

45TH SIGNAL COMPANY
AFO 45 US ARMY

10 April 1945

COMPANY HISTORY
for
MARCH 1945

1. Authority: (AR-345-105, as amended, and Sec. IV, Cir. 34, Hq. Seventh Army, 28 November 1944).

2. Operations during the period of the 1st of March to 31 March 1945, inclusive were as follows:

The first of the month found the company still in the rest area at Luneville, France. On the night of the 1st a dance was held for the EM of the company. Refreshments were served. The Division Band furnished the music and local French girls were guests. Lt. Clark was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. See Annex 1. Cpl. Jardieu left on TD to the U.K. Sgt. Faires and PFC's Pfeffer and Tatum left for Paris on two day passes.

On the 2nd Captain Moore reported to the hospital and Lt. Tacey became acting C.O. An inspection of personnel and equipment was held, with Major Clark as the inspecting officer.

On the 3rd the company fired their weapons on the Division Special Troops Range. Lt. Paris and St. Sgt. Sam Martin went to Paris to attend the 7 day I & E school.

On the 5th the vehicles of the company were inspected by Mr. Gardner. Captain Wilson of the 7th Army Special Service gave a talk on the problems of post-war Germany, as related to us. A small party for 20 couples was held in a local cafe and went off well. Several of the men were promoted to PFC and three Good Conduct Medals were awarded. See Annex 2.

The Division Ordnance Officer inspected the company vehicles on the 6th. The I & E film "The Nazis Strike" was shown to the company at the theater near the company area. This theater had two showings daily for all troops.

On the 8th Sergeants Bryson, Giffin and Adair returned from TD to the United States. A training film was shown at the theater and a lecture on the peace plan was given.

Cpl. Hayden had his appendix removed at the 51st Station Hospital on the 9th.

On the 10th Cpl. Collins left on TD to the U.K. Sgt. George Martin and Cpls. Nolan and Stancoff left for Paris on two day passes.

On the 12th the advance group went to Sarreguemines, France and made the C.P. installations in preparation for the divisions re-entry into combat. Personnel from the 4th Signal Company came in and made preparations to take over our installations. Captain Frost, Lt. Veters and Lt. Story, former members of the company as enlisted men visited old friends in the company.

On the 13th the Repair Section moved to Sarreguemines. Mr. Fletcher Sergeants Endress, Taylor and Brescia left for Brussels on two day passes. Mr. McLean, Sgt. Poznanski and PFC's Baumbach and Walling left for Paris on two day passes. PFC Curtis left on TD to the U.K.

345-S16-0.3
Open Rpt - Seman Campaign - 45th Sig Co - 45th Inf Div
1-31 Mar 45
11/20/45

CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Cameron
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 19 Mar 46

L-1029

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 135017
By MC NARA Date 8-22-08

On the 14th the company moved to Sarreguemines and set up near the C.P. in a former home for the insane.

On the 16th Captain Moore, Sergeants Northrup and Warden, Cpl. Warden PFC's Salazar, Clemons and Gouge left for Paris on two day passes. Sgt. Levins was also in the group.

On the 17th the division C.P. and the advance operations teams moved to Briefurt, inside Germany. This was the first time that the C.P. had set up inside Germany although the troops had been in Germany in December. Lt. Brandt, Sergeants Krupenski and Soden, Cpl. Shelton and PFC's Mason, Haines, Blair, Schwartz, and Krum left for Brussels on two day passes.

On the 18th PFC's Burns and Suchadolski left on TD to the U.K. Sgt. Fullam, Cpls. Ahearn and Kaplan and PFC Heyes also went to the U.K. on TD.

On the 19th Lt. Clark, Lt. Paris, Sergeants Dixon, Hilbert, Shelite and McWilliams, Cpls. Divirgilio and Tressler and PFC's Liebowitz, Berkowitz, Cizewski and Powers left for Paris on two day passes.

The villages inside Germany were almost completely destroyed by bombing and artillery fire. The Siegfried line was breached and on the 21st the company moved to Homburg. There were many prisoners walking around trying to get someone to take them to the PW cages and a large crowd of freed slave labor enjoying their freedom although somewhat bewildered by the sudden change. Corporals Keiser, Gillen, Nicol and Wilson left on TD to the U.K.

On the 22nd there was another long move to Grunstadt, where civilians were required to move from their homes and the soldiers moved in. Most of the route was over the Autos trada, the German superhighway. A construction peep was run over by a tank while it was parked beside the road. The long haul back to the signal dumps for signal supplies caused the trucks to break down from over use. The debris from wrecked German equipment caused a large number of flat tires. Sgt. Burk was made Mess Sergeant. There were a few other promotions. See Annex 3.

On the 23rd Cpl. McKenzie of Message Center captured five Germans and turned them over to the PW cage.

On the 24th the company moved to Westhofen where the personnel were again quartered in vacated civilian houses. There was heavy air activity during the night. While none of it was near the company area, the flares, AA fire and planes shot down recalled to mind the days at Anzio.

On the 25th the company received a Dukw to be used in laying cable across the Rhine. Sgt. Henderson was placed in charge of a convoy to go to Luneville to return men arriving there by train, after being on pass to Paris and England. Overshoes, Paces and overcoats were turned in to the QM.

Early in the morning of the 26th the construction section laid two cables across the Rhine and the Telephone section crossed and established a switching central on the East side.

On the 27th the company moved across the Rhine and set up the normal C.P. communication system in Zwingenberg. Several prisoners surrendered to members of the company. Cpl. Palmer's peep threw a rod. The trucks were getting in bad shape due to old age and constant use.

On the 28th PFC Halpin captured 5 Germans. The company moved to Gros Ostein and set up in a brewery. Normal communications were installed. The messenger run to the Rear Echelon of the division was about 200 miles. One messenger peep went each day and came back the following day.

The month ended with the CP still at Gros Ostein. The Germans were bitterly contesting the city of Aschaffenburg, with every person fighting from house to house.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 735017

By MC NARA Date 8-22-08

3. Following are the reports of the activities of the various sections during the month:

Section.	TRUCK SECTION			
	1/4	3/4	1 1/2	2 1/2
Construction	10	4	2	1
Message Center	10			3
Radio	5	5		1
T & T	1	2	1	1
Repair				8
Supply & Mess		2		3
Adm. & DSO	2	2	1	
Truck	1	1		4
Trucks damaged and repaired:				
Construction	43	9		2
Message Center	40			3
Radio	8	8		1
T & T	2	2	2	3
Repair				25
Supply & Mess		4		6
Adm. & DSO	3	2	1	
Truck	2	3		4

RAD IO SECTION	
Average Daily Stations in Net:	
Corps Net (C-20):	5
Corps Net (C-23):	3
Division Operational Net	4
Average Daily Messages Transmitted:	
Corps Net (C-20-):	.58
Corps Net (C-23):	.48
Division Operational Net:	3.1
Average Daily Messages Received:	
Corps Net (C-20):	.69
Corps Net (C-23):	.50
Division Operational Net:	4.
Total Messages transmitted:	130
Total Messages Received:	162

MESSAGE CENTER SECTION.			
Average Daily Dispatches Processed:	229		
Total Number of Dispatches processed:	8853		
	<u>M-134</u>	<u>M-209</u>	<u>Others</u>
Total number of messages enciphered:	75	1	0
Total number of messages deciphered:	92	2	0
Average number of groups per cryptographed message:	491		
Total number of miles covered by messenger:	20,558		
Total number of pigeons distributed below division:	0		
Messages Out:	5701		
Messages In:	5820		

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 735017
 By Mc NARA Date 8-22-08

Telephone and Telegraph Section:

One Switchboard BD-96 installed at each location.

Average line circuits operated: 59
Average of trunks operated: 30
Average long locals operated: 5
Average locals operated: 25

Teletype: Unit connected with: 7th Army and XV Corps.
Number of messages: 377
Transmitted: 145
Received: 232

CONSTRUCTION PLATOON.

Number of miles field wire expended: 397
Daily Average wire maintained: 68.5
Total field wire recovered: 46
Total cases of trouble: 135
Enemy action: 3
Others: 132

Percent of time out of communication:

157th Inf. Regt. 2.2
179th " " 1.6
180th " " 3.3
45th Div. Arty. 2.2
120th Engr. Bn. 0.4
120th Med. Bn. 0.4
All others 0.6

SIGNAL SUPPLY AND REPAIR.

Items issued:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Axle, RL-27 A	ea.	2
Battery, BA-2	ea.	174
Battery, BA-23	ea.	164
Battery, BA-27	ea.	134
Battery, BA-30	ea.	12,100
Battery, BA-37	ea.	929
Battery, BA-38	ea.	963
Battery, BA-39	ea.	379
Battery, BA-40	ea.	428
Battery, BA-41	ea.	22
Battery, BA-43	ea.	61
Battery, BA-48	ea.	112
Battery, BA-54	ea.	2
Battery, BA-70	ea.	1206
Battery, BA-80	ea.	74
Belt, LC-23	ea.	3
Case, CS-79	ea.	7
Chest, BC-5	ea.	2
Climbers, LC-6	ea.	8
Converter, M-209	ea.	3
Cord, CD-190	ea.	28
Crystal Holder, FT-241	ea.	60
Flashlight, TL-122-A	ea.	295
Freq. Meter Set, SCR-211	ea.	1

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WND 135017

By MC NARA Date 8-22-08