

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INF REGT
IPW TEAM 60

11 Mar 45

PW were taken from the following units:
(Figure in parenthesis indicates number of PW)

6th Parachute Division

Hq, 16th Para Regt (1)
3 Co, 17th Para Regt (5)

18th Para Regt

2nd Bn Hq (1)
7th Co (2)
8th Co (3)
10th Co (6)
11th Co (3)
12th Co (4)
Telephone Co (2)
Bakery Co (4)
Supply Co (1)
Truck Co (2)

7th Parachute Division

Division Hq (1)

19th Para Regt

4th Co (1)
9th Co (2)
12th Co (1)

21st Para Regt

1st Bn Hq (1)
2nd Bn Hq (2)
3d Co (10)
8th Co (3)
15th Co (4)

7th Div AA Bn

5th Btry (3)

7th Div AT Bn

1st Co (4)

7th Div Eng Bn

1st Co (4)

7th Div Arty Regt

2nd Btry (3)

7th Mortar Bn

Hq (1)

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8th Parachute Division

23 Para Regt
3d Bn Hq (1)
24th Para Regt
1st Co (1)
5th Co (2)
Instruction Bn
3d Co (1)
Bakery Co (1)

190 Infantry Div

1224 Inf Regt
2nd Co (4)
7th Co (1)
1226 Regt
1st Co (1)
13th Co (2)
14th Co (1)
890 Arty Regt
5th Btry (1)
6th Btry (3)
7th Btry (1)
8th Btry (1)
9th Btry (1)
1190 Field Replacement Bn
4th Co (3)
20th AT Replacement Bn
4th Co (1)

116th Armd (?) Div

146th Art Regt
Hq Btry (1)
1st Bn Hq (1)
281 Army AA Bn (atchd)
Bn Hq (4)
1st Btry (1)
Workshop Co (1)

2nd Parachute Div

7th Para Regt
1st Bn Hq (2)
1st Co (1)

211 Infantry Div

317 March Co (38)

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57th Fortress AT Co (3)
231st Army AA Bn, 2nd Btry (1)

2nd Bn, 18th Para Regt:

The battalions kitchens had been in WALLACH (198327) until 9 March. Food was brought to BORTH where it was picked up by carrying parties for troops on line. PW was sent out with food from kitchen to BORTH and when he returned the kitchen had withdrawn to an unknown destination.

8th Co of the regiment after having suffered heavy losses in men and equipment was distributed among 6th and 7th Cos. The same is true of 5th Co. 8th Co lost 60 men in one day through arty fire vic CALGAR (Canadian sector). At present the battalion has a total strength of 150 men (ration figure for 9 March) and consists only of 6th and 7th Cos.

Trains, except for items of immediate need such as the kitchen, withdrew across the Rhine about a week ago over the WESEL bridge. The remainder of the bn crossed by ferry at 0100 10 March. All men from the trains were sent forward into the lines about five days ago. Trains are now in WERTERBRUCH.

PW know of no prepared emplacements on other side of Rhine.

12th Co, 18th Regt

Distributed among other companies of Bn after having suffered heavy losses at CALGAR. The entire 3d Bn is estimated at 30 man strength under Lt Leewe. It came from ALPON to BORTH night of 9 to 10 March. Were told that anyone at tempting to slip across Rhine would be shot.

Hq, 7th Para Div:

PW was motorcycle messenger for supply officer. Hq Co of Div has motorcycle platoon with 16 motorcycles and 50 men. The Div CP of 7 Para Div was at BORTH in Selway plant the night of 9 March. At about midnight they moved, probably to WESEL.

Div had not received any new ammo for some time. The current order was to use up all old ammo.

There had been a gasoline depot at (KAPELLIEN (also ammo dump) but all gas was consumed. There was just enough here to get all vehicles over river.

15th Co, 21st Para Regt: (Engineer Co).

Co consists of 35 men most of which had no previous engineer training. They were stationed in RILL (1734). 60 mines were left behind in the withdrawal before RILL and 16 were taken along and probably laid in vic RILL. Others were left because of shortage of vehicles. When separated from his unit five days ago he joined the 14th Co in BORTH. He was with one squad of this co which was armed with one bazooka (lge) and several small. 14th Co was ordered to cross river night of 9 March.

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7th Div AA Bn:

Bn has five batteries of which the first three are armed with 88mm AA guns, the 4th with 37mm, and the 5th with 20mm quads. In addition to this each battery has one or two 20mm guns (exc. 5th Btry). The 5th Btry has 5 20mm quads remaining of which one is mounted on a vehicle. The fourth has four 37's one of which is mounted on a vehicle. The 2nd has two 88's of its original four. The strength of the 1st and 3d is not known. All weapons of the bn have been used against ground targets during the last few days. Unit is supposed to have crossed river at 2000 10 March. After having lost several men from arty fire during last few days the remaining strength of the fifth btry is about 150 men. Btry is commanded by Lt Schmidt, Bn by Capt Henning.

7th Div AT Bn:

Now consists of two companies, the second and first having been united ~~7/6~~ into one unit. The new 1st Co has four motorized 75mm AT guns. The 3d Co has 9 large and 18 small bazookas and 9 mgs. The third company has original strength of 110. After Reer battle this was reduced to 45. A week ago 27 replacements were added to this. Positions of both companies were in area of BORTH, to which they had withdrawn from ALPON on night of 10 March with 15th Co, 21st Regt. CO of 3d Co is Lt Waldberg (?), and of Bn Capt Gruenwald.

7th Div Eng Bn, 1st Co:

FW knows only of 1st and 3d Co, but believes that the 2nd Co still exists. Companies were not specialized in particular types of engineer work as has been the case in some other units. Mines were obtained from depot in Selvay works (179358). They were laid in the ALPON area, exact location unknown. CO of Co is Lt Fennen, and of Bn ~~1st~~ Huenigen (Lt).

7th Div Arty Regt, 2nd Btry:

Regt has three battalions each of which has three batteries. 1st Bn has three batteries of 105 mm Howitzers with two pieces per battery (present strength). For the whole first bn there are three prime movers of which one is used only for equipment. Unit crossed Rhine 9th March. CO of btry is Lt Mehr, of Bn Capt Odenwald, and of Regt Maj Meister.

7th Mortar Bn:

Bn has three companies each with 10 120mm mortars drawn by trucks. Has a total strength of which about 150 were committed as infantry in vic of DRUPTSTEIN (N of BORTH). CP of Bn was in BERTH until 10 March. Bn Co MAJ Seebens. Co of 150 men committed as infantry is Lt Teillmann. Not known that they were attached to any particular unit.

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5th Co, 24th Para Regt:

PW separated from his company for past five days, and believes that his unit crossed the river shortly after he left them. Had been in position in vic LAHECK and had strength of 42 men 5 days ago. PW says that the 1st and 3d Bns of his regiment were attached to the 6th and 7th Para Divisions because of the shortage of men in these two units.

It seems probable that the 6th, 7th, and 8th Para Divisions are all combined into one unit, for all PW give the name of Gen. Erdmann as their division CO. CO of 14th Regt is Lt Col Huebner, of 2nd Bn Maj Zahnder,

7th Btry, 890 Arty Regt, 190 Div:

Last known position of battery was at WALLACH, where it had been located for one day having come there from the vic of ISSUM.

The battery formerly had six 105mm howitzers of which three remains. One was destroyed by our arty and two were given up to form a new battery. The new battery (9th) was formed about two weeks ago by the 7th and 8th each giving up two of their guns. This battalion (3d) supported the 1226 Regt. Three days ago they used up the last of their ammunition. The battalion had two prime-movers left, the others having been destroyed by arty when loaned to another unit. 7th Btry commanded by Lt von Kuhlmann, 3d Bn by Capt Mueller, and 890 Regt by Lt Col Schwarz. CO of 1226 Regt is Lt Col Bernhard.

8th Btry, 890 Arty Regt, 190 Div:

Each btry has three 105 howitzers (net.) Together with 9th battery this unit had three trucks and one tractor. During last three weeks the battery suffered 50% of observation personnel, caused by arty fire. Had had OP in church steeple in BORTH. Fire direction center for battalion was at 189347. Pieces were to be taken across river by ferry at 204372 and to unload at SPELLEN (212346). After having fired 30 rounds yesterday there were three rounds left for each piece. Had fired in direction of MINNINGEN. CO of 8th Btry Lt Reimers; Co of 9th Btry Lt Kampmeier; CO of Bn Capt Mueller; CO of Regt Lt Col Schwarz.

1st Bn Hq 146 Arty Regt, 116 Armd Div:

Had two 105mm howitzers left in 1st Bn, having lost its others in the GOCH area recently. Pieces were at 189348 and withdrew night of 9 Mar to cross Rhine on ferry BUEIERICH - SPELLEN.

The division consisted of the 60th and 156th Inf Regts and an armored regiment. In vic of GOCH they made a flanking (?) attack on the British in which they threw in all their tanks (50 to 60): the Germans gained no ground but every one of the tanks were lost.

86 men of arty regiment were committed as infantry at 201365 as security for the ferry and also at CR between ALPON and BUEDERICH. According to PW there is a rumor that 120 arty pieces are concentrated in WESEL area to prevent our crossing the RHINE.

CO of 1st Bn is Capt Ammann. Gen (Count) von Schwerin, former commander of this division is now a Corps commander.

INTERROGATION REPORT
10TH INF REGT
IPW TEAM 60

11 Mar 45

15 PW of 10th Co, 6th Home Guard (Landespionier) Regt.

Captured at 1000 today at Fort Bluecher.

Function of regiment was to guard Rhine bridges in Duesseldorf, Duisburg, Wesel and Krefeld areas. They were also supposed to watch for mines floating in the river and for parachute attacks; also to help regular engineers in repairing damage to bridges. Regiment functioned directly under command of VI Corps with Hq in MUESTER, Westphalia.

10th Co guarded RHINEBABEN bridge between BUEDERICH and WESEL. Co has 140 men, mostly invalid or old age, and 10 mgs. 50 men of this group were ordered to stay behind on west side to defend approach to bridge. Considering this mission suicidal they surrendered in toto to our troops.

RHINEBABEN bridge was damaged by bombs 14 Feb, repaired by Teut Organization and has been in use since 5 March. However the wood repair work was destroyed by our arty fire 8 March since which time the bridge has not been used. ~~RR~~ RR bridge badly damaged, has lately again been passable for troops and light vehicles.

Both bridges were blown up or supposed to be at 0600 9 March. The blowing up of the bridges was accomplished by four engineer task forces, two on each side of river, each consisting of 11 men. Those on the west side were supposed to cross the river after explosion in assault boats 400 yds north of the RHEINBABEN bridge.

The explosions themselves seemed to PW to be weak, and four more detonations were heard the following night (9 March). It is possible that the original charges were not too successful. The extension of the RHEINBABEN bridge over the LIPPE River is still supposed to be standing.

PW heard the sound of a fire fight coming from RR bridge yesterday afternoon. But 24 hours had passed, according to PW between the last German soldier crossing the undefended bridge, and the first American soldier passing BLUECHER Fortress.

PW observed only foot troops and light vehicles crossing bridge during last days. The withdrawal was orderly. Our artillery fire was heavy, but little damage was done to bridge until 8 March. One car was seen hit and a few casualties observed. Our last bombing attack on bridge was 5 March; since then there have been strafing planes only.

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There are Riegel mines on road E of main highway between the following points: 212387 - 215368 - 215393. German vehicles were hit by these mines.

There is a system of trenches badly mauled by our arty and a few dugouts along the RHINE on both sides of the bridge on the east bank. Trenches are on BUEDERICHER ISLAND (2239) are under water.

CO of 10th Co is 1st Lt Hepmann: of Regt, Col Ross.