"THE TOMAHAWK STRIKES" FORWARD!

XIX CORPS TANKS ROLL TO RHINE

Friday’s deadline saw the troops of the XIX Corps poised at the Rhine River, awaiting a chance to strike across into the heart of the Ruhr.

A week of consolidation and mopping up of resistance pockets east of München-Gladbach saw the 2nd Armored Division’s tanks at the river after a lightning advance comparable to the breakthrough in France.

Rear units moving into the newly captured areas have been intrigued by the countless signs painted on walls telling of the love for Der Fuhrer. One dough commented, “They might love the bum, but they sure have to be reminded a lot lately!”

The string of towns in the wake of the Corps’ latest push includes the key cities of Julich and München-Gladbach-Rheydt. The only difference between this present drive and the one in France is that this time supplies were ready long before the troops jumped off across the Roer. Months of preparation preceded the slash into the moderately held defense lines, where resistance was not as heavy as expected.

The XIX Corps units haven’t ‘taken’ any German towns. They’ve captured the ground on which they were once built.

1104th Fngr. C. Group Bridges Daxe Way For Roer Crossing

WITH THE 1104th ENGR. C. GP., GERMANY—Under devastating German action from the Julich side of the Roer River, members of Company “B” of the 54th Engr. HP. Co., constructed their first bridge under combat conditions when the XIX Corps

1st OM Bn. Answers Needs As Front Moves Forward

Religious Services In Goebbels’ Former Home

WITH THE 29TH INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY—Freed from the shadows of the Oriental sun, the 1st OM Bn. answered the needs of the front as the drive moves forward.

Leading Reinforcements, Eyewitnesses, Trucking, Personal Needs
Loading Reinforcements For Front

T/S Dudley Johnson, Henderson, Ky., manning the machine gun and driver T/S Earnest Dill, Plymouth, N.C., of the 4046th Truck Co. are shown above loading a group of reinforcements to be taken to a front line division.

The duties of the 1st QM aren’t glamorous. They don’t liberate towns or take prisoners. You never read about them in the headlines because the enemy has never felt their sting directly. However, without them the progress at the front would be slower, because American supplies has played a great factor in the success of the campaigns which have forced the Germans back across the Ruine, and this unit, commanded by Lt. Col. Dan L. Miller, Palm Springs, Calif., has been instrumental in supplying the reinforcements and equipment which the front has needed.

With the 28th Engineer Combat Battalion, Germany — Company C, commanded by Capt. Kenneth T. Sawyer, Menominee, Mich., completed the first bridge to cross the Roer River in the XIX Corps sector.

Nearly three months ago this company was preparing for an assault boat crossing of the same river. The Battle of the Bulge changed all that. Two weeks ago preparations were again under way, this time for bridge support of another division, on another part of the Roer.

As the operation was suspended time and time again, because of the racing flood water, the feeling that they were in for another dry run became prevalent. The good word was received on February 21st, and the long-delayed operation was under way.

Foe Hits Third Room

With the 110th F.A. Bn., Germany — Members of Battery "C", 110th F.A. Bn., 29th Division, decided to sleep in an unoccupied German house. Three rooms were available, but when the enlisted men decided to sleep in one and the officers in another, the third was left vacant.

During the night heavy shelling awakened them, but failed to bother them. In the morning they got up to find the shell had blown away the room between the two groups which they had left vacant.


One Size Too Small

With the 1104th Engr. C. G.P., Germany — T/S Lewis H. McManus, Spur, Texas, was clearing away rubble on the road into Wunsel, Germany, with members of the 611th L. E. Co., when he spied a pair of stylish German boots by the roadside.

Rushing to T/S Robert Banks, Waterford, Calif., to stop the truck carrying the crate with which they were working, T/S McManus investigated the boots. He inserted his foot into one of them. Part of the original owner remained.

Wreck Nazi Equipment

With the 2nd T. D. Gp., Germany — The 823rd TD Battalion has accounted for 91 tanks, 15 SP guns, 7 arm’d cars, 15 half trucks, 23 pillboxes, 7 AT guns and over 150 general purpose vehicles. In addition they have taken over 350 prisoners and expended 45,000 rounds of 3 inch ammunition.

Company "A" and "B", and the 2nd and 3rd Reconnaissance Platoons of the 32nd Headquarters Company, received additional awards. Malek Star Cluster to the Silver Star, 75 Bronze Stars and 375 Purple Hearts.

Loud Alarm Clock

With the 8th FOB, Germany — Set up in an air raid shelter under a railroad track in Germany, Cpl. Edward J. Feuer, Waterloo, Iowa, was knocked out of bed by the direct hit of an enemy bomb on the track above him. The concussion shook but failed to injure Cpl. Feuer and his companions, Pvt. Jerome Schroeder, Belleville, Ill., T/S Alvin J. Kushke, Green Bay, Wisc., and T/S Joseph Molnar, Homer City, Penna.

Second Try No Dry Run

With the 288th Engineer Combat Battalion, Germany — Company "C", commanded by Capt. Kenneth T. Sawyer, Menominee, Mich., completed the first bridge to cross the Roer River in the XIX Corps sector.

The entire battalion landed with the XIX Corps units in June, and...

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**THE WINDMILL**

Published every Sunday by the men of the XIX Corps Special Service Section, in connection with the Information and Education Program.

5 Bridges - 3 Days In Roer Crossing

WITH THE 110th ENGINEER OMBAY GROUP, GERMANY - Under deadly artillery, mortar and small arms fire, the engineers attached to this group built the bridges that carried the 263rd Infantry Division to the capture of long-besieged Julich.

Their fight to establish crossings began 30 minutes after the 11th Infantry Division crossed the Roer. As the artillery barrage lifted, the engineers began running assault boats carrying infantry to secure the bridge sites across the roer. When the work on the bridges began.

The engineers strung cables across the stream and in a few minutes were poking the ends of three footbridges from the east bank. After a half-hour under heavy fire, the first footbridge reached the far shore. One of the assault boats was still running across the river, being caught in the current, went out of control, and crashed into the frail footbridge, killing the enginier. The engineers immediately went out to the end of the youngest and a few members of the crew went over to the far side to make sure that the far end was secure. Two Kpats came out of the end of the bridge and surrendered to them. Half hour later the other two bridges were completed.

The next day the fourth bridge was finished and the fifth - a double-double Bailey, got under way where the principal Julich bridge had been. The attack came forward over the four footbridges, culminating in the Bailey where the entire force was landed under fire to build the first fixed bridge to Julich. Three days after the bridge had started it was finished. The crossing of the Roer was now secure.

Redskin Ramblings...

"I would like some alligator shoes."

"What size does your alligator wear?"

She: "Before you go on, I want it understood that I don't smoke, drink, neck, park, or stay out after 11 o'clock."

GF: "You're mistaken."

She: "You mean I do some of those things?"

GF: "No, you're mistaken about starting on this date."

"A peep is a four-winged jitterbug," comments Pvt. Maurice Duhaine.

Just because she's color-blind doesn't mean a gull will worship "All white" to everything.

She: "He's in the Armored Command, I guess, because every time I do something for him he says "Thanks."

Pvt.: I don't see anything funny about powdered eggs.

Pfc.: I see what you mean - no yoke.

More Secret Weapons?

WITH THE 30th INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY - Several new German girmacks of war were turned up by men of the 30th Division's light artillery. But the destruction of the fortified towns during their drive toward the Rhine.

Doughboys of Company "C", 117th Infantry Regiment, captured a girmack-type of weapon under fire to build the first fixed bridge to Julich. Three days after the bridge had started it was finished. The crossing of the Roer was now secure.

Squad Hits Pay Dirt

WITH THE 30th INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY - The distinction of being the first crew of a boiling gas device of the Division belongs to the second squad, second platoon of A company, 119th Infantry remote under the command of Lt. Francis C. Ridgway, Montana. L. C. Cordell took command after his captain had been lost in the stream in the crossing, and organized the company for the attack when they hit the east bank of the river.

With only a Browning Automatic rifle, two M-1s and a pistol, the squad held the beach until the first of the 30th Division could cross on the footbridge.


Dream Realistic

WITH THE 11th F. A. BN., GERMANY - When T/Sgt. Paul Bradford, Philadelphia, Penn., entered the room where his buddy, T/4 Marden Ambrose, Springfield, Mass., was sleeping, he was suddenly awakened. It seems the sleepy Ambrose had been dreaming of German paratroopers storming his area, and when Sgt. Bradford awoke him, he mistook him for a Nazi.

Names Not On Shells

WITH THE 8th FOB, GERMANY - As T/Sgt. John J. Zabrowski, Jackson, Mich., and Cpl. John F. Dolan, Benson, Minn., entered their survey station near the front, 80 men, shelled through the air, the Germans had no notice of the shells.

Later they were told that S/Sgt. Norton L. Carver, Springfield, Minn., had made a reconnaissance

Still Too Close

WITH THE 8TH FOB, GERMANY — The unique experience of having a shell pass under their dugout instead of into it was shared by Sgt. Harold J. Rau, Rossmoor, Calif., T-4 Carl W. Zinder, Good- feld, Minn., T-4 Donald A. Brown, Fort Wayne, Ind., and Pvt. M. Johnson, B-8 Pueblo, Colo. A dugout was a flash-range, perched near the top of a slag pile. The time had passed forward and into the dirt of the dugout. It was a dugout.

Old Hickorymen Still Tough; Butch's Night Raiders Active

WITH THE 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION, GERMANY — After successful crossing of the Roer River near Krautheizen where the Germans apparently thought it impossible, doughboys of the 120th Infantry Regiment swept like a house fire to capture 12 fortified German towns, corral 800 prisoners, knock out 50 guns, tanks, and swat the Germans found in general in a five-day close-up battle toward the Rhine. The first battalion with E Company attached grabbed Neufeld, Gutenharten, and Kirchberg in spectacular night attacks.


Led by Major leading Lt. Col. James M. Cantey, Columbus, South Carolina, the second battalion did a neat job of taking Kolin.

Thanks to “Old Hickorymen” Staff Sgt. Darrell R. Wilkes, Va., the 36th doughboys made it without casualties.

No Hidden Treasure

WITH THE 1104TH ENGR. C.P., GERMANY — A rumor of the British having increased the demand for the 61st L. E. Co., for shovels, but for such excellent foxholes, the results were negative. S/Sgt. L. Q. Montgomery, Cal., and Pvt. L. W. Evansville, Ind., and Pvt. R. E. Clark, El Paso, Texas.

Commanded by Capt. Claude A. Rogers, Chatfield, N.D., and Capt. David H. Caughman, Washington, D.C., the 404th and 404th Trucking Cos. have traveled about 1,000,000 continental miles to haul machinery, gasoline, and supplies to the front. They have missed many times, but have gotten the shovels, only in the long hauls which carried the mission to Belgium. At times the units covered 800 miles a day. Seldom is there more than one truck dead-lined at a time.

The 970th QM Service Company, commanded by Capt. Frederic Trullinger, Vancouver, Wash., has been added to. It has been given a new type of work, namely, serving as carpenters, cooks, bakers, electricians, blacksmiths, when requested. It has recovered most of the captured enemy equipment, has supplied the dough boys with clothing, and has often Pulled special guard when the tactical situation required. Their duties vary with the needs of the front, but they have been helpful in getting the stuff through when needed.

The 603rd Graves Registration Co. has handled the unenviable task of locating and burying the men who have been killed in battle. Commanded by Capt. Richard A. Cross, Norfolk, Va., the 603rd has buried generals and privates alike, has kept complete records and personnel effects of all those killed in action, and has seen that records and effects have been made available to the deceased's next of kin.

Commanded by Capt. Jim E. Warren, South Hill, Va., the 852nd Fumigation and Bath Co. has assisted in keeping the men clean by setting up stations for them when they return from a stretch of grease. Generals have used the facilities, and the men of this unit tell some good stories about the time a lieutenant taking a shower jumped into attention when he saw Capt. James O. Tinker, who ordered the man to wash his hair. The unit is highly mobile, and travels in khaki-built bath trucks.

The Medical Detachment, commanded by Capt. Reuben R. Lisse, has serviced many other units besides the battalion. It has served as a filling station for the number of dogs which the army adopts.

The 3rd Platoon of the 606th Car Company landed on D plus 3, and since that date the vehicles have traveled over 10,000 miles to keep staff officers of the Corps in contact with one another.

The millions of countless duties, the endless rush of thankless details which a QM unit performs have been well fulfilled, and the Corps is ready for front. Keeping the divisions of the Corps supplied, taking care of their personnel and medical needs, burying the casualties, and procuring the equipment which have been part of the QM’s many headaches. An unceasing supply line has been one of the greatest factors in American success, and the XIX Corps units know that their operations could not be possible were it not for a highly mobile and efficient machinery.