

11 April 1945

- 1500 - S-3 to White 3: Sending a platoon leader up to you from Co C, 634th. His TDs are down here. Give him his mission. Ans: OK.
- 1503 - White 3 to S-3: The Colonel wants to know if you can send the platoon of TDs up the road. And: The platoon leader has already left. There are tanks and TDs on the road. Here is something that just came up. If there is any resistance on the high ground. You will have to clear it up. Ans: Yes. F Co will move with the tanks. The TDs will go down the road. If stopped will work up a different route. S-3: B Co is at 902472.
- 1510 - Colonel Driscoll to S-3: B Company at 902472.
- 1530 - S-3 to G-3: B Co is at 902472, nothing on the rest, other than they are moving. Get that platoon of TDs that was with 3rd Bn and would like Capt. ARMSTRONG and company Hqs and maintenance section back here so that these things can be serviced. Will send back TDs to the 18th Inf. G-3: OK, I will see what I can do.
- 1625 - S-3 to Red 2: Tell Capt. Kilb that the Regt AT platoon is detached from the 1st Bn temporarily to cover approaches to the MSR. We will get it back to him as soon as we can get the place swept.
- 1635 - MESSAGE - Time signed 1500B. C #9 to Adm O #5. QM Gas and Rations, GRS Pt - C730508. Div WP C-730508. Ctr Sta - C-746502. PW cage C-742498. S-g-C 743505. Engr. - C 808433. DAC and Ord Vicinity OSTERODE open 150990B. MSR KOTLENBURG - OSTERODE - HERZBERG. ANDRUS.
- 1647 - Lt. Valten, PWI reports - PWs: 1st Bn: 24 - BG Shaeffer; 4 BG Sahlden; 11 - Trains of the 26th Div; 2 - 26th AT Section; 2 - Furloughers; 2 - 39th Fusiliers. 3rd Bn: 1 - 1st Bn, 15th Regt, 5th Div. 1st Bn of the 15th Regt, 150 to 200 men, 1 to 2 kilometers NE of SCHARZFELD, grid square 8340. People from the trains of the 26th alerted 2 nights ago NE of ST ANDREASBERG. 37 were supposed to report to SIEBER. During the fighting they were scattered.
- 1652 - G-3 to Maj. Sandell, IO 7th FA: Wanted to check the situation. Ans: Our communications have been out for awhile, but there has been no change. G-3: Is E Co roughly at 895495 and B Co at 902472? Ans: That is right.
- 1657 - Capt. Fish, S1, notifies G-1 that Regt CP unit is moving and that the guards will be taken off the 3 camps that have been under guard at HERZBERG.
- 1703 - S-2 to G-2: (Gives PW info in item of 1647 hrs). Total PWs for the day, as of this hour, 143. G-2 states that indications are that considerable enemy will still be found in most areas when our troops pass on, and that it is almost impossible to get them all when our troops pass through so rapidly. G-2: The 18th Inf is going along. G Co is at 850512 and L Co is echeloned back to the NW, and E Co to the SW of this pt. They are going to keep moving and should have that area pretty well screened when the 16th and 26th link up

14 April 1945

- 1705 - White 3 to Lt. Stephens: Here is the latest that I have on E Co - 904494. G Co following along behind. That was as of 1600 hours.
- 1709 - Red 3 to S-3: Here are our locations - B Co is at 904478, on the hill working SE and cleaning the ridge. They can see their final objective. Cannon Co has good observation, and will fire. Think there is inf ever there. B Co is holding up temporarily. The bridge is out at 890479. A Co is at this point and pushing up the road. Found a 1st Div command car up there - do not know how it got there. Receiving fire from 885487. S-3: Think you can ferde all of these streams with all of your vehicles, including jeeps? Red 3: We are back at the end of the town with our RWD CP, probably will move up soon. The Colonel is up there.
- 1710 - Lt. Stephens to G-3: The latest we have on E Co is 904494. G Co is following behind. That is of 1600 hours. Ans: Very good. E Co is really going great guns, aren't they?
- 1800 - Capt. Murphy, CO Co A, 1st Engrs to S-3: Is it alright for me to stay in this town tonight (HERZBERG)? Ans: OK. I want you to stay here. (Capt. Murphy arranges with Mr. Wiles, Asst. Comm O, to have communications left in for the Engrs).
- 1807 - Capt. Clark calls from the forward CP at STEBER, saying that everything is ready for the CP to move forward from HERZBERG.
- 1855 - Red 3 to Capt. Clark: There are two main roads running out of ST ANDREASBURG - 1 running east and 1 running N. Traffic is running on all roads, and it looks like they are definitely pulling out. We would like an air mission on it. We are now E of the 91 grid line. A Co approaching the town.
- 1905 - Capt. Clark to G-2: We have an air mission on the roads leading N and E of ST ANDREASBERG. Enemy personnel, vehicles, and towed guns that are horse driven. Ans: The planes are too far away. It is a 2 hour run and it will be too late.
- 1907 - Red 3 to S-2: We have some more PWs - 50 to be exact. They will not be in till later. A Co is almost to the 905 on that road that they are advancing on. See that road that runs W, where the bridge is blown? Tanks are fording the stream. TDs are now in position blocking the roads. The Engrs are clearing the road blocks. Our CP is at 881479. What about the air mission. Ans: Capt. Clark is trying to get it on the other phone. Red 3: #1 Fox is firing on it now. There is beaucoup enemy personnel, vehicles, and towed artillery. Ans: No air mission, it is a two hour run from the field. Too bad.
- 1914 - S-3 to Lt. Ballard, Cannon CO: The enemy is apparently pulling out from ST ANDREASBERG. At RJ 927499, there is a scene of activity at the moment at the road on the NE and the road to the N. Lay the weed to it.

14 April 1945

- 1915 - Red 5 to S-2: According to a radio message from A Co - B Co is sending back 150 PWs. This is only a rumor - it has not been confirmed. The reason I called is to get more transportation. We will need a truck to haul the PWs back. Ans: OK, I will see what I can do.
- 1945 - Red 5 to S-3: The Colonel just sent a message. He is starting 300 PWs on the way. I just put 58 on a half ten, and 12 more on feet. How do you like that haul? Ans: Swell.
- 1947 - S-3 to G-3: 1st Bn just took 350 PWs. This thing is busting wide open. Killed a lot also with small arms and artillery fire. Recon is going OK. G-3: A of the 26th on the 868 grid with 4 tanks in front of them. S-3: We have 7 in front of 2nd Bn right now. 1st Bn is at 908 line and still pushing. Tanks were reported at 902498. Have a report that there is heavy traffic on the NE edge of ST ANDREASBERG going NNE. We are still firing on it. Using Cannon Co, 5th FA, 7th FA and the 4.2 mortars, also the Long-Toms. Resistance in front of the 2nd Bn is still strong. Little less in front of the 1st Bn since they took 350 PWs. G-3: Good work. Where is the leading element of your white Bn? S-3: E Co is at 902487.
- 1947 - Red 2 to S-2: 57 more PWs coming in. There are 2 officers, one infantry officer and the other is a medic. They are from BG SCHAEFFER. 300 more PWs reported to be coming in from forward.
- 1948 - Div Recon to S-2: One platoon is at the bridge at 885418, they are going to try to get by it and continue on. The bridge is out.
- 1950 - S-3 to White 3: 1st Bn has 350 PWs. White 3: Good. E Co is at Pt 19, heading for Pt 21. S-3: This is cracking wide open. 1st Bn is going on. Keep pushing. White 3: We are.
- 1955 - S-3 to Red 6: 2nd Bn situation is given. Red 6: We have about 150 PWs instead of the 300, as previously reported. We also have recaptured a MARTIN C. PARKS, ASN 467743 of 7th Corps Arty, also a Pvt WEISS they were ambushed at BULLOCK.
- 1957 - White 3 to S-3: E Co is at 909494. Do not know where G Co is, still trying to get them.
- 1959 - Air OP reports: Enemy destroyed overpass at 913483 (Signed 7 Able).
- 2010 - Lt. Valten, PWI reports: PWs from the 1st Bn: 53 from 78th Regt (Schaefer); 5 from 26th Arty Regt; 1 from the 39th Fus Regt; 9 from the 26th Medics. PWs from the 2nd Bn: 16 from 78th Regt (Schaefer); 1 from 77th Regt (Schaefer); 2 PWs Hungarians. When these people come in, do you want them all interrogated? S-2: No, but I want them all processed. What about the trucks? Ans: I'll take care of the trucks.

14 April 1945

- 2055 - White 3 to S-3: E Co is at 911495, in some houses. Still haven't heard from G Co. E Co has about 25 PWs. We are starting F Co from the factory area straight down the road, then N up the road towards E Co. Tanks will be with them.
- 2058 - 97th Evac Hospital to S-3: We have 3 Italian Officers who were PWs. They say that tonight 50 enemy soldiers are going to attack a little village 3 kilometers NE of BUHRBACH. Our hospital is just outside of DUDERSTADT. The town they will attack I believe is BROCHTHAUSEN. There are no friendly units here and we have no one to stop them if the attack. The Italians says that the woods here are full of German soldiers. Can you send someone here to look it over. S-3: I'll call Division on it. We are in an attack now and have no one to send up there. Held the 3 Italians.
- 2100 - S-3 to G-3: Have E Co at 912495 in buildings. They are still pushing, so is 1st Bn. They are moving up F with tanks to help E Co. Will try to take the town tonight. A and B are moving abreast. G-3: E of the 26th Inf is at 918588. A of the 26th at 865561, both meeting stiff resistance. S-3: Gives him message from the 97th Evac Hospital of 2058 hours. G-3: I'll pass the information on to Corps.
- 2105 - S-3 to Red 3: Do you know about the 2nd Bn? Red 4: Yes, sir. Just talked to White 3. It is OK as long as they do not held up on the road. S-3: If they do you call me.
- 2145 - Col. Gibb to G-6: I will not have enough troops to do the job right. G-6: Will you get the town. Ans: Yes, tonight. Recen contacted 413th At BAD LAUTERBERG. I want to have one company of 1st Bn to defend N at ST ANDREASBERG. 1 company to block West. Send 2nd Bn to RJ at 980460. S-3 to Red: I'll have an operations overlay for you to pick up by 1st light. No movement before 1200 hours.
- 2203 - S-3 to White 3: Mission tomorrow same as Colonel outlined. No movement before 1200 hours. Ans: E Co is approaching 23. F is in contact with E Co and will pass thru them. Get 22. F Co will take 26 - 27 - 33 - 32, and end up with right flank on RR and tie in with 1st Bn and G N. E Co will take 31, 30, 29. G will tie in with 29-22.
- 2215 - S-2 to FWI, Lt. Valten: You have in the cage a Lt. who captured an American Capt. I want him interrogated right away. Ans: 93 PWs from the 39th; 26 PWs from Schaefer; 4 from Sahalden; 10 from the 26th Alram Co; 11 from 15 Para Regt; 1 from the 132nd Regt; 4 Div, came from Denmark about 4 days ago.
- 2115 - Col. Gibb to Red 6: Does it look as though A and B Companies will get to where they are trying to go? Ans: Yes. Colonel Gibb: Tomorrow 2nd Bn is going to RJ at 990465, they are to be there tomorrow night. They will go south from there to WELKENRIED and ELLRICH. You are to clear the 3 roads leading out of BAD LAUDERSBERG. One company is to stay in ST ANDERSBERG. Tomorrow you will end up blocking to the N of ST. ANDREASBERG to RJ at 971489. Recen will make contact between 85 and 90 grids.

14 April 1945

- 2125 - Col. Gibb to Col. Grant, White 6: Col. Grant: E company is at 912415. I believe we will get both companies into town tonight. (Plan of Bns, as above, given by S-6).
- 2130 - Danger Recen reports: My platoon has made contact at BAD LAUTERSBERG.
- 2145 - S-2 to G-2: I have 146 PWs. That makes a total of 376. (Gives above information on PWs, and the information on the Capt. who was recaptured). Both 1st and 2nd Bns have elements fighting in ST. ANDREASBERG.
- 2300 - S-2 to Red 6: What is new? Ans: A Company is on high ground 9249.
- 2310 - Col. Beck to S-3: Anything new? Ans: C Company is at 902490. B company in fight in the factory at 914482. F company up with the 2nd Bn.
- 2330 - White 3 to S-3: F Company at 921494 in contact with A Company.

15 April 1945

LOCATION: During the period the Regt CP moved from SIEBER, 858481, to ST. ANDREASBURG, 921493, Germany.

- 0050 - White 3 to Mr. Lipinski: Got town what we think is cleared; it is burning quite well. F Co is tied in with A Co around 922492. Swing up NE to about 926497, G Co ties in there and extends W to 919495. E Co extends from there over to 909494. Receiving some small arms; no report of anything else coming in. We are sending patrols - one up northward out the road to 930502; the other out to 924503. As far as we know, there were only 3 WIA and 2 KIA for E Co today, and 2 WIA for G Co. 25 PWs for E Co today, and 1 from G Co.
- 0110 - Mr. Lipinski to Red 3; Are you all tied in with 2nd Bn? Ans: Just checking that now. A Co say they are tied-in. E Co is on the right but not physically tied-in. A Co controls the road and B Co is on the high ground at 916482. C Co is at 907477. The Buildings, etc., in that area are not all mopped-up. It was too dark and we are waiting until morning to do this. Everything is all quiet.
- 0125 - Mr. Lipinski to Capt. Kelly, G-3; Reports above information, items 0050 and 0110 hours. (PW count for day 376; for tonight 26). G-3; Radio reports our troops 20 miles from Berlin, don't believe it though.
- 0127 - Mr. Lipinski to 18th Inf S-3; Reports town of ST. ANDREASBURG clear. (18th Inf reports all quiet - PW count for the day 130).
- 0200 - Lt. Valten, PWI reports; Information from FWS - 30 to 35 tanks reported going from BRAUNLAGE, E and N towards BAD HARZBURG, as of 1800 hours 14 April. Rumor has it that there were 200 tanks in the same area. Remnants of the 661st Regt are probably the reserves for the 326th Div, 850512. As of 1800 hours 14 April, 5 Multiple barrelled 2 cm flak guns and 1 15cm gun were at 854514. As of 1800 hours 14 April, three Tiger Tanks passed 854514, going northeast. (Above information given to G-2).
- 0245 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Alexander, 1st Bn; How are things going? Ans: Everything is fairly quiet. Got a message from A Co that they want their tanks as soon as they can get them.
- 0258 - Lt. Kestlinger to Col. Beek; Everything is all quiet here. Had some PW information that I gave to G-2.
- 0300 - to 0700 hours 2nd and 1st Bns report negative.
- 0705 - G-2 to Lt. Stephens; How did everything go last night? Ans: All quiet. G-2; Any artillery? Ans: No.

15 April 1945

- 0900 - White 3 to Lt. Stephens; Do the AT guns go with me or not? Ans; I'll call you back.
- 0910 - S-2 to White 5; How are things? Ans; Everything is OK. The #2 has gone up forward. Line will be in, in about 20 minutes.
- 0913 - S-2 to Red 2; What's new? Ans; OK, have 15 FWs on the way back to you. The report of 300 FWs is down to 170. We are not moving until this afternoon. We are consolidating now. S-2; Blue Bn got into BENNECKENSTEIN (0645) last night. Did good job. The 60th Inf has mission of clearing (1648).
- 0920 - G-2 to S-2; How are things? Ans; (S-2 gives the information as above two calls. G-2; 2nd Bn of the 26th has 9359.
- 0925 - G-5 to Col. Gibb; Can you use Bn of the 18th? Ans; Do not want to use them. Give them a mission. How about having them move in between the 26th and ourselves? G-5; Have them cut the road above (N) of ST. ANDREASBURG. S-6; That will be OK.
- 0955 - Major Smith to Capt. Elder; There are several questions I would like answered; Is the main road open all the way? Ans; Yes. S-3; According to my plots, I have G and F Co's tied in together at 927498. What about NE edge of town? Ans; It is cleared by patrol. S-3; You are going to lose your extra platoon of tanks today, i.e, the 3rd platoon. They will go back to 3rd Bn. White 3; What about the AT Guns? S-3; You will need them. White 3; Hell, that road that leads out to the NE will be open, when we leave to the SE. S-3; 1st Bn is sending a Co to take care of it. Col. Grant; How would I know where the Co is? S-3; 1st Bn is probably on reconnaissance now. They will notify you. White 6; What about the AT guns, we need them. S-3; The Regtl AT platoon is at your disposal. White 6; Can we move them? Ans; Yes.
- 1015 - Colonel Beck to Colonel Gibb; I will attach the Bn of the 18th to you for orders. S-6; I do not want it that way. Give them a mission and let them take care of it. Colonel Beck; That way is not good. You will be calling us to give them orders. S-6; OK, attach them to me.
- 1045 - Maj. Sandell, 7th FA LO; 1 tank at 902507; enemy personnel and vehicles at 959477.
- 1050 - Col. Beck to Lt. Stephens; The Bn of the 18th Inf will not be attached to you but will be used to accomplish the same mission as tho they were attached.
- 1055 - G-2 to S-2; How do you plan to do your work up front? Ans; Patrols will work thru the woods. There is a tank at 902507, enemy personnel and vehicles at 958479. G-2; At 8752 there were 3 enemy tanks reported. 1st of the 26th Inf still where they were; it seems there is a SP holding them up.

15 April 1945

- 1058 - Lt. Kestlinger to Maj. Smith; (Same as conversation with Col. Beck as of 1050 hours).
- 1100 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Murphy, CO Co A, 1st Engts; Capt. M: All my engineer platoon are scattered all over hell. I want to know if I can get some GERMAN PWs to clean up the town. Ans; OK, better contact Maj. Margolis, mil govt., and get the civilians to clean it up. Ans; OK.
- 1101 - S-3 to S-2: The Colonel wants the I&R platoon to go down along the road that leads out of ST ANDREASBURG, E and then SE; road that the 2nd Bn is to follow and go until they hit something. Ans; They will not get too far. The artillery reports enemy infantry and vehicles there. S-3; OK, let them go as far as they can.
- 1115 - Lt. Stephens to Maj. Margolis, Mil Govt; Colonel Horner wants you to go up to ST ANDREASBURG right away.
- 1120 - Lt. Seagberg 1st Recon to Lt. Stephens; 1 platoon found a command car at 8944. Another platoon is clearing a road block at 859444.
- 1144 - 1st Recon to Lt. Kestlinger; The platoon that bumped into the road block has it clear now and are moving on. The platoon on the route farther to the east is at 897449. Picked up 3 PWs.
- 1156 - Operator to Clerk; Cannon Co has closed station.
- 1200 - Col. Williamson 3rd Arm'd, to Lt. Kestlinger; We were given a mission by Div over north of you. How are the 2 roads going north from you? CP towards town? One road 875 grid and 89 grid. Ans; Do not have definite information on them. What is your mission, sir? Col. Williamson; To clear strip between 51 and 54 grid over to 94 grid. We would like to go up to those 2 roads and destruck there. Any place where I can move a Regtl CP? Ans; We will probably be moving today and then you can move in here. Col. Williamson; What kind of opposition are you getting? Ans; A little sniper trouble and mines on both sides of the road.
- 1210 - Danger 4 to Lt. Kestlinger; I have been instructed to pick up 10 trucks from your outfit as soon as possible. The G-3 wants them within 2 hours. Ans; I will get in touch with Capt. Merendino to bring them up to you. Will try to have them for you by 1330 hours.
- 1220 - 87th Chml Mortars has closed station.
- 1223 - Capt. Hall to Lt. Valten, PWI; Any more PWs? Ans; Yes sir. 7 from Battle Group Barnakie. 8 from 26 Alarm Co; 2 from Battle Grp Schaffer; 2 from Battle Grp Steuber. All taken by 1st Bn. 2 stragglers taken by 2nd Bn. 13 from 26 Alarm Co, taken by 5th FA. 1 PW from Battle Grp Steuber, taken by 103 AA Bn; 3 from Battle Brp Schaffer and 2 from 26th Arty Bn.



15 April 1945

- 1248 - MESSAGE - from CO 2nd Bn to CO 16th Inf; I&R arrived too late to precede Fox Co. Do you want them to proceed on mission anyway?
- 1255 - 1st Ron to Lt. Stephens; Platoon on East route reached road junction just below BAD LOTTERBERG. Other platoon at 856439.
- 1300 - Capt. Hall, S-2 to G-2; Gave PW identifications as above. G-2; Identified a Div SCHARHORST in front of 3rd Armored; Div POTSDAM identified in front of 2nd Arm'd. A Div identified as VON AUTTEM. 83rd Div has a bridgehead. Enemy counterattacking continually with armor, paratroops, and Infantry.
- 1320 - Lt. Lyons G-3 to Lt. Stephens: How about giving me your latest situation? Ans; I can't give you that as we don't have communications with 1st and 2nd Bns at present. All we know is they are on the move.
- 1325 - Lt. Veltin to Clark; Battle Grp KOKOTT - 6 PWs. Battle Grp Schaffer, 8 PWs. 13th Signal Bn, Hannover - 36 PWs. 26 Alarm Co, 19 FWs, and 6 stragglers. Battle Grp Barnake is 1st Bn, 15th Parachute Regt. 13th Signal Bn from Hannover had 36 men on furlough in ST. ANDREASBURG.
- 1330 - Capt. Donley to Lt. Stephens; Just got a report as of 1247 hours from Tactical Air Recon, that 50 plus tanks were moving south vicinity C-9951. Get it up to the Colonel as I am sure he will be interested to know about it.
- 1345 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. Smith; Things are damn rough; hitting everything. Engrs can't work on road because of snipers at 936514. F Co at 954480 has a tank, 2 SPs, and 100 Inf to their front. Can't get tanks up because of 2 road blocks and a bomb crater.
- 1430 - Col. Beck to Col. Gibb; 50 tanks in BRAUNLAGE. Do you believe it? Col. Gibb; Yes, I do. Col. Beck; Trying to get air on it. The 18th Inf will be handled like you wanted. Col. Gibb; G is moving but having trouble with mined woods and blown bridges. Col. Beck; 4th Cav is going to take over from 413th, 3rd Bn will stay where they are.
- 1440 - Maj. Smith to Col. Beck; (Gives positions of our units. Col. Beck; I want you to get those tanks down to 3rd Bn this afternoon. Ans; OK.
- 1445 - Lt. Moore, 2nd Bn reports; "G" at 945497. "F" reports bridge out at 957479. Bomb crater at 953480 - 953482 and 947481.
- 1500 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Elder White 3; Is that road clear down there at 943492? Ans; Yes, it is clear except you may get some sniper fire. White 3; G took 80 PWs from where they are. Maj. Smith; A platoon of recon is going down that way with a platoon of Infantry and a couple of tanks from 1st Bn.

15 April 1945

- 1510 - G-2 to Capt. Hall; 26th Inf knocked out 2 Mark IV's. Captured one of the crew who was from 33 tank Regt. A of 26th at hill 802, still stuck. (Capt. Hall gives latest positions on our units). Are we going to get the hall mission? G-2; Yes, we are still trying to get it.
- 1515 - S-5 to White 6; Do not have F Co go beyond the 96 grid, establish road block in the vicinity of 96485, blocking things completely. Blow trees, put in mines and AT Guns if necessary; defend North. G Co I understand got 80 PWs. Ans; That's right, sir. S-6; Have G Co establish a road block in vicinity of 952488. Have E Co move down somewhere close to the Sanitarium. C and B Co's will continue on. There is a report of 50 tanks in BRAUNLAGE, and this could be true. That place NE is definitely not cleared. White 6; That is right, sir. F Co is in the town, shall I pull them back? S-6; No, leave them there. Ans; OK, sir.
- 1520 - Maj. Smith to Red 2; How about the patrol? Ans; They are 2400 yards S of road junction 913455. 200 yards S of the RJ. There was a road block that can be removed by hand. 2400 yards from the RJ., there is a road block that cannot be removed by hand.
- 1525 - S-6 calls Red 6 and asks him to come to the CP.
- 1545 - Lt. Hoffman, Red 2 to Lt. Kestlinger; There's a 1000 bed hospital full of troops, at 918506. It is a TB Sanitarium. Also a cemetery with some Americans buried here.
- 1603 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Elder White 3; What are your locations; White 3; G Co approaching 95 grid; E Co moving to sanitarium; F Co buttoning up. S-3; There's a platoon of C Co working up towards position where F Co is located; 956480, F Co location.
- 1620 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Clark, White 3; Col. Grant gave Col Gibb the wrong impression on what town was taken i.e. F Co was in the town at 96485? White 3; No, they are not there. S-3; Well, the Colonel wants you to block the road that leads from there N to the SW at approx., 958480. Ans; We will do it. S-3; He wants it strong, so nothing can get thru there. Ans; OK. S-3; Button all roads to the S. Ans; OK.
- 1630 - I&R platoon - 1000 yards from road fork; no sign of jeep. (1600B).
- 1630 - Msg; CO, 16th Inf from CG 1st Div; 4th Cav Sq reinforced is detached from 26th CT effective approx 2300B, and will move per WCCG, 1st Div to relieve elements of 413th Inf from SCHARZFELD 825400 to WALKENRIED 0036 inclusive prior to dark 15 April and will block all enemy movement to S in its zone of action, upon completion of relief 4th Cav Sq reverts control 4th Cav Grp in position.

15 April 1945

- 1645 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. Smith, S-3; Here are the latest positions; G Co, 960489. We are trying to stop them, and we will block road with G. They are sending a patrol to 954496. F Co is at 957479. They are going to send a platoon plus 2 TDs to where G Co patrol will be. The rest of the company will remain at 957479. They will be prepared to go and assist G Co and they are going to stay on the high ground.
- 1650 - Capt. Hall, S-2 to Lt. Valtin FWI; Latest identifications; From the 1st Ron Co, 1st Bn; 3 PWs from Battle Grp Rastach; 1 AC hospital; 1, 26th Med; 2 26th Arty Bn; 3, 26th Alarm Co; 2 Battle Grp Schaffer; 3, 39th Fus Regt; 4 Stragglers (not identified). From 2nd Bn; 1 Straggler, 56 from 26th Arty Bn.
- 1700 - Capt. Hall S-2 to Capt. Donnelly G-2; "Got several items of interest - picked up a brief case containing papers, orders, and etc, which apparently belonged to the Regtl Commander of the 26th Regt of the 18th Div. They belonged to the 9th Corps. Got a English-German PW - a medic in the Air Corps - who in 1936 was studying medicine in BONN and was drafted in the Army Air Force. He stated that before dark last night in the town of ST. ANDREASBERG, there were 40 to 60 horse drawn carts, 25 vehicles and 500 Infantry. He didnt see any tanks. He said there was a Tiger here but left - no ammunition. Moved out. On the NE part of town a btry of 3 or 4 guns (150mm) were in place - moved out - no ammo. Here in the town is a S/A ammo factory with beaucoup crated ammo; another plant - scientific instruments, also several force labor camps. Several TB hospitals in area about 100 wounded krauts reported. B Co reports another with 1000 krauts. (Capt. Hall gives identifications as above). G-2; What is the PW count? Ans; 107 confirmed. PW stated at HASSELFELD there are 160 American, English, and Russian PWs who were brought from KOENIGSBERG. G-2; At 868562 - 26th Inf found some force labors lined up; They had been beaten and then shot. 2 Frenchman and 10 Italians. We are taking some pictures and have the CIC investigate it.
- 1745 - Red Bn to Capt. Hall; 3 rounds of artillery fell Nof A Co.
- 1750 - Red Bn to Capt. Hall S-2; Sending in 4 Hitler youths to be investigated. Capt. Hall; Send a note down with them.
- 1715 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Kelley G-3; (Gives latest situation of 2nd Bn).
- 1723 - Capt. Hall to Lt. Chandler White 2; I understand you have 4 krauts, officers. Send them dow for interrogation. (Discussion of situation).
- 1736 - Capt. Hall to Capt. Donlevy; More identifioation; 56 - 26 Arty Bn; 1 - straggler.
- 1750 - Capt. Merendino, Transp O, to Lt. Stephens; Capt. Ralph wants to use 3 trucks for Signal Supply, is it OK with Maj. Smith? Ans; OK as long as the trucks are back tonight.

15 April 1945

- 1755 - 5th FA to Capt. Hall; Sending you some PWs. Some are Hitler youths. Capt. Hall; OK.
- 1800 - White 2 to Capt. Hall; E Guarding the hospital; 150 patients; 60 personnel. "F" is getting a little counterattack coming from 97489.
- 1810 - Lt. Valtin PWI to Capt. Hall; PWs from 2nd Bn - 7 PWs from 26th Arty Bn. Got a civilian who came from BRAUNLAGE a few hours ago. He saw a few vehicles. Town is full of wounded. He came by way of 3 trails in woods. He left at 3 o'clock this afternoon.
- 1820 - Capt. Hall to G-2; (Gives the above report). G-2; If you get anything on those Hitler youth, send them in.
- 1830 - Maj. Edmonds, Red 5 to Lt. Kestlinger; "C" patrol had a fire fight and is now 1 klm from objective. Had 6 road blocks on that road.
- 1840 - CO AT Co to Lt. Stephens; ~~XXXX~~ 18th has moved thru my road blocks and their Bn CP wants to move there now. I would like to take them off, as one company has gone up each road. Ans; Bring all of them back to the Bns they are attached to.
- 1845 - Red 6 to Maj. White; "C" contacted 413th Inf. Got in a few fire fights going down, took a few PWs. Will get more details later.
- 1850 - Lt. Valtin, PWI reports; Those people from 26th Arty were from the trains of this unit. They said that the town of BRAUNLAGE would not be defended but high ground West of town would be.
- 1915 - Lt. Valtin, PWI reports; Our 5th FA send in 11 PWs; 7 from Hq 26th Div; 4 from Battle Grp Schaefer. 1st Bn sends 40 PWs; 22 from 26th QM; 10 from the 39th Fusiliers; 4 from Hq ~~26~~ 326 Div.; 2 from the 326th Med Det; 4 from the 507th AA.
- 1915 - White 3 to Lt. Stephens; G Co on high ground at 959488. F Co is down at road fork SW of G Co (957480). At 963487 on road enemy has road block which we are leaving there. F Co has a road block at its position. Tanks not TDs have arrived at F Co as yet. Expect to get tanks over as soon as bomb craters are filled. Enemy attacked with estimated Bn strength less 100 men, at about 970490. G Co had a beautiful shot on them and drove them into woods and artillery worked on them. F Co has view of motorcycles and so forth. F Co has road block of trees. F sent patrol to high ground south of road. Will lay mines on all the roads down there.
- 1945 - PWI reports; 3 PWs from 15 Para Regt. 4 PWs from Hq 26 Div. 1 PW from BG Schaeffer.

15 April 1945

- 2000 - G-3 to Lt. Stephens; I have a request from 24th Cav to fire artillery at 9042 and 9739. Ans; 9739 is OK but not 9042 because of our patrol.
- 2005 - Red 2 to Lt. Stephens; What about B patrol? Ans; They went with the Recon to 934469 where the recon had to stop because of trees across the road. The recon came back and the patrol was last reported at the 1st road fork past 934469.
- 2010 - Maj. Edmonds Red 5 to Lt. Stephens; What about our patrol? Did they get the order to continue and return if it got dark? Ans; I think so because it was Red 6 who gave me the information.
- 2030 - White to Lt. Stephens; F Co patrol got 3 enemy and 1 officer via 960485. They went from 965483 then NW and down draw to 960485, then to F Co.
- 2040 - CO Co A 1st Engrs to Lt. Stephens; What are 2nd Bns position? And; Gives Co locations.
- 2100 - Red 3 to Lt. Stephens; The patrol that contacted the 104 at BADLAUTERSBERG encountered 6 road blocks and a couple of blown bridges. Took 5 PWs. Saw B Co patrol at 902428 at 2015 hours.
- 2105 - G-6 to Lt. Stephens; Did you get that area cleaned? Ans; Yes, they did. G-6; How about the C Co patrol? Ans; Info 2100. G-6; Tell Col. Gibb that Col. Waters will contact him about an arty man to help out with Cannon Co.
- 2119 - Capt. Kolb to Lt. Stephens; B Co patrol came back. They couldn't make the circle. Stopped at 909422 because of blown bridge and bomb craters in road.
- 2130 - Gen. Andrus to Col. Gibb; How are things going? Col. Gibb; Everything is OK. We are staying where we are tonight. G-6; We will carry on.
- 2245 - Capt. Hall to G-2; 70 PWs to report. 14 from Hq 26 Div; 5 from Battle Grp Schaeffer; 23 from 26 QM; 10 from 39 Fus Bn; 4 from Hq 326 Div; 2 from 26 Med Det; 4 from the 507 AA; 7 from 15 Para Regt; 1 from 116 Panzer Regt. G-2; 18th Inf E Co at road junction 8853. "G" is on high ground near there; F following them up. 3rd Bn at 9450. 3rd Armored reports they ran into 500, 88's, and into Shirehorst Div. Took 1100 PWs. From an NGO school.
- 2345 - Lt. Kestlinger to Danger 3; Gives the positions of our units. Danger 3; Your L is at 053480; hear vehicle movement going East.
- 2350 - 18th Inf S-3 to Lt. Kestlinger; "I" 902508; "K" behind them. "I" at 888522 - "E" at 870525 - "F" at 856524 - "G" at 846509.



16 April 1945

LOCATION: During the period the Regt CP moved from SIEBER, 858481, to ST. ANDREASBURG, 921493, Germany.

- 0005 - Red 3 to Lt. Stephens: Sent out patrol from A Co at 1030 to contact E Co. Patrol was about 1000 yards out when the saw 10 enemy coming towards them. Patrol fell back towards our line and intended to ambush them when an outpost fired on the enemy. The enemy took off for the N. We'll send another patrol out from A Co at 0230 hours.
- 0015 - White 2 to Lt. Stephens: What's new? Ans: Gives above info. G 18th at 846509. F 18th at 858524. E 18th 870525. L 18th at 889533. I 18th 902509. K 18th following I Co. Nothing on 26th Infantry.
- 0020 - Red CP to Lt. Stephens: Nothing new outside of G Co picking up PW who walked into their road block at 2330 hours.
- 0105 - Red CP reports: Sending down 1 Officer, 1 WO and 1 EM. They are from the 26th Div.
- 0120 to 0600 hours: All units report negative. Hourly reports given to G-3.
- 0600 - 1st and 2nd Bns, 5th and 7th FA's are notified that operations instructions with overlay are to be picked up immediately.
- 0655 - Lt. Kestlinger to 18th Inf: What are your positions? Ans: E At 867525, F at 853523, G at 845508, I at 902504, K at same as I, L at 887503.
- 0710 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3: G-3 gives 26th Inf positions - B Co at 880548. A at 880557. F at 942577; G and E behind them.
- 0715 - Lt. Kestlinger to Deccy 18th Inf: Gives positions of 26th Inf co's as F at 943580, E North 1000 yards, F North 2000 yards, A at 880558. B 1000 yards East.
- 0720 - S-3 to Red 3: Get a detailed account of any enemy activity you can and call me back. We will probably jump at 0900 hours.
- 0730 - Maj. Crocker, 18th Inf to Lt. Kestlinger: Found a 536 radio and it was on a 4280 frequency also a pair of field glasses - I'll check further on type.
- 0738 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Evans: 2nd Bn: How is the road to G Co? Ans: You can get around the blown out bridge by doubling back.
- 0739 - Lt. Kestlinger to 7th FA: We would like to have a cub up to see what is going on.

16 April 1945

- 0800 - Maj. Smith to CO Co A 1st Engrs; I want you to detach the platoon you have with 1st Bn and put everything behind the 2nd Bn when they jump off. Capt. Murphy; Where that bridge is blown the stream can be forded.
- 0812 - Lt. Ballard Cann Co to Maj. Smith; What is new? Maj. Smith; 2nd Bn will jump at 0900 hours to go where they were to go yesterday.
- 0813 - Maj. Smith to Col. Grant White 6; Div has ordered us to hold up until 18th Inf comes up on our flank. The Colonel would like you to send a patrol to 980460. Ans; OK, will do.
- 0815 - Lt. Evans, 2nd Bn to Maj. Smith; G got at STONK last night. About 24 Arty, 36 mortars but none hit in their area. It either hit on the hill to their front, or went on over into the draw behind them. This morning they got 12 rounds of arty and 24 mortars. Got two FWS. In the F Co area 15 rounds of direct fire hit behind them, they took 8 FWS.
- 0820 - Capt. Kolb to Maj. Smith; Got some FWS on our patrolling. 50 rounds of long range tank fire came from the East; had 15 rounds before dark. The 3 patrol to E Co only made contact on the last one. B picked up enemy in small groups going to north, largest group was about 12.
- 0820 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. McKain, Cann Co; We were supposed to go this morning. We were ordered by Div to hold up until 18th Inf comes up on our flank but there will be patrolling. Ans; OK, thank you.
- 0825 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Lt. Kestlinger; About this plan for today. Ans; We just got orders from Div to patrol aggressively and wait for 18th to move up. Maj. Smith will call you later.
- 0830 - Danger 4 (Maj. Olmy) to Lt. Kestlinger; I want to move the 980th Field up around you, is it OK with you people? Ans; We don't intend to have any major moves today so I guess it is OK.
- 0830 - Maj. Smith to Col. Beek; Our plan is going to be to jump with our 2nd Bn, going east along our boundary to end up at 035485. Then we will have the Co's along east west line, facing north. Recon mission is to see how woods are. Some small groups of enemy moving to the north all night. Getting some tank fire. Col. Beek; You had better stay where you are and have patrols to your front until the 26th gets around to your left; when they do, then you are to go.
- 0832 - Lt. Lynch LO to Div to Lt. Kestlinger; What did you want? Ans; How about getting locations on 26th Inf and 4th Cav? Ans; OK.
- 0832 - Lt. Kestlinger to 7th FA; Gives our plans for today.
- 0837 - Danger 22 to Lt. Kestlinger; Any targets for the planes? Ans; Yes, sir. BRAUNLAGE. When will the planes be over sir? Ans; In about a half an hour.

16 April 1945

- 0840 - Regtl Ammo Co to Lt. Kestlinger; Can you tell me where that building is that has the T.N.T. in it? Ans: It is about 2 blocks from where we had our CP. I will call CIC and try to get the exact place.
- 0846 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. Smith; About 60 rounds in here this morning. On road where F Co is the bridge is out. Ans: I called Capt. Murphy and he said he has a good forde in. Can you give me your patrol routes? Ans: A combat patrol from G Co going out to 972489. F Co patrol going down road leading to 980460. What about the 1st Recon? Ans: They will go down thru you when you clear that road. White 3; The colonel will take that cross road now if the Recon can go thru.
- 0915 - MESSAGE - to 24 LNO from SQD; Inf reports SP and dismounted enemy at 043485 Inf killed 15, captured 20. No change - 0900. Time signed 0915.
- 0908 - 24 LNO (MESSAGE) from SQD; PW says 5 SP guns moved from 047483 to 065485 about 0100 hours this morning enemy also reported dug in along railroad vicinity 039487. Signed 0920 hours.
- 0928 - Maj. Crocker ASP to Maj. Smith; 26th Inf doesn't want the town of BRAUNLAGE hit so I will put them on road NE of BRAUNLAGE. I won't be able to get anything else today. Ans: OK.
- 0930 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Maj. Smith; On this attack thing today, does that mean we will have some one follow them or what? Ans: No, that is in case they need assistance. 2nd Bn is only patrolling until 18th gets up on N of us.
- 0933 - Red 6 to S-3; Is there any possibility of the 18th having fired on us this morning? F Co got 4 killed and 4 wounded. They say it was mortars, 50 fast rounds came in. We are a little outside of our boundry now, we're at about 925512. S-3; I'll check on it.
- 0935 - S-3 to Lt. Stephens at 18th Inf; F Co is at 925512. They received 50 rounds of mortar fire. Say it came in like we fire. Check up over there and see if could of been 18th Inf doing the firing..
- 0935 - G-2 to Capt. Hall; Gives our positions. Our plans for today call for patrolling. Our front line troop got some Arty and tank fire. G-2; 26th Inf has some people at 905515, "L" at 888424. 1st Bn 26th at 90 grid. Your Blue to town at 050480. 26th engaging enemy at road block at 943567. Bridge out at 908555. No tanks reported.
- 0950 - MESSAGE; I&R; Pt 47 clear (0930).
- 0950 - Lt. Lynch to Clerk; K/16th 047484, L/16th 052480, I/16th 075454. B/24 080468, C/24 053482/ A/24 107364, 3/60 at 177455, E/26th 932612, G/26th 035590, F/26th 944528, A/26th 902558, B/26th 8955. 759th Tnk Bn has flocks of road blocks in town at (0345). I Co 18th picked up pair of field glasses and 526 radio which looked like the result of an ambush. They are at 905515.



-16 April 1945

- 1000 - 5th FA S-5 to S-2; The civilian phone has rung twice. Have they been cut off? S-2; To the best of my knowledge they have. However, I'll check, and also my recon party in the valley has twice drawn arty fire. The only observation is from the town. I'll let my people know so they can check.
- 1001 - G-3 to S-3; Have Corps courier coming down, and would like to go over your Co locations with you again. S-3; A - 925512, W, 943500. Elements of F - 953496, Rest of F-960473, G, 963488, B, 928498, C, 915480. G-3; I/18th going to swing over the road and over to your A Co. 3/26th at 944565 and engaged in a fight. Bridge is out at 945555. Foot elements of 3/26th are at 932555.
- 1004 - S-2 to Red; How is everything? Ans; A Co had 4 KIA and 4 WIA in chow line by mortar fire. S-2; That fits in with my story (msg 1000). Ans; It is possible that they could have observation way out on us. S-2; Warn your people that there may be enemy left behind. Ans; We found a GI ra dio that Jerry had been using.
- 1020 - 18th Inf S-3 to Lt. Kestlinger; Our people did not fire a round of mortar this morning. So your A Co must be getting it from enemy.
- 1025 - White 3 to Lt. Stephens; What have you on 18th? Ans; 1/18th, 898532. I/18th 902513 bridge there is out. K/26 945570, also elements reported at 881546, of 26th. Town of HASSELFELD, 60th is going for it. White; As of 0600 hours we have had 200 rounds artillery come in. "G" patrol to 972489, ran into 12 krauts out there defending the place. F Co patrol ran into fight up on hill ~~XXX~~ and chased enemy away. Belgium civilians say that there is plenty of stuff and 99 troops in BRAUNLAGE.
- 1049 \* Lt. Kestlinger to Red 2; Where have you plotted your B Co? Red 2; Center of B is 925494. They extend in a north Easterny direction.
- 1045 - S-2 to G-2; 10 PWs from 39th Regt. 3 PWs from 26th Arty Regt; 8 PWs from 3rd Bn, 15 Para., 18 PWs from EG Meyer. Gives info on G Co patrol - F Co patrol and Belgium civilian report. Talks about arty coming in; possibly of observation in town. Ans; Blue of the 16th ran into trouble but took 20 PWs, killed 15-20, and wounded more. 26th contacted c/330.
- 1100 - White 6 to S-3; Can you give me any indication on when we move? Have G Co on top of the hill. Cannot get food to them. S-3; Won't move before 1300 hours. White; I'll carry the food to G Co then. Combat patrol from F Co a re almost a platoon, went 1000 yards East and hit road at 965419, and ran into a heavy small arms fight.
- 1115 - Lt. Stephens to Cp A, 1st Engrs; We have a broken water main down by the road block that is eating through the hard surface of the road. Like to get you to cut it off or ditch it. MGR is going by there. Ans; OK.

16 April 1945

- 1136 - Col. Gibb to Col. Grant: "Anything shooting at you"? Ans: No. S-6: Any rounds this morning? Ans: About 200. We had 2 men KIA, 4, WIA outside the CP. A fair amount of stuff came over. The FA Btry is moving. They received the bulk of the artillery. Rounds landed where A and B Co's are. S-6: What's your plans? Ans: Maj. Smith got all the dope. F Co is sending patrol out. G Co is on the high ground, near 1st objective. Patrol went out 300 yards from RJ ran into 30 enemy digging in, also further down 5 enemy observed. S-6: The General was here. The 18th and 26th seem to be moving. He wants you to start executing your orders. 1st Bn - no further than objective #2. 3rd Bn is definitely at 054948 (?). Col. Wozenski is going to push W towards Pt 3 to contact act you. In the meantime he is going to work recon to HOHEGEISS and clear entire road net from BENNECKENSTEIN, down to 053. Ans: Will start G Co down the road to initial objective. S-6: Let me know what you are running into, so we won't stick out like a sore thumb. Ans: E Co will remain in position until later. S-6: The 1st Bn is taking C out and moving C around. They will have A and C. B Co will take positions where E and G Co's are. S-6: It won't be necessary for E Co. Ans: K is going thru RJ and I will shove unit of 1st Bn there. S-6: F Co will pass thru G Co to E and 3rd objective. 26th and 18th are 6 km W of where E Co is at. Be prepared to go to 3rd Objective., and be prepared to stop anywhere on the road.
- 1140 - Msg to CO 16-CT from I&R: 2 enemy seen at Pt 46. Am flanking and checking.
- 1210 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Kelly, Red 3: 2nd Bn is going to shove off in the next hour or so, and get out to their assigned objective #2, and possibility of going to objective #3. I want the 1st Bn prepared to move to high ground at 945497, where E Companys at. Also, you are to establish a strong road block at 954496 with mines covered by fire.
- 1215 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder White 3: When you clear the RJ at 997471, we will break loose, the I&R to go to your 3rd objective and contact the 3rd Bn, if they can. The 759 Tnk Bn at HOHEGEISS is trying to work to the W on those 2 roads where the Recon is going to contact us. I am going to break the recon loose. What is the tentative time for moving? Ans: About 15 or 20 minutes.
- 1231 - Capt. Murphy, Co A, 1st Engrs to Maj. Smith: This is Murphy, Major. Ans: You know that main that is washing away the road. We can get some Russians if you need them. Capt. Murphy, Ans: I have a Lt. down there now. I will call you if I need them.
- 1258 - Maj. Green G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: I would like to know your latest situation? (Lt. Kestlinger gives 2nd Bn plan). It looks like the 26th will be able to handle there own. C Co, 26th is at 942577, resistance - same as yesterday. Same tanks and SPGs are reported between there and BRAUNLAGE.

16 April 1945

- 1300 - Capt. Kolb to Lt. Kestlinger: Can I get 5 trucks to move C Co? I will call you back in 10 minutes.
- 1302 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Merendino: Send 5 trucks to 1st Bn for a move.
- 1305 - Lt. Kestlinger to Red 3: 2nd Bn on way now, so you can take off most anytime.
- 1305 - Capt. Zera G-3 to Maj. Smith: Blue of 18th found a piece of paper and a reserve Dagwood sign at their present location. Civilian claims the Germans had 5 American PWs; 2 of them officers; 3 of them escaped. A German General has interrogated them. The piece of paper had your name on it.
- 1311 - Maj. Smith to Maj. Middleworth 18th Inf: What's this on the sign - res for Dagwood and the piece of paper with my name. Ans: We also, picked up a pair of field glasses, 897535, vicinity of RJ. That's where your people were reported. 3 out of 5 escaped; also found jeep tracks. They ie, the 3 that escaped, are still around. The others may be in BRAUNLAGE. S-3: What's your latest locations? Ans: K Co approaching the RJ at 925517. They (K Co) are about to contact your A Co. They swept to the N and now they are heading in different direction to the E. S-3: Let me know if you get anything further on our men.
- 1320 - Lt. Valtin, PW I: Battle Grp AUCTER 661st Regt - 1 PW. 26th Arty, 6 PWs. BG AUCTER has 60 men; attached to 661st Regt, previously 326th Div.
- 1326 - Maj. MacGregor, 18th Inf to Maj. Smith: Our K Co is about 400 yards above A Co and will contact them any minute.
- 1326 - Capt. Moore, 5th FA to Capt. Hall: We were going to put on short and 7th FA informed us that friendly stuff was going into the middle of our target area. Capt. Hall: 3rd Bn is at Soge (0548) moving toward TANNE (0648).
- 1332 - Maj. Smith to Lt. Chandler, White 2: Did they jump yet? Ans: Yes sir, G has. F Co patrol at 980460, in trouble, need help. Road is alright down to 980460.
- 1340 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Maj. Green G-3: We jumped off about 3/4 hrs ago. G Co got to road junction at 972490. F Co has 2 squads in heavy fight at 981460. Enemy still at 960460. 1st Bn sending a platoon with tanks to clean that up. I think we will make contact with Becoy soon with our A Co, and their K Co. G-3: K of 18th at 982520. I and L right behind. C Co of 26th is at 949428, road is impassible. Main road from ST ANDREASBURG to BAD LOTTERBURG is impassible. Enemy has blown out culverts. G-3: Down at 960480, is that clear? Ans: No. 4th Cav Grp has started mopping up, their left boundry running along road at ZORZE to road junction at 053422.

16 April 1945

- 1348 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. Smith-S-3: Where is I&R operating now? Who is going to block the road down there? Ans: 1st Bn sending a platoon and 2 tanks down there now. White 3: At 980460 F Co sent patrol that way and ran into at least 60 enemy there and had to pull back. Putting artillery in there now. G Co is at 965493, enemy out there too. We want to get F Co going as soon as possible. When are you letting Recon go? Ans: Will let them go when they get to 994467. 1st platoon will go down 1st road to S. 2nd will go towards ZORZE. 3rd will go on road towards HOHEGESS. White 3: We are going to clean out and keep on going. Ans: If you let me know as you go I will send a platoon of Recon down.
- 1400 - White 3 to S-3: Got PW from BG MAYER, He reports in vicinity 965470, his BG of 1st Bn is in strength. They have their weapons Co with them. The patrol that went to 81 and 84 was pushed back but they have 22 PWs. 60 more enemy in the other place I told you about but they are not PWs.
- 1415 - Maj. Carter, 18th Inf to Maj. Smith: Our Blue is not at 897535. Where the people up here had a CP at 897535, we found some signs, reserved for Dagwood, and one with your name on. We captured an officer up near this house, so will go to work on him. Pair of glasses found were #7578343.
- 1415 - Lt. Stephens to Red 2: You know where you are going to clean out to 959460; the I&R was down to there from the town and were fired on. Saw 5 or 6 enemy but a PW taken by 2nd Bn, said there was a Battle Grp down there of a Bn size. I just wanted to let you know. Ans: OK, thank you.
- 1430 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Maj. Smith: Have given F order to attack.
- 1440 - G-2 to Capt. Hall: You know about our people up north of you finding signs, Reserved for Dagwood? Capt. Hall: Yes, (Gives our latest positions).
- 1454 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Lt. Stephens: Is the 3rd Bn of 18th Inf commanded by a Maj Smith? Ans: Not that I know of. Red 3: He said I of 18th at 924524, sending group to 934528. L Co at 925514. K Co at 942508 going to 950505. He said an American Captain and EM were seen with German general yesterday at 892533. We contacted K of 18th Inf, at 1400 hours.
- 1500 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Maj. Smith: G in quite a fight at 974494. They requested tanks, TDs and everything else. Where is 26th at? Ans: Last report at 950540. Are you sending up tanks to them? Ans: Not yet. Have to find out if road is open.
- 1500 - ~~EXCERPT~~ Lt. Stephens to Maj. Carter, 18th Inf: Do you have a Maj. Smith in your 3rd Bn? Maj. Carter: No, we do not.

16 April 1945

- 1520 - Maj. Green G-3 to Maj. Smith: VII Corps #6 in conference with 1st Div, #6 now. We will probably have to relieve 3rd Bn of 60th Inf at 1048. 2nd Bn of 18th Inf will probably do it. About the 9th Div - 47th Inf on north; 39th on south. 39th out to 65 NS line. One element on 72 line. Will have 47th swing back towards us. 83rd Div had sticky time today at bridgehead. 25 enemy tanks and lot of enemy. S-3: Here is our situation; G heavily engaged in fight at 974494. Armor and infantry. G-3: I better get that information to your 3rd Bn, as they may go that way. F Co in fight at 976460, about a company of infantry. 1st Bn is fight at 960461. PW said there is a battle group there.
- 1535 - G-3 to S-3: When are you ready to take over control of 3rd Bn? Ans: Col. Says he is ready now. G-3: OK, we'll make it effective 1600 hours. Boundary between you and 26th CdnO to 070580, that's your left boundary. Your right runs roughly from 1047 NE to 182540. That's boundary between you and 18th. What's situation with B and F Cos? (S-3: It's mostly in front of F and G Co's. But it's not too bad.)
- 1545 - Lt. Valtin PWI reports: PWs from 2nd Bn; 9 from BG MEYER. 1 officer, 5 Sig Bn, 5 Para Div. 4 PWs from 5th Regt. 2 PWs from Light AAA 272.
- 1550 - White 3 to S-6: Moving E Co out complete. Notify 1st Bn to get C Co there. G in fire fight with about 40 enemy. Believe they were pulling out. F At 81 and moving to 92. E moving to 74.
- 1555 - S-6 to Red 6: E Co moving out complete. Sending 1st Recon down to HOEGERISS over the roads west to clear them. Move 1 Co in trucks to BENNECKENSTEIN and move rest of Bn down as fast as you can. As soon as G Co is pinched out let me know.
- 1600 - S-6 to White 6: Sending 1 Co of 3rd Bn over to 3rd objective. 1st Recon to HOEGERISS to clear roads from 92 to the west and roads S to 95 to road junction at 005415. Moving my CP in the morning to BENNECKENSTEIN. White 6: Moving my CP to Pt 74. Want to leave G Co at 972489, reinforced with TDs and AT platoon. Have them facing N to cut 2 roads to N and NW. F Co to 92 1/2 towards 87 to 2nd objective with tanks. E Co to 92 with platoon AT guns. My mortar to vicinity of 75 or further East. S-6: If E and F Cos clear Pt 92 early enough today, start pushing East. Want you to clear Pt 92 as I want to push 1st Recon thru there. White: Doing it now, sir.
- 1625 - 18th Inf S-6 to S-3: They are pulling us out less the 3rd Bn. They'll be attached to you. What I would like is to arrange for arty liaison for the 3rd Bn. S-3: I'll take care of it.
- 1625 - Msg to CO 3rd Bn: Attack west with a minimum of one reinforced co and secure road center at 020483 immediately. CO 16th, (1620).

16 April 1945

- 1645 - White 3 to S-3: Man just came in and said we have another platoon of 4.2s that belong to us. S-3: Yes, the whole Co is attached to you. Col. figures that if you are left here, you'll need all the support you can get.
- 1705 - S-3 to Red 3: Hear anything from the group along the lake? Ans: No sir. It was A Co sent them down a 2 tanks. S-3: PW stated that there was a Bn of enemy in that area. K of 18th 940507; going down to next junction. C Co in there way up now. G Co will stay where they are. If C can make contact with K of 18th when they come up, that will release C Co. But keep them up on the hill.
- 1705 - Maj. Lauten to S-2: Have your CIC pick up Carl Becker who is party chief in the silver mine in your town. Has black hair, wears glasses, and 1 finger missing from right hand. He is charged with shooting an American pilot who refused to answer when interrogated. Capt. Donnelly to S-2: How are you doing? S-2: G Co is fighting an estimated 40 enemy. F is fighting at 974460 with a Bn size KAMFH GRP, (according to PW). (Also gives PW information). 1st Bn is fighting at 960461. G-3 to S-3: You get the 3/18 attached as of 1700 hours in position. They are to continue their mission and you are not to assign them any other mission. We are prepared to lose the Cav in the morning. S-3: F Co now at 987493. I'll have recon cut due east at F Co RJ. E at 980453. F has objective, 995487. C at 959500 will clear to 18th. Late flash on F at 993466. Have 3rd Bn get 4th Cav arty support. G-3: Yes, I'll do that.
- 1716 - 2nd Bn reports: F Co is now at Pt 86. Will you tell Maj. Smith that?  
Ans: OK.
- 1725 - White 3 to Lt. Kestlinger: F Co now at 987465; G still at 69, going to push F on and E down to 94, and button them up. 7th FA liaison officer reports he is at 993465, so I guess F Co is there now. Ans: K of 18th reports being at 925544. White 3: When is the 1st Recon moving? S-3: They are supposed to be behind F and moving. White: Moving GP to 74 now. S-3: Cannon Co is there too.
- 1740 - Msg 24th INO from SQD: TR B at 092456. Bridge blown at 092457 and felled trees at 092456. Signed 1630 hrs.
- 1748 - G-3 to S-3: Talked to 26th. Their locations are C-947542 and heavily engaged with 77. B at 942551, likewise engaged. F, 948577, they were 700 yards further East but were pushed back by 77. They shot the arm of of 1 77 but he kept coming. They are really fighting. C Co had 4 killed and 27 WIA that shows they are fighting. There is no way out for them, except by the NE or else try to bust out thru the South, thru you people. S-3: Let them come. We'll take care of them.
- 1845 - Capt. Murphy Co A, 1st Engrs to Lt. Stephens: What's the latest? (Lt. Stephens reviews situation).

16 April 1945

- 1850 - Maj. Smith to Lt. Hoffman, Red 2: What's the latest? Ans: We haven't been able to contact A Co by radio! I left them at 960473 and they went down the road where the bomb crater is in the middle of the road. I will let you know when we get some in. Capt. Murphy: OK, fine.
- 1900 - Col. Gibb S-6 to Col. Driscoll Red 6: What's the matter with A Co? Ans: What do you mean, sir? S-6: The last yet on them was at 1500B. We don't know if they hit any opposition or anything down there. Ans: There's some elms of A Co that is 1 platoon of Inf and 2 tanks going down the river road. We lost radio communication with them. If this had ran into something we would have had a msg back, or someone would have come back. They got some PWs back. I will have to look in the Journal for the latest report. S-6: Send someone down there to contact them and see what they are doing. 4 hours is entirely too long to let any unit go without communication or contact with them. I want to move your Bn on the road to the E and I want to start you going across there tomorrow morning.
- 1915 - 5th FA S-2 to Capt. Hall: Do you have 26th Infantry's front line position? Ans: Nothing new since you last called.
- 1916 - Maj. Randall, 18th Inf: Our L Co made contact with the 26th on their MSR that runs E and W.
- 1924 - Capt. Elder White 3 to St. Stephens: Here's our latest situation - E Co buttoning up; blocking the road, and putting a strong point on 93. F Co has cleared Pts 2 to 3 (995484); meeting light resistance; 8 more PWs, makes total of 92 for day.
- 1925 - Col. Gibb to Gen Andrus: The road to the east to BENNECKENSTEIN is clear. 1 Bn is to go to HOHEGRISS rest of Bn to be in BENNECKENSTEIN. Cannon Co will be with 2nd Bn and the Bn will stay where they are. Tomorrow I will prepare to move NE. 3rd Bn to move 1 Co to 025482, rest to go to ELLERICH.
- 1927 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Lt. Stephens: Where is K Co, 18th? Ans: 959505, they are going to OP the high ground in front of them. St. S: Well, C Co is sending a patrol to contact them. Ans: OK, I will notify them.
- 1928 - Lt. Stephens to 18th Inf 3rd Bn: (Same as above).
- 1935 - Capt. Kolb, Red 3 to Lt. Stephens: Where is 2nd Bn now? Ans: F Co is at 995484. G Co is from 971494 to 979488. E Co is at 975455 to 986455.
- 1935 - Lt. Valten PWI to Clerk: 60 PWs from 2nd Bn; 40 from Battle Grp Mayer; 11 from Battle Grp Barnaika; 9 stragglers. They don't know what their mission was; don't know if they have any support weapons or not.

16 April 1945

- 1945 - Lt. Stephens to Capt. Merendino, Transp. O: When can you get the trucks? Ans: I am getting 10 from 26th Inf that I will have for the morning.
- 1952 - Maj. Smith to Col. Driscoll Red 6: Hear anything from A Co? Ans: Just got radio contact and I will let you know what we get. S-3: Looks like a 7 o'clock move in the morning. The I&R will be out marking the route. The Colonel and I will follow you.
- 2010 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Maj. Smith: Where is 1st Bn? Ans: I don't know. Are you in position? Ans: Yes, buttoning up. S-3: At 0600 tomorrow Cannon Co will be attached to you until further orders. At 0700, 1st Bn and 7th FA move. 26th has been running into SS troops today and having quite a few casualties.
- 2035 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. Smith: You know the road south from 74 to 79? 1st Bn sent a patrol down there and just came back. Is that road going to be blocked? Ans: No. Let's find out what the patrol found out first before I make a decision. White 3: Can we get a platoon of AT guns? Ans: You have 2 platoons. White 3: I know that but can we get another one? Ans: No. S-3: Lt. Ballard will loan you 2 assault guns to cover the road. Ans: OK.
- 2045 - Lt. Hoffman Red 2 to Capt. Hall: At 940495 a group of buildings at that sanitarium, a man from mortar platoon got shot at from one of the buildings. He demanded to search the place. The hospital commandant stated that the place was searched several times. He found several pistols and rifles. The 1st Bn has no guard on there now. Capt. Hall: Place the guard there until tomorrow morning, I will contact Division.
- 2054 - Maj. Green G-3 to Maj. Smith: 18th Inf plans have been changed several times, but they are now going through with original plan and we will keep 24th Cav, until we get thru. S-3: We are moving to BENNECKENSTEIN tomorrow morning. G-3: Can you give me your situation now? Ans: G at 974498. F at 997484. I is about to 019483. Rest of 3rd Bn generally at 049488. E Co is at 983453 blocking both roads to south. Cleared down to lake road all the way and it is clear now. Cleared today what we didn't clear yesterday. 1st Bn generally in assembly area now. C Co up on hill at 949499, made contact with K Co of 18th Inf. Everything to the 97 line has been cleared. Moving 2 companies in BENNECKENSTEIN tomorrow and one in HOHEGEBISS. 3rd Bn going for town of BANNE tomorrow. G-3: I am going to check with Div Arty now to be sure of the artillery support.
- 2100 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Maj. White: G got in little counterattack of 30 Jerries who came down the road. We fired MG and mortar on them. Do we have anyone blocking at 65, 67, 70? Maj. White: We have no one blocking up there. Capt. Elder: We are going to clog that and put mine in. Maj. White: OK, but put a guard on it because G will be coming down there early in the morning.



16 April 1945

- 2115 - Capt. Hall to Capt Olsen G-2: Gives the report on PWs. Gives us a total of 157 so far for today. Tells about Hospital up here, and that it should be taken care of. G-2: 26th was fighting same SS today.
- 2125 - Lt. Hoffman, Red 2 to Maj. White: About the patrol we had out. Lt. Paterninski had the patrol. Tanks got to 933443, there it was impassable, (bomb crater) so he had to leave tanks and go on foot. At 929438 another impassable bomb crater. At 926333 are mines (the big box jobs). Took mine out at 959461 where road crosses bridge, bridge is blown. At 927424 at dam was plenty of dynamite charges. He cut all the wires he could see. Took 12 PWs in all. First ones got at first bomb crater area. Found 5 or 6 at the dam. He killed one and scattered others. No infantry road blocks in that road. Just a matter of filling bomb craters, fixing the forde a little better and checking for mines.
- 2130 - Col. Heath to Maj. Smith: Have you had any change from Division? Ans: No!
- 2135 - G-3 to S-3: Have an item for you to pass on to the 18th Inf. Get word to 18th that the 26th has reduced the road block at 923540. Get word to I of the 18th to run a patrol to contact the 26th in the vicinity of 923540 to gain contact. I will tell the 26th and you tell the 18th. (S-3 tells of patrol to 970490 to the dam, etc., as previously listed).  
G-3: Can you give me any locations on the 3 companies of 18th Inf, 3rd Bn?  
S-3: I at 933520, K at 949507, L at 926516.
- 2200 - 18th Inf 3rd Bn reports: Patrol from our I Co to 26th Inf will leave in about 15 or 20 minutes. Patrol consists of half a squad. The Contact point is not far from the present positions of our I Co.
- 2145 - S-3 lists the following locations for locations of the 16th Inf companies as of this hour: G At 966496, 975497, 980491. F at 987483, 995485, 000482. E at 976451, 982450, 988452. Road blocks at 977449 and 985450.
- 2150 - S-3 to Maj. Randall, 18th Inf Blue 3: Relays information of 2135 hours.
- 2157 - S-2 to G-2: PW Identifications: 10 from BG BUCKMANN, apparently members of a labor force, attached to BG Meyer, but this is not confirmed. 1 from BG Meyer, 3 from 326th VGD, 1 from 26th QM, 5 from 1066 Arty Regt, 4 from BG Buokner (NGO School Eisenoch), 2 stragglers. Makes a total of 183. Recon bringing in 70 mjre and will be included in our total.
- 2205 - Lt. Llewilyn MP Officer reports PWs from Recon have arrived at Regtl Csgp. S-2 says to process them here as the Recon is attached to the 16th Inf.
- 2210 - Lt. Kestlinger notifies the following units to pick up operations instructions at this CP immediately: 1st Bn - 2nd Bn, 5th and 7th FAs and Cannon Co., Hq Co, 87th Cheml.

16 April 1945

- 2235 - Red 6 to Maj. Smith: Col. Said to detruck one co where E is now, 989459, and work down the road to HOHEGEBISS. You had told Capt. Kolb to drop them off at the town. Maj. Smith: Do it the way the Colonel said - drop them off and sweep down the road. Drop the last co off. Red 6: Will do.
- 2238 - Recon officer reports an error in the PW count. The correct figure is 62 instead of 70, as previously reported.
- 2250 - Capt. Merendino, Transp O reports that 1st Bn trucks are in. 2nd Bn and Hq Co trucks will be in, in the morning at 0530 hours.
- 2250 - Capt. Ralph, Comm O to S-5: Discuss communications beteen regt and 2nd Bn for tomorrow. Capt. Ralph is to call this CP with the solution to the problem tonight. Capt. Ralph reports that 3rd Bn can be had by radio thru the Cavalry or 1st Recon. 3rd Bn phone line is out. Later call, 2310 hours, notifiys that radio communication will be layed - on for tomorrow where phone is not possible.
- 2252 - Maj. White, S-3 to Capt. Elder, White 3: Mission of 2nd Bn tomorrow is to protect MSR from the north, along the front where you are now, others will have to protect as they go along. (S-3 gives company positions as previously listed).
- 2305 - Lt. Valten PWI reports: The PWs from the 326th were stragglers. 1 PW said that there are about 80 men from BG Barniekt generally in area around 975908.
- 2315 - Red 3 to Maj. White, S-3: Checking attachments for tomorrow we have platoon of tanks; TDs and 745th's 81mm mortars. How about the Engrs? S-3: We will have them 2nd Bn platoon of engineers report to you. Red 3: About 0630 at our CP. S-3: OK. (Engrs were notified by Lt. Kestlinger).
- 2315 - Lt. Valten PWI to S-2: PWs identification: 42 from 271 Arty Repl and Tng Bn; 14 from BG Hirschfeld; 1 from BG Schaefer; 1 from Hq 5th Para Div; 2 stragglers. From 1st Bn: 3 from 26th QM; From 18th Inf: 2 from 26th QM; 4 from BG Buckel; The recon people brought in a whole truck load of documents. S-2: Send them to Div with the PWs, I'll notify them.
- 2325 - S-2 to G-2: Above PW information given. Total PWs for today, 252.
- 2326 - 18th Inf Blue Bn reports all quiet.
- 2337 - The following were notified that the advance CP unit will move out at 0730 hrs tomorrow; Dixie A, S-4, Hq Co, Medic Dtd.
- 2342 - Sgt Wheeler, I&R to Lt. Kestlinger: Do we go at 0630 hrs? Ans: Yes.
- 2352 - 18th Inf 3rd Bn reports: Patrol by our I Co contacted the 26th Inf at the designated point and returned.

17 April 1945

LOCATION: During the period the Regtl CP moved from ANDREASBURG, 921493, to BENNECKENSTEIN, 062464, Germany.

- 0004 - Capt. Kelly, G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: Here is a msg from your 3rd Bn, relayed thru 24th Cavalry - L Co now at 027480. Patrol on main road to the north in a fire fight. Considerable activity on the road to the East and then north. Lt. Kestlinger gives info as of item 2352 hours, regarding the 18th Inf patrol contacting 26th Inf.
- 0015 - Lt. Moore, 1st Bn reports: All quiet. Contact patrols have contacted all along.
- 0040 - 1st Recon to Lt. Kestlinger: "L" Co at 027480 reports loud explosions to the northwest. (3rd Bn reported this to Recon).
- 0100 - 18th Inf Blue to Lt. Kestlinger: Negative report.
- 0130 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3: Negative report.
- 0145 - Lt. Valtin PW: 2nd Bn sent in 7 PWs. 1 from Battle group Meyer; 6 from 26th QM.
- 0200 - PWI reports: The 271st Repl and Trng Arty Regt lost heavily in BAD SACHSA, since then only the 2nd and 3rd are together and have been going North for last 3 days. Today they were attached to Battle Grp HIRSCHFELD. 3rd Btry vicinity of 980460, 2nd Btry to left, went in northerly direction today. They had about 40 men. The 3rd Btry captured by 1st Recon.
- 0210 - 2nd Bn gives negative report.
- 0215 - 1st Recon to Lt. Stephens: "L" Co at 031481. Hear tracked vehicle to the north. There is scattered Inf and light resistance. (as of 0930).
- 0245 - Lt. Lyons G-3 to Lt. Stephens: 4 Cav says your 3rd Bn is on objective. (objective 023483). "K" of the 26th at 971520. L/26 - 9753. I/26 between K and L. B/26 - 957552. A/26 - 942550.
- 0255 - 18th Inf Blue; Negative report.
- 0420 - Lt. Stephens to G-3: The objective I gave you before is wrong. It is 023483. The one I gave you is 3rd Bn objective today.
- 0515 - Dagwood White to Clerk: All quiet.
- 0545 - Mr. Lipinski to G-3: Negative report.

17 April 1945

- 0556 - G-2 to Clerk: Anything to report during the night? Ans: No sir. Negative report all night.
- 0615 - White CP: All is quiet up here.
- 0630 - Red CP: We are pulling our board now.
- 0640 - Col. Heath, 7th FA to Mr. Lipinski: Have you any locations on the 26th? Did they push during the night? Ans: We haven't the summary for the night yet. They could of moved, but we have not report on it yet.
- 0711 - Divarty 2 to Lt. Kestlinger: What are your front line dispositions? Ans: E - 982450, F - 995484, G - 976497, L - 023482, I and K - 048482, K/26th - 971520, L/26th - 970530.
- 0715 - G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: K/26th still held up at 972520 by 2 enemy tanks and 30 Inf. What are your dispositions? Ans: G - 975498, F - 995484, L - 024482, E - 982450, I and K center position at 048482. 1st Bn moving fwd on trucks to BENNECKENSTEIN. 2nd Bn stays here.
- 0716 - Message from 1st Bn: Have crossed IP at 0700 hours. Signed CO, 1st Bn.
- 0717 - 1st Recon to Lt. Kestlinger: The platoon that was over to HOHGEISS is back now. No trouble at all.
- 0724 - 7th FA notifies of closing out.
- 0730 - Blue Bn reports: (Timm 24th Cav) "I" Co is on objective with tanks and AT guns.
- 0732 - Maj. White, S-3 to White 2: Get this word to White 3 - "I" Co is 1000 yards East of where those 3 roads come together East of Pt 12. Do you see that? Ans: Yes, Sir. S-3: Have one company from 2nd Bn take over that position by 1700 hours today. Ans: Alright, Sir.
- 0743 - Lt. Stephens to G-3 Lt. Oswald: Closing CP. For communication, use radio.
- 1130 - Maj. White to Capt. Booth: I am glad to know you moved out at 1000. Capt. Booth: We have one platoon in town in a little fire fight, moving the rest in now. Maj. White: When things clear up down there, want you to move everything in down there and be ready to move NE on order. (Gives positions of 2nd Bn).
- 1132 - Mag - Div CP Open at 528495 at 171030B.
- 1135 - Cpl. Wynberg, 3rd Bn to Lt. Kestlinger: "K" getting a little small arms; bridge is out and they are wading the stream.

17 April 1945

- 1205 - Capt. Wells to Maj. Sandell: K Co is on the SW part of TANNE. What's situation on the guns? Ans: They are moving in position now. 5th FA has a btry on the way also. They will go in position at 0545. (more or less to NW). They will be able to throw stuff to the SE in case the 26th needs it.
- 1215 - Msg: CO, 16th Inf from CG, 1st Div: "King and Love Co's 26th Inf now fighting in BRAUNLAGER". Time signed - 1115B.
- 1220 - Sgt. McGill 3rd Bn to Sgt. Minno: Latest sitrep from K Co - At 068488, tk is on the main street. Enemy dug in at N edge of town and to the W. Tk cannot be seen at present. Number of enemy, unknown.
- 1230 - Maj. White, S-3 to Col. Wozenski, Blue 6: I just received message about K Co. Are they meeting much resistance? Ans: They are working on it now. It is either a tk or SPG. We just ran into it a few minutes ago. S-3: Is the whole company up there? Blue 6: The whole company is moving up there. I have made a deal with 24th Cav. I am getting a platoon of tanks from 759th Tk Bn to move up into town, as soon as road is clear.
- 1232 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Maj. White, S-3: C Co isn't in. They are sweeping the MSR and found nothing there. We have two companies in this town.
- 1255 - Blue Clerk reports: 7th FA reports 3 enemy tanks at 074493. Also civilian reports about 200 enemy in woods near TANNE and 3 tanks in the town of TANNE. Got some PWs on way up. Two were from the pocket, they escaped from it. They are from 116th Pz Div. The Div is now trapped in UNNA.
- 1307 - Red 2 to S-2: What about the Utilities in the town? Ans: Don't worry about them. 7th FA reports 3 tanks at 074493. Civilian reports 200 enemy in woods near TANNE and 3 tanks in the town.
- 1312 - Blue 3 to Colonel Horner S-5: K Co in the town with their tanks. Town is in our hands now. There will be only 1 company in the town.
- 1325 - Blue Bn reports: 40-50 enemy, 1 truck, 1 half track, and a AT gun seen at 0549.
- 1334 - Radio Intercept message: From CO 18th Inf to CG 1st Div - Contact patrol on way to TRAUTENSTEIN. (Time signed 1253B, via 193, 17 Apr 45).
- 1340 - Radio Intercept correction to above item - contact patrol on way from 2nd Bn to TRAUTENSTEIN.
- 1347 - S-3, Maj. White to Capt. Kolb, Red 3: Is "C" Co still at Pt 11? Ans: Yes, sir. S-3: Move them in a close in. There is a slight change in boundaries. I will get the poop down to you soon. Ans: If the town is crowded, can we have "C" co out there? S-3: Let me know if you move them over.

17 April 1945

- 1400 - 3rd Bn reports (Cpl Wineberg): "K" Company in position and buttoning up. Air OP of the 7th FA reports vehicles coming down road at 094513. At 1344 hours, one tank and vehicle in position at 07251980. Three rounds of light friendly artillery landed near the 3rd Bn, this fire has been corrected. At 1345 hours a few rounds of enemy artillery landed in the "81" positions.
- 1410 - Co A, 1st Med located at 052450.
- 1423 - MESSAGE - CG 1st Div to CO 16th Inf, : 18th patrol enroute from HASSELFELDE to TRAVENSTEIN at 171250B.
- 1425 - MESSAGE - CG 1st Div to CO 16th Inf - Clearing Station, PW cage, Div Ammo office now open at ELIRICH.
- 1427 - Col. Wozenski, Blue 6 to S-6: (S-6: Congratulations. Blue 6: Thanks, Sir). Blue 6: Have a platoon of 759 mediums in town of TANNE, those people want them back. Cub reports indicate a thrust of enemy armor. Have only a platoon of AT, and my tanks are over on the West Road Junction. My M-10's are located where they are able to go in either direction. S-6: E Co is on the way over to relieve that one company of yours - they should be there now. Blue 6: That will be OK, I can take my tanks over then. S-6: Drop over today and we will go over the plans for tomorrow.
- 1432 - Operator reports a line in to the 24th Cav.
- 1455 - Air OP reports: 032531 - enemy vehicles; 0325-5275 enemy infantry; 030511 enemy vehicles entered woods. All vehicles are coming from town at 035535. Enemy track vehicle looks like personal carrier 025529, also truck with personal 035523 and tank at 032530.
- 1459 - Information from 7th FA Air OP: (1) One platoon of Infantry moving SE along road at 032531. (2) At 025529 enemy vehicle turned into road leading NE. (3) At 035521 enemy infantry moving 1425 hours. (4) At 032531 cross roads, trucks coming and unloading infantry and returning empty. Plenty of infantry - time 1440.
- 1500 - Capt. Knight 5th FA to Lt. Kestlinger: There is a merchant in town known as Mr. Herr Haus, it has been said that he knows of the WHEREWOLF organization, and he is leading NAZIS party member.
- 1505 - S-3 to Red 2: (S-3 notifies of the reports, as above from the 7th FA Air OP). S-3: We may take your tanks and TDs to do some shooting. They seem to be coming south. Red 2: Will notify them to be ready to go if you want them.
- 1502 - Lt. Kestlinger to Pvt Browning (CIC): Above message given.

17 April 1945

- 1510 - MESSAGE - CG 1st Div to CO 16th Inf: 3rd Bn 16th Inf released from attachment to 16th Inf and reverts to control of 18th Inf effective 171330 April. Bn is moving motorized 171330 to rejoin 18 CT.
- 1510 - Lt. Kestlinger to Blue CP: What is "K" co's position? Ans: We had a report that they were on objective and buttoning up. ~~XXXX~~ We have been getting the 7th FA Air OP reports and are notifying the companies.
- 1515 - Capt. Merindeno, Transp O to S-3: Gave 5 trucks to 2nd Bn and am sending one with the I&R to get those Panzerfaust out, along the road. S-3: The Panzerfaust are to be destroyed, you can do that after they come back in.
- 1526 - Sgt McGill, 3rd Bn to Lt. Stephens: Want to report that E Company has arrived at "I" Company.
- 1543 - Colonel Horner S-5 to Maj. McKean S-4: Lets burn all these captured vehicles. Ans: We could dismantle them and abandon the rest of them. S-5: OK.
- 1600 - MSG INTERCEPT: At 058500 enemy tank or SP. At 0535 4980 enemy vehicle is moving SW.
- 1600 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Sylce AT Co: Starting tomorrow night at supper you will have the Engr platoon for rations. Where is your CP? Capt. Sylce: 063448.
- 1612 - Col. Beck, G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: I hear you have some troops from the north up there. Ans: At about 035535. G-3: Do not fire on them unless you check with me because I am afraid 26th Inf might be coming up there.
- 1625 - Lt. Kestlinger to Col. Beck G-3: 7th FA cub reports at 038537 leading elements of tanks moving south. At 051545 - 5 vehicles going southwest on road. At 043538 armored vehicles moving on road. May we fire on them? Ans: Fire on any identified vehicles and notify division.
- 1630 - Capt. Kolb Red 3 to Capt. Hall S-2: Would like to know if between 0500 and 0530 hours, we can do some firing? have a good safe place, to fire some Panzerfaust. Capt. Hall: Yes as long as it is safe.
- 1634 - Sgt Wheeler, I&R to Lt. Kestlinger: We got the truck load of panzerfaust here, what do we do with them? Ans: Just leave them on the truck at present, and I will call you back.
- 1635 - Capt. Hall to 3rd Bn: At 1620 hours cub reports, leading elements of tank moving at 038537. 5 vehicles moving SE on road at 051545. Armored vehicles moving out 043538. Ans: "I" has pulled its phone and starting to move.

17 April 1945

- 1637 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Kolb, Red 3: We got a truck load of panger-faust here. Do you want them. Ans: No, I have 24 here and don't want anymore. We are only giving 6 to a company.
- 1645 - Col. Beck G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: Anything new on those tanks? Ans: At 035516 enemy SP moving north. At 089508 armored vehicle is moving north. At 033513 armored sitting in triple road section. Maj. White: We got an operations overlay here at 12 o'clock. About 1400 Danger 6 came in here and said another outfit is coming in and boundaries might be changed. The boundary in overlay would not be in effect, is that correct? Ans: They are in effect as on overlay. I hope our direct line will be in with you by the-time I get back.
- 1700 - We now have a direct line to Division.
- 1715 - Maj. Green G-3 to Maj. White S-3: I want to check on a couple locations. Will you give me a brief summary on them? Ans: E Co moved up and relieved L at 0248. K moved over to 063484; I over at 046487. L over to vicinity I and K. White CP in HOEGEISS and G will move in that vicinity. ~~XXXXXX~~ "C" is in HOEGEISS. Field Arty is in vicinity where we are. I was talking to Col. Beck a few minutes ago and he said our boundary will remain as on overlay. G-3: Yours will be the same. We have one objective for your 2nd Bn., 3 for 3rd Bn, and 2 for 1st Bn. I understand you are getting ready to jump off tomorrow? Ans: We are getting prepared to.
- 1715 - Col. Heath 7th FA to Capt. Hall: Has the Bn of the 18th gone back to their people? Capt. Hall: Yes, they have.
- 1730 - Lt. Valtin to S-2: Did you get the notice from 2nd Bn of the people who came into their position, in a car and under a White Flag to offer peace terms for the surrender of a hospital in the town at 974500? These people that I have, who were in the car with a Sergeant, are really not PWs. Has anything been done about this? Ans: No, I'll call 2nd Bn and see what the story is call you back. Lt. Valtin: These two that I have say that the place was cleared last nite of paratroopers and the Doctor in charge had been told that he could surrender to the Americans.
- 1733 - S-2 to Lt. Valtin: We have no communication with 2nd Bn right now. Explain to these people that they will have to wait until I can talk to 2nd Bn.
- 1735 - S-2 to 7th FA S-2: Had a couple of PWs who said there were a couple of battered in position at 018495. Ans: Toxy Wells thought there were a couple NE of TANNE in that vicinity. We will have the cub look over that area. S-2: How about the stuff the cub was seeing all afternoon? Ans: I will call you back, the pilot just came in and is eating. Did E Co replace "D"? S-2: Yes, that is completed.



17 April 1945

- 1736 - Col. Gibb, S-6 to Maj. Green, G-3: Maj S-3 was talking to Col. Beck and he said there is no change on boundaries and the General said there probably would be. I take a dim view of the 18th and 26th being pinned out and me going N and then E again. Ans: I would advise that we wait until the heads get together back here again and find out what they decide. It looks like we will get the top of the mountain to take and that will be a headache for the 26th.
- 1750 - Lt. Valtin to Capt. Hall: 151 PWs from 2nd Bn - 54 from 9th Horse Park Gr-ettunge. 8 from BG HERSCHFELD; 39 from Meyer; 26 from 271 Arty and Repl Tag Bn, BG HERSCHFELD. 8 from Supply 116 Panzer; 9 from 8th Btry 26th Arty Regt; 4 from 26th QM; 3 from 473 Repl Tag Bn; 16 PWs from 1st Bn; 1 from BG Meyer; 6 from 271 R pl Trng Bn; 2 from 194th R pl and Trng Bn; 6 XXX from 1st Lt, Btry Hartz; 1 from Navy, men on pass. 3 from 103 AA, 688 Engr Brigade.
- 1755 - Capt. Hall, S-2 to G-2: Got 176 PWs and 2nd Bn sent about 170 direct to your cage. (Gives a summary of what the Air OP saw around "E"). Gives the story on surrender and hospital. G-2: We got the fellow Becker we had you looking for. The people in the pocket got General from 3rd EG Div, 9th Panzer, 180 Div; 190 Div, 53 Corps, Chief of Staff, "B". Arty Commander of "B" and an Admiral Spear. Don't believe there is much left, will finish it up today. (Capt. Hall - gives the latest identification of PWs).
- 1820 - Cpl. Weinberg 3rd Bn to Lt. Stephens: L Co closed in its new position at 1735 B. K Co, 2nd Platoon in a little fire fight (A squad of enemy Inf) Time 1730B. Details later.
- 1845 - MSG to Bn Ex O and Com O: Meeting at CP at 2000B.
- 1859 - Msg to CO, 2nd Bn (Three 11-2nd Bn) - F Co relieve I co immediately.
- 1911 - Passwords and reply until tomorrow - Rocket - Thunder.
- 1911 - Capt. Booth Blue 3 to Maj. White S-3: L Co - Northern edge of town; meeting some resistance. Parker and his driver pinned down out there. K Co is at fork on road above junction. AT gun is there.
- 1913 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Maj. White S-3: I understand we relieve someone? Yes, F Co to relieve I Co at 048408.
- 1930 - Col. Beck G-3 to Col. Gibb: There's a new boundary in effect 1700B between us and the Div. Squeezing us out. This will mean a new boundary between you and the 18th. Cutting away towards you. I will send order down later and call the S-3 give him a general idea for planning. Tentative plan - 3461 on the N where it hits the 19th Corps; giving Q town to the 9th Div; 2750 go to SW to 1634; giving BLANKENBERG to elements of 19th Corps who will attack and seize it - 19 Apr. HASSELFELDE - BLANKENBERG inclusive - 18th Inf to the W of HASSELFELDE - 1148 S to road and stream junction (175250), then to road and stream junction (183540); then swing N - 2000. Figure tentative on this. Left boundary remains the same.

17 April 1945

We have to relieve all elements of the 9th because of this boundary. S-6: What's latest on 26th? Ans: They are in a fight with some tanks; 003525 repairing bridge and expect to be in, in a couple of hours. Objective - 035531. They are getting plenty of arty. S-6: In event tanks don't get to the CR, I will push my 2nd Bn to take it from the S. Mission take RJ and contact 26th, and move E. Ans: Div Arty had good results on their shooting. This will help the 26th out and I think they will get there without too much trouble.

- 1930 - Cpl Wineberg 3rd Bn Reports: I getting some small arms and mortar. Lt. Parker and driver of A.T. are pinned down believed wounded. Enemy putting in smoke between TANNE - SARGE.
- 1932 - Capt. Kolb 1st Bn to Maj. White: Maj. White - The engineers will support you. Capt. K: A patrol will go to 064466 and up the road NE. They will get back before dark. Maj. W: Your 2nd objective will be the town of HUTTENRODE (1957). The I&R will work between you and the third Bn. You will be responsible for your right flank protection. Have a responsible man here at the CP (message center) from the Engineers so as they can be contacted for work elsewhere.
- 1937 - Maj. Green G-3 to Maj. White S-3: We lost the truck company. I think you have 10 trucks from the 26th. Get them down to ELLRICH (0336) tonight. Ans: OK.
- 1952 - Maj. McGregor to Maj. White: The 3rd Bn boundary will change some. The fronts of the boundary are 1348, 170535, 200552, 230575. The RJ and village at 252608 is yours BLANKENBERG to be taken by XIX Corps on the 19th of April. When it is taken you will probably relieve the people in it.
- 2000 - Capt. Hall to G-2: PW identifications given. 1st Bn has trouble in town of TANNE. Try and get me straightened around on order of battle. I am interested in the BRAUNLAGE area.
- 2020 - Col. Wozenski Blue 6 to Maj. White: On town we went to with K Co (TANNE), they did not clean north and too well. When I Co went there they ran into plenty. Lt. Parker, cub AT officer was wounded, his squad leader was killed. knocked out a 150 enemy towed gun and backed enemy into woods but believe there are plenty there. I am supposed to close in the town and that will leave a gap. Ans: I Co is being relieved by E Co so use I Co for the gap. Put I between E and L. In the morning expect to jump at 0700. You go to 0954 and your final objective is 1257. Maintain contact with Bns on your flanks. 2nd Bn will be on your left and 1st Bn on your right. 1st Rcn will be working between you and 1st Bn. 1st Rcn will go to 0854 stop there and block. Their 1st objective is 1555. Final objective is 1957. Blue 6: I Co still exchanging MG fire back and forth.

17 April 1945

- 2040 - Maj. Barrett 5th FA to Capt. Hall; Our Cub was up today and watched the air Corps work over KONIGSHOUT for about 15 minutes strafing. They caused 2 big explosions. Also worked BLEND (1455) over. They threw some at our D Btry on 052 458 about 35 or 40 rounds. Red 2; Are there any elements up in HALSAFEIDE? Ans: A Bn of 18th Inf. Had a patrol going over to TRONTENSTEIN at 1147. The town of TANNE is not clear yet. Still fighting in houses in northern end of town. No arty, no tanks but still fighting. I Go north of S----- on high ground receiving small arms fire. Cub reported build up of troops around high ground at 055495. Red 2; What about BLANKENBERG? Ans: Road between TANNE and 0953 were 2 or 3 tanks, south, some infantry and vehicles movement. 5th Field worked over town at 1455 this afternoon. Big build up around town of BLEND today.
- 2100 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Kelly G-3; What are 26th Inf positions? Ans: 1/26th at 013529 going to 036535. 2/26 994562 going to 022559. 3/26th in town they will stay there (BRANNLAGE).
- 2112 - Capt. Booth, Blue 3 to Maj. White; I just got a call from KLENK and he said L Co cleared town to edge of woods at 060489. They knocked out a 150 towed gun; several machine guns. Quite a few emplacements there. A few soldiers in civilian clothes taken and a few others. Things are quiet now except for a little sniping in town. S-3; Hold the company in town and block so nothing comes back in. We jump at 0700 tomorrow morning. The orders will be out tonight. On the main road from you to K Co, is it clear? Ans: Yes, sir.
- 2115 - Lt. Valtin PWI; 24th Cav brought 3 PWs from 688 Engr Brigade. Cannon Co brought 3 PWs from Battle Grp Meyer. MPs brought in 3 PWs from Battle Grp Meyer. 4 stragglers. ~~XXXX~~ Engr Brigade has 100 men committed at TANNE.
- 2125 - Col. Barnes to Col. Gibb; Do you intend to move your CP tomorrow afternoon? Ans: That depends upon the situation. If things move slow we won't be moving yet. G-5; When you move keep the place open for us. Ans: OK.
- 2130 - Lt. Hoffman Red 2 to Maj. White; "A" Co patrol saw 2 road blocks a lot of signal equipment consisting of generators, wire, trucks. The 1st road block is almost clear now. There are no mines, and no trees along road ready for demolition.
- 2150 - Capt. Hall to G-2; PW identifications given also report of 2115. G-2; Around 980564 the 18th got quite a little mortar and arty. They knocked out 5 to 10 assault guns at 002523 a bridge is out, further than that there are 2 road blocks one is defended. 104th Inf picked up 1200 PWs today.
- 2200 - Msg; CO, 16th Inf from CG, 1st US Inf Div; New boundary between 16 and 18 Inf effective immediately. D-130480, 170525, 200552, 230575, 253608 acknowledge message". Time signed - 2020B.

17 April 1945

- 2210 - Lt. Valtin, PWI to Capt. Hall; Received 15 more PWs from 3rd Bn; Battle Grp Wigg - 5; Battle Grp Meyer -2; Battle Grp Fallvarch -2; Soldiers in civilian clothes -6; "Did 2nd Bn pick up the 2 emissaries? "Yes".
- 2213 - Capt. Hall to Lt. Walker Blue 2; "What's latest?" Ans; Knocked out the additional equipment; quadruple 20mm; 2 MGs; 2 SP's in the town, vicinity SORGA. (Discussion of latest situation as recorded).
- 2225 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Mr. Lipinski; Are the Engrs atchd to 2nd Bn? Ans; No, they are to support Red. White 3; I want the recon troop here at 0700B tomorrow. Col. Gibb told Col. Grant we had 2 Platoons.
- 2234 - Mr. Lipinski to Danger Recon; "You have 2 platoons that are to keep close contact with 2nd Bn. Will you have them report to 2nd Bn at 0700B? Ans; Yes, Sir. Where are they located? Ans; 2nd Bn are in town of HOHEGEISS. Mr. L; Here's some info for you. Tr went straight down, Bridge is blown at 977392,, and they cannot get by it. They turned around and are coming back. Picked up 51 PWs. They haven't got back in yet.
- 2248 - Mr. Lipinski to Maj. Smith Red 5; I called the 1st Recon tr and they will be at your CP at 0700B.
- 2354 - Blue Bn reports negative.

18 April 1945

LOCATION: BENNECKENSTEIN, 06264, Germany.

- 0005 - Capt. Celeze, G-2, to Mr. Lipinski; Capt. Hall was giving me some interesting information on the people of the 116th Pz Div awhile ago when the line went out. Ans: Mr. Lipinski reads paragraph 5 of PW interrogation report of 17 April 1945 of Lt. Valtin, PWI. G-2; How many PWs for the day? Capt. Hall had said that there were over 600. Ans: The last figure was 574. The Recon people called and said that they had 51, that would make 625.
- 0020 - Lt. Lewis, 2nd Bn reports; E and L Co's report everything OK. F Co has just arrived at the I Co positions and are relieving now.
- 002a - Mr. Lipinski to G-3; Negative report. F Co relieving I Co.
- 0035 - Lt. Valtin, PWI, reports; PWs turned in by our 2nd Bn; 1 from 26th Repl and Trng Bn; 3 from Battle Grp KUBLER; 1 straggler. 7 enemy dressed in civilian clothes. Battle Group WITTE has about 250 men who participated in the defense of TANNE. Some scattered stragglers from BG ZORGE are probably still in the area. BG KUBLER was committed this morning in the vicinity of 000470.
- 0037 - 3rd Bn reports; K Co reported a couple of rounds of 88mm tank fire, coming from an azimuth of 20° and 1300 yards from the 3rd platoon area, and landing 300 yards from the 3rd platoon positions. Also heard some vehicular movement but couldn't tell much about the direction because of the weather. (it is raining).
- 0110 - Blue Bn reports negative.
- 0113 - Lt. Valtin, PWI reports; 53 PWs from the 1st Recon. - 30 from BG KOPKA, 559 Panther Bn; 6 from BG Meyer; 4 from Supply Units of the 116th Pz Div; 2 from 271 Arty Repl and Trng Bn; 4 from BG FALLEBRACHT; 4 from BG WINZER; 3 stragglers. BG KIPKA was on near guard mission in the WIEDA area and had about 50 men. They have been away from the 559th Panther Bn, which is in the north Harz, since 12 April. The Bn has no tanks left, they were lost in the Frankfurt area.
- 0140 - Sgt. Kerber, 2nd Bn reports; F Completed relief of I Co at 0132 hours. Negative report.
- 0200 - Mr. Lipinski to G-3; Negative report.
- 0205 - Blue Bn reports negative.
- 0210 - Message - From CG 1st Div to CG 16th Inf; Report number of prisoners as of 2100 hours. (172100). Filed at 172100.

18 April 1945

- 0210 - Message - From CG 1st Div to GO 16th Inf; 1st Division continues attack at 180600 in new zone of action to eliminate all enemy resistance, in Div zone and relieve all elements of 9th Div in 1st Div zone. Signed 2130B. Via 193.
- 0330 - Blue CP - Negative report.
- 0330 - Lt. Kestlinger to White CP; Anything new? Ans; Negative.
- 0333 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3; Negative for past hour.
- 0400 - Blue CP; Negative.
- 0420 - Lt. Kestlinger to White CP; What's the score? Ans; No communication with F Co, otherwise all quiet.
- 0425 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3; All quiet down here.
- 0453 - White; Negative.
- 0455 - Blue; Negative.
- 0500 - Lt. Stephens to G-3; Negative report.
- 0630 - Blue; Negative report.
- 0631 - G-3 to Lt. Stephens; Did they take off yet? Ans; Start at 0700 hours.
- 0650 - G-3 to Lt. Stephens; Town that your White has to go throw in 26th area is cleared. 26th up to 038535.
- 0700 - Maj. Edmond Red 5 to Lt. Stephens; Red passed IP at 0700 hours.
- 0705 - Capt. Elder White to Lt. Stephens; We jumped at 0700 hours.
- 0720 - Red 5 to S-3; Engrs did not eat, as S-4 would not give them rations. They say they are only in support of us and not attached to us. S-3; I'll talk to S-4 on it. (Red 3) B and C Co's leading abreast, with C on the right and B on the left. A Co is in reserve and C Co is responsible for the road.
- 0725 - Blue 6 to S-3; I Co has crossed thier initial IP and are building up on line of departure. I plan to drop off road blocks on all roads as I go up. S-3; 1st Bn had patrol last night up to 1000 yards W of measel point 113. Engrs cleared 2 road blocks up to that point. Blue, moving out with I on the East side of the road and K on the west. "L" will be trailing.

18 April 1945

- 0805 - Capt. Kolb to Maj. White; B and C Co's still moving; no contact as yet. S-3; Are they between the crossroad and the main road? Ans; They are advancing ~~on~~ the main road. Jumped off at 0700B. They should be at RJ S of Pt 132. (Maj. White reviews 2nd and 3rd Bns situation). ~~(206820)(S-1)~~
- 0810 - Capt. Booth to Maj. White; At 126(076502)CRJ 2 enemy tanks and Inf. K Co held up there temporarily. I Co - 400 yards S of that pt. I Co is in the R; K, on the L. S-3; How much fire are you getting? Ans; It is undetermined. (Review of sitrep).
- 0812 - Sgt. McGill (Blue); Temporary Fwd CP at 068487.
- 0813 - 3rd Bn reports; K Co meeting considerable activity at Pt 126. Tanks and Inf are there. We are going to put arty on it.
- 0820 - White 3 to S-3; F Co is at 039495 meeting increased resistance, mostly small arms fire.
- 0824 - Red 3 to S-3; We are at 132 now. S-3; F is at 039495. Blue meeting tanks and infantry at 126.
- 0825 - 3rd Bn reports; I Co 700 yards South of 126.
- 0832 - White 3 to Lt. Stephens; F Co in about the same place 039495. G Co approaching Pt 13, where F attacked from. Will move E Co there when G moves out. In front of E Co there is a lot of roads and trails. So far they took 20 PWs from there.
- 0900 - Blue 3 to S-3; Were held up at 126 by tank fire. PW reports that tanks pulled back 1 kilo. I and K are up at 126. L Co same place as yesterday. S-3; F Co at 039495 meeting lots small arms fire. B and C at 132 as of 0820 hours. No report on 1st Recon yet.
- 0901 - Message from G-4; GM - Rations, GRS Pt 2 Div WP D-029363, Ord - D 035353 - DRO - D 028362, Sig - D - 033362, Clr Station - D- 033367, PW Cage - D - 035355. Under no conditions will PWs be delivered to Division MPs. Attached units will deliver PWs directly to the Div Cage.
- 0907 - Red 3 to S-3; C Co at 127 and still moving. S-3; At 0900 hours Blue reports 2 Co's at 126 at the road junction. Tanks that were holding them up have withdrawn 1000 yards according to a PW. (Red) B Co at 089500.
- 0933 - S-3 to White 3; C at 127, B 800 yards along road to SW of that. They are on either side of the road. I and K at 126, 1 same place as last night. 2 tanks and Inf were at 126 but they have pulled out towards the East. (White) I have no definite locations as yet.
- 0922 - White 3 to S-3; F at 034504 meeting heavy small arms and machine gun fire. They have 100 PWs.

18 April 1945

- 0930 - S-3 is notified that the 1st Engrs can be had thru 1st Bn. R rings on the S-4 line of 1st Bn.
- 0943 - Maj. White, S-3 to G-3: The following are our company positions, as of 0914 hours: C at 098505, leading elements of 1st Bn; B at 089501; I at 078502; K at 074502; L at 062488 where they were, and in reserve. F at 032504, encountering small arms fire. G at 042489. E at 025483, have taken some PWs. White Bn has taken around 100 PWs. I and R of the 26th moving down road towards E Co., 022483. I&R of the 26th going from the town of "B" going to open up the road to E Company - West and then north. S-3: W. have contacted 18th thru A Company by patrol. A is in reserve, following B Co. Our advance got off at 0600 hours. Up in front of 3rd Bn there are 2 tanks, and infantry, these have pulled off to the East. They were where I and K Cos are now. G-3: How are you using the 1st Recon? S-3: They are with 2nd Bn, clearing area between 2nd Bn and 3rd Bn - the wooded area. G-3: There has been some thought of taking them back under Div control for contact between you and the 18th. S-3: That is a mission for a much smaller group. Have a platoon that can do that. G-3: Tell E Company to be on the look out for the 26ths I&R.
- 0957 - S-3 to CO, 1st Recon: Can the platoon that came in be ready to go by noon? Ans: I think so. S-3: Want to use them as a contact between our units and the 18th Inf. Come up here about 1100 hours.
- 1000 - S-3 to White 3: I&R of the 26th coming down towards E Co, going to turn North and go up those roads. Be on the look out for them. White 3: F is now at 031512. Going to move the CP up where G is, you can contact us through the Blue board.
- 1007 - Col. Wozanski, Blue 6, to S-3: Have advance I Co to push on up. I is moving NE towards L26; K is there. The road block at L26 has to be cleared up. S-3: Capt. Murphy is coming up. Blue 6: The tanks are still firing at the enemy at the underpass; the south one is blown, the north one is prepared for demolition. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Will probably need engineers all of the way. Send them up to the CP at TANNE. PWs report that there are 250 enemy to our front, 2 SPs and not tanks as we said before. S-3: Gives situation as of this hour - F At 031512 and C at Pt 121, as latest locations. ~~XXXX-~~
- 1010 - Col. Driscoll Red 6 to Capt. Hall C Co at 110514 they report enemy vehicles at 105515. B Co at Pt 121 and will go East.
- 1015 - Lt. Hoffman Red 2 to Capt. Hall: The 4 PWs we picked up do not know what units they are from, they say they saw 2 tiger tanks at Elend. They were picked up at Pt 132. Every 3rd man of their outfit armed with a Panzerfaust.
- 1020 - Lt. Valtin, PWI reports: 2 PWs battle grp Geldern. From 1st Bn; 2 PWs from Battle Grp Meyer; 5 PWs from Engr Bn Ehrh; From 2nd Bn: 8 PWs from Geldern; 5 from Stragglers; 2 from Geldern; from 3rd Bn; 4 from Meyer; 3 from Supply unit 116 Panzer; 3 from Battle Grp Ernst; 2 stragglers.



18 April 1945

- 1025 - Blue 3 <sup>1/6</sup> Capt. Booth to S-3: K now 800 yards NE of Pt 126. I now 500 yards East of Pt 126. Our Fwd CP moving to Pt 126. The road block is still in at Pt 126. S-3: The Engrs are coming up. Leave someone at your CP to direct them up there.
- 1035 - ~~647.~~ <sup>646.</sup> Wineberg, Blue Bn, to Lt. Kestlinger: 7 Able OP reports enemy tank and 2 vehicles at 092527.
- 1050 - Major Green G-3 to Maj White S-3: The platoon of Danger Recon that came up to you last night are to revert to Division control and are to report to Division CP right away. 26th Inf reports that a 3 car electric train came into their position. It was loaded with troops, they are taking care of them.
- 1051 - Capt. Hall S-2 to G-2: 2nd Bn has taken about 100 FWS this morning. At 083504 there are about 250 enemy and 2 SPs, they are being fired on. The SPs have been quiet of late. FW report given report of 1020 hours.).
- 1054 - ~~1054~~ S-3 to CO, 1st Recon: The platoon you have with you reverts to Division control and they are to report immediately to Division. Ans: Our 3rd platoon just knocked out two enemy half tracks, going N, at 050505 - in that vicinity. The 2nd platoon is just going around the road block at 031509, heading East. Do you contemplate moving your CP today? S-3: No, and it will be late in the afternoon if we do; we will follow route of 3rd Bn when we move.
- 1055 - 3rd Bn reports: K co 500 yards beyond phase line "B".
- 1100 - White 3 to S-2: F Co at 035525 there is an enemy road block there that they are trying to by-pass.
- 1100 - White 3 to S-3: Our CP is in its new location at 049479. F Co at 035515 in a fire fight. Platoon of tanks with them. The 1st Recon has their 2nd Platoon 400 yards west of Pt 125; have taken 2 FWS. Their 3rd platoon is due north of Pt 131, about 500 yards on road east and west. They destroyed the two half tracks, the personnel and took 1 FW. Enemy road block at 031509, they by-passed it.
- 1110 - S-3 to Red 5: The 18th Inf wants contact with us, when we get that far, at the following points - 170526, 189542, and 201550. Red 5: Why doesn't the 18th come up and contact us at those points. We are attacking with 2 companies and can't spare the men. S-3: You keep the points in mind and I'll send a liaison over to see what can be done. Red 5: The main road is clear and can be used by vehicles as far as 094503. We are taking a few FWS.
- 1117 - White 3 to S-3: F Company Fwd elements at Pt 27.

18 April 1945

- 1122 - Message from I&R: Observed about 25 men moving NE at 1055, also several small vehicles moving back and forth - no panels.
- 1124 - Maj. Crocker, ASP to S-3: Might have some planes within the next couple of hours. Do you have any targets? S-2: 2 tanks reported in vicinity of 091522; SE and SW of that. Also movement reported NE of that. ASP: Will not use planes on any target within 2000 yards of your reported positions without notifying you. S-3: You could put them on the town at 087543, and in that area. The next couple of hours would be OK on this.
- 1125 - Lt. Col. Wozenski, Blme 6 to S-2: I Co at 500 yards NW 127. K Company abreast of them, on the other side of the road. Some artillery is coming in. The tanks get past the good block at Pt 126, there were 200 yards of trees felled there.
- 1127 - Red 5 to S-3: The Colonel said the 1st and 3rd contact points where the 18th are at. The 2nd will be OK when we have reached the final objective.
- 1130 - 7th FA Air OP reports: At 093533, Enemy tank and 3 vehicles. At 092526 enemy tank column going south. 50 Inf going to truck column, crossing foot bridges. 11 enemy camouflaged and vehicles moving from 087544 to 091546.
- 1133 - S-2 to Red 2: Gives the above air OP reports. Red 2: Have 6 SS men who were only in the Army 6 weeks.
- 1135 - Lt. Valtin PWI reports: PWs taken by 1st Engrs: 2 stragglers; 3 PWs battle Grp HERSCHFELD; 5, 326th QM; 5 Battle Grp GELDERN; 3 from 271st Arty Trng Bn. Battle group Geldern are remnants of Panzer R<sub>g</sub> com Trng Bn. They have 120 men left.
- 1150 - S-2 to G-2: Gives the infor from cub and our PW information as previously listed.
- 1155 - 7th FA Air OP reports: At 096536 enemy Inf crossing foot bridge; estimate 100. At 088544 Enemy unloading from trucks; going into 093541, the woods.
- 1159 - S-3 to Red 3: Gives Air OP reports of 1155 hrs. Also gives locations of I Co as 800 yds N of 127. Red: A Co has 1 platoon at road junction 800 yds SW of 127. S-2: F Co is in town of Elend.
- 1200 - Msg: CO, 16th Inf from CG, 1st Div: 1 platoon and recon troops is detached 16th Inf effective 181045B and comes under Div control. Time signed 1120B.

18 April 1945

- 1210 - S-3 to G-3: Out of Communication with White and Blue. Last report has F Co on Southern edge of town of Eland. 1st Recon had 2nd platoon at 043508, 3rd platoon to 050504. I Co is up at 095513, K Co is at 089509. Lot activity in 0952, 0953, 0854 grid square. G-3: 2/26th at 005565 going East. At 0600 hours tomorrow be prepared to lose the balance of the 1st Recon in the vicinity of BENNECKENSTEIN.
- 1220 - G-3 to S-2: Want to check some roads with you. Ans: OK. G-3: Road from BRAUNLAGE to road junction at 997473 open up to 015480. The road goes down makes big loop into HOHRGEISS. Is that open? S-2: Yes it is.
- 1238 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Walker Blue 2: What is L Co's present position? Ans: L is at Pt 126. K Co is 500 yds short of phase line 3 (500 yards short of Pt 108). S-3: Do you have enough engns? Ans: At present time yes. Are they attached to us? S-3: No, but hold on to them. We are going to try to get air on ROTHEHUTE (0854) this afternoon, is it OK with you? Ans: Yes but take it easy. I Co is 400 yards east of Pt 108. Can you give me any information? Ans: F Co is at 044535. G in process of moving to 035525. E is moving to 034503. C is at 107512. B is at 090500. Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Ballard: Where is Blue Fwd CP? Ans: They are up at 126.
- 1250 - White 3 to Lt. Kestlinger: F at Pt 29., (043535), has 257 PWs. G At Pt 24 (035525) going to Pt 25 (035525). B has 35 PWs. 1st Recon, 1st squad, has 2 PWs; 2 squad, 13 PWs. E got two half tracks and one 20mm gun. E moving to pt 22 (034502), will stay there until G clears Pt 25 (035525), and then move up to there. Hospital captured, 200 enemy wounded and sick; one squad guarding it. CP moving to Eland, with only have 284 radio to Regt.
- 1255 - Col. Driscoll Red 6 to Capt. Ralph Comm O: B Co ran into lot of stuff north of Pt 121 (108519). About 30 PWs taken. Cis 100 yards NE of Pt 96. Stricklen was killed.
- 1305 - 7th FA Air OP reports: 5 SPs vicinity saw mill, 091531, with inf. Some SPs on east side river at same pt.
- 1306 - Above message sent to 3rd Bn.
- 1315 - Red 2 to Lt. Keslinger: 25 PWs from "C"; 29 from 1st Engr platoon; 13 from SS Panzer, 7th Co, 5th Regt; 1 from 8th Regt, 3rd Para. Believe Col. Becker captured.
- 1320 - Maj. White to Maj. Green G-3: What is the 26th doing now? Ans: I will call you back and give you their exact plans. S-3: At 060544, if they work over that direction, it will relieve us some. F is at 044535. G at 033525 moving N. E - 033504. I is at 100520. K at 093518. L at 077502. C is up at 137530. B is at 105514. Part of A in vic of 095505. 2nd Bn picked up about 250 PWs. Ran into lot of small arms. Blue ran into some SP guns.

18 April 1945

- 1325 - Lt. Kestlinger to 1st Recon: At 0600 in morning you might revert to Division control. I just wanted to let you know. I will give you a call if I hear anything more. Ans: My one platoon ran into platoon of infantry dug in at 058500 and they are working them over now. They can take care of them OK.
- 1326 - Maj. White to Capt. Elder, White:3: What is the latest poop? Ans: F is on 05 line. G is at pt 25. E is at 22. S-3: Send at least one co out road 119107 and rest of Bn up main road. White 3: Recon met enemy dug in 400 yards east of 131. Other platoon behind K Co, waiting for them to clear road junction. They came on road 125 to 126. Then I think they are going east. Other platoon now heading for 123. Total of 447 PWs.
- 1334 - S-2 to G-2: Gives the latest Air OP report, and report from I&M OP. G-2: 26th Inf reports about 600 PWs so far today.
- 1338 - Capt. Hall to Lt. Walker, Blue 2: The cub saw, around the sawmill and houses at 091531, 5 SPGs this morning. Also there were, on the E side of the river across from that same point 093530, 50 enemy reported at 091522.
- 1345 - Cannon Co to S-3: Understand I'm in support of 1st Bn? S-3: Yes, you are.
- 1350 - Blue 2 to S-3: Can you give me the locations of 1st Bn? S-3: C 137531, B 104513, platoon of A at 127. Blue 6: Here's our latest - I Co just shoved off for high ground NE of 108; K Co ready on other side of the road. I am 100 yards S of 108. L Co coming up right behind me. Hear small arms and maybe mortar fire in woods to the west. S-3: F Co 400 yards short of 92; G, 1000 yards S of town; E 300 yards N of 50 grid line. Platoon from Recon 400 yards E of 131. 2nd Bn - got 447 PWs. Have a report of a tank and Inf at 063538. Blue 2: Knocked out an SP gun in vicinity of 093520.
- 1359 - S-3 to Red 3: What's new? Ans: B and C Co at 96, A moving fwd going to 121.
- 1400 - S-3 to Blue 3: B and C at Pt 96. A at 121, or will be shortly. The route that 1st Bn took today up to cross roads 1000 yards SW of 132, is now open. You can use it. The Engrs have fixed it up. Cannon Co is in direct support of 1st Bn.
- 1405 - Maj. Crocker (Div Air Off): Reports: Planes are working over the town at 1257. It's a column of 150 vehicles and 2 tanks moving East. Planes have been notified that your units are 2 miles to the South. Planes under control of Div to your north, but we are listening in.
- 1406 - Clerk to Blue 3: Gives above info of 1405 hours.
- 1407 - Clerk to Red 3: Same as above.

18 April 1945

- 1415 - Capt. Oeleze G-2 to Capt. Hall: (Same message as recorded 1405B). The 26th has some elements at 010564. (Capt. Hall reviews the intelligence and situation summary).
- 1423 - Danger Recon - Enemy blew bridge at ~~XXXX~~ 092522.
- 1423 - G-3 to S-2: 26th is not going to move their Red Bn until their 2nd Bn gets consolidated on their objective.
- 1425 - Message to CO, 2nd Bn - Friendly aircraft working over ELBINGERODE - 115564.
- 1430 - Blue 3 to S-3: I Co 400 yards SE of 94. They can observe Pt 94 and enemy is setting off demolitions, must be bridges. K Co 200 yards NW of ~~pt~~ 108. L Co 1200 yards from 108. K Co is still moving. We contacted platoon of 1st Recon.
- 1435 - Message to CO, 2nd Bn: Our units now 400 yards S of Pt 94.
- 1440 - Message from CO, 2nd BN: CP located at 043536.
- 1443 - Blue 6 to S-3: I Co wants all arty fire lifted from Pt 94. They report they have units there.
- 1445 - Blue 3 to S-3: I Co at east side of town at 94. Want all arty there lifted. S-3: Blue 6 has already notified us.
- 1450 - Message to I&R Platoon: Report your location.
- 1453 - Maj. Sandell 7th FA to Capt. Thomas, 7th FA: Are you firing at Pt 94? Capt. Thomas - just completed a mission. Ans: Lift fire, I Co is approaching there".
- 1455 - Capt. Oeleze G-2 to Capt. Hall: Planes knocked out between 40 and 50 vehicles. Report 150 - 200 more leaving there. Calling in more planes. TAC report for 171640B Apr: D-2253, 40 bicycle troops going S; D-2155, 50 vehicles closed in and 100 troops on bicycles going E; D-2153, 75 vehicles and 50 ambulances; D-2257, 13 large vehicles and 6 with troops.; D-1958, 20 vehicles going E. In ELBINGERODE, 20 ambulances. D-1555, 100 vehicles and 50 bicycles troops, 2 gasoline trucks all going NE., in vicinity of ELBINGERODE. All roads congested with vehicles, bicycles troops and a few tanks.
- 1500 - Red 6 to S-3: What have you on Blue? S-3: I Co at East side of town at 94. K moving up on other side of the road. Red: I'm at 121. Have pushed A Co up to clear up stuff to the north.

18 April 1945

- 1505 - Lt. Hoffman Red 2 to Capt. Hall: 27 more PWs; 2 from 5th Parachute Div who came here 8 days ago. The 13, 14 and 15 regts here. Rest rear echelon troops. A PW stated in the town of MUEBELAND, arty has moved out & as of last night; very few troops in town; no tanks. PW was a truck driver; went to ELBINGERODE to contact someone - failed; upon taken away from him there; later in his way back, picked up by our troops. 481 PWs: AIRCHFELD - 8; Meyer 14; Schmiedeberg 7; Hosp Wietfeld 174; 271 Arty Repl Bn 107; 246 AA Bn 16; NCO School Eisenach 20; Sup Unit 116 Pz Div 24; Conv Co of 5th Para Div 12; 325 Sig Bn 11; BG Witt 10; 398 Repl Bn 2; Searchlight Btry Hotls 2; Straggler - 23; 688 Engr Brig - 6; BG Jordan 8; 531 Motor Park -29; BG Geldern - 6.
- 1516 - Message to CO 16th from I&R platoon: Road blocked at 11854. Most traffic at 100550 was moving NE. Arty and Air Corps working area over good.
- 1524 - Maj. Crocker Div Air Officer to S-3: Would like to put planes over 1257. S-3: That's OK, as long as you keep it over 1257. Our furthest elements at 095524.
- 1525 - Message from I&R: Along main stem at 515, proceeding on foot. Time 1510. RADIO - CO 2nd Bn to CO 16th Inf: Fox in fight with tanks and infantry E of 92. G now moving out road to 119 E and Bn CP at our Pt 29.
- 1527 - Capt. Hall to Maj. Lauten - "I have a problem. This morning our 2nd Bn took the town of WITTSFELD - 035501 - there is a hospital there and we got 174 PWs - with VD. I am sending them back to hospital. Our 2nd Bn will guard the hospital until tomorrow. Will you see that some one relieves them? Ans: I will contact Corps and see if they can get somebody.
- 1530 - Lt. Valtin, PWI to Capt. Hall: 58 more Krauts: B Gp Drall-6; 271 Arty repl -5; Mtr Park 7/IV - 20; 531 Mtr Park -24; Con Co 5th Para Div -2; Straggler, 1.
- 1537 - Maj. Lauten G-2 to Capt. Hall: I talked with G-4 and they will get a Belgian Gd from Corps. It may take 2 days for your people. They will get them down there as soon as possible.
- 1538 - Capt. Hall to Capt. Belez: PW identifications as recorded in journal. Total today 507, including those in the hospital.
- 1550 - Maj. Edmond Red 5 to Maj. White: ~~XXX~~ B and C past 97, they captured 9 trucks.
- 1600 - S-2 to G-2: Gives following air OP reports: 1600 hrs 100 enemy moving NE from 094536, 1605 hrs, 200 enemy moving NE at 091545; 1620 hrs, 500 enemy moving E at 079552. Bfidge at 04855505 was blown as of 1620 hrs. 1st Bn reports 9 enemy trucks captured at 051537. Also 3 staff officers, a major and 2 captains, of the 5th Para Div now in Regtl Cage.

18 April 1945

- 1608 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3; Gives the locations of our companies and the situation of this hour as previously listed. G-3; 26th Inf situation is getting much better. Their E Co is on the western edge of 0255. F Co coming in on it from the SW. It looks as if it is folding up. As of a couple of hours ago they had upwards of 1100-1200 PWs.
- 1615 - Maj. Carter, 18th Inf S-2 to S-2; I understand you are fixed to go into the town of R. You just fired an artillery mission on 082548, and there were 30 or 4 Mark IV or V's there. PWs say the fire was very effective. The PWs say there are quite a few enemy in the town. There have been quite a few casualties from artillery there - about 15. S-3 gives locations of our companies and direction of movement as previously listed. Maj. Carter; We had trouble on the hill, initial objective, had to go around and come in from the other side. We contacted the 85th Div, OGS boys and they seemed to want to make a fight of it. It is looking better now. We are on the initial objective now. I Co is on the SW edge of our objective, "H". K is way over on the southern edge of "J" objective. White is on the initial objective.
- 1620 - Lt. Hoffman Red 2 to Maj. White; Our forward CP at Pt 96. We have 101 PWs today. One of them is a SS thought to be in on some of the Belgium jobs.
- 1640 - Capt. Booth, Blue 3 to Maj. White S-3; I and K Co at Pt 94 in town there is a pocket west of L Co they asked for a tank. 31 PWs were picked up at Pt 108 at 102544 enemy infantry and 4 SP gun is reported.
- 1640 - Red 2 reports; Got a couple hundred PWs coming into the Regtl cage, send 5 trucks for them.
- 1645 - Radio Intercept; From 3rd Bn; I and K companies in town at Pt 94. L Co clearing west of road between 108 and 94. Resistance light.
- 1645 - Sgt Wheeler, ~~XXXX~~ I&R reports; C and B companies 300 yards north of Pt 97. Resistance at Pt 97 ended. 180 PWs and 12 vehicles captured at Pt 97. ~~XXX~~ Another 9 vehicles captured at Pt 96; Gos moving forward. Friendly planes firing considerable 20mm flak in front of their positions, (1st Bn).
- 1645 - Maj. Crocker ASP to Lt. Kestlinger; The air that just warked, said that RUBELAND turned out to be as juicy a target as they had ever seen, EL BINGERODE was not as good as RUBELAND. The road NE along the stream had bumper to bumper traffic. Another mission is on the way. They saw our panels on the hill. Can your companies hold up on this hill for about an hour? Ans; No, the Colonel says to have the planes watch our panels very carefully before going in on the target and to use their best judgement before going in.

18 April 1945

- 1650 - Maj. White S-3 to Col. Driscoll Red 6; The air reports they want to hit **X** RUHELAND, possibly you can hit it with 4.2s.
- 1657 - Camel Blue (87 Cheml Mortars) pulled their board.
- 1700 - Maj. White S-3 to G-3; Front line situation given PW report given. There has been some arty on Blue and Red Bn. The recon is working the 0852 and 0550 grid square. The recon will be lost to you at 0600 hours tomorrow morning. The 18th has had trouble with hill 510 NE HASSFELT. G/18 180500, F 170495, I 208500, K 245505, L following.
- 1705 - Lt. Valtin to S-2; Div cage had 3000 PWs when I was there. The document that I have indicate BG WITTE consisted of 688 Engr Brigade and the 1st Btry of 271 Arty Repl and Training Regt and a part of Division WORGITZK. Identification: 2 from 271 Arty; 2 from NCO School; 3 officers from 5th Para; 2 from BG WITTE; 5 from BG Rauschfeld; 5 from the Meyer; 5 stragglers.
- 1709 - S-2 to Blue Lt. Johnson; Get this message to your forward as soon as possible - Cub reports enemy infantry at 096532, behind I and K Cos.
- 1710 - Col. Driscoll Red 6 to Maj. White S-3; C Co 200 yards SW of 73 we are getting some tank fire.
- 1711 - S-2 gives G-2 above PW identifications and PW information as previously listed. 1st Bn reports 75 vehicles in their area - probably troops of the 5th Para.
- 1725 - Capt. Booth, Blue 3 to Lt. Kestlinger; We have cleared woods West of road between 108 and 94. Putting road block at 108, a platoon of L, and balance of L will move into town with K and I. The town is clear, tanks moving up, and CP moving into the town. Will keep pushing for objective.
- 1800 - MESSAGE; From 2nd Bn to CO 16th, Fox definitely held up by 4 tanks and estimate 100 to 400 Inf. We are now moving easy to S to launch two company attack. George is fighting dug in infantry at 119. Have ordered George to continue to 107 expect to jump at 1800.
- 1800 - Lt. Valtin PWI to Clerk; PWs from 3rd Bn; 8 from 5SS Pz Repl Bn; 33 from BG Bernike, 3 from BG WITTE. 6 stragglers.
- 1805 - Maj. White S-3 to Lt Recon Troop; Where is your 3rd platoon? Ans: Just North of TANNE. S-3; Where is 2nd platoon? Ans: 2nd platoon at 048511. S-3; You stay with us to 0600 hours in the morning so we may use you for security purposes tonight. I will call you back.
- 1810 - 18th Inf S-3 to Lt. Kestlinger; We got banged up quite a bit today. G Co at road junction at 178506 and have it secured. E Co will pass then G and up to 172520. F will pass thru G Co and push to high ground to 185520. G will go to high ground at 200539. Will secure road junction at 200539. Blue has been hung up all afternoon. I Co is at 205499. K - 239505. L Co behind them. We won't stop till we have our objectives. Blue will stop at road junction at 52 easting. 60th Inf on right finally took objective; in the 2048 grid and will hold up there. We took about 150 PWs for today. Gave our positions.



18 April 1945

- 1840 - Sgt. Wheeler (OP) to Clerk: At 1730 hrs saw 20 to 30 enemy moving NE along trail at 090550. Also several small vehicles. Motor pool of several large vehicles started moving eastward from vicinity 080553. Apparently hiding from aircr aft.
- 1848 - Col. Wozenski Blue 6 to Maj. White: I have I Co in on NE branch on high ground (I am at 94). K on high ground due N of town. I was going to send L Co towards 80 but I have a platoon as road block at 108 and they have been outflanked by about 60 enemy so I sent another platoon from L. Ans: I will call you (Recon), and send them right out to help. Do you think you can get to 80 tonight? Blue 6: I think so. Right now I can't push because there are Germans on both sides of me. I have 150 to 200 PWs here in town now. S-3: The Recon will be up to help you.
- 1845 - Lt. Stephens to 1st Recon: That platoon of yours that is sitting around has a mission, and I am going up there to give it to them on my out to 2nd Bn. They are to go to 091522, work west from there towards our "G". Can you give me the location of that platoon? 1st Recon: Platoon is at 061487, the other platoon is right behind you, "G" company.
- 1850 - Maj. White to 1st Recon: Want you to get that third squad up to Pt 108 to help a platoon of L on that block, there are about 60 jerries around there. 1st Recon: I will get that message out right away.
- 1905 - Msg fr 7th FA OP: E attack at Pt 93 between G and F, 099547, enemy half track and personnel. G at 107.
- 1925 - Maj. Edmonds Med 5 to Maj. White: B and G Co's are in town.
- 1930 - 1st Recon Bn to Maj. White: Our 2nd platoon with G Co moving E is 700 or 800 yards short of 108.
- 1930 - Lt. Valtin, PWI: 6 - from 26th Div. 6 from supply, 116 Pz, 37 from 271 Repl Bn. 1 straggler.
- 1932 - Maj. Sandell, 7th FA: Cub reports friendly planes strafing 045535, behind r Co.
- 1933 - G-2 to Maj. White: S-3 - (Same as above - 1932b) Our 1st Bn is on their objective as shown on overlay.
- 1935 - Maj. White to Lt. Oswald G-3: (Cub report as of 1932b). ASP: to Maj. White: They are working a good 10,000 yards N of that
- 1950 - Lt. Walker blue 2 to Capt. Hall: I am sending down some people for investigation. S-2: Send a slip down with them. B-2: There's also supposed to be a hospital here it isn't cleared as yet. S-2: When you do, put a guard on it. Get the hosp Comdr and tell him he is responsible for actions for all in the hosp. S-2: Any PW camps? G-2: None reported. TDs are knocking stuff out, going into the town in front of I Co.

18 April 1945

- 1959 - Danger recon to Maj. White: Our 3rd Platoon is at 108. There's a tree road block (Felled trees) and 30 enemy. They are trying to pass trees and go over there. 2nd Platoon is moving a behind G Co.
- 2000 - Lt. Valtin MHI: 15 PWs from trains of 98 Regt 276 Div - 100 from 271 Arty Repl Bn - 47 from Sailor QM, Company. 2 from 5th SS Repl Bn.
- 2001 - Msg re: Buttoning up at 93 - easy will push thru road for objective. G Co is moving from 107 to Pt N of Pt 80. (From 2nd Bn).
- 2001 - Capt. Elder white 3 to Maj. white: Our L Co is at 065530; G Co Pt 107 going N to 80 now. F Co has with them assistance of the artillery - knocked out 2 MK V's; 3-40mm AA Guns; 1 - 105mm AT gun; 1-77mm AT gun 7 - trucks; 56 PWs. F Co is 300 yards W of Pt 93. K Co going to button up with F Co and pushing E Co thru road and head into our objective 71. Pushing G Co up on the N of K. They are moving. (Bn was strafed by friendly Planes).
- 2005 - Capt. Booth Blue 3 to Maj. white: Location of Co's: (See Opns map).
- 2010 - Lt. Kestlinger to Red Fwd: Line is out.
- 2020 - Lt. Kestlinger to Red 5: What's the location of A Co? Ans: Capt. Kolb couldn't tell me that.
- 2025 - Red 5 to Lt. Kestlinger: A Co is west of 97. They'll go into position at 97 for the night.
- 2025 - Capt. Booth Blue 3 to Maj. White: We have 2 road blocks out. L Co manning one road block. S-3: G Co and recon platoon should have the roads clear. I will have recon platoon take over the road block from L Co. B-3: G Co is up at Pt 94. There's also road block at Pt 126. S-3: I will have the recon take care of them.
- 2026 - Maj. white to Capt. Elder: Booth stated G Co is up at Pt 94. W-3: Good. Here's a message - 084523 will be cleared shortly. S-3: Get this to the 1st recon tr - clear road between 107 and 108. W-3: Hell, that should be cleared. 3rd platoon recon at 084523, moving W. 2nd Platoon at 108. S-3: 1 platoon to stay at 108 and block roads coming in from west; another at 126 and block the roads that come in from W.
- 2030 - Capt. Elder, white 3 to Lt. Kestlinger: Call 3rd Bn and have them get word to WOLF to go from 80 then to 71. L Co is also working towards 71.
- 2030 - 1st Recon to Lt. Stephens: Platoon that was heading west reached 084523. Platoon going East reached 091522. Ans: G Co is at 94 now. I'll call you later and let you know if you can pull your platoon back.

18 Apr 11, 1945

- 2035 - Capt. Hall to Lt. Chandler white 2: (Discussion of intelligence info).
- 2040 - G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: Want to check your company positions with you.  
Ans: Gives latest company dispositions.
- 2043 - Lt. Stephens to 1st Recon: Send 1 platoon to 108 and block to the west.  
Send 1 platoon to 126 and block to the west.
- 2100 - Maj. White G-3 to Capt. Elder: What are you hearing from your people?  
Ans: A rumor that a Co is on their objective. If so, we are going to send tanks to them. G-3: Have you talked with Booth? You may be able to get to them with the 3rd bn.
- 2102 - G-2 to G-2: Have 795 PWs so far. But will wind up with over 1000. Gives PW identifications. This is what we destroyed today. 2-2 1/2 tracks, 050505, 1 20mm gun 035501, 1 hospital 035501, 3 M V's 058538, 3 40mm AA guns, 1 105 mm gun, 1 75 mm gun, 1 SP gun 093520, 75 trucks 151537. 8 more trucks another area. 18th Inf has a report that says that their F Co had a fight on hill 510. (1745). They had to leave the hill and leave 10 to 15 M V's on it. When they retook the hill, they found that the Krauts had lined up all the wounded and shot them thru the head. PWs report that the shooting was ordered by a Sgt Reese, Stuben and Bittelmann. Bittelmann was evac thru our medics the other 2 are believed to be PWs, we are checking on it now. They are all from the 85th Rus Bn.
- 2106 - Maj. White to Capt. Booth Blue 3: Anything further on G Co? Blue 3: Cutler thought he saw elements of G Co at Pt 80. E Co has elements on it. K Co is on the high ground; I Co is at Pt 80. S-3: How about people on the road block? Ans: They came back. I Co is on the high ground. There's quite a few rounds of 20mm coming into town. S-3: How many casualties? did you have today? Ans: They are very light. S-3: What time do you want to push out tomorrow morning? Ans: 0500B. S-3: Don't make it later than 0700B. I told 2nd Bn to be prepared in case you get in any great difficulties, to assist you. There are a lot of krauts in the woods to the R of the 1st Bn. We may take I Co of 2nd Bn to help the 1st Bn. 1st Bn will push out to their final objective.
- 2135 - Maj. White to Sgt Wheeler I&R: We may have you run up to the 1st Bn. We are out of communication with them tonight, and we may have you police the MSR. I will call you in a few minutes and let you know what the plan is.
- 2135 - Maj. White to Maj. Elmond Red 5: What is situation? Ans: A Co will button up at Pt 97. Maj. W: We are trying to get the recon to work on the right flank it might be necessary to use a Co of White to do the job.
- 2150 - Msg: CO 16th Inf to CO 1st Bn: 2nd Bn on objective at Pt 71, 3rd Bn at Pt 80 and KONIGSHUTTE (095540). 3rd Bn attacks at 0500 19 April takes ELBINGRODE (11-56). 1st Bn continues to mop up 1st objective area 0600 19 April. Report this hq when possible for 1st Bn to move to final objective HUTTENRODE (185570).

18 April 1945

- 2200 - Maj. White to Sgt. Wheeler & R: After you go up to the new CP location in the morning I want you to patrol Pt 94 to 95 then to 97. It is between Blue and Red Bns ~~223~~
- 2230 - Lt. Stephens to Red 1, Capt. Brooks: Give us a call when Lt. Blenner returns and that the message was delivered.
- 2240 - Maj. Green, G-3 to Maj. White: The Recon will revert to Div control at 0600, the troop minus one platoon will contact between 18th and you. You can give them recommendations for patrolling, from your activity today. Maj. W: Plan for tomorrow given (2150 msg).
- 2245 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to Lt. Stephens: E Co at Pt 80 tied in with L physically. G left of E. F 92-93. Our objective is clear.
- 2250 - Lt. Valtin FWI to clerk: A PW reports that 11 Army HQ is in ALEXISBAD. It may deserve a air mission, there are not many civilians in town.
- 2322 - Col. Beck G-3 to Lt. Stephens: 18th Inf says there is indication of infiltration at ERAUFENSTEIN. Lt. S: We can't pull the recon from where they are.
- 2345 - Capt. Elder White 3 to Lt. Stephens: I think G Co on left of E Co but not sure. Patrol went from F to E with 4 tanks.
- 2355 - PW reports from PWID: From 2nd Bn: 5th Para Div-1; 116 Pz Div; 1; Meyer - 1; 507 AA Bn -2; 466 Signal Bn - 4; O.T.- 6; Volkssturm -2; Total -17. PWs from Regtl Hq Co: Trains 980 Regt 272 VGD -3; 531 Motor Park - 11. From 1st Bn: 271st Arty Repl and Trng Bn - 92; 281st Stomach bn;-6; Weapons QM Co -5; 85 Sig Bn (9th P.D.) -9; BG Barneike -6; 5th Para Div -15; BG Meyer -51; Hq 11 Army -52; 507th AA Bn-27; 688 Engr Brigade -34; 1st AT Bn-13; Div Woreitzki -1; NonCom School Eisenach -13; 277th VGD Trains -2; 601st Engr Bn -12; Econom. Sect, Army Group West -4; Hq 9th Corps -33; 531 Motor Park-5; 3rd March Co-10; 82nd Conv Co-2; BG LITZOW-2; BG Brem-6; 439th Sig Bn 3; 339th AA Bn -1; 1st Para Regt -1; 434 AA Bn - 1; 255 AA Bn 1; 6th Flash and Sound Co -1; Total 562. From 3rd Bn: 5th Para Div 45; 116 Pz Div -4; 326 VGD-3; 26 VGD-9; BG BREM-3; 271 Arty-26; 525 AA Bn-4; Hqs, 11th Army-5; Goslar Airport-6; 142 Sig Bn-3; BG Geldern-4; 60 AAA Regt-4; 1st AT Bn-8; 531 Motor Park -1; Hirschfeld-1; WITT-8; BG OISAU-3; 688 Engr Brig -1; 600 Engr Bn-2; Hqs, 9th Corps-4; 509 Sig Bn-2; Stragglers-12. Total 158.

19 April 1945

LOCATION: During the period the Regtl CP moved from BENNECKENSTEIN, 062464, to RUBEIAND, 143554, Germany.

- 0020 - Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co to Lt. Stephens: I have everything in position at pt 96 with 1st Bn. What happens tomorrow? Ans: 3rd Bn goes at 0500. 1st Bn will clean up where they are before they go farther.
- 0050 - G-3 to Lt. Stephens: The 1st Recon is to contact between 16th Inf and 18th Inf at first light and then start sweeping north on main road from TRAUTENSTEIN to HASSELFELD..
- 0054 - Lt. Stephens to 1st Recon: Above information given.
- 0100 - Lt. Stephens to Red 3: 3rd Bn jumps at 0500 hours. You sweep area where you are now and later in day you jump for your final objective. 2nd Bn consolidating and possibly will send one company over to help you.
- 0110 - 3rd Bn to Lt. Stephens: Negative. Everything is quiet.
- 0115 - Lt. Stephens to G-3: A little shooting going on in front of 1st Bn. Outside of that everything is negative.
- 0117 - 1st Bn to Lt. Stephens: We have contact with 1st Bn Fwd now by phone and Lt. Blenner arrived there with message for Col. Driscoll.
- 0130 - Lt. Chandler, White 2 to Mr. Lipinski: We now have phone communication with E and G Companies. You see Pt 80; L Co right flank cuts road NE of there. E Co right flank on high ground at 495 and then NW to 492 and then W to ROBIENSTEIN and due S to road junction at 545. G Co ties in at that point with them and defends the town over to Pt 80. E defends W of town. E from Pt 80 all around town. G Co S of town over to 80. E Co picked up 30 more PWs. Everything is quiet.
- 0200 - Blue 5 (Capt. Richmond) to Mr. Lipinski: Everything quiet here.
- 0210 - 1st Bn gives negative report.
- 0223 - Dag. White to Mr. Lipinski: Negative report.
- 0226 - Mr. Lipinski to Danger 3: Negative report.
- 0300 - Blue Capt. Richmond to Mr. Lipinski: Negative report.
- 0302 - Red CP to Mr. Lipinski: All very quiet.
- 0310 - Mr. Lipinski to G-3: Negative report for Dagwood.



19 April 1945

- 0408 - Red CP to Mr. Lipinski: All quiet.
- 0409 - Message from CG 1st Div: Effective 190600B - 1st Recon trp less 1 platoon detached CT 16th reverts Div control mission 19 April. Maintain contact between Elements 16th and 18th Inf sweeping North from line TANNE - TRAUTENSTEIN - HASSELFELD. Time 0100B.
- 0425 - Mr. Lipinski to Blue CP: What's new? Ans: All quiet. We are moving out at 0430 hours.
- 0427 - Mr. Lipinski to White CP: What's new? Ans: Everything is under control.
- 0430 - Mr. Lipinski to G-3: Everything under control here. Blue moved out at 0430 hours. CP moves sometime tomorrow before noon.
- 0445 - Blue CP to Lt. Kestlinger: I and L have just jumped off.
- 0600 - Danger 2 to Lt. Kestlinger: Anything to report for the night? Ans: Nothing.
- 0610 - Lt. Kestlinger to Red 3: How's things? Ans: OK. S-3: Blue went at 0500. No reports on them yet.
- 0612 - White Bn to Lt. Kestlinger: Negative report.
- 1645 - Col. Wozenski to Col. Horner: I and L in town, I believe. Jerry is putting some 20mm and 37mm AA into town, coming from Ft 57. I am at pt 94.
- 1645 - Lt. Kestlinger to Danger 3: We have jumped at 0500.
- 0710 - Lt. Llewellyn MP officer: 1911 PWs.
- 0715 - Blue 6 to Lt. Kestlinger: I and L in town, receiving AA fire from NE. Tanks and TDs are with Co's - Closed 1 TK and 1 TD Enemy out of town to the north.
- 0720 - Col. Wozenski, Blue 6 to Lt. Kestlinger: L and I on north edge of town. I on right. Got about 100 PWs.
- 0722 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Kelly G-3: Gives information that 3rd Bn is on objective and cleaning up.
- 0730 - S-2 to G-2: Same information as 0720 hours.

19 April 1945

- 0730 - Col. Wozenski, Blue 6 to Lt. Kestlinger: We are in the town and we see some fighter-bombers overhead. Will you notify the proper people?  
Ans: Yes, Sir.
- 0732 - Lt. Kestlinger to Maj. Crocker, ASP: Notifys of 3rd Bn being in ELBINGERODE. ASP will notify the planes.
- 0737 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Moore, 2nd Bn: Notifys that 3rd Bn on objective and have taken 100 PWs. (Same information given to Lt. Blenner, 1st Bn).
- 0747 - Blue 3, Capt. Booth to S-3: Two companies, I and I, are in the town. K, less one platoon going up there thru 81 and 72. The one platoon will skirt the woods around 71-56 and coming into town from the West. The Fwd OP will be going up soon. S-3: Try and contact 1st Bn when you get straightened around. (S-3 reports PW count of 18 April for the Regt as 1551).
- 0800 - S-3 to Red 3: How are things? Ans: Pretty good. S-3: Can you go for your objective soon? Red 3: Just as soon as we get this place cleaned. There are enemy all through these woods. C Co is working out towards Pt 74. A Co is coming from Pt 79, down the main road and into town. They will swing NE to get on the flank of C around Pts 73 and 60. As soon as this is all completed they will be ready to jump for the objective. B is working out the draw towards the factory. S-3: Continue on as you are and I will call you later. How about 96 to 73 and 83 to 97? Red 3: There is enemy in there, have one platoon of AT around Pt 97. There are still enemy there, after a short fire fight around here, with about 50 enemy, the enemy took off to the east and are on both sides of the MSR. There are enemy around the points you mentioned. Pts 97 to 73 will be our MSR (the road on the right), it is better. S-3: How is the road 73-83-95? Ans: I do not know. Can't give you any definite time on the jump. S-3: The 1st Recon, less one platoon, is going to work between us and the 18th Infantry.
- 0805 - S-3 to Lt. Moore, 2nd Bn: Where is your CP? Ans: Same place as where F Co had trouble yesterday. S-3: Do you have contact with E and G Company? Ans: We have wire to all of them now. S-3: Have White 3 call me.
- 0815 - Capt. Armstrong, 634th TDs to S-3: One of our M-8's returned from the Fwd CP and report that between here and there Fwd CP there are 60 to 70 enemy along the MSR. These enemy seem to have 4 or 5 American PWs. The enemy seems to be moving from West to East, between this town and the one forward.
- 0820 - The 3 Bns are notified that the present PW cage for Regt is closed and that no further PWs will be accepted at this location. The Bns will be notified when the new Fwd cage is opened. (Sgt Himper, MPs notified of the above).