

File: Hq 317, S-4 A/A APRIL 45

HEADQUARTERS 317TH INFANTRY
APO #60, U. S. ARMY

L. L. 17
1 May 1945 (3)

Subject: After Action Report (S-4)

To : The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D. C.
(Thru Channels)

The rapid advance of all elements of the Regiment in pursuit of the enemy continued during the month of April 1945.

Class I supply consisted chiefly of operational rations; "Ten-in-One" and "E", with frequent issues of supplements of bread, meat and coffee. This added variety to the monotony of the packaged ration. The policy of compulsory issue and acceptance of "C" rations is no longer effective.

Class II resupply has been most difficult. The greatly extended supply lines and insufficient transportation facilities together with the relatively low priority of Class II were principally responsible. Some Class II was received during the month. Laundry facilities were inadequate but by virtue of dispatching vehicles 150 miles with soiled clothing, sufficient laundry was obtained for one change of clothing. The latter part of April, while billeted out of contact with the enemy, showdown inspections of all T/O & E organizational equipment and an inspection of all TS-21 individual clothing and equipment were conducted. Valuable information relative to status of supply was obtained.

Class III was always available in sufficient quantities. Occasionally a delay of hours was encountered in obtaining resupply. The extensive motorized operations of the Regiment demanded large quantities of fuel.

Demand for Class IV supply was moderate.

Class V demands, considering the whole month, were moderate. The operation against Erfurt, Germany developed a demand for 81mm mortar ammunition which could not be filled within the Army Zone for several days. Quantities on hand within the Regiment proved sufficient until additional ammunition was available.

The swiftly moving operations which characterized the advance of the Combat Team in April brought few medical problems. Casualties were light and evacuation proceeded smoothly. In general, evacuation routes were long, but good roads and the use of vehicles made the factor negligible. There were no unusual epidemics and the health of the command was excellent.

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The elimination of automatic issue of 50 per cent "C" Rations when operational rations are drawn has resulted in a material reduction of wasted rations.

The inclusion in T/O & E for the Infantry Regiment of one or preferably two 2 1/2 ton trucks with the principal use of resupply of Class III is highly desirable.

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