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Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

Initials *RGC*

Date *18 Mar 1945*

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HEADQUARTERS 35TH SIGNAL COMPANY
35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 35 U.S. ARMY

9 March 1945

Subject: Action Against Enemy, Report After.

To : The Adjutant General, Washington D.C. (thru channels).

1. In compliance with the provisions of Par 10 C3, AR 345-105, submitted below is report after action against the enemy for the 35th Signal Company covering the period 1-28 February 1945.

2. At the beginning of the period the Division was in an assembly area near Ekkelrude, Holland prepared to take over a sector of the front, along the Roer River in Germany, from the British Second Army.

February 1-3, 1945

The Division CP was located at Ekkelrude, Holland. Wire communication was maintained with all units. Radio was silent. A new SOI was published conforming to Ninth Army signal policy.

February 4, 1945

The signal jump team moved to Gangelt, Germany and installed a new Division CP in preparation for a move the following day. A lateral was run to the British Eighth Armored Division located at Echt, Holland. EE-89 Repeater was installed in this line. A line was also run to the 320th Infantry at Birgden, Germany.

February 5, 1945

The Division CP moved to Gangelt, Germany. The CP had been installed by the jump team the previous day. A switch was installed at Ekkelrude, Holland to service the units that remained in that area as all units were not to move at the same time. The 35th Reconnaissance Troop took over a sector along the Roer River with their CP in Randerath. A circuit was installed to their CP via Gellenkirchen. The following circuits were also installed: 35th Quartermaster Company and Signal Supply at Stahe, one circuit; 735th Ordnance Company at Schinveld, one circuit; 110th Medical Battalion at Gangelt, one circuit; 137th Infantry Regiment at Bocket, two circuits; CC"B", 8th Armored Division at Bocket, one circuit; and the 7th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron at Bruggelchen, one circuit. All the circuits were placed high in the air and most of the construction was on antenna poles.

February 6, 1945

A reconnaissance was made of roads in the Division sector and they were found to be in poor condition. They were full of shell holes, muddy

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CLASSIFICATION

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

DOWNGRADING

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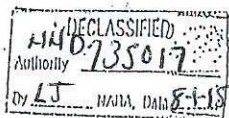
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February 6, 1945 (Cont'd)

and heavily mined. The British had advanced through the sector during a prolonged freeze and the mines in place were ineffective. When the thaw came the mines became active again. There were no trees along the roads to put wire on with the exception of the Gangelt-Geilenkirchen Road. The bridgehead across the Roer River was to be near Randerath so it was decided to put a switch at this location. A wire route was chosen from Gangelt to Geilenkirchen and north to Randerath as there were trees and pole lines to put the wire on along this route.

February 7, 1945

Four circuits were constructed to Randerath. All construction was overhead and high in the air. The switch was located in a basement, as the village was shelled heavily every day with medium and heavy artillery. Two of the circuits were extended to the 134th Infantry CP in Randerath as the 134th was relieving the 35th Reconnaissance Troop. The Reconnaissance Troop moved to Gangelt and a circuit was installed to them from the Division board.

February 8, 1945

The 137th Infantry Regiment went into Division reserve and moved their forward elements to Schinveld. They were given communication by assigning them the 735th Ordnance line and placing the ordnance line on a simplex circuit.

The switch at Randerath was manned and operated. The four circuits to Division and the two circuits to the 134th Infantry Regiment were cut in the switch and EE-89 Repeaters were cut in these lines at Geilenkirchen.

The line that ran through Geilenkirchen and formerly served the Reconnaissance Troop at Randerath was cut at Geilenkirchen and given to the 784th Tank Battalion. The 784th Tank Battalion Rear, located about two miles east of Gangelt, was placed on a simplex on the Quartermaster Company line.

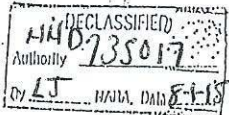
A circuit was installed to the 1st Platoon, 20th Field Hospital located at Gangelt. At the end of the day the Division Circuit Diagram was as shown on Appendix 1 and the Line Route Map as shown on Appendix 2.

February 9, 1945

The Engineers placed a dump near the railroad station in Geilenkirchen. A phantom to Division was installed on two of the switch lines to furnish communication to the dump.

The 1153rd Engineer Group moved to Gangelt and a circuit was installed to the Division board.

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February 10, 1945

Removed the Engineer Dump from the phantom and interrupted one of the switch lines to give the dump a line to Division and one to the switch. This was done because the engineering activity was to be at the river in a sector near the switch. This gave more direct communication to the bridge sites as well as back to Group.

The 17th Cavalry Squadron moved to Brunsum, Holland and they were given a circuit out of the 137th Regiment Advance CP.

Two additional circuits were installed from Division to Division Rear. This had to be done as the Division switchboard was becoming crowded, and it was necessary to throw some of the circuits to the Rear Echelon board. This would facilitate the Division CP moving since it was not desired to have another switch west of the river. On 10 February the Circuit Diagram and Line Route Map were as shown in Appendixes 3 and 4, respectively. A circuit was installed from the 137th Advance CP to the 3512 Ordnance (MM) Company located at Kling, Holland.

February 11, 1945

Two more circuits were installed from Division to Division Rear, in preparation for a move, to relieve congestion on the Division board. This gave six physical circuits to Rear Echelon. The 35th Quartermaster Company, 735th Ordnance Company, 35th Reconnaissance Troop and 110th Medical Battalion, on a party line with the 20th Field Hospital, were removed from the Division board and cut through on four of the circuits to Rear Echelon.

The 60th Engineer Battalion moved to the Engineer Dump at Geilenkirchen.

February 12 and 13, 1945

There were no new lines installed during the two days shown above. The switch was shelled heavily with shells up to 240MM and the lines were cut by shrapnel several times. Steps were taken to locate a route from the switch to the 134th Infantry Regiment without going through the center of Randerath. A route was found.

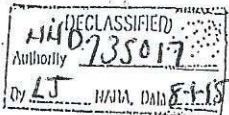
February 14, 1945

Rerouted the lines from switch to the 134th Infantry Regiment to get them out of Randerath as much as possible and remove them from the area that had been heavily shelled.

February 15, 1945

Installed a phone at the Division Rest Camp at Trebek, Holland.

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February 15, 1945 (Cont'd)

Repoliced lines to 137th Infantry Regiment. Tec 5 James Hopple, a member of the crew doing the work stepped on a shoe mine and was evacuated.

February 16, 1945

Installed a line from Division to the 3464 Ordnance (MM) Company located at Gillrath. Installed line from 15th Cavalry Group at Brunsum to the 137th Infantry Advance CP.

February 17, 1945

Lines to 134th Infantry Regiment and switch were shelled out in the early morning before daybreak. 300 rounds of heavy artillery fell in Randerath during the night.

February 18, 1945

Investigated and secured information on underground cable in Siegfried Line. This cable is 9 feet underground and protected from shell fire. It was planned to use this cable to cross the river.

The lines to 134th Infantry Regiment were shelled out and repaired twice during the night.

February 19, 1945

Connected terminals in the underground cable in the Siegfried Line to give circuits from the 134th Infantry Regiment to the platoon front, in front of Himmerich, Germany.

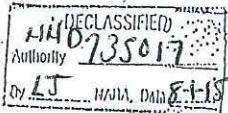
February 20, 1945

The switch at Randerath was being shelled daily. To protect the operating personnel from the hazard of shell fire, and provide more continuous service on the regimental lines, the switch was moved to Kraudorf and four circuits installed across country to the 134th Infantry. Two of the circuits were put in the regimental board and the other two were terminated in a terminal strip.

February 21, 1945

Connected two of the four lines that ran to the 134th to the junction box for underground cables. Installed two lines from cable box to terminal strip. Made a search for more junction boxes.

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February 22, 1945

Connections were made in the underground cable junction boxes that made the circuits workable from the switch to the front line.

February 23, 1945

Installed a circuit from 1135th Engineer Group located at Tuddern, Germany to the Division CP.

February 24, 1945

The 320th Infantry Regiment moved to Hulhoven and two circuits were installed to them from the switch at Kraudorf. A third circuit was installed along the same route to be used to serve the 1135th Engineer Group in the event they moved to Heinsberg.

The 137th Infantry Regiment moved across the river on the night of 24 February over the bridgehead established by the 84th Infantry Division on the right. An officer from the Signal Company, a Division wire team and two SCR-193 Radios, with operating personnel, accompanied the Regiment. The plan was to have the Division wire team with the Regiment build to the river, and to have another team meet them with two circuits from the switch on the Division side of the river, using the underground cable. The Regiment established a CP at Doveren and before noon the wire circuits were working back to Division. A EE-89 Repeater was installed in each of these lines.

February 25, 1945

Policed all lines and changed batteries in repeaters in preparation for attack at 2000.

February 26, 1945

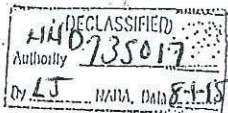
Installed a line from the underground cable from the switch to the bridge site in Hilfarth. Policed lines to 137th Infantry. The Line Route Map on 26 February was as shown on Appendix 5.

February 27, 1945

Signal jump team went to Oberbruch and installed a new CP. Five circuits were installed to the 320th Infantry Regiment at Hulhoven. Two were to be terminated in the Regimental board and the other three were to be spliced through to the three circuits from the Regimental CP to the Division switch.

The 134th Infantry moved across the Roer River to Huckelhoven and their circuits were extended to that location. The further use of underground cable was abandoned as the movement was too fast.

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February 28, 1945

The Division CP was moved to Oberbruch. Two circuits were installed from Division Rear Echelon to XVI Corps at Sittard. Both 137th and 320th Infantry Regiments moved forward and the lines were extended. A circuit was installed from the Division CP to a bridge site on the Roer River just south of Ritheim.

3. a. There were no Signal Company men killed in action during the month of February.

b. Tec 5 James L. Hopple, 35580435, was wounded due to enemy action.

c. There were no men missing in action.

d. There were no prisoners captured during the month.

Benjamin H. Oliver Jr.

BENJAMIN H. OLIVER JR
Lt. Col., Signal Corps
Commanding

5 Incl.

Appendix 1 - Circuit Diagram effective 8 Feb 45.

Appendix 2 - Line Route Map effective 8 Feb 45.

Appendix 3 - Circuit Diagram effective 10 Feb 45.

Appendix 4 - Line Route Map effective 10 Feb 45.

Appendix 5 - Line Route Map effective 26 Feb 45.

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