

23 February 1945

- 0750 - Lt. Steonway, G-2 to Lt. Brown: You called up about some artillery fire on your B Co. Was that friendly fire? Ans: No. G-2: 13th Inf has 7 platoons over. Received some small arms, machine gun, and mortar fire, but encountered no mines. 28th Inf, has a Bn over. At least 25 PWs taken, more on way in. Only identification so far is 1st Co, 943rd Regt. 10th Div going very well. 30th Inf has 2 bridges in. 30th took town of SELGERSDORF.
- 0758 - Lt. Walker, Blue 2, to Lt. Brown: Negative report. S-2 gives latest information from items of this journal. (Same information given to Lt. Chandler, White 2).
- 0812 - I&R reports: Small arms fire in vicinity of NIEDERAU, very smoky.
- 0827 - Lt. Kestlinger reviews current situation to Capt. Carroll, 745th Tnk Bn.
- 0840 - I&R OP reports: At 0835 hours, eight of our friendly planes strafed the vicinity of STOCKHEIM at Pt 49. Friendly smoke screen north end of KREUZAU running 300 yards north.
- 0845 - 28th Inf to S-3: Hold up #6 Smoke Screen until we get more coordinates. Lost a lot of boats. We are going to recover as many as possible and make another attempt. You did a good job on stopping that artillery in KREUZAU.
- 0850 - Above information regarding smoke screen given to 90th Chml Wpns.
- 0858 - Blue Bn reports: At 0800 hours, a number of planes bombed points 33-47 and 48.
- 0900 - I&R OP reports: Small arms fire down around NIEDERAU again. Lot of smoke and artillery fire.
- 0912 - OP (I&R) reports: Planes strafed and bombed in vicinity of STOCKHEIM. North of KREUZAU, small arms fire has been observed.
- 0917 - Capt. Bker, 90th Chml Wpns, to Maj. Smith: We have been firing a couple of missions for 7th FA and have used about 600 rounds of ammo already, and was wondering if you knew about it. Ans: Right. When it gets up to 1000 rounds, let me know about it.
- 0950 - Red Bn reports: In the wooded area, 3rd Platoon B Co OP, observed 2 enemy with Red Cross Flag picking up wounded. We are not going to fire on them.
- 1005 - Capt. Oelze, G-2, reports: S-2 gives information on STOCKHEIM and asks for confirmation of people being on edge of woods. G-2: People are in front of woods, west of town. The 415th is at 295519. Started 4 bridges and finished 2 treadways. 3 PWs from the 27th Regt; 3 PWs from the 48th Regt; 12 PWs from 943rd Regt.

23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1010 - 28th Inf #3 to Maj. Smith: Start up #6 smoke screen again and hold until 1037 hours.
- 1011 - Start up smoke screen and keep it up at 118401 until 1037 hours.
- 1012 - I&R OP reports: Visibility poor, very hazy. Negative report.
- 1013 - G-3 to S-3: Have your people observed anything on your left? Ans: Not much, heavy smoke prevents it. We are firing 700 rounds of 7th FA for them, and it has helped them a great deal. Not much to report from them, communications up forward are not so good. G-3: What seems to be the enemy reaction? S-3: About the same - tells of Arty on B Co area. How are the other people doing? G-3: Very good, for such tough resistance. One foot bridge washed away.
- 1020 - Maj. Crocker, Air Sup. Party, to Lt. Brown: Tells of a number of airplanes which will recon over this area. Two Divisions north of us will have a whole group out on recon. If any trouble develops, let us know at once, I believe we can put the finger on it at once.
- 1025 - I&R OP reports: Our OP reports P-47's bombing and strafing road southwest of STOCKHEIM in the southeasterly side.
- 1032 - Red En reports: There are a group of 30 to 40 enemy with white sheet and red flag, they are without weapons. I believe that they want to give up. S-2: Have them come across creek. Ans: I'm trying to get them to do so but someone is firing WP on them. S-2: It is the 90th Chml Wpns, they are going to lift at 1037 hours.
- 1038 - 28th Inf S-3 to S-3: Need as much artillery in KREUZAU as possible; they are holding up the bridge. S-3: Will do.
- 1039 - S-3 to 90th Chml Wpns: Give KREUZAU as much artillery - HE and WP as you can. Ans: We are firing two missions for 7th FA. S-3: I'll call and arrange thru them. (Final arrangements made thru 7th FA - area to be smoked at 117403, 120403, down southeast to 122400).
- 1042 - S-2 to Capt. Brooks, Red En: Capt. Brooks: B Co observed 4 doggies frisking enemy grouped around "Red Cross Flag".
- 1045 - S-3 to 28th Inf S-3, Maj. Mellon: Tells of above item, and speaks of fire about to be laid on the area requested (KREUZAU).
- 1048 - S-2 to Capt. Baker, 90th Chml Wpns: Hold up on smoke mission; word that friendly troops may be in that area.
- 1052 - I&R OP reports: Bombing and strafing, by P-47's, in vicinity of STOCKHEIM. Previous to today, they received much flak. There were 8 of them over DROVE today, but drew no flak.
- 1055 - S-3 to Capt. Groves, Ammo Officer: We have fired 1000 rounds of smoke and we need 2000 more rounds. Get it and if you can't, call me. I will have the Colonel call the General.

23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1100 - Col. Driscoll, Red 6 from B Co CO: On this side of river there is one dead enemy, one dead American, one wounded American. Say mission was to knock-out machine gun nest this side of the river. In one group there were 6 enemy medics. 2 Americans on stretchers, 7 American walking wounded, going to the house in back of the green house. In the trenches along the river, 10 men seen moving, one man has a weapon, all the rest are medics, they are moving along the south edge of water toward the green house. There are 2 Americans and 2 enemy both carrying some stretchers. One American medic and one enemy medic carrying flags. 7 American medics in woods moving south, have Red Cross on helmets.
- 1105 - S-3 to 28th Inf S-3: Up in the vicinity of 118408 there are about 25 enemy with 4 doggies armed. Also saw enemy south of that with American medics. Opposite factory 119403, about 25 enemy going toward green house apparently unarmed. 28th Inf S-3: We have an interpreter standing on opposite bank trying to organize the enemy. If I find out anything new, I will call you back. S-3: Are you receiving anymore fire from the south? Ans: Yes. S-3: 1st Bn believes the fire is coming from woods to the rear and the high ground at 131391. 28th Inf: Go ahead fire on that for us.
- 1115 - Red Bn reports: Planes strafing and bombing along river south of STOCKHEIM, getting no Ack Ack.
- 1115 - S-3 to Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co: Fire coming from 131391 edge of that woods. Cover it with quite a bit of STONK.
- 1120 - Blue Bn reports: OP reports that at 1045 hours 3 enemy in dugouts at 128390. Artillery and mortar fire put on this target with good results.
- 1120 - I&R OP reports: P-47's bombing and strafing south of STOCKHEIM.
- 1130 - Lt. Brown gives report from B Co, item 1100 hours, to G-2.
- 1140 - S-3 to Capt. Niple: Get in touch with 2nd Bn and find out how they are going to evacuate their wounded in case they go across the river. Ans: Yes, sir.
- 1145 - Maj. Lord, G-3 to S-3: Do you know anything about 28th Inf? S-3: No, all the reports are confused. They had 120 feet of bridge out and then it was swept away. Both GI's and enemy are reported on the other bank.
- 1145 - Col. Gibb, S-6 to Maj. Lord, G-3: What's new about bridges? Ans: Haven't got one in yet, not even foot bridge, current is too swift. Col. Gibb: What's this about 104th having treadway in? Ans: Don't know anything about it.
- 1150 - Maj. Oxford, 1st Engrs, to Maj. Smith, S-3: What's the latest news on the 8th Div? Ans: Haven't got any bridges in yet, not enough engineers.

23 February 1945

- 1220 - 28th Inf S-3 to Maj. Smith: The enemy you reported on the other side of the river are our PWs and our walking wounded. That is at 118408. Have your people notified. Ans: OK.
- 1223 - Capt. Clark to Cannon Co: There are friendly troops at 118408. We don't want anyone firing within 500 yards of there. (Same info given to Red Bn, Blue Bn).
- 1223 - I&R OP #1, Sgt Wheeler: At 1017 hours, friendly dive bombers bombed in vicinity of Pt 37. At 1030 hours, 3 to 5 apparently friendly troops, were observed 500 yards, northwest of Pt 47. At 1135 hours, one fighter plane apparently friendly, went down in general vicinity of Pt 67. (This same information came from OP #2, reported as plane going down at Pt 96).
- 1223 - OP #2, I&R reports: 1155 hours, 12 planes bombed and strafed directly north of KIEUZAU. Same planes went directly north of KHEUZAU, strafed ridge in general vicinity of Pt #2.
- 1225 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to G-2: Anything new? Ans: No, not since the last report. The 8th has no bridge yet but expect to have a treading in, in an hour. Lt. Brown: Friendly troops are at 118408. Saw 11 GI's across river so things must be clearing up.
- 1255 - Lt. Lynch, Div LO: I of 413th at 108460; K of 413th at 109470; C of 413th at 105475; A of 413th at 105478; B of 413th at 101481; C of 415th at 099491, B of 415th at 094491; A of 415th at 097497; E of 415th at 092508; G of 415th at 100518.
- 1250 - Capt. Niple, Medics, to Capt. Clark: We are getting 44 litter bearers. 24 from Co A and 20 from Army. They will be split up as follows: 12 for 1st and 3rd Bns and 20 for 2nd Bn.
- 1302 - Maj. Oxford, 1st Engrs to Capt. Clark: Do you have any mortars laid on to shoot some lines across the river? Ans: Yes. Maj. Oxford: Fine, the 28th hasn't a line across as yet.
- 1303 - Capt. Clark to Capt. Smith: Are you still planning on shooting lines across the river? Ans: No, the Colonel is still undecided.
- 1309 - Capt. Clark to Maj. Oxford: That's no definitely laid on. Col. Driscoll is undecided on his plan. Maj. Oxford: Here's the dope - the 28th Inf doughboys took the boats across. Now the boats are on the other side. No one to bring them back and no lines are across. The 26th is planning to lay six lines across. I would recommend the same for you.
- 1310 - Lt. Walker, Blue 2 to S-2: S-2 gives information of journal items to this hour.
- 1312 - Lt. Brown to G-2: How about the treadways? Ans: The 101th has 2 now in. 8th has none at all.

23 February 1945

- 1312 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Golden, Cannon Co: We want to bring those people up. Tell them to bring one gun up. There's a smoke screen now, and they can move up under cover. Get them into position and fire at the buildings at KREUZAU, by direct fire. Hit as much of KREUZAU as they can, then they can go out of position.
- 1316 - Red Bn reports: At 1310 hours, OP reported 2 litter bearers going south toward DROVE, from Pt 77. 1st Litter carried by enemy, 2nd one carried by GI's. Also one SP firing from SPOCKHEIM. - One round landed E of the river.
- 1324 - IAR OP reports: At 1130 hours, we registered in on an AA gun at LL368, and at 1155, 7th FA fired TOT on it. At 1225 hours enemy artillery landing in WEIDENHEIM.
- 1332 - S-3 to Capt. Golden, Cannon Co: Did you get in touch with MANPOWER (987 FA)? Ans: Yes, S-3: Let me know when he is in position to fire.
- 1337 - S-3 to Capt. Baker, CO 90th Chem Wpns: How much ammo have you expended? Ans: Don't have a close check, but approximately 850 to 900 rounds. S-3: I asked Div for 2000 rounds. Capt. Baker: Capt. Groves, ammo officer, called and I think that he is after the 2000 rounds now. S-3: Good. Have you received any counter battery. Ans: Not yet.
- 1353 - Lt. Kestlinger, Liaison to 28th Inf reports: Use "402" as the north no fire line. Anything else is open. These people would like to have hill 189 smoked and put HE in with it (Hill 189 - 131391). Anything in the 104th sector in the way of bridges have been knocked out as of 0900 hours. They are using ferrys up there now, 2 ferrys are reported knocked out also. Things are stricky up there. (Info about no fire line given to 7th FA by Capt. Clark).
- 1353 - Col. Gibb, S-6 to Maj. Lord: Bridges and ferrys of the 104th have been knocked out as of 0900 hours this morning. The 28th and 13th have no bridges. Maj. Lord: They have 10 Co's across the river.
- 1359 - S-6 to Red 6: The news up the river is not good. Bridges, ferrys, cables, etc, have been knocked out. In the light of this, how about kicking your time to 0400 hours? Red 6: I think so, there will not be so many people getting lost if we start at that time. Have the troops up there got across? S-6: Better part of 2 regts are across but things are sticky. Red 6: There seems to be nothing going on across from here. Maybe they are all jazzed up. That report of Germans on this side of the river was not correct, they were all Americans.
- 1405 - S-3 to Capt. Baker, CO 90th Chem Wpns: When I give you the word, I want you to send an observer to go with 2nd Bn. Ans: Yes, sir. "hat communication? S-3: A 300 radio. Want you to put HE and WP-smoke on 131391 for the 28th Inf. Cover 200 yards for next 2 hours.
- 1405 - Red Bn reports: 1332 hours, one battery firing from 120 degrees, with 4 guns firing at one time, every 3 minutes.

23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1414 - Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co to S-3: S-3: Smoke between point 63 and 48.  
Ans: OK.
- 1415 - S-3 to Capt. Smith Red 3: Trying to move 155 in position to fire on town of K&EUZAU. Smoke between Pt 63 and 48 with your 81's, call 2nd Bn for help if you need it. A good screen for 1 hour.
- 1422 - I&R OP reports: At 1330 hours, one small enemy vehicle moving south at Pt 99. At 1413 hours, one enemy vehicle, possibly a tank, moving south at Pt 120.
- 1428 - Maj. Lord, G-3 to Col. Gibb: Your people are down drawing 2000 rounds of 4.2/mortar. The 104th seems to be doing all right; some of them are on their objectives. They figure their support bridges will be in, in time. They have elements at 117470.
- 1450 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Lt. Walker, Blue 2: Positions of 413th and 415th given and 28th Infantry Regts positions given. Discuss bridges.
- 1451 - Lt. Kestlinger, liaison to 28th Inf, returns to CP and reports to S-3: Reports very poor results by troops trying river crossings, no bridges in at all, very few traps across.
- 1451 - Lt. Ballard Cannon Co to S-3: Capt. Golden said they would be ready to fire in a few minutes. Is north of 402 the no fire line? Ans: Yes. Tell him to lay in on the town, and then the edge of the woods at 131399. Fire all the ammunition.
- 1454 - G-4 to Lt. Kestlinger: Is B of Jaunt with you? Ans: I think so. G-4: They asked for clearance to move to your place at 1800 hours. Lt. Kestlinger: I'll call back.
- 1455 - Capt. Baker, 90th Cheml Wpns: Are we to continue to fire the same night fires as listed the other day? Ans: Plan on doing it, I'll call you later.
- 1500 - Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co to Lt. Kestlinger: Capt. Golden wants smoke reopated for the placing of the 155 gun. Smoke SE of 61. Ans: OK.
- 1504 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Smith, Red 3: Repeats request in item of 1500 hours. Red 3: OK. How about the TDs for the operation, we've had no contact with those people. S-3: Plan B; they come down from 2nd Bn to help after they cross the river. Ans: OK. S-3: There was a lapse in that smoke. Lay it on again. Ans: OK.
- 1507 - Blue Bn OP reports: 1422 hours, 2 rounds of 75 HOW at 1285 mils at 700 yards. 1500 hours, 3 rounds of 75 HOW at 2900 mils, 600 yards.
- 1510 - S-3 to G-3, Maj. Lord: We got a call asking about Jaunt B. Their CP is up but guns aren't. They will hit the road junction at 1830 hrs.
- 1512 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Red Bn: Soldier found on this side was a dead American and not a German. This information is from B Company.

23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1525 - Capt. Olzey, G-2 to Lt. Brown, S-2: The 958th Regt identified at F-0655; 959 in vicinity of JULICH, both of 363 Div. KRAUTHAUSEN and OLTENBERG (0555) there is heavy fighting going on. The 12th VGR Div in DUREN. At K-8776, UNTERBRUCH, heavy fighting going on. At K-8774, town of OBERBRUCH, 176 VGR identified. The 59th Div located at K-9764 town of ROERDORF. We have troops at F-0066 in GEMENICH.
- 1527 - Lt. Brown gives information of item 1523 hours to Lt. Walker, Blue 2. Bridges of 104th are definitely not in.
- 1530 - Capt. Moore, 5th FA, to Maj. Smith: Do you know who requested some water proof bags from us? Ans: I didn't but someone over here did. Capt. Moore: Send a jeep over to 7th FA and have them picked up.
- 1531 - I&R OP: At 1455 hours, enemy artillery falling in NEIDERAU. At 1512 hours, fire started in KREUZAU.
- 1547 - Capt. Smith, Red 3 to Lt. Kestlinger: How about these photographers, we were not notified. S-3: Lt. Brown sent two down there. Red 2: Tell Maj. Smith our B Co cannot observe the 155 fire going out. Also how about us letting up on smoke. Ans: Yes, go ahead, and knock off. Tell Lt. Brown about the change in the I&R position.
- 1611 - 28th Inf S-3 to Lt. Lynch: Smoke screen #6 is coming along OK., and we would like more a little south of L02. (Lt. Lynch relays this information to Lt. Burke of 90th Chem Wpns - it will be taken care of).
- 1614 - OP (I&R) to Clerk: Possibly an 88mm or lighter artillery piece at 1600 hours, was firing at 120 degrees azimuth on the eastern side of WINDEN.
- 1615 - I&R OP to Clerk: Smoke and artillery only thing to be seen because of haze.
- 1630 - Shell report from Red Bn: 75 rounds of 81mm, 10 rounds of 120mm, 35 rounds of 88mm, 15 rounds of 150mm.
- 1631 - S-2 to Red 6: What is new? Ans: Not very much. Red 6: There are no bridges up north? Ans: No and neither are there any treadways. The 28th Inf was to jump at 0230 hours to take STOCKHEIM. B and F Cos are across the river. Lost quite a few boats. The engr. let the GI's take the boats across and there was no one to bring them back.
- 1634 - S-2 to 28th Inf S-2: How many PWs processed today? Ans: We are processing nine now, and two before. There are 40 on the other side. S-2: Who are the people in KREUZAU? Ans: 2nd Co, 943 Regt, 353 Div, 1st Bn in KREUZAU and 2nd Bn north of NEIDERAU, 3rd in NEIDERAU. 1st Co of 1st Bn at 122413; 3rd Co of 1st Bn at NEIDERAU, 4th Co is in reserve. We have no one from the 2nd Bn as yet. The 12th VGD in DUREN. 363rd North of them.
- 1635 - I&R OP to Clerk: 12 medium bombers flying at 120 degrees. Rec'd heavy flak about 5 miles out; one plane shot down. One man parachuted out. Plane caught fire as it was descending. Our P-51's straffing near point 67.

23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1635 - Red Bn reports: One horse drawn cart with Red Cross Flag. There are 5 soldiers walking in front. The 1st and 2nd men are Americans. Coming from Point 77 towards DROVE. At 1645 hours, one plane, possible A-20 was shot down. One man parachuted and landed in vicinity of 141 to 123. P-47's strafing in vicinity of Point 67.
- 1637 - S-2 to G-2: Gives report of above items.
- 1645 - Blue Bn reports: Shell report - 15 rounds of 75mm, 6 rounds of 150mm and 20 rockets.
- 1653 - Lt. Brown to 7th FA: Here is our shell report - 20 rockets, 75 rounds of medium mortar (81mm); 15 rounds of heavy mortar (120mm); 50 rounds of light artillery; 25 rounds of 150mm arty.
- 1710 - Capt. Baker, 90th Chml Wpns to Lt. Brown; Do we still fire interdictory fire and fire mission starting at 0330 in the morning and also smoke screen? Ans: I will check. (Later call informs Capt. Baker to call off the smoke screen, and to fire the same as was the case this morning).
- 1725 - Sgt Wheeler, I&R OP: One enemy plane dropped 2 bombs on the plain in grid square 1043. At 1715 hours, one red smoke shell at 123408.
- 1745 - I&R OP reports: Large fire near the large church in Kreuzau. Another fire at point 60.
- 1750 - Lt. Kestlinger to Capt. Groves, ammo officer: Ammo expenditure allocations for period 240600A Feb as follows: 81mm mortar light 1700 rounds, unexpended balance for period ending 240600A are cumulative.
- 1805 - Blue Bn reports: 4 rounds of 105mm landed about 800 yards North of the OP, came from an azimuth of about 120 degrees.
- 1825 - Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co; to Lt. Stephens: On the night fires that we have been firing for the last few days - some of them are north of 402 grid. Should we still fire there? No. Omit all fires north of 402.
- 1847 - Blue 3 to S-3: Have problem, since objective has been changed, we can not touch it with our mortars (81mm). Will have to set up in KREUZAU to be able to do any good. S-3: OK, You'll be able to set your mortars up there.
- 1850 - Capt. Golden to S-3: 987th FA is down here in STRASS. Ans: Yes, I know. They'll move into firing position before daylight. I want them to cover the edge of the woods, that we talked about. In addition - they will cover the town (KREUZAU).
- 1850 - Col. Gibb to Col. Barnes: What is new? Ans: 8th Div is going to try and put in a treadway tonight. Those people were not organized right when they got across - they did not have anyone to bring the boats back. (Maj. Lord takes phone and continues): They are going to keep working on bridge over in the 28th Inf sector. They wanted to know if we wanted to use their bridge. S-6: Yes, even tomorrow night. I want to attack at 5 in the morning.



23 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

Will attack anytime tomorrow night when I get the 2nd Bn set. Maj. Lord: 104th Div has almost all of DUREN that they were supposed to get. 13th Inf is laying on the bank. 28th Inf has most of A and B over now and one company of the 2nd Bn is also across.

- 1905 - S-3 to Red 6: Have some oilskin covers for rifles for you. Foot bridges will be in, in about 2 hours. Red 6: At 1700 hours, we observed about a platoon of infantry going S and SW from the church in NEIDERAU - they went almost down to the woods opposite B Co. All we can see is enemy medics working with our medics out there.
- 1915 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf; to Maj. Smith: They don't have any time for putting in treadway, (no set time), will start tonight after buildup of 1st Bn by boat. Have to clean up NEIDERAU before they start.
- 1920 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Capt. Donnley, G-2: G-2: 104th has about 3/4th of their part of the town of DUREN cleared. 40 PWs mostly from 943rd Regt and 353 Div, taken by 8th Div. 1st Bn of 943 KREUZAU TO NEIDERAU. There is no second Bn. 3rd Bn is north of Neiderau. At 1700 hours enemy tanks in STOCKHEIM, this is an unconfirmed report.
- 1925 - I&R OP #1, reports: OP #1 is at 07733835, right above the Blue CP. Lot of fires burning across the river, about 24 fires. Artillery is very active.
- 1935 - Maj. Smith to Maj. Sanders (Div Commo): Would like to get 4 more 300 sets for 1st Bn, it is only for the crossing, and will get them back to you in about 3 days. Ans: Have Capt. Ralph send up for them tomorrow.
- 2005 - Capt. Clark to Capt. Golden: Gives info on 28th Inf, and that we will not be going tonight.
- 2006 - I&R OP reports: Air rain at 1950 hours in vicinity of ESCHWEILER. Everything is quiet. At 1800 hours OP saw an enemy ambulance on road at 141376 going into the grove. 1825 hours, 5 shells from a 75mm gun hit on hill 400 yards to right front of OP. At 1830 hours, OP took azimuth from sound of shell at 110 degrees. At 1928 hours, fire in STOCKHEIM, also some fires and explosions in NEIDERAU. At 1950 hours, 105mm gun firing from 170 degrees. From 1952 to 2015 hours, 10 shells from 75mm gun has hit in vicinity of Bn CP. Looks like harassing fire. OP says fire is coming from 160 degrees.
- 2027 - Capt. Clark to Red 3: Gives him lates G-3 info on friendly units. Doesn't look like we will go any place tonite. 8th Div is pleased with the waythings are going.
- 2035 - Maj. Green, G-3 to Capt. Clark: The news we have on the 28th is - fire has let up quite a bit on bridge site. Hope to get treadway in some time tonight. 3rd Bn of 28th buttoned up and are getting fire on all sides.
- 2100 - I&R OP: One gun firing from 2000 mils about every 5 minutes, landing east of STRASS.

23 February 1945

- 2105 - Capt. Clark to Capt. Booth, Blue 3: Gives information on 28th Inf. At 2000 hours tanks could be heard in KREUZAU.
- 2015 - Lt. Lewylln, MP Officer, to Capt. Clark: A 5 ton Engr truck just hit a mine, just before it got to the corduroy road; it is cleaned up now. It was about 25 yards from this end.
- 2016 - Col. Driscoll, Red 6 to Col. Horner, S-5: We had an officer killed and a man wounded near 1st platoon of B. Do we have any people from 445 AA "A" Btry with us? Ans: Will find out about the 445 AA, and let them know. Red 6: We are getting some 175 and 150mm stuff. "A" CP was just hit - the flash was at 160 degrees - I sent it in to 7th FA.
- 2018 - Capt. Clark to 28th Inf: Notifies of the AA officer who was found in the B area.
- 2035 - Maj. Smith to 28th Inf S-3: What is new? Ans: Got an order to get a bridge in tonight. Will call you just as soon as it comes in. Got to take STOCKHEIM and objective 281 tonight. G is on the way over.
- 2036 - Capt. Clark gives information above to 33rd FA.
- 2100 - 8th Div G-3 to Col Gibb: Still unable to get any AT or supporting wps across. Doubt if bridge will be finished tonight. 28th Inf 3rd Bn on eastern edge of the woods. Did not hit any tank fire but did get some SP fire. Casualties were not too heavy, but what we did lose were valuable men. Blue 6 of the 13th Inf was killed.
- 2105 - I&R OP reports: The gun reported as firing from azimuth of 2000 mils, is still firing; the shells are landing in STRASS.
- 2120 - Blue Bn reports: Gun flash picked up at 12473427 - CORPS fired on it. Quite a bit of small arms fire at 2000 yards to the south.
- 2300 - All units report negative and Capt. Clark reports negative to G-3. Some incoming 150mm and 170mm reported by Red Bn.
- 2400 - All units report negative, Capt. Clark reports negative to G-3.

NOTE: FOLLOWING ITEM TO BE INCLUDED WITH 24 February Journal:

0100 - Blue Bn reports negative.

2103 - Capt. Clark to 28th Inf S-5: What is new on the bridge? Ans: Do not think that they will get it in tonight; have difficulty. The 2nd Bn is over and part of another one. Hope to get bridge in sometime tomorrow.

24 February 1945

- 0105 - Red Bn reports: At 0050 "B" Co reported flares in KREUZAU, 2 green, and 4 red. One tank firing into town from the east.
- 0115 - Capt. Clark to G-3: Gives information as above.
- 0116 - I&R OP reports: Small arms fire in NEIDRAU.
- 0201 - Blue Bn reports: OP reported gun firing at 190 degrees, no range estimation; 5 rounds landed 400 yards west of the OP, time- 0018 hrs. At 0120 hours CP took reading on gun firing from 130 degrees, range undetermined. Several rounds landed near the CP. (The above enemy gun reports were forwarded to 7th FA).
- 0216 - Mr. Wiles, Red CP, to Mr. Lipinski: I called 7th FA on the night fires in regard to covering the work of the Engrs. The OP reported 20 rounds of 80mm mortar landed around the OP. (Mr. Lipinski reports this info to G-3).
- 0313 - Red Bn reports: OP reported 8 to 10 rounds of heavy artillery fell in WINDEN during the last half hour. (Mr. Lipinski gives negative report to G-3).
- 0400 - I&R OP reports: 0340 hours, several flares and machine gun fire at 56 degrees. A heavy artillery concentration is falling on the river at 40 degrees. Do not know if it is our or the enemies.
- 0409 - Mr. Lipinski gives negative report to G-3. (All units had reported negative).
- 0502 - I&R OP reports: At 0423 hours, machine gun fire at 64 degrees. 0433 hours, 3 gun flashes at 1804 mils, no estimation of range. 0440 hours, one enemy gun battery fired approximately 4 rounds at 1863 mils. (This report given to 7th FA).
- 0512 - Lt. Stephens to Capt. Knight, G-3: Negative report. G-3: 8th Div reported that the 28th Infantry's 3rd Bn was out of the woods near the town. 13th Infantry's 3rd Bn, 500 to 700 yards in the woods. The 28th Inf, bridge will be completed shortly. (Type of Bridge - Bailey).
- 0625 - I&R OP reports: At 0534 hours, 1 gun flash at 1881 mils. At 0546, 2 guns firing at 1289 mils.
- 0658 - Blue Bn reports: At 0620 hours, enemy 105mm HOW fired from 160 degrees, approximately 7000 yards. 20 rounds fired in Bn area. (These items were reported to 7th FA by the 3rd Bn).
- 0730 - Sgt Minno to I&R OP: Can you make out where the small arms fire is taking place across the river? Ans: NE of NIEDERAU.

24 February 1945

- 0800 - Blue Bn reports: 0718 hours, OP reported enemy friendly small arms fire 20 to 25 degrees, 4 to 5000 yards. 0720 hours, OP reported a terrific explosion, believe to be oil and grease, at 35 degrees, and 3,500 yards. 0748 hours, OP reported, by sound, 3 gun batry at 150 degrees, 5 to 6000 yards. Fired 2 rounds in last 5-minutes, estimated 155mm, 8 to 9 rounds landed between CP and OP.
- 0803 - 28th Inf S-2 reports: Our Cannon Co, OP reported 3 enemy tanks in stationary position at 126397. (Above information given to 7th FA).
- 0811 - Duty Clerk to 28th Inf S-2: In regard to the 3 enemy tanks; is your Cannon Co firing at them? Ans: Yes, our Div Arty is firing at them. Everything is well in hand. (This info given to 7th FA).
- 0814 - I&R OP reports: At 0730 hours, a six round barrage of light artillery fell on west bank of river due west of point 47. At 0745 hours, one large enemy vehicle moving south to point 120. Various smoke's coming from woods 300 yards east of point 98. Previous to this day, flak guns spotted on the same area.
- 0825 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to Red Bn: Here is the latest dope - Most of the 1st Bn of 28th Inf not across; left flank is now at 120429; right flank is at 120420. They have no bridges across, not even a foot bridge. On the right flank, they have a cable across river for the treadway bridge when the town is clear. The 3rd Bn of 28th is buttoned up for all around defense out in the woods, although they aren't worried about it. F Co is about the same. The 13th Inf is about the same; they have one "Cat Walk" across the river. (This same information was relayed to White 3).
- 0912 - 32nd FA calls for information on friendly troops and is given the above information.
- 0914 - S-2 to 28th Inf, Maj. Mellan: Anything else on PWs? Ans: We got 8 across. We are utilizing those across. S-2: We do something tomorrow. Maj. Mellan: I'll get some information and call you today. The Blue situation is urgent at the east edge of the woods. E Co is across and will join F Co. 13th Inf has almost finished the bridge, will shoot TD's and tanks up there.
- 0915 - S-2 to G-2: Any news? Ans: 8th Div got a foot bridge across. Took 42 PWs. They are optimistic since some artillery lifted. S-2; speaks of conversation with 28th Inf. S-2: Any news on 30th Inf? Ans: They are across. S-2: Any news on 13th Infantry? Ans: No news. 104th Div? Ans: They have some trouble on left flank. They are making progress and have about 400 PWs.

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 0915 - S-3 to Red 3: "hat did you find out at B Co? Ans: It was too hot. A and B Co CP's got a couple of direct hits, probably enemy shooting at the 155 that had been firing during the day. S-3: Knock down the town of KREUZAU, as much as you can. Smoke, so that town is cut off from the woods. Use the 155's on the woods from 420 on down; knock down trees and all, keep it on most of the day. Use M-10's today in conjunction with smoke. Isolate the area where the M-10's are with smoke. The Colonel wants all the fire he can on there today. Red #3: C is going to A's position when A pulls out. S-3: 3rd Bn will follow you across the river. How many shuttles of 28 boats will it take for you? Red 3: Using 28 boats, 2 shuttles for the 2 assault companies will be needed. The Engrs say that the bridge will be ready by the time the 2nd wave goes, but we are not depending on that. S-3: Destroy DROVE also today. I'm going to try and get some PW's from the 28th to question about what is over there. Plan the PW and Wounded Collecting points for the other side of the river, and in a place where they can be covered from this side. Have these places designated before hand. The life preservers must be collected; arrange for this. Use 284 and 610 radio, we will also. Red 3: Each assault company will have 2 direct lines with them.
- 0935 - Capt. Golden, Cannon Co, CO to S-3: I can't see a thing because of the fog. I'm going to the B Co factory. S-3: "hy don't you wait awhile and see if it clears? Ans: Yes, sir.
- 0937 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to 28th Inf S-2: Could you let me send an interpreter to your PW cage? Ans: We haven't got them to the cage yet but I'll call you and let you know when they get in.
- 0955 - S-6 to Red 6: Why don't you want to fire the M-10's? Red 6: If I shoot them today, I will not be able to use them tomorrow. They will be shot up if I use them today. S-6: I want you to pound that town all day. Do what you want but get lots of HE, put something on that town all day, and pound the hell out of it.
- 0958 - Lt. Brown relays information concerning the 28th Infantry to Lt. Ghandler, White 2; and also info about 104 taking 400 PW's.
- 1000 - I&R OP to Clerk: Visibility very bad this morning. Quite a bit of friendly artillery landing in northern end of KREUZAU.
- 1020 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Div, to Maj. Smith: The Bailey bridge in 13th Inf sector is just about ready to click. NIEDERAU is clear to the 418 grid. No report on progress. Will stay here for awhile.
- 1021 - Maj. Oxford, 1st Engrs to Maj. Smith: Any report of bridges in yet? Ans: The one at N-1449, is just about in. Maj. Oxford: Let me know when they start using it? Ans: Yes, sir.
- 1025 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf, S-3: 13th is sending tanks and TDS across now. 28th Inf will go across when they clear. Ans: Good, Things look better now.

24 February 1945

- 1043 - 28th Inf S-3 to S-3: 13th will clear in about 30 minutes, then we will start across. Our tanks and TD's will go first. Tell Lt. Brown that the PW's are in.
- 1047 - Capt. Groves, Ammo Officer, to Maj. Smith S-3: I have been holding heavy on 81mm mortar. 3rd Bn just requested 700 rounds. I am carrying way over basic now but if you think they will fire it, I will get it. Ans: Yes, they will fire plenty today.
- 1053 - S-6 to G-6: The 13th has a bridge in. I'd like you to get things fixed so I can move my Bn across it. G-6: I'll get on that right away.
- 1100 - S-6 to Red 6: The 13th has a bridge across. It looks like plan "B" for us.
- 1101 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder: They have a Bailey Bridge in at 111449, make a recon from GEY to BIRGEL and up that way. The Colonel wants a thorough recon up the road to that bridge in case you have to use it. Ans: OK.
- 1105 - Maj. Lord, G-3 to S-3: You can't use any companies from the 18th and 26th. You can form a composit company and outpost the line or anything else you want.
- 1110 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Maj. Lord, G-3: The Colonel says he is pulling "I" Co out and takes no responsibility for the sector.
- 1112 - Maj. Lord to S-6: What is the score? Ans: I am either to attack or to hold there. It is one or the other. G-3: Pull them out and if anything happens, it is then our responsibility.
- 1115 - Capt. Golden to Maj. Smith: We are ready to fire now and would like the smoke layed on. Ans: OK, will have it layed on in 5 minutes.
- 1120 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to Capt. Baker, 90th Cheml Wpns: I have a mission for you. Fire right away. Left flank is 132403 down to 131391 and come down to 127390. Fire till I tell you to stop. Ans: Yes, sir.
- 1120 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Smith, Red 3: I want I Co to get a recon out for C Co position. I want you to fire 100 rounds of 81 per hour in this area - 75, 62, 77, 78. Use your 60's to cover the bank in front of I Co. Red will make an assault crossing in the morning.
- 1130 - Lt. Lynch, Div LO officer to Clerk: F of 415, 105519; E of 415 at 100518. G, no change. I of 415, 102510; A of 415, 149511. B and C of 415 at 120096 with B on the north and A and B of 413th on line 116490 - 11486 with B on the north. C of 413 is at 112476. From north to south K - F - L - I of 413th, 119475 to 11340. The 104th bridge washed out.
- 1135 - Col. Horner S-5 to S-3: Have lines strengthened now. S-3: Col wants a direct line to Red Fwd. S-5: OK; we can do it.

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1140 - Maj. Lord G-3 to Lt. Stephens: The time is U (0400 hours). The time for 9th Div is WU (2400). This is a CORPS order.
- 1140 - S-3 to Red 3: Here is some dope; I Co will take over C Co position and will be prepared to fire if anything comes from the south, to support your landing. There will also be "8 inch HOW" available to fire 50 rds, into KREUZAU, also 3 batterys of 240, 2 batterys of 8 inch guns, 5 Bns of 155 and 105 will hit DROVE. At 1630 hours 2 Bns of 155 plus Div Arty will fire 5 volleys in to the town of DROVE. Fires for tonight will be under control of you. It will be the same as previous fires only it will be with heavier stuff. 3rd Bn will fire indirect fire with M-10's into DROVE.
- 1142 - Cannon Co, to S-3: Are they going to lay smoke? Ans: Yes, it is supposed to be on the way now. I'll check.
- 1148 - G-3 to S-6: What do you think of U as the time for the go? Ans: I do not care to go at that time, I have my plans layed otherwise. Try and get the General to Call Corps on it.
- 1150 - S-3 to 90th Cheml Wpns: How about the smoke? Ans: It is on the way. Went out 2 minutes ago.
- 1155 - Lt. Lynch Div LO to Lt. Stephens: 30th Div, 120 Regt, has two Bns across the river and reached 0954 and 0854. 119 has two Bns across at 0756. 29th Div, 175th Regt, has 3 Bns across at 0359 but the town is not clear. 115th Regt has 3 Bns across 03610262, 0162. They have a class 40 bridge at 0258. Also have two companies of tanks across. 13th CORPS, 12 Bns across. Advance elements of 102nd have reached 0163, 0104, 0165. 84th Div holds town at 9868, 9769, 9771. 16th Corps reports light resistance, artillery fire below normal. 35th Div, 134th Regt line at 9270, 9071, 320th holds line 91738876, 314th Regt holds line 8877, 8480, 8380.
- 1205 - I&R OP reports: Our artillery putting smoke screen down between Pts 62 and 78.
- 1206 - G-3 to Lt. Brown, S-2: 28th Inf has Bailey bridge in and tanks and TD's over. Meeting light resistance. Identified 48th Regt, 6th Co of 363 Fusilier Bn. PW's don't seem to be able to give much information about adjoining sectors.
- 1220 - Capt. Elder to Maj. Smith: Tanks and TD's are lined up ready to go across treadway. The front line is only 400 yards from the bridge though. Maj. Smith: We are not certain that you will use that bridge as yet. When the tanks go across the river they will clear up NIEDERAU and then go for STOCKHEIM, cleaning the way pretty much as they go.
- 1227 - Lt. Lynch, Div LO: Correction to be made on A Co of the 415th Regt. They are at 109511.

24 February 1945

- 1230 - Lt. Kestlinger to G-3: You wanted us to submit a report on the 60mm mortar WP. We like it only to register and mark targets. G-3: The 30th Div. has HAMBACH and NIEDERZIER.
- 1245 - 28th Inf S-3 to Clerk: Fire smoke concentration #6 and keep it up until we tell you to lift it.
- 1250 - S-3 to Lt. McKay, Cannon Co: Ask Capt. Golden how much he has to go on the 155. Ans: He is all through firing.
- 1300 - S-3 to 90th Cheml Wpns: All through on that smoke screen. Want you to lay one down at 118402 to 121402. We'll tell you when to lift it.
- 1305 - I&R OP reports: Lot of smoke being layed on- can't see a thing.
- 1307 - I&R OP reports: Big house in KREUZAU between points 62 and 77 set afire by our artillery. For the last two hours, the section to the right (KREUZAU) and beyond the bridge has been under constant smoke screen.
- 1405 - CO 26th Inf to Col. Gibb: The General is on his way down to see you; he says we are to go at 4.
- 1410 - CO 90th Cheml Wpns to Lt. Kestlinger: We have fired 1500 rounds on that mission and it is cutting into our pile. Ans: OK, you can stop. CO 90th Cheml Wpns: 3600 rounds of smoke and 700 HE on hand.
- 1410 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Smith, Red 3: The time is 0400 hours. Ans: What plan will be in effect? Ans: The 28th Inf has promised the bridge to be finished before dark, so the 2nd Bn will use it.
- 1414 - I&R OP reports: 1315 hours, one enemy ambulance going SE to Pt 22. 1345 hours, one large vehicle heading N on road between 22 and 23.
- 1422 - Col. Driscoll to Col. Gibb: I understand we jump at 0400 hours. Ans: Right. Red 6: Does anyone else jump? Ans: Yes, 18th Inf.
- 1427 - General Andrus to Col. Gara 1st Engrs: What are your plans? Ans: 1st, put in an infantry support bridge for Col. Gibb which will take up to 2 1/2 ton truck, empty; one Bailey bridge to be put in on the north; one floating trestle bridge for the 26th Infantry.
- 1445 - 28th Inf S-2 to Lt. Brown: V Corps reports 4 deserters taken from 28th PGR, 3 PGD. This Div is pulling out down there and coming North into our sector, being replaced by a battle worn unit believed to be the 52nd PG. One of our PW's says replacement Bn of the 353 in ELABACH, 80 or more people made up of rear echelon people.
- 1450 - Lt. Lynch, Div LO: 30th Div elements of 119 at 092567 to 093561. 3rd of 120th from 104552 to 107547. 1st Bn of 120th at 107545. F of 120th 6530 to 090526. 2nd Bn of 120th at 077544 to 083537. A of 111th at 107503 to 112498. Towns of HAMBACH and NIEDERZIER have been taken by 30th Division.



24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1455 - I&R OP to Clerk: Smoke screen on ridge E of KREUZAU. There is a 155 SP firing from here, near the OP.
- 1456 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Stephens: Ask Maj. Smith if he knows that there is a possibility of the 28th coming in on our left. Most of the floats are in for the bridge now.
- 1514 - Capt. Groves, Ammo Officer: There is an officer down here from the Cml outfit. They fired 1700 rounds so far. We have 3673 rounds in hand. Will that be enough? Ans: No, get 2000 more.
- 1516 - Maj. Wozenski, Blue 6 to Maj. Smith: What is new? Ans: "C" and a possibility of "B". Red still goes. Blue 6: Co H of 26th was marching down the road near I Co, also jeep movement which is drawing fire. Will you see what you can do about it? Ans: OK.
- 1520 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf: 3rd of 28th getting a little counter attack. Will report details when I return in half hour.
- 1525 - Maj. Smith to Maj. Clissen: Your H Co is marching down the road near our I Co, and vehicles are following. They are drawing fire. Ans: Hell, they aren't supposed to move until tonight. I'll get on this.
- 1535 - Capt. Smith Red 3 to S-3: Where is the right flank of the people on our left? Ans: Will call back.
- 1540 - S-3 to Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf: A Co will land on about the 405 northing. Make sure that the 28th knows about that so there will be no trouble. Also find out when I can use that bridge.
- 1544 - Maj. Lord to Col. Gibb: You don't go boating. We now wait until it clears up on the North. This comes from ARMY. 26th will pass thru you after you take over. This may be tomorrow but not in the morning.
- 1546 - Maj. Smith to Red 3: The news is now plan A but not with boats, and not tomorrow morning. We will wait until we can use the bridge. Same information given to White 3, and Blue 3, Cannon Co, A nitank.
- 1600 - Col. Briscoll, Red 6 to S-3: B Co reports that 9 friendly tanks heading toward STOCKHELM. Ans: Yes. Red 6: Can I send a patrol over to the 28th Sector? Ans: Will check. (Answer at later call is yes).
- 1614 - I&R reports: There are now 8 tanks in vicinity of Pt 48, one is in the woods, 7 are in the open. A few soldiers running around the leading tank. Shells are coming in but no hits, are all wide. OP is shelling from an unlocated gun from the Southeast.
- 1628 - Capt. Smith to Lt. Kestlinger: Is the fire plan still in effect? Ans: Yes.
- 1632 - Col. Jewett to Lt. Kestlinger: I understand that the plan is called off. Ans: Yes, we use plan "A" with no boats. Col. J: Is it OK for us to put the bridge in this town and leave it there for them? Ans: Yes.

24 February 1945

- 1650 - Red 6 to Lt. Kestlinger: Where can this patrol check in with the 28th? Ans: It would be best to have them check in at the GP.
- 1650 - I&R OP reports: Our artillery just threw in a big artillery barrage in KREUZAU. There are three fires burning. Some enemy artillery is coming back.
- 1654 - Lt. Kestlinger to 28th Inf, S-3: That patrol will go by jeep to your GP. Ans: They can't return by jeep over that bridge. Lt. K: OK, they will leave about 2000 hours.
- 1700 - I&R OP reports: The 8 friendly tanks are still in the same place, and don't seem to be drawing any fire. Enemy shelled town of NIEDERAU, came from northeast, east and southeast.
- 1700 - 28th Inf S-2: On your Red patrol, they leave at 2130 hours. Ans: That is correct. They will return about 2330 hours. They will follow the river.
- 1702 - I&R OP reports: At 1640 hours, another heavy friendly barrage in KREUZAU. 8 more 88mm rounds in the vicinity of the OP.
- 1705 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to Capt. Elder: The Col. would like your advance party to look over NIEDERAU to find a place for your companies as soon as the bridge is in.
- 1710 - Blue Bn Shell report: 45 rounds of 150mm; 28 rounds of 105mm; 22 rounds of 75mm; 12 rounds of 81mm mortar. No rockets.
- 1710 - 7th FA to S-2: Tell Maj. Sandell, 7th FA LO, that we have fired 500 rounds into the town of KREUZAU today.
- 1712 - Red Bn shell report: 20 rounds of 105mm; 15 rounds of 88mm; and 50 rounds of 150mm.
- 1715 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to Capt. Booth: Do you wish to send more than your 20 vehicles over? Ans: Yes, sir. Would like to send a half track, 6 mortar vehicles and one extra jeep. S-3: OK, put yours up to 30 vehicles total.
- 1716 - S-2 to G-2; shell report: Medium mortar fire 12 rounds; light artillery 85 rounds, medium artillery 95 rounds. (Same report given to 7th FA).
- 1720 - Capt. Elder to Maj. Smith: What is the probably time of attack? Ans: Anytime from tomorrow morning to the morning of the 26th, probably the 26th. We may get ordered to cross the bridge tomorrow. White 3: We will have (not) before (move) 8 in the morning, will we? Ans: No.
- 1840 - 987th FA to Lt. Stephens: We fired 56 rounds on the place you designated. We couldn't fire more because of smoke, couldn't see anymore. Ans: OK.
- 1859 - S-6 to Red 6: What does it look like in KREUZAU? Red 6: Constant harassing fire. Everything else is very quiet. S-6: Be prepared to support the 2nd Bn. The attack looks like it will come off tomorrow.

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1900 - Maj. Smith to 28th Inf: We got a call from Div that we would have the bridge from 0100 to 0300 hours. Ans: I haven't been told about it, but if the bridge is in, OK.
- 1900 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder: Start your recon in half hour. You will be ready to cross the bridge at 2400 hours tonight. If the bridge is ready you will cross between one and three in the morning. You will attack at 0500 in the morning.
- 1902 - Blue 3 to Lt. Stephens: Request permission to increase my vehicle allotment to go over the bridge, would like to take 34 over, instead of 30. Ans: It is OK.
- 1904 - Maj. Smith to 1st Engrs "A": Send one of your officers up to check on the progress of the bridge and let me know the results. Ans: OK.
- 1904 - I&R OP reports: 1810 hours, machine gun fire due east of OP. Everything else quiet over here.
- 1910 - S-6 to G-5: Just talked with the S-3 of the 28th Inf. He says that he doesn't believe that the bridge will be in by 0100 hours, much less in use. I'm sending one of my engineers down there to look at the bridge and talk to the guy that is building it. He will then bring me back his idea of how long it will take, etc. I have alerted my units for 2400 hours.. They are on a two hour alert.
- 1910 - Col. Gibb to Col. Grant, White 6: Do you have everything straight? Ans: I was just talking to Smith on a few little details. Is Ed doing anything? Ans: Not a thing. It is plan "A", without any change. The 28th Inf indicated that the bridge may not be ready but the Division said it would be ready. I will notify you by ten if you will or will not move. I will give you at least 2 hours notice.
- 1920 - S-6 to Blue 6: You'll move sometime tonight. Latest dope is not accurate but they say the bridge will be in by 0100 hours. I'll notify you by 2200 hours as to how it is going. Pull I Co out and bring them to where you are. When you assemble on other side, pick up 1 platoon of TDs and Regt AT from White Bn. You'll also have your AT and AP platoons and vehicles with you. How many vehicles do you need? Ans: 35 will do. S-6: I'll let you have 40. Be prepared to move as soon as White moves. Get tactically set up and organized so that you can move to your initial objective on my orders as soon as White moves, and tie in with the 28th Inf, on the left. Direction - facing east and refusing your flank to the south.
- 1920 - Lt. Stephens to 28th Inf S-3: Our people with White will check with you in about half hour, and will boat across on recon. Ans: I hope they can get a boat. We had trouble to get across last night.
- 1924 - Lt. Stephens to Capt. Smith, Red 3: Your patrol will not be able to use the bridge and will have to contact Engrs at 119420 to get a boat across.

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1930 - Col. Driscoll, Red 6 to Maj. Smith S-3: I understand that the 2nd Bn is sending a patrol across to the other side of the river? Ans: They are sending a patrol to NIEDERAU. They are using boat; the bridge isn't in yet. They say if everything goes well it will be in by midnight, if not, it will take until dawn. 2nd Bn will take NIEDERAU and push towards DROVE.
- 1935 - Blue Bn reports: Flares and bombing over our CP and in vicinity of WINDEN.
- 1940 - Capt. Booth, Blue 3 to S-3: Checks details of 3rd Bn attachments for coming operation. 1 platoon engr, 1 platoon of AF Co, and 1 platoon of TDs. 3rd Bn vehicles going by way of KUFFERATH.
- 1944 - S-3 to White Bn, Capt. Elder: Want to make sure that you have the plan. The 3rd is pushing with you and will go for the woods. You take NIEDERAU and shove recon for DROVE. The first Bn goes for the high ground near UDINGEN. 26th Inf comes thru 1st Bn and swings south. (During this conversation enemy air activity started in NIEDERAU, 4 flares were dropped first and then bombing and strafing followed. Capt. Elder reports this as part of conversation with S-3).
- 1950 - Capt. Elder to S-3: Enemy airplanes are going up and down the river strafing and bombing. You'd better check the bridges. Estimated the number of planes as 20.
- 1951 - S-3 to Sgt Wheeler, I&R OP: Wheeler reports bombs are hitting NIEDERAU, and there has been some low level strafing. Some of the bombs have been AP.
- 1955 - S-3 to Red CP: Pvt Young reports that the bombs are mostly north of B Co. AP bombs were reported by Bn OP on G Co area. 3 flares were dropped in front of the OP.
- 2005 - Col. Gibb to Red 6: What's the air activity down by you? Ans: Some stuff was dropped on B Co, no damage reported, our lines are still in.
- 2005 - S-3 checks with CO of 634th TDs concerning the coming operation. 2nd Platoon of TDs will go with the 2nd Bn and one with 3rd Bn.
- 2010 - Maj. Lord to Col. Gibb: Bridge #6 is the only bridge open, the vehicles can go across it.
- 2012 - S-2 puts in request to G-3, Maj. Green, about checking on the Ack Ack for action against tonight's enemy air activity.
- 2020 - Lt. Botsford, G-2 to Lt. Brown: 120 PWs taken by 8th Div. One half of DUREN is ours, fighting up around the barracks. Enemy tanks reported around SPOCKHEIM.
- 2020 - Red Bn reports: At 2010 hours 3 planes dropped flares at KREAZAU, then bombed and strafed that area.

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 2024 - Lt. Kayes, A, 1st Engrs: I just talked with Col. Gara, 1st Engrs, about the bridge. Col. Gara called the Group commander, and it was Group Commander's opinion that the earliest possible time for the bridge to be in was 0500 hours. Any difficulties would cause the hour to be later than that.
- 2030 - Lt. Kestlinger, 10 to 28th Inf: The only thing completed on the bridge is the approach on one side. Maj. Mellan, 28th S-2 estimated bridge will not be completed until in the morning. Probably late morning. (Lt. Kestlinger will stay at the 28th CP, and report every 2 hours).
- 2104 - S-3 to Maj. Crowley, 1st Engrs: What is your estimation of the bridge situation at the 28th Inf? Ans: An hour and a half ago Col. Gara called the Group Commander. The estimate of the Group Commander on the time that the bridge would be completed was 0300 hours. Judging from past experience with these people, we added 2 hours. The current is hindering the construction and the approaches are unfinished.
- 2122 - Capt. Booth to Lt. Stephens: About 5 minutes ago a plane strafed in WINDEN and dropped pamphlets (Safe conduct passes) written in German and signed by Eisenhower. Do we have planes up? Ans: I'll check.
- 2030 - Lt. Walker to Lt. Brown: Lt. Brown: On bridge situation 13th Inf has a bridge in, 28th Inf will have one in at 0500 hours at the earliest.
- 2035 - Capt. Booth to Maj. Smith: I Co can stay where they are and still fit in the column if they stay where they are now. Ans: OK.
- 2105 - Lt. Brown calls all units and gives them locations of 13th and 28th Infantry positions.
- 2125 - Lt. Brown to Lt. Dotsford G-2: Strafing and bombing in WINDEN and pamphlets dropped. The pamphlets were written in German and were in the form of passes signed by Gen. Eisenhower.
- 2225 - Maj. Green G-3 to Lt. Stephens: Our night fighters were called off so that the 90's could fire. Now the air is full of RAF, from coast to coast, and 90's must have positive identification of plane committing a hostile act before being able to open up on them, this being practically impossible to do. Guess we will have to sweat it out for tonight.
- 2145 - S-6 to G-5: Col. Barnes: Would like to suggest that 90mm guns be moved to vicinity of river so as to be effective against enemy aircraft.
- 2152 - Lt. Stephens to Capt. Sylce, AF Co: Breakfast at 0600 hours ready to move after that. 2nd Bn is to move on Div order and the rest will follow, earliest possible time is 0800 hours for the move. (Same message given to 1st Engrs, Cannon Co, 90th Cheml Wpns, 634th TDs, 745th Tanks, and Red Bn).

24 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 2155 - Red 6 to S-6: Enemy is still dropping bombs in area. A big one hit about 60 yards from A Co. S-6: Movement is off for tomorrow as the bridge is not in yet. Red 6 says more enemy planes are coming over. (S-6 reports to Col. Barnes, G-3, regarding air activity).
- 2200 - I&R OP reports: At 2125 hours, enemy and friendly machine gun fire 2200 mils and 4000 yards out. 2135 hours, 1 round of enemy arty landed 400 yards West of OP. 2140 - same as above item. 2145 hours, enemy planes straffing river area south of DUREN; 2146 hours, enemy light machine gun fire 2200 mils at 4000 yards.
- 2250 - Lt. Lynch Div LO: E and G of 415 half way through OBERZIER at 1153. A PW that 104th picked up stated that he saw 75 half tracks in HALMBACH FOREST, they were from 9th Pz Div.
- 2255 - Capt. Smith Red 3 to Lt. Stephens: Two casualties out of C Co from the bombing both men had to be evacuated.
- 2256 - I&R OP reports: 2200 hours, enemy aircraft active near DUREN. 2223 hours, enemy machine gun fire at 1774 mils near the river. 2242 hours, enemy machine gun fire at 1266 mils near river.
- 2258 - Lt. Stephens gives above information about 415th to White Bn.
- 2308 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf: 13th jumped off at 2230 hours, one Co took over 100 PWs. 28th Inf objective is the barracks.
- 2320 - Col. Curtis, G-4 to Lt. Stephens: Are you going to use the GEY-BIRGELL road? Ans: Yes, that is part of the route. Col. Curtis: I want to move some long Toms up.
- 2322 - Col. Driscoll to Lt. Stephens: Five casualties from the bombing. Three litter cases and two walking wounded.
- 2340 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to Lt. Kayes, CO A Co 1st Engrs: The Colonel wants one of your engineers officers to go to the bridge that the 28th Inf is building and stay there, keeping in touch with the progress, and notifying this headquarters 2 hours in advance of the time that the bridge will be completed. Ans: Yes, Sir.
- 2355 - Col. Gara calls inquiring about the engineer officer that has been requested to go to the bridge site. Lt. Stephens repeats request as above. Col. Gara: OK.

25 February 1945

- 0001 - Blue Bn, Capt. Richmond to Mr. Lipinski: 2308 hours, 12 rounds of 81mm landed in I Co area. 2328 hours, 2 rounds of 81mm in vicinity of the CP. 2335 hours, enemy burp gun fire, 5 or 6 rounds of bursts, from across river into I company area. Capt. Richmond reports a lot of both friendly and enemy air activity.
- 0002 - Red Bn, Capt. Smith to Mr. Lipinski: The Co's report negative. Planes are still bombing and strafing and dropping flares. Some bombs have been dropped in the Red Bn area.
- 0005 - I&R OP reports: 2320 hours, enemy aircraft bombed in the vicinity of NIEDERAU. The planes are drawing friendly tracer fire. At 2330 hours, planes strafed in front of DUREN. 2340 hours, strafing and bombing in NIEDERAU, and north of there.
- 0007 - Mr. Lipinski gives hourly report to G-3, giving details items of 0001 hours, etc. (G-2, Capt. Donnelly, is given similar report).
- 0100 - Red Bn reports negative. Planes just dropped AP bombs on C Co area, on top of the hill.
- 0101 - Mr. Lipinski gives above reports to G-3.
- 0102 - Mr. Lipinski to 28th Inf CP: Do you have any report on the situation at the bridge? Ans: Nothing since the enemy scored the direct hit on the bridge - knocking out two sections. They are working on the bridge but expect enemy to be over again. Mr. Lipinski: I'll call you every hour for any information which you have on the bridge. Ans: OK.
- 0105 - Blue Bn and White Bn notified of conversation which Mr. Lipinski had with 28th Infantry CP.
- 0110 - I&R OP reports: Bombing and strafing at 0040 hours SE of DUREN. Enemy recon plane taking photos at 110 degrees and 80 degrees. At 0055 hours, small arms and mortar fire along river at 180 degrees.
- 0115 - Lt. Walker, Blue 2 to Mr. Lipinski: I've just returned from the town near the bridge. In a short while there will be a phone line from the bridge to Dagwood or Blue CPs, so that reports on the progress of the bridge can be made. I talked with the Regt's CO, and he says bridge will not be ready before 0600 hours. I personally think it will take longer. Ans: We will keep you informed as we receive reports.
- 0126 - Capt. Parsons to Mr. Lipinski: 8th Div G-6 says the south bridge will be in by 0400 hours. Bridge #10. Does Dagwood 6 want to use the bridge when it is finished? Col. Horner, S-5: We are not issuing orders until the bridge is in. We do not want to use bridge until we can get tanks across. With 2 hours notice we can have our people there ready to use the bridge. We have people watching the progress of the bridge. (Lt. Kestlinger, 10 to 28th Inf, at 0130 hours, had no word as to when the bridge would be completed).

2 February 1945

- 0140 - 28th Inf CP to Mr. Lipinski: Latest word is that bridge will not be completed for at least 3 hours.
- 0150 - Lt. Kestlinger 28th Inf IO to S-5: Col. Gay, 28th Inf S-5 says that the Treadway was hit, and that we shouldn't plan on using it. He termed it "Hopeless". The Infantry Support bridge is supposed to be in, in about 3 hours. This does not include the approach on the other side. The Treadway was badly damaged by enemy air. Planes are coming over again right now.
- 0152 - S-5 to Blue 2: (Discuss bridge situation). Blue 2 says Lt. Chandler is staying there and running a wire to 28th Inf and to Blue Bn. The advance party did not go over. There was only one boat and the Regt's CO did not care to have them use it. The 28th Infantry Tanks and heavy vehicles went up around DUREN, on the other bridge. They are ready to jump off on STOCKH EIM.
- 0155 - S-5 to Capt. Parsons, G-3: S-5 gives review of reports on bridge; says there is a possibility that we might want to use the bridge that the 28th Inf used, and take our tanks, etc, up around DUREN. S-5 says that he would rather wait awhile longer and see what develops from the Treadway and Infantry Support bridge. G-3 says priority on the other bridge (in DUREN area) can be had for our vehicles).
- 0200 - Blue 2 reports that OP observed bombing just now in the LINDERSDORF area, THE TOWN NEAR THE BRIDGE.
- 0201 - Red Bn reports: A Co patrol returned. Did not get across stream because of enemy air activity along the river. Reports enemy air activity, just at this moment, was bombing KREUZAU area.
- 0204 - Mr. Lipinski reports bombing in KREUZAU to G-3.
- 0230 - Lt. Stineway G-2 to S-5: Inquires about enemy air activity, S-5: Reports bombing and strafinga long river about every half hour. Our casualties have been light, 6 or 7; there has been some incoming artillery and mortar.
- 0240 - Capt. Parsons, G-3 to S-5: MADCAP (90mm Ack Ack) has requested reports from all units in case of enemy air activity to aid them in plots. No reports have been received since midnight. S-5 explains 90's unable to fire at type of low flying craft that enemy has used tonight. (90's are set on the high round away from the river, enemy planes coming in a t tree top height on river bottom, making it impossible for 90's to shoot at them. Units, however, will be notified. (Units were notified).
- 0257 - Blue Bn reports: OP reports air activity over DUREN. A single plane just dropped AP bombs in a rea 500 yards from Blue OP.



27 February 1945

- 0300 - I&R OP reports: <sup>to</sup> Enemy aircraft bombing and strafing in the DUREN sector.
- 0320 - 28th Inf CP to Col. Horner, S-5: Our Colonel just returned from the Infantry Support bridge site. He expects the bridge to be in by 0400 hours. - The enemy has been raising hell down there, but it should be in unless the enemy knocks it out again.
- 0345 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Parsons G-3: Will 8th Div give us running rights on the bridge at 111449? Ans: Yes, you can have 2 hours to clear your vehicles.
- 0348 - Maj. Smith to 28th Inf: Information is given that the Treadway bridge is in. Infantry support bridge will be ready for use at 0400 hours.
- 0400 - Maj. Smith to White Bn: You move at 0730 hours. You will pass across the river at ROLSDORF, using the BAILLEY bridge there.
- 0405 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Parsons, G-3: We would like to use Bailey bridge at ROLSDORF from 0800 hours to 1000 hours. Will use Infantry Support bridge in 28th Inf area as much as possible.
- 0410 - Maj. Smith to Blue: Send your vehicles up around ROLSDORF Using Bailey bridge there, follow the 2nd Bn up.
- 0425 - Col. Barnes, G-5 to Maj. Smith: It looks like it might pay us to get some troops over Infantry Support bridge under cover of darkness. Ans: 2nd Bn will use Bailey bridge up North, the walking elements, 3rd Bn, is on a 2 hour alert and it will be daylight before they could move.
- 0430 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Ralph, Comm. Off: Situation explained. Wants two lines layed tonight.
- 0445 - Capt. Parsons, G-3 to Maj. Smith: Arrangements have been made with 8th Div to use both bridges. 8th Div recommends that recon be sent down in advance to recon route on far side of river.
- 0450 - Lt. Johnson to Maj. Smith: They have quit working on the bridge in 28th Inf sector as of 0400 hours. Three enemy air raids have been the cause. The Treadway is the bridge that is not being worked on.
- 0500 - Capt. Booth to Maj. Smith: Can we get a few vehicles over the Infantry Support bridge? Ans: Yes.
- 0510 - Red Bn reports: At 0455 hours, enemy plane dropped bomb in river in front of B Co. C Co line is out.
- 0520 - I&R OP: Our sector is quiet. Bombing and strafing continues along the river and in the DUREN sector.
- 0530 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Wilder: Instruct Lt. Lewyllen that there is a new route, and have him come to the CP. Move your advance up to the new CP about 0630 hours.

27 February 1945

- 0300 - I&R OP reports: <sup>to</sup> Enemy aircraft bombing and strafing in the DUREN sector.
- 0320 - 28th Inf CP to Col. Horner, S-5: Our Colonel just returned from the Infantry Support bridge site. He expects the bridge to be in by 0400 hours. The enemy has been raising hell down there, but it should be in unless the enemy knocks it out again.
- 0345 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Parsons G-3: Will 8th Div give us running rights on the bridge at 111449? Ans: Yes, you can have 2 hours to clear your vehicles.
- 0348 - Maj. Smith to 28th Inf: Information is given that the Treadway bridge is in. Infantry support bridge will be ready for use at 0400 hours.
- 0400 - Maj. Smith to White Bn: You move at 0730 hours. You will pass across the river at ROLSDORF, using the BAILEY bridge there.
- 0405 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Parsons, G-3: We would like to use Bailey bridge at ROLSDORF from 0800 hours to 1000 hours. Will use Infantry Support bridge in 28th Inf area as much as possible.
- 0410 - Maj. Smith to Blue: Send your vehicles up around ROLSDORF Using Bailey bridge there, follow the 2nd Bn up.
- 0425 - Col. Barnes, G-5 to Maj. Smith: It looks like it might pay us to get some troops over Infantry Support bridge under cover of darkness. Ans: 2nd Bn will use Bailey bridge up North, the walking elements, 3rd Bn, is on a 2 hour alert and it will be daylight before they could move.
- 0430 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Ralph, Comm. Off: Situation explained. Wants two lines layed tonight.
- 0445 - Capt. Parsons, G-3 to Maj. Smith: Arrangements have been made with 8th Div to use both bridges. 8th Div recommends that recon be sent down in advance to recon route on far side of river.
- 0450 - Lt. Johnson to Maj. Smith: They have quit working on the bridge in 28th Inf sector as of 0400 hours. Three enemy air raids have been the cause. The Treadway is the bridge that is not being worked on.
- 0500 - Capt. Booth to Maj. Smith: Can we get a few vehicles over the Infantry Support bridge? Ans: Yes.
- 0510 - Red Bn reports: At 0455 hours, enemy plane dropped bomb in river in front of B Co. C Co line is out.
- 0520 - I&R OP: Our sector is quiet. Bombing and strafing continues along the river and in the DUREN sector.
- 0530 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Wilder: Instruct Lt. Lewyllen that there is a new route, and have him come to the CP. Move your advance up to the new CP about 0630 hours.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 0545 - B OP reports searchlights pointing straight in the air about 7 miles out in front of the enemy positions.
- 0550 - Capt. Parsons, G-3 to Maj. Smith: 8th Div just called and they would like to have you cut your time on the bridge if it is possible. Notify them when you have cleared.
- 0600 - Maj. Smith to White Bn: Have you sent anyone to check on the other side of the bridge? Ans: No. Maj. Smith: You'll have to send someone up there. Maj. Smith to Blue Bn: Have you had anyone up to look at the Infantry Support bridge? Ans: No, but I will send someone up to see you.
- 0615 - Maj. Smith to Lt. Kayes, A of 1st Engrs. Can you move your dozer? Ans: No, it is too far.
- 0620 - White Bn, Capt. Elder to Maj. Smith: What time do you attack? Ans: As soon as you and Blue get into position. It will probably be 204 - you contact us.
- 0650 - Capt. Elder to Maj. Smith: Can you get the road from BIRGEL changed? Lt. Lewellyn says it is not too good. Ans: I don't think so, it has been layed on from higher up.
- 0700 - Col. Grant, White 6 to Maj. Smith: Lt. Lewellyn's jeep just about made it. Can you do anything about getting it changed? Ans: I'll try.
- 0702 - Maj. Smith to 8th Div, Maj. Cochran: Can we use the road GEY to ROLSDORF? Ans: Yes.
- 0704 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder: OK on that road.
- 0710 - Maj. Smith to Blue, Capt. Booth: How are you tied in with the 2nd Bn vehicles? Ans: Lt. Demogenes is in GEY, we'll tie in with the end of the column. Maj. Smith: When you get set across the river call me by radio. H-hour will then be decided on.
- 0712 - I&R OP reports: From 0600 hours to 0620 hours, bombing and strafing continued on DUREN.
- 0730 - Maj. Wozenski to Maj. Smith: What is the news? Ans: A battalion of the 121 is passing through 28th Inf and will push towards STOCKHEIM. Blue 6: You know we have to make a run for it across the spot east of river 113, south to KREUZAU, starting at 0800 hours. (S-3) Do you have the mortars laid on for smoke? Ans: No, could you take care of it.
- 0742 - Maj. Smith to 90th Cheml Wpns: Want you to lay a smoke screen starting at 0800 at 120110 southwest to 117406.
- 0748 - Blue Bn rear to Lt. Kestlinger: The forward CP moved out and the companies will move at 0800 hours.

25 February 1945

- 0815 - Col. Curtis, G-3 to Maj. Smith: How about the road from GEY to BIRGEL, how soon will you be off it? Ans: Not before 10 o'clock.
- 0815 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Baker, 90th Cheml Wpns: I want you to put on an additional smoke screen at 127397 to the southwest to a point at 123393.
- 0821 - Blue 5 to Lt. Stephens: Contact the 4.2's and have them shift half the smoke screen 1000 yards to the south.
- 0822 - White 5 to Lt. Stephens: Column started at 0730 hours, cleared the IP at 0820 hours. 3rd Bn was right behind them and ready to move.
- 0824 - S-3 to 90th Cheml Wpns: Want upper smoke screen, the 1st one to be shifted a little to cover a little more area. Want you to cover from 120400 south, southwest to 118400.
- 0830 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Stephens: The Inf Support bridge is not here as yet. The barracks fell. The 28th Inf took SPOCKHEIM have PW's but cannot get them out as yet. Harry Sylce (AT Co) is up with some vehicles and guns and some engineers.
- 0840 - Lt. Stephens reports to G-3 concerning the movement which has started, and passed on the I&R report of 0820 hours. Also says that the IP was at GEY, and that the Infantry Support bridge is OK for foot troops. (Similar information is given to Col. Gara, 1st Engrs).
- 0850 - I&R OP reports: Receiving fire from a gun SE, and 88mm or a medium. Shells are landing intermittently from area of OP to Red Bn rear area. Same gun was firing yesterday - unable to get a location on it.
- 0900 - Lt. Kestlinger to S-3: The Infantry Support bridge will only take foot crossing. No vehicles. Ans: OK, I'm going to put on a smoke screen.
- 0900 - Red 3 to S-3: White is in Duren crossing river at 111449. Blue transportation is following them. The foot troops are sending over the Infantry Support bridge to KURTHHAUSEN. The smoke in front of you is to cover them. I'll call you when I know H-hour. Red 3: Have you any idea when H-hour will be? Ans: Believe it will be 1100 or 1200 hours. Red 3: B Co reports that the river has dropped considerable.
- 0910 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf to S-3: White has elements in NIEDRAU. No word on Blue yet, but will check on it.
- 0920 - S-3 to Capt. Baker, 90th Cheml Wpns: Stop all firing now. We have enough smoke.
- 0923 - S-3 to 28th Inf: Have you a line to Fwd? Ans: No, we have not.
- 0925 - S-3 to Dagwood Forward CP: Is everything set up there? Ans: Yes, sir. Everything is ready.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 0925 - S-2 to Capt. Dinsmore, "hite rear: Do you have contact with White Fwd? Ans: No, line was hit and no contact. Don't know just where they are now. Will try radio.
- 0927 - Radio Operator: We are in contact with White by 284 radio.
- 0927 - MESSAGE - White to CO, 16th Inf: CO in initial assembly area, trucks and vehicles arriving. (signed 0920 hours).
- 0929 - G-3 to S-3: S-3 reports White Bn starting to close in NIEDERAU.
- 0930 - Capt. Wilder, Hq Co, CO to S-3: Operating CP will be ready by noon in Blue Bn area; other CP units, in Red Bn buildings will not be ready until later today.
- 0930 - Lt. Kestlinger, LO to 28th Inf: I just had a radio message from 28th Inf forward saying Blue is following White. I don't understand it. (S-3) I'll have to check and find out.
- 0935 - Fwd CP Unit - S-6, S-3 and S-2 moves to Fwd CP in vicinity of KUFFERATH - old CP of the Blue Bn.
- 0945 - Maj. Smith of White Bn (S-5) to Maj. Sandell: Our people are about 100 yards East of Check Point 31. They are not all closed in at NIEDERAU, but will be soon. Maj. Sandell: All of Blue and White vehicles cleared the bridge as of 0920 hours. (This information was relayed to Capt. Clark at the Fwd CP).
- 0950 - Col. Horner, S-5 to Capt. Fish: Notify Maj. Tegtmeyer, A Co medics can move in as soon as you move out. S-1: Can I bring staff mess up now? Ans: Yes.
- 1000 - Lt. Kestlinger to Lt. Stephens: 28th Inf has Bn commander of the 353rd with all dispositions and maps. He is still across the river but they have sent up for the maps.
- 1000 - I&R OP Sgt Wheeler reports: 0915 hours, one vehicle possibly a tank identified as friendly, burning about 500 yards NE of Pt 48. Friendly vehicular movement, and other activity observed on this side of river in the NIEDERAU sector. (This is the first movement that has been in this area since CT-16 arrived in this area).
- 1001 - Col. Horner, S-5 to Lt. Stephens: Close your CP, we will start operating from here. Ans: Yes, sir. Your half track left 10 minutes ago.
- 1130 - Maj. Smith to Maj. Crocker, Div: Time of attack is set for 1200 hours with the 2nd Bn and 3rd Ens.
- 1130 - Maj. Smith to Cannon Co: White and Blue Bns attack at 1200 hours.
- 1133 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Smith, Red 3: White Bn and Blue Bn attack at 1200 hours. Col. Driscoll will have our OP call direct to Lt. Brown about progress.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1134 - MESSAGE - Capt. Clark has the dope. Hour time is 1200. Moving to LD by infiltration. Signed 1005 hours. Signed CO, 2nd Bn.
- 1134 - S-5 to Col. Barns: 2nd and 3rd Bns will jump off at 1200 hours. They had trouble in town getting vehicles in because of rubble.
- 1145 - Lt. Ballard, Cannon Co to Maj. Smith: Lt. Carpenter requests fire on factory at 40 line. Maj. Smith: Fire it.
- 1145 - MESSAGE; Request 4.2 smoke on Pts, 48, 63, 77, from H-15 to H plus 45. Continue until called to lift., CO 2nd Bn.
- 1155 - Maj. Smith to Lt. Burns, 90th Cheml Wpns: Here is a fire mission for you, for right away; from line 132403 south to 130388, keep it up until 1245 - lay it down thick and fast.
- 1200 - Capt. Smith Red 3 to Maj. Smith: Everything is going at 1200 hours till 30 minutes after 1200 hours.
- 1205 - S-2 to G-2: Gives OP reports:
- 1215 - Capt. Smith, Red 3 to Maj. Smith: B reports Infantry moving down in to the town, something seems to be hitting in that area.
- 1218 - Sgt Wheeler, I&R OP to Lt. Brown: We spotted friendly Infantry moving in close order south across country via Pt 47, and 500 yards N of Pt 48. 3 tanks going along road. They just drew fire, and some small amount of artillery fire.
- 1220 - Engrs of 299th reports: Five of our tanks are working on the town across from the factory. Started to put line across for foot bridge, and we are starting to work on it now.
- 1228 - I&R OP reports: At 1200 hours, things started popping. AA guns and everything started spraying KREUZAU. The ridge NE, NE of KREUZAU is being smoked. Lots of artillery hitting town. Only one gun so far has fired back.
- 1209 - Col. Driscoll to Lt. Brown: We are spraying town with MG. 5 PWS came out of woods. We sent 9 tanks into woods to clean up.
- 1230 - MESSAGE from White Bn: Have jumped at 1200 hours.
- 1231 - OP reports: Troops at Pt 61, and have 10 PWS.
- 1231 - Col. Horner sends radio message: White and Blue, what is your situation? Report.
- 1232 - Lt. Brown to Capt. Donnley, G-2: Information as of 1218 hours given.
- 1232 - Maj. Smith to Col. Gara, 1st Engrs: Discussion concerns the putting in of a treadway bridge at WINDEN. Col. Gara explains that there is only so much bridging material and it is being used in south for division traffic.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1232 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Capt. Donnley, G-2: Gives report of action to this hour.
- 1240 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Capt. Smith, Red 3: White is at Pt 61 and have 10 PW's.
- 1240 - MESSAGE From White Bn: Attack progressing satisfactorily, have 11 PW's.
- 1245 } Maj. Smith S-3 to Maj. Smith, White Bn: We have jumped off at 1200 hours.
- 1255 - ~~MESSAGE INTERCEPT~~ - White 6 to White 5: E and F in town with 8; bringing back 8 PW's. Have first factory clear, meeting some burp gun fire.
- 1258 - Lt. Brown, to Capt. Smith, Red 3: E and F in town with 8 tanks. 1st factory clear and 8 PW's have been taken. Red 3: B Co reports that the bank of the river is not being cleared of the enemy. Lt. Brown: I'll check.
- 1300 - Lt. Brown to Capt. Smith, Red 3: Red 3: Did you get any information on the enemy Bn commander captured by the 8th Div? Ans: No, but I'll let you know.
- 1305 - I&R OP reports: Haven't been able to observe. We have been sniped at by 47mm stuff.
- 1306 - MESSAGE: From Blue Bn: Leading elements at Pt 49, time signed 1250 hours.
- 1310 - Red OP reports: Direct fire weapon coming from 160 degrees.
- 1310 - Col. Barns, Div to S-3: "hat is the latest? (Col. Barns), is given the latest information as previously listed in a bove journal items), G-5: What about your foot bridge? S-3: They just started it. We will run our 1st Bn over it. (This same information is given to G-3).
- 1315 - Cannon Co to Lt. Kestlinger: Will you relay to White Bn that F is on objective. (This information is sent by radio to White Bn).
- 1320 - Capt. Smith Red 3 to Maj. Smith; S-3: 10 enemy across river in trenches. We are firing grenades at them.
- 1325 - Col. Crocker, ASP, to Maj. Smith: Is there anything that the air can do? It will take 20 minutes to get it. Ans: No, not now, but I will let you know.
- 1326 - Col. Driscoll to Col. Gibb: 2nd Bn has gone by without sweeping the river edge. The engineers are pinned down now.
- 1330 - Capt. Smith, Red 3 to Col. Gibb: 12 of our men are at Pt 60, running into some small arms fire on the river bank.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1330 - Blue OP reports: At 1150 hours one vehicle moving N along road at 142380. Dispersed into the woods.
- 1330 - Cannon Co, to S-5: Spotted friendly tanks at 116398.
- 1340 - MESSAGE: Delight liaison reports 2nd Bn has reached Phase Line 3.
- 1345 - MESSAGE: White Bn to GO 16th: Enemy gun located at 131394.
- 1345 - I&R reports: 2 squads at Pt 60, clearing out houses, they are across the stream.
- 1347 - Maj. Smith, White 5, to Col. Gibb: Co F at phase line #3.
- 1354 - Sgt. Wheeler, I&R OP reports: Enemy flat trajectory wpm believed to be dug in cannon, at 130390 firing at our troops and in the direction of our tanks. Fired about 20 rounds. Registered in with 7th FA, and they are placing A TOT on it.
- 1355 - Blue Bn Radio MESSAGE: Leading elements left line of departure at 1317 hours; no contact. Time signed 1320 hours.
- 1358 - Col. Horner to Col. Barnes: (Col. Horner gives latest information on the situation).
- 1359 - Lt. Form, S-2 to G-2: (Information on the situation as previously listed). G-2: 300 PW's from 1st Bn, 10th PGR captured intact up near HAMBACH. It is believed the 9th Pz Div is there.
- 1401 - Maj. Lord, G-3 to Maj. Smith, S-3: The 26th will move over #10 bridge; they will use #7 to move 2 platoons of Tanks and TD's. They will move down to NIEDERAU and jump off in the morning. It will not be necessary for you to turn over the one platoon of tanks to the 26th; 26th is moving 1 Bn across.
- 1410 - Capt. Smith, Red 3 to Maj. Smith, S-3: Our OP reported a squad of men approximately 3 to 400 yards South of Pt 60. Companies A and C receiving some small mortar fire. K and L companies at Pt 64.
- 1412 - Col. Horner, S-5 to Capt. Smith Red 3: What is the story on the bridge? Ans: Line to B Co is out? S-5: What is the latest? Ans: We have a squad of men working down south of Pt 60. They are receiving light small arms fire. No tanks or TDs spotted.
- 1420 - Maj. Clissen to Col. Horner: Here's our present situation: 1st we will not need the 2 platoons of TDs and tanks from you. We have clearance to move our Blue Bn across #10 bridge. Our 3rd Bn will go across and assemble near NIEDERAU. They will jump off tomorrow thru you. Tanks and TDs will cross bridge #7 at 1630 hours. Infantry at 1700 hours. How are things with you? Ans: (Col. Horner gives information as previously listed).
- 1430 - Col. Driscoll, Red 6 to Maj. Smith S-3: Bridge is in. Can we move over? Ans: Can you get across alright? Red 6: Yes. S-3: I will call you back in a few minutes.



25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1430 - Col. Horner to Lt. Olson, Blue Bn: 284 is working well, if you have trouble keeping line in, we are still OK. Get on the 284 and talk.
- 1435 - Capt. Richmond, Blue 5 to Maj. Smith S-3: We have jumped from the 65 line, I Co was brought up. They weren't meeting much. I have lost contact with my people right now.
- 1437 - I&R OP reports: Our troops are moving by Pt 75. Everything is quiet.
- 1445 - Capt. Oelze G-2 to Lt. Brown: Locations on map taken by 8th Div - 353rd Div CP at 19254030; Signal Bn CP, 231402; Replacement Bn at FREIZHAU, 2243; One arty CP at 14253467; Regt CP at 125358; B Co 105359; Regt's Arty CP at 202360; CP 942nd At LINZEISICH. PW's taken from 2nd and 3rd companies, 89th Regt, Hq, 1, 2, 14th Companies; 48th Regt; 12th AT Co; 9th Btry, 407th Volks Arty Regt.
- 1446 - Maj. Smith, S-3 to G-3, Maj. Green: We have a foot bridge in now, we know the 26th plan and will work with them.
- 1450 - Maj. Smith S-3 to White Bn, Capt. Elder: At 1245 hours we jumped, got 8 PW's in factory. 1250 hours tanks and TD's going to Pt 61. 1320 hours, Karas, E Co, on 2nd phase line. 5 more PW's. 1330 hours E still advancing went to Pt 46. 1355 hours, going to phase line 3. 1410 hours, tanks report Pt 46 clear. 1445 hours, 50 PW's at this time, they were taken over by the 28th Infantry. 1450 hours, 40 PW's seen coming out of woods in Blue sector. 1445 hours, E Co at phase line #4.
- 1450 - Red Bn reports: One of our tanks with infantry 100 yards NE of Pt 75.
- 1454 - Maj. Smith, White 5 to Sgt Collura: Town cleared to Phase Line #3. 50 PW's turned over to friendly unit. 40 PW's coming out of woods due E of Phase Line #3. Attack is going satisfactory. (From White 6, thru White 5).
- 1455 - Col. Gibb to Col. Grant, White 6: Give Wozenski (Blue 6), platoon of tanks and a cannon observer when they get in position.
- 1455 - Col. Driscoll Red 6 to Col. Horner S-5: I would like to move over now. Ans: OK. Col. Gibb: In the event the 2nd Bn clears the town to the West, I want you to push out to your objective, 93. When you come up to F Co line, they will turn over your tanks.
- 1458 - Maj. Smith, To Capt. Richmond, Blue 5: 2nd Bn is down to Pt 62, 75; tanks are with them. 1st Bn is crossing over now; will go down West edge of town; push toward Pt 93. 2nd Bn will push to DROME. You are to push to your 3rd Objective. (Maj. Smith reviews items of this journal).
- 150 7- Capt. Elder to Maj. Smith S-3: Tanks are now going for Phase line #5. E Co is meeting tough opposition. Enemy is hold up in the cellars.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1510 - Col. Gibb to Maj. Lord, G-3: What is the plan for tomorrow? Ans: 26th is to go as planned. 18th is coming in on your left. 26th to take half of DROVE and cover the south flank. S-6: What are the definite boundaries? Ans: UDINGEN TO DROVE; from DROVE to 160360. 26th's mission to contact 9th. S-6: I plan to have my 2nd Bn take SOLLER; 1st will go for FRANGENHEIM.
- 1517 - Lt. Walker, Blue 2 to Lt. Brown, S-2: K and L Co's held up by small arms and mortar at Pt 64. There's tank fire, but it is believed ours. Receiving some direct fire. (Col. Gibb to Lt. Walker): Give this information to Maj. Wozenski: Take high ground 400 yards south of STOCKHEIM.
- 1520 - Col. Horner to Maj. Edmonds: B Co now moving across river; A Co getting ready to move across. S-5: What about the Infantry Support bridge? Is it completed? Ans: I don't know sir.
- 1520 - I&R OP reports: 1455 hours, enemy plane flying 50 feet high taking pictures of WINDEN; drew no flak. 1445 hours, we saw 2 of our medium tanks at Pt 75.
- 1530 - Capt. Elder, White Bn to Maj. Smith: 2 platoons of tanks from E Co and F Co have reached Phase Line #5. Fighting is not all over.
- 1535 - I&R OP reports: 1525 hours, one dozen arty (enemy) shells landed between Pt 75 and 76. Gun firing from 120 to 125 degrees, by sound.
- 1555 - Col. Gibb to Capt. Richmond: K and L receiving small arms and mortar fire. It has increased. A direct fire weapon firing from Pt 65. One German tank stuck, firing MG, in vicinity of Pt 64. Maj. Wozenski just called for medium tanks. TDs can't cope with situation. Going to send tanks up. Ans: OK; I will call Col. Grant and have him release your tanks immediately.
- 1600 - Col. Gibb to Capt. Elder, White-3: What about the tanks? Ans: I just released them. S-6: Fine. (Col. Gibb gives latest information, previously listed in this journal).
- 1602 - Lt. Brown To Capt. Oelze, G-2: One PW identified as 943 Pz Gr.
- 1615 - S-3 to Red 5: "Dixie A" clearing station is at the old Regt CP.
- 1619 - S-3 to Blue 2: Same message as above concerning Dixie A. White Bn is also notified.
- 1634 - I&R OP reports: Last hour it has been hazy, and we cannot see a thing.
- 1636 - Red 5 to S-3: D Co mortars and the attached 4.2s report that the same high velocity weapon that was firing this morning from their rear, is firing again. It is coming from their rear and hitting in their positions. CO of 90th Chml Wpns, is on his way up to see you.
- 1640 - S-3 to G-3: Give info as above concerning the high velocity wpn. G-3: OK, I'll check on it right away.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1650 - S-3 to Blue 5: We want a report every hour on the hour. Blue: A Got the tanks, but they need gas, it will take 60 to 90 minutes to gas them up and another 30 minutes to get the tanks up. From 65 down to 64, there is a tank and SP gun firing down to 49. Automatic weapons dug in along that line. I Co and TDS are working around on the East flank now. Blue 6 is with Company "I".
- 1650 - Maj. Lord to Col. Horner: We got an order on way down to you. Elements of 18th Regt, on your left tomorrow afternoon, taking over STOCKHEIM from 28th Regt, so they can push forward. Col. Horner: 3rd Bn at about 140390, having a little trouble. B Co is across, A Co is going across. About 100 PW's so far.
- 1656 - Red 5 to S-3: A and B are across the river now.
- 1657 - CO 90th Chml Wpns to S-3: Some of my men say that this stuff is coming from the NW and could be 105's. Is your cannon Co doing anything? Ans: I'll check.
- 1700 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Lt. Walker, Blue 2: What is new? Ans: Just gave the information to Maj. Smith. Will you call me on your CP location?
- 1707 - Blue CP to Clerk: CP cleared here at 1305 hours went by 284 radio. It is at 126410.
- 1720 - Col. Horner to Capt. "Richmond: How are things going? Ans: I Co about to move with tanks and TDS. Going to the east. I should have a report on it in about fifteen minutes for you. Ans: Call it in then.
- 1725 @ PW reports: Just got 3 prisoners in from 1st Bn. They are from the 2nd Co, 943rd Regt. Will start working on them now.
- 1725 - Maj. Clissen, 26th Inf to S-3: We are going to move a Bn across your bridge and into K in the next 20 minutes. Advance party should be in there contacting your men. Blue is out in "H". S-3: We are going for DROVE and hill west of DROVE. Then we will pass thru 1st Bn, their CP in town of K not too far from the church. The 2nd is going to D, 3rd in woods south of STOCKHEIM.
- 1730 - Inquiry made of Cannon Co as to whether fire coming from rear of 90th Chml wpns was coming from the Cannon Co guns. Cannon Co replies that they have not fired for over an hour.
- 1745 - Maj. Emonds to S-5: Wants priority in taking antitank and Regt'l CP vehicles. S-5: Use treadway in 28th Inf Sector #9, vic of NIEDRAU in LENDERSDORF. Use road from our CP to BULZBEIN right down to 2nd right hand fork in LENDERSDORF.
- 1750 - Capt. "Richmond, Blue 5 to Lt. Kestlinger: I Co, 200 yards N east of Pt 64 in movement. L and K on line south of 64. L Co on left and K Co on right. They are trying flanking movement. S-3: Can we do anything for you? Ans: Nothing that I know of, I believe this thing will fold up soon.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1755 - PWI to S-3: Of the 3 prisoners, 2 are shell shocked, not much information from them. From 2nd Co, sector 117405, 118410. Strength of 50 men, of the 353rd Div in GLADBACH. Had 10 replacements 2 days ago. Replacements came up from SAAR river.
- 1755 - Capt. Baker, CO 90th Cheml Wpns to Lt. Kestlinger: At 1420 hours, we had a shell that hit in our area. There are plenty of shell fragments and a fuse. I believe it is our. Ans: Send the fragments up here. We will examine it.
- 1810 - Col. Jewett, Engrs, to Lt. Kestlinger: 2nd foot bridge is finished, 6 yards from first one. The cable is across the Infantry Support bridge, it will probably be finished by 2030 hours.
- 1820 - PWI reports: We have four PW's from 2nd Co, 943rd Regt.
- 1840 - S-3 to Blue, Capt. Richmond: How is it going? Ans: Just talked to Lt. Walker by radio a few minutes ago. He says he will give me a full report in about 10 minutes. I and K on line near Point Gh. I Go on move (something must be up). Road behind them blocked with mines and a blown up jeep and truck of 8th Div. I have few casualties, don't know how many. Rear CP will move up to KREUZAU, forward CP still in woods. S-3: Woods must be cleared tonight. Blue: It will be. I understand that G Co is in DROVE. S-3: That is right. Red Bn is near Pt 78. Blue: I'm getting wire up to Lt. Walker now. East of Pt 49 road being mortared and shelled.
- 1857 - The following instructions given to radio operator: Send this message in the clear. Red and White Forward CP's, where are your forward elements? - and let me know what you find out.
- 1905 - S-3 to 299th Engrs: How is Infantry Assault Bridge coming? Ans: Should be in in 30 minutes. The 2 walking bridges are in now. S-3: Call me when the bridge is in.
- 1926 - MESSAGE from White Bn: G Co jumped at 1830 hours, signed 1912 hours. Send MP to foot bridge at once, we have 30 PW's, there.
- 1927 - 299th Engrs to S-3: Bridge is in now. Will take only up to 3/4 ton trucks.
- 1927 - Capt. Brooks to Lt. Brown: We just received a message from G Co to lift fire in their sector. Ans: OK, will notify 7th FA.
- 1931 - S-3 to Blue 5: Gave above message 1926 hours. Bridge is at 116402.
- 1932 - S-3 to White Bn Lt. Gresang: Gives information of above items. S-3: Our people are on objective at Phase Line #5, message received at 415 and 430 P.M. Have they jumped off for DROVE? Ans: Don't know.
- 1935 - S-3 gives information in above items to Cannon Co, 90th Cheml Wpns and G-3.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1950 - Col. Grant to S-3: Tells of items above. White 6, is informed that Blue Bn is in a sticky situation. STOCKHILL being covered, I Co flanking and receiving much "stank". White G: My right is at 63 and 64, that means I have no protection from my flank since he is not at 65. S-3: He runs from the woods, his R flank is at 136395. Left flank at 144400. White 6: E Co swinging around facing south SE, F Co the same. A and B have been thru, it shouldn't be so bad. Two tanks stuck at Point 77. G is working thru DROVE. S-3: The plan for 26th is to go thru Red Bn. They have 2 Bns across.
- 1957 - White Bn: Tanks held up by mines at Pt 77. Inf beyond this point nearing Pt 95.
- 1959 - Col. Jewett, 299th Engr Bn to S-3: Our experts say that the Inf Support bridge will take a normal loaded 2 1/2 ton truck. Advise you to get your light stuff across before you take your heavy stuff across. Cannot reinforce the bridge by putting more heavy stuff under it, as it will block up the water and act as a dam.
- 1959 - Red 5 to S-3: Just got a message on 300 radio saying that B Co has one platoon on Pt 93, rest of company moving up. Position A Co unknown. C Company in vicinity of Pt 60.
- 2000 - Capt. Brooks, Red Bn reports: A Co has 3 platoons on objective. Capt. Kolb has been slightly wounded and has gone forward (to) CP to the medica.
- 2007 - S-3 to Blue 3: Southern edge of STOCKHILL Not clear. Sending a patrol out, will give you the information later. Blue 3: I am sending patrol out to Point 65. Any news from Red? S-3 gives information in items of 1950 and 2000 hours. Blue 3: Can I bring my kitchen trucks up tomorrow? Ans: Yes, by way of KRAUTHAUSEN.
- 2021 - PWI to Duty Clerk: 78 PWS, no officers, taken by White Bn, are from 1st Co of 941 Inf Regt, 2 PWS from 6th Co, 35 PWS from 14 Co, 7 PWS 2nd Co, 943rd Regt, 7 PWS, 3rd Co, 1 PW 45th Co, 5 PWS 6th Co, 14 PWS 14th Co, 3 PWS, Regtl Aid station 943rd, 2 PWS, 4th Battery 353 Arty Regt, 2 PWS, One mine field of stock mines in front of trees, wire entanglements in vicinity 117396. 6th Co, 941st Regt was sub-divided into 4 strong points in sector from 116402 to 120390. PWS believe that the 942nd Inf Regt is non-existent. PW reports 2nd Bn CP of 941 in DROVE. PWS 4th Btry of 353 Arty Regt says they have 4 105's at 167-34335. They had to fire on LEENDERSDORF and ammo was scarce. Could only fire on important targets, such as a troop concentration, etc.
- 2010 - S-3 to Maj. Lord: Tells about White Bn running into mine field at 130386. G Co halfway thru DROVE at Pt 138376. Mines were dug in. Blue is trying to push patrols to the 28th Inf. I Co at 143405, coming around STOCKHILL, K Co right flank at 134398. Left flank at 138399. L Co right flank at 139400, left flank at 143401. Can't get any tanks up. 8th Div had TDS blown up which became an obstacle because of blocking passage.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 2031 - MESSAGE VIA RADIO: "A" is on 93.
- 2029 - PW report given to G-2.
- 2040 - Red Bn to S-3: Planes approaching from the south. At 110 degrees, at 1000 yards, mixed rifle fire. S-3: Make immediate report of enemy planes to MADCAP.
- 2050 - MESSAGE RED FORWARD TO RED REAR: On hill 93, start displacing vehicles. Bridge open at 18. Check route with Bn rear. From Dog 6.
- 2115 - S-3 to Capt. Golden, Cannon Co, Capt. Golden: Any gun positions on other side? Ans: Yes, at Point 63. S-3: I think that the 3rd Bn should move out at point 65 before you take off.
- 2116 - White 3 to S-3: We have a tank out at 77, we will push it off the road and go ahead. Red has two platoons south of point 97. We are pulling F Co out, putting them in at point 95. Trying to contact Red there. We will have no AT guns behind Driscoll. We are sending platoon of tanks and TD down there. We must first sweep the road. S-3: Just received our orders for tomorrow. We are to move out to objectives. You have to take a part of DROVE, but we need high ground at point 96 due east to 98 and back to point 97. The 3rd Bn will then take the goose egg at pt 65 to point 79 east to point 80 to point 66. Ans: When, tonight? Ans: We are working on that now. White 3: We have stuck our nose out now and we are liable to get a kick in the rear. S-3: If not tonight, tomorrow for sure. The 3rd Bn contact point is trail junction 146382. If 3rd can't do it; Red will come up north thru your left flank and close up gap between you and Blue. White 3: What time? Ans: Can't give you an exact time. Set your own time and then we will work on it. White 3: We have more than we can do tonight to get the job done.
- 2116 - S-2 gives PW report to G-2:
- 2120 - S-2 to 26th Inf S-2: Mine field at 122375 of AP mines, also road at 115374, 120379 is mined with AT mines. We got PWs from 941 and 943 Inf. 26th Inf: How about 942? S-2: No, nobody from there. S-2 gives company identifications as previously listed).
- 2127 - Lt. Lewellyn reports that there are now 110 PWs in the Regt cage.
- 2129 - PW1 to Lt. Brown: PW says that DROVE is defended on the south by 2nd Bn of 941 Inf Regt. Elements of the 353 engineers Bnd defending the northern part. Div CP of 353 Inf Div at 19913870. CP of 353 Engr Bn at 19933862. 941st Regt 1 CP and CP of 11th Co are together in vicinity of 943376. PW is definite that the 942nd Regt does not exist. Other PWs say they heard of it, but this PW says it does not exist.
- 2130 - Above PW report forwarded to G-2. Due to lack of transportation these PWs will not be delivered until tomorrow.

25 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 2130 - S-3 to G-3: We have DROVE complete, one Co is in there and one Co is on the way. Tanks and TDs will be there in an hour. We lost one tank at Pt 77. S-3 repeats plans for next objective tomorrow given to White Bn in item 2116 hours. Gives G Co coordinates left flank 142373, F Co will move up by G south to S east 140368, West to 137369. F Co to join G. E Co will keep constant patrols to keep roads open.
- 2140 - S-2 to S-4: Like 2, two and a half ton trucks in the morning to haul PWS.
- 2200 - S-3 to Blue 5: Discuss tomorrow's situation. S-3: "2nd Bn has DROVE and tomorrow will push to high ground at 98. Your mission to push and try and get 80 to 96 and down to 79. Blue: That Bn in SPOCKHEIM is getting hell knocked out of them, they are disorganized. The road 49 to 50 is under fire from small arms.
- 2205 - S-3 to Blue 5: Colonel wants you to get in touch with Blue 6, and tell him to stop what ever he is doing and get back to a telephone so that he can talk to him. Blue: Just got a line in to the switch, but it is out now.
- 2214 - White 5 to S-2: G Co is a little SW of 97 and F is moving in on their left. They took about 160 PWS for the day.
- 2214 - S-3 to Maj. Mellan 28th Inf. Where are you now? Ans: In ROMMELSCHHEIN, Blue Bn working into SPOCKHEIM. White is at barracks to 287 moving around. Blue is out by itself. Will coordinate with 121st Inf. They are at GUBBLERATH. S-3: Speaks about clearance to DROVE and bridges to KIEUZAU. Gives coordinates of Blue at 140400 and Red Bn at 125375. Maj. Mellan: At 2200 hours tonight we go for town of F. We have about 315 PWS cleared today.
- 2226 - Blue CP location reported as at 123393.
- 2227 - S-3 to Capt. Sylce, AT Co: Send your platoon of mine detectors to Red Bn.
- 2228 - S-3 to Capt. Golden, Cannon Co: Can you send your mine detector platoon to Red Bn? Ans: They are on the road between DROVE and where tank was blown up.
- 2228 - S-3 to 90th Cheml Wpns: No reports on shell fire. S-3: Make a recon and call us on it. We go across tomorrow. Objectives near 15 eastings, 1718 in the 13th section.
- 2230 - Red 3 to S-2: 9 PWS all from 5th Co, 941st Regt. Taken by A Co on Pt 93. PW says the Regtl CP, is in VETTWEISZ, Div CP in KLESTERNITZ, Div Supply in ERPP. 942 Regt is dissolved. The left overs from it came from the 350 Replacement pool in LUXHEIM and EGGERSHEIM. 2 new 21 CM Guns in FROIZHEIM. The 2nd Bn of 941 Regt hold strength of 240 men. The strong point of each Co is made up of 8 enlisted men, 1 non-com and 2 machine guns, 4 panzer faust. The Div CO names is WAHLMANN and is on furlough. Maj. RIGGERS taking over. All 9 men joined Regt 6 days ago. They consist of mechanics, cooks, etc. Each man had a gas mask but know of no preparation to use gas.

25 February 1945

- 2235 - S-3 to Red 3: Two mine detector teams on the way and whole platoon will be over tomorrow.
- 2240 - PWI to S-2: 5 PWS from White Bn are from Hq 2nd Bn, 941st Regt, 2 PWS, 5th Co 941st Regt. 3 PWS. (PW reports relayed to G-2).
- 2240 - Maj. Lord G-3 to S-3: Checks on F Co and E Co reports casualties light. Plan for tomorrow - Blue Bn southeast and White Bn due east to clear up, to be joined by Red Bn later.
- 2316 - Maj. Edmonds gets all latest test information from Lt. Kestlinger. Maj. Edmonds says that **Capt.** Kolb was injured when he was talking with a soldier and the soldier dropped a rifle on a mine.
- 2330 - S-3 to Capt. Golden; Gives positions of Bn and tomorrow's plan for next objectives.
- 2332 - White 3 to S-3: Any dope on H-Hour? Ans: No. White 3: We have a few more PWS from G Co. The Colonel (White 6) says hours between 0530 and 0600.
- 2340 - S-3 to Red CP: What is new? Ans: A Co is receiving direct fire from southwest. S-3: Gives jump off hour for White and Blue Bns, as 0630 hours in the morning. Gives locations of Bns. (Same information given to Blue Bn and to G-3).
- 2345 - S-3 gives same information to 745th Tanks. Asks that a T 2 remove tanks off road where Blue has to pass them.



26 February 1945

- 0015 - I&R OP to Lt. Kestlinger: A German machine gun gave three quick bursts and to the left at 160 degrees; an American machine gun began to fire. To the far right flank there is a good deal of mortar fire.
- 0020 - Lt. Kestlinger to 745th Tanks Service Co: Can you loan us a T-2 to knock some tanks off the road in the Blue Bn area? Ans: Have a man meet me at the Infantry Support bridge, 116402, in about 15 minutes. The job will have to be looked over first, more than just the one T-2 may be needed.
- 0025 - Blue 6 is given the above information and told to send a guide to the bridge.
- 0040 - PWI reports: Five more PW's from White Bn. They are from the 3rd Co of 353 Engr Bn. 4 PWs; 1 PW from 13th Co, 941st Regt. PW state (taken by "A" Co at 125374). Locations: CP 2nd Bn 941st Regt at 14563786, CP 941st Regt in houses which form semi-circle around Pt at 1955386, 8th Co 941st Regt Vicinity 146370. Div Supply trains in ERPP. 1st Co, 353rd replacement Bn in LUXHEIM in houses at 21704211 and at 22184204, 2nd Co 353rd Replacement Bn in EGGERSHHEIM in buildings at 22494364, 3 heavy guns seen 3 weeks ago in FROTTZHEIM at 181354, 179356 and 182356. Order of Battle for information; 8th Co as reported, 5th Co from 125374 to southern outskirts of KREUZAU, 6th Co to the north of the 5th Co, 2nd Co to the south of the 5th Co; Rumor has it that paratroopers are to the south of 1st Bn of 941st Regt. 2nd Bn 941st Regt has 240 men as of 24 Feb 1945. Civilians are in LUXHEIM, VETTWEISZ, GLADBACH. There are no civilians in KELZ, and SOLLER. The main bridge from COLOGNE to WAHN across the RHINE, although damaged, is intact. With probable one way traffic on it.
- 0100 - G-3 to Lt. Kestlinger: Red Bn of 28th Inf, is in the process of cleaning up that situation in STOCKHEIM.
- 0110 - Lt. Kestlinger to Red Bn: White and Blue go at 0630 hours. Blue is running into a little mines up in the woods there. They had a jeep go over one. Is anything doing up your way? Ans: All is quiet.
- 0120 - Blue 6 to Lt. Kestlinger: I am going thru with my original plan. Main reason why I am not sending one platoon with tanks around the left flank to 65 is because the situation in STOCKHEIM is still not decided. I am going to send the M-10's down the road on the left and the tanks down on the right. K and L go first until they reach Pt 65, then I Co picks up the tanks and goes for the strong point.
- 0125 - Lt. Kestlinger gives hourly report to G-3.
- 0150 - I&R OP reports: Scattered small arms fire and artillery along the front.

26 February 1945

- 0200 - PW reports: Information from PW of 13th Company 941st Regt, Co had 9 - 75mm Infantry Howitzers, 3 had been destroyed by our counter battery fire, 3 left behind at 137368. Two days ago the last three were in or about town of THUM. Also Co GP was in this town 2 days ago. 3rd Co, 353rd Engrs Bn -- only one platoon of 13 men were in DROVE for the object of setting off explosions on trees at the approaches to DROVE from BOICH. PW doesn't know whether this plan went as expected or not. The rest of 353rd Engr Bn is in VETTWEISZ. The strength of 200 men. This PW from (Red Bn PW) was from the 5th Co 941st Regt, he had nothing new to add to above report. One PW (from Blue Bn), was from 3rd Co, 353rd Replacement Bn. Says 3rd Co was in MUDDERSHEIM 4 days ago. All replacements from this Co were used up and sent to the front. Two days ago there were some 50 men who came from EGGERSSCHEIM to the front with the mission of "To annihilate a small bridge". They were then put in a position (141405). PW believes that the rest of the 50 men are now in patch of woods in vicinity of 147401. However, interrogator does not deem this PW's story as being too reliable.
- 0210 - Capt. Smith, Red 3 to Capt. Clark: Nothing new, all quiet.
- 0225 - Capt. Carroll, 745th Tanks, to Capt. Clark: Reports new tank hit a mine and that he has a wrecker trying to get it out. Asks that this message be given to Col. Nicholl of the 745th Tanks.
- 0230 - White Bn reports: G and F in town. G Co at southern corner to east of point 91 and F Co, going toward Point 95. There are 11 more PW's and an ambulance - wounded in the ambulance - a captain and a woman who claims to be a nurse (27 years old).
- 0235 - S-3 to G-3: Red and White Bns are quiet. Blue had a patrol out to I Co at 149395, west to point without trouble. K Co at 140391, got within 300 yards and was stopped by heavy fire.
- 0237 - S-3 to 745th Tank CP: Relays Capt. Carrolls message to Col. Nicholls about the tank hitting the mine. This happened this afternoon, and the maintenance Bn Officer is down with a wrecker and cannot move the tank.
- 0300 - 7th FA to Capt. Clark: Have two points that we want to fire, will you check them? They are 1163768 and 115373. Ans: Closest troops are 600 yards. OK to fire if you keep on that point - no further north or east.
- 0312 - Red Bn gives negative report.
- 0340 - Capt. Clark reports negative for Red and White Bns to G-3. Doesn't know about the Blue Bn as the line is out.

26 February 1945

- 0400 - White Bn reports: A little activity around Pt. 115. Enemy Infantry moving around there. We are firing artillery on them. Outside of that all is quiet.
- 0416 - Capt. Clark gives hourly report to G-3 - Blue line is still out.
- 0455 - Lt. Bashford, G-2 to Lt. Stephens: PW from 12 VG, a M/sgt, picked up by 8th Div, states 9th Pz Div supposed to attack between DUREN and STOCKHEIM this morning. They have 23 tanks with an assembly area in the vicinity of 2345. At 0330 CORPS reported PW of 6th Co, 33rd Pz Regt, was picked up in vicinity of RODIGEN 1063. He stated that he came from the SCHLIDEN area and knew nothing of the remainder of the Regt. PW from Escort Co, 112 Regt, states his unit is in vicinity of ELSDORF F-1860, along with 86 Engr Bn of 9th Pz Div.
- 0500 - G-3 to Lt. Stephens: 8th Div reports STOCKHEIM cleared as of 0445 hrs.
- 0515 - Red Bn to Lt. Stephens: Negative report. Have a line into B Co. (Lt. Stephens relays information given by G-2 and G-3 in above reports).
- 0520 - I&R OP to Lt. Stephens: At 0350 hours, observed friendly tracer fire, also at 0425 hours, observed same coming from NNE. For past 15 minutes 10 rounds of WP shells landed west of OP about 600 yards out. OP is at 07733835.
- 0525 - Blue Bn reports to Lt. Stephens: Negative report. (Lt. Stephens passes on information of reports from G-2 and G-3).
- 0535 - 745th Tank Bn reports that the tanks were taken from the road in the Blue Bn area. There were 5 tanks there.
- 0615 - S-3 to Red 3: Gives information on clearance of STOCKHEIM by the 28th Infantry. Red 3 says that Capt. AUERBACH was hit on head by falling masonry. Probably no evacuation will be necessary.
- 0618 - S-3 to G-3, negative. G-3: 26th Inf 3rd Bn, left NIEDRAU at 0400 hours going south. They were at 122389 at 0530 hours.
- 0650 - Capt. Elder, White 3 to S-3: F Co has taken point 96, and 30 to 40 PW's. Getting ready to move E Co thru to get G up some.
- 0655 - S-3 to Blue 3: Blue reports: All lined up for jump off. Will let you know immediately when it takes place. S-3 reports item of 0650 hours.
- 0657 - S-3 notified White 3 that Blue Bn is all set to jump. White will be notified immediately of the time.
- 0700 - Lt. Chandler, White 2 to S-3: I have 41 PW's to be picked up around Point 61. I am in KHEUZAU now.

26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 0705 - Sgt Carlrossa, Blue Operations Sgt reports that Blue Bn jumped off at 0710 hours.
- 0715 - S-3 to White 3: Blue reports that they jumped off at 0710 hours, White 3: E Co now on 96. S-3: Those PW's will be taken care of that Lt. Chandler spoke of.
- 0718 - S-3 to G-2 Lt. Botsford: White and Blue Bns jumped at 0710 hours. F Co at 143370, took 41 PW's.
- x 0800 - Lt. Brown to 299th Engrs: Do you know how the progress of the bridge is coming?
- 0825 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder: What is the latest? Ans: F Co at 96; they got 30 PW's; E Co pushing thru F Co; at present 300 yards from it.
- 0828 - 7th FA to S-3: Just got a call from 5th Field Arty, that a tank is observed at 145375, believed to be enemy, can you tell us anything on it? Ans: It should be friendly, as F Co was reported near there.
- 0830 - Lt. Kunzig AT Co to Clerk: We are moving our CP over.
- 0835 - Capt. Thomas, 7th FA: Do we have troops at 135355? Ans: We do not, but the 26th may have.
- 0836 - Capt. Smith Red 3 to Maj. Smith S-3: B Co has about 30 men missing this morning. We are looking for them. All casualties are from mines. About 20 from each of the two companies. C is OK. Other two companies are around Pt 93. Lt. Martin, AT Co, is on road just west of the railroad. Tanks and Tds back in town. S-3 gives latest locations.
- 0841 - Sgt Carlrossa, Blue Bn to Maj. Smith: L is on objective which is almost to 66, reported at 0812 hours. K is at pt 65 at 0812 hours.
- 0848 - Capt. Scott, FC 7th FA, to Maj. Sandell, LO for 7th FA: I want all available fire put on point 116, (145360) and the draw 300 yards east of 116. Enemy counterattack with tanks and infantry - not big - only 4 tanks and infantry.
- 0900 - Maj. Sandell to Capt. Scott: I got message thru by radio to 7th FA: Ans: No communication with G, have it with F Co, so we can't adjust it. We have Cannon Co observer with F. We have one with G, but his radio is knocked out. Capt. Bour to Capt. Elder: Enemy tank in vicinity of 94, is 1st Bn in there? Ans: Not there but can see 94.
- 0904 - White Bn to Lt. Stephens: G Co requests artillery on 115 and 116 immediately. Ans: Hold 115 till we check as it may be friendly there. Lt. Stephens to 7th FA S-3: 2nd Bn requests artillery on 116, immediately. Ans: We were just told it might be 26th tanks up there. Maj. Smith: Fire a couple smoke shells in there, 26th Infantry tanks should not be in there.

26 February 1945

- 0905 - S-3 to 7th FA: There is definitely a counterattack coming from THUM towards G Co. 7th FA: We have started to fire on it already and are getting more stuff to fire in there. S-3: Put a "Stomp" on THUM. 7th FA: We will just as soon as we can get Div Arty on it.
- 0911 - Red Bn to Lt. Brown: PW from 5th Co, 941st Regt, 353 Div, stated 5th Co, 8th Para Regt, 3rd Div is to the left. Confirmed message - 500 yards of Pt 79 - mortar and arty positions. 14th Co, 941st Regt, in same area. Also stated the Pioneer Regt, 353rd, for the Corps located at INNENDORF.
- 0924 - Blue Fwd reports: K Co is now along side of L Co. We have 6 PW's here. Ans: Regt's cage is in KREUZAU.
- 0932 - Lt. Stephens to S-5 Col. Horner: Tanks that were reported at 115 are friendly tanks. 7th FA has stopped firing. Tanks at 116 identified as enemy tanks.
- 0935 - FORWARD CP OF CT-16 OPENS at 119398 - CROSSED ROER RIVER. Regtl CP vehicles used Treadway bridge in vicinity of KREUZAU.
- 0938 - White 3 to S-3: There has been a counterattack by tanks and Infantry. Attack was repulsed. We knocked out one Mark IV, enemy knocked out one M-10. We hit one enemy tank with bazooka fire, it withdrew. An artillery "Stomp" was layed on enemy as they withdrew. Attack was by an estimated 4 tanks and a company of Infantry. This information given to G-3 and G-2. Positions of companies as: L, 152394; K 140389; I coming thru and going to 147383, is not there yet. It is going alright. DAGWOOD CP location given to G-3 as 119398. G-3 reports: ESCHWEILLER, UBER ELLIS is ours, they are over to the 20 grid. Other people, elements of 121st and 3rd Armor d, at 51 easting, TFY and TED, is south of that.
- 0934 - Lt. Stephens to White 3: Tanks at 115 are friendly, if you people are firing there, stop it. 7th FA taking care of tanks at 116.
- 0945 - REAR CP CLOSES AND MOVES TO FWD CP.
- 0945 - G-3 to S-6: Release B of the 634th TD's. S-6: They are already released. G-3: We plan on getting them across today. 8th Div is sending recon to 5th objective. Soon as flank is covered with 26th we want to be able to get your 2nd Bn loose. S-6: Would like to get a regimental front instead of a division front. G-3: The 18th Inf is coming into SPOCKHEIM in the morning. The bridges are being worked on. They are going south thru INDENGEN, THUM, and BOISCH. This releases 26th Infantry to go into the other sector.
- 0950 - S-6 to White CP: White Bn reports: E is holding, are west of 98, 2 platoons at the quarry. S-6: I is at 79 and moving; were told to contact you. White: F is at 96. S-6: Have White 6 call me. Be prepared to push on towards SOLLER.

26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1000 - Blue 5 to S-3: L Co along trail east of 65. K on right of L Co. I at 79, moving east.
- 1006 - White 6 to S-6: S-6: How is E company coming? White 6: 200 yards short of 98; there they were stopped and then waited for G situation to clear up. S-6: Have them wait until I gets contact. As the 3rd Bn moves east to 6781, (movement of L, K and I described); as they progress, you keep up. Tonight I expect complete possession of road 67, 81, 101 and 189. White 6: Soon as I contacts F, I'll push out again.
- 1019 - G-6 (General Andrus) to S-6: How does it look? Ans: Pretty good. (Describes counterattack of this morning, previously listed). G-6: We will not barge out much today. Want to get 39th thru. (S-6 gives objectives for today and Bn dispositions). G-6: 18th starts this movement at 1600 hours today, rest of 18th will be over in the morning. Don't want you to go on much until others get over. S-6: I'm concerned with sector in THUM area. G-6: 26th has one Bn in BOLSCH now. (G-6 OK's S-6's plans) S-6 is concerned with getting a Bn between THUM and DROVE., counterattack of this morning, at 142366, 2 tanks actually got into DROVE. S-6 says 35 casualties yesterday, no report on casualties today. G-6 agrees with above need for Bn in THUM - DROVE area; says that as we push on the 18th will follow along behind. The force of 9th Div, will not be felt for about 48 hours. Looks like Wednesday, we will start moving. Tomorrow morning, one Bn of 16th Inf will get out of line; you can count on that.
- 1037 - S-3 to S-4: Release the "DUCKS" and send them back.
- 1045 - 299th, Capt. West, to S-3: The Bailey bridge will be completed by 3 or 4 this afternoon.
- 1105 - S-2 to G-2, Maj. Lauten: Got Bn Commander of 2nd Bn, 241st. He is a Captain; being interrogated. We have 41 PW's now and 129 are on the way to Division cage. PW's are still coming in. Identified elements of 3rd Para Div in counter attack of this morning. G-2: You have delivered 129 PW's to us. 172 yesterday, including 50 which you sent to the 8th Div. There are some PW's on the river trying to surrender to Task Force Davison (Div Recon).
- 1110 - G-3 to S-3: S-3: Colonel Larnard (18th Inf) is here and we have established a contact point with him. (S-3 gives dispositions as of this hour). 3rd Bn line: They are out to the 148 north-south line. Right flank at 148382, still moving. The woods is still being cleared. 2nd Bn will go in SOLLER when their situation is solid. G is still committed at DROVE. E is at 150375 facing east. F on the left facing NE. 1st Bn will go up into DROVE; 2nd will go for SOLLER. 1st then pushing to high ground covering left flank of 2nd. Roads are poor; 5 tanks are blocking one road. Bailey bridge will be completed, including approaches, by 1700 hours. G will not be relieved before 1300 hours. If we could get people up between THUM and DROVE, could get people up between THUM and DROVE, could push for FRAGENHEIM.

26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1100 - Capt. Elder to S-3: Getting a heavy shelling on DROVE. G Co has a lot of casualties, around 25. Want half track ambulance to evacuate wounded. S-3: K of the 26th Inf is 1/3 of the way through BOICH, L Co at Pt 115, E Co just short of Pt 112, going SW. F Co at stream, heading to 100369. One Bn of 18th will take over STOCKHEIM tonight and will be on our left. The 28th Inf will head NE. 3rd Armored is at the ERFP river.
- 1110 - PWI report: 65 PW's, 15 of which are from 1st Bn, rest from 2nd Bn. 8 from 5th Co, 941st Regt; 1 from 6th Co, 941st Regt; 9 from 7th Co 941st; 3 from 13th Co, 941st; 9 from Hqs, 2nd Bn, 941st; including Bn Commander. 3 from Hq Co 941st; 3 from 3rd Co, 353rd Engr Bn; 1 from Hq Co 943rd; 1 from 2nd Co, 943rd; 2 from 353rd Trucking Co; 6 from 14th Btry 407th Volks Arty Corps. 17 from 1st Co 13th Fortress AT Bn; 1 from 16th Co, 6 Para Regt; 1 from 5th Co, 8th Para Regt. PW from 16th Co, 6 Para Regt, says 16th Co came from RATH yesterday to vicinity of DROVE to make counterattack. Has 50 to 100 men in the Co. It's regular Infantry Company, Bn Commander of 2nd Bn, 941st Regt, Believes his is destroyed. He was captured after personally defending SP at northern outskirts of DROVE. On orders from Regt1 Co, Col. Martin sent his 5th Co towards Pt 133408, they were to find out if area there was cleared. They never returned. 7th Co was in vicinity of 125392, they were destroyed, he thinks. (We only have 9 PWs from that Co, it is possible that they retreated to the south). 6th Co was destroyed in KREUZAU. Had no 8th Co; had 4 - 81mm mortars directly under his Bn at 126368. There are mines on both sides of the road at Pt #2. (131385). Supporting his sector was 1st and 2nd Btry of 353rd Arty Regt, who had guns in vicinity 159380 to 159376. In SOLLER, we will find Battle Group "MATHRI", who leads 40 to 50 men with 6 or 7 machine guns. This group made up of various units of the Div and especially remnants of the 353rd Fus. Bn. The 353rd Fus Bn does not exist as such. Div CP is some where in north east GLADB ACH. The trains of 2nd Bn, 941st Regt, are in VETTWIEISZ, vicinity of 196384. It is true that all men of 353rd Div were ordered to wear gas masks at all times, 4 weeks ago. However; Captain STREICH thinks there is nothing to it, just a routine order.
- 1130 - Blue 5 to S-3: How is it going? Blue 5: Major Wozenski, Blue 6, is walking up the road Pt 64, 65 to 79. Companies are moving, haven't run into anything. In the next hour, they should be on their objectives. Moving kitchens and everything up into this area. S-3: Colonel Larnard (18th Inf) will be in STOCKHEIM by 1800 hours today. A mutual contact and outpost has been established with him at a little patch of woods 153398.
- 1145 - Capt. Smith, Reg 3 to Maj. Smith S-3: Where are the elements of the 26th? Ans: New boundary from Pts 93, 94 to the E in DROVE (This in reference to the printed name on map), to 97 and then to 160359. (Gives positions of 26th Inf). Have you got recon out to G? Ans: Yes, they are out there now.

26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1200 - Captain Richmond, "Lue 5 to Maj. Smith, S-3: I and K are on objective. L moving to take up its position. Forward CP is at Pt 79. Drawing quite a bit of enemy artillery. Will establish that contact point, just as soon as I can, I will give you the flanks.
- 1205 - Lt. Brown, S-2 to Red Bn: Can you tell me where that shelling is landing? Ans: We have no reports at all.
- 1212 - Lt. Brown gives PW identifications to G-2. (His report covers the 65 PWs previously listed).
- 1220 - PW reports: We have 13 more prisoners. Identifications are: 5th Co 9th 1st Inf Regt, 3 men; 2nd Btry, 353 Arty Regt, 4 men; 5th Co 8th Regt, 6 men. 5th Co of 8th Regt, was in THUM 2 days ago. Have about 60 men in company. On the artillery men, they said Arty corps working independently; 5 Bns, total of 60 guns, including antitank guns, howitzers, and heavy 12.2 Russian Field Guns. 1st Bn is an antitank Bn consisting of 3 batteries of 75mm, has 13th and 14th Btrys each with 6 - 12.2 centimeter guns. Four of these 6 guns of the 14th Btry were at 19783800 as of yesterday. In patch of woods one mile east of SIEVERNICH 2437 - lot of stuff, such as, 2 reserve guns of 14th Btry, Bn trains, large ammunition dump and other items. Saw tanks 5 days ago at 19273838 which was out of gas. All of the approaches to VERTWEISZ are ready to be mined. Holes are already dug for mines.
- 1230 - Red Bn reports: 5 more PWs one from 5th Co, 9th 1st Regt, 4 from 2nd Btry, 353 Arty Regt, 2nd Btry has 3-105's on hill 200.2, close to SOLLER, were at 158379. 1st Btry, 500 yards south of this position with 3-105's. 3rd Btry has 122mm guns in woods around Pt 68. 3 Arty Bns in the Arty Regt, each has three guns. Regtl commanding officer, Col KOHLER. CP was at BUNGUBENHIM. 1st Bn CO, Capt. HANKS. CP is in woods between 96 and 98. 2nd Btry CO is Capt. FRANZMANN.
- 1235 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Smith Red 3: At 1500 hours, A of the 26th Inf with a platoon of tanks, TDs and AT, will take over south edge of DROVE. You will still have mission of right flank. Capt. Smith: C is just pulling out into an assembly area down there. B will take over from G. C and A will go forward.
- 1250 - Maj. Smith to Capt. Elder: Tells of A of 26th relieving G at 1500 hours. Reports that 3rd Bn is at edge of woods and gun positions. 1st Bn going to move up to town, will attack on your right as soon as you clear the road. You are to attack SOLLER at 1400 hours.
- 1250 - Lt. Lynch, LO to Div, reports: Elements of 1st of 119 at 105638. Elements of 407th are at 010716. Elements of 406 are at 038716. TFY is at 183511. 1st of 413th is at 163525. TF-Willborn is at 165560. TF-Lovelady is at 175529. 25th Cav Squadron is on line 133568 to 128568 to 136537. 9th Div will pass through 26th Regt, as soon as Treadway is in. Platoon of B Co 1st Engrs is attached to 18th Regt, effective immediately. 18th Regt to go for town of "J" at 1741 tomorrow.



26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1300 - Maj. Smith S-3 to Capt. Smith Red 3: You will have to relieve "G". 2nd Bn will attack at 1400 hours for town of SOLLER.  
Red 3: Will keep two companies moving. Maj. Smith: Follow along and protect right flank, and you are to take town of FRANGENHEIM.
- 1306 - Capt. Carroll, 745th TD's to Lt. Stephens: I am moving my CP to DROVE, up next to White Bn. Will you have a line laid to me? Ans: Yes.
- 1324 - Lt. Stephens gives latest dispositions to G-3.
- 1325 - Lt. Chandler, White 2 to Lt. Kestlinger: We have 45 PWS up here. How about sending a truck for them? Ans: OK, where are you?  
White 2: A am at Pt 95. There are quite a few dead enemy here also. The PWS are from 3rd Para Div.
- 1330 - Capt. Elder to Lt. Stephens: E and F Co's jumped already. We are holding them at 99 and 100. They will jump again at 1400 hours. Will you get in touch with Capt. Armstrong of the tanks and send him up to me, at DROVE? Ans: Yes.
- 1336 - PWI reports: 13th Fortress Antitank Bn - Independent Fortress Bn working in this area. Number of companies in it are unknown. Made up of Luftwaff personnel and Engineers, etc. 1st Co is an antitank Company with 4 platoons each with 50mm antitank guns. 1st Platoon captured complete. Guns were at 132408, 131396, and two at 137384. Other two platoons in the vicinity. Company CP is in VOLLERSHEIM. 353rd Arty Regt has 3 Bns only. 1st Bn has 3 btrys, and 2nd and 3rd only 2 btrys. All btrys have 3 - 145's excepting 3rd btry which has 3 - 12.2's, Russian Guns. Now, probably in the woods one mile north of SOLLER. The CP of 1st Bn, 353rd Arty Bn, moved into the woods east of DROVE. 3 weeks ago, 3 or 4 assault guns were seen at 152391. 7th Co, 941st Inf Regt, has been confirmed not to exist anymore but from 40 to 50 men are still around as stragglers.
- 1340 - Blue Bn reports that they are pulling their switchboard.
- 1353 - S-3 to Red Bn (Maj. Edmonds): Where did your forward move to? Ans: They moved to DROVE. Will Blue Bn jump at 1400 hours? Ans: No, White Bn jumps. They are at Pts 99 and 100. Red, Maj. Edmonds: It looks good. S-3: Yes, it looks like another breakthrough.
- 1358 - S-3 to 26th S-3: I understand your A Co is going to relieve our G Co. Ans: Yes, it is on the way now. Our G Co is on check Pts 14, 13, 25. E on 15, 16. F half way between 17 and 16. K - L in town of B. Tanks and TD's are on the way to cross bridge #9.
- 1410 - Blue Bn reports: I Co's right flank is at 157387.

26 February 1945

Remove Watermark Now

- 1425 - Capt. Oelze, G-2 to Lt. Brown, S-2: What is the latest? (Lt. Brown reviews the situation as previously listed in this journal). G-2: 3rd US Armored Division up to the 20th Northing. They took 270 PWs at GOTZHEIM from 12th Repl Bn, 1st Bn, 29th Pz Gren Regt, 9th Pz Div. 250 PW's from 27th Inf Regt, 12th Inf Div; 400 from 11 PGR, 9th Pz Div; 100 from 33rd Pz Regt, 301 Tank Bn, Gen Hq identified. This latest report was as of 1100 hours. Here is more information: Binkers have been constructed near SOLLARS at F-17003840.
- 1450 - Maj. Lord to Capt. Clark: Anything new? Ans: No, but 2nd Bn just shoved off at 1400 hours.
- 1452 - Capt. Clark to White Fwd, Capt. Elder: What is new? Ans: F Co is moving around 99, E is in fight in the woods, the other side of 98. They called for TD's but we have only 1 left and don't know where that one is.
- 1500 - Sgt Valtan, PWI: PW's so far are: 1st Co, 353rd AT Bn - 11 PW's; 2nd Co, 353 Fus Bn - 10 PW's; 10th Co, 6 Para Regt - 7 PW's; 12th Co, 6 Para Regt - 8 PW's; 11th Co, 6 Para Regt - 3 PW's; 10th Co, 6th Para Regt - 2 PW's, Hq Co, 911st Regt - 1 Doctor (2nd Lt.).
- 1502 - Lt. Brown to Lt. Chandler, White 2: How many PW's do you have? Ans: 14 - 1 Officer from the 27th Fus Bn; 16th Co, 6th Para Regt, came up from BOCH; PW's from 941st; 8th Para Regt.
- 1514 - Maj. Edmond to S-3: C Co jumped at 1430 hours, followed by A Co and B Co.
- 1520 - RADIO MESSAGE: Red jumped at 1430 hours.
- 1544 - Maj. Lord, G-3 to S-3: Have you got the town yet? Ans: No, 2nd Bn is fighting for it. Repeats above information as of 1514 hours.
- 1545 - Sgt Kerber, 2nd Bn, to Lt. Brown: E Co just took 46 PW's, there are 2 officers in the group. They were picked up East of 98. The PW's are from the Pioneer Army Group, they came from NE of DUREN yesterday.
- 1550 - Maj. Green, G-3 to S-3: A Co less 1 platoon (speaking of A of 1st Engrs) is detached from you. S-3: Why? Maj. Green: We need them for bridge work. S-3: Well, I protest very strongly. G-3: Col. Gara needs them. I'll see what I can do with this.
- 1550 - Lt. Brown to Capt. Oelze, G-2: If I get many more PW's, I'll have to leave them here. We do not have transportation to take them back. G-2: The PW cage will be moved up when we move up, it will be tomorrow or the day after.
- 1555 - PWI reports: 4th Bn of 6th Para Regt, dissolved, 3rd Bn received some of them. Today's PWs from Co's of the 6th Para Regt, were all from the 3rd Bn reserve. They have been in ROTT, sent to BOICH. Reserve consists of 30 men, 20 are now PW's. One PW gave 11th Co to be NIDEGGEN Bn. Lt. From 5th Co left THUM last night to counterattack on DROVE - 2nd Bn 8th Para on their right.

X