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HEADQUARTERS 60TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
APO 35
US ARMY

Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

Initials: *R. E.*Date: *12 June 1945*

CLASSIFICATION 1945

CANCELLEDBY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GEN. BA.
cancelable with the
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE *4 Apr 46*

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

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

1. In compliance with the provisions of Par 10, CG, AF 545-105, submitted below is report after action against the enemy for the 60th Engineer Combat Battalion, covering the period 1-31 May 1945.

During the month of May 1945, this unit was not in contact with the enemy. At the beginning of the period, the battalion was assembled in Hannover, Germany, with the mission of occupying and governing the city of Hannover and adjacent area. Fixed guard posts were established to guard enemy installations such as food warehouses, refineries, hospitals, ammunition dumps, and allied nationals displaced persons camps. Security patrols were operated twenty-four hours daily throughout the area, close liaison was maintained with British military government detachments that were already in the area, and a uniform policy was established. Liberated French prisoners of war had been previously armed by the British and these men were placed on guard duty at numerous enemy installations in the city. It was estimated that there were approximately 69,000 displaced persons and over 12,000 liberated allied prisoners of war in the battalion area of responsibility. The Division Engineer was appointed Town Major and established an office at the Hannover City Hall from which point the engineer section of Battalion Headquarters operated as the town major's section. Arrangements were made by this section to house transient troops and survey all areas available for the use of troops in the city.

On 6 May 1945, the battalion moved to Eldagsen and continued on the same security and governing mission in the area surrounding Eldagsen. A separate military government section was organized in the battalion to govern the towns in the battalion area of responsibility. The Administrative Officer of each letter company was in command of military government activities in his company area, and the Battalion Executive Officer commanded the section. Surveys were made to determine the number of displaced persons and allied prisoners of war in the area and many of these people were transported to concentration areas for shipment back to their respective countries.

During this period the battalion removed and destroyed numerous dumps of enemy mines and explosives. Company A discovered that 4800 pounds of high explosive had been imbedded in the concrete roadway on two bridges, then electrically wired and covered with concrete so that they could not be easily detected. These explosives were removed without incident.

On 19 May 1945, the battalion moved by motor convoy and assembled in Waltrop, Germany, approximately ten miles east of Recklinghausen. The battalion was given an engineer mission of reconnaissance for and construction of athletic special service facilities. A training schedule was inaugurated, consisting of engineer reconnaissance and care of specialized engineer equipment. Special emphasis was placed on military courtesy and discipline.

On 24 May 1945, the battalion relieved the 134th Infantry Regiment in the area surrounding Wadersloh. In addition to occupying and governing this area, the battalion maintained constant motorized patrols and guarded important installations and allied prisoner of war and displaced persons camps.

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Report After Action Against Enemy, 60th Engr C Bn, dtd 1 Jun 45

On 29 May 1945, the battalion was relieved of responsibility of security in the area by the First Belgian Brigade and preparations were made to move by motor convoy to an area in the vicinity of Coblenz to occupy and govern this area.

There were no battle casualties in the battalion during this period.

During the month, three enlisted men of this command were awarded Bronze Star Medals, and two enlisted men were awarded Bronze Star Oak Leaf Clusters. Sgt Eddie Connelly Company C was awarded the Soldiers Medal by General Orders 31, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, dated 8 May 1945, for heroic service in saving the life of a comrade. Pfc William J Moran, Company C, was awarded the Bronze Star by General Orders 34, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, dated 22 May 1945 for heroic action after he had been wounded while guarding a foot bridge across the Elbes River in December 1944. This same order also awarded Bronze Stars to S Sgt Onofrio Orlando and Tec 4 Edmund J Lucia, Headquarters and Service Company, for meritorious service. Formal presentation was made to Sgt Orlando and Sgt Lucia on 28 May 1945 at Wadersloh, Germany. The Bronze Star Oak Leaf Cluster awarded to Sgt Irving E Richardson, by General Orders 31, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, dated 8 May 1945, for heroic action near Gladbeck, Germany, in April 1945, was presented at Adensen, Germany on 12 May 1945. This same order awarded the Bronze Star Oak Leaf Cluster to Tec 5 James A Williams, Company B, for heroism in the same action. On 4 May 1945, at Hannover, Germany, Bronze Star Medals authorized by General Orders 29, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, dated 28 April 1945, were presented to S Sgt Lester W Olsen and S Sgt Orville W Love, Company A. Sgt Love distinguished himself near Gladbeck, Germany, in April 1945, and Sgt Olsen distinguished himself near Bochum, Germany, in April 1945.

Awards received by members of this battalion are as follows:

	D S C		LEGION OF MERIT		SILVER STAR		SOLDIER'S MEDAL		BRONZE STAR		AIR MEDAL	
	Reg	OLC	Reg	OLC	Reg	OLC	Reg	OLC	Reg	OLC	Reg	OLC
OFFICERS	0		0		0		0		0		0	
ENLISTED	0		0		0		1		0		3	
MEN											2	

The number of Purple Heart Medals awarded is: 2

Philip Botchin
 PHILIP BOTCHIN
 Lt Colonel CE
 Commanding

1 Incl:
 S-3 Journal 1-31 May 1945

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