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HEADQUARTERS, 3RD TANK DESTROYER GROUP  
 PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT POLICE FORCE SECTION  
 APO 230

4 January 1945



SUBJECT: Action Against Enemy, Report After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C.  
 (Through Channels)

1. This and subsequent After Action reports of this organization will in future be submitted with After Action report of Hq, 3rd TD Group. Reports of September, October and November 1944 should be refiled with the reports of Hq, 3rd TD Group.

This is the fourth report submitted on this organization.

2. This Provisional Military Government Police Force was organized in September 1944 and operated through 30 September under the provisions of G.O. 51, Hq, V Corps. On 1 October 1944, G.O. 58, Hq, V Corps was published prescribing the operations of this force and rescinding G.O. 51. On 5 October 1944, Circular 47, Hq, V Corps was published for the purpose of clarifying the duties of this force and Military Government Agencies in Division and Corps areas. On 2 December 1944, letter, Hq V Corps, subject: "Military Government Police", file 320, was published reorganizing the V Corps PMGPF. (Ltr, Hq V Corps, Subject: "Military Government Police", file 320, attached as Incl 1)

3. The reorganized PMGPF was to operate with the following detachments and personnel:

Hq 3rd TD Gp	Hq PMGPF
Det 893d TD Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 112th Engr Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 254th Engr Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 460th AAA Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 461st AAA Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 190th FA Bn	1 off - 15 EM
Det 200th FA Bn	1 off - 15 EM

The following detachments were reduced in strength and formed into cadres of 1 officer and 4 EM to perform current operations and to be prepared to reorganize the original detachments from previously trained or other personnel, when required for Military Government duty:

186th FA	941st FA
187th FA	955th FA

4. This reorganization was brought about by the critical shortage of manpower. The organization was stripped of all its overhead and half its effective strength as well. Those who remained behind being both a select

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cadre capable of training or retraining personnel should additional men become available at any time, and a detachment of men picked for their suitability for MGP work. The reorganized detachments were made highly mobile, having 2 x 3/4 ton W/C, and 1 1/4 ton O&R. Mobile patrols were to operate over selected routes and drop off men at various spot check points to check civilian traffic, with special patrols for emergency duties.

This type of organization was thought suitable only for a static or very slow moving situation, and the duties which it could perform were thought to be strictly limited, but most advantageously done where the greatest use was made of flexibility and mobility.

5. The towns occupied by MGP detachments during the month were as follows:

Malmedy (K 790045)  
 Eupen (K 796263)  
 Weywerta (K 887052)  
 Verviers (K 675235)

Robertville (K 860070)  
 Sourbrodt (K 862098)  
 Butgenbach (K 913044)  
 Herbiester (K 754194)



6. The general area in which FMGPF operated remained roughly the same, though the German counter-offensive of 16 December removed from the MGP control some areas on which much effort had been spent in the first part of the month, and shifted our attention to the northern part of V Corps sector.

7. On 16 December a powerful counter-attack was launched by the enemy, and on 17 December considerable penetration into the southern portion of V Corps area was achieved. This attack was preceded by heavy artillery fire and the dropping of parachutists in the central portion of V Corps area, which portion is thickly wooded with swampy high ground. Due to the critical situation which developed the FMGPF detachments were called upon to perform various duties, not considered normal MGP duties. Some of these duties were; to search areas and towns for paratroopers, handle U.S. soldier stragglers, set up road blocks, apprehend civilian suspects, mine and prepare bridges for demolition, direct traffic, control civilian evacuee traffic, and in one town to be employed as tactical troops, as well as undertake the essential CA and local civilian police etc, functions.

8. During the week following the break-through there was considerable military and, at first, civilian traffic. A re-grouping of detachments became necessary. The 190th FA detachment hitherto in the front lines joined Hq, FMGPF which was a mile behind the foremost friendly troops. The 200th FA detachment, which suffered six (6) EM MIA, two were reported killed at the "massacre" near Malmedy, and had formerly operated with the 190th FA detachment, went up to Eupen to join the 112th Engr and 254th Engr detachments. All civilian circulation had to be stopped, and untoward movement of refugees in the forward areas was prevented by a large number of check points and patrols. During this period there were many investigations made by MGP detachments of reports of infiltrated enemy and scattered paratroops. 4 and 5 Co's, 6 Fusilier Bn, Belgian Army was also employed by FMGPF in a tactical role for two days during which a front of approximately 5 Km, as well as an important bridge and dam were patrolled and certain defences constructed and manned until taken over by the 1st and 30th Divisions. These two companies were subsequently employed for searching for paratroopers, patrolling a 4 mile stretch of difficult country, and guarding

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civilians detained by this organization, for which there were no CA or local Gendarmerie facilities. The detailed knowledge of the area gained by MGP was at this time both in the Robertville, River Warche area, and in the Malmedy area of the greatest assistance to tactical troops as the civilian problem was brought under control by MGP very quickly, while suspicious persons were known and kept under observation and other persons filtering into the area were more easily detected.

9. 42 additional personnel were sent to this battalion on 9 December, 34 of which came from the 76th FA Bn, 4 from the 953d FA Bn and 4 from the 997th FA Bn. A intensive five days course was given them preparatory to their entering on their new duties. Their training had been completed just in time for them to be of real value in the emergency caused by the German offensive. It was clearly brought out that for the duties of MGP to be efficiently performed, much specialized training as well as practical experience is essential.

10. As of 31 December 1944 there are eight (8) detachments operating in the Corps area, designated as follows:

112th Engr ✓  
 254th Engr ✓  
 200th FA ✓  
 460th AAA ✓

461st AAA ✓  
 190th FA ✓  
 Hq Det  
 893d TD



These detachments are composed of personnel from the following organizations:

241st TR Bn ✓  
 941st FA Bn ✓  
 187th FA Bn ✓  
 955th FA Bn ✓  
 953d FA Bn ✓  
 997th FA Bn ✓  
 200th FA Bn ✓  
 893d TD Bn ✓

76th FA Bn ✓  
 112th Engr Bn ✓  
 254th Engr Bn ✓  
 460th AAA Bn ✓  
 461st AAA Bn ✓  
 190th FA Bn ✓  
 186th FA Bn ✓

11. The activities of the BMGPF detachments for the period 1 December to 31 December are summarized as follows:

Patrols and Check Points:

296 Roving patrols ----- 708 EM used  
 445 Check and spot check points ----- 1051 EM used

Passes and Identification checked:

8043 civilians

Apprehended:

- 332 civilians (to CA and CIC)
- 92 US soldiers (stragglers)(routed back to their units)
- 2 US soldiers who could not identify themselves (to MP's)
- 6 Prisoners of War (paratroopers)

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Transported:

Dynamite and ammunition from Gendarmerie to engineer depot, (CA) (twice)  
 5 suspects from Eupen to Verviers (MP)  
 Mid-wife to Walsmes (CA)  
 Food and medicine from Malmedy to Weywertz (CA) (twice)  
 Civilian woman to Butgenbach hospital (CA)  
 Pregnant woman from outside city limits to Verviers hospital (CA)  
 16 refugees from Malmedy to refugee camp at Honburg (CA)  
 Woman from outside Eupen to hospital and back (CA)  
 Food convoy to Liege for CA.  
 Civilians from Weywertz to Verviers (CA) (twice)  
 Civilians from Robertville to Verviers (CA)

Identity check of civilians in towns hitherto unchecked:

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NO. CIVILIANS</u>
Ennal	102
Wanne	73
Lavaux	12
Logbierne	88
Henumont	64
Challes	19
Beaumont	59
Fancheville	81
Houvegne	23
Total	<u>551</u>



Guard furnished (special)

6 workers to Butgenbach (CA) (2 trips)  
 To restricted area for clothes (CA)  
 Civilian truck to Bullingen (CA) (2 trips)  
 Food trucks from Malmedy to procure food for evacuees (117)  
 Ambulance carrying corpse to Ambracher (CA)  
 Truck to Rockerath (CA) (4 trips)  
 Malmedy Convent (German nationals)  
 ARC Nurse to Weywertz to deliver shoes and soap.  
 Truck to Butgenbach (CA) (4 trips)  
 6 men and 2- $\frac{1}{4}$  ton trucks to escort convoy of political prisoners to Liege (CA)  
 To accompany civilian violator to political prison (CA)  
 5 men and 2- $\frac{1}{4}$  ton trucks to escort road workers out of Eupen (CA)  
 Electrical workers from Verviers to Eupen (CA) (2 trips)  
 To accompany 500 political prisoners to St Trounds at request of FM.  
 Escort prisoners from Eupen to Verviers at request of Belgium Military Justice.

Raids and Searches:

12 officers and 82 FM participated in raid on Monschau in cooperation with CIC.

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- 8 EM with CIC apprehend 16 individuals and search their homes.
- 1 officer and 31 EM search houses in Weywertz for US clothing and equipment, in cooperation with CIC.
- 1 officer and 14 EM search houses in Nispert at request of CIC.

Miscellaneous: (duties performed other than the above required the FMGP to:

- Check German and Dutch Nationals in Mirfeld (6 trips)
- Check civilian passes on the Eupen-Verviers street car (CIC)
- Obtain location of unit CP's in Corps area.
- Operate patrols along Warche river.
- Security guard and patrol on bridge and dam at (K 8506) and (K 8407)
- Mine and prepare for demolition the above bridge and dam.
- Coordinate local defense of units in vicinity of Headquarters CP over front of 6 Km at Robertville.
- Prepare road blocks at Memblock (K 777262) and Malmedy.
- Recover stolen rations and rations left behind by departing units in Malmedy.
- Control civilian traffic and kept it to a minimum.
- Use detachment as tactical troops in Malmedy.
- Supervise concentration camp in Malmedy.
- Operate civilian food lines.
- Salvage ordnance equipment.
- Assist electricians at Malmedy light plant.
- Handle entire civilian administration of town of Malmedy during critical period.
- Take over essential CA and MP functions and welfare administration from 17 December to 23 December 1944.
- Organize and direct activities of 4 & 5 Co's of 6 Bn, Belgian Fusiliers, etc.
- Help to organize and reinforce the other troops (approximately 100 strong) defending Malmedy, for 36 hours.
- Help in removing injured and wounded during artillery shelling of Malmedy.



GEORGE C. WARNER  
Lt Colonel, F.A.  
Executive Officer

5 Inclosures:

- Incl 1 - Ltr, Hq V Corps, subject, "Mil Govt Police", dd 2 Dec 44
- Incl 2 - Memo No. 8, Hq FMGPF Bn, dd 6 Dec 44, w/overlay
- Incl 3 - Overlay showing area of responsibility for FMGPF Dets, dd 11 Dec 44
- Incl 4 - Memo No. 9, Hq FMGPF Bn, dd 14 Dec 44
- Incl 5 - Unit Reports, 1-31 Dec 44 incl.

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