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Authority 135017
By 15 HAWA, Dala

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O-2 PERIODIC REPORT

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Auth: CG 35th Inf Div
Init: 017
Date: 23 February 1945
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From: 2 1801
To : 231800
35th Inf Div
231800 February 1945

NO. 220

Maps: Germany 1/50,000. Sheets 8 and 19.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD:

- Enemy front line - See overlay.
- Defensive organization - Civilian reports confirm location of pillboxes vicinity ORSBECK K8977, as shown on 1/25,000 defensive overprinted maps dated 01 February 1945. At end of period enemy was occupying fortified houses in KRANZES K895740 and SCHANZ K906734 aided by heavily mined areas and engineering obstacles vicinity SCHANZ.
- Units in contact - PWs captured from 2d Co, 330th Regt (183rd VG Div) place the 1st Bn of the 330th Regt location shown on overlay.
- Artillery - Enemy batteries were located vicinity K941765, 938760, 961760, 888775, and 892821. See overlay. SP gun at K901757 at 1622.
- Reserves and other forces capable of intervention - No change. It is estimated that 2 Pz Divs and one VG Div are available as reserves in the Corps sector.
- Supply and Administrative Elements - Air OP reported large concentrations of vehicles on road at K975717 moving to the NW about 1230. Air OP also reports bridge at HILFARTH K938727 still intact, and it is believed that this bridge is being used during the hours of darkness for supply of enemy troops in that area.

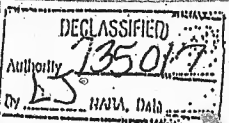
2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD:

- General summary - Enemy was surprised by our advance early this morning but resistance stiffened during last part of period from positions as shown on overlay.
- Operations of component elements:
 - Armor - Corps reports 14 tanks moving S on the ERKELENZ F0076 - BAAL K9771 highway towards RORICH K9769 at 1630. Artillery fire was placed on them and four of them were seen burning.
 - Artillery - Scattered artillery fire was reported at the following locations: 19 rounds heavy caliber artillery vicinity K867724 about 0800; 4 rounds, estimated 150mm artillery, fell vicinity K87724 at 0755; 8 rounds, estimated 150mm artillery, fell vicinity K867761 at 1100; and 2 rounds, estimated 150mm, fell vicinity K906695 at 0900.
 - Chemical - 10 rounds of smoke fell vicinity K907730 about 0900 this morning.
 - Engineers - See overlay. The town of RLECKDEN K9073 is well mined and booby trapped.
 - Infantry - Combat patrols of 134th Infantry encountered VG fire from the S edge of HILFARTH K9372 and NW edge of farm vicinity K923729. Small arms and automatic weapon fire received from fortified houses in KRANZES K895740 and from positions vicinity SCHANZ K907733. Automatic weapons fire also was received from prepared defensive positions N side of ROER RIVER as shown on overlay. Scattered mortar fire fell on the forward elements of the 320th Infantry.
 - Miscellaneous - Further interrogation of the two enemy agents captured yesterday in civilian clothes at BIRCDEN K8168 reveals that the enemy plans to send additional agents in civilian clothes into the sector of this Div.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

- Estimated enemy casualties 120, 30 of which were killed and 90 long term wounded. No enemy dead buried.
- Prisoners - 8 PWs were cleared thru the Div cage during period. Grand total 12,416.

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3. MISCELLANEOUS (Continued)

- c. Weather - Scattered, broken, low clouds during the day tomorrow with some ground fog during the morning and little change in temperature.
- d. Miscellaneous - Restrictions on the use of unit numerical designation on signs are removed.

Allied escapers and evaders and overrun Allied prisoners of war will not be evacuated thru enemy prisoner of war channels, and after necessary security steps have been taken, they will be afforded treatment and consideration consistent with their status as Allied military personnel.

Investigation has disclosed that matches entirely covered with irritating compound is not a sabotage device and resulted only from defects in production.

Air OP reports that the ROER RIVER has gone down and that the river flows approximately in its original channel.

- e. Password - VARGA reply VENUS from 241200 to 251200 February 1945.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES:

- a. The enemy can continue to defend from prepared defensive positions S and N of the ROER RIVER in our sector with elements of the 183rd VC Div.
- b. The enemy can execute limited counter-attacks N of the ROER RIVER with the 183rd VC Div and the forces available in the Corps area reserve any time after daylight tomorrow.

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DISTRIBUTION

Ron Trp	1	C/S	1	XVI Corps	2
8th American AD	1	G-1	1	17th Cav Ron Sqdn	1
79th Inf Div	1	G-2	4	84th Inf Div	1
CIC	1	G-3	1	134	4
IFW 60	1	G-4	1	137	5
PI	1	CA	1	320	4
VII	1	CWO-Ord	1	QM Co	1
Engr Off	1	War Room	1	Med Bn	2
Engr Bn	1	Surp-Chap	1	Ord Co	2
1153 Engr Gp	1	Sig Off	1	Sig Co	1
202d Engr Gp	1	Hq Comdt	1	654 TD	1
Div Arty	1	Hq Co	1	448 AAA	1
Div AT Off	1	PRO (Rear)	1	AG	1
8th Am AD Arty	1	PRO (Forward)	1	PM	1
692 FA Bn	1	784 Tk Bn	1	102d Inf Div	1
407th FA Gp	1	275 FA Bn	1	15th Cav Gp	2

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