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HEADQUARTERS 305TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 80, United States Army

AFTER ACTION REPORT

S-2, April 1945

April 7-18:

During the forward movement of the Division from Gotha to Chemnitz, the Reconnaissance Section made rapid road and bridge reconnaissance. Apr 15

A detailed study of the Autobahn Highway was made in the form of a strip map (Eisenach to Chemnitz). A sketch of another variation of the wood box-type mine, which was found in Weimar, was reproduced and included with the Daily Engineer Report. A combination road, bridge, river, and terrain study was made of the Division sector (Erfurt - Weimar - Jena area).

The Photo Section made pictures of the Autobahn and the atrocities at Ohrdruf.

April 19-28:

The Division, placed in Corps reserve, moved to an area near Bamberg. The Reconnaissance Section made extensive road and bridge reconnaissance in Corps Sector.

Here two Russian Aircraft Identification charts were produced. Intelligence Bulletin Number 13, "Enemy Delayed Action Demolitions", was published. A two sheet study on road and bridge classification was produced of the Corps Sector (Nurnberg - Amberg - Regensburg, and Danube River area).

Still in Corps reserve, the Division moved to Nurnberg. Here two river studies were made. The first one of the Danube River in the Corps sector. The second study was of the Isar River in the Corps sector.

The Photo Section made pictures of Nurnberg.

April 29 - May 1:

The Division went into action again near Regensburg on the south-east side of the Danube River, relieving the 65th Infantry Division.

The Reconnaissance Section obtained road and bridge information in the Division sector.

A study is being made of the Inn River to be released 3 May 1945.

The Photo Section made pictures of the Danube - Regensburg bridge site.

At close of period, the Division continued to attack to the south-east over the Isar River.

Richard H. Foerster
RICHARD H! FOERSTER
Captain, CE
Battalion S-2.

#31

MASTER
31 JUL 1945
10435

HEADQUARTERS 305TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 80, United States Army

AFTER ACTION REPORT

S-3, April 1945

1. Period 1-6 April: Kassel area, Germany. Battalion CP located at Homberg, Germany, 1-3 April; and at Oberzwehren, Germany, 4-6 April.

After having crossed the Rhine River in March 1945, the 80th Infantry Division pushed northeast from Weisbaden, Germany, against no resistance until in the vicinity of Homberg, Germany, immediately south of Kassel. From 1-6 April the Division was engaged in operations which led to the fall of one of Germany's largest rail and communications centers, Kassel. Kassel had to be surrounded before it capitulated, this action involving the three infantry regiments of the Divisions and consequently the three letters companies of the battalion. A few mines were encountered along the roads, especially in the shoulders, both wooden box and telegraph lines. Road work was consequently important, with many burned vehicles, including five tiger tanks and a number of trucks and civilian automobiles left in the way of traffic by the retreating enemy as they withdrew into Kassel. Log cribs and sperres were also removed, one or the other type appearing at the entrances and exits of almost every town between Homberg and Kassel. Explosives left on trees to have been used in creating abatis but which were never executed, enemy artillery pieces, and much ammunition were destroyed in quantity. Once inside Kassel itself all companies, along with the help of the 206th Engineer Combat Battalion, in support of the 305th, cleared debris and opened streets to allow traffic to flow freely.

2. Period 7-17 April: Area Gotha east to vicinity Chemnitz. Battalion CP located at Gotha, Germany, 7-11 April; Dietendorf, Germany, 12 April; Weimar, Germany, 13 April; Gera, Germany, 14-15 April; and Kandler, Germany, 16-17 April.

Following the capture of Kassel, the 80th Infantry Division was dispatched southeast to Gotha, where the Division mission was to follow and mop up behind the 4th Armored Division as it moved east from Gotha towards Chemnitz. The battalion assembled in Gotha; then as the Division went east to take Erfurt, Jena, and Gera, the companies supported their respective regiments in engineer functions. Company B cleared road blocks and debris in the approaches and streets of Erfurt alone. C Company installed 36 feet of fixed treadway near Jena, while A Company did the same in the vicinity of Erfurt. From Gotha eastward the Reichautobahn was reconnoitered by the battalion for utilization by the Division and used from the vicinity of Gotha past Weimar, Jena, and Gera, to vicinity of Chemnitz. Three Bailey bridges were constructed by the 206th Engineer Combat Battalion, supporting the 305th, over gaps in the autobahn. Also, one fixed treadway span of 24 feet and one small timber tread span were put in. Towns in the regimental sectors were systematically checked for booby-traps. No booby traps were discovered, although in several

instances the equipment and accessories for planting same were located in prominent buildings, as if to indicate that booby trapping had been planned but not executed for some reason. The period ended when the Division caught up to the 4th Armored Division just west of Chemnitz. After a day's stop there, however, the 80th was assembled and sent south to vicinity of Bamberg, Germany.

3. Period 18-30 April: Area Bamberg-Nurnberg-Regensburg. Battalion CP located at Schesblitz, Germany, 18-22 April; Nurnberg, Germany, 23-28 April; Regensburg, Germany, 29 April; and Ergolsbach, Germany, 30 April.

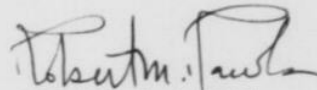
Upon receipt of movement orders at Kandler, Germany, for the Division to go to Bamberg area, the 206th Engineer Battalion was removed from support of the 305th Engineer Battalion. The battalion moved via Gera, vicinity Erfurt, and Arnstadt to a concentration area at Schesblitz, where most of five days were devoted to cleaning up engineer and personal equipment, re-emphasizing the non-fraternization policy, and instruction in identification of Russian aircraft. As the XX Corps advanced swiftly south from Bamberg, the 80th Division, in Corps reserve, followed, moving next to the city of Nurnberg. Here the battalion continued the work of previous engineers in clearing some debris and removing and destroying a considerable quantity of enemy explosives, ammunition, and panzerfausts, and artillery pieces. The main roads in town were worked over, to the extent that unavoidable craters were filled or smoothed over and larger ones distinctly marked to prevent accidents. The main streets were also marked and posted with signs to aid in traffic circulation and convoy control in and through the city. With the crossing of the Danube River and subsequent capture of Regensburg by the 65th Division, the 80th Division passed through the 65th and went forward. At this time the 179th Engineer Combat Battalion, 1154th Engineer Combat Group, came into support of the 305th Engineer Battalion. The 80th Division followed the 13th Armored Division to the Isar River, with little necessary engineer work required. No bridges having been caught intact over the Isar River, the 305th instituted reconnaissance and crossed with assault boats the combat elements of the 318th and 319th Infantry regiments and one battalion of the 317th Infantry. This was done successfully, while the 179th Engineer Battalion assembled equipment preparatory to constructing a floating treadway bridge and ferry on the Isar in the vicinity of Dingolfing and Manning, respectively.

4. Comments, Observations, and Recommendations:

a. During the first two periods, the 206th Engineer Battalion, 1139th Engineer Group, supported the battalion. Treadway and Bailey Bridges were constructed in several instances, so as to allow main thoroughfares to be open to MSR supply and traffic. The mission basis was followed between this battalion and the 206th. This worked well in some instances; however, in others it slowed down progress somewhat more than if continuous aggressive reconnaissance had been furthered and pushed by the 206th.

After Action Report, Apr 45
305 Engr C Bn, S-1 (cont'd)

b. It became very evident during the latter period that the supporting engineer battalion should have attached to or with it constantly at least three trucks of 36 feet of fixed trestway each and one unit of Bailey Bridge, 130 feet of Double Double Bailey. Otherwise, under the fast pace of a moving situation such as occurred during the third period of operations indicated above too much time was lost in negotiating for equipment which should have been foreseen as necessary in the approaching action.



ROBERT M. RAWLS
Major, CE
Executive Officer.

HEADQUARTERS 305TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 80, United States Army

AFTER ACTION REPORT

S-4, April 1945

April 1: Drew 1250 gallons of gasoline, 15 gallons of oil SAE 30, and 5 gallons of oil, SAE 90.

Rations were not drawn today. Gasoline was given priority because of the rapid moves and the distance covered in order to keep the German on the run, and possibly overrun. Companies, therefore, had to consume one of their five day reserve rations.

Two water point men had been evacuated, causing a decrease in our section.

Since the companies had been traveling rapidly for the past two days, they did not draw Class III supplies until today. Therefore, this caused us to draw an additional 1420 gallons of gasoline.

April 2: PX rations were only drawn. Gasoline was still given priority over other supplies.

Had received location of a captured German Engineer Dump. Upon investigation some 2500 rolls of Tape, Scotch, 150 rolls of Tape, Tracing were found and put into our stock for issue to divisional units. Our critical shortage list was considerably decreased by finding the Scotch Tape.

Submitted March Monthly Action Report to S-1.

April 3: The following Class III supplies were drawn: 1580 gallons of gasoline. This was captured German gasoline which was issued by the Division Class III Depot because our gasoline was difficult to secure due to transportation problems. As it was, our gasoline was being flown to the front line troops.

Drew initial issue of two (2) 1/4 ton trailers, and one (1) 1/4 ton truck as replacement for one damaged in action.

April 4: Upon reaching a new bivouac area, this office was informed of the whereabouts of a captured German Engineer Dump. It contained such equipment and supplies as Waders, Hip, Paddles, Axes, S Shovels, Carpenter Tool Sets, and miscellaneous topographic supplies. The following were removed from the dump and issued to divisional units in lieu of American made equipment: Topographic Supplies, Shovels, and Waders, Hip.

840 gallons of gasoline, 165 gallons of diesel, 55 gallons of Oil SAE 30 and 20 gallons of Oil SAE 90.

April 5: Picked up nine (9) German Reconnaissance Boats and issued them to our line companies, who preferred these larger reconnaissance boats to our 2 man type.

April 6: Drew captured German Rations from the Class I Dump and issued them as supplemental rations to companies.

1120 gallons of gasoline were drawn today.

After Action Report APRIL 1945
305 Engr C Bn, S-4, (cont'd)

April 7: Had sent for Engineer Class II supplies to Mainz, Germany. But Depot was not set up for operations, and therefore, we had to go to Arlon, Belgium in order to obtain any supplies. 700 miles were covered.

Submitted Engineer Critical Shortage List and Weekly Battlefield Recovered Equipment Report to G-4-

April 8: Took two Generators to Engineer Maintenance for Repair.

Picked up a German 4 1/2 ton truck for the purpose of hauling excess supplies. Truck did not have body or cab and the next few days were spent in obtaining and placing them upon the truck.

Drew new Tractor, D7, Trailer, 20 ton, and 1 Generator, 3KW from Arlon, Belgium.

1530 gallons of gasoline were drawn from Class III Depot.

Investigated captured German Engineer Dump for supplies, but all that we could reissue to troops was some China Marking Pencils.

April 9: Received message from higher headquarters to turn in woolen clothing, such as Mackinaws, Overcoats, Mufflers and Ski Socks.

Went in search of metal for making signs. Since the Engineer Class II Depot was considerable distance away, time spent in traveling back and forth would be useless because the signs were needed within twenty four hours. Discovered metal works, containing plenty of metal and two cutting machine, one operated manually, the other by electricity. However, the city had been damaged considerably by bombs, and this damaged the electric system. We, therefore, took our 30 KW generator and wired the machine for operations. In that manner we were able to cut 2,000 signs within two hours.

Drew 1400 gallons of gasoline, 40 gallons of Oil SAE 30, and 10 lbs of Water Pump Grease, 150 gals of Diesel.

Critical shortage of 27 Watches, wrist, 15 jewel for Officers were received from Ordnance.

April 10: Picked up and turned in to Ordnance the following battlefield recovered equipment: 13 Rifles, US Cal. 30 M1, 1 Rifle, US Cal. 30 M1903, 1 Gun, Submachine, Cal. 45 M3, 1 Carbine, US Cal. 30 M1, 1 Bayonet M1 w/Scabbard M7.

Received message concerning location of German Plastic Acetate. Picked up enough to satisfy all divisional units. This was a very critical item.

Published Supply Bulletin 18.

April 11: Sent two generators to Engineer Maintenance for repair, and received two others that had already been repaired.

The Class III items drawn today were: 2000 gallons of gasoline.

B Company's 16 Ton Trailer broke down, and could not be repaired quickly enough to aid them in transporting their Tractor. Therefore, arrangements were made with the Engineer Maintenance Company to exchange it for a serviceable one.

After Action Report, Apr 1945
305 Engr C Bn, S-4 (cont'd)

April 12: Returned 300 excess gasoline cans to Class III Depot.
Drew 700 10-1 rations, 4 pounds Coffee, 400 pounds bread.
20 gallons of Diesel oil and 5 gallons of kerosene were drawn.
Lost 2 men and 1 2 1/2 ton truck in action along with one day's rations for A Company.

April 13: Drew 700 10 in 1 rations, and supplemental rations, such as 42 pounds Coffee, 147 pounds meat and 210 pounds Bread.
Moved to new area.

April 14: Submitted Engineer Critical Shortage List and Weekly Battlefield Recovered Equipment Report to G-4.

Discovered German Quartermaster Dump, and picked up Sprayer, insecticide, fly paper, and pencils. The Pencils were issued to divisional units, and the other supplies issued to our companies.

Drew 500 gallons of gasoline.

Moved to new bivouac area.

German truck broke down, and had to be pulled to bivouac area.

April 15: Class I supplies drawn today were: 880 10-1 rations, supplementals such as 210 pounds bread, 40 pounds Coffee, and 128 pounds meat.

Picked up 20 gallons of Red Paint found in an abandoned German building, and put it in our stock for issue.

The following Class III Supplies were drawn: 1440 gallons of gasoline, 110 gallons of Oil SAE 30, 75 gallons of Diesel oil, and 10 lbs of General Purpose Grease

Published Supply Bulletin 19.

April 16: C Company brought in some captured German Quartermaster equipment such as Lanterns, gasoline, and Mantles. These in turn were issued to the other companies.

Received message from G-4 to issue sniper scopes to the Infantry units.

Drew 55 gallons of Oil SAE 30, 300 gallons of gasoline.

April 17: Picked up 540 10-1 rations, 160 C rations and the following supplementals 28 pounds Coffee, 210 pounds Bread and 147 pounds of meat.

110 gallons of Oil SAE 30, and 1050 gallons of gasoline, were drawn.

Drew Engineer Class II Supplies.

Message was received from higher headquarters to turn in all captured German Vehicles.

April 18: Sent one (1) Generator, 3KW and one (1) Pump, water, centrifugal for repair to the Engineer Maintenance.

Drew 700 10 in 1 rations, and also supplementals as 30 Coffee, and 210 pounds Bread.

Submitted requests to G-4 to retain 5 Captured German Vehicle.

Drew 170 gallons of Diesel oil, 90 gallons of Oil SAE 90, and 1440 gallons of gasoline.

Moved to bivouac area.

After Action Report, April 1945
305 Engr C Bn, S (con't)

April 19: Arrived in new bivouac area after traveling some 16 hours.

Motor Transportation Officer had to return some 50 miles to pick up disabled 4 ton Truck, which was hauling our excess lumber. The lumber had to be abandoned in order to move the 4 ton truck.

April 20: Class I supplies received today were: 520 10 in 1's, 132 K's and 180 C rations, and also supplementals as 13 pounds Coffee, 147 pounds Meat, and 210 pounds Bread.

Drew 100 gallons of diesel oil, and 3000 gallons of gasoline. Drew additional 700 10 in 1 rations to replenish our reserve stock.

The following battlefield recovered equipment was picked up and turned in to Ordnance: 2 Rifles, US Cal. 30 Ml.

April 21: Engineer Critical Shortage List and Battlefield Recovered Equipment Report was sent to G-4.

Drew 520 10 in 1 rations and 160 C rations from Class I. 1500 gallons of gasoline was drawn today.

April 22: Drew A rations today.

The following Class V supplies were drawn in order to complete our basic load and well as the companies: 45 Mines, AT HE M1A1, 2640 Cart. A-I and Tracer, Cal. 50, 20 Rockets, HE, M6A1.

No Engineer Class II supplies were available at the Depot, because the Depot was relocating.

Water purification unit, portable, complete, at water point 2 was damaged by fire. In order to keep WP 2 supplying troops with water, we gave them the purification unit from the reserve point.

Received message from G-4 to turn in all Odographs, Land Model, M1 mounted on 1/4 ton truck.

April 23: Moved into new bivouac area.

Drew 180 C rations, 540 10 in 1 rations and supplementals as 211 pounds Bread, 28 pounds Coffee, and 123 pounds Meat.

Sent to Engineer Class II Supply Dump for A water Purification to replace that damaged by fire. Depot did not have any to issue.

April 24: Sent 2 Generators and Water Purifications Unit to Engineer Maintenance for Repair. Decision was reached that perhaps the water purification unit damaged by fire could be repaired by the Maintenance Engineer.

Drew 700 10 in 1 rations and supplements such as 210 pounds bread, and 122 pounds Meat.

Brought back repaired Pump, water from repair shop.

The following Class III supplies were drawn: 1440 gallons of gasoline, 55 gallons of diesel oil.

After Action Report Apr 45
305 Engr C Bn, S-4, (Cont'd)

April 25: Published Supply Bulletin Number 20.

The following Class I supplies were drawn: 540 10-1 rations, 180 "C" rations, 210 pounds bread, and 122 pounds meat.

Turned in four (4) Odographs, Land Model M1 mounted on one-quarter ton truck to Engineer Class II Depot Number 39.

April 26: Drew two (2) boats, assault to complete T/E allowances, and 700 pounds of TNT to complete basic load.

Drew 695 10-1 rations, 210 pounds bread, and 7 days PX rations.

Turned into Ordnance two (2) captured German vehicles.

Picked up and turned into Ordnance the following battlefield recovered equipment: 4 ea Bayonets w/scabbards, 5 rifles, US Cal 30 M1, and 1 launcher, Rocket, AT 2.36".

Class III items drawn today were: 675 gallons of gasoline, 55 gallons of Diesel oil, and 25 pounds of General Purpose grease.

Drew 2 tanks, canvas, water, 3000 gallon capacity from Engineer Class II Depot. These were needed to replace tanks which were in poor condition.

April 27: Went in search of serviceable German tires and picked up four.

Drew 700 "A" rations.

Brought back repaired Water purification unit. Our reserve water point would be able to operate now.

April 28: Sent message to all companies to have battlefield recovery teams pick up all the empty gas cans they could in their respective areas. The Supply Office had sent a crew and they picked up 250 empty gas cans.

Drew "A" rations.

The following class III supplies were drawn: 1,020 gallons of gasoline, 55 gallons of diesel oil.

Moved to new bivouac.

April 29: Upon arrival in new bivouac area, some box cars which were standing in a rail yard were investigated for a source of engineer items. Discovered one car filled with 220 volt lamps, incandescent, 60 and 100 watt capacity. Removed about 600 of these lamps and issued them to divisional units requiring them.

Drew "A" rations and 7 days PX rations.

April 30: Received message from S-3 to issue all paddles in stock to engineer units making an assault crossing.

Drew Engineer Class II supplies.

The following Class I items were drawn: 680 10-1 rations, and such supplementals as, 30 pounds coffee, and 210 pounds bread.

1,680 gallons of gasoline were drawn.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SUPPLY

CLASS I:

a. Quartermaster:

1. The majority of rations consumed during the month were operational, such as, 10-1's and C's. Very few K's were drawn. This month we did consume three day supply of A rations, in addition to the operational.

CLASS II:

a. Air Force:

1. Our critical shortage in this branch of supply is 1 kit, interpreter, photographic, type F2.

b. Chemical Warfare:

1. The following shortages of chemical equipment still exist: 32 Apparatus, Decontaminating, 1 1/2 qts; 4 brushes, decontaminating.

2. Battlefield recovered equipment for the month was as follows: 13 Mask, Gas, Service.

c. Engineer:

1. The critical shortages for the entire division for the month are as follows: 314 Compasses, lensatic luminous dial w/case; 54 Nets, camouflage, twine garnished w/fabric, 22' x 22'; 16 Nets, camouflage, twine garnished w/fabric, Extension 14' x 29'; 36 Nets, camouflage, twine garnished w/fabric, 29' x 29'; 22 Nets, camouflage, twine garnished w/fabric, 36' x 44'; 1 Repair, Equipment Set No. 6, Plywood boat; 1 Reproduction Equipment Set No. 3, Gelatin process, 18" x 18"; 32 Scales, plotting graduated in meters and yards, 1/25,000, 16"; 19 scales, plotting graduated in meters and yards, 1/25,000, 32"; 1 Sign Reproduction Kit No 1; 52 Stereoscopes, Pocket magnifying w/case; and such miscellaneous items as 102 pencils, china marking, black; 80 pencils, china marking, blue; 143 Pencils, china marking, red; 72 poles, upright 7' for Net set No.2 and 190 stakes, driving 24" for Net Set 2.

2. 1 Reproduction Equipment Set No. 3, Gelatin Process 18" x 18" was received against the critical shortage list.

3. The following engineer battlefield recovered equipment was picked up and reissued to divisional units requiring them: 5 hatchets, half handled 4" blade; 9 boats, reconnaissance, 5 man. Both of these items were German.

4. Our rapid moves in Germany carried us further and further away from the Engineer Class II depot. The trip required at least two days, and we could not afford to send any trucks and personnel, because they were being used for other purposes. Therefore, our only alternative was to investigate captured German engineer dumps, remove the equipment we needed, and issue them to units in the division. In this manner we were able to secure, Pencils, China marking; Plastic, acetate; Tape, Scotch; Shovels; Picks; Tape, tracing; Hammers, claw, carpenters; Axes; Hatchets; Scales, triangular, boxwood in meters and yards; Cable, and Paint.

d. Medical:

1. No shortages in this class of property.

Highlights of Supply (After Action Report, Apr 15)
305th Engineer Combat Battalion, S-4, (Continued)

d. Medical (cont'd)

2. An additional supply of expendables, such as Powder, insecticide was requisitioned. Orders were received from higher headquarters to the effect that typhus germs were frequent in Germany, especially in air raid shelters, and insecticide powder should be used frequently to prevent any infection.

e. Ordnance:

1. Miscellaneous Truck Tools: Miscellaneous echelon tool, 1 charger, battery; and 1 compressor, air portable are among the critical items of Ordnance equipment.

2. Picked up and turned in the following battlefield recovered equipment: 18 rifles, US Cal 30 M1; 1 Rifle, US Cal 30 M1903; 1 Carbine, US Cal 30 M1; 1 Gun, submachine, Cal 45, M3; 5 bayonets, M1 w/scabbard M7; and 1 launcher, Rocket, 2.36".

f. Quartermaster:

1. The following battlefield recovered equipment was turned in: 1 belt, pistol; 5 shovels, intrenching, w/handle and carrier; 11 blankets, wood OD; 1 Carrier, pack; 6 Bags, sleeping EM; 3 axes, intrenching w/handle and carrier; 3 tents, shelter half.

2. The critical items of Quartermaster property for the month were: 2 pans, cake, 19x16x1; 1 kit, barber, complete; 3 outfits, cooking 2-burner; 1 Flag, Geneva Convention, Red Cross Bunting; 1 foot, measuring outfit, men, M1943; 59 mask, face launcher, rocket; 1 safe, field, keylock; 11 Strap, quick release packboard; 6 cans, corrugated, nesting galvanized w/cover, 24 gal capacity; 1 Bag, water sterilizing complete w/hooks and hanger; 15 cans, water, 5 gallon; 1 tent, command post; and miscellaneous parts for the range, Field, M1943. Miscellaneous items of individual clothing and equipment are critical, such as, shoes, Service (certain sizes only), Caps, HBT; Drawers, cotton; Jackets, field; Undershirts, cotton.

g. Signal:

1. Among the critical items of Signal Property are; Mast sections MS 49; Chest, Set TD-3; 2 lanterns, electric portable hand; 15 tubes, VT146; 24 tubes, VT1G6GT, 3 Mast Bases MP 57; 1 Power convertor; 200 batteries, BA 203/U.

2. The most difficult items to receive are expendable supplies for the photographic. Requisitions are submitted monthly, but very little supplies are received to do any amount of photographic work.

CLASS III:

a. Quartermaster:

1. The following class III items were drawn during the month: 25,185 gallons of gas; (of this quantity 1,580 gallons was captured German gasoline); 375 gallons of oil, SAE 30, 115 gallons of oil, SAE 90; 845 gallons of Diesel oil; 10 pounds of Water pump grease; 35 lbs General Purpose grease; 5 gallons of kerosene.

2. The excessive quantity of gasoline was consumed because of the frequent and long moves made during the month.

Highlights of Supply (After Action Report, Apr 45)
305th Engineer Combat Battalion, S-4, (Continued)

CLASS IV:

a. Engineer:

1. Our class IV supplies, such as lumber and I beams, were abandoned when our 4-ton truck became deadlined. These supplies were in excess of our basic load, and not really needed during the present operations. Besides that, one can secure I beams and lumber almost anywhere in Germany.

CLASS V:

a. Engineer:

1. In order to complete our basic load 700 pounds of TNT was drawn. At the present time our stock of Block, demolition M3, Individual, C2 is in excess of basic allowances. This quantity can be safely carried, and is carried because of the needs of divisional units.

b. Ordnance:

1. Drew 45 mines, AT HE M1A1, 2640 Cart, A-I and Tracer, Cal. 50, and 20 rockets, HE, M6A1 to complete our basic load within the battalion. These items were not used in combat but were lost or became unserviceable and therefore dangerous to carry about.

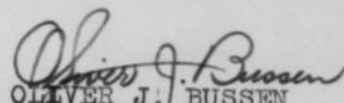
RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. Quartermaster:

1. It is believed that if different operational rations were issued everyday, it would make a more appealing menu to the men. As it is, one usually gets the same type of 10-1 rations for several days, and this makes the men lose their desire to eat. For the past few days, we have tried a system, which we believe is a success, and makes the menu more appealing. One day we have 10-1 and the second day C rations.

b. Miscellaneous:

1. Orders received from higher headquarters requesting information on any proposed changes in the T/O and E. This office submitted letter covering all branches of supply, mainly requesting that some equipment be returned to government supply depots for reissue to units who require that equipment more than we do.


OLIVER J. BUSSEN
1st Lt. CE
Battalion S-4

HEADQUARTERS 305TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 80, United States Army

AFTER ACTION REPORT

S-1, April 1945

Table 1

<u>Date</u>	KIA	DOW	WIA	IIA	MIA	Total	RTD
4 April 1945							3
6 April 1945							6
9 April 1945							3
14 April 1945			2				
17 April 1945							1
20 April 1945							8
26 April 1945							1
27 April 1945	1						

Table 2: Prisoners of War Captured.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>
3 April 1945	8
4 April 1945	13
8 April 1945	2
12 April 1945	1
13 April 1945	4
14 April 1945	1
15 April 1945	<u>140</u>
Total	169

Table 3: Reinforcements received (including hospital returns)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>
4 April 1945	3
6 April 1945	8
9 April 1945	3
17 April 1945	1
18 April 1945	2
20 April 1945	8
26 April 1945	3

Table 4: Decorations awarded from 1 April 1945 through 30 April 1945:

<u>Number</u>	
0	Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously)
0	Distinguished Service Cross
0	Silver Star Medal (Posthumously)
0	Silver Star Medal
0	Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Starr Medal.
0	Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously)
1	Bronze Star Medal

After Action Report, Apr 45
S-1, 305 Engr C Bn (Cont'd)

Table 4: (Cont'd)

1	Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal
0	Air Medal
3	Purple Heart Award
1	Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart Award.

Battlefield Appointments: Negative.

Special Service

During the month of April the battalion was rapidly moving through Germany; however, time was spared for a few movies. Some excellent films were secured from Special Service, including "Winged Victory".

P. X. supplies were secured by the Division Special Service and broken down to the lower units. This saved the long trip to Post Exchange warehouses.


A German P.X. warehouse was captured at Weimar, Germany, and here many items were secured for the companies. Among these were wool lined coats, sweaters, games, musical instruments, victrolas, P.X. supplies and radios.

The processing of films reached a new high after the capture of several hundred films were distributed to the men of the battalion.

Passes continued to Paris, France. Seven day furloughs were granted to both officers and enlisted men to the French Riviera. Some of these pass holders went by plane to the city.

On 24 April the battalion moved South to Nurnberg, Germany where a few days of rest and recreation were enjoyed. Each company organized soft ball teams and played games among one another. Here all were able to get showers once again.

A G.I. show played at the Hitler Stadium in Nurnberg; from this stadium Hitler had made many of his speeches to the people of Germany.


MORRIS EDELMAN
1st Lt. CE
Adjutant.