

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 735017By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

358th Infantry

HISTORY

1 March 1945

Regiment remained in place as SHAEF reserve. Orientation and Training was carried on by all units.

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2 March 1945

Still in SHAEF reserve, the Regiment continued Orientation and Training and maintenance on all vehicles. General Rooks, at a very impressive ceremony, awarded the Presidential Unit Citation to the 3rd Battalion. This citation was won by the hard fight and splendid work in the Battle of the Foret de Mont Castre. The unit suffered heavy casualties but by their dogged fighting broke the line held by the Germans. Colonel Bealke issued warning order that the Regiment would move on 4 March to area to be selected by Division. 357th and 359th Regiments would relieve elements of the 6th Armored Division on the night of 3 March.

3 March 1945

Plans were being made to occupy sector Division selected for our status of Division Reserve. 357th and 359th Infantry Regiments will attack 4 March and the 358th will move by motor (organic and attached) to assembly area. 358th will move at 1300, 4 March 1945.

4 March 1945

Regiment moved 1300 by motors from their respective areas to the new locations starting in the general area: 1st Battalion, EILSCHEID and LIERFELD; 2nd Battalion, MERLSCHIED; 3rd Battalion at MATZERATH, WINRINGEN; Regimental Command Post at ORLENBACH; Service Company and Anti Tank Company at EUSCHEID; Co B 315th Medics at LUNEBACH. All units were closed by 1745. Warning Order was issued by Regiment to all units that we should be prepared to move to the left of the Division sector on short notice.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE *W. H. P.*

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Authority NND 735017
By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

358th Infantry

HISTORY

5 March 1945

Division Field Message No. 37 contained the following order for the Regiment:

358th Infantry:

a. Be prepared for shuttle movement forward this afternoon on Division order to vicinity of KOPP or vicinity of WALLERSHEIM. G-4 will furnish twenty-five trucks to Regimental Motor Officer.

b. Be prepared to pass through 357th Infantry Regiment 6 March 45 to seize high ground East of KYLL River and continue atk to capture GEROLSTEIN and PELM, and advance to the NE as motorized RCT, or

c. Be prepared to move on Division order as motorized RCT from WALLERSHEIM along Division left boundry and continue attack to the North-East within the Division zone.

Road reconnaissance was initiated and quartering parties dispatched to the areas designated on overlay that accompanied Division Field Message No. 37. At 1350 orders were issued to 1st and 3rd Battalions and Anti-Tank Company to move to WALLERSHEIM; 2nd Battalion, Company B 315th Medical Battalion, and Regimental Command Post to OBERHERSDORF and to Service Company to move to NEIDERLAUCH. The Regiment was closed in its area 060430 March 45.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY [Signature]
DATE 1/24/82
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
COMMITTEE

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Authority NND 735017By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

358th Infantry

HISTORY

7 March 1945

Field Message No. 39, Division Headquarters, contained the following order for the Regiment:

- 358th Infantry: Detached: 90th Rcn Tr 070700A Mar Others: No Change.
- Hold shoulders of road exit at PELM until debouchment or CCA, 11th Armored Division to 0900.
 - Be prepared to follow 11th Armored Division within zone to mop-up by-passed resistance.

We were to keep moving to give the 11th AD a substantial bridgehead from which to start their tanks rolling to the RHINE. The 1st Battalion was ordered to take the high ground at (265821) and the high ground at (269813), while the 3rd Battalion was to continue their attack to the area at 265830. The battalions jumped-off at 0900 and, with very little resistance, moved on to their objectives. At 1138, the 11th AD passed through our lines with their recon elements and the "race" to the RHINE River was on. In order to keep the attack going the regiment launched an attack to secure the next high ground ~~twenty-five~~ hundred yards to the North-east. Little resistance was encountered and by 1600 all units were on their objectives.

The 1st Battalion Command Post was located in BERLINGEN as was the entire battalion, less Charlie Company on the high ground (282823). The 2nd Battalion was closed into GEROLSTEIN, less George Company which was holding the left shoulder along the high ground at (241821), (246825), (245829) and (251828). The 3rd Battalion Command Post was in PELM with Item Company in ESSINGEN, Love Company in BETTELDORF, and King Company in ROCKESKYL. Regimental Command Post, Company B 315th Medical Battalion, Company A 712th Tank Battalion in HINTERHAUSEN. Company B 773rd TD Battalion, Company B 315th Engineers, and Service Company in LISSINGEN.

The Regiment gained some three thousand yards East and North-east, holding the shoulders and giving the 11th AD a six thousand yard bridgehead across the KYLL River. The casualties were light, amounting to approximately fifteen. Seventy-four prisoners were taken from units such as the 5th Parachute Division and the Volks-Grenadier divisions 276, 167, and 326.

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358th Infantry

HISTORY

8 March 1945

The day was spent in bringing up our rear installations and preparing to follow the 11th Armored Division and mop-up any by-passed resistance. Rehabilitation and vehicle maintenance were the order of the day. Route reconnaissance was initiated by all units so as not to obstruct the movement of the armor and still clear the regimental zone of the enemy. All units remained in place while the Regimental Command Post, Company B 315th Medical Battalion, Company A 712th Tank Battalion, Company B 773rd TD Battalion, Service Company, and Co B 315th Engineer Battalion closed into PELM.

Orders for the next day were issued. No casualties were reported while fifty-three prisoners were taken from units such as the 2d Panzer Division, 246th Volksgrenadier Division, 246th VG, 36th Infantry Division, 176th VG, and 5th Parachute Division.

9 March 1945

Field Message from Division (No. 41) contained the following order for the 358th Infantry:

CT 358:

Troops - 358th Inf

Co A 712th Tk Bn

Co B 773rd TD Bn

Co B 315th Med Bn

Btry B 537th AAA Bn(AW)

TF Kedrovsky - Co D 712th Tk Bn (-)

Rcn 773rd TD Bn

1 Plat Co B 315th Engr Bn

344th FA Bn

- a. Move early 9 March by shuttle march to seize initial and final objectives (overlay) and block routes at indicated points to protect Division North flank.
- b. Relieve 90th Recon Platoon in OBERECHE.
- c. 1 Plat, Company D 712th Tk Bn detached 091200A March.

The 3rd Battalion was to relieve 90th Recon Troop at dawn in OBERECHE and secure HEIROTH, protect left flank of the Regiment and be prepared to seize BERLER on order. On order they moved to secure BERLER and closed in at 1400. 3rd Battalion was on the objective at HEIROTH at 1125, meeting very light resistance. The 1st Battalion on the right of the Regimental sector jumped-off to seize and secure BONGARD and be prepared to seize and secure BODENBACH and ROTHENBACH on order. At 1010, the battalion reported on its objective at BONGARD. They were ordered to secure ROTHENBACH and BAULER which they secured by 1445 meeting very light resistance. The 2nd Battalion moved by foot and motor from their positions at PELM to block to the left flank and relieving elements of the 3rd Battalion upon order of Regiment. They closed in at OBERECHE and HEIROTH by 1800.

The Regiment advanced ten thousand yards against little resistance taking one hundred and two prisoners from the 5th Parachute Division, 326th Volk-Grenadier Div, 167 VGD, 2nd Panzer Division, 26th VGD, 18th VGD. No casualties were reported to the Regiment.

The 1st Battalion Command Post in MULLENBACH along with Baker Company. Charlie Company was in ROTHENBACH and Able Company was in BAULER. The 3rd Battalion Command Post was in BODENBACH with King Company and Love Company. Item Company was in BERLER. One platoon of Item Company was at (339903) blocking the main road. 2nd Bn Command Post was in OBERECHE with the battalion minus Easy Company at HEIROTH. The Regimental Command Post was in BONGARD after making temporary stop at BETTELORF. Co B 315th Medics were all closed in at BONGARD as was the Anti-Tank Company, Service Company. The 344th Field Artillery Battalion was displaced in and around BRUCK while Task Force Kedrovsky was in DREIS.

358th Infantry

HISTORY

10 March 1945

Order of the day was for the 358th Infantry to clear the enemy within the regimental zone to a line KEMPENICH, WERBERN, VOLKESFELD, KIRESCH, and WALDESCH and await orders. We were to follow the 11th Armored Division again, mopping-up all by-passed enemy. The 1st Battalion was to move 0730 to seize and secure the towns of VOLKESFELD and KIRCHESCH. Very little resistance was encountered by the battalion and they had secured the objective by 1600. The 2nd Battalion was to move by shuttle marching to the town of AGHT and ASCH. They closed in their area, after marching all the way, by 1600. The 3rd Battalion had as their objectives HAUSTEN, WABERN, and MORSWIESEN. Little or no resistance was met and the battalion had their objective secure by 1600.

The Regiment advanced some seventeen miles, clearing some forty towns and villages. We were stopped by Corps order to hold and await further orders. Possible relief of the 11th Armored Division on the RHINE was expected. The Regiment captured two hundred and fifty six prisoners for the day. For the week ending 10 March the regiment suffered thirteen casualties - non battle casualties, 54.

The 1st Battalion Command Post was in VOLKESFELD with Charlie Company, Able Company, and Baker Company in KIRCHESCH. The 2nd Battalion was in AGHT minus Fox Company at ARFT. The 3rd Battalion Command Post was in MORSWIESEN with Item Company and King Company at HAUSTEN and Love Company at WABERN. Regimental Command Post, Service Company, Anti-Tank Company, Co B 315th Engineer Battalion, Co B 315th Medical Battalion, and Co A 712th Tank Battalion were all in LANGENFELD. Co B of the 773rd TD Battalion were located at (585985).

11 March 1945

The Regiment held its present positions and re-swept an area bounded by the grid coordinates 43 on the West, 99 on the North, 59 on the East, and 96 on the South. Particular attention was paid to woods and towns for enemy deserters and stragglers. Vehicle maintenance, orientation, and rehabilitation of troops were carried on throughout the day.

Prisoners taken today - 21.

12 March 1945

The Division was to cross the MOSELLE River near HATZENPORT with the 357th Inf and the 359th Inf as the assault regiments. The 358th Infantry was ordered into an assembly area at KEHRIG, GERLING, KOLLIG, MERTLOCK, and EINIG. Reconnaissance and quartering parties were dispatched to the area indicated. Vehicle maintenance, orientation, and rehabilitation of troops were carried on throughout the day.

Prisoners taken today - 7

13 March 1945

The Regiment made a motor march to the new assembly area as Division Reserve, preparatory to the crossing of the MOSELLE for the second time. The march began at 0900 and all units were closed in their areas at 1300 without incident. Immediately upon arriving at MERTLOCK, the Forward Command Post and a Forward Aid Station of the Company B Medics closed into MUNSTERMAIFELD which was part of the forward assembly area for the river crossing.

Dispositions - The Regimental Command Post, Service Company, Forward Station of Company B 315th Medical Battalion were at MUNSTERMAIFELD. The 1st Battalion at KOLLIG with a forward at MEPTERNICH. The 3rd Battalion was at EINIG with a forward Command Post at MORZ. The 2nd Battalion at GERLING with a forward at MEPTERNICH. Co A of the 712th Tank Battalion and the Company B 773rd TD Battalion were at KEHRIG. Anti-Tank Company and the rear of Company B 315th Medical Battalion were at MERTLOCK.

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358th Infantry

HISTORY

14 March 1945

The Regiment continued to close into a forward assembly area at dawn. The 1st Battalion and the 2nd Battalion assembled in the town of METTERNICH and the 3rd Battalion in MORZ. The bridge at HATZENPORT was nearing completion when we received orders to cross the river at 1620 and by 2130 all battalions, less vehicles, were closed in and near BRODENBACH. We are to be prepared to move to take over 357 zone in the attack. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions, less vehicles, were at BRODENBACH. The remainder of the unit was closed into MUNSTERMAI FELD. Orders for the 15th of March were issued as follows:

358th Infantry: Atchmts - No Change. Move from present area at 150700 to advance to line now held by elms 1st Battalion 357th Inf (ck pts 82 and 102). Continue atk within Z on order.

3rd Bn: Atchmts - No Change. Move from present area at 0700 advancing to line indicated. Continue attack to Objs A and B on order. Be prepared to continue atk SE on order.

1st Bn: Atchmts - No Change. Move from present area at 0730 advancing to area indicated. Be prepared to assist atk of 3rd Battalion SE on order.

2nd Bn: Atchmts - No Change. Initially, remain present location as Div Res. On passage of 2nd Cav across R and their relief of elms 357, you will revert to Regtl control. Be prepared to displace forward within Regtl Z prior to noon, on order.

Anti-Tank Co: Cross during night 14-15 March prepared to stage forward with assault bns to provide AT defense in depth within Regtl Z.

Other Units - No Change in mission.

For the first day since March 4, the regiment did not take any prisoners.

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358th Infantry

HISTORY

15 March 1945

Throughout the night the vehicles of the regiment and attachments, less regimental headquarters, were put across the MOSELLE and preparations were made for the 358th to attack between the 357th Inf and the 359th Inf.

The 3rd Battalion moved to a line HERSCHWIESEN - OPPENHAUSEN where they held up waiting orders to seize and secure the road net and town of HERBINGEN and advance on to OBJECTIVE "B" (towns of NEY and RIETTER). By 0900, the 3rd Battalion and the 1st Battalion had closed to the line and jumped-off their attack. At 1100, the 3rd Battalion advanced two thousand yards over very difficult terrain and against moderate resistance. After taking the intermediate objective, the battalion continued another fifteen hundred yards on the left flank to capture the town of KRATZENBERG and two thousand yards on the right flank to capture HALSENBACH. The battalion buttoned-up, after having secured the town by 1830, with Item Company and Love Company at HALSENBACH, King Company at KRATZENBERG and the battalion Command Post at NEY. The Battalion had captured six towns, thirty prisoners, and a German Headquarters complete with maps and office supplies.

The 1st Battalion followed the 3rd Battalion sweeping any by-passed enemy in the draw running South East from (825785) to (833783). Able Company was blocking the left flank from (835800) South to (833788), and Charlie Company followed through sweeping to the South East at (830756) (839759), and (845760) where they remained for the night blocking the right rear of the 3rd Battalion. The Battalion Command Post and Baker Company was at OPPENHAUSEN.

The 2nd Battalion was to be held as Division Reserve. The 2nd Battalion was attached and detached to the 4th Armored Division. At 1725, the 2nd Battalion was attached to 357th Inf to aid them blocking to the North.

Total prisoners taken today was 36. The Regiment had advanced seven thousand yards against moderate to heavy resistance clearing seven towns and villages.

The Regimental Command Post moved from MUNSTERMAIFELD to BRODENBACH. The Anti-Tank Company was in OPPENHAUSEN and Service Company remained in MUNSTERMAIFELD.

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Authority NND 73507By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

358th Infantry

HISTORY

16 March 1945

Division Field Message No. 47 contained the following orders: Clear out woods from (833793) North East to (853803) and the draw West of BUCHOLZ. Seize and hold KRATZENBURG, EHR, and HALSENBACH. Be prepared to move East or Southeast.

3rd Battalion moved out to take Objective E (the high ground and road net (889734) with Love Company. The objective was secured at 0810. At 1310, Item Company moved out to secure the road between (885760) North to (888780). Resistance was very heavy with fifty to seventy-five enemy defending road block at (888775). King Company was committed to aid Love Company. In this action, we lost two tanks and one tank destroyer. Suffered ten casualties including Captain Rugh, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross during his evacuation. One .88mm self propelled gun was knocked out and some fifty enemy killed and six captured.

Enemy planes strafed 3rd Battalion killing two and wounding one. Planes had blue noses and red tails. Lt. Espinosa, our French Tactical Liaison Officer, was wounded in this strafing. Exact identity of these planes are unknown.

1st Battalion began sweeping the woods at 0730 and upon completion of mission, was patrolling the road from (854801) to EDENHAUSEN. The battalion then staged forward to vicinity of LEMINGEN to attack to the East to reach the RHINE. 1st Battalion closed in at LEMINGEN at 1930.

2nd Battalion still attached to 357 met very heavy resistance in their attack. SS Troops with anti-aircraft weapons shooting flat trajectory on the ground cost us twenty-three casualties. Enemy dead was estimated at eighty.

The Regiment continued to mop up rear areas and make limited objective attacks to secure road net from the main supply route. The Regiment captured two towns and fifty-six prisoners. The Regimental Command Post remained at BRODENBACH with Service Company and Company B 315th Medical Battalion. 1st Battalion Command Post was in LEMINGEN with Able and Dog companies. Charlie Company at LAMSCHIED and Baker Company blocking East of NORATH. 2nd Battalion attached to 357th Infantry in the vicinity of PORTERSHAUSEN. 3rd Battalion Command Post in HALSENBACH with Love Company in KRATZENBURG. King Company blocked the road to the East from (775889) North to (784890) and Item Company blocked North from (879783) to (886785).

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358th Infantry

HISTORY

17 March 1945

The plan was to sweep to the RHINE River with the 1st, 3rd Battalions abreast. The area was eight thousand yards wide and nine thousand yards long. The 3rd Battalion was to attack in support of the 357 when it was discovered that the additional troops were not needed. They started at 1315 to sweep to the RHINE, as planned, within their zone of action. The Battalion was motorized and passed through EMMELSHAUSEN, NIEDERT, LINGENHAIN, LANDERT, KESSELBACH, and detrucked in vicinity of RHEINOLLEN at 1600. The Intelligence Section, motorized, cleared RHEINOLLEN, DARWEILER, and SIEBERBACH taking two prisoners. By 1900 the companies had swept the woods while the Command Post and Item Company but-toned-up for the night at RHEINOLLENHUTTE. The remainder of the battalion closed in the vicinity of DARWEILER and SIEBERBACH.

2nd Battalion from 357th Infantry assembled in RHEINOLLEN by attached motors. 1st Battalion, 358, swept the area BODENHARD, UTZENHAIN, ST COAR and BUCKHEIM and found not enemy. The battalion was re-assembled after 2nd Cavalry had taken over all the battalion zone. The battalion was assembled for the night in the area of BODENHARD. During this action the first men of the regiment reached the RHEIN River.

Regimental Command Post moved from BODENBACH to NORATH and settled for the night at RHEINOLLEN. Attached unit command posts were also in RHEINOLLEN. Eighty-six prisoners were taken during the days' operation. The weekly summary of casualties listed twenty-two casualties and two killed. Fifty four were non battle casualties evacuated. Congratulations goes to John B. Leedom on his new First Lieutenant bars.

The Regiment cleared a zone some seventeen miles by twelve miles of the enemy. During the day the zone of advance was changed from an easterly direction to one almost due South.

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 73507By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

358th Infantry

HISTORY

18 March 1945

The 1st Battalion was ordered to close and sweep its zone to the NAHE River. Division Field Message No. 49 ordered the 358th Infantry as follows: "Clear enemy in zone, defend West bank of the RHEIN river and Division right flank. After clearing enemy in zone, be prepared to relieve TF SPIESS."

1st Battalion crossed the IP, 500 yards North of BADENHARD at 0700 in the following order: Co C, Co A, Co B, Hq Co, TDs, Tanks. Organic transportation moved as a second march unit. The route was from BADENHARD to PHOLZFELD (890680), LANDERT (845643), KISSELBACH (910613), LIEBSHAUSEN (929594), RHEINOLLEN (955565), and STROMBERG (025495), closing in an assembly area in STROMBERG at 1030. Plans were made for A and C Companies to clear battalion assigned zone to the NAHE River. A Co cleared towns of ROTH (047493), GENBEIM (059489), WALDANBERSHEIM (069477), BURGLAYEN (093479), DORSHEIM (099475), HUMMELSHHEIM (089483), MUNSTER (115499), SARNHEIM (115491), and contact C Company on the right at LAUBENSHEIM (115469). 25 Psw were taken at ROTH. C Co starting at 1130 took towns of SCHWEPPEHAUSEN (046475), WINDESHEIM (058451), WALDHILBERSHEIM (070440), HEDDESHEIM (058451), LANGENLONSHEIM (117445), LAUBENSHEIM (115469). The companies' missions were completed by 1245. When entering most of these towns in the battalion zone, friendly troops were found. Battalion CP and B Co remained in STROMBERG. Outposts were made along the NAHE River by A and C Companies for the night. An unusual amount of enemy air activity occurred during the day. No bombs no strafing in the battalion area but appeared to be harrassing artillery positions. The battalion experienced its first difficulty with the Gestapo. Five were seen and identified by the Poles as agents and had not been reported to the Burgomeister. After hunting them down through the town, they were all captured and intemed with the Burgomeister in the local place of incarceration. The Burgomeister knew of these agents but failed to turn them in to Allied troops.

2nd Battalion swept the woods East of RHEINOLLEN to the RHEIN where they formed a defensive line and harrassed the enemy on the East bank of the RHINE by fire.

3rd Battalion swept their area to the NAHE river and to the RHEIN. They received considerable small arms fire from BINGEN and succeeded in clearing all the town South and West of the triangle formed by the RHINE and NAHE Rivers. The battalion CP was moved to DARWEILER with Item Company in BINGENBRUCK, with Love Company extending North along the river bank. King Company was assembled in WEILER.

The Regiment captured seventy-seven prisoners, and finished the complete mop-up of enemy in zone south to the NAHE river and East to the RHINE River.

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19 March 1945

Upon relief by 2nd Cavalry Group the 358th secured the bridge head across the NAHE River with two battalions - the 1st and 2nd. The remainder of the regiment assembled in the area HEDDERSHEIM. The relief was completed by 1330 when the Cavalry accepted responsibility of the sector. Almost all of the movement of the regiment began in the late morning and all were in position assigned by 1800.

Orders were received at 0200 to establish a bridgehead across the NAHE River and to secure a bridge site due East of LANGENLONSHEIM (118445). Area of the bridgehead was very near the route of advance of CCA of the 4th Armored Division. It was decided to have B and C Companies secure one-half each, since A Company is still waiting relief by the 42d Cavalry near MUNSTER. B Company left the assembly area in STROMBERG at 0700 on trucks to secure the town of GENSINGEN (135441). C Company was to cross the river immediately behind B Company. Both crossed by motor over a bridge used by CCA due East of BRETZENHEIM (119421). B Company occupied IPPESHEIM (132421), GENSINGEN (135442), and GROLSHEIM (129457). Initial defense of the bridgehead consisted of a platoon of B Company at GROLSHEIM, a platoon cutting the road Northwest from the town at (148458), with a support platoon in GENSINGEN. C Company put a road block at (145442) and (144430) with a platoon holding IPPESHEIM and a support platoon in GENSINGEN. Battalion CP and Headquarters Company closed at GENSINGEN at 1200. Upon relief of A Company completed at 1430, they were moved by truck to GENSINGEN as the reserve company of the battalion. The battalion was now ordered to patrol to its front in preparation for an attack to the East. After half of the bridgehead was assigned to 2nd Bn, 358th, with the boundary running Northeast generally through ASPISHEIM (178453), patrols were sent to SPONSHEIM (133469), HORRWEILER (165444), and DROMMERSHEIM (164472) and found only a few stragglers offering no resistance. The battalion was ordered to hold a line for the night along the high ground between (172479) to (184460) completed by 1800. A Company was ordered to hold a line from the left limiting point to the river but was reassembled immediately after occupation and put in battalion reserve in DROMMERSHEIM with battalion command post and headquarters. Battalion has been ordered to prepare to attack at 0700 March 20. Two enemy aircraft were observed and attempted to bomb the bridgehead. A "dud" of 90mm "ack-ack" landed very near the battalion wire jeep wounding three men, one seriously. At 2000 the 2nd Platoon, C Company, 91st Chemical Battalion 4.2 Mortar, was attacked to the battalion.

2nd Battalion moved on orders to the area of VELGESHEIM where they were outposting the town and area to the East. This action placed the battalion on the South half of the Regimental bridgehead. The 3rd Battalion was relieved with the exception of I Company at 1210. The Battalion then assembled in HEDDERSHEIM, less reserve company, as Regimental Reserve. K Company put in three road blocks on the main road leading into the regimental area between SPONSHEIM and BINGEN, thus protecting the regimental left flank.

The Regiment had secured a bridgehead over the NAHE River generally on the left of the sector of the area covered by the 4th AD. Regimental Command Post moved from RHEINBOLLEN to GENSINGEN where it remained for the night. Service Company, Co B 315th Medical Bn, Company A 712th Tank Bn, Co B 773rd TD Bn were also in GENSINGEN. A total of fifty prisoners were taken during the day.

The Regiment jumped off its attack to seize and secure their portion of MAINZ while protecting the Division left flank until relief by the 2nd Cavalry Group was effected. The 1st Battalion was to secure objective "3" (OBER HILBERSHEIM), Objective "6" (JUGENHEIM) Objective "7" (ROAD NET and high ground in vicinity of (2348), and Objective 8, (ROAD NET, woods and high ground two miles Southeast of GAU ALGESHEIM. The 2nd Battalion was to secure Objective "2" (VENDERSHEIM) and road net one mile East, and Objective "5" (woods, and road net in vicinity of (2944) and be prepared to seize Objective "10" (road net and area in vicinity of 2652). 3rd Battalion was to remain initially in reserve and be prepared to seize Objective "14" (OBER OLM) and (MARIENBORN). Task Force Grubbs was again formed with Anti Tank Company and Company "J" (Regtl Cooks). Time of attack - 0700. Mission of TFG was to block and defend the left flank of the regiment by relieving elements of the 1st Battalion until relieved by the Cavalry.

The 1st Battalion was ordered to cross the LD at 0700 to take a series of objectives East of DROMERSHEIM heading towards MAINZ, the Division Objective, as a part of Division's plan to capture MAINZ with 359 on the Right and the 357 on the left. Company C crossed the LD on time and captured OBER HILBERSHEIM (211445) without opposition, then moved through ENGELSTADT (238450), BUBENHEIM (248470), SCHWABENHEIM (258480), GROS WINTERHEIM (250494) without opposition and completed by 1100. After Company C captured the first objective of OBERHILBERSHEIM, A Company passed through that point to capture NEIDERHILBERSHEIM and APPENHEIM as well as the high ground to the East, without opposition. After being informed the next objective was held by SS troops, the company made its plan to attack GAU ALGESHEIM. The assault was made after heavy 81mm mortar barrage and our troops captured twelve prisoners, without casualties and with support by the attached TDs. Preparations were made to set-up defenses for the night and they were completed by 1300. B Company assembled and move from DROMERSHEIM on foot at 1000 to BUBENHEIM from which it was immediately dispatched by truck to GROS WINTERHEIM to join Company C closing at 1400. Since the final objective OBERINGELHEIM, initially assigned Company C, was reported to be defended by two hundred SS troops, and attack on the town was planned using B and C Companies. At 1500 the attack jumped off with Company C on the right and B on the left. In support was the 57mm guns as well as 81mm and 4.2 mortars. A heavy preparation by all supporting guns preceded the attack with heavy machine guns in position on hill East of town furnishing support fire throughout the attack. The 57mm guns were in position on high ground West of GROS WINTERHEIM. The attack was entirely successful and was completed by 1830 with Company C having met most of the resistance along the main road through town. The Tank platoon furnished unusually good support but unfortunately the platoon leader was killed in this action. B and C companies organized and defended the town throughout the night. A Company was relieved by Task Force Grubbs at 1900 and moved by truck to GROS WINTERHEIM and then ordered to capture WACKERNHERM during the night, which mission was completed by 2400. E Company was found on the objective but A Company remained. Battalion CP and Headquarters Company displaced to GROS WINTERHEIM. Task Force Grubbs expected to relieve the entire battalion at 0530, March 21, permitting the battalion to assemble and become regimental reserve in the towns of DRAIS and FINTHEN. Battalion was disposed for the night with the battalion CP at GROS WINTERHEIM; A Co on line extending from (270529) SE to (278523); B Co on line extending from road at (213523) NE to (226535); C Co extending E from (226535) to (242536).

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Authority NND 735017By AB NARA Date 5/2/06

20 March 1945 (cont'd)

2nd Battalion jumped off 0700 with infantry mounted on tanks, TDs, and trucks to secure their Intermediate Objectives. Moderate resistance was met by the battalion but overcome this resistance rapidly by sweeping forward without stopping taking STADECKEN, ESSENHEIM, ELSHEIM, WACKERNHEIM. The battalion buttoned-up for the night with Easy Company occupying the town of WACKERNHEIM, Fox Company on line (301523) to (291529) and George Company on line from (301523) to (301519) Battalion CP was at the German barracks at (595525).

The 3rd Battalion moved by motors to new assembly area. I Co and L Co moved into JUGENHEIM with the Battalion CP and K Company in ENGELSTADT. The Battalion closed in area entirely by 1300. At 1410 the battalion was ordered into the attack, and moved by motors to ESSENHEIM, detrucked, and took up positions NE of the town. L Co patrols reported OBER OLM clear at 1745. The battalion buttoned-up for the night with K and I companies covering a line from (325517) SE to (342500). L Co was assembled at (326503). The battalion CP was located in OBER OLM.

358th Infantry

HISTORY

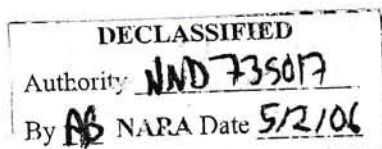
21 March 45

During the night Love Company received a counter attack by enemy infantry with at least one tank. Love Company knocked out one tank and lost one jeep and tank. It was decided to squeeze the 1st in between the 2nd and 3rd battalions to narrow their sectors of the town. Task Force Grubbs relieved elements of 1st Battalion starting at dawn in their sector. This relief was completed by 0830. 1st Battalion companies closed in GROS WINTERNHEIM at 0945 and battalion moved by foot at 1015 to assembly position on eastern edge of OBEROLMER WALD (325505) instead of the towns of DRAIS and FINTHEN. After closing at 1200 in assembly area, battalion was ordered to move by truck immediately to GONSENHEIM and make immediate preparations to attack a sector of the city of MAINZ. The sector put this battalion between the 3rd Bn on the right and the 2nd Bn on the left. Zone of responsibility was left boundary running from (370580) along the railroad tracks SW to (357568). The right boundary starting at (382569) through (373556) to (348559). The plan of attack - B and C companies to assault abreast with C on the right and B on the left, A Co to be in battalion reserve on eastern edge of GONSENHEIM. The jump-off came at 1500. The two assault companies experienced considerable difficulty maintaining direction and reaching the German MLR, primarily due to scattered and sporadic small arms fire from the rear areas outside of the battalion zone to the right on which supporting fires could not be placed due to the proximity of the 3rd Battalion. The plan of attack of the 3rd Bn, however, did not cover this area which remained a problem. The companies pushed up to, and determined, the enemy lines by dark and decided to make a dawn attack against it. Shortly before dark prisoners taken by Company C expressed the opinion their company would surrender if given the opportunity. The PsW were allowed to return with the message their complete surrender would be accepted. Soon 172 enlisted men and 1 Officer surrendered to the battalion. This German company proved to be the troops off Co C's right flank that slowed down operations throughout the afternoon. The battalion buttoned-up for the night with B Co at (355565), C Co at (354560) and A Co with the Bn CP at the German Barracks (346567).

2nd Battalion jumped off at 0530 and at 0630 G Co had captured DRAIS and E Co had captured FINTHEN. By 0950 2nd Battalion had advanced 5,000 yards taking GENSINHEIM against light resistance. 2nd Battalion called for air support on a heavy gun emplacement at 3461 (near SCHIENSTEIN. This request was refused due to poor visibility. 2nd Battalion continued the attack until 2050 when they were MANBACH, on the banks of the RHINE. The battalion buttoned-up there with G Co NE of MANBACH, E Co outposting from (356580) South to (357577), and F Co assembled as battalion reserve at the woods (340578). The battalion command post was in German Barracks at (347567).

3rd Battalion hit very heavy artillery fire at BRETZENHEIM plus fanatical SS troops which caused the battalion to completely mop-up the town street by street. In an hour's time the battalion had entered the town 3,000 yards from jump off time. They spent the entire day mopping-up the town and late that night reported the town clear. The battalion reported thirty casualties for today's operations.

The Regimental Command Post closed in at STADECKEN 1330 and opened OBER OLM at 1345. Co B 315th Medics, Co A 712th Tanks, Co B 773 TDs, were also in the same town. Service Co remained in ESSENHEIM.



358th Infantry

HISTORY

23 March 45

The Regiment assumed responsibility of the 359th Infantry sector. Our 2nd Battalion took over the sector and the relief was completed 1540. The 1st Battalion continued to mop-up its sector along with the 3rd Battalion. 1st Battalion had completely relieved the 3rd Battalion by 1830 and the 3rd closed into its assembly area at 2100. All special and attached units remained in place throughout the day. Seventeen deserters were screened out by the Counter Intelligence Corps.

24 March 45

The Regiment crossed the Rhine River today assembling in LEEHEIM. 358th was relieved by the 328th Infantry Regiment of the 26th Division at 1200. The regiment closed into a forward assembly preparatory to crossing the Rhine. 1st and 2nd Battalions assembled in MONENHEIM. The 3rd closed into SELZEN with Anti Tank Company, Service Company and the 344th Field Artillery Battalion. All units closed in respective areas by 1200. Quartering party left Regimental Command Post at 1200 to quarter troops in towns of LEEHEIM, REIDHAUSEN HOF, WOLFSKEHLEN and GODDELAU. The quartering party were the first officers and men to cross Rhine River from the Regiment. 1st Battalion transportation started to cross bridge at 1400, followed by the transportation of the Regiment. Foot troops crossed at 1530 and the artillery cleared it by 1900. All units were closed in by 2120.

The 1st Battalion was in WOLFSKEHLEN minus Charlie Co at GODDELAU. The 2nd Battalion was in REIDHAUSEN HOF. The 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of LEEHEIM. Regimental Command Post, Service Company, Co B 315th Medical Battalion, Co A 712th Tank Battalion, Co B 773rd TD Bn, Co B 315th Engineer Battalion were all in LEEHEIM. Enemy air was especially prevalent during the crossing and at dusk. Casualties for the period March 17 to 24 were 29 killed in action, 49 wounded in action, 4 missing in action, and 35 sick or non-battle casualties.

25 March 1945

The 358th attacked on the right of the 359th to seize and secure the initial Division objective at DREICHENILAIN and SPRENDLINGEN at 0600.

The 1st Battalion remained in their location until 1100 at which time orders to capture objective "A" at (610402) were cancelled and battalion remained in present location until 1100 at which time displaced into an assembly area at (604420). On arriving, the battalion was ordered to continue to move to woods East of WEITENSTADT where the companies were motorized and took a series of objectives to the North. A Co was mounted on a platoon of tanks, a platoon of TDs and three one and one half ton trucks with orders to move from WEITERSTADT to ARHEILGEN, LANGEN, SPRENDLINGEN, GOTZENHAIN, and DIETZENBACH. They were followed by B Co mounted on five two and one half ton trucks (organic). C Co was mounted on Regimental Anti Tank Co transportation with their personnel. A Co crossed the IP at 1600 and found ARHEILGEN unoccupied but had a small fire fight at BAYERS-EICH but was stopped only momentarily. EGELSBACH was passed immediately after its capture by elms of the 3rd Battalion. The entire mounted battalion dismounted and continued to assigned objectives on the East outskirts of LANGEN (675548) on foot. Companies A and B met small resistance but took objective shortly after dark and tied-in with wrd Battalion on the left. C Co, in reserve, moved into LANGEN and captured a portion of the town ahead of the 3rd Battalion. The Battalion Command Post closed immediately after and defensive positions were set up for the night.

The 2nd Battalion moved to forward assembly area near GRIESHEIM. The attack jumped off from GRIESHEIM after having taken that town without any resistance whatsoever. George Company was immediately motorized and moved to BAYERS EICH. At 1000 2nd Battalion reported the town of GEBRABORN clear. A stiff fight ensued at TEUFELSHOLLE. After the battalion laid down an intense mortar barrage the Germans decided to call it quits. Then 2nd Battalion received trucks in the early evening and moved to EGELSBACH and the immediate vicinity. 2nd Battalion cleared portions of GREISHEIM, ARHEILGEN, WIXHAUSEN, and BAYERS EICH. After clearing the last town, the battalion was passed through by 1st Battalion, motorized. The 2nd Battalion then reverted to a mission of blocking on the right flank and Regimental Reserve. In their advance, the battalion covered a distance of twelve miles.

The 3rd Battalion jumped off in the left zone of the regiment and moved rapidly to the woods just South of the woods which was two miles North of GRIESHEIM. At 1055, Item Company had taken WEITERSTADT without resistance. In the early afternoon the battalion reported the town of ERSHAUSEN clear. At 1715, EGELSBACH was cleared and the battalion moved into its objective for the day, closing in to positions North and West of LANGEN. The battalion command post closed in to LANGEN at 1940. The Battalion cleared today the towns of GREISHEIM, WEITERSTADT, GRAPENHAUSE, ERZHAUSEN, ENGELSBACH, and LANGEN, covering a distance of fourteen miles meeting very little resistance. The troops moved on tanks, TDs, and organic transportation to facilitate the rapidity of the attack.

The Regimental Command Post moved by bounds to WOLFSKEHLEN, WEITERSTADT, and ERZHAUSEN.

Sixty-seven prisoners were processed throughout the day.

358th Infantry

HISTORY

26 March 45

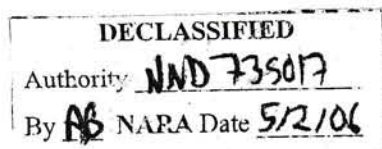
The Regiment continued its attack to reach the Mainz River. During the night, heavy artillery fire fell on the troops in LANGEN and EGELSBACH, which was thought to be anti-aircraft artillery from FRANKFORT.

Enemy barrages of mortar and high velocity guns were received in the 1st Battalion area at 0500 and 0530 and intermittent periods. On orders, the battalion moved from LANGEN (675548) to take a series of objectives Northeast to the Main River, eighteen kilometers distant. The Battalion attacked in a column of companies - B, A, and C in order. Woods along the route were patrolled by B Company prior to H-Hour and the first objective of GOTZENHAIN (716558) was captured by 0900. A, C, and Headquarters companies closed immediately. At 1000 B Company reached the outskirts of DIETZENBACH (746571) encountering small arms fire and the fire from one high velocity gun. A hot fire fight followed. B Company was able to maneuver two platoons around and enter the town from the rear which ultimately resulted in the capture of the town and seventy-five prisoners. Reports from the prisoners indicated that the town had been defended by 150-200 men. Then A and C companies passed through B Company and continued the attack abreast toward REMBRUCKEN (800611) with A Company on the left and C on the right. The attack was slowed by dense woods, short of the objective, but no resistance was encountered and the town was taken by 1700. A and C continued the attack toward HAUSEN (810655) but ordered to stop for the night along the main road leading East from OBERTSHAUSEN (798643) within the battalion zone. Defense was completed by dark and remainder of the battalion closed in to town waiting further orders. Patrols from A Company entered HAUSEN which was found unoccupied.

2nd Battalion remained initially in reserve during the morning but alerted to protect the right flank and to move to position behind either assault battalion. Finally, the battalion moved into a blocking position East of GOTZENHAIN. Battalion was then entrucked and moved to DIETZENBACH, detrucking there to sweep the woods North and East to (760610); after this mission was completed the battalion was assembled near HEUSENSTAMM where E Company outposted the town. Battalion Command Post was in the same town.

The 3rd Battalion received heavy artillery and mortar fire at 0530 in the town of LANGEN. The action started by sending motor patrols from Item and King companies to the left and right flanks. The remainder of the battalion entrucked and moved out 0815 and no resistance was reported other than in the woods three miles East of SPRENDLINGEN. At 1830 the battalion was ordered to hold up in the town of OBERTSHAUSEN for the night. One hundred and twelve prisoners were hauled out of the woods just north of the town. The battalion cleared DREIEICHENHAIN, NEUHOF, STRASSER WALTER, HEUSENSTAMM and OBERTHAUSEN. The battalion command post was in the town while the troops outposted the town. Total prisoners for the battalion was one hundred and sixty three.

The Regimental Command Post moved by bound as did all the normal attached units, 315th Medics, 315th Engineers, 712th Tanks, 773rd TDs, Service Company and Anti Tank from ERZHAUSEN, to LANGEN, DIETZENBACH, and HEUSENSTAMM, where all remained for the night. The Regiment advanced fourteen miles against very light resistance taking two hundred and forty nine prisoners. Eight large towns were taken in the course of the advance.



358th Infantry

HISTORY

27 March 1945

A and C companies at 0600 moved without opposition and reached the river Main at 0900. The battalion command post and reserve company, B company, displaced to HAUSEN (810655) at which time the battalion was ordered to reconnoiter a crossing site of the river within zone and make preparations for crossing during the night of March 28th. The recon was completed by 1600 and all personnel briefed by 1800. The site selected, opposite village of DIETESHEIM (801701), proved to have all the qualifications of a perfect crossing site. The first boats were to hit the water at 0300 with plans for the companies to leave their present areas in time to reach the crossing site at H Hour. Battalion command post displaced to DIETESHEIM at 0800 with all company commanders assembled for a short briefing. Attachments for the crossing were the usual platoons of tanks and TDs, one section of 4.2 mortars. Artillery observers were Lt. Pater of the 344th Field Artillery with A Company, Lt. Wells of the 345th Field Artillery with B Company, and Lt. Keen of the 344th Field Artillery with C Company.

2nd Battalion remained in Regimental Reserve and moved by motor to LAMMERSPIEL closing there at 0930. Immediate recon of the crossing site was initiated upon learning of the river crossing early the next morning. Plans and recon occupied the remainder of the day.

3rd Battalion jumped off at 0600 with Love Company on the left King Company on the right, and Item Company in reserve. At 0800, LAMMERSPIEL was reported clear. The town of DIETESHEIM reported clear at 0910. Immediate recon of river for crossing sites was initiated and other detailed plans for the crossing occupied the remainder of the day. The battalion remained closed up on the river with the battalion command post and Item Company in DIETESHEIM.

The Regiment as a whole advanced five miles clearing six towns and securing the south bank of the Rhine River. Only forty five prisoners were taken today. The Regimental Command Post moved by bounds to DIETZENBACH, HAUSEN, and DIETESHEIM where with Co B 315th Medics, Co B 315th Engineers, Co A 712th Tank Bn, and Co B 773rd TD Bn remained for the night. Service Company was in HAUSEN.

24

358th Infantry

HISTORY

28 March 1945

At 0300, C Company of the 1st Battalion crossed the MAIN River on the right and immediately turned upstream to capture KASSELSTADT and all the ground between this point and the crossing site along shore of the river. B Company also crossed at 0300 on the left of C Company and moved due North to woods and road then turned right following the edge of the woods to the cross roads at (823717), then turning North and moving astride road to railroad track. The railroad was reached at 0445 without opposition. A Company crossed in a second wave as fast as boats returned and followed the road taken by B Company to the railroad tracks and then displaced along the tracks on B company's left, where reorganization of both companies was hurriedly completed, and the attack was continued to capture WILHELMSBAD (820728) and completed by 0530. Patrols were sent out to edge of the woods in the battalion zone but no opposition was encountered. Motorized patrols were sent to BRUCHKOBEL (847762) and found it unoccupied. The battalion was immediately formed in column and at 1000 marched to final objective (BRUCHKOBEL). C Company, at the crossing site, moved through its zone encountering no opposition and advanced to the line running along the western edge of the town. C Company cleared that portion of town, the next North and South road where they met elements of the 26th Division who relieved C Co, marched North to rejoin remainder of the battalion in WILHELMSBAD. Leaving WILHELMSBAD and going to BRUCHKOBEL B Company set up perimeter defenses in South edge of the town with A Company on the North. C Company with the Battalion Command Post set up inside the town. The plan was to remain here until battalion vehicles crossed the river and joined us. 1st Battalion was ordered to contact the 26th Division on the right at COOR (854759) and 3rd Battalion on the left at (841768). This line was occupied by 1400, however, the 26th Division did not reach the right limiting point, so 2nd Battalion moved up to protect the regimental right flank by 1800.

The 2nd Battalion crossed the river at 0300 meeting little resistance. Easy and George companies were in the assault followed by Fox. At 0357, the battalion reported having the town of DORNIGHEIM clear and that their command post moving over immediately. Resistance was small and very scattered. The battalion reverted to regimental reserve moving by a cross country march to WILHELMSBAD and closing there at 1015. At 1620 the battalion closed into BRUCHKOBEL where the command post and Easy Company remained while Fox and George outposted the right flank of the regiment. Fox extended Southwest from (859760) to (852746). Easy extended from (852746) Southwest to (840738).

3rd Battalion followed 2nd Battalion across the river while the 2nd Battalion swung to the left allowing 3rd Battalion to pass to the right and continued in the zone to WACHENBUCHEN. WACHENBUCHEN was reported clear at 0750. By 0910 MITTELBUCHEN was reported cleared and the battalion had reached its objective from which the 11th Armored Division would pass through the bridgehead. Very little resistance was encountered in the crossing and the securing of the objective. The battalion was disposed with Love Company extending from (818766) Northeast to (823770). King Company extended from (823770) Southeast to (832764). Item Company had three blocks at (820760), (825752), (830760). The battalion command post was in MITTELBUCHEN.

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28 March 1945 (continue)

The Regiment made a successful crossing of the MAIN River - formation - 2nd Battalion on the left, 1st Battalion on the right. Generally, the resistance met was very light and consisted of nothing solid. in summary - the 2nd Battalion had crossed and swung to the left flank and cleared DORNIGHEIM while the 3rd Battalion crossed behind, then passing into the zone to clear MITTELBUCHEN. The 1st Battalion crossed on the right and continued in their portion of the regimental zone cleaning WILHELMSBAD, KENZIGHEIMERHOF and BRUCHKOBEL where they remained for the night. Service Company and nearly all of the transportation crossed on the bridge near MUHLHEIM by infiltration with 11th Armored columns. Regimental Command Post Service Company, Co A 712th Tk Bn, Co B 773rd TD Bn, Co 315th Med Bn, Co B 315th Eng Bn all closed into WILHELMSBAD.

207 prisoners were taken during the day's operation.

358th Infantry

HISTORY

29 March 45

The 1st Battalion remained in a defensive position in BRUCH-KOBEL until 1330 at which time ordered to move to HELDENBERGER. It was not definitely established the town had been cleared by CCA as the 11th Armored Division so the battalion formed a task force of Company C and a platoon of tanks to precede the battalion into the town. After arriving without opposition, A and C Companies set up outposts and B Company sent patrols every hour to contact 357th on the left. The battalion set up for the night awaiting further orders.

2nd Battalion received orders to move to ROSSDORF as soon as possible. Battalion reported closed in at 1530 after moving by motor to the area.

3rd Battalion moved by motor to KILIANSTADTEN closing at 1530.

The Regiment moved about five miles to close into an area more suitable from which to jump off to close up to the armor and mop-up the zone. The regiment was disposed for the night with the Regimental Command Post in WINDECKEN along with Anti Tank Co, Service Co, Co A 712th Tank Bn, Co B 773rd TD Bn, Co B 315th Engineer Bn, and Co B of the 315th Medical Bn. 1st Battalion in HELDENBERGER, 2nd Battalion in ROSSDORF, and 3rd Battalion in KILIANSTADTEN.

116 prisoners were processed through the cage today.

358th Infantry

HISTORY

30 March 45

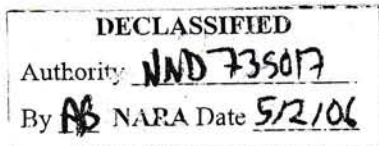
Orders were to mop up behind the armor within right sector of division, protecting the right flank until uncovered by friendly forces. The 1st and 2nd battalions were to move abreast with 1st on the left and 2nd on the right, with 3rd Battalion blocking to the right and covering all roads leading into the sector.

The battalion was ordered to continue to the NE at 0700 mopping up behind the 4th Armored Division. The 1st and 2nd, moving abreast, were assisted by a Task Force SPEISS. For transportation, the 1st Battalion received twelve two and one half tone trucks plus a platoon of Regimental Anti Tank, plus battalion organic. Co C led off on a platoon of tanks and three two and one half ton trucks, followed by A Co with a platoon of TDs and three two and one half ton trucks, followed by B Co and Headquarters. The towns of EICHEN (835850), ALTENSTADT (860883), RODENBACH (867900), HEEGHEIM (880906), GLAUBURG (898915) and STOCKHEIM (910925) were occupied without opposition, finding American troops already there. At STOCKHEIM the 359th Inf was contacted and which had encountered resistance along this battalion's assigned route. The battalion held up for a short while at this point for further orders. At 1100 the battalion was assigned a different route to the same objective. This route passed the battalion through EFFEODUBACH (905945), KONNADSDORF (914948), WIPPENBACH (988961), BODENHAUSEN (925975), EKARTSBORN (942978), GLASHUTTEN (992033) STEINBURG (004024), GEDERN (040040), BURKHARDS (043082), KAULSTOSS, SICHENHAUSEN, and HUCHENHAIN. No opposition was encountered and the battalions arrived at its objective at about 1530 and set up defenses for the night. A Co occupied HURCHENHAIN and the remainder of the battalion at SICHENHAUSEN awaiting further orders.

2nd Battalion moved out at 0700 with E Co and G Co in the assault and F Co in reserve. The advance was rapid as Task Force Speiss was operating in front of our troops. By 1000 2nd Battalion reported to be on phase line "E", having advanced six thousand yards. In an other hour, they had advanced four thousand yards reporting no resistance. The battalion continued on its mission of clearing the zone until orders were issued to capture WENNINGS and outpost the town, blocking all roads in the sector. E Co outposted the town of OBER SEEMEN while F Co outposted all the roads Northeast and G Co all the roads Southeast of WENNINGS. The battalion command post was in WENNINGS. The battalion cleared seventeen towns and patrolled the woods without resistance and advancing some fifteen miles.

3rd Battalion started the day as Regimental Reserve but were soon employed to establish road blocks along the right flank at the following towns: DUDELSHEIM, AULEN DIEBACH, DUDENROD, ROHRBACH, WOLF, and BINDSACHEN. These blocks were pulled in and leap frogged forward so as to keep protecting the right flank. The 2nd Battalion was slowed down at the town of WENNINGS with a little fight so the 3rd Battalion was passed through their sector moving to GEDERN where I Co and the command post remained for the night. L Co outposted GEDERN while K Co outposted BURKARDS.

The Regiment advanced some eighteen miles clearing fifty two towns and inhabited places and only taking eighty five prisoners. The Regimental Command Post moved by bounds from WINDECKEN to ALTENSTADT, STOCKHEIM, LISSBERG, and GEDERN where it remained for the night. The Co B 315th Eng, Co B 315th Med, Co A 712th Tks, Co B 773rd TDs, Service Company, and Anti Tank Company were also in GEDERN. Anti Tank Co had strong road blocks at BINDSACHEN.



358th Infantry

HISTORY

L-31
31 March 1945

The Regiment continued the advance to the Northeast at 0700 with the 1st Battalion on the left and the 3rd Battalion on the right. Mission was to secure the zone to phase line "P" which was Northeast of SCHLITZ.

The route of advance carried the 1st Battalion through the following towns: HARTMANNSHAIN, GREBENHAIN, ILBESHAUSEN, HERBSTEIN, RIXFELD, SCHADGER, RUDLOS, AUGERSBACH, LANDENHAUSEN, BAD SALZSCHLIRF, VETZHAUSEN, NEDERSTOLL, SCHLITZ, HUTZDORF, SANDWFS, LANGENSCHWARTZ, no opposition in any of the towns. The battalion reorganized at LANGENSCHWARTZ at 1400. B Co then went to GROSSENMOOR, C Co occupied the villages of WEHRS, HOHENWEHDRA, and SCHLITZROD. The battalion was ordered to defend the entire regimental front which was accomplished by B and C companies with a limiting point between companies at the village of WEHDRA. Battalion Headquarters, CP, and A Co remained at LANGENSCHWARTZ. The only contact with the enemy was experienced by a recon party of B Co which was fired on by small arms in the woods Northeast of GROSSENMOOR late in the afternoon. No casualties resulted. Task Force Speiss operating in C Co zone encountered approximately fifty enemy on bicycles. A number were killed, several escaped, and the balance, twenty nine, were evacuated through C Co.

2nd Battalion held road blocks at WENNINGS, and OBERSEEMEN until ordered to displace forward. In the late morning the battalion was ordered to assemble in SCHLITZ outposting the town. F and G companies did the job of outposting to the South and to the East, making contact with 3rd Battalion on their left.

3rd Battalion moved out 0700 with L, K, M Hq, and I in march order to sweep the area. They advanced without resistance about eighteen miles clearing twenty three towns and inhabited places. Battalion Command Post went into SANDLOFS with L Co in SCHLOTZEN and K Co in FRAU ROMBACH.

The Regiment advanced eighteen miles clearing 34 towns and inhabited places taking a total of one hundred and twenty three prisoners. The weather was clear making movement much easier than had been experienced in the past. Trucks loaned to the regiment by the artillery aided the rapid advance. The Regimental Command Post moved from GEDERN to HARTMANSHAIN, STOCKHAUSEN, and SCHLITZ where it remained for the night. Service Company, Anti Tank Company, Co B 315 Medical Bn, Co B 773rd TD Bn, Co A 712th Tk Bn were all in SCHLITZ.