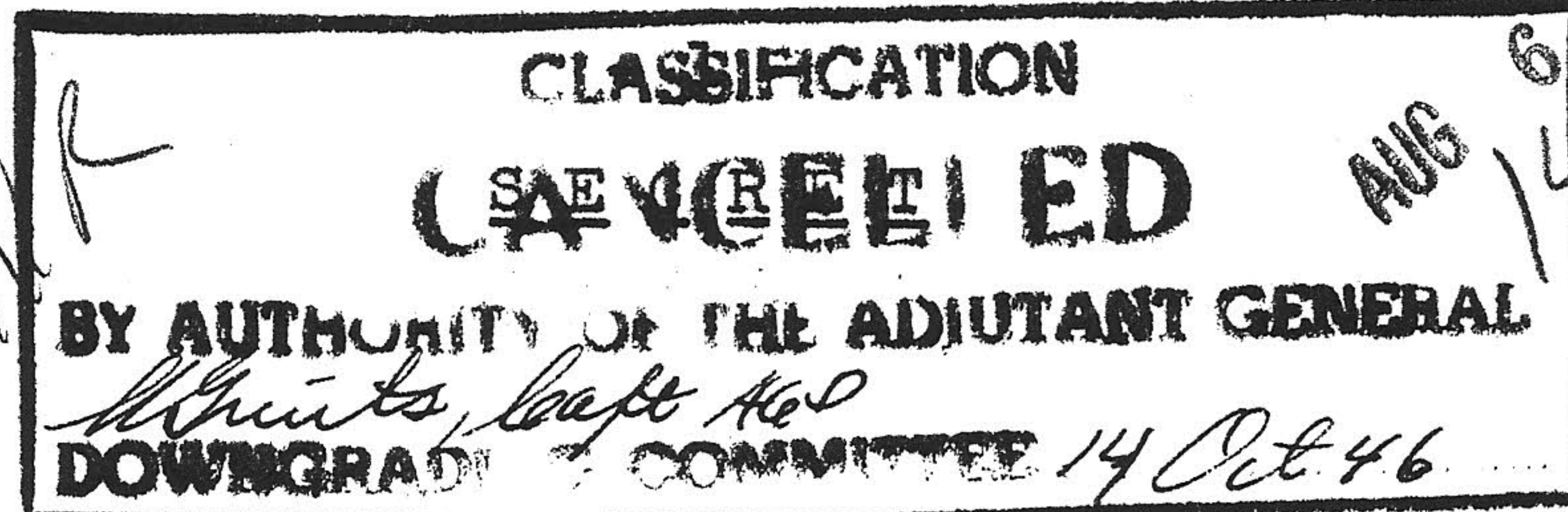
1. NARRATIVE OF EVENTS:

a. 1 May 1945: On opening date of this report the Battalion was in position at GATTERING (54.5-22.1), mission direct support of 317th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division. The combat team was in contact with the enemy. Company A, 94 Chemical Mortar Battalion was attached for fire control. At 1845 hours battalion displaced to GOTTRIEDINGER SCHWAIGE (53.1-16.8), closing at 1015 hours. Prepared to continue pursuit of the enemy to the South and East in support of 317th Infantry. One mission was fired on enemy infantry. Company A, 94th Mortar Battalion was relieved from attached for fire control at 1300 hours.

b. 2 May 1945: At 1415 hours the Battalion displaced to vicinity of GANGKOFEN (56.9-36.0), closing at 1900 hours, no change in mission, no missions fired. 752nd F.A. Battalion relieved from mission of reinforcing our fires.

c. 3 May 1945: At 1230 hours the Battalion displaced to vicinity of ANTERS DORF (91.07-76), closing at 1700 hours. Prepared to cross into Austria and advance to the South and East in support of the 317th Infantry. No missions fired. 284th F.A. Bn. reinforcing our fires at 1300 hours.

d. 4 May 1945: At 0900 the Battalion crossed the Inn River and occupied firing positions near ATZING (97.8-68.9). Mission of Combat Team 317th was to advance rapidly to the South and East and make contact with Russian forces along the ENNS RIVER. At 1545 hours the battalion displaced to TIMELKAM (37.5-57.0), closing at 2000 hours. Two missions were fired on this date. The first section of "A" Battery fired 5 rounds, direct laying at 1800 hours on enemy infantry in a woods at coordinates 26754863. At 1920 hours a check point registration was made by "A" Battery using the Air OP. This was the last combat firing by the Battalion prior to cessation of hostilities in this theatre. 284th F.A. Bn. relieved of mission of reinforcing our fires 0950 hours.



(After Action Report, continued)

e. 5 May 1945: At 0845 hours Battalion displaced to STEINBACH (87.0-51.2), closing at 2000 hours. It appeared that all enemy resistance had ceased. Very little opposition was met during the day. Large numbers of the enemy were encountered along the roads, all marching to our rear.

f. 6 May 1945: At 1100 hours the Battalion moved to the west of the STEYR RIVER to WALDENEUKIRCHEN (85.9-53.9), closing at 1230 hours. No organized resistance by the enemy.

g. 7 May 1945: At 0200 hours the Battalion marched to an assembly area at KIRCHDORF (76.5-43.1), closing at 0500 hours. Mission to support T.F.Smythe. At 0700 hours displaced to firing positions in the vicinity of MICHELDORF (77.7-40.0), closing at 0830 hours. At 1600 hours displaced to GARSTEN (93.7-23.8), closing at 1730 hours. There was no resistance offered by the enemy and no missions were fired.

h. 8-12 May 1945: In position vicinity of GARSTEN (93.7-23.8), no change in mission. No missions fired. At 1300 hours 12 May 1945 the battalion was relieved from mission of support of T.F.Smythe and displaced to assembly area vicinity of RUSTORF (51.1-56.3), closing at 1700 hours.

i. 13-31 May 1945: Battalion bivouaced in the vicinity of RUSTORF (51.1-56.3). Mission of the battalion was to rehabilitate personnel and equipment, establish road blocks and guard posts, operate motorized patrols and escort allied Prisoners of War and Displaced Persons through the Division Area. Preparations made for initiation of I and E program. Athletic programs were started and maximum advantage taken of passes, furloughs and recreation trips to surrounding points of interest.

2. SUMMARY

a. Missions fired:

Infantry	2 (1 direct laying)
Registrations	2

TOTAL MISSIONS	4
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Average number of rounds per mission	7.2 rds.
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Percent of total missions fired which were observed missions:	100 %
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(After action Report, continued)

- b. SURVEY - Survey control taken from the 1/100,00 scale maps. No other available during the period.
- c. COMMUNICATIONS - Wire was the primary means of communication between battalion and batteries, radio with Liaison section and forward observers.
- d. AIR OP - The Air OP continued to be the best means of observation. The need for two observers with the Air Section is apparent. Two missions were fired by the Air OP, both registrations.
- e. AMMUNITION - Ammunition supply was adequate and was expended as follows during the period:

	<u>M-2</u>
Shell, HE, Fuze M48	24
Shell, Smoke, WP	5
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Total Rounds Fired	29

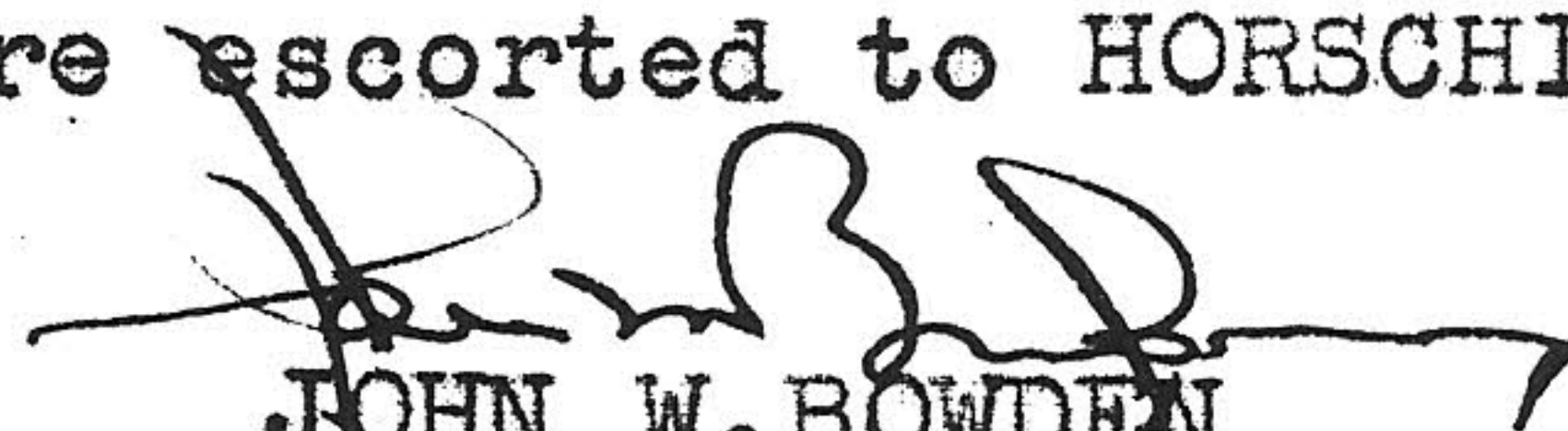
f. PATROLS - Two routine motorized patrols are in operation in the battalion zone of responsibility. Strength of each patrol, 1 NCO, 2 Pvts, and 1 driver. Transportation used 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ton C and R. Mission of Patrols to maintain law and order, investigate suspicious activity, and direct PW and DP stragglers.

g. GUARDED INSTALLATIONS - A guard consisting of 1-0, 1-Sgt. and 6 Pvts is maintained at V 57614311. This guard is responsible for a German ammunition dump containing assorted small arms ammunition. A guard consisting of 1-0, 1-Sgt. 3-Cpls and 15 Pvts is maintained at V 52115064 (STEYRERMUHL). This guard is responsible for law and order at a Russian and Polish DP camp.

h. ROAD BLOCK - A road block is in operation at V 5031 5625 (RUSTROF). Strength 1-NCO and 3 EM. Mission to stop all vehicles and check to determine that tickets and Military Government passes are in order.

i. APW's and DP's- Russian Prisoners of War and Displaced persons were escorted by train from MATTINGSHOVEN TO LEOBEN. Allied Prisoners of War and Displaced persons were escorted by train from LEOBEN TO HORSCHING.

5000 Russian PW's and DP's were escorted to LEOBEN
4066 Allied PW's and DP's were escorted to HORSCHING


JOHN W. BOWDEN
Major, FA,
S-3

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

6 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 inclusive.
(Section II - Intelligence Operations).

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

1. At the beginning of the period covered by this report the division was in contact with the enemy along the ISAR and GROSSE VILS Rivers. The forces we were in contact with were scattered elements of the 36th VGD, 38th SS Div. NIBELUNGEN, 25th SS Hunyadi Div, and various AA, Repl, AT, and other miscellaneous units. This array of units was never coordinated or unified into an effective fighting machine.

2. Following the entry of the Division into AUSTRIA in the vicinity of BRANAU the enemy offered no resistance except for occasional small groups of snipers.

3. After the announcement of the surrender of the German Forces the main tasks of the division were processing the thousands of PW's, handling the displaced persons, and searching out the "war criminals". During the subsequent days many high Nazi officials were flushed from their hiding places and placed under arrest.

4. During the period the Division captured 137, 827 Germans, prisoners of war, bringing the total to date to 202,828. 25,338 prisoners of war were discharged during the period.

John W. Bussey
JOHN W. BUSSEY
Captain, FA,
S-2

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

6 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Period 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945, inclusive. (Section III - Logistics, Supply Procedure, Problems).

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


1. Class I Supply: Operational rations consisting of 10 - 1, Ks', or Cs' were used. Rations were issued on schedule, and under the conditions were very satisfactory.

2. Class II Supply: Some items such as wool shirts and trousers, herringbone shirts and trousers, and certain sizes of shoes became very critical.

3. Class III Supply: Gasoline was very critical, but prior planning and conservative measures carried out by officers and men, helped the Battalion in this emergency. When gasoline was unobtainable through normal channels, each vehicle had a reserve stock, 50 gallons were carried on each GMC or 2½ ton, 35 gallons were carried on each 1½ ton, 30 gallons were carried on each 3/4 ton, and 10 gallons were carried on each ¼ ton. The Battalion was part of a task force and with this reserve was able to give full support to the force until gasoline could be furnished by the Division Quartermaster.

4. Battalion Motors: It has been found by this organization that recalling the Battery mechanics periodically and placing them under Battalion control, each vehicle can receive a 6,000 mile check within a month. It has proven beneficial in regard to motor vehicle performance. Lack of critical items has hindered both 1,000 mile maintenances and 6,000 mile maintenances, i. e., Brake Fluid. Ordnance was located too far away and too much precious time was lost in traveling.

5. Ammunition: The supply and distribution of ammunition was good at all times.


A. L. SERVILIO,
Captain, FA,
S-4.

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APO #80 U. S. Army

6 June 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945, inclusive. (Section IV - Personnel and Allied Administration).

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

TABLE NUMBER 1

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY

(Figures taken from Morning Report up to and including
(Source of information)
31 May 1945 for the period 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 inclusive.

<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>
2 May							3
4 May							2
5 May							2
6 May			1			1	
9 May							1
10 May							3
11 May							2
12 May							1
14 May							1
16 May							1
17 May							2
18 May							1
21 May							2
22 May							1
23 May							1
24 May							1
28 May							1
29 May							1
30 May							1
31 May							1
TOTAL			<u>1</u>			<u>1</u>	<u>28</u>

CANNON COMPANY, 317TH INFANTRY (atchd)

<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>
2 May							1
4 May							1
8 May							2
10 May							1

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(After Action Report, continued)

<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>
11 May							1
14 May							1
15 May							1
18 May							1
22 May							1
24 May							2
27 May							1
31 May							1
TOTAL							<u>14</u>

TABLE NUMBER 2.

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PW's</u>
	None

TABLE NUMBER 3.

REINFORCEMENTS RECEIVED
(Including Hospital Returnees)
317th Cannon Company included in figures.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>No.</u>
2 May	4
4 May	3
5 May	2
8 May	2
9 May	1
10 May	4
11 May	3
12 May	1
14 May	2
15 May	1
16 May	1
17 May	2
18 May	2
21 May	2
22 May	2
23 May	1
24 May	3
25 May	1
27 May	8
28 May	1
29 May	1
30 May	1
31 May	2
TOTAL	<u>50</u>

(After Action Report continued)

TABLE NUMBER 4.

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	NND 7 35017
By	CO NARA Date 6-14-04

AWARD AND DECORATIONS

Decorations awarded from 1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 inclusive. (317th Cannon Company included in figures).

No.

3	Air Medal
3	Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal
6	Bronze Star Medal
2	Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal
3	Purple Heart Award
1	Bronze Service Arrowhead.

2. Payment of Battalion: All officers and enlisted men of the Battalion and Cannon Company, 317th Infantry, were paid on 31 May 1945.

M. R. Callaway
M. R. CALLAWAY,
WOJG, USA,
Personnel Officer.

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