

Authority 735017  
by *LS* NASA, Date

SECRET

SECRET

Auth: CG 35th Inf

HEADQUARTERS 219TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO 35 US ARMY

Initials *RSC*

Date *16 am 45*

1 April 1945

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

*Mar 45*

1. In compliance with the provisions of par 10, C 3, AR 345-105, submitted below is report after action against the enemy for the 219th Field Artillery Battalion covering the period 1-31 March 1945.

1 March 1945

Four hundred seventy-nine rds of am were expended.

2 March 1945

Bn arrived at new position near Leuth, Germany at 0100--distance traveled, 20 miles. Bn prepared to deliver fire at 0125. Some enemy mortar and arty fire was recd in the Bn area. Cannon Co, 137th Inf, was atchd to the FDC. No am expended.

3 March 1945

At 1915 the Bn arrived at new position near Broekhuysen, Germany--distance traveled, 8 miles. Bn arrived at new position at 2400 near Nieuwerker, Germany--distance traveled, 8 miles. Am expended--15 rds.

4 March 1945

At 1105 the Bn arrived at new position near Rheurdt, Germany--distance traveled, 5 miles. During this move many of the homes seen were flying white flags of surrender. At 1300 close support missions were fired for the Inf. Harassing and interdiction fires were set up at 2000. At 2140 harassing and interdiction fires struck what was believed to be an enemy ammunition dump.

5 March 1945

Harassing and interdiction fires were contd during the night. At 0645 Bn commenced a preparation for the Inf. At 1100 time fire was adjusted by airplane on an enemy regt found in open terrain. Bn displaced at 1635, arriving at new position near Lintfort, Germany at 1720--distance traveled, 5 miles. Defensive fires were set up at 2200. Am expended--802 rds.

6 March 1945

At 1155 fire was adjusted on one enemy tank. At 1805 Bn marked target for air strike with smoke. Harassing and interdiction fires were set up for the night at 2100. Am expended--458 rds. Wea cloudy, some rain.

7 March 1945

At 0720 the Bn commenced fire missions for Inf attack. At 1910 enemy planes were sighted over Bn area. At 2030 a TOT was fired for Div Arty. Harassing and interdiction fires were set up for the night at 2300. Am expended -- 1201 rds.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:  
**CANCELLED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
*Gault-Zinkle Maj AGD 25 Feb 46*  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

*335-  
FH (219)  
-0.3*

*6140  
MASTER*

*8*

*10*

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority 735017  
 by LJ NANA, Date

## S E C R E T

(Report After Action Against Enemy, contd - - )

8 March 1945

Preparation fires were commenced for Infantry at 0500. At 0600 a TOT was fired for Div Arty.

At 1330 the Bn displaced--distance traveled, 2 miles.

Harassing and interdiction fires were set up for the night at 2220.

Am expended--1847 rds.

9 March 1945

Harassing and interdiction fires contd throughout the night. Preparation was fired for the Inf at 0630. A target was marked for air strike at 1420; another was marked at 1715. A TOT was fired at 2000. Harassing and interdiction fires were commenced for the night at 2100 hrs.

Am expended--878 rds.

10 March 1945

Preparation fires were begun for the Inf at 0510.

Enemy arty fire was recd in Bn area at 0705.

Bn displaced at 1305, arriving at new position at 1400--distance traveled, 5 miles.

Harassing and interdiction fires were begun for the night at 2100.

Am expended--1821 rds.

Wea cloudy.

11 March 1945

A TOT was fired on enemy tanks at 1130.

The 692d FA Bn was detached from reinforcing the fires of this Bn.

Harassing and interdiction fires were set up for the night at 2200.

Am expended--333 rds.

12 March 1945

Am expended--177 rds.

13 March 1945

Bn displaced at 0800, arriving at new position near Breyell, Germany at 1000--distance traveled, 28 miles.

Am expended--240 rds.

14-19 March 1945

The Bn was withdrawn from action. The time was spent in maintenance of materiel, road marches, and recreation.

20 March 1945

Bn began to infiltrate to new position near Rheinberg, Germany at 0930 and completed move by 2000--distance traveled, 31 miles.

21 March 1945

Bn registered at 1245.

Some enemy arty was recd in Bn area during the day.

22 March 1945

Enemy shells landed sporadically in the Bn area during the day.

23 March 1945

Batteries were given data for next phase of operations.

24 March 1945

Preparation fire for the 30th Inf Div was contd.

Am expended--2910 rds.

## S E C R E T

(Report After Action Against Enemy, contd - - )

25 March 1945

Am expended--990 rds.

26 March 1945

Bn crossed the Rhine River, arriving at new positions in Raymannshof at 1750--distance traveled, 12 miles.

The 666th FA Bn and 137th Inf Cannon Co was atchd to reinforce our fires.

No am expended.

27 March 1945

Bn fired preparation for the Inf at 0530.

Am expended--263 rds.

28 March 1945

Harassing and interdiction fires were conducted from 0300 to 0530. A preparation was fired for the Inf at 0530.

Bn moved to new position at 0945--distance traveled, 4 miles.

Enemy arty was recd in Bn area at 1145.

Am expended--1843 rds.

29 March 1945

Bn displaced--traveled 3 miles, taking up positions at Konigshardt, Germany.

Harassing and interdiction fires were conducted throughout the night.

Am expended--1626 rds.

30 March 1945

Harassing and interdiction fires were contd throughout the night. A TOT was fired at 0515. Preparation was fired for the Inf at 0600.

The 666th FA Bn was released and the 127th FA Bn was atchd for reinforcing our fires.

Bn displaced--traveled 4 miles, arriving at new position near Reinbaben, Germany at 1345.

Harassing and interdiction fires were set up for the night at 2300.

Am expended--1552 rds.

31 March 1945

Preparation was fired for the Inf at 0700.

Bn displaced--traveled 7 miles, arriving at new position near Butendorf, Germany at 0955. Bn displaced again, traveling 6 miles, and arrived at new position near Buer Erle, Germany at 1745.

Am expended--1112 rds.

S U M M A R Y

This period completes the march from the Roer River to the Rhine River, a motor march, much of it at night and with meager information of the enemy who was being cut to shreds by task forces. When opposition developed West of the Rhine near Rheurdt, the task force, employing tanks, tank destroyers and infantry, supported by the 219th FA Bn, 105 howitzers, and the 692d Field Artillery Battalion (American), equipped with British 25-pounders, pushed aggressively forward securing the west bank of the Rhine River in the vicinity of Rheinberg and Ossenbergl just south of Wesel, which was later secured by the British.

The battalion was then returned to the vicinity of Leuth through which it had passed on its march to the Rhine. Equipment was conditioned, men re-outfitted and all of the artillery was then committed in support of the 30th Infantry Division's

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S E C R E T

(Report After Action Against Enemy, contd - - )

crossing of the Rhine River south of Rheinberg. As soon as the 35th Inf Div could cross, the artillery again took up its normal mission of supporting the infantry regiments of the 35th Division. Ammunition for this period was unlimited. Intense artillery fires facilitated the advance of our infantry through the densely populated Ruhr Industrial District which had furnished so much for the Nazi war effort.

The battle casualties for the month of March are as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>
KIA	0	0
DOW	0	0
SWA	0	0
SIA	0	0
LWA	1	13
LIA	0	1
MIA	0	0
TOTAL	<u>1</u>	<u>14</u>

The following awards were made in the Battalion during the month:

Bronze Star Medal - 3

Purple Heart - 7

*Claude N. Shaver*  
 CLAUDE N SHAWER  
 Lt Col, FA  
 Commanding