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HEADQUARTERS THIRTY SEVENTH TANK BATTALION  
APO 854, U S Army

8 June, 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of May, 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C. (THRU CHANNELS).

1 May, 1945

No movement orders received today. Battalion moves tomorrow approximately 0700. Order of march for CC"B": D/25, C/704, CC"B" Hq., B/24, B/46, 10, 94, 37, B/126, A/489 dispersed in column. Order of march for 37: D, Hq & Hq Co., C, B, A, Sv. CC"B" IP 774560. Division IP Heinseruth, 8340.

2 May, 1945

Head of column moved out at 0700, crossed Div. IP at 0830. Route of march: Route 85 to Regen, passing through Creussen, Kirchenthumbach, Haag, Vilseck, Hahnbach, Amberg, Schwandorf, Wackersdorf, Neubau, Roding, Cham, Miltach, Viechtach, Patersdorf, Regen, Deggendorf, Deggenau, Waltersdorf, Schwanenkirchen, Iggenbach to Schollnach (U997318). Arrived 0130, length of march, 155 miles. Hq, Sv, A, B, and C in and around Schollnach, "D" Company at Engelfing; (U990338)

3 May, 1945

No action.

4 May, 1945

No action.

5 May, 1945

Major Bautz and Capt Hays attended meeting at CC"B" early this morning.

23  
Division will move through lines of the 90th and 5th Inf. Divisions and proceed to Prague in two columns. Order of march CC"B": D/25, D/37, C/704, Platoon B/10, Section R/37, Command group, A/37 and C/10, Platoon B/24 and steel truck, 94, B/37 and A/10, Hq 37 th 10, 22, C/37 and B/10(-), CC"B" Hq, Div Arty Hq., B/24(-), B/46, Trains, with D/25 and Assault Plat/37 following in rear of column for trains protection after going through pass. Radio silence until Lindelberg is reached. IP is town square in Hengersberg; head of column crosses IP at 1800, on Corps order.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, "Subject: After Action Report for Month of May, 1945". 2 June, 1945 (Cont'd)

5 May, 1945 Cont'd

Head of Battalion column moved out at 1030 to go to vic Hengersberg where Infantry Companies are to join tank Companies. D, A and B Companies had moved out when word was received that move had been called off. "A" Company via Schwanenkirchen (U939299) Iggenbach (U998229), "D" Company via Hengersberg (U901328)

6 May, 1945

Battalion Hq., left Stockau at 0500, crossed IP at Hengersberg approximately 0730. Route of march for CC "B": Hengersberg, Seelbach, Deggendorf, Regen, Schweinbutt, Zweisel, Ludwigsthal, Eisenstein, Mestys Zelagno Ruda, Glaserward, Dobra Voda, Hartmanice, Susice, Rabe, Horazdovice, Vel Bor, Sveradice, Kadov, with head of column reaching Lnare.

S-1 halftrack crossed border into Czechoslovakia at 1120. Battalion Headquarters arrived Pole (373083) 1630. Hq., Company via Kadov (375073), "A" Company via Pole (380095), "B" Company via Pole (373086), "C" Company (295090), "D" Company Lnare (380132), Service Company via Horazdovice (330973). Distance traveled 99 miles. No resistance was encountered. Enemy prisoners: 30 men, 3 officers. In addition, "C" Company was sent out by higher Hq. to round up an estimated 1200 prisoners.

Lnare is on the restraining line beyond which we are not to go until released by SHAEF.

During the night several messages came in from A and D Companies reporting large enemy concentrations and vehicle movements to our north and on both flanks. Most of these reports came from Czech Partisans. Higher Hq. refused permission for arty fire on the reported concentrations. The following morning patrols proved most of these reports to be greatly exaggerated.

7 May, 1945

"D" Company went out on patrol during the morning, going through towns of Kasejovice, Hvozdnany, Ryzmital, Blatna, and several small villages, meeting no resistance. "C" Company went out on task force commanded by Major Cohen, cleared out Kotoun, Kladrube, Budislavice, Dozice, Radosice, Me Smolives, taking 250 prisoners. New location of the Company is Sveradice (350032). At 1800 a message was received that patriots had reported 20 tanks and 1200 SS troops headed for Ryzmital. A and C Companies moved out to take up defensive positions north of Lnare.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, "Subject: After Action Report for Month of May, 1945." 2 June, 1945 (Cont'd)

7 May, 1945 (Cont'd)

It was found that the report was unfounded, and the Companies returned to former positions except a platoon of "B" Company, which investigated another report, found nothing, but remained at crossroads on west flank of "D" Company for the night. "A" Company remained at 375155.

At approximately 1800 a radio message was received ordering cessation of all offensive action and ordering defensive positions taken up. Shortly after a written message was received announcing the unconditional surrender of all German forces to the Allies, effective 0001B Hours 9 May, 1945.

8 May, 1945

No action.

9 May, 1945

Lt. Officer arrived at 2100 with instructions for the interception and disposition of German troops estimated at 120,000, moving toward our area. D/37 plus B/704 to establish outposts at Hvozday (3821) and Blatna (4510) including road nets. A/37 plus C/10 to establish outposts at RJ East of Neponuk (290135). Following points are from the surrender terms: (a) All Germans including civilians to halt in place and bivouac. (b) All weapons to be collected and stored except officers pistols and 1 rifle with 10 rounds of ammo for 100 men. (c) Germans to report location and strength to nearest Allied unit, and await further orders.

10 May, 1945

No action.

11 May, 1945

Elements of the Red Army made contact with our units. Units of the U S 90th Div have moved on the restraining line to the West of Lnare.

12 May, 1945

Having been relieved by elements of the 90th Div., "A" Company moved to vic Blatna.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, "Subject: After Action Report for Month of May, 1945", 2 June, 1945 (Cont'd)

13 May, 1945

No action.

14 May, 1945

Companies remained in position, "A" Company turning over 3500 prisoners to the Russians, "A" Company maintaining road blocks vicinity of Blatna.

Lt. Officer brought word in the evening that one of our Companies is to relieve C/25 East of Blatna. Major Hunter and Lt. Turner contacted C/25 and made arrangements for relieving them tomorrow morning.

15 May, 1945

"C" Company took up position East of Blatna.

16 May, 1945

No action.

17 May, 1945

Companies were relieved by 190th FA Group this afternoon. "D" Company moved 2½ miles south of Lnare, but the CP remained in the previous position.

18 May, 1945

"A" and "C" Companies moved back to positions just north of Pole.

19 May, 1945

No Action.

20 May, 1945

No Action.

21 May, 1945

No Action.

22 May, 1945

No Action.

23 May, 1945

No Action.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, "Subject: After Action Report for Month of May, 1945". 2 June, 1945. (Cont'd)

24 May, 1945

No Action.

25 May, 1945

No Action.

26 May, 1945

Head of Battalion column moves tomorrow at 0730. Order of march: B, A, C, Hq., D and Serv. IP is RJ west of Horazdovice. Battalion moves with CC"A", order of march, CC"A" Hq., 51, 22, 37, 22 and 37 to make the trip in two days. Route of march: Route 92 to Domazlice, Route 20 to Cham, Route 85 to Amberg, Route 499 to Neumarkt.

27 May, 1945

Battalion left Pole, Czechoslovakia at 0730 and followed the prescribed route of march to vic Schwandorf, T140932, the Battalion assembling in close formation at 1800. Distance traveled 102 miles.

28 May, 1945

Battalion moved out at 0700, and Battalion Hq. arrived at Neumarkt approximately 1115. Company locations: Hq. and Hq. Co., Neumarkt (T713819), A and C, (T638730), B vic Mulhausen (T706705), D at Pfoffenhofen (T858930), Service at Bergau (T660790). Distance traveled 37 miles.

No further action being anticipated in this Theater, the After Action Report of this Battalion is hereby closed.

For the Battalion Commander:

*Wilbert H. Albers*  
WILBERT H. ALBERS,  
WOJG, USA,  
Adjutant.

2 Incls:

Journal  
Operational Overlays

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY SEVENTH TANK BATTALION  
APO 254, US Army

5 April, 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of April, 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

1 APRIL, 1945

The Liaison Officer arrived at 0800. He reported that the Division was to seize the communication centers of Ohrdruf and Gotha. Reserve Command was to follow CC"B"; to seize and hold the high ground in the vicinity of Oesterbeheingen and block the roads to the North and Northeast; to be prepared to reinforce CC"A" or CC"B".

The Battalion moved out at 1430. The Order of March was: D/37 and assault guns of 37th; A/37, C/10; Comd Group 37th and 10th; Hqs Reserve Command; C/24; A/704; 22nd; Division Forward; Hqs 37th and 10th; B/37, B/10; B/24; "A" Trains; "B" Trains.

The Battalion arrived at Nesselroden at about 1900 and set up the CP at that town.

2 APRIL, 1945

A/37 moved this morning from Nesselroden to Unhausen and outposted that town.

Enemy air was active over the area throughout the day. The Battalion suffered no casualties.

3 APRIL, 1945

Enemy air was again active over the area this morning but caused no casualties.

Word was received at about 1200 from CC"R" that the Battalion was alerted to move forward. The Order of March was the same as the day previous.

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216  
The Battalion moved out at 1430 and proceeded twenty-eight (28) miles to Grossbehringen. The march was made without incident.

**CANCELLED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE  
APRIL, 1945 19 Feb 46

Word was received this morning that the Battalion was alerted for movement after 1300 to Gotha. The order of march was to be the same as the day previous.

The Battalion moved out at 1500 and arrived at Gotha at 1800, having covered a distance of twelve miles over extremely congested roads.

**RESTRICTED**

SEP 11 1945

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64-406



After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

5 APRIL, 1945

"A" and "B" Companies were alerted at 1700 to move to cut three roads South of Gotha. Have been shifted to South.

6 APRIL, 1945

"B" Company moved out at 0640 to go to town of Frederickroda to release British PW's reported in town and several important French civilians.

7 APRIL, 1945

No Action.

8 APRIL, 1945

All outposts were relieved at 1400 today.

9 APRIL, 1945

No Action.

10 APRIL, 1945

Major Hunter was called to a meeting at CC"B" at 2300 and received orders that the Battalion was to move out at 0700 the following morning in two columns, CC"B" on the left, CC"A" on the right. For this operation the Division will have the 6th Armored Division and the 76th Infantry Division on its left boundary and the 89th Infantry Division will be on the South. The Division is now in the 20th Corps and the 4th will be teamed up with the 80th Infantry Division for this operation. Overlays showed that the Division would again be heading East.

11 APRIL, 1945

At 0645 the Companies moved out. March Order of CC"B": A/37, C/10, Comd Group 37th and 10th Infantry Battalions, B/37, A/10, B/24 (-), D/37 with Assault Guns, 22 FA, Hqs 37th and 10th, C/37, B/10, 177 FA, CC"B" Hqs, 5th Arty Group Hqs, B/24 (-), B/46, Trains, and C/489. Route of advance: Friemar, Alach, Tiefthal, Gispersleben, Kerspleben, Niederzimmern, Ottstedt, and Grosskromsdorf.

As 22 FA went through the town of Kleinmolsen, an abandoned tank was sighted which they knocked out with their M-7's. Air reported 4-5 more tanks in the vicinity and C/37 and B/10 were ordered to clean out the area. Air support of P-47's and the force of C/37 and B/10 destroyed six (6) more enemy tanks in and around Kleinmolsen (378-750).



After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

11 APRIL, 1945 (Cont'd)

A/37 and C/10 continued on main route of march and encountered direct AT fire in the vicinity of Daasdorf and Haberndorf.

B/37 and A/10 took an alternate route Northeast from Ottstedt to 445758 and then East through the woods, coming out at 520765. They liberated a PW Camp with 800-1000 Russian and French Prisoners; encountered bazooka fire on East edge of woods.

A/37 and C/10 were ordered to return to Ottstedt and continue along B/37's route of advance.

After breaking out of the woods B/37 and A/10 were momentarily stopped while D/37 and Assault Guns took the lead.

D/37 and Assault Guns ran into bazooka and small arms at Denstedt; they cleaned the town and then proceeded to Schwabsdorf which they outposted for the night.

A/37 and C/10 outposted Ulrichshalben; B/37 and A/10 outposted Sussenborn, and C/37 and B/10 cut roads leading into Grosskromsdorf from the West or rear.

Battalion CP was located in Grosskromsdorf for the night.

Enemy casualties: Six (6) tanks, one (1) truck, two (2) Staff Cars, thirty (30) killed, fifty (50) PW's; liberated 800-1000 Russian and French Prisoners.

12 APRIL, 1945

Companies moved out at 0700 with march order of D/37 and Assault Guns, Comd Group 37th and 10th, A/37 and C/10, Plat B/24, C/37 and B/10, 22 FA, 177 FA, Hq 37th and 10th, B/37 and A/10, CC"B" Hq, 5th Arty Group Hq, B/24 (-), B/46, A and B Trains CC"B".

Route of march: Ulrichshalben, Frankendorf, Hohlstedt, Krippendorf, Altengonna, Rodigen, town East of Kunitz, Kunitz, Laasan.

As head of column passed Vierzehn-heilige artillery and AA fire was encountered and continued until A/37 and C/10, receiving orders directly from Col. Abrams, CO CC"B", went through Lutzeroda, Closewitz, and then swung Northeast and checked the Southwest edge of woods at 687698. No artillery positions were found by them but artillery and AA fire stopped.

D/25 and Tank Destroyers working to our North flank was trying for a bridge over Saale River at Dornburg; bridge blown before taken.

After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

12 APRIL, 1945 (Cont'd)

D/37 and Assault Guns drove to Neuengonna to attempt to get a railroad bridge over Saale River at that point; bridge was out and they worked South down main road into unnamed town (725695) West of Kunitz. D/37 reported bridge at 731689 blown.

In the meantime, A/37 and C/10 pushed East into town (725695) West of Kunitz; met bazooka and small arms fire. 1st Lieutenant Whitehill, CO of A/37, was wounded by a bazooka while dismounted outside his tank and 2nd Lieutenant Nolan assumed command of the company.

Two companies of 10th Infantry dismounted from tanks and pushed on down to river to make bridgehead. Tanks of A/37, B/37, C/37, and D/37 deployed on high ground overlooking river to cover Infantry bridgehead with direct fire.

Infantry was shuttled across river in rubber ponton boat, cleaned Kunitz taking approximately one hundred fifty (150) PW's and then pushed on to high ground East of Kunitz.

B/24 started bridge at approximately 1700 estimating that 5 or 6 hours would be necessary for completion.

Orders were received that as soon as the bridge was completed A/37 and C/10 would push on across River Saale on to Laasan and cut roads leading East out of the town. C/37 and B/10 would deploy to South of Kunitz and D/25 and Tank Destroyers would swing North to town of Golmsdorf and cover that sector.

Liaison sent to bridge and companies were alerted to move across in accordance with orders at 1930.

Companies crossed and moved to positions at 1930. A/37 and C/10 captured thirty-six (36) PW's in Laasan.

Battalion CP in town West of Kunitz (725693).

Liaison Officer brought overlay from CC"B" showing tomorrow's routes "A", "B", "C". D/25 and TD's on route "A"; A/37 and C/10 under command of Captain Hays on route "B"; remainder of CC"B" on route "C".

Enemy casualties: One hundred fifty (150) Prisoners.

13 APRIL, 1945

At 0505 hours a message from CC"B" arrived informing us that the 319th CT of the 80th is to attack Jena and that the 317th CT of the 80th would cross behind us over the Saale River.

After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

13 APRIL, 1945 (Cont'd)

CC"B" moved out in three (3) columns at 0630 from their positions around the Saale River at Kunitz.

Considerable difficulties were encountered getting through trails in woods East of Laasan.

D/25 and TD's on route "A" (Beutnitz, Mertendorf, Grosshelmsdorf, Kleinpotewitz, Rosenthal, Gossra, Drossdorf, Kayna, Delzig) met little opposition. The bridge over the Weisse Elster River was out at Rossendorf so they swung South to Rosenthal, captured bridge and established bridgehead.

A/37 and C/10 under Captain Hays on route "B" (Graitschen, Poxdorf, Petersburg, Konigshafen, Trebnitz, Rosenthal, Nicklesdorf, Schelbach, Wittgendorf, Brockau, Mehna) met no opposition. Crossed bridgehead over Weisse Elster River at Rosenthal and took up position East of Nicklesdorf and awaited orders of Col. Abrams to move out on axis of advance.

The remainder of CC"B" moving in order D/37 and Assault Guns, C/37 and B/10, Plat B/24, 22 and 177 FA, Comd Group, B/37 and A/10, CC"B" Hqs, 5th Arty Group Hqs, B/24 (-), B/46, A and B Trains CC"B" on route "C" (Wagau, Hainsplitz, Petersburg, Rosenthal, Silbitz, Heuckewalde, Hartha, Garbisdorf, Wolkenburg, Kaufungen) met small arms and sniper fire in the town of Hainsplitz.

The three (3) columns converged South of Mehna at 719730. Air reported bridge over Zwick Mulde River at Wolkenberg intact and D/37 and Assault Guns seized bridge and established bridgehead. C/37 and B/10 moved to high ground beyond Kaufungen on hill 357; B/37 and A/10 to high ground vic hill 312; A/37 and C/10 Southeast Tauscha.

B/37 and A/10 and Battalion Headquarters received sporadic artillery and rocket fire during the night.

Battalion CP in Kaufungen.

Distance travelled for the day approximately sixty-nine (69) miles.

Enemy casualties: Ten (10) killed, one hundred fifty (150) PW's, 10 horsedrawn vehicles, several AA and Radar positions overrun, one (1) enemy recovery vehicle destroyed, ten (10) unarmored vehicles destroyed.

After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

14 APRIL, 1945

Liaison Officer arrived at CP with an overlay and general instructions that we are to enlarge our bridgehead in present vicinity.

Captain Dwight was called to CC"B" at 0900 for orders.

Company Commanders and Staff went to 10th Infantry CP at 0900 for joint meeting and planning.

C/37 and B/10 moved from present position at 1130 through Frohna where they met bazooka and small arms fire on to clean out Muhlau, Chursdorf, no resistance, and then through Burgstadt and Southeast to hill 350. Cleaned out portion of Taura necessary for security.

B/37 and A/10 moved from present position and cleaned out Burgstadt meeting bazooka and small arms fire and taking 200-300 Prisoners.

A/37 and B/10 moved from present position along road Southeast Hartmannsdorf through Wittgensdorf to hill 350 North of the town.

D/37 and Assault Guns moved North to hill 296 going cross country West of Burgstadt.

D/25 and TD's moved Northwest of Zwick Mulde River and seized bridge at Penig, then moved through Muhlau, Hartmannsdorf, to hill 360 cutting the main road.

D/37 and Assault Guns encountered enemy night patrol consisting of twelve (12) men; killed four (4), captured two (2).

Bn Cp Moved to Hartmannsdorf.

Enemy casualties: Four (4) killed, approximately three hundred (300) captured.

15 APRIL, 1945

Captain Dwight and Captain Hays attended meeting at 10th Infantry CP at 1700 and discussed plans for taking two (2) bridges East of our present positions.

One (1) Platoon A/37 and C/10 took bridge at 625675.

One section C/37 and one (1) Platoon B/10 took bridge at 620700; roadblock on opposite bank reduced by civilians upon request.

After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

16 APRIL, 1945

Col. Abrams, CO CC"B", visited CP at 0915 and discussed withdrawing Companies to position Northwest of Burgstadt.

At 1300-1500 Companies were relieved by 80th Infantry and withdrew to positions Northwest of Burgstadt. Closed by 1600.

Bn CP North edge of Burgstadt.

17 APRIL, 1945

At 1100 received phone call from CC"B" alerting us for movement to the South this PM to take up 5 kilometer sector in line.

Liaison Officer arrived at 1300 with orders for movement. CC"B" is to relieve Companies "A", "B", "C", "I", and "K" of the 319th Regiment of the 80th Infantry Division by 1500.

Captain Hays and the Reconnaissance Platoon went with guides from 10th Infantry and contacted each company we were to relieve. As each position was picked a guide was sent back to pick up the companies and bring them to their positions.

A/37 and C/10, and B/37 and A/10 moved to high ground South of Gruna from coordinates 533570 to 580580. Companies facing South.

C/37 and B/10 moved to position Northeast Siegmars and Southeast Rabenstein from coordinates 578587 to 598608. Company facing Southeast.

D/37 and Assault Guns moved to position North Rabenstein from coordinates 608598 to 598620, facing East.

Battalion Headquarters CP in the town of Gruna.

18 APRIL, 1945

C/37 reported receiving sniper fire.

D/37 moved to vicinity of Battalion Headquarters CP.

Received overlay from CC"B" showing assembly area No. 1 and route of march for Division move to vicinity of Fulda. CC"B" starts to move at 1200, 19 April, 1945.

RESTRICTED

After Action Report for Month of April, 1945, Hq 37th Tank Bn.,  
5 April, 1945 (Cont'd)

19 APRIL, 1945

Head of column moved out at 1200. Order of march for Battalion: "D", Hq & Hq Co., "A", "B", "C", and Service. Order of march CC"B": 37, 10, CC"B", 22, B/24, B/46, B/126, A/489 dispersed in column. Route of march was the superhighway. Arrived at destination 1345. Battalion CP and Headquarters Company at Weissbach (221618), "A" vic 211642, "B" vic 227647, "C" and Service at Selka (214624), "D" vic 231620.

20 - 22 APRIL, 1945

No Action.

23 APRIL, 1945

Liaison Officer arrived from CC"B" with following information: 4th Armored Division is in Third Army Reserve. Division moves 24 April vicinity Bayreuth via Superhighway. IP is RJ 157619. Order of march for CC"B": D/25, C/704, 37, 10, CC"B" Hq, 22, B/24, B/46, B/126, A/489 dispersed in column. Order of march for 37: "D", Hq, "C", "B", "A", Service.

24 APRIL, 1945

Head of column crossed IP at 1220 and arrived destination 2100. Hq & Hq Co in Stockau (0683539), "A", and "B" vicinity Neunkirchen, "C" vicinity Glutzdorf, "D" vicinity Lessau, Service vicinity Atchig.

25 - 29 APRIL, 1945

No Action.

30 APRIL, 1945

Division has been released to XII Corps. Billeting party left this afternoon to reconnoiter new area.

For the Battalion Commander:

3 Incls:  
Incl #1 - Journal  
Incl #2 - Messages  
Incl #3 - Overlays

*W. Albert H. Albers*  
WILBERT H. ALBERS,  
WO2G, USA,  
Adjutant.

- RESTRICTED -

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY SEVENTH TANK BATTALION  
APO 254, US Army

11 March, 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of March, 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C. (THRU CHANNELS).

1 March, 1945

At about 0625, enemy mortar and artillery fire began to fall on A/37, A/51, B/37, and B/51's bivouac area. Shortly thereafter, at approximately 0640, enemy tanks appeared traveling along the road East from Sefferweich toward the crossroads (143-628). The tanks were accompanied by enemy infantry. The tanks took defilade on the East-West road and across the North-South road.

Enemy tanks opened fire on A/37. Fire was returned by A/37 and B/37. Three (3) enemy assault guns and one (1) Panther tank were destroyed. Enemy infantry started forward. Our own defensive artillery fires were brought down on them, killing many and causing their withdrawal.

Lt. Col. Abrams reassumed command of the Battalion at 0810.

The 10th Infantry Battalion moved up and replaced the 51st Infantry Battalion.

At 1530, A/37 and C/10, after intense artillery preparation, took Sefferweich without opposition.

C/37 and A/10 moved up and took the high ground between Sefferweich and Malbergweich. B/37 and B/10 came up and relieved "C" Company. "B" Company then went on to higher grounds on the ridge (vic 145-635) and routed about 200 enemy infantry that occupied prepared positions.

C/37 and A/10 then attacked and took Malbergweich.

The companies then took up positions for the night. In the day's operations, approximately 400 prisoners were taken. Other enemy losses were: 4 tanks, 4 assault guns, 3 88's, 1 75mm, and two (2) trucks destroyed. 65 enemy personnel were killed.

CLASSIFICATION

CANCELLED

CONFIDENTIAL

AUG 10 1945

14672



Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, "Subject: After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

2 MARCH, 1945

Bn Hq, Hq Co, and Bn Maintenance moved at 0930 from Nattenheim to Bickendorf, a distance of three (3) kilometers.

A plan was formulated to cross the Kyll River tonight. However, due to terrain and the fact that the Germans had demolished the bridges, the plan was not carried out.

Instead C/37, by firing at enemy positions East of the Kyll River, created a diversion in an attempt to aid the 5th Inf Division in their crossing to the South.

3 MARCH, 1945

Lt. Col. Abrams reported to CC"B" at 1100.

A meeting of Company Commanders was held at 1200. It was a joint meeting with the 10th Infantry Battalion. We were in CC"B" and were to cross the Kyll River, passing through the 5th Inf Division bridgehead and head for Koblenz with the mission of securing a bridge across the Rhine. CC"B" was to attack on the left with CC"A" on the right.

CC"B" was composed of the 10th, 37th, 22nd, 66th (-), 179th, C/704th, B/24th, one Infantry Combat Team, B/46, B/126, and C/25. The order of march was to be: D/37 with assault guns from the 37th and 10th; Hqs 37th and 10th; a platoon of C/704; A/37 and C/10 with a platoon of B/24 with a bridge truck; C/37 and A/10; 22nd; B/24; Hq CC"B" with Div Arty; C/704; 66th; Hqs & Hqs Co of the 37th and 10th; B/37 and B/10; 179th FA; Trains; Inf Combat Team; B/46; B/126.

The companies were to move to an assembly area on either side of the main highway North of Rittersdorf (114-575) this afternoon.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 2330. Four alternate routes of march were given to the Company Commanders. All companies were to be prepared to move at 0700. Plans were made for crossing the Kyll River and passing through the 5th Inf Division. We were to receive orders from CC"B" during the night as to whether or not we were to move in the morning.

4 MARCH, 1945

No word was received during the night in regard to the move.

The day was spent in maintenance and preparation for movement.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

4 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

At 1900, our Liaison officer arrived from CC"B" with word that the leading elements of our column were to be prepared to cross the bridge over the Kyll River at 0730 in the morning.

Company Commanders were notified of the situation.

At 2305, a phone message from CC"B" notified the Battalion that it would move in the morning as planned.

5 MARCH, 1945

At 0730, the head of the column crossed the bridge over the Kyll River.

The first enemy opposition was encountered in the vicinity of Badem. From Badem to Meisburg continuous enemy opposition was encountered in the form of tanks, anti-tank guns, SP's, artillery, and enemy infantry. The fighting was continuous but the Battalion continued its advance throughout the day taking many prisoners and causing a large number of enemy casualties.

By evening, the leading elements of the Battalion had reached the towns of Salm, Wallenborn, and Meisburg. "D" Company assaulted Wallenborn without infantry support. In the town, they caught and destroyed large wagon and gun trains. C/37 and A/10 had in the meantime assaulted the town of Salm where they destroyed three (3) 150mm guns, several 75mm guns, and many wagon trains. The Battalion CP was set up for the night in Meisburg.

The Battalion had traveled approximately twenty (20) miles after crossing the Kyll River over muddy terrain and in the face of strong enemy opposition.

Enemy losses were: 3 Mark VI tanks, 5 Mark V tanks, 200 motor vehicles, 100 horse drawn vehicles, 3 batteries of artillery; 1,200 prisoners, and 100 killed.

Resupply was effectuated during the night. It was made difficult due to the distance which had been covered during the day, the muddy terrain and the enemy artillery and small arms fire.

6 MARCH, 1945

The day dawned cold and it was snowing hard.

The Battalion moved out at 0730. We moved through the town of Ober which had been outposted the preceding night by Troop "C" of the 25th Cavalry.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

6 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

The Battalion proceeded through Daun, Darscheid, and Ulmen, meeting lessening opposition. It was the Headquarters for a Quartermaster outfit and large amounts of supplies were captured. The Battalion CP was established in Ulmen for the night with the Companies outposting the ground around the town.

Enemy losses for the day were: 100 motor vehicles, 1 Mark V tank, 15 AT guns, 200 prisoners (one a general officer), 25 killed, and an unestimated number of horse drawn artillery and wagons destroyed.

7 MARCH, 1945

The Battalion moved out this morning at 0730. The weather was cold with snow falling. Due to condition of the roads, it was necessary to deviate from the prescribed route.

The Battalion proceeded to Buchel and through town to a crossroad at the Northwest of town where we turned off toward Kaisersesch. At Kaisersesch, the Battalion halted outside of town. An ultimatum was delivered over the loud speaker system for the soldiers to give up the town or it would be destroyed. They complied and it was taken without opposition. About 200 German prisoners were taken and approximately 300 PW's of the Germans were evacuated. The PW's were of various nationalities.

Dungenheim was also taken without opposition. At Kehrig, the Battalion encountered its first opposition of the day. The town was held by an AA regiment. "D" Company destroyed the light AA guns in the valley below the town. As "D" Company proceeded up to the high ground near the town, one tank was destroyed by AT fire and another by bazooka fire. An ultimatum was given over the loud speaker for the soldiers to leave town or we would destroy it. When they refused, artillery fire was directed on the town. It was then assaulted by A/37 and C/10, and the town was taken without further loss.

The Battalion then moved on to Polch, which was taken without opposition as was Walderharfer.

At Ochtendung, two enemy trains and columns of troops were caught attempting to leave town. They were subjected to heavy fire.

The Battalion set up headquarters for the night at Ochtendung.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

7 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

In the course of the day the Battalion had advanced twenty-six (26) miles. Three (3) enemy columns were destroyed consisting of from 200 to 300 vehicles of various types; 1 Mark VI tank, 3 Mark V tanks, 2 SP's, 6 105mm guns, were destroyed. A fuel and lube dump was overrun. 800 prisoners were taken, 100 enemy were killed, and 1,500 allied prisoners of war were released.

8 MARCH, 1945

This morning A/37 and C/10 attacked Plaidt, and B/37 and B/10 attacked Saffig; both towns were taken with little opposition.

In the afternoon, B/37 and B/10 attacked Kettig. About 200 prisoners were taken in the woods between Saffig and Kettig. B/37 then took up a position on the high ground beyond Kettig to fire directly on the main highway from Andernach to Koblenz.

The Battalion CP was moved this afternoon from Ochtendung to Saffig.

Enemy losses for the day were: 3 Mark V tanks, six (6) trucks, 4 trailers, 1 bus, 2 cars, 50 vehicles and guns (of all types), and two hundred fifty (250) prisoners of war.

9 MARCH, 1945

A message was received from CC"B" at 0500 to consolidate the Battalion and prepare for a new mission, possibly to the South. Further word would be received later this morning.

During the early hours of the morning, from about 0300 to 0700, "B" Company fired on an enemy column proceeding down the main road from Andernach to Koblenz. Artillery fire was also brought to bear on this road and many horse drawn and motor vehicles were destroyed.

At about noon, today, the Battalion received word that we were now in CC"R".

At this time, "A" Company was in an assembly area at Plaidt, "C" Company in an assembly area at Saffig, "B" Company at Kehrig covering the main road from Andernach to Koblenz, and "D" Company cutting the roads in the vicinity of Saffig.

Enemy losses for the day were: One (1) Mark VI tank and 35 vehicles of various types.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

10 MARCH, 1945

C/37 relieved B/37 at Kettig. "C" Company was to send a platoon to cut the road running East-West from Andernach to Weissenthurm and to reinforce a platoon of the 10th Infantry occupying Weissenthurm. "B" Company returned to an assembly area at Saffig for maintenance and rest.

Colonel Blanchard, CO of CC"R", and Major Churchill, S-3 of CC"R", visited the CP and discussed the tactical situation with Major Hunter.

The following equipment was destroyed in Weissenthurm: 15 AA guns, 16 AT guns, 16 arty pieces, 5 rocket guns, 6 heavy mortars, 8 half-tracks, 1 tractor, 70 trucks, 9 motorcycles, 8 peeps, 11 cars, 296 wagons, 42 kitchen wagons, 2 bazookas, 4 88's, 875 rifles, 80 machine guns, 55 machine pistols. 15 enemy were killed, 475 prisoners were taken, and 500 Allied PW's released.

11 MARCH, 1945

At 1000, the Battalion received an overlay from CC"R" showing an assembly area for the Division for regrouping. Plans called for the 90th Division to take over our area. Lt. Roberts was sent to reconnoiter the proposed assembly area for the Battalion Southeast of Kerben (895-745). Word was later received by phone that these plans for regrouping had been cancelled.

12 MARCH, 1945

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1130. Major Hunter spoke concerning the order against fraternization with German civilians. He also discussed the uniform to be worn by our troops.

At 1430, Lt. Ogden arrived with an overlay showing our new assembly area.

At 1630, Major Hunter went to CC"R". Upon his return he issued orders to have D/37, an Infantry Company, a Platoon of Engineers, and the Reconnaissance Platoons of the 10th and 37th, leave at 0615 in the morning under Captain McMahon to make a reconnaissance of a proposed assembly area in the vicinity of Demereth.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

13 MARCH, 1945

At 0615, a task force composed of B/37 and the assault guns of the 37th and 10th, C/10, and a Platoon of B/24 moved to the vicinity of Mahren, swept the area for possible enemy, and found it occupied by friendly service forces.

At 1345, a phone call was received from CC"R" stating that we would not move. Orders were sent to Captain McMahon to return to the area. The force arrived back at Saffig at 1830.

14 MARCH, 1945

Major Hunter was called to CC"B" at 0900. Orders were received shortly thereafter that we were in CC"B" and were alerted for movement.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1230 and orders were issued to move at 1300 to an assembly area in the vicinity of Kaisersesch. The order of march was "D" plus the assault guns, A, B, Hqs and Hqs Co., and Service. The march was completed without incident.

At 1800, Major Hunter received a message to report to CC"B".

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1845. The plan was for the Battalion to move at 0700. The Division objective was to secure a bridgehead over the Mahe River.

The order of march was: A/37, C/10 and mortars of the 10th; Command Group of the 37th and 10th; C/37 and A/10; Platoon of B/24; D/37 and the assault guns of the 10th and 37th; 22nd; Hq 37 and 10; 66; Hq CC"B" and Div Arty; B/37 and B/10; 37th Mortar Platoon; 191; A/24; A trains; B/46; B trains. Definite word was to be received during the night as to our movement.

At 2200, Lt. Ogden, our Liaison Officer, arrived and reported that we would move after 1200 tomorrow. This word was sent to the companies.

15 MARCH, 1945

At 1030, an order was received to move at 1145 and pass through the 90th Inf Div which held a bridgehead over the Moselle River.

There was quite a delay at the bridge due to traffic congestion. The Battalion crossed the Moselle at approximately 1300 and proceeded along the route of march. The resistance was comparatively light and many prisoners were taken.

At about sundown, we reached Simmern, moved in, outposted all roads in the area and spent the night there.

~~SECRET~~ *Unclassified*

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

15 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

During the day the Battalion had traveled approximately 33 miles. Enemy losses for the day were 50 killed, 8 trucks, 6 light vehicles, and 1 tank destroyed. Uncounted numbers of prisoners were taken. No accurate check could be made on them as they were marched back along the route constantly.

16 MARCH, 1945

The companies moved out at 0630 and continued on the mission. Resistance was light until we reached the town of Norheim where we encountered 20mm AA gun positions. These were destroyed.

C/37 and A/10 proceeded on to Bad Munster where the highway bridge had been blown. They located a double track railway bridge and succeeded in crossing two platoons over it. While crossing, they were under direct fire from 20mm AA guns located on the high ground and bombed by German aircraft. The AA guns were strafed by P-47's and taken under fire by our assault guns, thus effectually silencing them.

"A" Company in the meantime had located another bridge at Oberhausen and the remainder of the Combat Command crossed there. "D" Company remained behind to outpost that bridge.

"B" Company had been left in the vicinity of Huffelsheim to guard CC"B" Headquarters and artillery.

The remainder of the Battalion proceeded to Hockstalten. A/37 and C/10 attacked and cleared this town. C/37 and A/10 had in the meantime cleared Altembamburg and joined "A" Company at Hockstalten. C/37 and A/10 then moved to Halgarten and outposted it. The Battalion CP was set up at Hockstalten.

The Battalion had proceeded about thirty miles during the day and had destroyed 50 trucks, 6 light vehicles, 1 105mm gun, killed 35 personnel and taken large numbers of prisoners.

17 MARCH, 1945

"B" Company moved up to join the Battalion, crossing the railroad bridge and arriving at Hockstalten at about 1100.

Lt. Col. Abrams, CO of CC"B", visited the Battalion at about 1000 and left orders to assault and take the towns of Furfeld and Frei Laubersheim in the afternoon.



~~SECRET~~ *Unclassified*

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

17 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

The Battalion attacked at about 1500 and took these towns without opposition. We then proceeded on to Bad Kreuznach where opposition was encountered in the form of sniper and bazooka fire. The enemy had to be routed from the cellars.

B/37 and B/10 then assembled in the vicinity of the railroad station and outposted the town for the night. "A" Company outposted Hackenheim and Frei Laubersheim; "C" Company outposted Furfeld and Heckstalten; the Battalion CP was set up at Hackenheim.

18 MARCH, 1945

At about 0700, the enemy counterattacked Heckstalten with SP's and tanks. With the aid of air support, the attack was repulsed.

At 1000, Lt. Col. Abrams arrived and discussed the situation with Major Hunter.

In the afternoon the Battalion attacked Volxheim which was stubbornly defended by tanks and Infantry. B/37 and B/10 took the town and outposted it. At this time "B" Company had only six tanks operative. They continued in this reduced state until after the Battalion reached Worms. "A" Company outposted the high ground to the East of Volxheim while "C" Company outposted Frei Leibersheim. The CP remained at Hackenheim.

During the afternoon Major Bautz of CC"A" visited the CP. Major Bautz discussed with Captain Dwight the location of our units and those of CC"A".

Major Hunter was called to CC"B" at 1900. He returned and called a Company Commander's meeting at 2200. At this time, the companies were told that the Division was to try for a bridgehead in the vicinity of Mainz.

19 MARCH, 1945

At 0630, the Battalion again started to attack. Volxheim was cleared up. Then A/37 and C/10 proceeded to take Wollstein and Gumbsheim in spite of stubborn resistance. B/37 and B/10 took the town of Ekelshausen while C/37 and A/10 captured Wonsheim. "A" Company siezed the town of Wendelsheim and outposted the area with the aid of "C" Company. Word had been received during the morning that we would proceed to Worms rather than Mainz.

This morning, at about 1100, enemy planes bombed the column in the vicinity of Wolsheim with anti-personnel bombs. The Battalion CP was established that night at Siefersheim.

[REDACTED]

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

20 MARCH, 1945

The companies moved out at 0700 to continue the attack. Resistance was light.

Upon arrival at Preddersheim, one bridge had been blown over the Pfirna River. The second was blown upon our approach.

"C" Company circled the town to the North and found a bridge at Leiselheim which they crossed. "C" Company encountered resistance at Pfiffliğheim. While they were engaged there, "A" Company bypassed "C" to the South and proceeded into Worms.

Bridges over and underpasses under the railroad tracks dividing the town of Worms in half were destroyed upon the arrival of "A" Company.

"C" Company found one bridge over the tracks to the South of "A" Company intact and moved one platoon to the banks of the Rhine. An outpost was set up on the river which destroyed many enemy who attempted to cross at night.

During the day, two batteries of 105's had been captured. Numerous vehicles were destroyed and many prisoners taken.

21 MARCH, 1945

Word was received at 0315 that we were not to proceed with cleaning out Worms but were to be relieved by the 10th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division. We were to proceed North on order towards Oppenheim.

Major Hunter was called to CC"B" at 0900. A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1000. We were to cross the IP at 1115. The order of march was: C/37, A/10; Comd Group; A/37, C/10; Plat 24 Engrs; D/37 and the assault guns of the 10th and 37th; 22nd; Hq; Ren of the 37th; MG Platoon of the 10th; B/37, B/10; Maintenance of the 37th.

During the afternoon the following towns were entered: Bechtheim, Mettenheim, Alsheim, Dern-Durkheim, Frettenheim, Hillesheim, Delgesheim, Eimsheim, and Weinelsheim. No resistance was encountered. Eight prisoners were taken.

The Battalion CP was set up at Mettenheim. "D" Company outposted Gimsheim, "A" Company the town of Guntersblum, "B" Company the town of Mettenheim, and "C" Company the town of Alsheim.

[REDACTED]

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

22 MARCH, 1945

The day was generally spent in maintenance and cleaning up. At 1045, Major Hunter went to CC"B" to secure information concerning our future operations.

At 1500, a Company Commander's meeting was held. Major Hunter explained the general plan of operations. We were to be relieved by the 5th Infantry Division either tonight or tomorrow. We were then to move to an assembly area in the vicinity of Uffhofen. The 12th Corps was to secure a bridgehead across the Rhine. An Armored Division was then to pass through with the mission of securing a bridgehead across the Main River.

At 1530, a phone call was received from CC"B" to send one tank company and one infantry company to outpost Dienheim. B/37 and B/10 moved to Dienheim and outposted the town.

23 MARCH, 1945

The Liaison Officer arrived at 0800 with an overlay showing our route of march to the proposed division assembly area at Uffhofen.

"B" Company was attacked by enemy planes between 0730 and 0800. Anti-personnel bombs were dropped but no casualties were suffered.

Major Hunter was called to CC"B" at 1330. A message was received from him at 1415 saying that our move to the rear had been cancelled. The companies were instead to be alerted to cross the Rhine over a bridgehead held by the 5th Infantry Division. Captain McMahon went out on a reconnaissance of the area occupied by the bridgehead.

Major Hunter was again called to CC"B" at 1900.

At 2020, the Liaison Officer arrived with the information that CC"A" would lead off in the morning and that we would follow sometime after 1100.

24 MARCH, 1945

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1000. The order of march within CC"B" was: C/25; C/704; A/37, C/10; Comd Group 10 and 37; C/37, A/10; 22nd; Hqs and Hqs Co; B/37, B/10; 191; CC"B"; D/37 and assault guns of 10th and 37th; A/24; B/46; and A Trains. We were to be ready to move on a one hour notice after 1200. The mission of CC"B" was to block any attacks from the South on the route of advance from Oben Romstadt to a point five kilometers North of Babenhausen.

[REDACTED]

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

24 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

At 1545, word was received from CC"B" to move out at once. Leading elements of the column crossed the bridge over the Rhine at 1600. German aircraft made several efforts to bomb the bridge while the column was crossing.

At this time we received a new route of march taking us somewhat to the South of our original route.

The Battalion passed through the 5th Infantry Division and continued on its route against comparatively light resistance.

It was determined at this time to continue the attack throughout the night. Three (3) towns were taken before midnight.

25 MARCH, 1945

During the early hours of the morning, the enemy was surprised and overrun by the attack, causing them to destroy many supply dumps. Resistance continued to be light.

Daybreak found the Battalion at Jugenheim, having covered a distance of about thirty miles, where we halted briefly to resupply the vehicles. Approximately 200 prisoners were taken from that town.

The Battalion continued its rapid advance and by 1220 had reached the Main River.

"D" Company was sent to Niedernberg to attempt to secure a crossing. There was no bridge at this point. "D" Company then proceeded North to a railroad bridge across the Main River which it secured, after neutralizing demolitions on the bridge. "D" Company crossed the bridge and outposted the high ground on the East side.

A/37 had in the meantime been sent to Aschaffenburg to try to secure a main highway bridge there. The bridge was blown when "A" Company was about 300 yards distant.

B/37, B/10, C/37, and A/10 crossed over the railroad bridge and started to attack Aschaffenburg. They were withdrawn on order and remained East of the Main River, outposting with D/37 the high ground to the East of the River.

Enemy planes made unsuccessful attempts to bomb the bridge, starting shortly before dark and continuing throughout the night.

On the 24th and 25th, the Battalion had destroyed 27 trucks, 23 AA guns, 7 SP's, 2 AT guns, 1 105 Howitzer, 45 vehicles, 1 flak car, 1 motorcycle; 375 PW's were taken and 90 enemy killed. 20

[REDACTED]

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

26 MARCH, 1945

The early hours of the morning were highlighted by unsuccessful air attacks on the bridge.

At about 0120, the Battalion was alerted due to an enemy tank attack on the 25th Cavalry.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1500. The Battalion was to remain in its present location until relieved by elements of the 7th Army.

Word was brought by our Liaison Officer at 1700 that we were to furnish a Medium Tank Company and a Platoon of Light Tanks as part of a task force to go on a special mission to the East. They were to attempt to rescue and bring back with them some American Prisoners of War.

Lt. Col. Abrams of CC"B" and Lt. Col. Cohen of the 10th Infantry arrived at the CP at 1800 to discuss the mission with Major Hunter.

Plans were made for one medium tank company and one infantry company to make a break-through at Schweinfurt to allow the task force to pass through. B/37 and B/10 were to make this break-through. The task force was composed of C/37, A/10, and a Platoon of D/37.

B/37 and B/10 attacked Schweinfurt after a heavy artillery concentration (3 Battalions of 10 volleys). Their mission was to open one street and hold it while the task force went through. The attack was made shortly after 2100. Enemy resistance consisted of bazooka and small arms fire. B/37 and B/10 forced their way through town, overran an enemy mortar position, and held the route open until the task force passed through. One tank of B/37 was lost. Due to lack of any visible enemy, the operation was unusual. Thirty-five enemy were captured and an unknown number killed.

B/37 and B/10 then returned and outposted the bridgehead.

27 MARCH, 1945

The CO of the 3rd Battalion, 104th Infantry Regiment, arrived about 0730 to make plans with Major Hunter to relieve us.

At 0900, Lt. Ogden, our Liaison Officer, arrived with word that we were to move before noon.

At 1000, word was received that we were in CC"R".

[REDACTED]

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945", 11 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

27 MARCH, 1945 (Cont'd)

During the morning B/37 was relieved by elements of the 26th Division and crossed back over the Main River shortly after 1200.

Word was sent to the companies that we would go into an assembly area in the vicinity of Babenhausen. The order of march was "D" and assault guns, A, Hq Co, B, and Service.

The Battalion moved out at about 1830 and arrived at Babenhausen at 2000; covering a distance of approximately fifteen miles.

28 MARCH, 1945

The Liaison Officer arrived at 0800 with word that the Battalion was to be ready to move at 0930.

Major Hunter went to CC"R". Upon his return, a Company Commander's meeting was held. We were to be ready to move any time after 1200 and were to follow CC"B". The order of march was to be: Ren/704; Ren/37; D/37 and assault guns of 37; A/37; C/10; Command Group 37 and 10; Hqs Reserve Command; Platoon of 24 Engrs; A/704; Division Forward; Hqs 37 and 10; B/37; B/10; B/24; A Trains.

The head of the column moved out at 1415, covered a distance of fifty miles, and arrived at Munzenburg at 2230.

Colonel Blanchard, CO of CC"R", arrived at the CP at 2300 and discussed plans for movement of Reserve Command in the morning behind CC"A".

29 MARCH, 1945

The column moved out at 0900 but was halted after proceeding six kilometers.

Original plans were changed. CC"R", less Division Forward, was now to proceed along a separate route to the South to the town of Herbstein.

The column moved out at 1230. Resistance was light. Several small towns and one large town were taken. About 300 prisoners were captured, one railroad terminal with much material was rendered useless, and a column of AA guns towed by full track prime movers were destroyed.

The Battalion arrived at Herbstein at 1830 and outposted the town.

Letter, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of March, 1945". 11 March, 1945. (Cont'd)

30 MARCH, 1945

"D" Company at 1000 sent a platoon to meet Division Forward and escort them to this area.

Major Churchill, S-3 of CC"R", visited the C.P. this morning and discussed the disposition of security with Major Hunter.

31 MARCH, 1945

Major Hunter was called to CC"R" at 0800.

A company commanders meeting was held at 0900. We were to follow CC"R"'s route. The order of march was: "D" plus Assault guns; A/37, C/10; Comd group 37 and 10; Hqs Reserve Comd; C/24; A/704; Div. Fwd; 22nd; Hqs 37 and 10; B/37, B/10; B/24; A/trains; B/trains. The battalion moved out at 1000 and proceeded to Hersfeld, arriving at 1900, covering a distance of thirty miles.

**For the Battalion Commander:**

3 Incls:  
Incl # 1 - Overlays  
Incl # 2 - Journal  
Incl # 3 - Messages

*Roy C. Moon*  
ROY C. MOON  
1st Lt., Inf.  
Adjutant.



*See Case*

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY SEVENTH TANK BATTALION  
APO 254, US Army

2 March, 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of February, 1945.

TO : Commanding General, 4th Armd Div, APO 254, US Army.  
ATTENTION: G-1.

1 FEBRUARY - 19 FEBRUARY, 1945

During this period, the Battalion was not engaged in any enemy action.

20 FEBRUARY, 1945

A phone call was received tonight from Reserve Command stating that the Battalion was to have a Ron party here at 0900 tomorrow to go out and reconnoiter new areas. Representatives of Reserve Command were to be here at that time with further instructions.

21 FEBRUARY, 1945

The Ron party was sent out this morning to check on billeting in Brouch, Kepweiler, Schwebach, Geirner, and Boesendorf.

22 FEBRUARY, 1945

At 0830 word was received from Reserve Command that we would move at 1300 to the area reconnoitered yesterday.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1000. The order of march was: D, Hq, Hq Co, A, C, B, and Service. The route of march was: Dahlem, Garnich, Koerich, Septfontaines, Saeul, and Brouch.

The head of the column moved out at 1300 and arrived at Brouch at 1415, covering a distance of approximately 16 miles.

23 FEBRUARY, 1945

Lt. Roberts and the reconnaissance platoon were sent out at 1000 to reconnoiter routes to Giechlingen via Diekirch and Vianden to be used in the event that we were employed to aid CC"B".

Lt. Roberts returned from his reconnaissance and reported that CC"B" had been committed. Elements of CC"B" were in Sinspell at 1130. The route reconnaissance was forwarded to CC"B" this afternoon.

16

CC-B-1

JUL 1945

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Ltr, Hq 37th Tk Bn, 2 March, 1945, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of February, 1942 (Cont'd)"

23 FEBRUARY, 1945 (Cont'd)

At about 2030, a phone call was received from Division Headquarters advising the Battalion that we are now in CC"B". Lt. Col. Abrams was to report to CC"B" at 0730 on the 24th of February.

24 FEBRUARY, 1945

Lt. Col. Abrams and Captain Dwight left for CC"B" at 0700. A Company Commander's meeting was held at 0800. The Battalion was to move to Obersgegen on Division order. The order of march was: Ron, D, C, Bn Hq, Hq Co, A, B, and Maintenance. Service Company was to follow later on order.

A second Company Commander's meeting was held at 0905 due to a change in route. The route of march was: Mersch, Udinger, Angelsberg, Schoos, Erzen, Fischback, Heffengen, Christnach, Waldbillig, Niedersgegen, Korpersnach, Obersgegen, Geiohlingen.

The head of the column left Brouch at 0930 and arrived in an assembly area 1/4 of a mile South of Obersgegen, Germany, (P967531) at 1315, having covered approximately 32 miles. The Battalion entered Germany at 1130, crossing a bridge over the Our River.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1400. Lt. Col. Abrams gave the present situation. This Battalion was to replace a company of the 8th Tank Battalion now with the 51st Infantry.

At about 1600, enemy artillery fire fell on the edge of our assembly area and wounded two (2) enlisted men.

At 1630, "B" Company, with Major Bautz in charge, moved out to relieve the company from the 8th.

At 1810, on order from the Battalion Commander, Major Hunter moved up the remainder of the Battalion. The order of march was: A, C, D, Hq. The Battalion arrived in bivouac at 1920.

Lt. Col. Abrams visited CC"B" at 1740. Upon his return he gave out instructions. The Battalion was to attack at 0715 in the morning with the 51st Battalion to take Outscheid and the high ground North; then to proceed Southeast and establish a bridgehead at Hermesdorf.

25 FEBRUARY, 1945

At 0630, "A" and "C" companies moved up to join the infantry companies on the high ground Northeast of Outscheid in the rear of "B" Company.

Ltr, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of February, 1945", 2 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

25 FEBRUARY, 1945 (Cont'd)

B/37 and B/51 attacked at 0715 and took the town of Neiderweidingen after artillery preparation on the town and artillery and mortar smoke on the high ground to the Northeast.

B/37 and B/51 then attacked Weidingen and cleaned out that town and outposted it to the East. A/37 in the meantime had held the high ground Northwest of Weidingen.

At shortly after 0900, a message was received that Lt. Col. Abrams was to assume command of CC"B". Major Hunter assumed command of the Battalion and Lt. Col. Alanis took charge of the task force.

C/37 and C/51 passed through B/37 and B/51, took the town of Altscheid, and outposted it.

A/37 with A/51 passed through and proceeded toward Koosbusch. Just Southeast of Altscheid, they met anti-tank fire and lost one tank. They then proceeded on, took Koosbusch and the high ground beyond it.

B/37 and B/51 then proceeded forward, and, after an artillery barrage, attacked and took the town of Hermesdorf. They also secured the bridge at Hermesdorf but it was weakened and not safe for heavy vehicles. B/37 located a ford and crossed over, establishing a bridgehead on the other side.

C/37 and C/51 proceeded forward and took up positions on the high ground overlooking Rittersdorf. Rittersdorf was shelled by artillery and also bombed by P-47's after which A/37 and A/51 proceeded forward and took the town. They also took the bridge and proceeded on establishing a bridgehead on the high ground Northwest of Bitburg.

"B" and "C" of the 37th went into position on the West side of the river on the high ground to the West of Rittersdorf covering North and South. "D" Company went into position behind "C" Company protecting the North flank.

A meeting of the Company Commanders and Battalion Staff was held at the CP of the 51st at 2300. The general plan for the following day was for the 37th, 51st, and "C" Company of 704 TD to cross the Kyll River and seize Badem.

Enemy losses for the day were: 1 Mk 4, 1 Mk 5, 5 SP's, 3 H/T's, 4 Trucks, 5 105mm guns, 7 75's, 6 88's. In personnel the enemy lost 200 killed and over 1,000 captured. Our losses for the day were 1 tank and 1 officer wounded.

Ltr, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of February, 1945." 2 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

26 FEBRUARY, 1945

It was raining this morning with visibility fair. At about 0600, "B" and "C" and "B" and "C" Companies of the 51st Infantry started to move across the Nims River at Rittersdorf to join "A" Company, 37th, and "A" Company, 51st. D/37 and C/704 had the mission of protecting the North and South flank.

After crossing the river and heading East, "B" Company received tank fire from the woods to their South and lost three (3) tanks shortly after 0800. B/37 and B/51 proceeded East toward the town of Matzen and took the high ground West of the town. "B" Company received direct anti-tank fire and lost one (1) tank at this point. At the same time C/37 and C/51 advanced East and went into position on the high ground Northeast of BM 418. At this point C/37 came under enemy artillery fire and lost one (1) tank and had the blade knocked off the bulldozer tank.

At about 1500, C/37 and C/51 assaulted the woods (612-550). Some enemy personnel were captured and the remainder retreated toward Bitburg.

B/51 attempted to proceed into Erdorf but were repulsed and withdrew shortly after 1500.

During this time CC"A" crossed the river at Rittersdorf and took up a position to our South and Southeast. Then the 37th and 51st Infantry went into position North and Northeast of Rittersdorf with D/37 and C/704 on the North left flank, A/37 and A/51 on the Northeast, and C/37 and C/51 on the East joining the 53rd Infantry Battalion.

Resupply was made difficult due to enemy artillery and muddy terrain. In effecting their resupply, "A" Company suffered two (2) casualties.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 2300. The 37th and 51st Battalions were to proceed North at 0830, take the towns of Nattenheim and Fliessem and the high ground 431.

Enemy losses for the day were: 4 tanks, 2 personnel carriers, one (1) 88 dual purpose, 1 towed AT gun, 1 truck, 44 PW's and 76 killed.

Our losses were three (3) tanks, seventeen (17) casualties of whom four (4) were killed.

Ltr, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of February, 1945", 2 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

27 FEBRUARY, 1945

It was raining this morning and the visibility was poor. The attack was late in starting due to poor visibility.

A/37 and A/51 moved out at 0840 to attack the town of Nattenheim after an artillery concentration had been delivered on that town. The town was taken by 0900 without resistance. The town was outposted.

C/37 and C/51 had meanwhile moved into position to occupy the high ground overlooking Fliessem.

B/37 and B/51 moved on through "A" Company and proceeded on beyond the town of Nattenheim. They were held up temporarily by fire from the woods to their North and West. They took about twenty (20) prisoners and then went into position on the high ground North of Nattenheim.

Artillery preparation was in the meantime falling on Fliessem after which C/37 and C/51 moved in and took the town at about 1100 hours.

Bn Hqs moved from Rittersdorf to Nattenheim, arriving at about 1400.

The companies took up positions. "C" Company outposted the town of Fliessem, screening to the South and connecting with the 53rd Infantry. "A" Company took up positions on the high ground screening to the North and West of Fliessem. "B" Company connected with "A" and protected Nattenheim from the North. D/37 and C/704, with assault guns of the 37th, protected to the North, connecting with "B".

Enemy vehicle and personnel losses for the day were: 25 killed, one (1) 88, 3 H/T's, 2 Staff cars, 5 trucks. The Battalion suffered no casualties in this action.

28 FEBRUARY, 1945

There was a small amount of enemy patrol action early this morning, during the hours of darkness. "D" Company suffered one casualty.

A Company Commander's meeting was held at 0830. At that time Major Hunter told the Company Commanders the general situation and announced that the day was to be spent in maintenance and the cleaning of weapons. The companies were to remain in their present position.

Major Hunter visited CC"B" at about 0930.

Ltr, Hq 37th Tank Bn, Subject: "After Action Report for Month of February, 1945", 2 March, 1945 (Cont'd)

28 FEBRUARY, 1945 (Cont'd)

Word was received at 1030 that CC"B" was to take Sefferweich and Malbergweich today. A Company Commander's meeting was held at 1130. "C" Company was to be in reserve and to take B/37's position. "D" Company was to have one platoon in position and move the remainder of the company, with TD's and assault guns, to C/37's position. B/37 and A/37 with Infantry companies were to move astride the main road, clean out the woods and take the high ground overlooking Sefferweich from the East and Malbergweich from the West. B/37 would then assault Malbergweich and take the high ground Northwest of it. A/37 would assault Malbergweich and take the high ground East of that town. The 25th Cavalry would take hill 475 and would relieve "A" and "B" Companies after they gained their position.

The companies moved out at 1330. B/37 moved up to the woods (130-609) where they were held up by fire from an anti-tank gun which controlled the trail through the woods and the main road. After some delay B/37 proceeded on up around the woods to the Northeast corner of the woods to some high ground Southeast of Sefferweich.

A/37 and A/51 had in the meantime moved out and came under enemy artillery and small arms fire as they approached the woods. It was impossible to get through the woods with tanks or around the East side of the woods. It was decided to try the main North-South road. The road was mined and A/37 had three (3) tanks damaged at the crossroad. They also received some mortar and small arms fire. The damaged vehicles formed a road block holding up the company for some time. After the Engineers cleared the road, "A" Company succeeded in getting through the woods.

The day ended with A/37 and B/37 with their Infantry companies taking up positions in the vicinity of 135-620.

Enemy casualties were: 1 Mk 6 tank, 1 75 AT gun, 6 PW's, 15 killed.

Our casualties were: 3 tanks and 8 enlisted men wounded, 1 Officer killed.

For the Battalion Commander:

1 Incl  
Battalion Journal (Feb 45)

*Roy C. Moon*  
ROY C. MOON,  
1st Lt., Inf,  
Adjutant.

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