

File: 318, S-1 A/A MAY 45

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MAY 45
S-1 A/A Rpt
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S-1 After Action Report

During the month of May 1945, the S-1 Command Post section was located at the following places:

1 May	Moosthening, Germany
2 May	Reicheneibach, Germany
3 May	Eggsteln, Germany
4 May	Braunau, Austria
5 May	Schwanenstadt, Austria
13 May	Wosbach, Austria

The Regiment received a total of 57 officers and 472 enlisted men reinforcements and returnees during the month of May. Reinforcements were received through the 53rd Reinforcement Battalion, 17th Reinforcement Depot, 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion, Headquarters German Base Section, and Headquarters 551 AAA.

The estimated effective strength for the Regiment by day is shown below:

DATE	OFFICERS	WARRANT OFFICERS	ENLISTED MEN
1 May	123	4	2998
2 May	128	4	2986
3 May	127	4	2978
4 May	129	4	2981
5 May	129	4	2977
6 May	154	4	3022
7 May	155	4	3012
8 May	142	4	3082
9 May	146	4	3086
10 May	146	4	3039
11 May	147	4	3081
12 May	147	4	3080
13 May	148	4	3075
14 May	155	4	3086
15 May	160	4	3129
16 May	162	4	3124
17 May	163	4	3121
18 May	163	4	3134
19 May	162	4	3122
20 May	162	4	3115
21 May	168	4	3016
22 May	161	4	3014
23 May	163	4	3088
24 May	163	4	3085
25 May	164	4	3111
26 May	162	4	3106
27 May	162	4	3021
28 May	157	4	3021
29 May	159	4	3021
30 May	160	4	3024
31 May	161	4	3112

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During the month of May 1945 the following furloughs and passes were granted to places indicated: 23 EM and 1 Officer to the Riviera, France; 15 EM and 3 O to Paris, France (every third day); 42 EM and 2 O to Rhionville, France (every third day); and 1 officer per week to London, England. The officers were flown by plane to London, England, from the ATC Air Strip located at Nurnberg, Germany. Also a few of the men of the Riviera quota of furloughs were flown to their destination from the same Air Strip.

The Regimental Investigating Officer investigated a total of 21 self-inflicted wound cases during the month. Several of these cases occurred during previous months. There were 1 General Court Case, 7 Special Court Cases, and 7 summary Court Cases within the Regiment during May.

The regiment's last tactical CP was set up in the house of Hitler's birth on 9 May 1945. From there it was moved to Schwanenstadt, Austria, for approximately one week. Since 13 May the CP has been located in the community of Moosbach, Austria. At present the regiment's duties are those of discharging the personnel of the Sixth German Army. Clerks, interpreters, Medics, and other specialists have been sent to the discharge center in great numbers.

On 30 May Major General Horace McRide presented the Distinguished Service Cross to Sgt. Augustus J. Means, Headquarters Company, 318th Infantry, and the Silver Star Medal to 20 others of the Regiment. The presentations were made at the Regimental CP in the presence of the Regimental Commander, his staff, and the battalion commanders, and the company commanders of the decorated personnel.

During May money orders were sold to the troops by a team from the Division Post Office at Service Company. Movies and post exchange supplies were made available to the men. A regimental show is being worked on and should be produced during June. Beer is now available to the men.

Nineteen EM were sent to the United States for discharge during May. These men all had scores of 100 or more on their Adjusted Service Rating Cards.

The Regimental S-1 has no comments, observations or recommendations for the month of May.

Attached hereto are the following tables and reports:

- Table # 1 - Battle Casualty Report by Type of Casualty
- Table # 2 - Prisoners of War Captured.
- Table # 3 - Replacements Received.
- Table # 4 - Awards, Decorations, and Battlefield Appointments.
- Graves Registration Report
- Special Service Report

Special Reports, Special Reports and Special Reports, Special Reports.

RESTRICTED

310TH INFANTRY

TABLE NUMBER 1

INFANTRY CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY
(Figures taken from company morning reports up
to and including 31 May 1945 for the period
1 May 1945 to 31 May 1945)

Figures shown in this section indicate that enlisted men were not listed on roster of casualties for period 1 April to 31 April 1945. Information received subsequent to 31 April 1945 revealed the following casualty figures for this period on dates shown below.

DATE	KIA	DOF	VIA	IYA	MIA	TOTAL	RTDs
26 Apr 45	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
27 "	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
29 "	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
30 "	1	-	-	-	-	13	12
Totals	1	-	-	-	-	40	39

DATE	KIA	DOF	VIA	IYA	MIA	TOTAL	RTDs
May 1, 45	-	-	-	-	-	27	27
" 2	-	-	2	-	-	26	24
" 3	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
" 4	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
" 5	-	-	-	-	-	51	51
" 6	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
" 7	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
" 8	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
" 9	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
" 10	-	-	-	-	-	35	35
" 11	-	-	-	-	-	16	16
" 12	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
" 13	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
" 14	-	-	-	-	-	14	14
" 15	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
" 16	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
" 17	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
" 18	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
" 19	-	-	-	-	-	18	18
" 20	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
" 21	-	-	-	-	-	11	11
" 22	-	-	-	-	-	30	30
" 23	-	-	-	-	-	11	11
" 24	-	-	-	-	-	24	24
" 25	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
" 26	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
" 27	-	-	-	-	-	8	8
" 28	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
" 29	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
" 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" 31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	2	-	-	365	363

TABLE NUMBER 2

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO</u>
1 May	185
2 May	250
3 May	868
4 May	1375
5 May	1397
6 May	3700
Total	<u>7792</u>

REINFORCEMENTS RECEIVED
(Including Hospital Returnees)

DATE	No
1 May 45	22
2 "	34
3 "	7
4 "	16
5 "	73
6 "	-
7 "	2
8 "	9
9 "	-
10 "	53
11 "	31
12 "	1
13 "	3
14 "	19
15 "	-
16 "	6
17 "	2
18 "	1
19 "	20
20 "	1
21 "	9
22 "	37
23 "	13
24 "	16
25 "	1
26 "	5
27 "	8
28 "	9
29 "	3
30 "	-
31 "	-
Total	403

Part B: Strength - Commissioned and Unlisted:

	O	WO	EX
1. At beginning of period:	127	4	3042
2. Net increase during period:	37	-	96
3. Reinforcements during period:	57	-	472
4. Net decrease during period:	-	-	-
5. Total losses during period:	20	-	376
6. Strength at end of period:	164	4	3138

Part C: Source of reinforcements for period:

53rd Reinf Bn	17 Reinf Depot
Hq EPOUSA (1 man)	Hq Normandy Base Section
5th Ranger Inf Bn	Hq 551 AAA

SECRET

TABLE NUMBER 4

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS (1 May - 31 May 1945)

No.	AWARD
0	Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously)
0	Distinguished Service Cross
8	Silver Star Medal (Posthumously)
45	Silver Star Medal
4	Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star
2	Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously)
59	Bronze Star Medal
1	Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously)
0	Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal
0	Air Medal
0	Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal
0	Soldiers Medal
56	Purple Heart Awards
15	(1st) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart
6	(2nd) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart
0	(3rd) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart

BATTLEFIELD APPOINTMENTS

During the period 1-31 May 1945, five (5) enlisted men were appointed second lieutenants. Three (3) enlisted men not previously reported have also been appointed second lieutenants.

Military Government After Action Report for May 1945

May was by far the most important month of the entire war for Military Government of the 318th Infantry. We operated from Hoesbening, Germany, to Alt Aussee, in the south, and back to Hoesbach, Austria.

Sent to Alt Aussee, as commander of Task Force Pearson, the MGO seized Alt Aussee and the salt mine at Steinberg, where the Nazi leaders had stored \$500,000,000 worth of looted art, the cream of the art treasures of Europe. This event took place on the very last day of the war and was probably the farthest south penetration of the 80th Division. No American troops had previously been farther south in this area than Bad Ischl.

The art treasures in the Alpine salt mine at Alt Aussee, included master works of Goya, Raphael, Rembrandt, Divinci, Michelangelo, and other equally famous masters. They also included the Rothchild collection and all the works of art from Monte Cassino Abbey in Italy. Also the mine contained Hitler's personal correspondence. Paintings from the church of Notre Dame at Brugau, art works from the St. Florian Monasteries, the famed Ghent Alter. The whole stock from every museum and art gallery in Vienna was in the mine.

After having seized the town, the TF took surrender of the special guard on the house of Gauleiter Eigruber (later captured) of General Fabriunkn, senior officer in Bad Aussee, and sent out the patrol that captured Ernest Kaltenbrunner, chief of the dreaded sicherheitsdienst, which directed all of the Reich political and international intelligence, and which spied for and even on the Gestapo. Kaltenbrunner also headed the Criminal Police. With Kaltenbrunner was his assistant Arthur Schaeidlner. They were taken before breakfast in a mountain hideout, by a patrol led by CIC agent Matteson and G Company patrol led by Captain Martinez.

A great deal of intelligence data was collected through civilian contacts. This included the assembling of data on the 21 known caches of looted art, and other treasures, information which led to the arrest of Norman Baillie-Stewart (original Lord Haw-Haw) cashiered British Lieutenant, who once broadcast Nazi propaganda from Hamburg; and much information from Dr. Jean Schile, Dutch Intelligence agent and others on the political situation and the Nazi intention to continue their work, if possible as National Communists.

On 3 May we arrived in Braunau, the MGO having the first vehicle across the Inn River, into Austria for the 80th having used the hydraulic dam at Erling. Here at Hitler's birthplace we found not only a greatly crowded town, where the 318th Infantry had its last tactical CP, but also about 16,000 APW's. Much was done in cooperation with tactical units to assist in feeding these PW's who had been badly treated and badly undernourished by the Germans.

On 6 May MGO moved to Schwabenstadt, Austria, where normal problems of administration and DPs occupied the time until the task force was organized to leave for Alt Aussee on the 8 May.

MG After Action Report for May (Contd)

The MGO spent two weeks, from 5 May to 21 May in Alt Aussee, in charge of the town and the guard on the priceless collection of art, a very important assignment since G-5 section, The Third United States Army had been trying to locate much of this material since the start of the campaign on the continent. Captain Posey, officer in charge of historical monuments, archives; etc, for G-5 came to Alt Aussee and took over responsibility for the opening up on the mine tunnels (blown by Austrian patriots to prevent damage by Nazis on 5 May) and plans for removal of the art. On 20 May the 319th Infantry CP was ordered by General McBride to move into Alt Aussee and the MGO was relieved to return to Moosbach.

During the absence of the MGO, Capt. Donaldson and Lt Walsh of the 318th Infantry were put on DS to handle some of the many MG problems incident to the work assigned to the 318th Infantry, that of handling the discharge from a concentration center around Moosbach, Austria, of approximately 120,000 members of the 6th German Army.

In the concentration area were about 8500 DPs and many problems due to the necessary restrictions on movements of civilians while the discharge process was underway. The MGO set up and operated using the leaders of the 12 Gemeinden as actual leaders of their areas. All contacts except those with Allied Prisoners of War, wives of German soldiers, are handled through these twelve leaders and or their duly appointed assistants.

Coordination was effected with MGO in Braunau, who has the problems of getting the Kreis back into normal operation.

May, last month of the war, the 6th of May last day of the war, proved to be the most important of the entire combat period for MG in the 318th Infantry. As usual cooperation was tops from the officers and men of the 318th Infantry.

Graves Registration After Action Report for Month of May 1945.

During the month of May 1945 there were no American or German dead buried by the Graves Registration section of this organization.

SPECIAL SERVICE AFTER ACTION REPORT
For Month of May
1945

The following are the functions of the Special Service Office during the month of May 1945:

The period from the 1st to the 8th of May no activities were performed due to the tactical situation.

From the 8th to the end of the month the following activities were performed: Movies were shown to the men. PX rations were drawn from Division Special Service and distributed to all Battalions. A clubmobile serviced the regiment and beer was made available to everyone.

Passes were issued to the men for Paris, Thionville, Riviera and the 60th Division Recreational Center located at Gaumond.

Sports equipment was distributed to all battalions. Softball and volley ball leagues were started.