

G-2 PERIODIC REPORT

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Auth: CG 35th Inf Div
Init: [blank]
Date: 18 April 1945

From: 172100
To: 182100
35th Inf Div
182100 April 1945

NO. 265

Maps: Germany 1/100,000. Sheet No. 6.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD:

- Enemy front line - Enemy front line extends along E bank of the ELBE RIVER.
- Defensive organization - Enemy continues to dig in along the E bank of the ELBE RIVER.
- Units in contact - See OE Estimate of 14 April.
- Artillery - Batteries were located Y82592096, Y85572503 and Y83172245. A single gun was located at Y88462192.
- Reserves and other forces capable of intervention - 25 to 50 foot troops were observed in woods vicinity Y8422.
- Supply and administrative elements - Vehicles, motorcycles and horses were heard moving E of river vicinity Y9140 at 0030. Considerable vehicular movement was observed in vicinity of BERCHLAND Y9035 at 0700. Two vehicles in vicinity of Y795218 were fired upon. Two barges were observed in vicinity of Y9532. Another barge in vicinity of Y7521 was fired upon by artillery.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD:

- General summary - Enemy bridgehead on the E bank of the ELBE in vicinity of Y894346 was eliminated in the early part of the period. Artillery fire was being received in increasing amount toward the close of period.
- Operations of component elements:
 - Artillery - Concentrations of artillery fell vicinity Y858456, Y876344, Y877349, Y810296, Y806297.
 - Infantry - The enemy defended their bridgehead on the E bank of the ELBE RIVER strongly at first but gave way under fire and finally abandoned it after three enemy were killed and two wounded. An enemy squad was observed digging in vicinity of Y882462.
 - Miscellaneous - The city of MAGDEBURG Y6598 was taken today after a stiff fight. Sniping activity still continues but is gradually being eliminated, as reported by the 30th Div.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

- Prisoners - 233 PWs passed thru Div cage since 172100. Total for this operation 3,404. Grand total 24,318.
- Estimated enemy casualties 30, 5 of which were killed and 25 long term wounded.
- Miscellaneous - Repatriated soldiers state that American soldiers who are captured with German pistols on their persons are shot. All combat troops are to be informed of this practice.
Personnel of this Div may mention the Cardlegen atrocity case in their correspondence.
- Weather - Light fog in morning clearing by noon with scattered clouds during the day.
- Password - FIGHT reply FORWARD from 191200 to 201200 April 1945.

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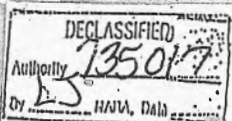
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FW REPORT ON THE "SONDERKOMMANDO W"

Silzer, Theo	Cpl	Age 21
Kruger, Ewald	"	" 30
Wiltonberger, Karl	"	" 22
Schmidt, Peter	Pvt	" 24

Identification: - All 4 FWs were members of Troop 16 Kommando #4. CO of Kommando #4: Lt Schraier. CO of Troop 16: Lt Beck.

Four groups of Kommandos crossed the ELBE RIVER on night of 16 April. Sixty small rowboats, manned by local fishermen, were employed in the ferrying process and the Kommandos were landed along the W bank from ROGATZ Y7521 to KENNERT Y8023. An estimated 8 AT Kommandos, each AT Kommando consisting of 1 officer and 4 men, armed with 2 Panzerfausts and machine pistols, crossed at the same time. The 4 groups separated upon landing, the Kommando #4 proceeding to the LETZLINGER WALD where it spent 2 days in the woods near BORN Y5426. On the night of 18 April the 4 FWs deserted the Kommando as it moved out at 2000 towards the MESER-ELBE CANAL.

FWs state that the Kommando #4 is a sub-division of the "Sonderkommando W", an underground organization drawn from army and civilian ranks but not intermingled. The W stands for Werewolf. The Kommandos are formed in the Engineer OCS in ROSSLAU-DESSAU by Lt Col Wolf and consist of 5 officers and 26 men. Each Kommando is in turn composed of 4 troops, 1 officer and 6 men to a troop plus a headquarters consisting of commanding officer and 2 non-commissioned officers. Each man is equipped with 2 pistols and each troop with 2 rifles and 1 machine pistol. Each man carries 30 pounds of explosives and each troop is issued 5 pounds of putty-type explosive.

The Kommandos are an independent unit and cannot be incorporated into any regular unit.

The mission of Kommandos is to commit all sabotage possible by ambushing Allied vehicles and soldiers, blowing up bridges, ammo and gasoline dumps and mining roads. They are also to terrorize the civilian population. Kommandos are required to forage for their food and explosives.

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SECRETFW REPORT OF THE KAMPFGRUPPE ZOCK

Interrogation of 4 Hitler Youth PWs reveals that 100 fanatical Nazis, recruited from the SS Luftwaffe and Hitler Youth Organizations, under the command of Lt Zock, equipped with Panzerfausts and MGs and 6 machine pistols, caliber 46 pistols, some semi-automatic rifles and the new type of hand grenade are operating from BLUMENTHAL vicinity Y79452169. The Kampfgruppe Zock has artillery support from 1 battery of 105s located vicinity of PARCHAU Y8221.

The Hitler Youth maintains day and night patrols in civilian clothes across the ELBE RIVER crossing in small boats from Y783227 to Y78522291. Their mission is reconnoitering the disposition of our forces, tanks and mortars in preparation for small scale attacks by assault groups of 20 to 30 men.

The 4 PWs had succeeded in crossing the river many times without being observed, even when crossing during daylight hours. They deserted when sent on their latest mission which was to reconnoiter SANDFURTH Y8326 and ROGATZ Y7420.

Three women are employed by the Kampfgruppe as spies. One of them is described as follows: Forty years old, round face and pale complexion and dark brown hair which is curled up in back, about 5 feet seven and medium build. She wears black slacks, a sweater with a dark jacket over it and rides a bicycle.

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