

thority NND 735017  
AB NARA Date 6/19/10

S E C R E T

DRIVE FROM RHINE TO THE ELBE

Background On the 28th of March the division moved to an assembly area in preparation for crossing the Rhine, and on the following day the forward elements of the command post crossed. The division finished out the month moving every day up to and including the 31st. The Signal Company was with the command post, except for the regimental teams of radio and wire. The Division Signal Supply and Repair Sections were attached to Quarter-master, and the installation at Rear Echelon consisting of a switchboard and message center. The division was in XIX Corps, a part of Ninth Army. The Signal Company had the corps wire and radio links teams, and the photo team attached.

Movement of  
Forward Echelon

Beginning with the 28th of March, the company averaged a move a day for the next seventeen days and approximately 311 miles or about 20 miles a day.

On 1 April the Company was at Ludinghausen, Germany, having moved there the day before. We made two moves this day, the first to Walstedde, arriving at 0930, the second from Walstedde to Beckum, Germany arriving at 1830.

On the third we moved from Beckum to Delbruck, Germany arriving at 1430.

On the fourth, the company moved from Delbruck to Bad Lippspringe, Germany arriving at 1400.

On the fifth we moved twice, from Bad Lippspringe to Horn and from Horn to Steinheim, Germany arriving at 1900 and 2030 respectively.

On the seventh the company moved from Steinheim to Falkenhagen, Germany arriving at 1045.

On the eighth we crossed the Weser River moving from Falkenhagen to Eschershausen, Germany arriving at 1145.

On the tenth we made another double move from Escherhausen to Freden to Langelsheim, Germany arriving at 1000 and 1700 respectively.

On the eleventh the company moved from Langelsheim to Heudeber, Germany arriving at 1850.

On the twelfth we moved from Heudeber to Cochstedt, Germany arriving at 1618.

On the thirteenth we moved from Cochstedt to Calbe, Germany arriving at 1000, later in the afternoon we moved in to town from the outskirts.

Construction Section

The Construction section worked very hard during the month, and the result was constant wire communication.

On April 1st the division command post moved to the city of Wallstedde. At 0900 the new command post opened. The advance party of three wire teams were sent out to put in the installation in Beckum. All circuits were laid and the command post opened at the set time. Forty-three miles of 110 wire was used to complete the installation. In this set up there wasn't any trouble on any of the circuits.

The command post opened in Delbruck. Two wire teams were on the advance party to put in the installation. In this set-up our supply lines were extended to the length of thirty miles. These two circuits consisted of six miles of cable, twenty miles of open wire and six miles of field wire. Our lines to the regiments were only five miles long.

The division command post moved across the Wesel River to the town of Ascherhausen. This time the supply lines were thirty-two miles long. The 331st Infantry Regiment lines were fourteen miles long, 90% of this circuit was open wire. The 329th Infantry Regiment lines were twenty road miles long. This circuit was 95% open wire. In this our supply lines consisted of two circuits twelve miles long.

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The command post opened in Freden on the 10th. Here our supply lines were lengthened to twenty-five miles long, 70% of this line was open wire. At this time the 329th Regiment was moving on our axis. Our forward lines used by this regiment were thirty miles long. 80% of these two circuits were open wire. The 330th Regiment lines were fifteen miles long. The 331st Regiment lines were ten miles long, 60% being open wire. Before the 330th Regiment lines were rerouted, they were forty miles long. On April 10th the 331st Regiment went into corps reserve. The division wire team from this regiment was brought back to division command post. One team of seven men was sent out to the 330th Regiment. This team was sent out to assist the division wire team in maintaining their regimental lines. On April 10th at 1800, the command post opened at Langeisheim. Our supply lines were fifty-five miles long. 90% of these two circuits were open wire. On this move the 330th Regiment remained in the same location. Communications were made possible to this regiment by rerouting the circuit into corps; overall, this circuit was thirty miles long. The 329th Regiment circuits were at this time only seven miles long.

On the eleventh of April the division command post opened in Heudeber. At this point our forward axis lines still being used by the 329th Regiment, were only ten miles long. Up forward very little change from the previous day was made in the wire set up.

The command post opened in the town of Cochstedt on the 12th. Here only one circuit was used to supply and it was twenty-two miles long. 80% of this circuit was open wire. This day one of the construction teams accounted for twenty-two prisoners. The 329th Regiment circuits were twenty-five miles long and the 330th Regiment lines were fifty road miles long.

The new command post opened in Calbe at 1100 on the 13th. Here the one supply line was extended to thirty-three miles long. The other ~~one~~ supply line ran in another direction. This circuit was forty miles long. The following day the supply board moved to the town of Biere. One circuit was laid to the new area. Ten miles of field wire W-110 were used on this circuit. In this set-up we made use of the old supply line, splicing it through to the 113th Cavalry circuit, making it 110 road miles long. Considering the distance of this line, it was in very good talking condition.

On the 14th the 320th Regiment joined the division. A circuit was laid to this regiment in two hours. 80% of this line consisted of open wire.

On the 15th the division rear moved into the same town as the command post. It took only one quarter mile of wire W-110 to complete this circuit. Overall, about twenty miles of W-110 wire was used on all the local trunks. On this same date three cables of spiral four was laid across the Elbe River.\* They were laid with the assistance of motor boats aquired from the 295th Engineers. One circuit of this cable was used for traffic-control for the 329th Regiment and 331st Regiment, and the other for combat command reserve of the 2nd armored division. All these circuits were ten miles long from the division command post.

Calbe

Not by  
my  
platoon  
or me. RZ

On the 17th the engineers clearing the river blew up a barge which was breaking our cable. We replaced this in ten minutes. In this location one of the best wire set-ups was installed. Every unit of the division and attached units were in communication with each other by the use of laterals.

On the 19th two circuits were laid to 113th Cavalry, located in Brumby. These circuits were six miles long. 70% of this lines was open wire.

On the 20th under ground cable was put into use on the two 113th Cavalry circuits. By doing this, better taling circuits and permanent installations were aquired. Since that time sixteen miles of under ground cable have been put into service.

On the 26th two circuits to rear were completed. These circuits were run from the division board. 95% of the circuits were open wire, three percent was under ground cable and two percent was field wire W-110. These circuits are now twenty-five road miles long. In this present set-up considering the amount of circuits, the trouble cases have been very low.

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