



UNIT REPORT

No 8

From 010001A Jan 45  
To 312400A Jan 45

2nd TD Group  
031910A February 1945  
KORNELIMUNSTER, GERMANY  
(K904378)

Maps: GSGS 4416. 1/100,000

1. ENEMY: During January all enemy armor was employed in the Breakthrough in the ARDENNES salient. The enemy facing the XIX Corps confined his activities to improving defensive positions along E. Bank of Roer River. Frequently small numbers of tanks and SP guns supporting small infantry attacks were encountered.

After January 15th enemy armor began to pull out of the ARDENNES salient and during this period heavy rail and motor movements were observed moving N & S from the breakthrough area. Fighter bombers destroyed a considerable amount of rail equipment and armored vehicles. Artillery on numerous occasions during period, fired on small groups of tanks and vehicular movements with good results.

In the latter part of the period Corps units in their attack did not meet any large force of enemy armor. At the close of the period enemy armored divisions had completely moved out of the ARDENNES sector and as yet no Panzer units were identified on Corps front although at least two (2) divisions, the 116th and 130th Panzer Divisions, are believed to be along Corps front E. of the RHINE for rest and refitting, the remainder of armor seemed for destined for the Eastern front.

2. OWN SITUATION:

a. Does not apply.

b. See overlay XIX Corps.

(1) 2nd TD Group - K904378, KORNELIMUNSTER Germany, atchd XIX Corps.

(2) 2nd Ranger Infantry Bn - K901335, SCHMIDTHOF, Germany, atchd 2nd TD Gp

(3) 744th Tank Bn (L) - K908362, WALHEIM, Germany, atchd 2nd TD Gp

(4) 692nd TD Bn (T) - K966475, ESCHWEILER, Germany, atchd 104th Inf. Div.

(5) 817th TD Bn (T) - F029378, vic HURTGEN, Germany, atchd 8th Inf Div.

(6) 893rd TD Bn (SP) - K909285 vic ROTGEN, Germany, atchd 78 Infantry Division

(7) Co "C" 628th TD Bn (SP) - K985243, SIMMERATH, Germany atchd 5th Armored Division.

c. See overlay XIX Corps

d. 2nd TD Group - At same location during entire period. Remained atchd XIX Corps. Period from 010001A - 08 Jan Group closely supervised, inspected, and coordinated all AT defenses in the wide, thinly defended sector. 081200 A Jan Group CO was placed in command of Corps Reserve per Letter of Instructions No. 100, XIX Corps, dated 0712150A January. Reserve troops consisted of the following:

2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion

744th Tank Bn (L) plus Co "C" 784th Tank Bn (M)

OWN SITUATION: (C at )

Group was ordered to prepared plans for committment of Corps reserve to meet any hostile threat in Corps sector. The plan was drawn up, following extensive reconnaissance and terrain study, and coordinated with all Corps, Divisions, and Corps Rear Area Defense Headquarters (7th Armored Group). Arrangements with various FA units in Corps were made to provide Artillery support in case of committment to action. Plan also provided for employment of 1142nd Combat Engineer Group (atchd Ninth US Army, with from one (1) to three (3) Battalions) incase situation should necessitate it. Plan approved by Corps. Pending committment, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion and 744th Tank Battalion (L) reorganized, refitted, and carried out extensive training programs, with special attention to reinforcements. One (1) platoon of 744th Tank Bn (L) was detached to provide security for Corps CP, platoons being rotated. At same time, Group maintained close contact with TD units in Corps to insure a coordinated AT defense. The sector remained relatively quiet during most of period and activities were limited to usual defensive measures. Co "C", 784th Tank Bn (M) relieved of attachment to 744th Tank Bn (L) per Letter of instructions, Headquarters XIX Corps, dated 241030A January 1945, and reverted to control of parent unit. 261700A January 1945, CC "A", 5th Armored Division, with Co "C", 628th TD Bn (SP) atchd, was atchd to 78th Inf. Div. effective upon arrival in area, per Letter of Instructions, Headquarters, XIX Corps, dated as above. 30 January, 893rd TD Bn supported of 78th Inf. Div with direct and indirect fires on KONZEN - IMGENBROICH - HUPPENBROICH - KESTERNICH, Germany, and Co "C", 628th TD Bn (SP) supported CC "A", 5th Armored Division in attack on EICHERSCHEID, Germany. Attack still progressing on 31 January 1945. At end of period Group at K904378; KORNELL MÜNSTER, Germany in XIX Corps Reserve, with 2nd Ranger Infantry Bn, and 744th Tank Bn (L) attached.



- e. Combat Efficiency: 2nd TD Group - Excellent  
2nd Ranger Inf. Bn. - Very satisfactory.  
744th Tank Bn (L) - Excellent.
- f. Results of Operations: Maintained coordinated AT defense of Corps sector. Assumed command of Corps Reserve and prepared plans for committment of Reserve if necessary. Supervised training and refitting of units in Corps Reserve.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE:

- a. Status of Strength:
  - (1) Officers - Sixteen - (16)
  - (2) Enlisted Men - Fifty-seven (57)
  - (3) No replacements needed.
- b. Casualties  $\frac{3}{4}$  none
- c. Prisoners Captured - None
- d. Evuacation - Normal
- e. Administrative Locations: See Adm O No. 13 with changes, XIX Corps
- f. Status of Supply:
  - (1) Rations - Three (3) days.
  - (2) Ammunition - Full B/L
  - (3) Gasoline and Oil - Five (5) days.

g. Condition of roads and status of circulation: Good.

h. Remarks: Facilitated replacement of Combat losses for all TD Battalions in Corps. Assisted 817th Tank Destroyer Bn in securing authorization for reorganization under new T/O & E. Secured range material for training 2nd Ranger Infantry Bn and facilitated the supply of that unit. One (1) Enlisted-Man of the Group returned to United States on rotation plan. Quotas for 744th Tank Battalion and 2nd Ranger Battalion obtained and orders directing travel for rotation delivered. - Colonel George G. Elms relieved of command 2nd TD Group and Lt. Coll Paul B. Bell assigned to replace him.

OFFICIAL

SUNDERLAND  
S-3

BELL  
Cmdg

