Authority NAD 735017

By AS NARA Date 9/6/05

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* AUTH: CG FIRST U. S. ARMY * INIT: QJO. * DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 1945 *

1

AFTER-ACTION REPORT

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

1945

1110TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP

Vol amada.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION CANCELED AUTHORITY SECRETARY ARMY

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DATE CONTESTS

ENGP-1110-03

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HEADQUARTERS 1110TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP APO 230, U. S. ARMY

1-492

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SECTION I

ENEMY INTELLIGENCE

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- 1. The 1110th Engineer Cembat Group, in support of the V Cerps in BEGIUM and GERMANY during the period, had no actual physical enemy centact, although the Group was subjected to enemy artillery fire from which battle casualties and equipment losses were suffered. At 100350A February 1945, a shell (later identified as from a 240 mm railread gum) landed within 15 yards of the entrance to the Group CP in MALMEDY, BELGIUM. Two men standing guard near the entrance were seriously wounded and died afterwards. Two trucks, a 3/4 ton CAR and a 3/6 ton Weapons Carrier were completely destroyed by fire and five other vehicles received minor damage.
- Units of the Group, while operating in assigned sectors, came in contact with enemy mines. No flying bombs landed in the area occupied by the Group.
- 3. During the period suberdinate units performed their Engineer work under adverse weather conditions. No sabetage of Engineer work or Engineer equipment and materials was encountered.
- 4. Engineer Intelligence consisted of reutine recommaissance within the sectors and in advance areas for proposed operations. No change in intelligence received from higher headquarters.

SECTION II

OPERATIONS.

- 1. The 1110th Engineer Combat Group operated as Army Engineers in the vicinity of HAMOIR, BELGIUM, from 1st to 8th of period with special emphasis on central of ice and drainage of roads during the thaw which began I February 1945. All snow and ice was gone by 6 February except in road ditches and places shaded from the sum; also continued with sawmill operations; completed drivers school; completed construction of 180 false bows for Assualt Boats. and removed Bailey Barge Bridge at LIEGE, BKLGIUM. On 9 February 1945, the Group Headquarters moved to MAIMEDY, BELGRUM with mission of close support of Engineer Groups of V Corps. Due to heavy troop movements immediately following the than the road beds began to fail, and after 8 February all of the Groups' effort was expended on repair of these foundation failures and keeping the necessary routes open for the supply and novement of V Corps troops. Large numbers of troops and additional equipment was temporarily attached to assist in this mission.
- 2. For the accomplishment of these missions the following First Army Units were attached to the Group.
 - a. 148th Engineer Combat Battelien.
 - b. 164th Engineer Combat Battalion.
 - c. 184th Engineer Combat Battalion. (atchd 15 Feb 45, reld atchmt 25 Feb)
 - d. 207th Engineer Combat Battalion.
 - e. 324th Engineer Combat Battalion. (atchd 15 Feb 45, rold atchmt 22 Feb)
 - f. 1264th Engineer Combat Battalion. (atchd 15 Feb 45)
 - g. 1699th Engineer Combat Battalion. (atchd 25 Feb 45)
 - h. 651st Engineer Light Equipment Company
 - i. 968th Engineer Maintenance Company.
 - j. 1368th Engineer Dump Truck Company. (atchd 16 Feb 45)
 k. 1368th Engineer Dump Truck Company.

 - 42nd QM War Dog Plateen (reld atchmt 23 Feb 45)

Also to assist in the accomplishment of these missions the following tactical units and additional vehicles and Engineer equipment were available;

ATTACHED PERSONNEL

Unit	Date Abold Date reld	No of personnel
820 TD En, Cos A,B, Eq,	10 Feb 45 working at end of period	310
758 Tank Bn, Go B	11 Feb 45 . 18 Feb 45	68
38 Armored Inf. 8 Ces.	12 Feb 45 working at end of period	329
40 Armored Inf Bn	12 Feb 45 working at end of period	300
87 Cav Ron Treep	12 Feb 45 22 Feb 45	190
23 Armored Inf Bn, Ge C.	16 Feb 45 17 Feb 45	110
48 Inf Regt.	17 Feb 45 27 Feb 45	500
393 Infantry	17 Feb 45 20 Feb 45	544
33 Armored Engr En, Co A.	22 Feb 45 22 Feb 45	170
203 Engr Bn, Co. A.	22 Feb 45 26 Feb 45	165
394 Inf Regt.	22 Feb 45 22 Feb 45	500
814 TD Battalion.	23 Feb 45 27 Feb 45	249

ATTACHED VEHICLES

Unit	Date Attached	Date Relieved	No. Trucks
429 Qf Trk Co.	11 Feb 45	working at end of period	15
3808 QH Trk Co	11 Feb 45	11	26
142 AAA Bn	12 Feb 45		20
427 QM Trk Co	12 Feb 45		10
431 QH Trk Co	12 Feb 45	#	
440 QM Tric Co	12 Feb 45	11	30
441 QM Trk Co	12 Feb 45		30
3712 QM Trk Ce	12 Feb 45		15
3812 QM Trk Co	12 Feb 45		4.5
3710 QM Trk Co	15 Feb 45	,	44
			29
460 AAA Bn	20 Feb 45		12
461 AAA Bn	20 Feb 45		12
3810 QM Trk Co	28 Feb 45		48

SD ENGINEER EQUIPMENT	
1/2 and type of equipmen	Dated atchd Date reld
1/2 on la suevel	
1/2 ou wd shevel	12 Feb 45 25 Feb 45.
	12 Feb 45 working at end of
,	period.
3/4 cu yd Clamshell	13 Feb 45 working at end of
	period.
3/8 ou yd Quickway	11 Feb 45 working at end of
	period.
	17 Feb 45 working at end of
	period.
3/4 yd Glamshell	17 Feb 45 working at end of
Go. D-7 Bulldovew	14 Feb 45 marking at and
	14 Feb 45 working at end of period.
D-7 Bulldeser	15 Feb 45. 25 Feb 45.
D-7 Bulldezer	17 Feb 45. 25 Feb 45.
R-4 Bulldezer	19 Feb 45, working at end of
	period.
R-4 Bulldezer	14 Feb 45. working at end of
7 . 7	period.
R-4 Dulldezer	19 Feb 45 28 Feb 45.
	1/2 cu yd Shevel 1/2 cu yd Shevel 1/2 cu yd shevel 3/4 cu yd Shevel 3/4 cu yd Clamshell 3/8 cu yd Quickway

3. General

a. The Group completed the construction of 150 false bows for M-2 Assualt Boats, and special connecting posts for Bailey Barge Bridge; repaired Belgium Barracks in vicinity of VIELSAIM, BELGIUM, for the 67th Bracustion Hospital; completed the Drivers and Maintenance School; and released savmill operations to 1128th Engineer Combat Group.

(1) Construction of 150 false bows for M-2 Assualt Boats on First U. S. Army Job Order No. 78 was completed and bows delivered to Engineer Depot E-8 on 15 February 1945.



- (2) Construction of special connecting posts for Bailey Barge Bridge on First U. S. Army Job Order No. 81, by contract with a civilian firm was completed and posts delivered to Engineer Depot E-8, 8 February 1945.
- (3) Repair of Belgium Barracks in vicinity of VIELSAM, BELGIUM for the 67th Evacuation Hospital was discentinued 3 February 1945. Repairs were practically complete except for installation of glass windows.
- (4) The Drivers and Maintenance School was continued until 4 February 1945 at which time 31 drivers from the 582nd Engineer Dump Truck Gompany and 76 drivers from the 1388th Engineer Dump Truck Company completed the full course and received diplomas as qualified drivers. At the termination of the school, trucks of the 1368th Engineer Dump Truck Company were returned to the unit, and the unit became operational on 6 February 1945.
- (5) Sammill Operation. Bleven (11) mills were being operated by the group atbeginning of period, producing 3" bridge timbers. The mills were transferred to the 1128th Engineer Combat Group at \$758504 Feb 45 for operation.

b. Road Maintenance.

- (1) The road conditions throughout the Group area were critical and the maximum effort on the part of attached units was required at all times on road maintenance. Snow and ice control difficulties experienced during the previous period were virtually ended on 1 Feb 45 when the temperature rose sufficiently for a general thaw subsequently causing drainage of roads to be a major problem and maximum effort was placed solely on road drainage up until 7 February 1945.
- (2) Under the heavy armored and constantsupply traffic of V Corps units, Route Me. M-23 began to fail on 7 February 1945, particularly between TROIS PONTS, STAVELOT, and MALMEDY east to Junction N-32. Immediate action was necessary on these sections. Repairs were accomplished by using rubble to fill the holes and additional emphasis placed on drainage. During the next three days, failures appeared on all routes; some becoming impassable to mything but light traffic. It was necessary to close Route N-29 (REMOUGHAMPS to SPA) and N-28 (EUPEN south to Junction N-27) to all military traffic.
- (3) On 10 February 1945, Group moved to MALMEDY, BELGIUM, and assumed responsibility for keeping Army road net open as shown on attached Overlay No 1. (Inclosure No. 1) in close support of V Corps. The placing of rock and drainage work then increased to a 24 hour continuous operation using all the available shovels to load rubble and rock from pits. Arrangements were made to ship rock by rail into FRANCORCHAIPS and DOLHAIM and for additional shovels and trucks. Shovels were placed in the most convenient pits where suitable rock was available, and the attempt was made to held these roads by proper drainage and generous addition of rock, but each passing day indicated a losing battle. With the heavy traffic on N-32 it became impassable east of WAIMES, BELGIUM, and traffic was then routed over N-27 to ROBERTVILLE, then East to ELSEMBORN. Two days of traffic and this road became impassable also.



- (4) On 17 February 1945, the Group Road Met responsibility was reduced as shown on attached everlay No. 2 (Incleasure No. 1), with Group having the mission of opening N-31, EUPEN to MONSCHAU, unnumbered Route MONSCHAU to BUTGENBACH, and N-32, BUTGENBACH to DOM BUTGENBACH, the minimum road requirement necessary for V Gorps to supply their forward units in the attack. The unnumbered route and N-32 were kept open to limited traffic; N-31 closed to all traffic and a full scale corduroying project started. Various methods of laying corduroy were used. On the softest road bods 3 to 6 stringers were used and on more solid foundation, cordurey was laid without stringers. Logs were tied together by No. 10 wire or covered with somerfeld mat which was nailed to the logs; and some by the combination of the two. All cordurey was covered with from 6" to 12" of rock as shown on photos (pages 9, 10, and 11). At the end of the period N-32 had one lane of cordurey complete, but due to requirements of construction traffic, it was still closed to general traffic. Route MONSCHAU to DON BUTGENDACH was open and in fair condition.
- (5) During the entire period a total of 22,763 yards of single lane cordurey road was constructed, of which 3,485 yards was laid between BUTGENBACH and MALMEDY but abandoned on Army Order before it was covered with rock, leaving a total of 19,278 yards or approximately 5.5 miles of two lane first class cordurey road constructed and carrying traffic.
- (6) Rock hauled and placed on the road during the period was as follows:

(a)	Abrasives	oubic yards hauled and	
		stockpiled during the first 9 days of period.	

(b) Shale and quarried rock 58,471

(c) Shipped in by rail 8,315

(d) Crushed 3,295

(e) Rubble 1,340

74,729 cubic yards total.

Thirteen shevels were employed, four with clamshell attachments, unloading from railroad cars at seven different sidings -- SPA, FRANCORCHAMPS, DOLHAIN, EUPEN, WAIMES, WEYWERTZ, in BELGIUM, and MONSCHAU, in GERMANY. As the work area moved forward, unloading sites were changed to secure the minimum haul for the rock. Mine more shovels were used for loading shale and rock from pits developed at convenient locations throughout the area. One 1/2 cubic yard shovel loaded 2,044 cubic yards of shale in a 24 hour period. 336 attached 22-Ton Garge Trucks, in addition to the organic two Engineer Dump Truck Companies and the Engineer Battalion trucks were used to haul the rock and the logs.

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(7) The larger units of the attached personnel were employed in outting and laying cordurey; the smaller units were used in improving drainage on roads and unloading and spreading rock. All work was supervised by officers and NCO's of the regular attached battalians. At the time of peak construction, 10,000 legs were being cut and laid per day by each battalian.

c. Quarry Operations.

The two reck crushing units were moved from BARVAUX and REDNE, BELGIUM to MONSCHAU, GERMANY and WEYWERTZ, BELGIUM respectively and put into operation for V Corps. Due to the large amount of rock needed by the attached units and the limited capacity of the crushers they were not operated 100% of the time, in order to make more shovels available to load pit run material, therefore, V Corps received very little rock from the crushers during the period.

d. Dismantling of Bailey Barge Bridge, LIEGE, BELGIUM.

The Bailey Barge Bridge at LIEGE, BELGIUM was dismantled during the period and the fixed parts delivered to Engineer Depot E-7 and floating parts to Engineer Depot E-8.

e. We bridges were constructed during the period.



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N-SI EUPEN TO MONSCHAU ROAD BEFORE FAILURE



N-S1 EUPEN TO MONSCHAU ROAD AFTER FAILURE

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N-31 EUPEN TO MONSCHAU
SHOWING CORDUROY LAID FOR ONE LANE WITH NO ROCK - 207TH ENGINEER COMBAT BN



N-31 EUPEN TO MONSCHAU
CORDUROY: ONE LANE COMPLETE; SECOND LANE UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY 207TH ENGR C BN

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N-31 EUPEN TO MONSCHAU (From the Air) CORDUROY: ONE LANE COMPLETE, LOGS DISTRIBUTED FOR 2ND LANE: 207 EUGR C EN.



CORDUROY, COMPLETE AND READY FOR TRAFFIC, 207 ENGINEER COMPAT BATTALION
- 11 - SECRET





ISI EIPEN TO MONSCHA



Y: ONE LANE COMPLETE; SECOND LANE UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY 20

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SECTION III

ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1110th Engineer Combat Group continued to occupy billets at HAMOIR, BELGIUM from 1 February 1945 to 9 February 1945. Morale of the troops continued excellent. Accommodations were sufficient and all personnel were under cover. Stoves were made available and sufficient coal was obtained to maintain livable conditions. On 9 February 1945, Headquarters and Headquarters Company moved to MAIMEDY, BELGIUM. The entire headquarters was billeted in the E.S.M.A. building and accommodations were the best encountered by the group since its arrival on the continent. The building was a gray stucco building with spacious quarters. Central heating, electric lights and running water facilities were intact. A shower point was set up nearby and was available to all personnel. This building was formerly occupied by the Germans and used as a headquarters.
- 2. On 10 February 1945, the Headquarters Company lost two men as a result of enemy action when a shell hit within a few yards of the CP; one other man was wounded. The man wounded was Pfc John Wineland, 33828710, who was awarded the purple heart. The men killed in action were:

Private First Class James H. Parsons, 38371647 Private Thomas N. Fenney, 31335986

The loss of these men was greatly feit by all members of the Group Headquarters as they were exceptional soldiers.

3. The following reinfercements were received by Headquarters Company on 24 February 1945 from the 3rd Reinforcement Depot.:

Gorporal Themas McFarland, Jr., 35172956 Private George J. Janckila, 10601729

- 4. Passes to Paris and Brussels were made available and Headquarters and Headquarters Company was allocated 2 officers and 2 enlisted men. On 28 February 1945, a quota of leaves and furloughs to Great Britain was allocated to the Group. One officer and ten men of the Group and its attached units comprised the first contingent. One man from Group Headquarters Company was included in the quota. Movies were also made available during the month, but due to the lack of spare parts for the projector, and in spite of much improvising on the part of the Special Service Officer and his assistant, they were not of the high quality that had previously been enjoyed.
- 5. Religious services were made available to all personnel. Protestant services were not as frequent as normally, due to the loss of the Group Protestant Chaplain. However, through the efforts of the Catholic Chaplain and a nearby Protestant Chaplain, some services were arranged.
- 6. The strength of the Group Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1110th Engineer Combat Group on 28 February 1945 was 16 efficers and 64 enlisted men. Rogters of officers and enlisted men are as follows:





HEADQUARTERS .

1110TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP
APO 230, U. S. ARMY

28 February 1945.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

c Officer
Officer
nce Staff Officer
reon
Ing Staff Officer
S-2, I-E Officer
d Evac Staff Officer
S-3
8-3
S-4
8-2
plain (C)
tal Surgeon
(S-1)
uarters Company
tions Officer





SECRET OF ENLISTED MEN

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1110TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP APO 230

28 February 1945

GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER
M/Sgt	Dunlap, Paul O. Greider, Donald E. Hawkins, Malcolm F. Williams, Frederick E. Stonebrook, William N. Ferro, Francisco F. Kelleher, Thomas C. Tortora, Anthony Larsen, Andrew J. Lord, Richard A. Rooks, William Ventura, John Wenczel, Marton W. Brown, Rodney C. Kostelny, Andrew Jr. Koza, Carl W. Sacco, Cosimo T. Cook, Glynn F. Freeland, William R. Nichols, Glenn D. O'Neill, Joseph A. Rush, Owen Smith, Gordon W. Albrecht, George F. Carney, Joseph L. Honner, Glenn A. McFarland, Thomas F. Jr. Ball, Thomas A. Brostrom, Walter G. Cummings, John W. Davis, Charles W. Head, Charles F. Johnson, Sherman W. McClintock, Joseph J. O'Keefe, Gerald J. Pierce, William H. Simmons, Elmer E. Spatola, James Studley, William R. Stuart, Delbert W. Wiencek, John F.	38 113 211 20 604 005 20 617 639 35 332 105 35 306 857 39 844 963 37 372 096 32 686 511 35 396 938 38 385 437 32 686 705 32 686 151 31 388 064 35 385 750 35 235 177 13 188 448 35 645 807 14 132 607 14 132 607 14 132 607 38 357 338 33 311 806 37 407 198 32 685 528 32 484 781 35 539 366 35 172 956 31 362 072 32 755 202 31 362 072 32 484 826 31 348 236 32 600 768 32 484 947 37 216 216 20 517 231
Tec 5	Zwick, Coleman D.	35 053 239

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GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER
Pfe	Bishop, Harry H.	39 545 198
Pfc	Callahan, William J. Jr.	31. 340 062
Pfc	Chase, Walter	33 587 209
Pfc	Densmore, Robert J.	36 890 073
Pfc	Hannum, Chandler Jr.	32 485 363
Pfc	Hanchar, George A.	35 576 962
Pfc	Knight, Paul A.	35 535 005
Pfc	Melanson, Albert J. Jr.	31 351 364
Pfc	Morse, Eugene T.	31 323 265
Pfc	Penner, Harold M.	13 101 774
Pfc	Shepherd, Edward	35 787 251
Pfc	Watson, Edward H.	32 485 446
Pfc	Wilson, Lester G.	37 247 206
Pfc	Wineland, John S.	33 828 710
Pfc	Wolpert, Richard F.	31 348 315
Pvt	Desmond, Joseph F.	31 323 238
Pvt	Janckila, George J.	10 601 729
Pvt	Strauss, Nathan	32 485 484
Pvt	Taylor, Robert J.	32 600 993
Pvt	Tempone, Louis M.	33 578 393
Pvt	Trampel, Kurt E.	36 811 666
Pvt	Willette, Leland P.	31 348 264



SECTION IV

SUPPLY

1. Supply Administration:

a. Water activities:

Operating Unit	WP No.	Location	Date Opened	Date Clesed	(Gals)
148th Engr C Bn	19	K 383191	25 Dec 44	6 Feb 45	18095
207th Engr C Bn	23	K 389038	17 Jan 45	6 Feb 45	44885
164th Engr C Bn	10	K 434054	18 Jan 45	6 Feb 45	52900
164th Engr C Bn	18	P 700870	5 Feb 45	11 Feb 45	48080
184th Engr C Bn	26	K 735085	16 Feb 45	24 Feb 45	14885
148th Engr C Bn	45	K 708005	9 Feb 45	27 Feb 45	101110
164th Engr C Bn	10	K 795061	10 Feb 45	Operating	77675
207th Engr C Bn	24	K 769257	10 Feb 45	Operating	42535

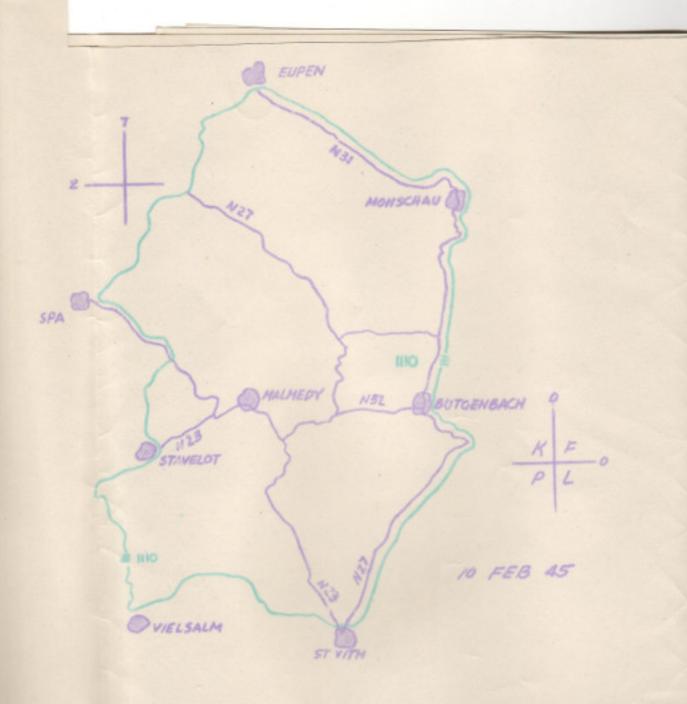
TOTAL ---- 400165 gal.

2. Principal Supply Accomplishments.

- a. An emergency repair team equippped with emergency repair truck, has been dispatched each day to this headquarters from the 966th Engineer Maintenance Company for the purpose of maintaining Engineer equipment within the Group. Continuous inspections were made and repairs made on the job.
- b. The procurement of tire chains for attached units was completed. A total of 411 tire chains of various sizes were manufactured by local concerns. Due to the shortage of chains in normal channels this project was approved by higher headquarters.
- c. It was necessary to procure large quantities of crushed rock, legs for laying cordurey, chesspaling, somerfeld track, and lumber to repair roads in assigned area. The Group S-4 made necessary arrangements with higher headquarters to get the large amounts of required materials to accomplish assigned missions. During the critical period of road repair the group had a large number of non-engineer units assigned for the purpose of assistance on work in the Group assigned area of responsibility. Due to the large number of troops working it was necessary to obtain extra hand tools, shevels, axes, picks, saws, and sledges.
- d. During the month two new Engineer Combat Battalions and an Engineer Dump Truck Company were attached to the Group. Their shortages of T/E equipment were worked on and all shortages of major items were obtained.
- e. Replacement of evacuated vehicles and new allewances of vehicles under T/O and E changes were effected.

- f. Motor vehicle maintenance was stressed. A daily deadline report was submitted to the Group Motor Officer and he acted as liaison between the units and the Ordnance Unit servicing this Group. An ordnance team was obtained to assist the 1366th Engineer Dump Truck Company in checking 48 new 2 ton 6x6 dump trucks. Drivers maintenance books were distributed to each driver in the Group. These books prepared by the Engineer, First United States Army, set up a system of 1st Echelon maintenance spread over the period of one month so that all necessary checks are made at least once.
- g. The school for Motor Maintenance and drivers which was begun in January ended on 4 February 1945. Graduation exercises were held by the director and diplomas were presented by the Group Commander.
- h. There is an acute shortage of tire patching materials and brake hose. The lack of hot patches is seriously affecting the combat efficiency of this Group. Rings, anti-aircraft, and ground mounts for machine gum, cal..50 have been short but are being made up by Ordnance.

JOHN T. O'HEILL, Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Commanding.



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By AB NARA Date 9/6/05

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OVERLAY TO ACCOMPANY AFTER ACTION REPORT
AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AS OF 10 & 17 PEBRUARY 1945
Wap Reference: GSGS 4042, Sheet 3 and 6
Scale: 1:250,000

LEGEND:

Boundaries

Roads Maintained