

RG 407 RECORDS OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S
OFFICE, 1917 -

WW II Operations Reports, 1940 - 48

85th Infantry Division

385-4.3 MAY 1945

to

385-4.3 MAY 1945

Box 10707

Entry 427

HM 2007

(Not to be taken in the Front Lines)

HEADQUARTERS 85TH INFANTRY DIVISION

SECRET
By Authority of CG:
85 Inf Div Reinf
Initials: 11118
6 May 1945

OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS
NUMBER 53

AGO 85, U. S. Army,
6 May 1945.

1. 85 Div.

Atchd: 804 TD Bn (-1 Plat)
767 Tk Bn (-1 Plat)

- Directs main effort to assembling and disarming surrendered enemy units in zone.
- Continue mission of sealing ITALIAN FRONTIER.
- As rapidly as situation permits occupies area of responsibility (see overlay Atchd) and assumes military control thereof.

2. 359 Inf.

Atchd: 914 PA Bn
Co A 767 Tk Bn
Co C 804 TD Bn

- Continue to seal ITALIAN FRONTIER within zone.
- Maintain established road blocks until relieved by order of this Hqs.
- Patrol areas in separate zones assigned by this Hqs. (see overlay with instructions)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WV 735017
By BJ-NARA Date 4-21-11

85th 6.4 JRNL
6 MAY 45
OPERATIONAL INST
53

4. 338 Inf. (-On Co and 2d Bn)

Atchd: Co B 767 Tk Bn (-1 Plat)
Co B 804 TD Bn (-1 Plat)

- Occupy area of responsibility without delay relieving Bn of II Corps Arty protecting Div lines of communication in area. Assume military control of assigned area in accordance with instructions to be issued by this Hqs.
- Protect Div lines of communication in area assigned.

5. 85 Div Arty.

- 329 PA Bn detached 338 Inf and reverts to control of parent unit.
- 403 PA Bn relieved from present mission of protecting Div installations.
- Continue assistance to Div Provost Marshal.
- Occupy area of responsibility and assume military control thereof under instructions to be issued by this Hqs. 328 and 910 PA Bns will be released to Div Arty control as soon as situation permits.
- Protect Div installations in area.

6. 85 Rem Tr.

- Patrol Div lines of communication north of 338 Inf area with not to exceed two Plats.
- Keep at least one Plat in Div Res vicinity of KELLING prepared to execute special missions.

7. 310 Med Bn.

- Co C and 1 Plat Co E detached 339 Inf and reverts to control of parent unit.
- Cos A and B, detached 337, and 338 Infs respectively and revert to control of parent unit.

(Not to be taken in the Front Line)

HEADQUARTERS 85TH INFANTRY DIVISION

SECRET
By Authority of CG:
85 Inf Div Reinf
Initials *WJH*
6 May 1945

OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS
NUMBER 55

AFG 86, U. S. Army,
6 May 1945.

1. 85 Div.

Atchd: 804 TD Bn (-1 Plat)
757 Tk Bn (-1 Plat)

- Direct main effort to assembling and disarming surrendered enemy units in zone.
- Continue mission of sealing ITALIAN FRONTIER.
- As rapidly as situation permits occupy area of responsibility (see overlay Atchd) and assume military control thereof.

2. 359 Inf.

Atchd: 910 PA Bn
Co A 757 Tk Bn
Co C 804 TD Bn

- Continue to seal ITALIAN FRONTIER within zone.
- Maintain established road blocks until relieved by order of this Hqs.
- Assemble, disarm, and guard surrendered enemy units in designated areas in accordance with Administrative Directive #12, Fifth Army and separate instructions as issued. This will be initiated only when ordered by this Hqs.
- As rapidly as situation permits, occupy area of responsibility (see overlay Atchd) and assume military control thereof, in accordance with instructions to be issued by this Hqs.

3. 357 Inf.

Atchd: 328 PA Bn
Co C 757 Tk Bn
Co A 804 TD Bn

- Assemble, disarm, and guard surrendered enemy units in designated areas in accordance with Administrative Directive #12, Fifth Army and separate instructions as issued. This will be initiated when directed by this Hqs.
- As rapidly as situation permits, occupy area of responsibility (see overlay Atchd) and assume military control thereof, in accordance with instructions to be issued by this Hqs.

4. 338 Inf. (-Cn Co and 2d Bn)

Atchd: Co B 757 Tk Bn (-1 Plat)
Co B 804 TD Bn (-1 Plat)

- Occupy area of responsibility without delay relieving Elms of II Corps Arty protecting Div lines of communication in area. Assume military control of assigned area in accordance with instructions to be issued by this Hqs.
- Protect Div lines of communication in area assigned.

5. 85 Div Arty.

- 329 PA Bn detached 338 Inf and reverts to control of parent unit.
- 403 PA Bn relieved from present mission of protecting Div installations.
- Continue assistance to Div Provost Marshal.
- Occupy area of responsibility and assume military control thereof under instructions to be issued by this Hqs. 328 and 910 PA Bns will be released to Div Arty control as soon as situation permits.
- Protect Div installations in area.

6. 85 Recon Tr.

- Patrol Div lines of communication north of 338 Inf area with not to exceed two Plats.
- Keep at least one Plat in Div Res vicinity of BELLUNO prepared to execute special missions.

7. 310 Med Bn.

- Co C and 1 Plat Co B detached 359 Inf and reverts to control of parent unit.

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Authority *WJH 1350/1*
By *RJ*, NARA Date *4-21-11*

8. 310 Engr Bn.
 - a. Cos A, B, and C detached 339 Inf and revert to control of parent unit.
 - b. Open and maintain main axial roads in Div zone. Priority initially to MSR of 339 Inf.
9. 804 TD Bn (-Cos A, B, and C)
 - a. Be prepared to escort Div convoys.
 - b. G-4 is authorized to deal directly with CO 804 TD Bn to arrange for convoy escorts.
10. 757 Tk Bn (-Cos A, B, and C).

Div Res, prepared to execute special missions as required.
11. General.
 - a. Attachments.

Changes in attachments effective 071200Z May.
 - b. Command and Discipline (enemy forces).
 - (1) Attention is invited to Pars 8 and 10 Administrative Directive #12.
 - (2) The detailed execution of administration of initial assembly areas and primary disarmament of enemy forces will be ordered by Div directly to German Corps in zone. Regts will be kept informed of orders issued.
 - (3) Div has exchanged liaison officers with LXXIII and LXXVI German Corps.
 - c. Initial Concentration.
 - (1) Enemy units will be assembled as prescribed in Administrative Directive #12 Hqs Fifth Army.

Additional areas for concentration of these forces will be selected and announced by this Hqs.

Casual PWs, stragglers, and other small groups will be sent to the Div PW cage at MAS for disposition.

PWs held at Corps Area Command inclosure will be returned to parent unit control at earliest practicable date as arranged by this Hqs.

Large units of surrendering enemy will be kept intact and not broken up as individuals PWs.

Surrendered units will be protected from Partisans.
 - d. Disarmament.

Primary disarmament of German units will be accomplished in accordance with Administrative Directive #12 Hqs Fifth Army except that temporary retention of arms is authorized as follows until further orders (retention of ammunition for these weapons will not exceed 25 rounds per pistol, 50 rounds per rifle, and 100 rounds per machine pistol).

Officers retain pistols.

Each Div retain 50 rifles.

Corps troops retain 100 rifles.

Military Police as follows retain hand weapons not to exceed: Inf Div - 35, PG Div - 35, Corps Hqs - 65, Army Hqs - 450.
 - (2) Small groups will not be disarmed until assembled with parent unit or turned in to Div or Corps Area Command inclosure.
 - (3) PWs held at Div or Corps Area Command inclosure will retain no arms.
- e. Partisans.
 - (1) Unit Commanders will use care and tact in all dealings with Partisans.
 - (2) Retention of arms by Partisans is necessary until such time as the safety of civilians against isolated bands of Germans is assured. Partisans may be used to good advantage in locating and securing such roving groups of enemy.
 - (3) Actual disarmament of Partisans is a function of AMG to be performed in cooperation with Division Commanders. Military personnel other than AMG will not attempt to disarm Partisans except in emergencies.
 - (4) Regimental Commanders are responsible for administration of Partisans used for operational purposes.
- f. Blackout.

Blackout regulations for German Troops and vehicles are suspended until further orders.

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Authority NND 735077
By SP-1 NARA Date 4-21-11

8. 310 Engr Bn.
 - a. Cos A, B, and C detached 339 Inf and revert to control of parent unit.
 - b. Open and maintain main axial roads in Div zone. Priority initially to MSR of 339 Inf.
9. 804 TD Bn (-Cos A, B, and C)
 - a. Be prepared to escort Div convoys.
 - b. G-4 is authorized to deal directly with CO 804 TD Bn to arrange for convoy escorts.
10. 757 Tk Bn (-Cos A, B, and C).
Div Res. prepared to execute special missions as required.
11. General.
 - a. Attachments.
Changes in attachments effective 071200B May.
 - b. Command and Discipline (enemy forces).
 - (1) Attention is invited to Pars 8 and 10 Administrative Directive #12.
 - (2) The detailed execution of administration of initial assembly areas and primary disarmament of enemy forces will be ordered by Div directly to German Corps in zone. Regts will be kept informed of orders issued.
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 - (4) PWs held at Corps Area Command inclosure will be returned to parent unit control at earliest practicable date as arranged by this Hqs.
 - (5) Large units of surrendering enemy will be kept intact and not broken up as individuals PWs.
 - (6) Surrendered units will be protected from Partisans.
 - d. Disarmament.
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 - (2) Retention of arms by Partisans is necessary until such time as the safety of civilians against isolated bands of Germans is assured. Partisans may be used to good advantage in locating and securing such roving groups of enemy.
 - (3) Actual disarmament of Partisans is a function of AMG to be performed in cooperation with Division Commanders. Military personnel other than AMG will not attempt to disarm Partisans except in emergencies.
 - (4) Regimental Commanders are responsible for administration of Partisans used for operational purposes.
 - f. Blackout.
Blackout regulations for German Troops and vehicles are suspended until further orders.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 735017

By RJ, NARA Date 4-27-11

g. Control.

- (1) Fraternization has been noted between American and German soldiers. This is prohibited.
- (2) More frequent U. S. patrols must operate between units within zones, of responsibility where German soldiers are known to be concentrated.
- (3) Except on official business, German troops quartered out of cities and towns will not be permitted entry therein. Circulation of troops quartered in cities and towns is permissible insofar as it does not interfere or obstruct traffic and conduct of official business. Curfew will be from 2030B to 0600B.

COULTER
Comdg

OFFICIAL:

Kaesser
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C-3

Inclosure - Overlay.

Distribution: Special.

