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HEADQUARTERS THIRTY SIXTH ARMORED INFANTRY REGIMENT
APO 253, U S ARMY



31 March 1945

SUBJECT: Action against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports.

TO : THE ADJUTANT GENERAL Washington, D.C. (thru channels)

(a) Original Unit: No change

(b) Changes in Organizations:

(1) Regtl Hq., Hq Co and Ser Co., 36th AIR were a part of Combat Command "R" throughout the period.

(2) The 1st Bn., 36th AIR was attached to Combat Command "A" throughout the period.

(3) The 2nd Bn., 36th AIR was attached to Combat Command "B" throughout the period.

(4) The 3rd Bn., 36th AIR was attached to Combat Command "R" throughout the period.

(c) Strength:

Date	Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted Men
1 Mar 1945	113	4	2482
31 Mar 1945	109	4	2344
Net loss	4	0	138

(d) Stations: No change

(e) Marches: Marches same as Battle Narrative shown in paragraph (g) this report.

(f) Campaigns: None designated since last report.

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Classification changed per authority
WD for 17 Aug 1945 Subj: downgrading
of Classified Records.

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	NND 735035
By	TB
MIL Date	5/13/87

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(g) Battles

1 March 1945:

COMPOSITION OF TROOPS

TASK FORCE HOGAN

3d Bn, 33d Armd Regt (- 1 Plt)
 3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt (- Co G)
 3d Plt, Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn
 3d Plt, Co C, 703d TD Bn

TASK FORCE RICHARDSON

3d Bn, 32d Armd Regt (- 1 Plt)
 3d Bn, 13th Inf Regt
 1st Plt, Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn
 2d Plt, Co C, 703d TD Bn

TASK FORCE THOMAS

Co G, 36th Armd Inf Regt
 Co C, 703d TD Bn (-3 Plts)
 Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn (-2 Plts)
 2d Plt, Co C, 33d Armd Regt (Lt Tanks)
 3d Plt, Co I, 32d Armd Regt (Med Tanks)

The beginning of the period found Task Force Hogan, with Task Force Thomas attached, engaged with the enemy east of the Erft Canal beyond Glesch. The first crossing of the Erft had been made on the night of 27 February 1945, and 28 Feb had been spent in enlarging the bridgehead and building a bridge.

Task Force Hogan bridge at 200648 was completed at 010055 March and progress was continued in expanding the bridgehead. Intermittent mortar, artillery, and small arms fire fell on this bridge site and on the front line throughout the day.

At 1200 hours the east abutment of the Glesch bridge collapsed and repair work was started at 1340 hours. It was estimated that the bridge would be ready for use by 2400 hours.

TF Richardson, composition as shown above, had secured a shallow bridgehead over the Erft Canal in the vicinity of Paffendorf on the night of 27 Feb. Expansion of the bridgehead took place on 28 Feb and was continued on 1 March. The bridge was completed on 28 Feb in time to meet a serious enemy counterattack and was in use on 1 March.

An anti-tank ditch at 221638 proved to be quite an obstacle to TF Richardson, but by 0220 it had been crossed and a strong position was held in the vicinity of 223645. Enemy opposition consisted of heavy mortar and artillery fire during the day together with small arms fire. Enemy patrols were encountered during the morning. Two enemy tanks were destroyed by air support at 0850.

The 395th Regimental Combat Team, 99th Division, attacked through TF Richardson's position at 0300 with the mission of expanding the bridgehead to the south.

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The 4th Cavalry Squadron passed through TF Hogan's positions with the mission of protecting the left flank of the bridgehead and of seizing the high ground north of Glesch.

The 83d Armd Rcn Bn was attached to CC R at 1800 hours and was given the mission of securing the slag pile at 244655, of clearing enemy resistance from the woods in front of TF Richardson's positions, and of securing a line of departure for the attack of TF Richardson. The time of attack set for 83d Armd Rcn Bn was 0200, 2 March 1945.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, remained attached to CC A and secured the towns of Widdendorf and Thorr.

The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a component of CC B, moved from Elsdorf and assembled in Glesch.

2 March 1945: Time of attack of the 83d Armd Rcn Bn was changed to 0300 and at that time they began the attack to secure a line of departure for the attack of TF Richardson which was to be launched at 0700. The 83d Armd Rcn Bn advanced steadily in two columns and by 0500 the right column had reached a line running from 244645 to 247644 and at 0536 the left column had reached a line extending from 239652 to 242650.

At 0700 TF Richardson passed through the 83d Armd Rcn Bn and the 83d reverted to Division control.

TF R advanced in two columns. Enemy resistance was very stubborn and at this time consisted of artillery, mortar, tank, anti-tank and small arms fire. This type of resistance was met throughout the morning, but by excellent performance in the use of our superior fire power and maneuver, two companies of infantry and five medium tanks had succeeded in entering Niederaussem by 1100. The enemy continued to resist in the town, but by 1600 the main part of the town was cleared and at 1740 CO TF R reported that he was in position to button up for the night. Only the extreme north-eastern edge of the town remained in enemy hands.

Task Force Hogan attacked on the left of Task Force Richardson at 0700 from a line of departure in the vicinity of 203652. Likewise, their opposition was heavy and consisted initially of heavy small arms and mortar fire. The advance of the armor was delayed by an AT ditch at 206657. Rcn and work produced a crossing and the tanks moved in behind the infantry. On attempting to push the attack to Wiedenfeld, the tanks and infantry met anti-tank fire from that vicinity. By noon TF H was stopped by the resistance and it was 1400 before the town was entered.

The town was cleared of the enemy, a mine field was removed, and at 1600 orders were issued to TF H to continue the attack from

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Wiedenfeld to Auenheim. Enemy fire was heavy from the left flank and for that reason TF Hogan's attack was diverted to the south-east. The order directed that the CC reserve would secure Wiedenfeld, but was later changed, as CG, 3d AD, ordered CC B to send a force there for that purpose.

By 2000, Auenheim was secured and TF H buttoned up there for the night. At the close of the period, elements TF H left at Wiedenfeld were being relieved by TF Welborn of CC B.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Doss of CC A, crossed the Erft Canal at Bergheim and attacked Oberauseem. The attack continued throughout the day against moderate resistance and by the close of the period the town was secured. The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Welborn of CC B, followed TF Hogan and relieved elements of TF Hogan in Wiedenfeld.

3 March 1945: At 0700 TF Hogan attacked from Auenheim in the direction of Rheindt. The 3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, reached Monchhof at 0720 and by 0900 had cleared and secured the town. Infantry had worked forward under cover of darkness and the town was entered and taken without difficulty.

After moving forward from Monchhof, the task force came under enemy tank fire. The enemy tank was destroyed and the advance continued. Other enemy tanks were encountered during the morning. At 1400 TF Hogan reported a battalion of the 99th Div on the left had been contacted. The action of this battalion was coordinated with the action of TF H, through the CG, as Rheindt was also that battalion's objective. By 1545 Rheindt had been taken and TF Hogan was preparing to continue on mission.

Tank fire was again directed against TF Hogan as it left Rheindt. The fire came from left flank and it was necessary to use an alternate route to get by it even though fighter bombers were used. By 2035 TF Hogan had reached Stommeln and at the close of the period was engaged in clearing the NW section of the town.

TF Richardson moved out in the attack on Ingendorf at 0700 and was met immediately by AT fire from vicinity of 261671.

The enemy continued to resist the advance of TF Richardson by AT and small arms fire from 268662 and 298583, but Ingendorf was captured and the advance on Stommeln was begun at 1000. Heavy AT fire forced tanks to withdraw to edge of Ingendorf. The platoon of medium tanks from CC Reserve reverted to Battalion control at 1200.

Before it was possible to take Stommeln, it was necessary to stage a coordinated attack in conjunction with TF Lovelady of CC B. It was a well defended town with a minefield which had to be breached, a road block which had to be removed, and AT and small arms fire which had to be reduced.

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With TF Lovelady attacking on the right, TF Richardson in the center, and TF Hogan coming in on the left, the enemy resistance could no longer hold and at 1700 TF R was able to get beyond the RR. From that time on, the resistance was not strong, and by the close of the period the southwestern part of the town was secured.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Loan of CC A, captured Fliesteden, after which they launched an attack on Geyen coordinated with an attack by TF Lane on Fulheim. After the capture of Geyen, the battalion attacked Sintern, which was taken by 1915 and secured by 2005.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Welborn of CC B, moved from Wiedenfeld to an attack position in the vicinity of Buisdorf at 1670. The battalion was ordered to attack Simmersdorf. The attack was launched and after overcoming moderate resistance, the place was secured by 2015.

In referring to the action of the combat command and of the other units of the Division, the Division commander asked that it be made known to the troops that the day's operation was as near perfect as anything he had ever seen.

4 March 1945: Both task forces continued to secure positions in Stommeln and took over positions held previously by TF Lovelady in the eastern part of the town. Road blocks were established and patrols were in operation by nightfall for the security of the Combat Command area.

Co H (- 1 plt), 32d Armd Regt, from Task Force Richardson, was attached to 83d Rec Bn at 0645. The remaining platoon was attached to 4th Cavalry Squadron of 4th Cavalry Group.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, was relieved in Geyen and Sintern and moved to Fulheim.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, continued to secure Simmersdorf.

The following message was received from the Commanding General, Third Armored Division:

"Advise all of the following: My personal congratulations for a nearly perfect operation. 'Congratulations on spearheading 7th Corps, the leading 1st Army troops, to the mine. COLLINS 7th Corps.' Acknowledge-HOBSE."

5 March 1945: The Combat Command continued to secure the Stommeln area. At 2100 TF Hogan was attached to CC B and began movement to an assembly area at 4264 at 2200.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Loan of CC A, attacked Cologne and at 0715 the leading elements had entered the

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outskirts of the city against moderate resistance. The advance into the city continued throughout the day. House to house fighting and mopping up was the type of fighting carried on.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Selborn, CC B, attacked at 0400 and secured the towns Volkhoven, Esch, Lindweiler, Longerich, Pesch, Willmuth, Heimersdorf and Bergheimernhoff, all suburbs of Cologne.

6 March 1945: The Combat Command remained in an assembly position in Stommeln throughout the day and was out of contact with the enemy. Patrols provided security for the area. Co H, 32d Armd Regt, returned from the 83d Inf Bn and 104th Cavalry.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Doan, continued house to house fighting in Cologne and by 1845 had reached the famous Dom Cathedral on the west bank of the Rhine River. The 1st Bn was the "Spearhead" of the "Spearhead" Division in the attack on Cologne.

The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Selborn, CC B, attacked at 0400 and by 0715 had seized the Ford Motor plant in Cologne, after which it became reserve of CC B.

The 3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as a part of TF Hogan, attached to CC B, attacked and seized Nichl, a suburb of Cologne, by 1245. The attack was continued against moderate resistance toward the Rhine River. Enemy resistance indicated that he did not intend to put up a strong defense in the city.

7 March 1945: Task Force Richardson of the Combat Command remained in Stommeln in an assembly area. Task Force Lovelady (2d Bn, 33d Armd Regt, 2d Bn, 13th Inf Regt, Lt Co B, 73d TD Bn, Lt Co B, 23d Armd Engr Bn) was detached from CC B at 1200 and was attached to CC R. The Task Force moved to assembly areas at Julheim and Jannersdorf during the afternoon.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, continued to secure positions along the Rhine River in Cologne.

The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, remained in assembly position as a part of TF Selborn, the reserve of CC B.

3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, a component of Task Force Hogan, attached to CC B, continued to clear the assigned zone of the enemy and by 1800 the battalion had reached the Rhine in Cologne.

8 March 1945: At 1350 the Combat Command was placed on a two hour alert and orders were issued to make a route reconnaissance to the vicinity of Bruhl, Germany, where it was contemplated that the Combat Command might be moved for employment.

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The Combat Command was attached to the 1st Inf Div effective at 1435 and began movement to an assembly area in the vicinity of Liblar, Germany. The last elements of the CC closed in the area at 2330. The composition for the Combat Command was now as follows:

TASK FORCE RICHARDSON

3d Bn, 32d Armd Regt
3d Bn, 13th Inf Regt
1st Flt, Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn
2d Flt, Co C, 703d TD Bn

TASK FORCE LOVELADY

2d Bn, 33d Armd Regt
3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt
Flt, Co B, 703d TL Bn
Flt, Co B, 23d Armd Engr Bn

CC CONTROL

Co C, 703d TD Bn (-3 plts)
Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn (-2 plts)
Det, Co B, Maint Bn



The 3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, had been relieved from TF Hogan in time to join TF Lovelady at Sulheim. The 2d Bn, 13th Inf Regt, was relieved from attachment prior to departure and reverted to regimental control, 13th Inf Regt.

The Stommeln area previously occupied by the Combat Command, was taken over by CC B.

On arriving at Liblar, the Combat Command became the reserve of the 1st Inf Div and was to be used to exploit a bridgehead in the event that the bridge over the Rhine River at Bonn was captured. The Combat Command was put on a two hour alert by the 1st Inf Div.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, attached to CC A, and 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, attached to CC B, remained in position in Cologne, securing the west bank of the Rhine River.

9 March 1945: At 0720 a report from Hq 1st Inf Div was received to the effect that the bridge at Bonn had two spans destroyed. In view of this information, the Combat Command was taken off the alert and a period of rehabilitation, training and maintenance began.

There was no change in the attachment and dispositions of the 1st and 2d Bns of the 36th Armd Inf Regt. They remained in the Cologne area, attached to CC A and CC B respectively.

10 March-18 March 1945: The Combat Command remained in the Liblar area. Rehabilitation, maintenance, and training were conducted throughout the period 10 March to 18 March 1945. The CC was relieved from attachment to 1st Inf Div 171000 March 1945 and reverted to control of Third Armored Division.

On 18 March 1945, CC A and CC B were relieved in Cologne by elements of the 104th Inf Div. The 1st Bn and 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, remained attached to CC A and CC B respectively and moved to the vicinity of Bruns and Bachem, Germany.

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19 March 1945: Rest, rehabilitation, maintenance, and training were continued by the Combat Command. At 0800 3d Bn, 33d Armd Regt, rejoined the Combat Command, replacing 2d Bn, 33d Armd Regt, which was relieved and reverted to CC B control. The 3d Bn, 13th Inf Regt, was detached from Combat Command at 1500 and reverted to 13th Infantry regimental control. There was no change in status or dispositions of the 1st and 2d Bns, 36th Armd Inf Regt.

20 March 1945: At 0730 Combat Command was again attached to 1st Inf Div.

The composition of the Combat Command was as follows:

TASK FORCE RICHARDSON

3d Bn, 32d Armd Regt
3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt (- Co I)
1st Plt, Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn
2d Lt, Co C, 703d TD Bn

CC CONTROL

54th Armd F A Bn
Co C, 23d Armd Engr Bn (-2 plts)
Co C, 703d TD Bn (-2 plts)
Det, Co 5, Maint Bn

§ Plt which had previously been with 83d Rec Bn reverted to Company control 0845.

At 1100 orders were issued to move at 1245 to cross the Rhine River over the VII Corps pontoon bridge north of Remagen to an assembly area in the vicinity of Bonn, Germany.

Movement started at 1245 and at 1507 hours the first tank arrived on the east bank of the Rhine River. Orders were issued en route for TF Richardson to continue the march and assemble near Ittenbach, Germany. All units closed in their respective assembly areas by 2045. Co I, 36th Armd Inf Regt, was relieved from TF Brown at 2250 and was attached to TF Richardson. TF Richardson relieved elements of the 16th Inf north of Ittenbach during the night of 21-22 March in preparation for an attack at 210000 March 1945.

21 March 1945: The attack of the 16th Inf on the left of TF Richardson began at 0300 and by 0400 had reached 665360.

The mission of the Combat Command was to destroy the enemy in its zone as far north as the Sieg River, the final objectives being Suisdorf and Hennef. The zone was narrow and as a result the order for the attack designated an attack in column of task forces with TF Richardson leading and TF Brown in reserve.

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Since the zone of the Combat Command crossed the boundary of the 1st Inf Div and the 78th Inf-Div, the unusual situation of changing from control of one division to that of another in the midst of the attack gave rise to several problems, chiefly artillery fire, which had to be solved.

Task Force Richardson attacked in two columns at 0600 and progress was good. By 0700 the right column had secured Bockeroth and by 0810 the left column was in the southern part of Hauschen-dorf.

The right column was held up by direct fire from the vicinity of Rott and the ridge running northwest which overlooked the route of advance.

The 1st Inf Div, in whose zone the resistance was located, was requested to assist in reducing it. Air was used, but it was only after a more covered route of advance was located that the advance could proceed, and it was 1330 before Bambroich was entered.

The left column attacked and secured Birlinghoven, and continued the advance to Nieder Pleis by 1900, where the route was blocked by a blown bridge at 634416. Plans were made to build a bridge, but one company of infantry from TF R was ordered to cross and take Buisdorf.

By 2335 the infantry force from TF R was in Buisdorf and were receiving intermittent artillery and mortar fire. House to house type of fighting made progress slow.

TF Brown advanced behind TF Richardson by bounds and was ordered to attack at 220630 March 45 and capture Hennef. Major Brown was instructed to move his force northeast from Bambroich and begin the attack at 0600.

The 78th Div had cooperated to the utmost with the Combat Command, and due to a shortage of infantry of the CC, the 78th had sent a battalion to take the high ground and wooded area in the vicinity 6540. This assisted materially in the plan for TF Brown and after 2100 when a route across the creek had been found, the Task Force moved up. At the close of the period patrols were out attempting to locate routes and enemy resistance.

There was no change in status of 1st and 2d Bns of the 36th Armd Inf Regt.

12 March 1945: TF Richardson continued operations in Buisdorf and by 0500 that place was reported secured. Co C, 36th Armored Inf Regt, proceeded to the east and took the town of Tossendorf.

Time of attack for TF Brown was changed to 0400. The tanks met considerable difficulty from terrain and the enemy offered moderate opposition. The leading elements entered Hennef at 1 00,

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but fighting continued until late afternoon when the town was reported secure.

Task Force Brown was relieved by 2d Bn, 369th Inf Regt, at 2100 and the Task Force began movement to assembly area at Klinghaven.

Task Force Richardson was relieved in Eulendorf and Stosendorf at 2230 by elements of 309th Inf Regt and began movement to an assembly area in Stieldorf.

The 3d Bn, 414th Inf Regt, was attached to CC R and moved to the vicinity of Hovel. Orders were received to move the Combat Command on the morning of 23 March 1945 to the vicinity of Hovel and rejoin 3d Armd Div. The Combat Command was relieved from 78th Inf Div effective 2200.

There was no change in status or dispositions of 1st and 2d Bns, 36th Armd Inf Regt.

23 March 1945: At 0925 movement to the assembly area in the vicinity of Hovel commenced and by 1058 all units had closed.

1st and 2d Bns, 36th Armd Inf Regt, as components of CC A and CC B respectively, moved across the Rhine during the day and assembled in the division area 7030.

24 March 1945: All units of the Combat Command remained in the assembly area at Hovel. CO and staff studied plans for an extensive operation which would carry the CC to Altenkirchen.

There was no change in 1st and 2d Bns, 36th Armd Inf Regt.

25 March 1945: At 0400 the 3d Armored Division attacked with CC A and CC B abreast with CC R following on the two center routes. Altenkirchen was the initial objective, but orders were issued that the advance would not be halted out of contact with the enemy.

Task Force Richardson used the right center route in the division zone and maintained close contact with TF Kane of CC A. TF Hogan used the left center route and maintained close contact with CC B. Composition of task forces was the same as before, except that entire 3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, was attached to TF Hogan. (Lt Col Hogan had returned from leave and assumed command of the task force.) Movement began from the assembly area at Hovel at 1450 and by 2030 all units had closed in an assembly area near Arautscheid, Germany.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, attacked at 0400 as a part of TF Hogan and advanced on Route 4, the southern route. The TF ran into a minefield at 753293 and 2 mm and AF fire slowed the advance.

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After overcoming the resistance, the advance was rapid until enemy resistance, consisting of nine 20 mm flak guns and two tanks was met at Schoneberg (806287). Artillery fire knocked out the flak positions and one tank and the advance toward Flammersfeld (8527) was resumed. Between Schoneberg and Flammersfeld two road blocks and heavy small arms fire were encountered and the close of the period found the force short of Flammersfeld.

The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, attached to TF Welborn, CC B, attacked through the 1st Inf Div and advanced to and secured the town of Kerweiss by the end of the period. The line of attack was along a main road on a ridge line, always under observation of the enemy from the front and flank. A strong enemy position was met initially, but it was overcome by use of artillery. After that, chief difficulty was from terrain.

26 March 1945: Contact was maintained with CC A and CC B throughout the morning. At 1430 orders were received to employ TF Richardson in the zone between TF Lovelady of CC B and TF Kane of CC A for the purpose of aiding the advance of CC B and to clear the enemy from the area between the columns. TF Richardson moved from his assembly area at 1500, but progress was slow due to the condition of the roads and traffic congestion. However, Altenkirchen was reached by 1700 without opposition and mopping-up operations against remaining enemy there were taking place. At 1805 orders were received to continue the advance to the east on Routes 1 and 2 of the Division, taking over the mission of CC B. TF Hogan was moved forward and advanced on Route 1. TF Richardson continued to advance on Route 2. By the close of the period both columns were proceeding slowly due to the visibility and the terrain.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt: At 0630 TD's with 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, knocked out a Mark V tank at Flammersfeld and the attack moved on to Ober Lambach (9428). When elements left Ober Lambach, they were met by heavy AT and artillery fire. After overcoming this resistance with artillery, the advance continued to Sachenbourg (0629) without difficulty. During the night heavy mortar fire fell on the north edge of the town.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt: By 0200 the road which had caused the delay of the battalion on the day before was repaired and the advance continued to the high ground east of Nettersen. The high ground was secured by 0345 and the attack for Hasselbruch was continued at 0730. Tank and AT fire blocked advance, inflicted losses, and the force was ordered back to reorganize. A dismounted attack scheduled for 1300 was also delayed by observed artillery fire, and it was not until 1430 that the attack was launched. This time it was successful and the town was secured by 1545. A road block held up the advance on Oberoth, but was overcome and the town secured by 2400. Enemy resistance consisted of small arms fire and harassing artillery fire.

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27 March 1945: Task Force Hogan continued to advance throughout the night and morning. At Weitefeld (1336) some resistance was met, but it was quickly overcome and the advance continued.

Task Force Richardson maintained a rapid advance throughout the day. Enemy resistance was light, but there was difficulty from terrain.

By the close of the period, TF Richardson was continuing the advance on Dillenburg and TF Hogan was halted for refueling north-east of Hof.

The 1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, continued a rapid advance with TF Hogan and by the close of the period had captured and secured Herborn and had secured a crossing over the Dill River. Contact was made with 7th Armd Div on right flank. The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, with TF Selborn, moved in reserve on Route 2 and closed at Holn at 2200.

28 March 1945: TF Hogan, after refueling, continued a rapid advance and by 0730 had entered Dillenburg with little opposition and had secured the town by 0930. TF Richardson advanced rapidly with light resistance and by 1015 was on the objective in the area south of Dillenburg at Niederscheld. Both Task Forces secured the objective throughout the day and plans were made for a long thrust northward withaderborn as the objective.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, conducted maintenance of equipment pending receipt of new orders as CC B passed through CC A.

29 March 1945: Both columns moved from Dillenburg at 0600 with TF Hogan on route 1, the left route.

TF Richardson's advance was very rapid and in one instance advanced 50 miles in 5 hours and 15 minutes.

TF Hogan's advance proceeded rapidly at first but was held up by heavy resistance during the late morning. By 1200 TF Hogan was out of communication.

TF Richardson reached Brilon at 1800 and cleared and secured the town. A relay station was sent back over the route to contact TF Hogan. The force coiled in the vicinity of Thulen for the night. The advance of 87 miles from Dillenburg to Thulen was made in 16 hours.

The 2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, followed 33d Rec Bn and at the end of the period was at Ober Marsburg, less than 30 kilometers from the final objective.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, was in CC A and followed TF Lovelady on Route 3.

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30 March 1945: TF Richardson jumped off at 0700 on Route 2 and advanced initially with no opposition. Later small pockets of resistance were met and quickly overcome.

Upon reaching 683392, heavy resistance from enemy panzerfausts and tanks was encountered. Close air support from dive-bombers was given and aided the advance of the column to (682415) Nordborchen, where at the close of the period the force was engaged in clearing the town of very stubborn SS troops.

TF Hogan continued the advance throughout the night and at 0345 was ordered to move by a lateral route to Route 2 and to follow Route 2 to Brilon where it would resume the advance on Route 1, the left route. The column advanced rapidly to Wewer (668436) where the column was stopped by panzerfaust and small arms fire.

In the case of both TF Richardson and TF Hogan the resistance proved to be the strongest that had been met on the drive. The defenders were troops from an army school center north of Paderborn, who were first class troops and who knew how to defend with what they had. The panzerfaust was used effectively as an anti-personnel weapon.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, attached to CC B, passed through 83d Rec Bn at 1200. Stiff resistance was encountered in the vicinity of Etteln (710373) and Hamborn (718410). In the vicinity of Hamborn the enemy attacked the center of the column and by careful choice of terrain and lack of armor in the column, he was able to destroy a large number of half-track vehicles. The battalion was disorganized to a certain extent and CC A sent a force to clean out the enemy.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, fought SS troops south of Etteln and in the Boddeken Forest.

Small arms fights continued throughout the night.

31 March 1945: TF Hogan spent the entire day in clearing stubborn resistance from Wewer. At 1953 the town was reported cleared and secured. Resistance of the same type as the day before made it an extremely difficult task to rid the town of the enemy.

TF Richardson also fought a stubborn enemy all day. At 2330 TF A reported Nordborchen secured and a force moved north as far as the road at 690425.

TF Hogan sent a small force to Salzkotten to seize that place. By 2230 the force had reached the AJ at 634409 and received panzerfaust and small arms fire. It was delayed in moving further by a burning enemy vehicle.

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The high ground northwest of Aewer was secured and the task force buttoned up.

1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, spent the day in clearing the Boddeken Forest.

2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt, of TF Welborn, CC B, attacked to seize the high ground three kilometers south of Paderborn. The ground was secured without opposition, but the enemy counter-attacked with five tanks at 1830 and drove them back to the vicinity of Hamborn. The battalion assault guns accounted for three of the five enemy tanks and after the force was reorganized the high ground was retaken and secured.

The account of the drive made by the Third Armored Division, as reported in this document, does not tell the complete story of the enormous amount of enemy equipment overrun, the vast supplies taken, the staggering number of prisoners captured, the communication lines disrupted, the road nets cut, or the great morale effect it had on the German civilian and military population. This account is more a factual record of how it was done.

(h) Commanding Officers in Important Engagements:

36th Armd Inf Regt	-	Col R L Howze
1st Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt	-	Lt Col W R Orr
2d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt	-	Lt Col T J Moran
3d Bn, 36th Armd Inf Regt	-	Caj R E Chaney

(l) Changes in Command: None.

(1) LOSSES IN ACTION:

NAME	ASN	GRADE	DATE OF CASUALTY
Cutshall, Howard L.	33760762	Pfc	27 Feb 1945
Krchnar, Michael W.	33075211	Pfc	1 Mar 1945
Gaspara, John P.	42122330	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Lambright, Beauregard	34767972	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Rusiner, Vaughn D.	38751209	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Taruska, Joseph (HMI)	11065208	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Sinks, Samuel T.	34180310	T/5	1 Mar 1945
Brown, Norward (HMI)	34058932	S/Sgt	1 Mar 1945
Marino, Alfred G.	42106034	Pfc	1 Mar 1945
Pucella, Charles W.	31448820	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Vacchiano, Frank S.	42190141	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Hill, William A.	37631049	Pfc	1 Mar 1945
Musselman, Clyde E.	42140307	Pfc	1 Mar 1945
Perrone, William J.	31466002	Pvt	1 Mar 1945
Grove, Glenk V.	39204556	Pfc	2 Mar 1945
Stout, George E.	37120045	S/Sgt	2 Mar 1945
Wadsworth, Leamon B.	35079530	Pvt	2 Mar 1945
Creker, John Q. Sr.	34939333	Pvt	2 Mar 1945
Shepherd, Ralph T. Jr.	39138961	Pfc	2 Mar 1945
Tenpenny, Charles L.	34884410	Pfc	2 Mar 1945
Humphries, Allen T.W.	34879851	Pfc	2 Mar 1945
Connell, Alton L.	32945399	S/Sgt	2 Mar 1945
Bundrick, Herman M.	01011158	Capt	2 Mar 1945
Vander Linden William P.	0485920	2d Lt	2 Mar 1945
Pokki, Aaron E.	31433743	Pvt	3 Mar 1945
Sullivan, Clayton T.	34849025	Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Lamos, Richard R.	31469014	Pvt	3 Mar 1945
Adamezyk, Felix J.	36349254	S/Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Becerra, Frank (HMI)	36779923	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Colbert, Raleigh F.	01998479	1st Lt.	3 Mar 1945
Finnegan, Thomas J.	13080316	S/Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Hull, Bill H.	39476559	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Hicks, Robert B.	39049226	T/5	3 Mar 1945
Nordlund, Maurice V.	37032925	T/5	3 Mar 1945
Babel, Alphonse (HMI)	31422353	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Dodson, Dave J.	34984077	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Shick, James J.	33441346	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Zwick, Lawrence A.	20128073	T/Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Strelau, Norman A.	37596737	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Burch, Thomas C.	35140095	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Johnson, Ernest L. J.	34168056	S/Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Reneau, Willie G.	34983221	Pfc	1 Mar 1945
Gumm, Wesley W.	36768146	Sgt	1 Mar 1945
Pattie, James D.	36036482	T/Sgt	3 Mar 1945
Freeman, Vernon W.	34173762	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Przeslawski, John S.	36411261	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Mazurek, Charles M.	36980136	Pfc	4 Mar 1945
Tomkinson, Robert L.	0375590	1st Lt	4 Mar 1945
Guess, Richard M.	33923391	Pfc	4 Mar 1945
Lanningham, William (HMI)	38055322	Pfc	4 Mar 1945



(1) LOSSES IN ACTION: (Continued)

NAME	ASN	GRADE	DATE OF CASUALTY
Williams, Thomas W. Jr.	32958037	S/Sgt	4 Mar 1945
Keck, Charles B.	36042860	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Anderson, Virgil A.	36845029	Pvt	4 Mar 1945
Huisman, Albert P.	36260374	2/5	4 Mar 1945
Carr, John H.	14012451	S/Sgt	4 Mar 1945
Kirby, Douglas K.	33659306	S/Sgt	28 Feb 1945
Holloway, J. A. (IO)	14019616	Pfc	28 Feb 1945
Green, Gilbert E.	36043565	Sgt	4 Mar 1945
Shreiner, Galen M. Jr.	33512930	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Schlethauer, David J.	38104645	S/Sgt	5 Mar 1945
Lindsay, Alexander H.	36892880	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Ruggiero, Emilio (NMI)	11066492	S/Sgt	5 Mar 1945
Kleinholter, Vernon J.	35691299	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Ginn, James P.	34093105	Pvt	5 Mar 1945
Malski, Edward J.	36036156	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Miller, Jesse R.	38688847	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Sutherland, James (NMI)	42177165	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Anderson, Robert H.	0374352	1st Lt	5 Mar 1945
Beightol, John P.	33712470	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Dailey, Paul N.	33889437	T/5	5 Mar 1945
Brown, Arthur A.	34848313	Pfc	2 Mar 1945
Meyer, George F.	36953931	Pvt	2 Mar 1945
Brown, Fred H.	36581489	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Tomik, John J.	42121351	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Nowicki, Peter (NMI)	36983529	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Stephens, Harold (NMI)	36078193	Sgt	5 Mar 1945
Brooks, Roy E.	33731074	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Stoltzman, Harold A.	36691723	Pfc	5 Mar 1945
Chavez, David (NMI)	38673835	Pfc	28 Feb 1945
Gibson, Arthur S.	33736470	Pfc	28 Feb 1945
Streicher, John H.	36889177	Pfc	28 Feb 1945
Ramsey, Joseph M.	6254169	Pvt	28 Feb 1945
Gramm, Paul A.	37568043	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Springstube, William H.	51039872	Sgt	5 Mar 1945
Manfredi, Edward C.	32802896	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Schmidt, Robert A.	37114049	S/Sgt	5 Mar 1945
Metcalf, John W.	01290976	Capt	5 Mar 1945
Misunstad, Norman B.	38506589	T/5	6 Mar 1945
Esquivel, Guadalupe (NMI)	38679210	Pvt	6 Mar 1945
Horowitz, Julius (NMI)	32811792	Pvt	3 Mar 1945
Dicken, Fred B.	35492883	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Encinias, Jose R.	38580025	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Sharp, Donald M.	33433904	T/5	6 Mar 1945
Morris, Samuel B.	33950981	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Olson, Harold D.	36983595	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Lacka, George M.	33659238	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Swift, Robert S.	32922302	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Kenwin, Charles S.	33148917	S/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Heiderer, Richard J.	33871554	S/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Nee, Arthur E.	36785989	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Ledoux, Mayance (NMI)	38652099	Pfc	6 Mar 1945

(1) LOSSES IN ACTION: (Continued)

NAME	ASN	GRADE	DATE OF CASUALTY
Sullivan, John T. Jr.	34871604	Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Thompson, Harry O.	36893797	Pvt	6 Mar 1945
Atkinson, Stanley T.	36471638	Pvt	6 Mar 1945
Schaefer, Millard J.	36990027	Pfc	(6 Mar 1945
Nickels, Thomas A.	36834852	Pfc	3 Mar 1945
Young, Carl H.	36078460	T/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Wilson, Neill R.	34854021	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Hornig, Everett P.	42185724	Pvt	6 Mar 1945
Jaffee, Irving (HMI)	36119686	S/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Bleier, Louis A.	36078086	S/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Fridenstine, Robert L.	35316451	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Jolly, Algie L.	38447070	Pvt	6 Mar 1945
Farmer, Justin (HMI)	16061747	S/Sgt	6 Mar 1945
Hansen, Orval G.	37596933	Pfc	6 Mar 1945
Odom, Prentiss (HMI)	34849393	Pvt	4 Mar 1945
Williams, Max B.	35293280	Pfc	7 Mar 1945
Brink, Robert C.	35086685	Pfc	7 Mar 1945
Henry, Lucious C.	34837953	Pfc	8 Mar 1945
Sullivan, Luther L.	38667436	Pvt	8 Mar 1945
Beaughn, Richard C.	38570747	Pvt	7 Mar 1945
Morries, Robert L.	37625530	Pfc	7 Mar 1945
Davis, Harry E.	15042910	Pfc	4 Mar 1945
Tay, Harry E.	33714846	Pvt	7 Mar 1945
Poster, Billy J.	38699487	Pfc	27 Feb 1945
Satak, John J.	37587332	Pfc	27 Feb 1945
Llanes, Theodore P.	37703025	Pfc	11 Mar 1945
Sessa, Samuel J.	33067426	Pfc	11 Mar 1945
Easey, Jack (HMI)	36960325	Pfc	11 Mar 1945
Lunceford, Robert T.	37129967	Tec 5	14 Mar 1945
Peoples, Robert H.	34931093	Pfc	15 Mar 1945
Malcolmson, Ralph (HMI	31433087	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Burton, Carvel (HMI Jr	35900103	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Vest, Linwood I.	33857851	Sgt	21 Mar 1945
Edenfield, Amos L.	42080708	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Levchuck, John (HMI	35659938	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Rosa, Merrill (HMI Jr	35893614	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Monaghan, Edward J.	32997319	Pfc	21 Mar 1945
Mills, Oland C.	33905901	Pfc	21 Mar 1945
Love, Noah E.	39424123	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Huntley, Charles C.	34935503	Pfc	23 Mar 1945
Kostycz, Adam (HMI	36980202	Pfc	23 Mar 1945
Fuller, Richmond (HMI	38591361	Pfc	23 Mar 1945
Brown, Arthur A.	34848313	Pfc	21 Mar 1945
Stroupe, Claude A.	14123472	Pvt	21 Mar 1945
Nowak, Harry (HMI	36965604	Pfc	22 Mar 1945
Brower, Emery (HMI	36117665	Pfc	24 Mar 1945
Jonker, Eugene C.	36158144	T/Sgt	21 Mar 1945
Cannon, Homer L.	36313888	S/Sgt	22 Mar 1945
Rayman, Richard L.	37110546	S/Sgt	22 Mar 1945
Underwood, Floyd L.	37016320	Sgt	22 Mar 1945
Pochtar, Rubin (HMI	32174546	Pfc	22 Mar 1945
Engleka, Irvin A. Jr.	33757191	Sgt	24 Mar 1945

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(j) Former and Present Members Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Action:

NAME	ASN	GRADE	TYPE OF AWARD	AUTHOR.
Thornell, Warren F.	34333047	S/Sgt	Silver Star	3d AD G. 23
Werner, Arnold B.	37120070	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Harding, Fred W.	36118541	Pvt	" "	" "
Jensen, Ralph F.	36274424	T/Sgt	" " Posthumous	" "
Potts, Clifton J.	36118482	Sgt	" "	" "
Knight, Gabriel M.	38223146	Pfc	" "	" "
Schoenfeld, Delbert H.	37663725	Pfc	" "	" "
Harding, Fred W.	36118541	Pvt	Bronze Star	" "
Dillard, Willaima C.	0537391	1st Lt	" " Posthumous	" "
Bell, Wodrow W.	15090068	Pfc	" "	" "
Hooper, Edward R.	11032098	Pfc	" "	" "
McFall, Ralph L.	14043062	Pfc	" "	" "
Peterson, Gilbert A.	17046420	Pfc	" "	" "
Gust, Albert J.	37076251	S/Sgt	Bronze Star	28
Ruggiero, Emilio	11066492	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Barrett, Jesse B.	39309071	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Wheel, Edward R.	37016347	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Ilkanic, Thomas J.	35273905	T/4	" "	" "
Rodgers, Joseph H. Jr	35046712	Opl	" "	" "
Goad, James L.	14043068	T/5	" "	" "
Horgan, Kenneth L.	39049141	Pfc	" "	" "
Moline, Alvin O.	39459099	Pfc	" "	" "
Ponzetti, Charles A.	31123893	Pfc	" "	" "
Schulman, Barnet	42132434	Pfc	" "	" "
Stroup, George T.	33775388	Pfc	" "	" "
Cook, Robert J.	0515019	1st Lt	Oak Leaf Cluster to S.S.	29
Homsey, Joseph	32214682	S/Sgt	Silver Star	" "
Otto, Paul F.	35046545	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Yarberry, Bill	37067386	Pfc	" "	" "
Stroud, Lyle L.	36864599	Pvt	" "	" "
O'Connor, Leonard E.	36767413	T/Sgt	Bronze Star-Oak Leaf Cluster to,	" "
Sproule, George A.	37254775	Pfc	Bronze Star	" "
Swiner, Frank J.	33674051	Pfc	" "	" "
Williams, Robert D.	37487284	Pfc	" "	" "
Bret, Willard S.	01996439	1st Lt	" "	30
Kreutzer, Leonard J.	37086854	S/Sgt	" "	" "
Engleka, Irvin A. Jr.	33757191	Sgt	" "	" "
Baldreghini, Louis C.	34881102	Pfc	" "	" "
Mottern, Earl J.	33688622	Pfc	" "	" "
Salb, Harvey S.	0462284	1st Lt	Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star	" "
Engleka, Irvin A.	33757191	Sgt	" "	" "
Nameth, Lyall J.	01293093	1st Lt	Bronze Star	" "
Wendland, Frederick F.	32558542	Pfc	Bronze Star Posthumous	" "
McClure, Harry E.	01290970	1st Lt	Oak Leaf Cluster to B.S." "	" "
Maczynski, Alexander	36166979	Pfc	Bronze Star	" "
Pacheck, Stanley F.	32936334	Pfc	Bronze Star	" "
Preston, D. W.	34807352	Pvt	Bronze Star	" "
Owen, James T. Jr.	0398346	Major	Bronze Star	37

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(k) Photographs: None.

(l) Inclosures:

1. Journal

For the Commanding Officer:

EDMOND SPIEGELMAN,
Capt, 36th Armd Inf Regt,
Adjutant.



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