

AFTER ACTION REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL

N A R R A T I V E

On 30 March 1945, this Regiment, stationed at CAMP MOURMELON, France, undergoing unit training, was alerted for a possible move Sunday, 1 April 1945, somewhere in the Bonn-Cologne Area. The period from 30 March 1945 to 1 April 1945 was spent in making preparations for the move to the forward area.

On 1 April 1945 the Regiment received orders to move to the division traffic control point at ERALENTZ, Germany, being assigned to the XXII Corps, 15th U. S. Army, and on 2 April the advance party left CAMP MOURMELON, France, for the assigned sector.

The Regiment left CAMP MOURMELON, France, via 10-ton truck/trailers, at 0320B 3 April 1945 with a Regimental strength of 117 Officers and 2006 Enlisted Men and by 03250B the Regimental CP had been opened in GOMR, Germany (F288788), and units closed in with 1st Bn. at NIEVENHEIM (F326800), 2nd Bn. at MORREM (F356732), 3rd Bn. at MORR (F285844), and Service Company at WIDDESHOVEN (F268768). A reconnaissance was also made this date of the sector to be occupied by the Regiment along the West bank of the RHINE RIVER from F299379 South to F382751 upon the relief of the 387th Inf. Regt., 97th Inf. Division by 050900B, with the missions of (a) Maintaining contact with the 327th Glider Infantry on the left and 504th Parachute Infantry, 82nd Abn. Division, on the right, (b) Maintaining Military Government in assigned sector and (c) Be prepared to conduct reconnaissance and/or combat patrols across the RHINE RIVER. The 33rd Cav. Group, 20th Armored Division, now in this sector, was attached to the Regiment and completed relief of 387th Infantry.

On 4 April 1945, 2nd Bn. with D Btry, 31st AA Bn. (40 - 68 EM) attached, closed in their positions on the West bank of the RHINE RIVER on a line from F339859 South to F382751 and the 3rd Bn., with F Btry, 31st AA Bn. (40 - 66 EM) attached, closed in their positions on the West bank of the RHINE on a line from F359359 North to F299379 contacting the 327th Glider Infantry at that point. The 321st FA Bn. was in direct support of the Regiment and the Reconnaissance Platoon 101st Abn Division was attached and patrolling the area in rear of the line battalions. The 33rd Cavalry Group, 20th Armored Division, after relief by organic units was relieved from attachment 4 April and moved to a rear area.

4 - 10 APRIL 1945

During this period numerous reconnaissance patrols were sent across the RHINE RIVER and a total of 5 PWs were taken. Defense and Military Government of the area was maintained and the Displaced Persons Centers were consolidated. On 10 April the Service Company moved from WIDDESHOVEN (F268768) to BROICH (F290775).

11 APRIL 1945

On this date reports indicated friendly tanks and infantry units moving rapidly North and West near WANN (F550500), East of the RAINE RIVER. The Reconnaissance Platoon, 101st Abn Div. was relieved from attached to the Regiment.

12 - 15 APRIL 1945

During this period reconnaissance patrols and one Raiding party consisting of 7 officers and 125 enlisted men (A Company) were sent across the RAINE RIVER. On 12 April first Battalion relieved Third Battalion on the line, the 3rd Bn. closing in Regimental Reserve at RIEVENHAIN (F326800). Memorial Services in honor of THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES were held by all units at 141000B. Firing South of the 83rd Grid line was restricted to the Regiment after 142000 and patrol contact by boat under a white flag with friendly forces on the East bank of the RAINE RIVER would be initiated upon orders.

16 APRIL 1945

Friendly units were sighted in BAUMBERG (F4080) at 161500B and a liaison party from the 97th Infantry Division reported to the Regimental CP at 161400B, reporting elements of their Division halting in BAUMBERG on the East bank of the RAINE. This action cleared the East bank of the RAINE in the 2nd Bn. area as far North as F390805.

17 - 18 APRIL 1945

The Regiment was notified that elements of the 94th Infantry Division would effect relief of our front line battalions between 170700B and 170800B. At 171428B contact was made with friendly elements on the East bank of the RAINE RIVER by our patrol crossing RAINE under a white flag. Relief of the 1st Battalion by the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 94th Infantry Division was completed and 1st Bn. assembled in WECKHOVEN (F270850). Relief of 2nd Battalion by 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment was completed and 2nd Battalion assembled in HORREM (F355785) and DORLAGEN (F370765). All supporting and attached units were relieved from Regimental control and responsibility.

The period of 18-20 April was spent in small unit training. During this period Military Government control in the area passed to the 94th Infantry Division. Unit was alerted to move to 7th Army area and the advance party left 20 April for DARMSTADT.

The Regiment moved by truck and rail to the JAGSTHAUSEN (L260805) area. Regtl. Hq. Company departed 1125 21 April and closed in JAGSTHAUSEN 1145 24 April. 1st Bn. departed 1730 21 April and closed at OBERKESSACH (L275867) 1430 24 April. 2nd Bn. and 3rd Bn. departed 1100 22 April. 2nd Bn. closed in WIDDERN (L224811) at 1430 25 April. 3rd Bn. closed in ROSSACH (L269850) at 1545 25 April. Unit Dispositions: Regtl. Hq. Co. at JAGSTHAUSEN (L260805), Service Company at OLTHAUSEN (L242807), 1st Bn. at OBERKESSACH (L275867), 2nd Bn. at WIDDERN (L224811), 3rd Bn. (-) at ROSSACH (L269850), G, H, and I Companies at UNTERKESSACH (L256344)

Military Government was established in assigned sector.

25 - 30 APRIL 1945

The regiment with A and B Btrys, 81st AA-AT Bn., Company C, 326th Abn Engineers and 321st Gli. FA Bn. were alerted for movement to forward area of VI Corps on 25 April. Advance party left for ULM Area 26 April. Regiment with attachments less D Btry, 81st AA-AT Bn. moved by truck to LANDSBERG Area 28 April. Mission of the combat team to protect the North and East flank of VI Corps, to relieve elements of 103rd Infantry Division in the vicinity of LANDSBERG, and to maintain law and order and establish Military Government in sector. Disposition of Units: Regtl. Hq. Company at LANDSBERG (X336436), Service Company at LANDSBERG (X336436), 1st and 3rd Bns. at LANDSBERG (X336436), 2nd Bn. at BUCHLOE (X250420), 321st FA Bn. at HOLZHAUSEN (X2745), C Co., 326th Abn Engrs at LANDSBERG, and A Btry, 81st AA-AT Bn. at LANDSBERG.

30 April unit alerted for movement to MARKT-OBBERDORF, NESSELWANGEN area. Btrys A and F, 81st AA-AT Bn, Co. C, 326th Abn Engrs. relieved from attachment and one Recn. Troop, 117th Cavalry attached.

HEADQUARTERS 506TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY
APO 472, United States Army

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NARRATIVE

On 30 March 1945, this Regiment, stationed at CAMP MOURMELON, France, undergoing unit training, was alerted for a possible move Sunday, 1 April 1945, somewhere in the Bonn-Cologne Area. The period from 30 March 1945 to 1 April 1945 was spent in making preparations for the move to the forward area.

On 1 April 1945 the Regiment received orders to move to the division traffic control point at ERLENTZ, Germany, being assigned to the XXII Corps, 15th U. S. Army, and on 2 April the advance party left CAMP MOURMELON, France, for the assigned sector.

The Regiment left CAMP MOURMELON, France, via 10-ton truck/trailers, at 0320B 3 April 1945 with a Regimental strength of 117 Officers and 2006 Enlisted Men and by 032200B the Regimental CP had been opened in GOMR, Germany (F288798), and units closed in with 1st Bn. at NIEVENHEIM (F326800), 2nd Bn. at MORTEM (F356732), 3rd Bn. at MORTEM (F293844), and Service Company at WIDDERSHOVEN (F268768). A reconnaissance was also made this date of the sector to be occupied by the Regiment along the West bank of the RHINE RIVER from F299879 South to F382751 upon the relief of the 387th Inf. Regt., 97th Inf. Division by 050900B, with the missions of (a) Maintaining contact with the 327th Glider Infantry on the left and 504th Parachute Infantry, 82nd Abn. Division, on the right, (b) Maintaining Military Government in assigned sector and (c) Be prepared to conduct reconnaissance and/or combat patrols across the RHINE RIVER. The 33rd Cav. Group, 20th Armd Division, now in this sector, was attached to the Regiment and completed relief of 387th Infantry.

On 4 April 1945, 2nd Bn. with D Btry, 31st AA Bn. (40 - 68 EM) attached, closed in their positions on the west bank of the RHINE RIVER on a line from F339859 South to F382751 and the 3rd Bn., with F Btry, 31st AA Bn. (40 - 66 EM) attached, closed in their positions on the West bank of the RHINE on a line from F359859 North to F299879 contacting the 327th Glider Infantry at that point. The 321st FA Bn. was in direct support of the Regiment and the Reconnaissance Platoon 101st Abn Division was attached and patrolling the area in rear of the line battalions. The 33rd Cavalry Group, 20th Armored Division, after relief by organic units was relieved from attachment 4 April and moved to a rear area.

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30 April unit alerted for movement to MARAT-OBERDORF, NESSELWANG-MUSSEN area. Btrys A and F, 31st AA-AT Bn, Co. C, 326th Abn Engrs. relieved from attachment and one Rcn. Troop, 117th Cavalry attached.