

HEADQUARTERS 80th INFANTRY DIVISION

AFTER-ACTION REPORT

APRIL

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## AFTER-ACTION REPORT

G-3 Section  
80th Inf Div

APRIL 1945

During the month of April 1945, the 80th Inf Div played a major role in the dividing and conquering of Germany. The beginning of the month found the 80th following the 6th Armd Div to the outskirts of Kassel, where the Div passed thru the armor and assaulted the city. The 2d day of the assault brought the surrender of the enemy garrison by the German Commander.

The 80th Inf Div then moved to Gotha and again advanced to the East in conjunction with the 4th Armd Div. The armor by-passed the major points of resistance to reach the Fulda R near Chemnitz. The 80th Inf Div pressing close behind the armor, captured Erfurt, Weimar, Jena and Gera in quick succession. In all these key cities, with the exception of Weimar, bitter resistance was encountered from small but fanatical elements of the Army and the Nazi Party. Weimar was surrendered by the Burgomeister on receipt of our ultimatum. The drive to the East was halted on order from higher headquarters on the outskirts of Chemnitz.

On the 17th of the month the 80th Division moved South and occupied Nurnberg until recommitted on the 29th of the month South of Regensburg. Advancing South from the bridgehead across the Danube R at Regensburg, the 80th Div reached the Isar R and at the end of the month had seized crossings of the Isar R and was prepared to continue the advance to the South.

During the month the 80th Div was attached to XX Corps. The 633d AAA AW (Mbl) Bn, the 702d Tk Bn and the 811th TD Bn (SP) were attached to the 80th Div.

A total of thirty-two thousand three hundred and eighteen (32,318) prisoners of war were taken by the 80th Div during the month of April.

### CAPTURE OF KASSEL

1 thru 5 April

Moving from assembly areas N of Homberg early the afternoon of the 1st of April the 80th Div passed thru elements of the 6th Armd Div and pushed N to the outskirts of Kassel. The 318th Infantry assaulted the city from the S and W. The 319th Infantry forced crossings of the Fulda R and assaulted the city from the S and SE. Bitter resistance was met at the outskirts of the city from dug-in infantry supported by high velocity direct-fire weapons and heavy tanks. By the 4th of April the 318th Inf had penetrated to the center of the city and the garrison commander, General Exleben, surrendered the city with the remnants of the garrison. The Div then faced to the East and early the morning of the 5th of April attacked to the E. At noon of the 5th the attack of the 80th Div was halted on order of higher Hq and the 69th Inf Div passed thru our advanced elements to continue the attack to the East. The 80th Div moved into assembly areas prepared for movement to the SE.

1 April

317th Inf moved by motor to a forward assembly area in the Vic of Maden, in Div Reserve.

318th Inf: 1st Bn passed thru elements of the 6th Arm'd Div and attacked towards Kassel. The axis of advance was along the main highway from the S and good progress was made, carrying the 1st Bn to within three (3) miles of the outskirts of the city. The 2d Bn attacked N on the left of the 1st Bn to assault the city from the S and W and reached Altenritte. The 3d Bn followed the advance of the 1st Bn in Regtl Res.

319th Inf: 1st Bn moved to a forward assembly area in the vicinity of Melgershausen and immediately attacked to the NE and seized a crossing of the Fulda River S of Kassel. At 1845 the 1st Bn had crossed the Fulda R and was attacking N parallel to the Autobahn to assault Kassel from the S and E and seize that portion of the city which lies E of the Fulda R. The 2d Bn crossed the Fulda R SE of the 1st Bn and immediately attacked N on the right of the 1st Bn. The 3d Bn crossed the Fulda R at 2200 in Regtl Res.

The 80th Cav Rcn Tr, on the West flank of the Div, reconnoitered to the N and established contact with elements of the First US Army.

#### 2 April

The 3d Bn of the 317th Inf was called on early in the morning to move forward to Kirchbauna and attack an enemy force of tanks and infantry which had moved S from Kassel and succeeded in passing between the 2d and 1st Bns of the 318th Inf. The Bn successfully counterattacked this force knocking out four enemy tanks and driving the remainder to the N. The tanks were the newest model "Tiger Royal" and had been taken directly from the factory in Kassel to counter our attack. The 3d Bn then occupied Kirchbauna. The 1st Bn established road blocks to protect the Division W flank. The 2d Bn remained in reserve at Altenritte.

318th Inf: The 1st Bn continued to attack towards Kassel from the S against stubborn resistance and two enemy counterattacks of tanks and infantry were repulsed. By the end of the day the 1st Bn had fought its way into the Southern outskirts of the city but were still encountering stiff resistance. The 2d Bn meeting strong resistance cleared the enemy from Brusselburg and seized the high ground dominating Kassel from the W. At the end of the day the 2d Bn was reorganizing to assault the city from the W. The 3d Bn attacked N between the 2d and 1st Bns to capture the railroad yards on the S side of the city. The enemy defended fiercely from the RR embankment but at close of period the 3d Bn had entered the yards and were pressing to the N.

319th Inf: The 1st Bn continued their Atk to the North and reached Berghausen after reducing enemy strong points along the East bank of the Fulda R and on the Autobahn. The 3d Bn attacked N from the crossing site on the Fulda R and captured Vollmarshausen. The 2d Bn seized Wellerode early in the day and at the close of the day were moving N to join the 3d Bn.

#### 3 April

317th Inf protected the W flank of the Division moving N in conjunction with the advance of the 318th Inf. The end of the day found the 1st Bn in Herleshausen, the 2d Bn in Walershausen and the 3d Bn in reserve at Bengershausen.

318th Inf: 1st Bn continued to attack thru the outskirts of Kassel, reduced the resistance along the RR tracks and during the night engaged in heavy fighting in the barracks area which was the last major obstacle before the Bn could break into the center of the city. The 2d Bn assaulted the city from the W and pushed thru the Northern half of the city to reach the Fulda R in the center of the town.

3 April

The Western end of the main bridge across the river was seized by the 2d Bn and during the night stubborn fighting went on for possession of the bridge. The 3d Bn pushed into the city from the SE and reached the two main avenues the Wilhelmstrasse and the Hohenzollernstrasse running E and W thru the city. Turning E the Bn attacked down these two main Avenues to reach the Fulda R. The enemy launched two desperate counterattacks, one down each Avenue, but both were repulsed and the 3d Bn continued their advance.

319th Inf: 1st Bn was engaged in heavy fighting around the aerodrome SE of Kassel during the day. The 2d Bn attacked N early in the morning and met an enemy counterattack which was quickly repulsed. The Bn reorganized, jumped off again and seized Crumbach. At the end of the period the 2d Bn had reached Bettenhausen and was pressing on to the NW to contact the 318th Inf across the Fulda R bridge in Kassel. The 3d Bn seized the high ground overlooking Bettenhausen and protected the N and E flank of the regiment.

The 80th Cav Ron Tr, relieved by the 3d Cav Gp on the Division W flank, immediately moved to the E flank for attachment to the 319th Inf.

4 April

317th Inf: 2d Bn moved rapidly thru the Northern outskirts of Kassel and to the NE, and seized Ihringshausen to secure the N entrances to Kassel. A strong enemy counterattack was launched from N of Ihringshausen but was repulsed by the 2d Bn with extremely heavy losses to the enemy. Enemy pressure continued during the night but the 2d Bn repulsed all enemy attempts to re-enter Kassel. The 1st Bn seized Niedervellmar to protect the N flank of the Division in conjunction with the 2d Bn. The 3d Bn moved to the N outskirts of Kassel in Regtl Res and at 1800 crossed the Fulda R and relieved the 3d Bn 319th Inf in Sandershausen.

318th Inf: Early in the morning the 1st Bn finally broke the enemy resistance in the Southern sector of Kassel and surrounded the remnants of the garrison in a large air raid shelter in the cliff on which the old part of the city was built. An ultimatum was delivered to the garrison commander Gen Maj Erxleben and at 1145 the German General surrendered with his troops. With this surrender the last organized resistance from the city disappeared. The 2d Bn attacked across the Fulda R bridge during the early morning, seized the bridge intact and made contact with the 319th Inf. The 3d Bn mopped-up scattered enemy resistance remaining in the center of the city.

319th Inf: The 1st Bn captured the Kassel aerodrome and reduced all organized enemy resistance around the aerodrome with the exception of occasional sniper fire. The 1st Bn immediately prepared to attack to the N. The 2d Bn captured Sandershausen and occupied that town until relieved at 1800 by the 3d Bn 317th Inf. The 2d Bn then went into an assembly area and prepared to continue the attack to the E. The 3d Bn continued to occupy the high ground dominating Bettenhausen and prepared to attack to the East.

5 April

317th Inf: The 3d Bn attacked to the NE from Sandershausen and seized the high ground S of Landwehrhagen. The 3d Bn was prepared to assault the town when the mission of the 80th Inf Div was changed and the attack was halted. Elms of the 69th Inf Div relieved the 3d Bn and continued the attack during the afternoon. The 1st and 2d Bns moved across the Fulda R to assembly areas in the vicinity of Bettenhausen where they remained prepared for further movement.

5 April

318th Inf: The 318th Inf occupied and maintained law and order in the city of Kassel. The relief of the 318th Inf in this mission by Elms of the 69th Inf Div was begun in the early afternoon and continued throughout the night.

219th Inf: The 1st Bn attacked to the E and captured the town of Gutwindshausen before the attack was halted due to the change of the Division mission. The Bn occupied the town and repulsed an enemy counterattack of infantry supported by tanks. The 2d Bn occupied the town of Heiligenrode. The 3d Bn attacked and seized the towns of Oberkaufungen and Niederkaufungen against determined enemy resistance, and occupied these towns. Concentrations of enemy tanks and infantry to the NE were dispersed by our artillery and supporting aircraft. By the end of the day the whole division had been halted in place. The 80th Inf Division's mission of pressing the attack to the E had been taken over by the 69th Inf Div.

#### MOVEMENT TO GOTHA

6 - 7 April

The movement from the Kassel area to Gotha was accomplished in two days.

On 6 April the 317th and 318th Inf Regts moved to an assembly area NE of Eisenach. The 319th Inf was relieved by elements of the 69th US Inf Div and concentrated in the vicinity of Oberkaufungen. Combat team attachments were effective for the movement.

On 7 April the 317th and 318th Inf Regts moved to Gotha and relieved elements of the 4th Armd Div, outposting the city, the 317th to the NE of the city and the 318th to the SE. The 319th Inf moved from the Kassel area to Gotha and occupied the city, taking over the 4th Armd Division's mission of maintaining law and order in the city. All organizations immediately made preparations for further movement to the E.

#### ERFURT-WEIMAR-JENA-CHEMNITZ

8 April thru 17 April

On April 8 the 80th Inf Div began the attack to the East which was to result in the capture of the cities of ERFURT, WEIMAR, JENA and GERA, and to carry the Division as far East as CHEMNITZ before a change in mission was received and the Division moved to the South. In the opening drive the 80th Inf Div enveloped ERFURT from the North and the South. The 4th Armd Div passed thru these two spearheads of the 80th Inf Div and dashed to the E by-passing the major cities and enemy pockets of resistance. The Autobahn was the main axis of advance of both the 80th Inf Div and 4th Armd Div and no account of this operation would be complete without mention of this four-lane highway which, despite three or four major demolitions accomplished by the enemy, contributed immensely to the speed of the operation. Stubborn resistance was encountered from fanatical groups in ERFURT, JENA and GERA. WEIMAR was surrendered to our advancing troops by the Burgomeister on receipt of our ultimatum. The defenders of CHEMNITZ refused to consider the ultimatum delivered by the 80th Inf Div, however simultaneously with the refusal of the CHEMNITZ garrison to surrender the order for the 80th Inf Div to move to a new sector was received and preparations for the assault of the city were discontinued.

### 8 April thru 17 April

With the seizure of these major cities by troops of the 80th Inf Div many of Germany's key industries, including the ZEISS optical works in JENA fell into our hands. Key communication centers were cut and the escape route from BERLIN to the South was narrowed to such an extent as to make anything but a very limited withdrawal of troops thru CZECHOSLOVAKIA unfeasible. Finally the MULDA R defense line which the Germans had hoped to develop as a continuation of the ELBE defensive line was broken.

The team of the 80th Inf Div and the 4th Armd Div had once again broken thru the enemy defenses and exploited the breakthrough to the maximum. This was to be the last time this combination operated and it is interesting to recall the other exploits of this team. Starting from the SAINE R NW of TROYS the 80th Inf Div and 4th Armd Div advanced to the MOSELLE R. The 80th Inf Div bridgehead across the MOSELLE R was exploited by the 4th Armd Div. The 318th Inf of the 80th Inf Div drove into BASTOGNE with the 4th Armd Div. The 4th Armd Div passed thru the 80th Inf Div breach in the SIEGFRIED LINE at WALLENDORF to start the drive to the RHINE R. Finally the drive from GOTHIA to CHEMNITZ climaxed the teamwork of these two divisions.

### 8 April

The 317th Inf occupied positions NE of GOTHIA. The 2d Bn advanced against scattered opposition to TROCHTELBOREN and the 3d Bn seized PFERDINGSLEBEN.

The 318th Inf occupied positions S and E of GOTHIA and the 1st Bn advanced its positions to ANDERSLEBEN. The 2d Bn moved forward to TUTTLEBEN.

The 319th Inf continued to occupy and maintain law and order in GOTHIA.

### 9 April

317th Inf: 1st Bn remained in Regtl reserve at HAUSEN. The 2d Bn attacked at 0530 and seized the highground N of BIENSTADT. The attack was continued to the E and the towns of KLEINFARNER and CIENSTADT were captured. The 3d Bn advanced to the E as far as SEEBERSURPA.

318th Inf: The 1st Bn advanced to the E and occupied the towns of WICHMAN and APFFELSTADT. The 2d Bn seized GROSSEITLACH.

The 319th Inf continued to occupy the city of GOTHIA.

The 80th Cav Rcn Tr advanced to the E in conjunction with the 317th Inf and destroyed a group of young German soldiers who resisted fanatically on the high ground in the vicinity of BIENSTADT. At the close of the day the Rcn Tr was relieved by Hlms of the 76th Inf Div and moved to GOTHIA in Division Reserve.

### 10 April

317th Inf: The 2d and 3d Bns continued to attack to the E meeting scattered resistance from enemy strong points in towns situated on the roads approaching ERFURT. The 2d Bn reached GISPERSLEBEN and the 3d Bn captured BINDERSLEBEN. At the end of the day, a fanatical group continued to oppose the 3d Bn from ALLACH although the town was surrounded. The 1st Bn followed the advance of the leading Bns in Regtl Reserve.



10 April

318th Inf: The 3d Bn attacked to the E at 0600 passing thru the 1st Bn. Stiff resistance was encountered, but finally overcome by noon at KLEINRETTELBACH. The attack of the 3d Bn was immediately pressed to the E and at close of the day EGSTEDT and BECHSTEDT were captured. The 1st Bn attacked early in the afternoon to seize the high ground dominating ERFURT from the S. The 2d Bn continued to attack towards the SE section of ERFURT and met stiff resistance throughout the day. SCHMIRA and BISCHLEBEN were captured by the 2d Bn during the day and the attack was continued during the night.

The 319th Inf was relieved of the mission of maintaining law and order in GOTHA and moved to a forward assembly area in the vicinity of GAMSTADT.

11 April

317th Inf: 2d Bn continued to fight for possession of GISPERSLEBEN and the bridge in the center of the town. During the early morning the enemy launched a counterattack N from ERFURT to drive the 2d Bn from GISPERSLEBEN. The 2d Bn held firmly against the counterattack. The 1st Bn began moving forward at 0500 to pass thru the 2d Bn at GISPERSLEBEN. This movement placed the 1st Bn on the flank of the enemy counterattack and they immediately took advantage of their position and attacked driving the enemy back into ERFURT with heavy losses. The 1st and 2d Bns mopped up GISPERSLEBEN and seized the bridge in tact allowing one Combat Command of the 4th Armd Div to pass to the N of ERFURT to begin their drive to the E. Late in the afternoon the 2d Bn occupied KERSPLEBEN blocking the exits from ERFURT to the NE.

The 3d Bn reduced the fanatical group of enemy who continued to resist in ALLACH and moved forward to occupy MARBACH blocking the exits from ERFURT to the NW.

318th Inf: The 1st Bn captured and mopped up the high ground dominating ERFURT from the S and occupied positions to assault the city. The 2d Bn continued their attack and by nightfall had reached the SE outskirts of ERFURT and occupied positions to launch the final assault on the city. The 3d Bn attacking on the right flank of the 1st Bn drove N to seize the towns of DITTELSTEDT, BUSSLEBEN and NIEDERNISSA, cutting the last exits to the E from the now encircled city of ERFURT.

319th Inf: Followed the advance of the 4th Armd Div which had sent a Combat Command S of the city to advance to the E parallel to the Autobahn. The 319th Inf with the 1st and 3d Bns leading cleared resistance by-passed by the armor in town and along the Autobahn. At the close of the day the 1st Bn occupied POSSENDORF and the 3d Bn occupied UTZBERG.

The 80th Cav Rcn Tr moved to SCHMIRA and BINDERSLEBEN to block the western exits from ERFURT.

### 12 April

317th Inf: The 1st Bn attacked ERFURT from the N in conjunction with the attack of the 318th Inf and pressed the attack into the city until 1630 when 1st Bn broke contact with the enemy and entrucked to move to KOTSCHAU. The 3d Bn attacked ERFURT from the NE and advanced against determined resistance. The 3d Bn aided the 318th Inf in mopping up ERFURT and then assembled prepared to move E and join the remainder of the Regt.

The 2d Bn moved forward during the day and late in the afternoon relieved Elms of the 319th Inf in WEIMAR. The 2d Bn was charged with the maintenance of law and order in WEIMAR.

318th Inf: At 0630 the 1st and 2d Bns launched a coordinated assault to capture the city of ERFURT. Determined resistance was encountered along the canal running E and W thru the southern portion of the city. This line was broken during the late morning and the two Bns advanced against stubborn but scattered resistance to the center of the city. By 1900, all resistance in ERFURT had been overcome. The 3d Bn maintained its positions blocking the eastern exits of the city.

319th Inf: An ultimatum was delivered to the city of WEIMAR by the 319th Inf calling for the immediate and unconditional surrender of the city. The Burgomeister of WEIMAR surrendered the city late in the morning and the 2d Bn of the 319th Inf immediately moved forward and occupied the city until relieved of this mission by the 2d Bn of the 317th Inf during the late afternoon. With the fall of WEIMAR, the notorious concentration camp of BUCHENWALD was taken over by the 80th Inf Div and all possible steps were immediately taken for the relief of the inmates.

The 1st and 3d Bns by-passed WEIMAR and advanced rapidly to the E to take up positions to assault the city of JENA. The 1st Bn reached GROTTEN and the 3d Bn reached NYDERSYNDERSTEDT.

### 13 April

319th Inf: The 1st and 2d Bns cleared enemy resistance from the city of JENA on the W side of the SAALE R during the morning. The ultimatum demanding the surrender of the city was refused by the garrison commander and stubborn resistance was encountered on the steep wooded approaches to the city. After having overcome all resistance in the city of JENA the 1st and 2d Bns were relieved by Elms of the 317th Inf, and immediately continued the advance to the E.

The 3d Bn moved E on motors at 1445 and encountered only scattered resistance before reaching the city of GERA. Once again a fanatical group decided to defend the city and at the close of the day the 3d Bn was in position to launch an assault on the city.

317th Inf: The 1st Bn seized and held the high ground W of the SAALE R dominating the city of JENA from the N. The 3d Bn crossed the SAALE R N of JENA, immediately attacked S along the E bank of the river and reduced enemy resistance in that part of JENA which lies E of the SAALE R. The 3d Bn after clearing the E portion of JENA occupied the city and maintained law and order.

The 2d Bn continued to occupy WEIMAR.



### 13 April

The 318th Inf remained in assembly area in ERFURT during the day. At 1700 the 2d and 3d Bns began to move to the E. The 1st Bn guarded important installations and maintained law and order in ERFURT until relieved by the 241st FA Bn in the late afternoon.

### 14 April

319th Inf: The 2d and 3d Bns attacked GERA early in the morning. The 2d Bn cleared the section of the city West of the WEISSE ELSTER R meeting stubborn resistance; while the 3d Bn cleared the part of the city E of the river encountering scattered but determined resistance from small groups. By 1300 all resistance in the city of GERA had been reduced.

The 3d Bn remained in the city of GERA and maintained law and order. Late in the afternoon the 1st and 3d Bns resumed their advance to the E.

317th Inf: The 1st Bn moved to GERA and during the afternoon relieved Elms of the 319th Inf in the city. The 2d Bn continued to occupy WEIMAR until relieved by the 5th Ranger Bn late in the afternoon. 3d Bn continued to occupy JENA.

The 318th Inf continued to move rapidly to the E following the advance of the 4th Armd Div in the N half of the 80th Inf Div Z of advance. Only scattered resistance was encountered.

### 15 April

317th Inf: The 1st Bn continued to occupy GERA and guard important installations in the vicinity. The 2d Bn moved from WEIMAR to an assembly area N of GERA. From this assembly area 2d Bn worked thru the large woods N of GERA bordering the Autobahn clearing it of enemy snipers who had been attacking isolated vehicles traveling the Autobahn. A large ammunition dump was also uncovered in the woods. The 3d Bn was relieved of its mission of occupying JENA and moved by motor to GRIMMITSCHA to relieve the 1st Bn of the 319th Inf.

The 318th Inf continued to advance rapidly to the E and closed up behind the 4th Armd Div in the ZICK-MULLE R bridgehead. At the close of the day plans were in progress for the relief of the armor in the 318th Inf zone.

319th Inf: The 1st Bn encountered stubborn resistance in the town of GRIMMITSCHA. After a sharp engagement lasting the greater part of the day 1st Bn finally cleared the town of enemy resistance and was relieved by the 3d Bn of the 317th Inf. The 2d Bn advanced to GALUCHAU where very stubborn resistance from fanatical enemy troops was encountered. By nightfall, the 2d Bn had cleared all but the SE section of the town where a group of enemy continued to resist throughout the night. The 3d Bn assembled in MERRANE in Regtl reserve.

### 16 April

317th Inf: The 1st Bn occupied GERA. 2d Bn occupied BAD KOSTRIN and guarded the large ammunition dump N of GERA. 3d Bn occupied GRIMMITSCHA.

318th Inf: The 2d and 3d Bns relieved elements of the 4th Armd Div in the ZICK-MULLE R bridgehead. The relief was completed by 1600 and the 318th Inf occupied positions on the high ground overlooking CHEMNITZ from the N.

### 16 April

319th Inf: The 1st and 3d Bns relieved elements of the 4th Armd Div in the ZICK-MULDE R bridgehead and occupied positions W of CHEMNITZ.

The 2d Bn cleared GLAUCHAU of enemy resistance and assembled in Regtl Reserve in PLEISSA.

### 17 April

The 80th Inf Div continued to occupy and improve its positions surrounding CHEMNITZ and to occupy and maintain law and order in the DIVISION Z of advance. An ultimatum delivered to the German Commander of CHEMNITZ demanding the surrender of the city was refused. The 80th Inf Div made preparations to take the city by assault, however, before the assault could be launched the 80th Inf Div received a new mission and prepared to move to the S.

### MOVEMENT SOUTH AND OCCUPATION OF NURNBERG

#### 18 April through 27 April

On 18 April the 80th Inf Div received orders to move to an assembly area NE of BAMBERG in the vicinity of SCHLESWITZ. The 318th and 319th Combat Teams were relieved in their sectors overlooking CHEMNITZ by elements of the 76th Inf Div and 4th Armd Div. These two regiments moved South early the morning of 18 April and closed into the new assembly area during the night and following morning. The 317th Combat Team followed on 19 April, closing into the new area late the night of 19 April.

During the late afternoon of the 19th the 319th Combat Team with the 80th Cav Rcn Tr attached, moved to and occupied BAMBERG with the mission of maintaining law and order.

The 80th Inf Div remained in the BAMBERG-SCHLESWITZ assembly area until 21 April and conducted training and necessary rehabilitation of personnel and equipment.

On 21 April the 318th Inf moved South to NURNBERG and relieved elements of the 3d Inf Div in the Eastern part of the city. The 317th Inf and 319th Inf moved to NURNBERG on 22 April and relieved the remainder of the 3d Inf Div. The 317th Inf occupied the center of the city and the 319th Inf occupied the Western section of the city.

The 80th Inf Div remained in NURNBERG until the 28th of April. During this period law and order was maintained in the city of NURNBERG, and important installations were guarded.

### COMMITMENT AT REGENSBURG

#### 28 April through 30 April

On 28 Apr the 80th Inf Div was ordered to move S and pass through the DANUBE R bridgehead of the 65th Inf Div in the vicinity of REGENSBURG and move rapidly to the S following the advance of the 13th Armd Div. The 80th Inf initiated movement to the S on the 28th of April, passed through elements of the 65th Inf Div, reached the N bank of the ISAR R on 30 Apr despite the problem presented by the difficult DANUBE crossings and an extremely poor road net leading S from

REGENSBURG.

28 April

CT 317 remained in NURNBERG prepared for movement to the S.

CT 318 moved by motor to an assembly area S of REGENSBURG.

CT 319 moved by motor to an assembly area S of REGENSBURG.

The 80th Inf Div was relieved of its mission of maintaining law and order in NURNBERG by the 16th Armd Div.

29 April

CT 317 moved by motor from NURNBERG to an assembly area in the vicinity of KOERING.

Ct 318: 1st and 3d Bns moved by motor to an assembly area in the vicinity of WEICHSHOFEN following the advance of the 13th Armd Div. The 80th Cav Rcn Tr was attached to CT 318.

CT 319: The 1st and 3d Bns moved rapidly S by motor and occupied the N bank of the ISAR R in the vicinity of ESSENBAACH and ALTHEIM. The Rcn Co of the 811th TD Bn was attached to the 319th Inf. The 3d Bn moved forward to ERGOLDSBACH and occupied the town in Regt Reserve.

30 April

317th Inf moved from the assembly area in the vicinity of KOERING to an assembly area surrounding WEICHSHOFEN. Co E moved forward to the ISAR R and occupied the part of the city on the W bank of the ISAR R prepared to support the attack of the 318th Inf by fire.

318th Inf: The 1st Bn crossed the ISAR R on the railroad bridge at MAMMING and immediately attacked S along the E bank of the ISAR R to seize the city of DINGOLFING. At the end of the day the attack was making good progress against scattered resistance.

The 2d Bn followed the 1st Bn across the ISAR R at MAMMING, completing the crossing at 2145 and immediately reorganized to continue the advance to the SE.

The 3d Bn began to move across the ISAR R at MAMMING at 2200 and the crossing operation was still in progress at the end of the day.

319th Inf continued to occupy the N (or W) bank of the ISAR R and captured a large number of prisoners whose retreat had been cut off by the blowing of the ISAR R bridges.

A.G. ELEGAR  
Lt Col, GSC,  
AC of S, G-3.