

SECTION VIII

APPENDIX

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JOURNAL

1 May 1945

- 2100 There was very little activity in the regimental sector today. 3 patrols were sent out from Zerbst during the day. 2nd Bn sent a patrol east to Pulspforde, Truben and Bouitz, took prisoners and returned. A TD Rcn patrol was sent north to Lindan, took some prisoners, went west to Buhlendorf and returned. The I & R sent a patrol NE to Herchan and Badewitz.
- 2115 Early this morning a party from Div Hqs set out from Zerbst and went into Russian territory to Cobbelsdorf where a formal meeting between General Macon and Colonel Alexis Ivanov, commander of the 6th Russian Guards Division, took place.

2 May 1945

- 0945 Colonel Crabill left this morning for leave in London. Since Lt Col Pack is at the rear MG area, Lt Col Cook will assume command of the Regt.
- 1800 The Rcn Plat of 643d TD Bn was detached today and returned to the Bn for maintenance.
- 2045 Arrangements were made today between Gen Macon and a German Colonel for the evacuation of approximately 19,000 allied PW's in a camp at Altengraben about 30kms NE of Zerbst, of which this German Colonel is commander. The evacuation will start tomorrow morning and will be done with 2 1/2 ton trucks and ambulances for those who require medical attention. The column will be allowed to pass through the German lines and will be accompanied by German guards to insure safe conduct.

3 May 1945

- 0945 The first convoy of trucks to start the evacuation of the PW camp at Altengraben left Zerbst at 0800 this morning.
- 2115 The evacuation of the PW camp at Altengraben was carried on all day today and it has been estimated that it will take at least 3 days to complete the job.

4 May 1945

- 0815 Lt Col Cook is leaving today for leave in London. Lt Col Sharpe will assume command of the regiment.
- 1600 Orders have been received for the regiment to be prepared for a possible movement tomorrow. A move to the rear MG area has been contemplated for several days but no set date has been given.
- 2115 From the 1st of May until today, inclusive, 3285 prisoners have been taken by the regiment. These prisoners have probably surrendered to us in order to escape the Russians. All available transportation is being used to transport these PW's and thousands of DP's, who have been streaming in on the roads from the east, across the Elbe River and on to the rear areas.

5 May 1945

- 0910 The regiment will move today from the bridgehead area to the rear MG area where Lt Col Pack's administrative group is set up. Co's C, F, and K will remain east of the Elbe to turn the area over to the Russians. These 3 companies will be under command of Lt Col Sharpe and Lt Col Pack will assume command of the regiment when it moves into the new area.
- 1445 Regt'l Cp closed out for new location.
- 1815 Regt'l CP closed into new location at Wegeleben, WD 3670, 65kms west of Walternienburg.
- 2220 The entire Regt has closed into new area. 1st Bn CP is in Wegeleben, 2nd Bn CP is in Hedersleben, WD 4268, and 3rd Bn CP is in Kroppenstedt, WD 4577. All attachments have been released and 643rd TD Bn has been attached.

6 May 1945

- 0745 Orders were received from Div late last night for the regt to make another move today to take over a new MG area. Leading elements of the regt will cross the IP at 0900.

6 May 1945 (Cont'd)

- 1215 CP closed out for new location.
 1500 CP closed into new location at Blankenburg, WD 2159, 12 miles SW of Wegeleben.
 1525 Our present area is in the Harz Mountains and is approximately 750 kms. This area was previously occupied by elements of the 8th Armd Div.
 1530 The entire regiment has closed into the new area. 1st Bn CP is in Ilsenburg, WD 0267, 2nd Bn CP is in Hasselfelde, WD 1548, 3rd Bn CP is in Blankenburg and 643rd TD Bn CP is in Braunlage, WD 9852.
 1610 Co's C, F, and K left positions east of Elbe River at 0630 this morning. They have rejoined the regiment.

7 May 1945

- 1000 The mission of the regt in this area will be to institute military government control in our sector. All units have been assigned areas of responsibility.
 1630 A few minor changes were made in the positions of some units today to effect administration of the area.

8 May 1945

- 0915 The regt has been ordered to move to another new area today. This move is being made so that all of the Div will be in British Occupation Territory.
 1120 Leading elements of regt started move at 1100.
 1230 CP closed out for new location.
 1500 CP closed into new location at Wolfenbittel, rX 9200, 40 miles NW of Blankenburg.
 1715 The regts present area of responsibility is approximately 800 square kms, around the city of Brunswick, rX 9010. We are relieving elements of 2nd Armd Div, 330th Inf and Div Arty in this area.
 1935 308th Engr Bn, which has been in Brunswick effecting MG control of the city, has been atchd in place to the regt, 643rd TD Bn has been detached.
 1950 (Following msg from CG 83d Div) The following msg from CG, SHAEF, dtd 7 May 1945 is quoted for your information and compliance; 1. A representative of the German high command signed the unconditional surrender of all German land, sea, and air forces in Europe to the AEF and simultaneously to the Soviet high command at 0141 hours central European time, 7 May 1945 under which all forces will cease active operations at 0001 British hours 9 May 1945. 2. Effective immediately all offensive operations by Allied Expeditionary Force will cease and troops will remain in present positions. Moves involved in occupational duties will continue. Due to difficulties of communication there may be some delay in similar orders reaching enemy troops so full defensive precautions will be taken. 3. All informed down to and including divisions, tactical air commands and groups, base sections, and equivalent. No release will be made to the press pending an announcement by the head of the three governments.
 2325 Entire regiment has completed closing into new area. 1st Bn CP is at Bortfeld, rX 8113, 2nd Bn CP at Shoppenstedt, WD 0798, and 3rd Bn CP at Shandelah, rY 0112.

9 May 1945

- 2100 During today the regiment continued organizing the area for MG control. Guard posts are being established at installations and patrol routes set up to small towns where no troops are stationed.

10 May 1945

Regiment continued to exercise MG control over area. Colonel Crabill returned today from leave in England.

11 May 1945

Regiment continued to exercise MG control over area. 322nd FA Bn was attached today, relieving 308th Engr Bn.

12 May 1945

Regiment continued MG control of area.

13 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

14 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

15 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

16 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

17 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area. 736th Tk Bn was atchd in place to the regt today, increasing our area of responsibility.

18 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

19 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

20 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area. Co A (-1 plat) 524th MP Bn, was atchd today and given to 322nd FA Bn to aid in control of the city of Brunswieg. Training schedules were submitted to Div today for the coming week. Training will include familiarization firing and several hours for I & E and athletics.

21 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

22 May 1945

Regiment continued Military Government control of area.

23 May 1945

Regiment continued MG control of area. Today our Regimental Comdr, Colonel Edwin B. Grabill, left us to accept a more important position as Assistant Division Commander. Through his sound decisions and outstanding leadership in combat, our regiment, 329th Infantry Regiment, became one of the most spirited and fighting outfits that World War II produced. Everyone will undoubtedly feel the loss of our great leader; and no matter what the future may hold for us, Colonel Grabill will always be remembered. Colonel A.D. Reid, formerly of the 106th Ind Div, arrived today and assumed command of the regiment.

24 May 1945

Regiment continued MG control of area. The evacuation of some of the DP's and PW's from this area to their homes has been started.

25 May 1945

Continued MG control of area.

26 May 1945

Continued MG control of area.

27 May 1945

Continued MG control of area.

28 May 1945

Continued MG control of area.

29 May 1945

Continued MG control of area.

30 May 1945

Memorial services were held at each Bn today and no training was conducted. Orders have been received from Div for a quartering party to leave tomorrow morning for an area 300 miles to the south near the Czechoslovakia - Germany border.

31 May 1945

Quartering party left at 0700 this morning for Deggendorf, Germany. It has been planned that the British will relieve the regt in present area on June 1st and we are to move to Deggendorf on June 5th.