

135017

DATE, DAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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STATION AT END OF PERIOD:

- a. Enemy front line - Enemy front line extends along E bank of the ELBE RIVER.
- b. Defensive organization - Enemy continues to improve his defenses along the E bank of the ELBE RIVER.
- c. Units in contact - Units from which IWA have been taken during the period are as follows:

UNIT	LOCATION	DATE
Condorromando W. Corrado 6, Dry 2	Y2418	28 Apr
27 Surg, 110 AC Bn, 4th Bn	Y7829	22 Apr
1st Bn, 3rd Co	Y7876	22 Apr
75th Arty Bn, 6th 1st Bn	Y8450	22 Apr
41 Bn 18, 7th	Y8416	22 Apr
17 Sharpshooter School 5th Co	Y8418	22 Apr
2nd Regt Bn 17	Y8418	22 Apr
6th Division	Y773644	21 Apr
1st Force Research Dept. 4th Division	Y773644	21 Apr
1st Air Bn Squadron	Y773644	21 Apr
Air Field 4th Division	Y773644	21 Apr
Air Force Helicopters, 4th Division	Y773644	21 Apr
Air Squadron 105	Y773644	21 Apr
Fighter Squadron 110	Y773644	21 Apr
1st School	Y773644	21 Apr

- d. Pilots School
- e. Artillery - Photos of 17 April show 4-gun heavy AA battery on rail road cars at Y912231.
- f. Reserves and other forces capable of intervention - Thirty enemy were seen marching from BURE Y0118 in direction of RESEN Y8617 at 1830. Two columns of enemy, 50 men in first column and 30 in the second were moving into JERICHO Y9142 at 1840. Both columns were dispersed by friendly artillery fire.
- g. Supply and administrative elements - Two trains were seen moving NE to GENTIN 20031 at midnight. Rail and vehicular movement was noted in RESEN Y8617 at 0930. Tugboat getting up steam vicinity Y782228 at 1610 was fired upon stopping all activity. Twelve enemy vehicles were seen parked along edge of woods vicinity Y402270 at 1540. No activity or indications of personnel was noted. Anti tank gun towed by truck passed Y790154 at 1830. 102nd Div reports movement by bicycles and heavy duty vehicles between SANTAN Y8074 and VULRAD Y8271.

1. BATTY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD:

- a. General summary - After a barrage of 82mm fire in vicinity Y811298 at 2400, artillery fire was scattered throughout the remainder of period. Aggressive enemy patrol activity continued across the Blue River and in the rear areas.
- b. Operations of component elements:
1. Artillery - Forty rounds of 82mm fire were received vicinity Y011298 and 15 to 20 rounds fell in vicinity Y805295 at 0025. Rocket fire and contraband were received vicinity Y807237 at 0525. Twelve rounds of 302 fire fell vicinity Y855340 at 1300. Another concentration was received at Y807250.

Abstract

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b. Operations of component elements (Continued)

2. Aviation - An unidentified plane flew over 137th area at 0200.
3. Engineers - Photos of 17 April reveal roadblocks covering S and E approaches to PARCHAU Y826215, Y830219, Y824215, Z008316, Z009460, and one at Z009460. Fifth Armd Div reports a mine field at Y3194. A mine dump was found vicinity Y704192.
4. Infantry - Peep in which American officer and driver were riding was hit and disabled by Panzerfaust fire vicinity Y680230. S/A fire was directed upon the officer and enlisted man and both were wounded. Two enemy who crossed the river were captured vicinity ROGATZ Y7521. Another 2-man enemy patrol attempting to ambush our outpost was fired upon and both enemy were killed. Two enemy patrols were seen moving E on road vicinity Y722246 then S into woods at Y712239. Patrols withdrew to woods when fired upon. An estimated 20 enemy were seen digging in at Y810227 at 1630.

120mm mortar fire fell vicinity Y878324 at 1230 and at 1245. Enemy AT gun at Y903353 was knocked out by mortar fire.

5. Miscellaneous - CT Clausewitz has been virtually eliminated, according to XIII Corps. Most of its equipment has been destroyed and PW states that casualties were very high. More than 260 PWs were taken in woods vicinity KLOTZE Y3152.

29th Div is resting with some resistance, mostly small arms fire vicinity X9778.

5th AD is meeting stiffening resistance as enemy bridgehead is being compressed.

Photos of 18 April show that NIEGRIPP Y7415 is being encircled by a trench system.

Enemy is reported to be laying communication lines from SCHARTAU Y7617 to NIEGRIPP Y7415 at 1630.

Two red flares 180 degs. and 2,000 yards from Y833265 were seen at 1945.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

- a. Prisoners - 106 PWs passed thru Div cage since 212100. Total for this operation 4,643. Grand total 25,557.

- b. Estimated enemy casualties 30, 5 of which were killed and 25 long term wounded.

- c. Miscellaneous - Radio devices sending a continuous beam were dropped by parachute vicinity Y7881 at 1700.

Four of 6 parked enemy vehicles at Y898328 were destroyed by artillery fire at 1640.

French sailor reports that German patrols crossed the river at Y781229. He states also that troops in BURG Y8116 are SS men; that 7 men form the outpost at Y788225 and that civilians are stopped by sentries at Y819178 and Y792163.

- d. Weather - Cloudy with occasional showers.

- e. Password - WINTER reply WIND from 231200 to 241200 April 1945.

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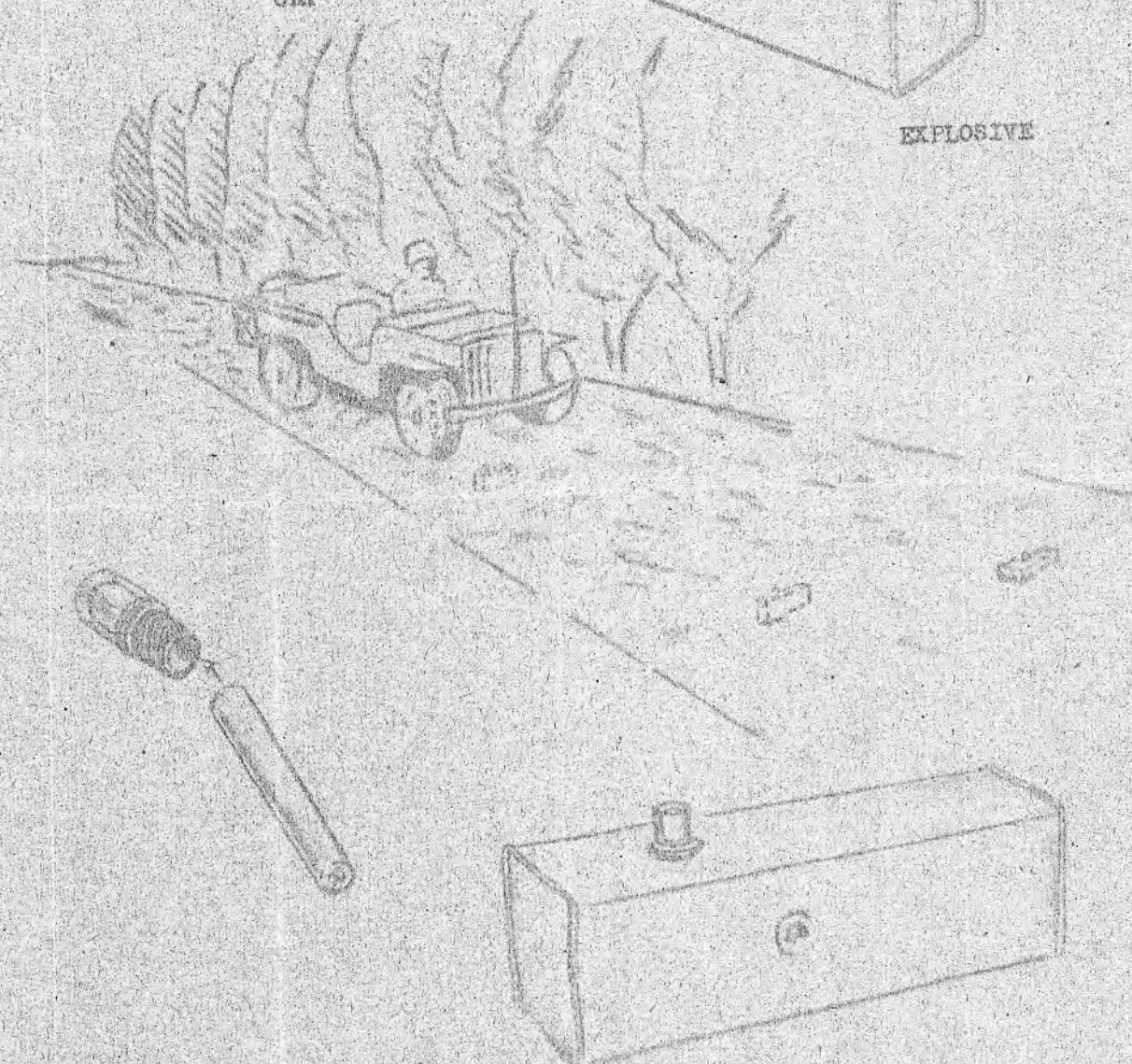
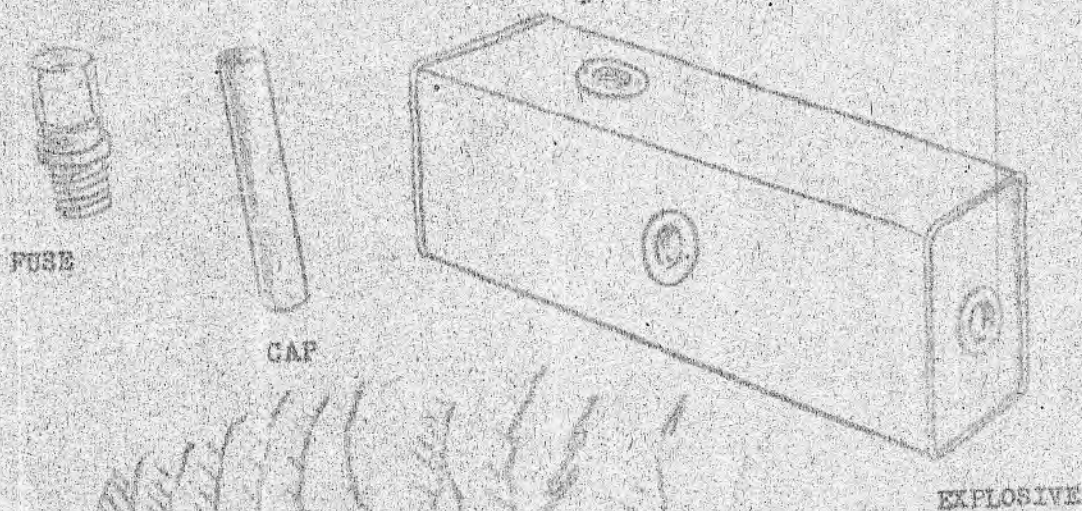
DISTRIBUTION

XIII Corps	3	G-4	1	102nd Div	1
CIC	1	MG	1	134	4
OB	1	CWO-Ord	1	137	5
IPW 60	1	Surg-Chap	1	320	4
PI	1	Sig Off	1	QM Co	1
VII	1	Hq Comdt	1	Med Bn	2
Engr Off	1	Hq Co	1	Ord Co	2
1149th Engr Gp	1	PRO (Forward)	1	Sig Co	1
Div Arty	7	War Room	1	654 TD	1
Div AT Off	1	PRO (Rear)	1	448 AAA	1
C/S	1	Recn Trp	1	AG	1
G-1	1	784 Tk Bn	1	PM	1
G-2		30th Div	1	Engr Bn	1
G-3					

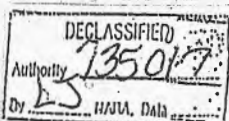
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Commando Mines



Above sketches show details of mines placed on roads in Division rear areas by enemy personnel. Two 2-1/2 ton trucks were destroyed 191830 April vicinity Y5826 and one light tank was disabled 211830 April at Y598260 by demolitions of this type.



IV INTERROGATION-REPORTS

No. 1

HENST KONDRWEIT and GERHARD LANGE, two 15 year old German youths, were apprehended before dawn of 20 April in the vicinity of BERTINGEN Y7024 by 134th troops.

They were members of the KENNERTUCHTIGKEITSLAGER BRIG, an organization of about 80 boys from RUD and vicinity, all of the class of 1929. They received preliminary military training, were outfitted in regular Wehrmacht uniforms and were provided with Soldbuch. When volunteers were called for a dangerous job by HITLER JUSSER STABSPUNTER PORT Kondrweil and Lange were among the 14 youth selected. The volunteers were marched to the CP of Maj Muller who informed them that they would be employed as spies. They were given special passes permitting them to go to their homes to change into civilian clothes. The next afternoon they were assigned a specific area to cover, KATZ INTEL Y629, ROGAIZ Y7521, LOITSCHE Y7018, KOLBERT Y6613 and then back to BLUMENTHAL Y95227. The following morning at 0300 they were awakened and in company with two others boys on a similar mission were rowed across the river West of BLUMENTHAL. They were apprehended upon after landing and under questioning admitted that their mission was to spy out all American military positions, especially artillery positions, and strength and disposition of troops. They stated that 12 boys had been sent across the ELBE RIVER up to this time and that previous to their capture none of the others had been stopped beyond brief questioning by American guards.

No. 2

Unit "MAIR" is composed of volunteers and men especially trained at the War College in POTSDAM in demolitions and anti-tank measures. Capt Mahr commands the unit which is organized into six squads, each squad consisting of 14 men, one NCO and one officer. Officers and men are armed with a new radical machine pistol and Panzerfaust. The specific and only mission of the squads is to penetrate into our rear areas and destroy our tanks.