

HEADQUARTERS

V CORPS PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT POLICE BN  
APO 305, U.S. Army

10 November 1944

SUBJECT: History of V Corps PMGP Bn. For October 1944.

TO : Historical Section, Army War College, Washington D. C.  
(Through Channels)



1. This is the second such report submitted by this Headquarters.

2. On 3-4 October the PMGP Bn. moved the Headquarters from ULFLINGEN (P-762707) to BULLINGEN (P-952019) to comply with the new zone of Responsibility assumed by V Corps. All detachments were moved northward from towns in the Province of LUXEMBOURG to the new Corps zone in Belgium.

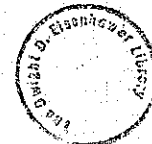
3. Also in BULLINGEN were 3 Military Government Detachments, the officers and Enlisted Men having had previous experience in Military Government. The PMGP Bn. and the M.G. Officers billeted in the same building and through the close association much valuable information was exchanged. The officers of the Military Government Detachments were helpful in explaining and lecturing the Detachment Commanders and officers of the Bn. Headquarters in all phases of Military Government.

4. An evacuation of civilians from the forward sector of the V Corps front was conducted October 7-10 inclusive by units of V Corps. The civilians were evacuated from an area East of a line set up by V Corps. This line was termed the Corps Security Line. This evacuation was for security purposes. Detachments of this unit assisted the Divisions in evacuating certain towns, and completely evacuating two other towns, MIRFELD, BELGIUM (Pop Approx 300) and KALTERHERBERG, GERMANY (Pop Approx 1000). The number of evacuees removed from the forward sector to rear areas was estimated at 12,000. The Corps G-5 personally expressed his gratitude and congratulations to the PMGP Bn. on the efficient manner in which the evacuation was accomplished.

5. This mass of people presented a problem of feeding, supervising, controlling and guarding. The PMGP Bn. was called upon to guard and assist in controlling these evacuees. To accomplish this mission, Detachments were sent on 8 and 9 October to towns as follows:

- 3 Detachments to SPA
- 4 Detachments to KALMEDY
- 1 Detachment to STAVELOT

6. During the early phases of the evacuation the Detachments guarded the evacuees, assisted the civil affairs and Red Cross by hauling food etc., and assisted the CIC in investigations and removing persons found to be deserted German Soldiers, Nazi Party Officials, etc. After approximately two weeks in camps, a large number of evacuees were permitted to leave the camp and go to live with friends and relatives residing West of the Corps Security Line. Large numbers of civilians removed themselves to small towns West of the Corps Security Line and thereby created housing, feeding and circulation problems.



The FMGP Detachments assisted the CA in handling the resulting problems.

7. Many interesting and amusing situations resulted in the procedure. Capt. George Percy commanding the 187 FA Detachment in STAVELOT handled one situation very well. The Burgermeister complained to him about the Maquis in town creating unpleasant disturbances. Capt. Percy contacted the leader and assigned the Maquis the duties of Patrolling the area outside STAVELOT in search of enemy parachutists. The Maquis were happy to assist in such an important job and the situation was relieved.

8. The MGP Bn. was assigned the mission of Patrolling the Corps Security Line and preventing the entry into or movement within, of civilians not authorized to do so. Six (6) Detachments were stationed along the Corps Security line and patrolled the line starting 10 October and continuing 31 October.

9. By 23 October the problems incident to the missions assigned the FMGP Bn. were largely solved, and the operations settled down to routine. At this time it was determined desirable to release to their parent Battalions Detachments not presently needed for operations in the stabilized Corps Zone. Accordingly six (6) complete Detachments and half of two others were returned to their parent Battalions on 24 October.

10. From the period 24-31 October Capt. Haylon and Capt. Wheaton-Smith toured the Detachments lecturing on subjects of "Law Enforcement", "Searching Woods, Houses, and Towns", and "German Kultur".

11. The FMGP Bn. Headquarters moved from BULLINGEN to ROBERTVILLE (K-070860) 25 October and remained there throughout October.

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