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HEADQUARTERS
284TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APU 230, U. S. Army
2 April 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of Transmittal.

TO : The Adjutant General,
Washington 25, D. C.

THRU : Command Channels.

Transmitted herewith is the After Action report of this unit for the
month of March 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

Henry J. Hipp
HENRY J. HIPPI
1st Lt CE
Adjutant

- 4 Incl:
1 Daily Engineer Situation Reports
for month of March 1945
2 Operations Journal
3 General Orders
4 Special Orders

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APO 230, U. S. Army

1 April 1945

N A R R A T I V E

The first of March found the Battalion still in bivouac in Hurtgen Forest maintaining the roads leading up to the 1st Division bridgehead across the Roer River.

On 3 March 1st Lt Henry W. Coffee, A Company was killed instantly and his driver, Tec 5 Thomas A. Wagner was seriously injured when the jeep in which they were riding ran on a mine. The mine was located on the shoulder of MSR that had been swept for mines and posted by another outfit.

On the fourth of March the Battalion moved to Winden Germany and continued maintenance of roads west of Roer River. Engineer weather continued to prevail with everyday being consistantly rainy. There were quite a few mines encountered in this area which had been removed by other units and left beside the road. These were blown.

The success of the drive from the Roer River to the Rhine necessitated frequent changes of area. Since this Battalion was usually in rear of the 1159th Engineer Combat Group area and consequently in the rear of III Corps area our relief on the rear was dependent on 1st Army taking over more area, which, at times, they have been a little reluctant to do. Consequently, at times our area of responsibility was over extended although at no time have we been unable to successfully maintain the roads in our area and support the passage of all troops and supplies forward.

On 7 March the Battalion moved to Lechenich Germany which was in the forward end of our area at that time. It was at this time that the Remagen bridge was captured. This Battalion continued in general support in rear of Group area, moving on 11 March to Walporzeim Germany where we continued on same mission on roads leading to bridge. While at this location the Battalion developed a new route from Bad Neunahr to Sinsig which was used later by V Corps. C Company made a short cut off N of Sinsig which turned out to be a good road and of considerable use.

On 13 March B and C Companies were moved out of their billets at Arnweiler and moved to Remagen. On the same date Private George Shedlock, A Company, was slightly wounded by falling AA fire.

At 171220 B Company's CP was hit by a V-2 killing 2d Lt Saas, Sgt Gardner, and Pfc Spinos and seriously injuring 31 other men, one of which was Capt Henry, Company Commander.

The Battalion remained at Walporzeim maintaining roads leading to Remagen until 25 March when it moved to bivouac area across the Rhine about 2 miles east of Linz and took over area E of Rhine up to Wied River. On 26 March the Battalion was given area up to Cologne - Frankfort Autobahn. Due to the swift movement forward of 1st Army our work area was changed almost daily. On 27 March we took over all of Autobahn within III Corps area.

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C Company removed three reinforced concrete overpasses from the Autobahn using considerable demolitions in the process. A Company finally had the chance and erected its first baily bridge, a short span on the Autobahn.

On 29 March the Battalion moved to Selters and continued work in that vicinity. The main job in this area and forward seems to be route marking and sweeping for mines since the roads are in very good condition. The end of the month found us still at Selters expecting to move forward again momentarily.

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