

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INF REGT
IPW TEAM 60

7. March 45

2085

A French member of a German Forced Labor Bn. gave the following information:

The only military installations observed in December along the Rhine were AA positions. 4 88mm AA pieces are in Meiderich at 347188.

Saturday the Forced Labor Bn., consisting of 120 men of various nationalities, was ordered to retreat in direction DUISBURG at a rate of 45 km per day. Their final destination was probably DINKSLAKEN (3030) where a camp for 5000 workers is situated. With the help of anti-Nazi farmers, numerous in this region, more than a fourth of the 120 men of the Forced Labor Bn. succeeded in joining our advancing lines.

2 weeks ago our informant saw the following factories in the DUISBURG area still at work: (1) One of four smelters at ALSUM 298225. The smelter belongs to the Albert Thyssen Huette and is known as #9. (2) one of four mines in HAMBORN. (3) One of two steel mills at ALSUM. (4) 3 out of 6 steel plate works at MEIDERICH producing steel plates for sub-marines and air planes.

Workers of destroyed factories are taken into the Volksturm and often used as guards and supervisors in Forced Labor Bns. The most cruel of these guards are frequently Germans of Polish origin. Among the Italian workers in Germany are many volunteers and fascists.

INTERROGATION REPORT
134 TH INF REGT
IPW TEAM 64

7 March 45

2091

I PW of 1st Co, 306 th Grenadier Training and Replacement Bn.

PW, at home in Geldern on sick leave, surrendered this morning. Thursday 1 March while passing in a train over the Hohenzollern bridge in COLOGNE he saw the big suspension bridge to the South fall down into the Rhine. It was at about 1700 and the bridge was filled with traffic of all kinds. The suspension bridge which had been damaged by our bombing was forbidden for heavy traffic, but because of the military situation military vehicles, retreating soldiers, and fleeing civilians jammed it and caused the bridge to fall.