

SRH-047

UNIT HISTORY
3D RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE
APRIL 1944 - AUGUST 1945

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NOTE:

TYPED COPIES OF CERTAIN PAGES OF THE HISTORIES ARE INCLUDED AS AN INCLOSURE TO THESE HISTORIES BECAUSE OF OUR INABILITY TO PRODUCE READABLE COPIES OF SOME OF THE POORER QUALITY, CARBON ORIGINALS. THESE TYPED COPIES BEAR PAGE NUMBERS THAT ARE IDENTICAL TO THE ILLEGIBLE PAGES OF THE HISTORIES.

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D. C.

VIA AIR MAIL

AG 322 (21 Feb 44)03-S-B

ELS/go 23-939-Pentagon

25 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Authorization for Radio Squadron, Mobile.

TO: The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area;
The Commanding Generals,

U. S. Forces, in the European Theater of Operations;
U. S. Army Forces, in the North African Theater of Operations;
U. S. Army Forces, Central Pacific Area;
U. S. Army Forces, in South Pacific Area;
U. S. Army Forces, China, Burma and India, Forward Echelon;
U. S. Army Forces, China, Burma and India, Rear Echelon.

1. Inclosed are three (3) copies of T/O&R 1-1027, showing the organization, personnel allotments and other pertinent data regarding the Radio Squadron, Mobile.

2. The functions of this squadron are:

a. To provide radio intelligence to the Air Force Commander and to the Theater Commander by means of radio intercept, radio direction finding, traffic analysis and evaluation of enemy air radio traffic, telegraph and voice;

b. As a secondary function, to perform such missions as may be directed by the Theater Commander, to supplement the work of other Army radio intelligence units in the Theater, all work to be coordinated under the technical direction of the Theater Signal Intelligence Officer.

3. Briefly, the Table provides for twenty-three (23) officers and two hundred and ninety-two (292) enlisted men and sufficient equipment to permit the unit to carry out the functions listed in the above paragraphs. This personnel is included in a "basic" squadron, shown in columns 5 to 14, inclusive, of the Table. Sectional organization of the "basic" squadron is shown below:

Headquarters
Mess
Supply
Transportation
Communication
Traffic (Analysis)
C7 (Radio) Intercept
Direction Finding
Intelligence Evaluation and
Voice Intercept

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065
by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

ERS Date: *22 January 1960*

001

25 February 1944.

4. In order to provide for increasing the size or for changing the organization of the "basic" squadron to fit varying requirements in different Theaters, Augmentation Teams are shown on the right of the Table in columns 16 to 23 inclusive, and the addition of such teams to the "basic" squadron can enlarge it to fit any required field condition.

5. Radio Intelligence Companies (Avn), while containing intercept and direction finding sections, were not originally organized to provide traffic analysis, cryptanalysis, or intelligence evaluation activities, nor was it intended that these units would be used for working on air operations radio traffic exclusively. Radio Squadrons, Mobile, were developed because of requests to furnish Theater Air Forces with units which could accomplish air traffic interception, radio direction finding, and the cryptanalysis and traffic evaluation functions in one organization.


6. Some Theaters have already been furnished Signal Radio Intelligence Companies (Avn), and others of these Companies were to have been shipped to theaters the early part of 1944. All of these units will be redesignated by subsequent directives of the War Department, and their personnel and equipment will be transferred to the Radio Squadrons, Mobile, to be furnished the Theater Air Force Commanders upon priorities established by the War Department. Where Signal Radio Intelligence Companies (Avn), already exist in Theaters, these Companies will be reorganized into Radio Squadron, Mobile, and trained fillers will be furnished as soon as practicable to augment the organization to the strength provided on T/C&E 1-1027.

7. It is desired that a study be immediately initiated to determine:

- a. Whether or not a Radio Squadron, Mobile, is necessary in your Theater;
- b. When a squadron should be furnished, if desired. (If a complete squadron is not currently required, include a statement of what is now desired, and the date when the remainder of the squadron should be shipped);
- c. The need for Augmentation Teams to furnish facilities in the Theater, not within the scope of the "basic" squadron;
- d. If Augmentation Teams are necessary, what units under your control can be disbanded to furnish this personnel authorization increase?

This information should be cabled to War Department, Washington, D. C., Attention: Commanding General, Army Air Forces in order that priorities may be established and arrangements made to furnish the units at the earliest practicable date.

By order of the Secretary of War:


 J. A. ULIO
 Major General,
 The Adjutant General.

1 Incl.
 T/O P. E. 1-1027 (In trip.)

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AG 322 (21 Feb 44)OS-S-B

(Cont'd)

25 February 1944.

COPIES FURNISHED:

- ✓ Commanding General, Army Air Forces (1) with Inclosure;
- * Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, WGS (1)
- * Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, WGS (1)
- * Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations Division, WGS (1)

* Less Inclosures.

DETACHMENT "B"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON, MOBILE (G)
STATION 347

APC 595 U S ARMY
30 JUNE 1944

314.7.

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY OF DETACHMENT "B", 3RD RADIO SQUADRON,
MOBILE (G), USAAF STATION 347.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, NINTH AIR FORCE, APO 696, U S ARMY.

1. IN COMPLIANCE WITH LETTER, SUBJECT, "OFFICIAL AND POPULAR HISTORIES OF THE NINTH AIR FORCE", 22 NOVEMBER 1943; FILE NO. 314.7, HEADQUARTERS, NINTH AIR FORCE, THE FOLLOWING HISTORY OF DETACHMENT "B", 3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G) IS SUBMITTED.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

REDESIGNATION AND REORGANIZATION

THE 951 SIGNAL RAD. INT. CO, AVN, IS REDESIGNATED THE 3RD AAF RAD SQ, MOBILE (G), PER PAR 1, SECTION 1, GENERAL ORDERS NO. 64, HEADQUARTERS, NINTH AIR FORCE, DATED 20, MARCH, 1944, COPIES OF ORDERS ATTACHED, AND A SECTION OF THE PRECEEDING ORGANIZATION IS ASSIGNED AS 3RD AAF RAD SQ, MOBILE (G) DET. "B".

ACTIVATION

DET "B", 3RD AAF RADIO SW MOBILE (G) IS ACTIVATED AT USAAF STA 347, EFF O/A 7 APRIL 1944, PER PAR 5, SPECIAL ORDERS NO 2, HEADQUARTERS 3RD RADIO SQ, MOBILE (G), DATED 6 APRIL, 1944, COPIES OF ORDERS ATTACHED.

COMMANDING OFFICER

CAPTAIN HYMAN T. SILVERSTEIN, O-914062 IS APPOINTED COMMANDING OFFICER OF DETACHMENT "B" 3RD RADIO SQ, MOBILE (G), PER PAR 6, SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 4, HEADQUARTERS, 3RD RADIO SQ, MOBILE (G), DATED 11 APRIL, 1944, COPIES OF GENERAL ORDERS ATTACHED.

DELETION

PAR 1, SECTION 1, GENERAL ORDERS NO. 64, HEADQUARTERS, NINTH AIR FORCE, DATED 20 MARCH 1944 IS AMENDED TO DELETE "AAF" FROM NAME OF THIS DETACHMENT PER PAR 1, SEC 11, GENERAL ORDERS NO. 100, HEADQUARTERS, NINTH FORCE, DATED 20 APRIL 1944, COPIES OF ORDERS ATTACHED.

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065
by Director, NSA/Chief. CSS

-4-

ESB Date: *22 January 1980*

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DETACHMENT "B" RSM (G) LTR SUBJ, ORG HISTCRY, DTD 30 JUNE 1944, CONT.

ATTACHMENT

DETACHMENT "B", 3RD RAD SQ, MOBILE (G) ATTACHED TO 18 TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, FOR TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CONTROL, QUARTERS, RATIONS, AND ADMINISTRATION, EFFECTIVE 0001 HOURS, 4 APRIL 1944, PER PAR 1, SEC 11, GENERAL ORDERS NO. 110, HEADQUARTERS, NINTH AIR FORCE, DATED 21 APRIL 1944 COPIES OF ORDERS ATTACHED.

FURTHER ATTACHMENT

DETACHMENT "B", 3RD RAD SQ MOBILE (G) IS FURTHER ATTACHED TO 70 FIGHTER WING FOR TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CONTROL, QUARTERS, RATIONS, AND ADMINISTRATION, EFFECTIVE 0001 HOURS, 30 APRIL 1944, COPIES OF THE ORDERS ATTACHED.

RECORD OF EVENTS

ALERTED FOR DEPARTURE.

STRENGTH OF ORGANIZATION AT DATE OF ACTIVATION

8 OFFICERS
73 ENLISTED MEN

PRESENT STRENGTH OF ORGANIZATION

7 OFFICERS
105 ENLISTED MEN
2ND LT. JOHN S. SPEARS O-582442, ASSIGNED PER PAR 5 SO 16, HQ. 3RD RADIO SQ MOBILE (G), DTD 26 MAY 1944.

1ST LT. JOHN H. SPITTLER O-1639681, RELIEVED OF ASSIGNMENT PER PAR 10, SO 119, HQ. NINTH AF 28 APRIL 1944.

1ST LT. KURT HEINRICH O-1645650, WAS TRANSFERRED TO DETACHMENT "C" 3RD RAD SQ MOBILE (G) PER PAR 3, SO 7, HQ 3RD RAD SQ MOBILE (G) 19 APRIL 1944

T/4 SMALL, CPL. LAMPE, CPL. SHARMIN WERE TRANSFERRED FROM DETACHMENT "B" 3RD RADIO SQ. MOBILE (G) ON THE 20 APRIL 1944, TO DETACHMENT "C" 3RD RADIO SQ. MOBILE (G), PER PAR 3, SO 7, HEADQUARTERS 3RD RADIO SQ MOBILE (G).

ON VARIOUS DATES BETWEEN 7 APRIL 1944 AND 14 JUNE 1944, MEN WERE ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT TO BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENLISTED MEN UP TO 106. ON THE 9 JUNE 1944, WAS KILLED IN ACTION, THEREBY REDUCING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENLISTED MEN TO 105.

CHANGE OF STATION

MOVED BY CONVOY FROM USAAF STATION 449 TO USAAF STATION 347 ON 4 MAY 1944, PER SECRET ORDERS, PAR 3, GO 3, HEADQUARTERS NINTH TAC AIR

DETACHMENT "B" RSM (G) LTR SUBJ, ORG HISTORY, DTD 30 JUNE 1944, CONT.

CHANGE OF STATION (CONT)

FORCE COMMAND, 27 APRIL 1944, COPIES OF ORDERS ATTACHED. PITCHED CAMP SAME DATE AND SET UP OPERATIONAL SITE AT STATION 347.

3 OFFICERS AND 37 ENLISTED MEN MOVED BY CONVOY 15 MAY 1944 AS 1ST ECHELON UNDER SECRET ORDERS OF NINTH TAC AIR COMMAND. ARRIVED IN FRANCE 9 JUNE 1944.

2 OFFICERS AND 43 ENLISTED MEN MOVED BY CONVOY 8 JUNE 1944 AS 2ND ECHELON TO BROCKENHURST HANTS UNDER ORDERS OF NINTH TAC COMMAND. ARRIVED IN FRANCE 13 JUNE 1944.

2 OFFICERS AND 26 ENLISTED MEN MOVED BY CONVOY 28 JUNE 1944 AS 3RD ECHELON AND ARRIVED IN FRANCE 4 JULY 1944.

MARCHES

NONE

EXERCISES

ON 25 APRIL 1944, THE ORGANIZATION BEGAN A SERIES OF CLASSES IN CLOSE ORDER DRILL, FOLLOWED BY EXTENDED ORDER DRILL AND FIELD MANEUVERS TO ACQUAINT THE PERSONNEL WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF GAS AND STRAFING ATTACKS.

BATTLES

BATTLE OF NORMANDY

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

ON 9 MAY 1944, OUR OPERATIONAL SITE AT STATION 347 WAS VISITED BY LT. GENERAL YOUNT, MAJOR GENERAL QUESADA AND COL. MC CAULLY, NOW A BRIGADIER GENERAL.

ON 12 JUNE 1944 AT CRICQUEVILLE EN BESSIN THE 1ST ECHELON WAS INSPECTED BY GENERAL HENRY H. ARNOLD AND MAJOR GENERAL QUESADA. COMMENDATION WAS GIVEN THE UNIT FOR ITS OPERATIONAL WORK.

INCLS:

GO NO. 64
SO NO. 2
ETC.

H. T. Silverstein
H. T. SILVERSTEIN
CAPTAIN, AIR CORPS
COMMANDING

IT WAS COLD AND DAMP IN THE CARRIAGE OF THE TRAIN THAT WAS CARRYING US TO OUR NEW CAMP, AND THE THIN STREAKS OF RAIN STREAMING DOWN THE WINDOW PANE ADDED TO THE DREARY ATMOSPHERE IN THE LITTLE COMPARTMENT. THE SHRILL BLAST OF THE TRAIN WHISTLE SOUNDED FROM THE FAR END OF THE PLATFORM AND THE LONG GREEN STRING OF CARS CARRYING IT CARGO OF FREIGHT, PLEASURE SEEKERS AND SOLDIERS STARTED OUT OF THE STATION AT STOKE-ON-TRENT.

OVER IN ONE CORNER OF THE TINY COMPARTMENT SAT SOL DRAKE DREAMILY PEERING OUT OF THE RAIN STREAKED WINDOW, "THERE IT GOES MEN," HE SAID, "STOKE-ON-TRENT, BOY I'LL BET WE'LL NEVER FORGET THIS PLACE, WILL WE?" NO ONE ANSWERED.-----THE TRAIN PICKED UP SPEED AS SHE PULLED OUT INTO THE OPEN COUNTRY, AND THE UNUSUAL QUIET IN THE TINY ROOM BECAME SOMEWHAT ANNOYING. THE WET DREARY WEATHER OUTSIDE SEEMED TO REFLECT THE EMOTION OF THE MEN WITHIN AND ALTHOUGH NO ONE SPOKE, WE ALL WERE DEEP IN THOUGHT.

THERE IT WAS MARCH 18, 1944, THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH WHEN MOST GI'S WERE STILL GOING STRONG ON THEIR PAY AND ENJOYING THEMSELVES OUT IN THIS PARTICULAR GROUP THERE WAS NO SIGN OF LEVITY. WE ALL FELT PRETTY BLUE LEAVING OUR OLD OUTFIT AND THE MEN IN IT. BUT MORE THAN THAT, WE WERE DOWN IN THE DUMPS FOR THE REASON WE BELIEVED WE WERE BEING SENT AWAY.

THE RAIN WAS COMING DOWN MORE FIERCELY NOW AND SOL STOPPED LOOKING OUT OF THE WINDOW. HE LOOKED AT THE FACES AROUND HIM AND THEN MUTTERED TO HIMSELF, "I DON'T GET IT. WE ALL DID PRETTY GOOD WORK WITH THE OLD OUTFIT AND WE WORKED LONG AND HARD TO KNOW WHAT WE DO NOW. IT JUST DOES NOT MAKE SENSE."

ALFRED ABALOS LOOKED UP AT HIM AND CASUALLY LIT A CIGARETTE. SOL SEEMED TO KNOW WHAT AL WAS GOING TO SAY AND HE WAITED. ABALOS TOOK A LONG DRAG ON THE WEED, EXHALING SLOWLY AND SAID, "I GUESS WE'RE CONSIDERED PLAIN 'EIGHTBALLS' KID, AND THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT." EVERYONE IN THE ROOM LOOKED UP AT ONCE AS THOUGH THE SAME THOUGHT WAS PASSING THROUGH ALL OUR MINDS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

"EIGHTBALLS," THAT SEEMED TO BE THE ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM OF WHY THIS GROUP OF SPECIALLY TRAINED RADIO INTERCEPT OPERATORS WAS BEING SENT AWAY. THERE WASN'T ANYONE IN THE COMPARTMENT WHO COULDN'T THINK OF SOME ONE OR TWO THINGS THAT HE HAD DONE WHILE HE WAS WITH THE 951 SIG RAD. INT. CO. THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE REASON FOR SUCH A HARSH LABEL.

THE TRAIN SPED ON THROUGH THE RAIN BRINGING US CLOSER TO OUR DESTINATION AND ASIDE FROM AN OCCASIONAL WORD, SILENCE REIGNED. WE HAD ALL AGREED THAT THE REASON FOR OUR TRANSFER HAD BEEN DISCOVERED AND THAT REASON KEPT PREYING ON OUR MINDS. "ANYWAY," SAID DRAKE, "WHATEVER THE REASON FOR OUR SHIPMENT, WE STILL HAVE A WHOLE NEW FUTURE IN FRONT OF US AND MAYBE WE'LL GET A BETTER DEAL OUT OF THIS IN THE LONG RUN." YES, THE POSSIBILITY OF THAT SOUNDED GOOD BUT STILL WE COULDN'T GET OVER THE THOUGHT OF BEING 'EIGHTBALLS'.

ABOUT ELEVEN O'CLOCK THAT NIGHT, WE ARRIVED AT "CRATELEY", A SMALL STATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. IT HAD STOPPED RAINING NOW AND THE SMALL BODY OF MEN ASSEMBLED ON THE OPEN PLATFORM TO AWAIT THE COMING OF AN OFFICER. IN A SHORT WHILE A LIEUTENANT ARRIVED AND INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS LT. HEINRICH. THE MEN-OF-ARM IN CHARGE TOOK THE SALUTE AND PRESENTED THE OFFICER WITH THE TRAVEL ORDERS IDENTIFYING US AS THE DETACHMENT FROM THE 951 SIG. R.I. CO. "SERGEANT," SAID THE LT. "GET ALL YOUR MEN ABOARD THE TRUCKS AND WE'LL HEAD FOR CAMP AND A BITE TO EAT." THE THOUGHT OF ONCE SOUNDED PRETTY GOOD TO US AS WE HAD NOT EATEN FOR SEVERAL HOURS AND FOR THE TIME BEING WE ALL HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT BEING 'EIGHTBALLS'.

SUPPER WAS EATEN QUIETLY, AND FEW WORDS WERE SPOKEN. SLEEPING QUARTERS WERE ASSIGNED WITH THE 414 SIG CO AWAY, AND WE WERE TOLD THAT IN THE MORNING THE OFFICER IN CHARGE WOULD INFORM US OF OUR PURPOSE HERE, AND THE NATURE OF OUR WORK. WE ALL TURNED IN AFTER CHOW ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE DAY TO COME AND WHAT WE WOULD BE TOLD.

AT NINE O'CLOCK THE GROUP ASSEMBLED IN THE SIGNAL BLOCK WHERE LT. HEINRICH WAS WAITING TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO US. "YOU MEN ARE HERE," HE SAID, "TO ROUND OUT A NEW RADIO INT. SQDN. THAT WILL BE ACTIVATED IN SEVERAL DAYS. YOU WERE SELECTED BECAUSE OF YOUR TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS----NO OTHER REASON WAS USED TO SELECT THIS GROUP." WE LISTENED, BUT WERE STILL SCEPTICAL BECAUSE THIS SEEMED TO BE THE USUAL PEP TALK GIVEN A NEW BUNCH OF MEN COMING TO ANOTHER OUTFIT. "IN SEVERAL DAYS," CONTINUED THE LT., "ANOTHER BODY OF MEN WILL ARRIVE TO FORM A SECTION OF THE DETACHMENT THAT WILL BE KNOWN AS THE RADIO TELEPHONY ARM, AND YOUR ARM WILL BE CALLED THE WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY SECTION."

AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION, AN OUTLINE OF WHAT WE WOULD DO, AND WHAT WAS EXPECTED OF US WAS GIVEN BY THE OFFICER, AND WE LEFT THE BLOCK TO DO AS WE PLEASED TILL THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN WE WERE TO TAKE EXAMINATIONS TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH RADIO PROCEDURE WE STILL REMEMBERED AND TO SELECT FOUR MEN TO GO INTO ACTUAL COMMUNICATIONS WORK WITH THE 414 SIG CO.

ON MONDAY MARCH 20, THE EXAMS WERE GIVEN, AND SGT ROSENSWEIG, CPL ZIEMKE, CPL POWELL AND PFC ROTHBERG WERE THE FOUR MEN SELECTED TO GO INTO ACTUAL OPERATIONS. THE REST OF THE UNIT WAS TO ATTEND CLASSES IN RADIO PROCEDURE, AND LOOSEN UP THEIR "FISTS."

NEARLY A WEEK PASSED WITH NO ALTERATION IN THE ARRANGED PLAN FOR TRAINING. WHEN ON THE SIXTH DAY OF OUR STAY AT "NINTH FIGHTER COMMAND," WE WERE MOVED OUT OF OUR BRICK BARRACKS AND INTO A TENT AREA THAT HAD SUDDENLY SPRUNG UP FROM OUT OF NOWHERE. THE GROUP MOVED THEIR BELONGINGS INTO THE TENT AREA WHERE WE FOUND A NEW GROUP OF MEN WHO SAID THEY WERE TO BE PART OF OUR NEW OUTFIT, AND THAT THEY WOULD FORM THE DIRECTORIAL, FINDING ARM, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS OF THIS DETACHMENT.

THAT NIGHT MORE MEN ARRIVED, BUT MOST OF THESE BOYS WERE NOT STRANGERS AS THE GROUP BEFORE THEM WERE. THESE MEN HAD BEEN WITH US WHILE WE WERE PART OF THE 951 RI CO. AND NOW AFTER MONTHS OF TRAINING IN RADIO TELEPHONY, THEY WERE TO BE THE LINGUIST OF OUR ORGANIZATION. TICKLED PINK TO BE TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE OLD OUTFIT AGAIN, BUT MORE THAN THAT THE NEWS THEY TOLD US OF THE 951 RI CO'S BEING DISBANDED AND FORMED INTO OTHER DETACHMENTS OF THIS NEW ORGANIZATION, FINALLY REMOVED FROM OUR MINDS THE THOUGHT THAT WE WERE CONSIDERED EIGHTBALLS, AND THAT THERE WAS SOME LOGIC TO WHAT LT. HEINRICH SAID ABOUT OUR QUALIFICATIONS BEING THE ONLY MEANS USED TO PICK THE W/T ARM.

NOW THAT THE W/T SECTION FELT BETTER ABOUT THEIR POSITIONS, A NEW GRIPE AROSE FROM THE R/T SECTION. WHEN THEY HAD LEFT THE 951 RI CO. SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE TO STUDY GERMAN, THEY WERE SENT TO JA RAB BASE ON THE EAST COAST WHERE THEY WERE BILLETED IN PRIVATE HOMES AND LIVED ON "PER DIEM." NOW "PER DIEM" IS SOMETHING THAT MOST ALL G.I'S CRAVE FOR IT PROVIDES THEM WITH MORE FREEDOM, AND ABOVE ALL HOME COOKE DEALS, (WHICH WAS THE CASE WITH THE R/T DETACHMENT) AND THESE BOYS DIDN'T SEEM TO LIKE THE IDEA OF NOT HAVING FRESH EGGS EVERY MORNING FOR BREAKFAST AS THEY USED TO HAVE FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS. HOWEVER IN A FEW DAYS THEY GOT OVER THAT GRIPE WHEN THEY ACCUSTOMED THEMSELVES TO THE DELICIOUS POWDERED SUBSTITUTE SUPPLIED BY UNCLE SAM FOR HIS BOYS.

ON APRIL 7, 1941, DETACHMENT "B" OF THE 3RD RADIO SQDN MOBILE (C) WAS ACTIVATED. THE COMMANDER OF OUR DETACHMENT WAS CAPTAIN HYMAN T. SILVERSTEIN, AN AIR FORCE OFFICER WHO IN CIVILIAN LIFE WAS A PROFESSOR OF

LITERATURE AT HARVARD UNIV, AND WHO HAD SEEN FRONT-LINE SERVICE IN AFRICA SINCE ENTERING THE ARMY. FROM THE OTHER OFFICERS THAT ARRIVED AT OUR OUTFIT DURING THE WEEK PRECEDING OUR ACTIVATION, CAME WORDS OF HIGH PRAISE FOR THE NEW C. O. AS BEING A REGULAR GUY, AND AS SQUARE AS THEY COME. IT WAS DURING HIS FIRST LITTLE TALK TO THE DETACHMENT THAT WE REALIZED THE TRUTH IN WHAT THE OTHER OFFICERS WHO HAD WORKED WITH HIM BEFORE SAID, AND THAT IT WASN'T JUST PLAIN GUM SEATING.

THE CO MADE A LITTLE SPEECH THAT HIT THE POINT IN SHORT ORDER WITHOUT THE USUAL MILK AND HONEY THAT SOME OFFICERS POUR OVER THEIR TALKS TO IMPRESS THE MEN IN THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.

IT WAS A WARM AFTERNOON, AND THE CAPTAIN CALLED THE FORMATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHOW. HE STOOD BEFORE US DRESSED IN THE USUAL OFFICERS' PINKS, SMILING FROM UNDER HIS SOMEWHAT BUSHY MOUSTACH, AND TOLD US TO STAND AT EASE. HE SPOKE IN A MEDIUM VOICE THAT WAS MORE EXPLANATORY THAN COMMANDING. "AT 0001 HOURS THIS MORNING THE 3RD RADIO SQDN MOBILE (G) DET. "B" WAS ACTIVATED." YOU MEN ARE NOW PART OF A NEW TYPE ORGANIZATION IN THIS THEATER OF OPERATIONS AND OUR WORK IS BEING CLOSELY WATCHED BY HIGH OFFICIALS. WE ALL ARE DEPENDING ON EACH OTHER TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF OUR UNDERTAKING." THAT WAS THE GENERAL TEXT OF THE CAPTAIN'S TALK, AND WITHOUT FURTHER ADD, WE WERE DISMISSED.

THE R/T SECTION CONTINUED WITH ITS OPERATIONAL WORK, AND THE R/T AND D/F SECTIONS HAD JUST COMPLETED SETTING UP ITS SITE AT A NEARBY TOWN IN ORDER TO GET BETTER RECEPTION. AFTER THE CO'S LITTLE TALK, THE THREE SECTIONS BUCKLED DOWN TO SERIOUS WORK, AND TO CARRY OUT THE CAPTAIN'S WISHES TO MAKE OUR OUTFIT LOOK GOOD.

UP TO THIS TIME WE HAD NO OFFICIAL FIRST SERGEANT, BUT SGT. VIC GENTNER WAS CARRYING OUT THE DUTIES OF FIRST SGT UNTIL ONE WAS FINALLY ASSIGNED TO THE DETACHMENT. VIC WAS A REGULAR FELLOW, AND HAD THE RESPECT OF EVERYONE IN THE OUTFIT, WHICH IS MORE THAN SOME FIRST SERGEANTS HAVE. HE DID MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF WORK, OFTEN HELPING THE MEN IN OTHER DETAILS WHEN THEY WERE SHORT STAFFED, AND MORE THAN OFTEN CAME TO THE AID OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS IN SOME SORT OF DIFFICULTY.

HANDLING THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE DETACHMENT WITH SGT. GENTNER WAS 1ST LT. ANDREW J. COPP111, WHOSE INFLUENCE HAD A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH THE TACTFUL HANDLING OF THE MEN EXERCISED BY VIC. A GRADUATE OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY, AND A POST GRADUATE STUDENT OF HARVARD, LT. COPP ACCEPTED A DARE OF FELLOW STUDENTS WHILE VACATIONING IN CHICAGO, TO APPEAR IN AN AMATEUR CONTEST AT THE EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL. AS A RESULT OF THIS CONTEST HE OBTAINED A JOB WITH WILL COCKNE'S ORCHESTRA, AND LATER SIGNED RADIO CONTRACTS WITH N. E. C. AND C. E. C. HE MADE AN ALBUM OF RECORDS, AND BECAME WELL KNOWN THROUGHOUT NEW YORK CITY, PLAYING REGULARLY IN CAFE SOCIETY DOWNTOWN AND UPTOWN, THE RAINBOW ROOM IN ROCKEFELLER CENTER, AND OTHER PLACES.

WHILE A STUDENT AT HARVARD, LT COPP CAME IN CONTACT WITH A PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE WHO LATER BECAME HIS COMMANDING OFFICER IN THE 3RD RADIO SQ-----CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN.

ON APRIL 21, JUST TWO DAYS AFTER THE "AAF" WAS DELETED FROM THE DETACHMENTS PAGE, WE GOT OUR OFFICIAL FIRST SERGEANT. ALL THE BOYS IN THE OUTFIT WERE SORRY TO SEE THEIR FRIEND VIC GENTNER LEAVE HIS DUTIES AS FIRST SGT, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING ANYONE COULD ABOUT IT, AND THE NEW SGT WAS FORMALLY ACCEPTED.

T/SGT. ROHLMEYER WAS A TALL, SOMEWHAT LANKY FELLOW, WITH A QUIET TONE OF VOICE, AND AN AGREABLE ATTITUDE. IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE WAS GIVEN THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT HELD BY HIS PREDECESSOR.

ONE WEEK BEFORE THE NEW FIRST SGT ARRIVED AT OUR BASE, THE ENTIRE DETACHMENT WAS ALERTED FOR SHIPMENT, AND A RESTRICTION WAS PLACED ON ALL PERSONNEL. DURING THIS PERIOD OF ALERT, SGT. SMALL, CPL. LAMPE, CPL. HARMONS, AND CPL. ROSENBERG, FOUR R/T OPERATORS WERE TRANSFERRED FROM OUR DET. TO DET. "C" OF THE SAME SQDN. LT. HEINRICH WAS APPOINTED C.O. OF THE NEW DETACHMENT, AND ON APRIL 19, 1944 THE FIVE MEN WERE OFFICIALLY SEPARATED FROM DET. "B" AND THEIR FRIENDS IN IT.

ON THE 2ND OF MAY, AFTER SEVENTEEN DAYS OF RESTRICTION, DURING WHICH TIME KP, GUARD DUTY, AND GENERAL DUTY DETAILS REIGNED, AND THE PERSONAL GRIPING OF PVTS, PFCs, CPLs, AND SGTS RAN A CLOSE SECOND. THE MEN TOOK A STRAW VOTE AND THE DETAIL ELECTED AS BEING THE SOFTEST JOB, WAS "DEAN OF THE LATRINE, OR GENTLEMAN OF THE GENTLEMAN'S ROOM."

AT 0830 HOURS, MAY 3, 1944, THE FIRST ECHELON OF THE OUTFIT MOVED BY CONVOY TO STATION 347, AND THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE SECOND AND THIRD ECHELONS JOINED THE INITIAL UNIT AT THE NEW STATION WHERE TENTS AND EQUIPMENT WERE ALREADY SET UP WAITING FOR THE REST OF THE OUTFIT TO ARRIVE AND START OPERATIONS.

UP TO THIS TIME, THE DETACHMENT HAD NO W/T SET UP OF ITS OWN, AND WE OPERATED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER UNITS AT OUR BASE, BUT ON THE 8TH OF MAY, FIFTEEN MEN FROM THE DETACHMENT WERE SENT OUT ON TEMPORARY DUTY TO A STATION SEVERAL MILES FROM THEIR HOME BASE, IN ORDER TO SET UP COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE MAIN BODY OF WIRELESS OPERATORS AT STATION 347. NOW THE ENTIRE DETACHMENT WAS READY TO OPERATE IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE T/O. UNTIL THIS TIME, THE R/T AND D/F UNITS WERE THE ONLY ARMS OF THIS ORGANIZATION THAT WERE WORKING TOGETHER, WITH THE W/T ARM OPERATING UNDER ANOTHER COMPANY. BUT NOW, ALL THREE ARMS WERE READY TO CARRY OUT THE JOB AS REQUIRED.

OPERATIONS WERE SMOOTHLY CARRIED OUT FOR SIX DAYS, AND ON WEDNESDAY EVENING MAY 10, ALL RADIO MEN AT THE MAIN BASE OF DUTY WERE INFORMED THAT THE NEXT DAY WE WOULD HAVE AN INSPECTION OF OUR WORK BY THE HIGHER "BRASS" OF NINTH FIGHTER COMMAND. THE MEN PERKED UP, ANXIOUS TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON THE INSPECTING OFFICERS THE FOLLOWING DAY.

AT 0830 HOURS, MAY 11TH, Sentries AT THE SITE WERE DOUBLED, AND EVERYONE WAS PREPARED FOR THE COMING INSPECTION. AT 1230 HOURS, PFC ZELTZER STANDING GUARD ATOP THE HILL WHERE OUR OPERATIONAL SITE WAS SITUATED, SAW A GROUP OF OFFICERS APPROACHING HIS POST. "HALT," HE CRIED, SNAPPING HIS WEAPON TO A SMART "PRESENT ARMS." THE OFFICERS HALTED, AND LOOKED SOMEWHAT SURPRISED. "MAY I SEE YOUR PASS OF AUTHORIZATION?" ASKED THE GUARD. THE LEADING OFFICER TURNED TO HIS AIDE SOMEWHAT ABASHED, AND STARTED TO TAKE OUT HIS PAPERS, WHEN CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN, THE C O OF ~~DETACHMENT~~ ³ STEPPED FORWARD AND SAID, "THAT'S ALRIGHT GUARD, I'LL VOUCH FOR THIS BODY OF OFFICERS." "YES SIR," ANSWERED THE GUARD SALUTING THE CAPTAIN WITH A MEEK SMILE ON HIS LIPS. "WILL THE OFFICERS PLEASE SIGN THE VISITORS BOOK?" HE CONTINUED.

IT TOOK A FULL FIVE MINUTES FOR ALL THE BRASS TO SIGN IN. WHEN THAT JOB WAS FINISHED, AND THE OFFICERS PROCEEDED TOWARD THE RADIO VANS, GUARD ZELTZER GRINNED BROADLY, AND FELT QUITE PLEASED WITH HIMSELF AT HAVING CAUSED A BIT OF ANNOYANCE TO SO MANY HIGH OFFICIALS AMONG WHOM WERE LT. GENERAL YOUNT, AND MAJOR GENERAL QUESADA.

THE LONG LINE OF OFFICERS INCLUDING GENERALS, COLONELS, AND MAJORS, SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED THEIR INSPECTION, AND COMMENDATION WAS GIVEN CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN ON THE WORK BEING DONE BY HIS COMMAND. AFTER THEIR INSPECTION, THE OFFICERS LEFT, AND THE RADIO MEN SETTLED DOWN TO THEIR ROUTINE OF WORK IN EASE ONCE MORE.

THE NEXT NIGHT, FRIDAY MAY 12, THE 3RD RADIO SQ. HAD IT'S FIRST COMPANY PARTY AND DANCE. THE AFFAIR WAS HELD IN THE BASE DAY ROOM, AND CIDER, DOUGHNUTS, AND BEERS WERE PLENTIFUL. WE STARTED THE AFFAIR OFF BY DANCING TO OLD CORNY RECORDS, BUT IN A SHORT WHILE, THE BOYS GOT BROWNED OFF, AND SOMEONE SAT DOWN AT THE PIANO, WHILE A FEW OTHERS RAN OFF TO GET A BANJO, VIOLIN, AND TRUMPET. THE MUSIC WAS A LITTLE RUGGED BUT ANYTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER THAN THE 1935 HIT PARADE TUNES. SO THE DANCE CONTINUED, AND EVERYONE HAD A GRAND TIME EATING, DRINKING, DANCING, AND LATER ON ----- WELL, IT WAS THE NATURAL THING TO DO!

ON MAY 13, AT 1700 HOURS, THE DETACHMENT WAS ALERTED FOR SHIPMENT, AND A RESTRICTION PLACED ON ALL PERSONNEL. THE SMALL GROUP OF MEN THAT HAD BEEN SENT OUT ON TEMPORARY DUTY, WERE RECALLED, AND THE FIRST ECHELON ORDERED TO PACK AND BE READY TO LEAVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. ON MONDAY MAY 15, UNDER SECRET ORDERS, THE FIRST ECHELON CONSISTING OF THREE OFFICERS AND THIRTY SEVEN EM LEFT BY CONVOY TO THEIR NEW BASE.

IN COMMAND OF THIS ECHELON WAS LT FERDINAND GOTTLIEB, AND UNDER HIM WERE LTS GOODSSELL AND SHAPIRO. AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE, LT GOTTLIEB AND GOODSSELL WERE TECHNICALLY IN CHARGE OF THE RADIO TELEPHONY SECTIONS OF THE DETACHMENT. LT SHAPIRO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE MAINTENANCE SECTION. <

LT FERDINAND GOTTLIEB WAS BORN AND RAISED IN GERMANY WHERE HE BECAME A STUDENT OF LANGUAGES. IN 1937, LT GOTTLIEB CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AND WITH A KNOWLEDGE OF CAMERAS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT, OBTAIN A POSITION AS A SALESMAN AND REPAIRMAN. IN 1941, LT GOTTLIEB JOINED THE ARMED FORCES AS AN ENLISTED MAN AND ON 31 DECEMBER 1942, WAS GRADUATED FROM O C S WITH A COMMISSION OF SECOND LIEUTENANT. DUE TO HIS FLUENT SPEAKING OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT AS A RADIO OFFICER, AND LATER ON BECAME SENIOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.

IN CIVILIAN LIFE, LT GOODSSELL STUDIED VOICE AT SCHOOL, LATER ON BECOMING AN OPERA SINGER IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF GERMAN MADE A VITAL COB IN THIS OUTFIT SINCE OUR WORK WAS INVOLVED WITH THE GERMAN LANGUAGE.

LT SHAPIRO, A RADIO ENTHUSIAST AS A BOY, WAS A PHYSICS MAJOR AT M.I.T. AND UPON GRADUATION, RECEIVED A DIRECT COMMISSION AS A RADAR OFFICER. EVENTUALLY HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE 3RD RAD. SQ. WHERE HE WAS APPOINTED RADIO MAINTENANCE OFFICER.

WHEN THE LITTLE GROUP OF MEN ON TEMPORARY DUTY LEFT THEIR SITE TO REJOIN THE MAIN BODY OF THE DETACHMENT AT STATION 547, ONE MAN IN THEIR GROUP WAS TAKEN ILL, HOSPITALIZED, AND LATER TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE COMPANY. PFC JIMMY HOLDERNESS WAS WITH THE ORIGINAL DETACHMENT THAT WAS SENT DOWN FROM THE 951 S I CO. TO FORM THE W/T ARM OF THE 3RD RADIO SQD BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN THE WORD "EIGHTBALL" WAS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS. HE WAS PART OF THE OLD OUTFIT IN THE STATES, AND WAS QUITE POPULAR WITH ALL THE MEN. HIS QUIET NATURE AND UNUSUAL ABILITY IN WOOD CARVING MADE HIM A WELL KNOWN FIGURE ON THE POST, AND MANY OF THE SCULPTURED ANIMALS THAT WERE MADE FROM HIS CREATIVE MIND STILL ADORN THE WALLS AND TABLES OF OUR HUTS, AND TENTS TO KEEP HIS MEMORY FRESH IN OUR MINDS.

AFTER THE FIRST ECHELON HAD LEFT, ALL TECHNICAL WORK STOPPED, AND THE REMAINDER OF THE ORGANIZATION WAITED FOR ORDERS TO FOLLOW THE INITIAL GROUP. MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT IN HAVING NEW EQUIPMENT ISSUED TO US AND IN THE MORNINGS LECTURES ON CHEMICAL WARFARE, FIRE ARMS, AND SECURITY WERE THE SOLE MEANS OF KEEPING THE UNIT FROM BECOMING RESTLESS. DAYS WENT ON, AND STILL NO WORD ABOUT OUR SHIPPING, SO FURTHER TRAINING, EXTENDED GROUP DRILLS, AND SHORT RIFES WITH PROBLEMS WERE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF LTS. GIVEN AND SPEARS.

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EVERY OUTFIT HAS A CHARACTER IN ITS MEMBERS, AND THE 3RD RADIO SQ IS NO EXCEPTION. SGT MILTON ROTHENBERG IS ASSISTANT SUPPLY SGT IN OUR COMPANY, AND BY NO MEANS AN ORDINARY SUPPLY MAN. WHEN THE IMPOSSIBLE HAS TO BE DONE, SGT ROTHENBERG IS THERE TO DO IT, AND WHEN HE DOES IT, IT IS DONE IN A HURRY. WHEN ALL MEANS OF GROUND SPEED FAIL, SGT ROTHENBERG SPREADS HIS WINGS AND FLIES. SINCE HIS FIRST OFFICIAL TRIP BY AIR FOR THE SAKE OF SUPPLY, THERE HAS BEEN NO MEANS OF KEEPING THE USA ON THE GROUND. IN FACT WHEN HE GOES UP, EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK GOES WITH HIM, AND HIS TRUSTY AIRCRAFT HAS EARNED THE TITLE OF, "MILTON'S FLYING SUPPLY ROOM." OFTEN WHEN U.S. PATROLS ARE OUT IN THE FIELD

ON PROBLEMS AND SOMETIMES LOST, A PLANE ZOOMS OVERHEAD THAT CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS THE FLYING SUPPLY ROOM, HOPES SCAR SKY HIGH FOR EVERYONE REALIZES THAT THEIR RESCUE DEPENDS ON THE, "MASTER AIRMAN," BUT ALAS AND A-LACK, SUPPLY COMES FIRST, AND THE PATROL MUST TREK ALONG ON FOOT UNTILL THEIR DESTINATION IS REACHED.

ON MAY 27, THREE CRYPTOGRAPHERS ARRIVED AT OUR DETACHMENT TO ROUND OUT THE CRYPT SECTION OF THE COMPANY, AND BRING US UP TO FULL STRENGTH. DAYS CAME AND LEFT, STILL NO WORD ABOUT OUR MOVING OUT TO CATCH UP WITH THE FIRST ECHELON. LECTURES CONTINUED, PROBLEMS INCREASED, ROTHENBERG'S SUPPLY ROOM FLEW BUT THE DETACHMENT SAT TIGHT, AND TIME PASSED ON.

UNTIL NOW, THERE WAS VERY LITTLE MONEY IN THE OUTFIT, AS ALL CASH HAD BEEN TURNED IN SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE OWING TO THE SHIPPING ALERT. ON JUNE 3RD, WE HAD PAY CALL, AND ALL BACK MONEY WAS PAID THE MEN, INCLUDING FULL PAY. THAT NIGHT THE TOWNS NEARBY RANG WITH LAUGHTER, AND SPIRITS RAN HIGH. THE USUAL POKER AND DICE GAMES PREDOMINATED IN THE FIELD OF ENTERTAINMENT, AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE SEVERAL SAD SACKS WERE SEEN WALKING AROUND CAMP AFTER SHORT VISITS TO THE CARD TABLES.

LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON DURING THE HEIGHT OF A POKER GAME, AN UNUSUAL AMOUNT OF AIR ACTIVITY WAS NOTICED IN THE SKYS OVER OUR FIELD, AND THAT NIGHT THE HURRIED CALLS FOR THE HIGHER BRASS ON THE POST STARTED THE RUMOR MACHINES WORKING FULL BLAST, AND BETS WERE MADE ON WHEN THE INVASION WOULD BEGIN.

GAMBLING CONTINUED THROUGH THE NIGHT, AND AT SIX O'CLOCK JUNE 6TH, ONE OF THE GUARDS RUSHED INTO THE HUT AREA AND IN AN EXCITED VOICE ANNOUNCED THAT THE INVASION HAD BEGUN.

EVERYONE STOPPED WHAT HE WAS DOING, AND THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT. THEY ALL WERE WONDERING HOW THE MEN IN THE FIRST WAVE FELT, HOW MANY OF THOSE BOYS THAT WERE RUNNING ALONG THE BEACHES OF FRANCE THAT MORNING WOULDN'T BE RUNNING THAT NIGHT,-----OR AGAIN. "D DAY" HAD ARRIVED, AND IT BROUGHT US ALL THAT MUCH NEARER TO HOME. HOWEVER EVERYONE REALIZED THAT BEFORE WE COULD GET HOME, A GREAT DEAL OF FIGHTING WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE, AND WE ALL BEGAN WONDRING HOW LONG IT WOULD BE BEFORE IT CAME OUR TURN TO GET IN THERE AND PITCH.

UP TO THIS TIME THERE WAS VERY LITTLE THOUGHT GIVEN TO THE FIRST ECHELON BY THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THIS DETACHMENT. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE INVASION, RUMORS BEGAN SPREADING ABOUT CAMP THAT THE ECHELON WHICH HAD LEFT US ON THE 15 OF MAY, WAS ALREADY IN FRANCE AND IN ACTION. SOME SAID YES, AND OTHERS SAID NO. "THEY DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TRAINING," WAS THE EXCUSE GIVEN BY THE UNBELIEVERS, BUT STILL THERE WAS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF DOUBT IN THEIR TONE.

ON THE 6TH OF JUNE, THE SECOND ECHELON CONSISTING OF TWO OFFICERS AND 45 EM WERE MOVED BY CONVOY UNDER SECRET ORDERS FROM STATION 347, TO THE MARSHALLING AREA AT BROCKENHURST. THIS MOVEMENT REMOVED FROM THE MINDS OF THE REMAINING MEN ANY DOUBT CONCERNING THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE FIRST ECHELON. IT WAS AGREED BY ALL THAT THEY WERE IN FRANCE.

THERE WAS A COOL BREEZE COMING IN FROM THE OPEN SEA, AND THE MEN Huddled ABOUT IN THEIR TRUCKS AS THE LANDING BARGE SLOWLY MADE IT'S WAY THROUGH THE CHOPPY WATERS OF THE BAY. ABOARD THE BARGE WERE A NUMBER OF VEHICLES TIGHTLY LOADED WITH CARGOS OF MEN AND SUPPLIES TO BUILD UP THE NUMBER OF ALLIED TROOPS ALREADY ON THE BEACHES OF FRANCE. ON ONE SECTION OF THE CRAFT WERE FASTENED THE GI AND ENGLISH TRUCKS THAT COMPRISED THE FIRST ECHELON OF THE 3RD RADIO SQD (S), AND FROM THEN CAME LITTLE

NOISE TO ADD TO THE CONFUSION CREATED BY THE LOUD GUNS BEING FIRED FROM THE SHIPS ANCHORED OFF SHORE. IT WAS THE 9TH OF JUNE, ONLY THREE DAYS AFTER D-DAY, AND THAT THOUGHT WAS PASSING THRU THE MINDS OF EACH MAN IN THOSE VEHICLES. AN AIR RAID ALARM WAS GIVEN AS THE TROOPS DISEMBARKED, AND THE SKY WAS LIT UP BY FLARES AND TRACER SHELLS WHIZZING THRU THE RAPIDLY APPROACHING NIGHT.

FIVE MINUTES BEFORE THE BARGE HIT THE BEACH, LT. GOTTLIEB, CO. OF THE FIRST ECHELON, GROUPED THE MEN IN HIS OUTFIT TOGETHER, AND GAVE THEM FINAL INSTRUCTIONS. HAVING ISSUED HIS ORDERS, THE LT INSPECTED THE MEN'S CLOTHING, AND MADE DOUBLY CERTAIN THE EQUIPMENT WAS IN ORDER FOR THE DANGER AHEAD.

THE LANDING BARGE FINALLY HIT THE BEACH, AND THE TRUCKS BEGAN TO ROLL ON TO DRY LAND. THE FIRST VEHICLE OF THE ECHELON STARTED TO LEAVE THE CRAFT, WHEN IT GOT STUCK IN A HOLE HIDDEN BY THE ROLLING WAVES IN THE BAY. WATER STARTED TO POUR INTO THE REAR END OF THE TRUCK WHERE THE MEN WERE SITTING, AS THE TIDE CAME IN. THE MEN WERE UNCOMFORTABLE, AND DREW THEIR TRENCH KNIVES FROM SHEATHES IN READINESS TO CUT THE CANVAS TOP IN ORDER TO MAKE A HASTY ESCAPE. BEFORE THE WATER ROSE TO A DANGEROUS HEIGHT, SEVERAL "DUCKS" ARRIVED ON THE SCENE TO EVACUATE THE WATER SOAKED OCCUPANTS FROM THEIR PLIGHT, AND PLACED THEM ON DRY LAND.

THE AIR RAID WAS COMING TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT, AND SHELL FIRE BECAME MORE CONCENTRATED. THE MEN LEFT THEIR TRUCKS HURRIEDLY, AND PROCEEDED TO DIG FOX HOLES-----JUST IN CASE. THERE WERE BODIES LITTERED OVER THE SAND, AND ALTHOUGH THESE WOULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IN NORMAL TIMES, THE MEN DUG THEIR HOLES REGARDLESS OF THE DEAD. LT. GOTTLIEB ASSEMBLED THE GROUP ON THE BEACH AFTER THE RAID, AND COUNTED THEM TO BE SURE THAT NO ONE WAS MISSING. SO FAR SO GOOD. THE SMALL CONVOY OF TRUCKS DROVE ALONG THE BEACH, AND IN A SHORT WHILE THEY ARRIVED AT A MOTOR POOL TO GET INSTRUCTIONS AND DIRECTIONS. AS THE CONVOY STARTED ON THE SECOND LAP OF IT'S JOURNEY, A GAS ALARM WAS GIVEN, AND GAS MASKS WERE PUT ON. THIS ATTACK BROUGHT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF FEAR INTO THE HEARTS OF THE MEN, AS IT WAS SUPPOSEDLY THE FIRST TIME GAS HAD BEEN USED IN THIS WAR. WILD THOUGHTS RACED THRU THE MINDS OF OCCUPANTS IN THE TRUCKS.

BEFORE LEAVING ENGLAND, THE MEN IN THIS ECHELON WERE TOLD TO WATER-PROOF THEIR GAS MASKS BY PLACING A PIECE OF ADHESIVE TAPE ON THE BASE OF THE CANNISTER, AND A CLAMP ON THE RUBBER HOSE. WHEN THE GAS ALARM WAS GIVEN, BUSY HANDS TORE THE TAPES FROM THE CANNISTERS, AND QUICKLY REMOVED THE CLAMPS FROM THE HOSES. MANY OF THE MEN WERE EXCITED, AND MOMENTARILY FORGOT ABOUT THEIR WATERPROOFED MASKS, BUT IT DIDN'T TAKE THEM LONG TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS WRONG.-----THAT IS, ALL BUT ONE.

HE WAS A TALL FAIR HEADED BOY IN HIS EARLY TWENTIES, HE WAS A RADIO OPERATOR WITH THIS ORGANIZATION, AND A LIKEABLE PERSONALITY. HE DIDN'T APPEAR TO BE THE EXCITEABLE TYPE, BUT THEN WAR DOES FUNNY THINGS TO ITS ACTORS. (AS HE WAS CALLED BY HIS FRIENDS) WAS SITTING AT THE REAR OF A GI TRUCK WHEN THE GAS ALARM WAS SOUNDED. HE PULLED OUT HIS MASK, AND IN THE EXCITEMENT OF THE MOMENT, FORGOT ABOUT THE TAPE ACROSS THE CANNISTER. HE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO BREATHE, AND WITH THAT ADVENT, BECAME PANICKY. EVERYONE ELSE WAS TOO BUSY TAKING CARE OF PERSONAL NEEDS TO NOTICE HIM STRUGGLING TO BREATHE IN THE COOL FRESH AIR, AND IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO SUCK IN THE LIFE GIVING AIR, HE TOOK A MIGHTY BREATHE, AND SWALLOWED HIS TONGUE--CHOKED AND FAINTED. FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER THE "ALL CLEAR" WAS GIVEN AND AFTER TESTING FOR GAS, MASKS WERE REMOVED. DOWN IN THE CORNER OF THE TRUCK, HE STILL WORE HIS MASK, HIS HEAD HANGING LIMPLY AS IF HE WERE ASLEEP. SOMEONE NUDGED HIM. "HEY", HE SAID, "TAKE YOUR MASK OFF."----- NO ANSWER. AGAIN HE CALLED, "TAKE IT OFF", STILL NO ANSWER.

BY NOW EVERYONE IN THE TRUCK WAS STARING AT HIM. SOMEONE REMOVED THE MASK FROM HIS FACE, AND THE SIGHT THAT CONFRONTED THE MEN IN THAT TRUCK MADE THEM GASP. UNDER THE HEAVY HELMET ON HIS HEAD, BLUE, ALMOST PURPLE FACE WITH SWOLLEN LIPS, HUNG LIMPLY AND SEEMED TO BARELY BREATHE. THE TRUCK WAS HALTED, AND A PASSING MEDIC WAS CALLED OVER TO EXAMINE THE UNCONCIOUS MAN. THE MEDIC TOOK HIM AWAY IN A JEEP, AND RETURNED IN AN HOUR WITH THE NEWS THAT [REDACTED] WAS DEAD.

WHEN [REDACTED] SWALLOWED HIS TONGUE AND PASSED OUT, THE TRUCK MUST HAVE HIT A BUMP IN THE ROAD, AND THE WEIGHT OF THE HELMET ON HIS HEAD PULLED HIS NECK DOWN WITH A SUDDEN JERK, BREAKING IT. THE MEDICAL OFFICER SAID THE CPL DIED OF SUFFOCATION, AND A BROKEN NECK.

THE NEWS OF [REDACTED] DEATH WAS A GREAT BLOW TO THE MEN IN THE OUTFIT, AND IT TOOK QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE THE INCIDENT WAS PUSHED TO THE BACK OF EVERYONE'S MIND.

THE OUTFIT STARTED OFF AGAIN, ONLY THIS TIME THERE WERE 3 OFFICERS, AND 36 EM INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL 37 EM. AT NOON THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE DETACHMENT ARRIVED AT ITS DESTINATION AND DUG IN IMMEDIATELY.

CRICQUEVILLE EN-BESSIN WAS A RUGGED LOOKING LITTLE VILLAGE. THE BODIES OF DEAD GERMANS WERE FLUNG IN THE ROADS, AND SNIPERS WERE STILL FIRING AWAY AT INTRUDERS. THE LITTLE FIELD SELECTED AS THE BASE FOR THE 3RD RADIO SQ WAS SURROUNDED BY HEDGES AND TREES THAT CONCEALED THE HIDING JERRIES.

AT BROCKENHURST, THE SECOND ECHELON SPENT SEVERAL DAYS GOING THRU THE NECESSARY PROCEDURE OF PROCESSING. EQUIPMENT WAS ISSUED, FOOD RATIONS AND HEAT UNITS WERE SUPPLIED TO EACH MAN, AND THE MEALS SUPPLIED BY THE BASE MESS WERE THE BEST THEY HAD EATEN IN ENGLAND. THEY WERE SERVED CHOPS AND STEAKS DAILY, AND THE COOKS ALLOWED THEM "SECONDS" WITH A SMILE. ON THE 11TH OF JUNE THIS ECHELON, COMMANDED BY CAPT SILVERSTEIN, ASSEMBLED IN CONVOY, AND DEPARTED FOR THE PORT OF EMBARKATION.

THAT EVENING THEY WERE LOADED ON TO AN LCT AND PREPARED TO SAIL FOR FRANCE. ON THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 13 THE CRAFT HIT THE BEACH OF NORMANDY AT EIGHT KNOTS AND THE VANS WERE DRIVEN OFF INTO FOUR FEET OF WATER TO DRY LAND. THIS WAS FRANCE. THE CRAFT CARRYING THEM HAD LANDED AT "UTAH BEACH" INSTEAD OF "OMAHA BEACH," THEREBY GIVING THEM ADDED DISTANCE IN ORDER TO GET TO THEIR DESTINATION. THEY WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A RUN THROUGH THE FIRING LINES BETWEEN THE TWO BEACHHEADS TO REACH THE OMAHA SECTOR, AND PROCEED FROM THERE.

THE GERMANS WERE SHELLING THE BEACH WHEN THE SECOND ECHELON LANDED. THEY MOVED UP FROM THE BEACH, IN CONVOY, IN A LONG PROCESSION WITH OTHERS WHO HAD JUST LANDED. THERE WERE "ACHTUNG--MINEN!" SIGNS ALONG THE ROAD, AND THE MP'S BY THE ROAD AT INTERVALS DIRECTED THE SLOW-MOVING COLUMN. THEY CAME TO A TOWN--STE MARIE DU MONT--AND THE MP'S THERE MOTIONED FOR SOME OF THE VEHICLES TO GO TO THE RIGHT, ~~AND SOME TO GO TO THE RIGHT,~~ AND SOME TO GO TO THE LEFT. THE VEHICLES OF THE SECOND ECHELON WENT TO THE RIGHT. THEY NOTICED HOW MANY TANKS THERE WERE IN THIS COLUMN. THE RUMBLE OF GUNS IN THE DISTANCE GREW LOUDER. A BIG TRUCK APPROACHED AND PASSED. IT WAS PILED WITH DEAD AMERICAN SOLDIERS. THERE WAS A PRIEST STANDING BESIDE THE ROAD, CROSSING HIMSELF, AS THEY PASSED. THEN THERE WERE SHELLS FALLING NEARBY, AND ONE VERY CLOSE, AND AT THAT POINT THE MEN REALIZED SUDDENLY THAT THEY WERE IN A COLUMN OF TANKS THAT WERE ACTUALLY DRIVING INTO BATTLE, AND THE BATTLE WAS ALREADY HERE, AND THEY WERE IN IT.

THIS WAS SOMEWHAT CONFUSING AS THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF GOING INTO BATTLE WITH A HANDFUL OF WOBBLY VANS--ESPECIALLY ~~WITH~~ A TANK BATTLE. "THE TANKS CAN DO WITHOUT US," THEY DECIDE, AND WITH MUCH COMMOTION TURNED AROUND AND WENT HURRYING BACK UP THE ROAD PAST THE PRIEST AND PAST EVERYTHING INTO TOWN. THAT NIGHT THEY STAYED IN A FIELD WHICH THE NIGHT BEFORE HAD BEEN OCCUPIED BY THE GERMANS. IT WAS NEAR ST MARIE DU MONT, ALREADY KNOWN AS THE FIRST PLACE CAPTURED BY OUR AIRBORNE TROOPS. EVERYWHERE THE MEN SAW INVASION-STRIPED AMERICAN GLIDERS, WRECKED, LYING FANTASTICALLY AMONG TREES AND HEDGES, MOST OF THE MEN DUG FOX HOLES AS THE POSSIBILITY OF SNIPERS STILL BEING PRESENT WAS GREAT, AND THERE WERE RAIDS AT NIGHT. THE VEHICLES WERE PARKED UNDER TREES, AND CAMOUFLAGE NETS WERE THROWN OVER THEM. CLIFF KOHLMAYER, OUR FIRST SERGEANT, HAD BEEN TOO BUSY APPOINTING AREA GUARDS TO DIG A SHELTER FOR HIMSELF, SO HE DECIDED TO CRAWL UNDER THE TRUCK HE WAS RIDING IN, TO SLEEP. THE DARKNESS, AND THE NOISE OF THE NIGHT SLOWLY PASSED, AND WITH THE FIRST RAYS OF MORNING, THE MEN CRAWLED OUT OF THEIR HOLES TO CONTINUE THE TRIP. CLIFF TOOK THE CAMOUFLAGE NETTING FROM THE VAN, BUT AS HE WALKED AROUND THE FRONT OF THE TRUCK, SAW SOMETHING THAT KNOCKED HIM FOR A LOSS. HE HAD BEEN SLEEPING THREE FEET FROM A LAND MINE THAT WAS LYING ON THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND. WEAK IN THE KNEES FOR A MOMENT, HE REMEMBERED THE TIME WHEN HE AROSE TO VISIT THE "CAN" THAT NIGHT, AND WALKED BY THE MINE, MISSING IT ONLY BY INCHES. HE SWALLOWED HARD, AND QUICKLY DROVE THE VEHICLE AWAY FROM THE DANGER.

AT 0530 HOURS, THE OUTFIT STARTED OUT AGAIN TO REACH THE FIRST ECHELON. THEY PASSED THRU SEVERAL BLITZED VILLAGES THAT WERE DEVOID OF PEOPLE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW DEAD GERMANS, AND IN A SHORT WHILE FOUND THEMSELVES DRIVING ALONG A WIDE OPEN PLAIN. THERE WERE NO HOLES IN THE GROUND WHERE THEY MIGHT HIDE SHOULD THEY HAVE TO, AND THERE WERE NO MOUNDS BEHIND WHICH THEY COULD GET PROTECTION IN THE EVENT OF A STRAFING ATTACK, THEN ALL AT ONCE THERE WAS A PLANE, COMING AT TREE TOP LEVEL, HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THEM. THE MEN STOOD FAST, A GREAT BLAST OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE BROKE LOOSE, AND THE PLANE CRASHED ALMOST AT THEIR FEET. AS IT HIT THE GROUND, THE A GUNNERS RAN OUT TO GET THE PILOT. MIDST THE CRACKLING OF THE FLAMES AND HOT CURSES FLUNG AT THEM FROM THE AIRMAN, THE GUNNERS DRAGGED A BRITISHER FROM HIS COCKPIT, MORE ALBRY THAN INJURED.

CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN ORDERED THE ECHELON TO CONTINUE, HOPING THAT THIS TIME NO MORE INTERRUPTIONS WOULD HOLD THEM FROM ARRIVING AT THEIR DESTINATION BY NOON. THE TRUCKS STARTED OFF AGAIN, AND RODE OFF THE PLAIN ONTO A DUSTY ROAD. THEY DROVE ALONG DIRT ROADS, THROUGH HAMLETS, AND ONCE AGAIN A TRUCK CARRYING DEAD AMERICANS PASSED THEM GOING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. AN EMPTY FEELING CAME OVER THE MEN. THEY RODE THINKING, "DEATH CHOOSES NO SIDES."

AT 1700 HOURS THE SECOND ECHELON ARRIVED AT ORICQUEVILLE EN-BESSIN AND WERE GREETED HEARTILY BY THE FIRST ECHELON WHO HAD BEEN SORELY OVERWORKED DUE TO THE LACK OF PERSONNEL. THE COOKS WHIPPED UP A MIGHTY MEAL CONSISTING OF DELICIOUSLY WARM BEANS, AND FOR DESSERT SEVERAL TINS OF THE LONG AWAITED PINEAPPLE RICE PUDDING WERE OPENED. NOW THE TWO UNITS OF THEIR DETACHMENT WORKED TOGETHER, WONDERING WHEN THE THIRD ECHELON WOULD COME OVER TO "VISIT" THEM, AND THEY WOULD ALL BE TOGETHER AGAIN.

ON JUNE 9, AFTER THE SECOND ECHELON HAD BEEN GONE FOR 24 HOURS, THE REMAINDER OF THE DETACHMENT WHICH CONSISTED OF 2 OFFICERS AND 15 EN,

MOVED FROM THE TENT AREA IN WHICH THEY HAD BEEN LIVING, INTO THE NEWLY VACATED NISSEN HUTS ON A HILLSIDE AT STATION 347. LIVING CONDITIONS WERE MUCH BETTER THERE THAN THEY WERE IN THE TENT AREA. THE GROUP ATE AT THE CONSOLIDATED MESS WHERE THE CHOW WAS FAR BETTER THAN IT HAD BEEN BEFORE, AND THE BEST PART OF IT ALL, WAS THE FACT THAT NO ONE IN THE OUTFIT WOULD HAVE TO PULL K P. THAT PART OF IT WAS MET WITH JOYOUS APPROVAL OF ALL CONCERNED, NAMELY THE PVTS AND PFCS.

TIME WAS SPENT IN FINISHING THE WATERPROOFING OF THE REMAINING VEHICLES, AND AT NIGHT THERE WAS A LIBERTY RUN INTO THE NEARBY CITY OF BOURNEMOUTH. ON THE 14 OF JUNE, THIRTEEN NEW RADIO OPERATORS THAT WERE FLOWN OVER FROM THE STATES ESPECIALLY FOR OUR OUTFIT, ARRIVED AT OUR STATION READY FOR WORK. NOW THIS ECHELON WAS READY TO JOIN THE MAIN BODY ALREADY OVERSEAS. ON THE 21ST OF THE MONTH, THE GROUP WAS ORDERED TO PACK AND BE READY TO LEAVE ON AN HOUR'S NOTICE. AT 0430 HOURS JUNE 28, A SMALL CONVOY CONSISTING OF A JEEP, A WEAPONS CAR 18R, TWO GI TRUCKS AND AN ENGLISH VAN LEFT STATION 347 FOR THE MARSHALLING AREA AT SOUTHAMPTON. THE ORDERS FOR THIS MOVEMENT ARRIVED TWENTY FOUR HOURS LATE, AND A RUSH TO ARRIVE AT THE DOCKS ON TIME WAS WELL UNDER WAY. ONE MAN WAS TAKEN TO THE AVIATION DISPENSARY THE DAY BEFORE WITH A HIGH FEVER, AND WHEN WORD CAME THRU THAT THE OUTFIT WAS LEAVING, A HASTY SESSION WAS HELD WITH THE MEDICAL OFFICER, AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO HAVE THE SICK MAN, WHO DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT BEHIND WHEN HIS ORGANIZATION WENT OVERSEAS, GO ALONG WITH THEM IN SPITE OF HIS CONDITION.

AT THE MARSHALLING AREA THE OUTFIT WAS RUSHED THRU, AND INSIDE OF AN HOUR AND A HALF, THEY CONTINUED THEIR MAD BUN TO THE DOCKS. WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE PIER, THE C O WAS NOTIFIED THAT THE VESSEL TO WHICH HIS OUTFIT WAS ASSIGNED, WAS LATE, AND THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO BUT WAIT.

THE 30TH OF JUNE FOUND THE THIRD ECHELON ON THE DOCKS AT SOUTHAMPTON STILL WAITING FOR THEIR BOAT. TIME PASSED SLOWLY, AND FINALLY WHEN FRENCH MONEY WAS ISSUED, POKER GAMES STARTED IN FULL SWING TO BREAK THE MONOTONY OF "SWEATING OUT" THEIR COMING SEA VOYAGE.

OK

DETACHMENT "B"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON, MOBILE (G)
STATION VT 5892

17 AUG 44
262

APO 595 U S ARMY
31 JULY 1944

1. 2D LT. SELBERT R. THIERFELDER ASSIGNED, EFFECTIVE 20 JULY 1944.
2D LT. FREDERIC L. P. WHITE ASSIGNED, EFFECTIVE 21 JULY 1944.
2. STRENGTH ON LAST DAY OF MONTH (31 JULY 1944): 9 OFFICERS,
105 ENLISTED MEN.
3. 3D ECHELON ARRIVED AT THIS STATION: 4 JULY 1944.
4. NEGATIVE.
5. NEGATIVE.

LN 467
4157

C18

AT 0950 HOURS JULY 1, 1944, THE LONG AWAITED BOAT THAT WAS TO CARRY THE MEMBERS OF THE THIRD ECHELON TO FRANCE ARRIVED AT THE PORT OF EMBARKATION. IT WAS HARD TO BELIEVE THE TIME FOR SAILING HAD ACTUALLY COME, AS FIVE DAYS OF UNEVENTFUL WAITING HAD CREATED DOUBT.

UP TO NOW, THE MEN WERE ON PINS AND NEEDLES TO GET OVER THERE AND LEND A HAND, BUT DURING THE AFTERNOON, WHILE THE LIBERTY SHIP WAS BEING LOADED, SOME MEN FROM DETACHMENT "A" ARRIVED, AND THE USUAL GI BULL SESSION, WORD GOT OUT THAT CPL. SODERHOLM HAD BEEN KILLED. DETACHMENT "A" HAD BEEN IN RADIO COMMUNICATION WITH DETACHMENT "B" SINCE THE LATTERS ARRIVAL IN FRANCE. THE REST OF DETACHMENT "B" HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THOSE WHO HAD LEFT THEM WEEKS AGO, AND THE NEWS OF SODERHOLM'S DEATH CAME AS A SURPRISE AS THE NATURE OF OUR WORK GAVE ANYONE A FEELING OF COMPARATIVE SAFETY. SOME OF THE MEN WERE EVEN MORE ANXIOUS TO GET OVER THERE NOW, BUT OTHERS BEGAN WISHING THE DATE FOR SAILING WOULD BE POSTPONED.

AT 2000 HOURS, ALL THE MEN FROM THE THIRD ECHELON WERE SETTLED ABOARD THE BOAT. THREE HOURS LATER THE SMOKE STACKS BEGAN BELCHING THICK PUFFY CLOUDS OF SMOKE, AND THE ENGINES STARTED TO CHURN THE WATER INTO A FROTHY FOAM. AS THE VESSEL SLOWLY SLID AWAY FROM THE PIER, SOME OF THE BOYS CALLED OUT TO THE LONGSHOREMEN ON THE DOCK, "GOODBYE ENGLAND, HELLO FRANCE, WOO WOO, AND WEE WEE."

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, THE LIBERTY SHIP JOINED A CONVOY, AND THE SHORT CHANNEL CROSSING PASSED UNEVENTFULLY. THE ONLY "CASUALTY" ON THAT TRIP WAS PFC KASS, ONE OF THE NEW MEN, WHO BECAME INTERESTED IN THE SWAYING OF THE BOAT AS IT HIT THE LONG LAZY GROUND SWELLS. THE RESULT WAS A HURRIED DASH TO THE NEAREST RAIL, AND SEVERAL MOMENTS OF PRAYER WISHING HE WERE DEAD.

ALTHOUGH THEY REACHED FRANCE AT 2200 HOURS JULY 2, UNLOADING THE VEHICLES AND SUPPLIES TOOK AN EXTRA DAY. THE FIRST BARGE CONTAINING OUR MEN HEADED FOR SHORE AT 1530 HOURS THE NEXT DAY. THE MEN WHO STAYED BEHIND RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS WHERE TO MEET AFTER THEY WERE PUT ASHORE. AT 0100 HOURS JULY 4, THE ENTIRE THIRD ECHELON WAS ON DRY LAND.

AT 0400 HOURS JULY 4, THE SECOND GROUP OF THIS ECHELON HAD THEIR FIRST TASTE OF AN AIR RAID, BUT BEFORE THE PLANE WAS BLE TO DO ANY DAMAGE, ANTI AIRCRAFT FIRE DROVE IT OFF. AFTER A FUTILE SEARCH TO FIND THE FIRST GROUP, TWO GI TRUCKS AND AN ENGLISH VEHICLE SET OUT TO REACH THEIR DESTINATION, --- THE FIRST AND SECOND ECHELONS.

AT 1100 HOURS THE TWO GI TRUCKS AND ENGLISH VAN ARRIVED AT STATION VT 5.00 AND WERE WELCOMED BY FIRST SERGEANT KOHLMAYER, AND LT COPP. THE REST OF THE THIRD ECHELON ARRIVED LATER IN THE AFTERNOON. THE ENTIRE DETACHMENT WAS TOGETHER AGAIN.

WHEN THE THIRD ECHELON ARRIVED, THE DETACHMENT WAS STILL LIVING IN PUP TENTS. ALTHOUGH WE HAD A FIELD KITCHEN, THE MEN HAD NO MESS TENT. MEALS WERE EATEN IN THE OPEN UNDER A TREE IN THE ORCHARD, OR WERE CARRIED BACK TO THE PUP TENTS AND EATEN THERE. LOUDSPEAKERS HAD BEEN SET UP IN THE TREES, AND THERE WAS A CONTINUAL FLOW OF MUSIC FROM THE SPEAKERS ALL DAY. THIS ATMOSPHERE MADE THE MEALS MORE ENJOYABLE.

WITH THE THIRD ECHELON CAME A COWFLY OF EXHAUSTIBLE TENTS AND COTS. THE DETACHMENT WAS NOW AT FULL STRENGTH, AND THE INCREASE IN PERSONNEL MADE IT EASIER FOR THE FIRST SERGEANT TO MAKE OUT DETAIL ROSTERS WITHOUT OVERWORKING THE MEN ON SHIFT.

WITHIN A DAY OR SO, ALL THE PYRAMIDAL TENTS WERE SET UP, AND THE MEN HAD SECENT SLEEPING QUARTERS. BRIDGES WERE BUILT OVER THE TRENCHES LINING THE SIDES OF THE FIELD, AND NEW PATHWAYS CLEARED THROUGH THE HEDGEROWS. A MESS HALL WAS SET UP AND FILLED WITH TABLES AND CHAIRS CONSTRUCTED BY PFC MARVIN BAUER. IN PLACE OF THE SLIT TRENCHES, WOODEN LATRINES WERE BUILT AND A FAIR DEGREE OF COMFORT WAS ESTABLISHED IN OUR CAMP.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT, THE MEN WERE ABLE TO SEE MOVIES AT THE NEIGHBORING 70TH FIGHTER WING CAMP WHICH HAD A SHOW EACH EVENING. TOWNS WERE OUT OF SOUNDS, BUT CIGAR WAS AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO COULD SPEAK THE LANGUAGE, AND THE LITTLE "BLUE BOOK" BECAME A BEST SELLER WITH THE THIRSTY YANKS IN THIS OUTFIT.

OPERATIONS WERE RUNNING SMOOTHLY. ON THE 7TH OF JULY, A PLATOON OF TWELVE MEN UNDER SERGEANT EICHEL WAS SENT AWAY ON DETACHED SERVICE. THIS PLATOON WAS MADE UP OF NINE D/F OPERATORS, AND THREE W/T MEN.

IN THE EVENINGS GI' SULL SESSIONS GOT UNDER WAY AMONG THE MEN WHO HAD NOT COME TO THE MOVIES, AND PERSONAL INCIDENTS THAT HAD OCCURED IN FRANCE WERE PASSED BACK AND FORTH. SERGEANT MAX MAGNUS TELLS THE ONE OF HIS EXPERIENCE IN A FOX HOLE AFTER LANDING ON THE BEACH, D-3.

THE FIRST ECHELON HAD JUST LANDED, AND AN AIR RAID WAS WELL UNDER WAY WHEN THEY HIT THE BEACH. THE MEN DUG FOX HOLES AND JUMPED IN TO AWAIT A LULL IN THE FIRING, WHEN THEY COULD PROCEED TO THEIR DESTINATION. NIGHT WAS APPROACHING RAPIDLY, AND SOON THE FIELD WAS COVERED BY DARKNESS. SERGEANT MAGNUS, Huddled in his fox hole, DECIDED TO GET SOME SHUT EYE, BUT HAD NO SOONER BEGUN TO DOZE WHEN THERE WAS A SUDDEN TERRIFIC RUMBLING OVER HIS HEAD; THE SIDES OF HIS FOXHOLE CAVED IN AROUND HIM LITERALLY BURYING HIM ALIVE. SST MAGNUS SQUIRMED AROUND AND POKED HIS HEAD OVER THE TOP OF THE SHELTER JUST IN TIME TO SEE A "DUCK" DISAPPEARING INTO THE DARKNESS OF NIGHT. HE LOOKED AT THE TIRE TRACKS AROUND HIS FOX HOLE, AND MUTTERED, "MOCHFEGZIN, BUT NOT AMOOZIN."

DURING THE ENSUING DAYS, THERE WERE THE USUAL CAMP DUTIES, AND SEVERAL TIMES FORENOONING INSPECTIONS OF OUR OPERATIONAL SITE WERE ANNOUNCED, BUT USUALLY AT THE LAST MINUTE SOMETHING AROSE THAT PREVENTED THE INSPECTION FROM COMING OFF. DURING ONE OF THESE ALERTS, AIR MARSHAL MALLORY WAS EXPECTED AND THE COMPANY PHOTOGRAPHER, HIDING HIMSELF IN A WET, MUDDY FOX HOLE, PREPARED TO SNAP CANDID SHOTS OF THE AIR MARSHAL. AFTER A LONG DAMP WAIT, THE AFFAIR WAS GIVEN UP AS A "DRY RUN."

ON THE 25TH OF JULY, LT. SELBERT R. THIERFELDER WAS ASSIGNED TO HIS OUTFIT AS A RADIO INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. THE NEXT DAY, LT F. L. P. WHITE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM DET. "A" OF THIS SQUADRON, TO "B" DETACHMENT, ALSO AS A RADIO INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. THE OFFICER STRENGTH OF DETACHMENT HAD INCREASED TO NINE.

UP TO THIS TIME, THE MEN FOUND RELAXATION IN GOING TO THE MOVIES AT 70TH FIGHTER WING, OR PLAYING CARDS IN THE AREA. THE CONTINUAL REPETITION

OF THIS PROGRAM SOON BECAME MONOTONOUS, AND FOR A CHANGE SOME OF THE MEN TOOK LONG WALKS IN THE EVENINGS TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE. ONE EVENING, PFC OSCAR TEPLINSKY WANDERED INTO A TOWN NEARBY AND AFTER LOOKING AROUND, OBSERVING WHAT OCCURRED THAT NIGHT, RETURNED TO CAMP WITH THE FOLLOWING STORY.

"I HAD JUST FINISHED SUPPER AND DECIDED TO TAKE A SHORT WALK TO BREAK THE MONOTONY OF CAMP LIFE. THE SUN HAD BEGUN TO DROP FROM ITS PERCH IN THE SKY, AND THE COOLNESS OF THIS WARM DAY MADE ME FEEL GOOD. A DAY IN NORMANDY WITHOUT RAIN WAS A RARE THING. AS I WALKED ALONG THE ROADS THAT WERE STILL DRYING AFTER YESTERDAY'S RAIN, I NOTICED SOME KIDS PLAYING ON THE GRASS NEAR A SHELL TORN COTTAGE. ONE OF THEM WORE A PAIR OF GERMAN BOOTS THAT CAME UP WELL PAST HIS KNEES. THE OTHERS WERE DRESSED IN GI CLOTHING, FROM SHOES TO A SUN TAN SHIRT SPORTING A SET OF SERGEANT STRIPES. AS I CAME AHEAD OF THEM, ONE CALLED OUT, "BONBONS MONSIEUR?" I SMILED AND TOSSED OVER A PACK OF LIFE SAVERS THAT I CARRIED FOR JUST THIS PURPOSE. I WAS SHOCKED HOWEVER TO NOTICE THAT ALL OF THEM WERE SMOKING CIGARETTES EVEN THOUGH NONE WAS OLD ENOUGH TO GO TO SCHOOL. I SAID NOTHING, AND PASSED ON.

"THE BOTTOMS OF MY TROUSERS BEGAN TO CAKE WITH MUD THAT SPLASHED EACH TIME A JEEP SPED PAST ON THE DIRT ROAD. AS I NEARED THE OLD NORMAN TOWN, AN OLD WOMAN CAME TRUDGING ALONG, LEADING A MULE LABORING HEAVILY UNDER HIS BURDEN OF LOADED MILK CANS. THE WOMAN WORE A LONG DUSTY BLACK DRESS, AND KEPT HER EYES FASTENED TO THE GROUND AS SHE WALKED SLOWLY ALONG. USUALLY THE FRENCH WOULD SAY "BONJOUR" TO A PASSING YANK, BUT HERE WAS A WOMAN WHO SAID NOTHING. SHE WALKED SLOWLY AND DELIBERATELY, DEEP IN THOUGHT. THE MULE STRUGGLED ALONG OBEDIENTLY, AND I FELT SOME SIGN OF RECOGNITION ONLY FROM THE LABORING ANIMAL AS HE TURNED HIS HEAD TO LOOK AT ME.

"AS I ENTERED THE TOWN, I PASSED A CHURCH THAT HAD A HIGH STEEPLE POINTING INTO THE SKY LIKE A THIN WARNING FINGER. THE STREETS WERE DESERTED, AND THE FEW LITTLE SHOPS THAT LINED THE CURVING ROAD WERE CLOSED AND BOARDED UP. THE ENTIRE TOWN RESEMBLED AN UNUSED MOTION PICTURE SET IN HOLLYWOOD. THE STILLNESS OF THIS DEATHLY QUIET SCENE WAS BROKEN FOR A MOMENT WHEN A PACK OF YAPPING DOGS DASHED OUT INTO THE ROAD AFTER A HAPLESS CAT. THE NOISE FADED, AND THERE WAS SILENCE ONCE MORE.

"I WONDERED WHY A TOWN SUCH AS THIS SHOULD BE DESERTED AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT WHEN PEOPLE WOULD ORDINARILY WOULD BE OUT WALKING OR VISITING FRIENDS. I COULD ALMOST ENVISION THIS SEASIDE RESORT IN PEACE TIME, WHEN CROWDS OF HOLIDAY VISITORS WOULD BE JAMMING THE STREETS TO CAPACITY, FILLING THE RESTAURANTS AND STREET CAFES; THE MERRY LAUGHTER OF HAPPY PEOPLE, SOFT MUSIC PLAYED BY A LITTLE STRING ORCHESTRA, AND THE TINKLING OF WINE GLASSES LIKE LITTLE BELLS EACH TIME THEY WERE CLICKED IN A TOAST. BUT NOW THERE WAS NOTHING. NO PEOPLE, NO MUSIC, NO LAUGHTER. UNDOUBTEDLY FIVE YEARS OF WAR AND ENSLAVEMENT HAD ALTERED ALL OF THAT AND PLACED THE TOWN UNDER A BLANKET OF SILENCE.

"THE SUN HAD FALLEN RAPIDLY AND DARKNESS WAS APPROACHING, SO I TURNED TO GO BACK TO CAMP LEST I GET LOST IN THE GLOOM OF NIGHT. AS I TURNED A CORNER TO GET BACK ON THE MAIN ROAD, A SUDDEN SHOUT REACHED MY EARS, AND A BAND OF CHILDREN DASHED OUT OF AN ALLEYWAY, SINGING THE MARSEILLAISE, AND WAVING A TRI-COLOR FLAG OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC. "AMERICAN, AMERICAN," THEY SHOUTED AS THEY CAME NEAR. THEY RAISED TWO FINGERS IN THE VICTORY SALUTE AND CONTINUED THEIR CHARGE.

"AS I LEFT THE TOWN, THE FAINT STRAINS OF THEIR SINGING STILL REACHED MY EARS AND MADE MY HEART BEAT FASTER. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "THAT IS THE FRANCE OF YESTERDAY, AND THAT IS THE FRANCE OF TOMORROW."

SOON ALL OF FRANCE WILL RING AGAIN WITH THE SINGING OF LITTLE CHILDREN, AND THE TRI-COLOR WILL WAVE BRAVELY FROM EVERY WINDOW IN EVERY HOUSE.'

"IT WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY DARK NOW, AND AS I WALKED ALONG THE ROAD BACK TO CAMP, I SAW THE OLD WOMAN AND HER MULE. THE MILK CANS HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM HIS BACK, AND WITHOUT HIS BURDEN, THE ANIMAL SEEMED TO SKIP BLITHELY ALONG, HEE HAWING AT IRREGULAR INTERVALS. THE OLD WOMAN WAS HUMMING A TUNE, AND SHE NO LONGER KEPT HER EYES GLUED TO THE GROUND. SHE NOTICED ME THIS TIME AND SAID, 'BONSOIR MONSIEUR,' I ANSWERED, AND THE MULE HEE HAWED HIS APPROVAL.

"YES," I SAID TO MYSELF, 'FRANCE IS COMING BACK TO LIFE AFTER A LONGSLEEP. WHEN THE BURDEN IS LIFTED FROM THE REST OF THIS OCCUPIED COUNTRY, EVERYONE WILL HUM AND SKIP, JUST LIKE THE OLD WOMAN AND HER MULE.'

EARLIER IN JULY, THE UNUSUAL AMOUNT OF DETAIL THAT WAS NECESSARY TO GET OUR CAMP IN SMOOTH WORKING ORDER CREATED A PERSECUTION COMPLEX AMONG SEVERAL MEN, WHO FELT THEY WERE BEING UNJUSTLY WORKED IN THEIR SPARE TIME, AND GRIPE SESSIONS WERE HELD IN ALMOST EVERY CORNER OF THE CAMP. CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN DECIDED TO PUT AN END TO THE WHOLE AFFAIR. THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS WOULD BE TO HOLD AN OPEN GRIPE SESSION, WITH ALL THE OFFICERS AND MEN PRESENT.

ONE AFTERNOON, WHEN MOST OF THE MEN WERE AVAILABLE, THERE WAS A FORMATION IN THE ORCHARD, AND THE SESSION GOT UNDER WAY. AFTER LISTENING TO THE GENERAL TREND OF THE GRIPEs, THE CAPTAIN FINALLY SAID, "WHAT THE DEVIL DO YOU MEN WANT? DO YOU WANT TO GO HOME? DO YOU WANT SOMEONE'S SHOULDER TO CRY ON, AND HAVE HER PAT YOUR HEADS TENDERLY? WHENEVER I LOOK AT ANY OF YOU, YOUR FACES ARE SO LONG, THAT IT MAKES ME FEEL ROTTEN TOO. THE TROUBLE WITH ALL OF YOU IS THAT YOU ARE TOO BUSY FEELING SORRY FOR YOURSELVES TO REALIZE THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT. YOU MOLLER ABOUT LATRINES. WOULD YOU RATHER STRADDLE SLIT TRENCHES? IF YOU CAN DO THAT, SO CAN I. CAN'T YOU SEE THAT WHILE YOU ARE ON THESE DETAILS, YOU ARE MERELY CONSTRUCTING DEVICES FOR YOUR OWN CONVENIENCE?" THE CAPTAIN LOOKED AT THEM AND WAITED FOR A REPLY. NO ONE ANSWERED. "WELL" HE ASKED, "ARE THERE ANY MORE GRIPEs?" --- NO ONE SPOKE. "VERY WELL, FROM NOW ON, LET'S NOT SEE ANY MORE LONG FACES AROUND HERE. WHEN YOU SEE ANYONE, SAY HELLO. A LITTLE CHEERY SMILE WILL GO A LONG WAY AND MAKE EVERYTHING LOOK BETTER; YOUR DAY WILL BE OFF TO A FLYING START.---

THE SESSION FINISHED, AND THE MEN WERE DISMISSED. SOME SMILED, SOME GROANED, AND SOME DID NOTHING, BUT THE FOLLOWING DAYS PROVED THE C.O.'S LITTLE TALK HAD TAKEN ROOT. THERE WERE VERY FEW MEN SPORTING LONG FACES.

DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, THERE WAS LESS AIR ACTIVITY OVER OUR CAMP, AND ASIDE FROM THE OCCASIONAL STRAY PLANES OVERHEAD AT NIGHT, THERE WAS NOTHING TO SPEAK OF, BUT ON JULY 29 AT 0400 HOURS, WE HAD ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING NIGHTS IN THE DETACHMENT'S EXISTENCE.

A GROUP OF GERMAN PLANES CAME OVER OUR AREA, APPARENTLY HEADING TOWARDS THE SEA. OUR ANTI-AIRCRAFT OPENED UP INTO THE DARKNESS ON THE PLANES, AND ALTHOUGH THE SKY WAS CLOUDY, ONE OF THE ATTACKERS WAS HIT. IN A SHORT WHILE, THROUGH THE LIGHT OF BURNING FIRE, SEVERAL SMALL OBJECTS WERE SEEN FLOATING DOWN OVER A FIELD ADJACENT TO OURS. A SUDDEN EXPLOSION, AND THE OPERATIONS VEHICLES PARKED BY THE HEDGES ROCKED ON THEIR WHEELS. THE TWO GUARDS STANDING AT THE GATE WHEN THE EXPLOSION CAME, PLUNGED HEADLONG INTO THEIR FOX HOLE.

BURYING THEIR HEADS INTO THE "GOOD EARTH". A FEW SECONDS LATER A SECOND BLAST, MUCH STRONGER THAN THE FIRST, AND SOME OF OUR MEN WERE THROWN FROM THEIR BEDS TO THE GROUND. A RADIO VAN IN THE NEXT FIELD HAD BEEN HIT, AND THE TRANSMITTER CAUGHT FIRE, LIGHTING UP THE ENTIRE SKY. OVER IN THE MOTOR POOL, WHICH WAS THE NEAREST PART OF OUR CAMP TO THE EXPLOSIONS, CPL. STROBECK WAS SLEEPING. THAT NIGHT HE HAD HAD A FEW DRINKS, AND THEN HAD GONE TO BED SLEEP NAKED. THE CONCUSSIONS WERE SO GREAT, THAT THE ROPES ON HIS TENT SNAPPED. THE CPL. JUMPED UP, AND THREW HIS NUDE BODY INTO THE NEAREST BRIAR AND BRAMBLE FILLED DITCH. --- OVER IN THE FIELD WHERE THE MINES HAD LANDED, THE MEN WAKENED SUDDENLY TO FIND ONLY THEIR SQUARE IF SIX COATS STANDING IN THE OPEN, THEIR TENT BLOWN HALF WAY INTO THE NEXT AREA.

ASIDE FROM THE DESTROYED RADIO VAN, THERE WAS NO FURTHER DAMAGE. IT WAS AGREED BY ALL THAT THE AFFAIR WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT.

ON THE 31ST OF JULY, LT GOTTLIEB WAS SENT TO REAR HEADQUARTERS TO FORM A NEW DETACHMENT. THE MEN CONSIDERED HIM TO BE PRETTY LUCKY TO RETURN TO ENGLAND, BUT NO ONE WANTED TO LEAVE THE OUTFIT UNDER ANY CONDITION. "A SHORT LEAVE IN LONDON WOULD COME IN PRETTY HANDY RIGHT NOW, BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT THE FUTURE BRINGS. -- YES," THEY THOUGHT, "LONDON FOR A FEW DAYS WOULD BE SWELL. PERHAPS WE MIGHT, --- BUT LET'S NOT DREAM TOO MUCH."

DETACHMENT "B"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON, MOBILE (S)
STATION QLS7015

APO 595 U. S. ARMY
31 AUGUST 1944

1. 1 LT. F. BOTTLEB ASSIGNED TO DET. "B" THIS SQUADRON EFFECTIVE 12, AUGUST 1944.
S/Sgt PETER CHUPA DROPPED FROM ASSIGNMENT, EFFECTIVE 8, AUGUST 1944.
PVT. G.L. HEIDERMAN DROPPED FROM ASSIGNMENT, EFFECTIVE 8, AUGUST 1944.
SGT A.W. FORCHT TRANSFERRED TO HQ. 3RD RADIO SQ. EFFECTIVE 11, AUGUST 1944.
CPL K. BRALOCKMAN TRANSFERRED TO HQ. 3RD RADIO SQ. EFFECTIVE 11, AUGUST 1944.
PVT T. AUGUSTYNIAK ASSIGNED THIS UNIT FROM DET. "A" EFFECTIVE 27 AUGUST 1944.
CPL FRED HERMAN TRANSFERRED TO DET. "C" THIS SQ. EFFECTIVE 28 AUGUST 1944.
2. STRENGTH ON LAST DAY OF MONTH (31 AUGUST 1944): 3 OFFICERS, 101 E.M.
3. CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR VT 5592 TO T 305519 ON 6 AUGUST 1944.
CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR T 305519 TO Y 658900 ON 12 AUGUST 1944.
CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR Y 658900 TO Q 487015 ON 22 AUGUST 1944.
4. NEGATIVE .
5. ON THE 14 AUGUST 1944, THE FOLLOWING NAMED EM WERE AWARDED THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL.

1. T/Sgt. CLIFFORD C. KOHLMEYER
Sgt. MAX T. MAGNUS
Cpl. MARTIN FORLES
Cpl. JOHN C. ROHMANN
Cpl. HENRY SCHEUFTAN
Cpl. THEODORE STEINKE
Pfc. CHARLES J. GOODMAN
Pfc. PFC ERNST HELLING
Pfc. WALTER G. HENNES
Pfc. HENRY J. KASS
Pfc. LYBON F. WHEELER
Pvt. DAVID BURACK
Pvt. ALFRED J. JOHNSON
Pvt. RUSSEL J. PETER
Pvt. JOHN W. PICKARD
Pvt. FREDERIC T. ZITO

LN 484

024

ON AUGUST 1, THERE WAS A NOTICEABLE LACK OF THE USUAL AFTER PAY DAY POKER GAMES. THE MONTH BEFORE, MOST OF THE BOYS REALIZED THAT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE THAT MONEY COULD BUY HERE IN FRANCE, AND IT WAS ABOUT TIME SOME THOUGHT WAS GIVEN TO THE FUTURE. AFTER JULY'S PAY DAY, CPL. SCHEUFTAN OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT WAS GIVEN THE BUM'S RUSH BY MOBS OF MONEY LADEN G.I.'S THAT INFESTED THIS OUTFIT, TO HAVE BOND ALLOTMENTS TAKEN. ALMOST EVERY MAN DOWN TO THE LAST PRIVATE TOOK OUT AN ALLOTMENT, AND AFTER THE DUST CLEARED, IT WAS OBSERVED THAT THE MAJORITY OF NEW ALLOTMENTS WERE TAKEN BY THE PRIVATES AND PRIVATES FIRST CLASS.

CAMP AND OPERATIONAL DUTIES RAN SMOOTHLY BUT THE OUTFIT BECAME RESTLESS AS THE MONOTONY OF REMAINING IN ONE PLACE BEGAN TO GET ON EVERYONE'S NERVES. ON AUGUST 6TH, WE MADE OUR FIRST MOVE TO A NEW STATION IN FRANCE. THE FIRST ECHELON LEFT CRICQUEVILLE AT 1000 HOURS, AND BY 1700 HOURS OF THE SAME DAY, THE NEW CAMP AND OPERATIONAL SITE AT SAULT-CHEVREUIL DU TRONCHET WAS IN WORKING ORDER.

BEFORE WE LEFT CRICQUEVILLE, S/SGT CHUPA OUR BOSS OF SUPPLY WAS SENT TO THE HOSPITAL WITH A BAD LEG. AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF OBSERVATION IT WAS DETERMINED THAT AN OPERATION WAS NECESSARY, AND THE SERGEANT WAS SENT TO THE REAR. AT THE SAME TIME, PVT HEIDERMAN, ONE OF OUR BEST COOKS, WHO HAD BEEN SUFFERING WITH A BACK AILMENT, WAS TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE OUTFIT FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT. THE LOSS OF BOTH THESE MEN WAS DEEPLY REGRETTED BY ALL THE MEN IN THIS DETACHMENT.

BY AUGUST 8TH THE ENTIRE DETACHMENT HAD ARRIVED AT THE NEW STATION AND OPERATIONS WERE UNDER WAY. DURING THE EVENINGS, THE BOYS WHO WERE OFF DUTY VISITED THE NEIGHBORING FARMS TO PRACTICE THEIR NEWLY ACQUIRED FRENCH ACCENTS. THE LITTLE BLUE BOOK, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "GOOD BOOK" WAS IN CONSTANT USE, AND THE BOYS GOT ALONG BEAUTIFULLY.

ONE EVENING SGT ROTHENBERG (THE FLYING SUPPLYMAN) PASSED A CHICKEN FARM, AND HIS EAGLE EYE CAUGHT THE PATHETIC LOOK IN THE FACE OF A JUICY HEN. THE MOTHER INSTINCT IN THE SERFEANT CAME OUT FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, AND THE FOLLOWING DAY DETACHMENT "B" HAD HENRIETTA THE CHICKEN FOR A MASCOT. IN DUE TIME OUR CAMP WOULD BEGIN TO LOOK LIKE A MENAGERIE WITH A HORDE OF CHICKENS AND DOGS RUNNING WILD THROUGHOUT THE AREA. FURLOUGH THE BLACK DOG, OWNED BY PVT. TEXTERA OF THE KITCHEN, FELT SOMEWHAT ABANDONED WHEN HENRIETTA JOINED OUR RANKS, BUT IN SHORT TIME HIS SELF RESPECT RETURNED WHEN ATTENTION TO THE HEN DIMINISHED AWAY BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO LAY EGGS.

ON AUGUST 11, SGT. BUC FORCHT AND CPL. BRAUCKMAN WERE TRANSFERRED OUT OF OUR DETACHMENT AND SENT BACK TO ENGLAND TO JOIN LT. GOTTLIEB IN DETACHMENT "L". THE FOLLOWING DAY, LT. GOTTLIEB WHO HAD BEEN IN ENGLAND FOR SEVERAL WEEKS ORGANIZING HIS NEW DETACHMENT, WAS OFFICIALLY TRANSFERRED OUT OF OUR COMPANY AND MADE CO OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION. THE BOYS IN THE R/T SECTION SAID GOODBYE TO THEIR TWO COMRADES, BUT A FEW WISHED THAT THEY TOO COULD GO TO ENGLAND FOR A SHORT STAY.

THE NEW SITE HAD JUST BEGUN TO APPEAL TO THE DETACHMENT WHEN FORD CAME THROUGH THAT ANOTHER MOVE WAS COMING. ON THE 14TH OF AUGUST THE OUTFIT MOVED BY CONVOY TO IT'S NEW STATION AT LE TEILLEUL.

THE OPERATIONAL SITE AS ALWAYS WAS THE FIRST THING TO BE SET UP, AND BEFORE THE SUN HAD SET THAT DAY, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY WAS HUMMING. TENTS WERE SCATTERED ABOUT THE AREA, AND BELLOAN UNFLAED. SGT. GENTNER HAD SHOWERS PUT UP, AND IN A SHORT WHILE ALL THE "COMFORTS" OF HOME WERE IN USE AT OUR NEW CAMP.

ONE AFTERNOON WHILE STROLLING NEAR THE CAMP AREA, SGT. THOMPSON STUMBLE OVER A SMALL RICE IN THE GRASS AND GET OFF A LANK WILE. AT FIRST HE IGNORED THE SLIGHT TRICKLE OF BLOOD THAT OZZED FROM HIS FACE WOUND

BUT AFTER SEVERAL HOURS HIS JAW BEGAN TO PAIN, AND ALTHOUGH HE SUFFERED NO OTHER WOUNDS FROM THE EXPLOSION, SGT. THOMPSON DECIDED TO VISIT THE MEDICS. AFTER AN EXAMINATION, THE DOCTOR DISCOVERED A PIECE OF SHRAPNEL LODGED IN THE SEREANT'S JAW. THE METAL WAS REMOVED BEFORE GANGRENE HAD A CHANCE TO SET IN, AND SGT. THOMPSON WAS RECOMMENDED FOR THE PURPLE HEART DECORATION. IT WAS A CLOSE CALL AND OUR MAN GOT OFF PRETTY LUCKY.

BY THIS TIME THE GOOD WEATHER ENABLED OUR GROUND FORCES TO SURGE RAPIDLY AHEAD, AND ON THE 22ND OF AUGUST OUR DETACHMENT MOVED BY CONVOY TO GET CLOSER TO THE FRONT FOR BETTER RECEPTION. WHEN THE THIRD ECHELON MOVED, FOUR MEN WERE LEFT BEHIND TO GUARD GAS CANS BELONGING TO THE MOTOR POOL, UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN A TRUCK WOULD RETURN FOR THEM. THAT NIGHT WHILE EATING THEIR SUPPER, CPL. STROBECK ARRIVED IN A JEEP FROM THE BREST PENINSULA WHERE HE WAS FORCED TO REMAIN WHILE HAVING HIS JEEP REPAIRED, AND JOINED THE FOUR MEN WAITING TO BE TAKEN TO THE NEW SITE.

THE NEXT AFTERNOON SGT. TAYLOR ARRIVED IN A TWO AND A HALF TON VEHICLE TO PICKUP THE GAS CANS AND THE REMAINING MEN, BUT AFTER THE TRUCK WAS LOADED, THERE WAS ROOM FOR ONLY ONE MAN TO GO ALONG WITH IT. CPL. STROBECK WAS ASSIGNED TO TRANSPORT THE THREE OTHER MEN TO THE NEW SITE.

AT 1700 HOURS THE FOLLOWING DAY, A MUD SPLATTERED JEEP BEARING A CREW OF DIRTY LOOKING MEN ARRIVED AT THE NEW CAMP AT NEUFCHATEL, TWENTY FOUR HOURS LATE. WHEN CPL. STROBECK STARTED OUT THE DAY BEFORE, AN MP TURNED HIM OFF ON THE WRONG ROAD, AND IT WASN'T UNTIL HE HAD ALMOST ARRIVED AT THE FRONT LINES THAT HE REALIZED THEY WERE TRAVELLING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION. THEY SPENT THE NIGHT AT AN MP POST, AND THE NEXT MORNING IT CAME OUT TO FIND THEIR WAY BACK.

BY THE TIME THE LAST GROUP OF MEN ARRIVED AT NEUFCHATEL, THE ALLIED LINE WAS SET UP AND OPERATIONS GOING FULL BLAST. CAMP DUTIES TOOK UP MOST

OF THE TIME, BUT DURING OFF DUTY HOURS PERSONNEL OF THE OUTFIT WERE AT LIBERTY TO GO TO THE SMALL TOWNS NEAR THE SITE.

ON THE 25TH OF THE MONTH, A FORMATION WAS HELD AT 1300 HOURS TO GOOD CONDUCT RIBBONS TO THE MEN WHO HAD EARNED THEM. ALTHOUGH THE AWARDS WERE OFFICIALLY MADE ON THE 11TH OF THE MONTH, THIS DATE OFFERED THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THEM TO THE DESERVING MEN. T/SGT KOHLMAYER OUR 1/SGT WAS THE FIRST MAN TO BE PRESENTED WITH THE RIBBON, AND FOURTEEN OTHERS FOLLOWED. SGT MAX MAGNUS, CPL MARTIN FORBES, CPL HENRY SCHEUFTA, CPL T. STEINKE, PFC C. GOODMAN, PFC E. HELLING, PFC W. G. HERMES, PFC H.J. KASS, PFC E. WHEELER, PVT D. BORACK, PVT A. JOHNCOX, PVT R. PETER, PVT J. PICKARD, AND PVT F. ZITO.

THIS AWARD WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF OUR OUTFIT.

ON THE 27TH OF AUGUST, PVT AUGUSTYNIAK, ONE OF THE COOKS WHO HAD BEEN ON DETACHED SERVICE TO OUR ORGANIZATION, WAS OFFICIALLY ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT. THE FOLLOWING DAY CPL FRED HERMAN WAS TRANSFERRED TO DETACHMENT "A" OF THE SAME SQUADRON.

ON THE 29TH OF AUGUST, THE FIRST ECHELON CONSISTING OF 4 OFFICERS AND 3 ENLISTED MEN MOVED BY CONVOY TO ANOTHER SITE. RUMOR HAD IT THAT THE NEW CAMP WOULD BE IN OR NEAR PARIS, AND HOPES SOARED SKY HIGH. BY THE 31ST OF THE MONTH THE REMAINDER OF THE OUTFIT WAS STILL AWAITING THE MOVE, AND AS PARIS WAS THE ANTICIPATED PLACE, LITTLE BOOKS WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF THE CITY WERE BOUGHT IN THE NEARLY TO US. ----- THE EIFFEL TOWER, ARC DE TRIOMPHE, NOTRE DAME, CHAMPS ELYSEES, AND PARISIENNES. WHAT A FUTURE BEFORE US.

DETACHMENT "B"
3-D RADIO SQUADRON (MOBILE) (M)
STATION G-609900

AFG 595 U.S. ARMY
30 SEPTEMBER 1944

- 2D LT. ROLAND GIVEN TRANSFERRED TO DET. "A" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 20 SEPTEMBER 1944.
- SGT. CHARLES H. CHRISTENSEN TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 27 AUGUST 1944.
- CPL. MONRY JESSE TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "D" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 27 AUGUST 1944.
- CPL. ALVIN MISZAK TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 12 SEPTEMBER 1944.
- SGT. JULIUS YELLEN, CPL. EDWARD LEFFLER, PVT. FRED A. SAIN, PVT. J. SCHINELLA, PVT. FREDERICK W. SCHNEIDER, PVT. ANWAL SALTOS, PVT. HERMAN W. STYFFERLE, PVT. DONNIE C. SMUT;
- ABOVE NAMED ENLISTED MEN ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT, EFFECTIVE 17, AUGUST 1944.
- PFC. CECIL G. JOYCE TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "A", EFFECTIVE 12, SEPTEMBER 1944.

STRENGTH ON LAST DAY OF MONTH (30 SEPTEMBER 1944): 7 OFFICERS, 104 E.

CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR G-137015 TO G-609900 ON 2 SEPT. 1944.
CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR G-609900 TO G-609900 ON 12 SEPT. 1944.

- NET FIVE.
- NEGATIVE.

ON THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER, WORD CAME BACK TO THE MAIN PART OF THE DET. THAT THE ECHELON WHICH HAD LEFT ON THE 29TH OF AUGUST WAS IN PARIS, AND PREPARATIONS WERE BEING MADE SO WE COULD OPERATE EFFICIENTLY FROM THE EIFFEL TOWER. THE MEN AT NEUFCHATEL PACKED THEIR EQUIPMENT AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS SO THAT WITH THE COMING OF THE NEXT DAY THEY COULD TAKE OFF IMMEDIATELY,---- IF NOT SOONER,---- FOR THE CAPITOL OF FRANCE.

MEANWHILE, THE MEN IN THE FIRST ECHELON HAD BEEN ENCAMPED NEAR VERSAILLES AND SHUTTLEING BACK AND FORTH TO PARIS MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE BILLETTS WE WERE TO OCCUPY AT THE CITY UNIVERSITY. ON THE MORNING OF SEPT. 2, LT CBPP HAD A DETAIL FORMED AND THRUSTING A PROOF INTO THE HANDS OF PFC. ABALOS, SAID, "POLICE UP THE EIFFEL TOWER." "YES SIR" CAME THE REPLY WITH A BROAD SMILE, "I'LL POLICE IT UP LIKE IT'S NEVER BEEN BEFORE."

ON SEPT 20, AT 1900 HOURS THE DET. OFFICIALLY ENTERED PARIS, ONLY FOUR DAYS AFTER THE CITY WAS COMPLETELY IN ALLIED HANDS, AND OCCUPIED THE SWEDISH BUILDING IN THE CITY UNIVERSITY. ALTHOUGH THE ORGANIZATION WAS CREDITED WITH ENTERING THE CITY OFFICIALLY ON THE 20 OF SEPTEMBER, WE HAD DETAILS WORKING IN PARIS THE FIRST DAY AFTER ITS LIBERATION.

BUS SCHEDULES TAKING THE MEN ON DUTY TO THE TOWER WERE PUT IN EFFECT, AGAIN OUR OPERATIONS WERE RUNNING SMOOTHLY.

IT WAS QUITE DIFFERENT THERE IN PARIS. BEFORE, THE BOYS USED TO SUFFER FOR THE LACK OF VARIETY IN THEIR AMUSEMENT, BUT IN PARIS THERE WAS EVERYTHING A MAN COULD WANT, FROM HEFTY WOMEN FOR THE ADDITIONAL WEIGHT OF THIS DET, TO A PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR THE ANEMIC TYPE.

WINES AND LIQUORS SEEMED TO BE IN VOGUE, AT LEAST THAT'S THE IMPRESSION THE AVERAGE GUY WOULD GET AFTER SEEING THE BIG PARADES GOVE STUNNING COME AFTER AN EVENING'S PLEASURE AT THE TIME "L'ITIPARNESSE. BACK IN NORMANDY, THE BOYS USED TO HOLLER BECAUSE THE ONLY DRINK THEY COULD GET WAS CAL-

VADDS. (DEFINITION OF CALVADDS: 40% GASOLINE, 50% ALCOHOL, AND 10% IMPURITIES)
OUTTHERE IN PARIS THERE WAS ENOUGH OF A VARIETY TO SATISFY EVEN A THIRSTY
SPONGE.

THINGS WERE RUNNING SMOOTHLY DURING THE FIRST FIVE DAYS IN THE FRENCH
CAPITAL, AND ON THE 8TH OF THE MONTH, SGT. CHRISTENSEN, CPL. BERGMAN, CPL.
JESSE, AND PFC. HELLING WERE TRANSFERRED TO DET. "C" OF THIS SQDN. IN RETURN
FOR THESE MEN, THE DETACHMENT RECEIVED EIGHT NEW MEN INCLUDING A SUPPLY
SERGEANT, A CLERK, AND SIX BASIC SOLDIERS.

DURING THE WEEK OF SEPT. 4TH TO SEPT 11TH, SEVERAL OF THE CAMERA HOUNDS
IN THE DETACHMENT WENT OUT "HUNTING" WITH PFC. ROTHBERG, THE DETACHMENT'S
LENSMAN. SPECIAL PASSES WERE GIVEN THEM SO THEY COULD CLIMB TO THE HIGHEST
POINT ON THE EIFFEL TOWER AND PHOTOGRAPH PARIS IN PANORAMIC FORM. AFTER THEY
HAD FINISHED SNAPPING THE CITY FROM ALL SORTS OF CRAZY ANGLES, INCLUDING
THE HIGHLY TECHNICAL ANGLE THAT IS OBTAINED ONLY BY HANGING FROM ONE'S HEELS
ON A RAILING, WHILE SNAPPING THE SHUTTER WITH YOUR TEETH ^{AND} WHILE HOLDING ON
FOR DEAR LIFE WITH YOUR HANDS, THE MEN GOT ENVELOPED IN A PARADE OF SOME
SORT. AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES OF IMPATIENT WAITING, THEY DROVE THROUGH THE
CROWDS ONLY TO FIND THEMSELVES IN THE MIDST OF A HUGE CIRCLE NEAR THE ARC
DE TRIOMPHE UNDER WHICH GENERAL DE GAULLE, GENERAL EISENHOWER, AND AIR MAR-
SHAL SIR ARTHUR TEDDER WERE THE MAIN ATTRACTION. IT WAS ON THIS OCCASION
THAT GENERAL "IKE" RECEIVED THE THANKS OF THE FFI FOR THE LIBERATION OF
PARIS.

REALIZING THAT THIS WAS THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME, ONE OF THEM JUMPED
FROM THE JEEP AND RAN, HOT ON THE HEELS OF PFC ROTHBERG WHO ALREADY WAS
IN THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE PHOTOGRAPHING THE CEREMONY FROM A DISTANCE OF
TEN FEET FROM GENERAL EISENHOWER, TO BACK HIM UP. AT THE END OF THE ADDRESS,
SEVERAL SNAPS WERE OBTAINED BY OUR LENSMAN FROM A RANGE OF THREE FEET.

ON THE 12TH OF SEPTEMBER A LIST OF RATINGS CAME OUT FOR THE ENLISTEDS

MEN IN THIS DETACHMENT. THE NUMBER OF MEN THAT WERE PROMOTED TOTALLED A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF THE ORGANIZATION, AND UNDOUBTEDLY THAT MUST HAVE SET SOME KIND OF RECORD.

THE DAY AFTER THE RATINGS CAME OUT, CPL. BERGMAN, AND PFC HELLING WERE RE-TRANSFERRED TO THIS DETACHMENT FROM "C". TWO DAYS BEFORE THE RATINGS WERE POSTED, LTS GIVEN AND SPEARS WITH TWELVE EN MOVED OUT OF PARIS AS A FORWARD ECHELON TO A LITTLE TOWN NEAR LAGN.

DURING THEIR STAY AT LAGN THEY WERE BILLETED NEAR A CHATEAU OWNED BY THE DUKE OF MORACE, AND A LITTLE EXCITEMENT WAS PROVIDED WHEN THE DUKE'S STABLES BURNED DOWN. IT MIGHT ALMOST SEEM THAT THIS WAS AN ACT ON THE PART OF THE GUNS IN THE PLATOON TO GET FRESH MEAT, BUT THEIR FOOD WAS EXTREMELY GOOD CONSIDERING IT CAME FROM THE GERMAN QUARTERMASTER, AND THEREFORE THE BURNING OF THE STABLES WAS CHALKED UP TO CARELESSNESS ON THE PART OF THE OWNERS.

ON THE 11TH OF SEPTEMBER DETACHMENT "B" MOVED BY CONVOY FROM PARIS FRANCE TO MARSBAIX, A LITTLE TOWN IN BELGIUM. AT FIRST THE CAMP WAS SET UP IN A FIELD NEAR THE OPERATIONAL SITE, BUT AFTER TEN DAYS WHEN THE WEATHER GOT TOO COLD FOR THE MEN TO LIVE COMFORTABLY IN THE FIELD UNDER A TENT, WE MOVED INTO A CHATEAU THAT WAS OCCUPIED BY GERMAN COLLABORATORS BEFORE THE ENTRY OF ALLIED TROOPS IN BELGIUM.

FROM THE FIFTEENTH OF SEPTEMBER TO THE TWENTY SECOND, ONE 24 HOUR PASS WAS GIVEN TO EACH MAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITING BRUSSELS. EVERYONE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY, AND AFTER ALL WAS SAID AND DONE, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE BELGIAN CAPITAL WAS THE SAME AS PARIS ON A SMALLER SCALE.

WHEN THE MEN AT MARSBAIX FIRST WENT INTO THE CHATEAU THEY FOUND TREASURES INCLUDING SOME ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT AND A CABINET FULL OF DARK-ROOM EQUIPMENT. THIS LATTER PART PLEASED THE CAMERA HOBBIES IN THE OUTFIT NO END, AS A GOOD SUPPLY

OF SENSITIVE PAPER AND CHEMICALS WERE FOUND ALONG WITH AN ENLARGER.

UP TO ~~THE~~ EARLY PART OF THE MONTH, DET "B" HAD BEEN ATTACHED TO THE 70TH FIGHTER WING SINCE ARRIVING AT HESLEY HANTS IN ENGLAND. ON THE 13TH OF SEPTEMBER DET "B" WAS OFFICIALLY RELEASED FROM IT'S ATTACHMENT TO THE WING, AND ATTACHED TO HQ IX TAC UNDER SECRET ORDERS. IT HAD BEEN GOOD BEING WITH THE WING, BUT "C'EST LA GUERRE" AS THE FRENCH WOULD SAY, AND WE NESTLED UNDER THE WING OF HQ IX TAC.

ON THE 22D OF THE MONTH, 2 OFFICERS AND 19 EM FORMED THE FIRST ECHELON FOR ANOTHER MOVE, AND THEY SET OFF FOR THE NEW STATION STILL INSIDE BELGIUM BUT CLOSER TO THE GERMAN FRONTIER.

THE WEEK WORE ON, AND OPERATIONS RAN ALONG SMOOTHLY. OUR W/T SECTION WAS KEPT BUSY BY HAVING COMMUNICATIONS WITH ANOTHER DETACHMENT OF THIS SQDN AND OUR ADVANCED PLATOON AS WELL.

THERE WAS VERY LITTLE TO DO IN THE LINE OF RECREATION EXCEPT DROP IN AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD "PUB" FOR A SHORT SNORT AND A GAME OF DARTS. THE MONOTONY GREW, AND THE NEXT MOVE WAS ANXIOUSLY AWAITED.

ON THE 30TH OF THE MONTH LT. ROLAND GIVEN WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THIS DET TO DET "D", AND AS HE LEFT, THE REMAINDER OF THE COMPANY WAS STILL WAITING FOR THE NEXT MOVE WHICH WOULD BRING THEM CLOSER TO GERMANY AND PERHAPS A LITTLE EXCITEMENT.

DETACHMENT "B"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 595 U.S. ARMY
17 OCTOBER 1944

314.7

SUBJECT : UNIT HISTORY

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, 3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOB (G) APO 696, U S
ARMY

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIRECTIVE YOUR HEADQUARTERS DATED 6 JULY 1944
(314.7 SUBJECT UNIT HISTORY) UNIT HISTORY OF DETACHMENT "B" 3RD RADIO
SQUADRON MCB (G) IS TRANSMITTED HEREWITH.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER

John S. Spears
JOHN S. SPEARS
2D LT AC
UNIT HISTORIAN

LN 604

034

OLF

DETachment "B"
3RD RADIO BATTALION (C)
STATION K-747192

AGO 565, U S Army
31 October 1944.

1. Capt. SIMONSON eptd Major per per. 11 504275 Hq Ninth Air Force dtd & eff 1 Oct 44.
1st Lt. A.T. COFF 5d eptd Captain per per 11 504275 Hq Ninth Air Force dtd & eff 1 Oct 44.
2d Lt. A. SHAIRO eptd 1st Lt per per 14 504275 Hq Ninth Air Force dtd & eff 1 Oct 44.
When P. T. SIMONSON held fr asst to this unit end asst to Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) end of DS this unit per per 1 50445 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd & eff 1 Oct 44. CARTER A.T. COFF 5d eptd Commander of this unit per per. 5 50447 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd & eff 16 Oct 44.
1st Lt. JOHN D. LOON Told fr asst to Det 701 this sq end used to this unit per per. 1 50442 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd 5 Oct 44.
2d Lt. JOHN S. SIMMS told fr asst to this unit end asst to Det 701 this sq per per. 1 50442 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd 5 Oct 44.
Cpl. Chester W. CUMMINS Jr., Cpl. Peter Leonick tried to Det 701 this sq per per. 2 50442 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd 5 Oct 44.
Sgt. John F. Eskin, Sgt. Milton G. Neuhberg, and Cpl. Alford J. Johnson tried in gr to be this sq per per. 2 50442 Hq 3rd Reg 50 Mob (C) dtd 5 Oct 44.
2. Strength on last day of month (31 October/1944): 7 officers, 93 enlisted men.
3. Change of station by convoy fr 0-509968 to A-747192 on 5 Oct 44.
4. Negative.
5. Negative.

The advance echelon which had left Marbaix on the 22nd of September, set up its equipment upon arrival at the new site and a stream of communication flowed constantly between it and the main unit at Marbaix. On October 1 several promotions for officers were made known. Capt. Silverstein was advanced to the rank of Major and Lt. Copp to that of Captain. Lt. Shapiro exchanged his gold bar for a silver one. With these promotions came a change in commanding officers. After Maj. Silverstein was relieved of his command, Capt. Copp was officially appointed the "old man" of Detachment "B". Although the major was no longer in command, he was placed on detached service with our unit and continued to live with us.

On the third of the month the main unit moved by convoy from Marbaix to the advanced site at Jalhay in the province of Liege. The town is situated three miles from what was once the German border. Two school houses and the local dance hall were taken over for the unit's quarters and mess hall. The operational site was established at La Paraque Michel, nine miles from Jalhay. Because of insufficient space in the two school buildings a small inn at La Paraque Michel was taken over to provide living quarters for the R/T, Crip, and maintenance men. The R/T, P/F, kitchen, and motor pool personnel were quartered in Jalhay. Thus comfortably settled operations were begun and due to the pleasant atmosphere of their surroundings the men were able to operate more efficiently than ever before.

The inn at La Paraque Michel had been occupied by a small German garrison before our arrival, but when they realized that they would soon be forced to vacate the premises, they gallantly left their abode to the use of this unit of "regenerate democracies".

Aside from this more immediate history, there are many interesting stories concerning this little inn which is located on the highest point in Belgium, and isolated in a most barren, desolate part of the country.

When standing near the inn, one sees nothing but open marshes or fens extending as far as the eye can see. It would take one anywhere from two to three hours to walk from La Baraque Michel to any of the villages nearby. In winter when the ground is covered with drifts of snow as deep as twelve feet, it is impossible to go anywhere off the main road without the aid of snowshoes or skis. The traveler of to-day who becomes stranded has nothing to fear, because the friendly inn will provide shelter until the storm abates. But think of the time, not so long ago, when there was no inn at La Baraque Michel, when there was nothing but open country and a person caught there in a blizzard could do nothing more than pray.

In the middle of the last century the road passing the hotel was little more than a path upon which only an ardent sightseer would venture during the fiercely cold winter months. More than a century ago during the late fall, a tailor, Michel Schmitz, who had recently left his native Rhineland to settle in the Belgium village of Herbiester, was returning from a remote district where his work had called him. He became lost in a thick fog. Then, a terrific snowstorm descended upon him. The drifts piled high and as the unfortunate man stared hopelessly in every direction, he saw only vast open country covered with snow. As he stood shivering in the cold pondering his fate, he swore that if ever he got out of this alive he would build a haven at this point to give aid and shelter to other unfortunates who might find themselves in a similar situation. As fate would have it, Michel Schmitz was rescued after being snowbound for nearly a week, and true to his word he built a lodging which is now known as the

Inn at La Baraque Michel. The policy of the inn was to give free lodging and care to persons lost in this area and who were fortunate enough to find this shelter.

The years passed and the hotel served its purpose. In the early part of the twentieth century the property changed hands several times and with the progress in road building the hotel was turned into a commercial enterprise. However, it still maintained its original policy of caring for the snowbound. In 1905 the establishment was bought by a German family and they still have possession of it to this day.

A tower was built across the highway from the inn and the total distance from sea level to the top of this tower is 374 meters. The tower was originally used for the purposes of geodetic survey, but immediately prior to the war it served as an aircraft beacon.

On the 3rd of the month after the outfit had moved to its new site, LT. JOHN S. SPARS was transferred from this detachment to Detachment "C". On the same day LT. JOHN D. LOGAN was sent from Detachment "C" to replace Lt. Spars. Two days later CPL. CHESTER W. CRUSHING and CPL. PETER DELBROCK were transferred in grade to Detachment "B". Although they didn't want to leave the outfit with which they had come to France, there was nothing they could do about it, and Lt. GOTTARD, C.O. of Detachment "B", gained the advantage of having two highly trained crypt men to add to his organization.

Operations were running smoothly out at the site, and aside from the tour of duty and a shift of guard twice a month, the men had plenty of spare time on their hands. It was impossible for personnel of the unit to go

out, as all towns were off limits, and the area near the camp still had snipers and collaborators lurking in the woods and fields. The men heard some guresome stories. On October 7th, near the city of Pupen, a Staff Sergeant from another outfit was found hanging to a tree deader than a herring. Apparently he had ignored the continued warnings of his officers to stay out of German towns unless on official business. Several days later a jeep containing two G I's drove slowly through the main part of this captured town. A little German boy standing on a street corner wearing short pants and an alpine cap, tossed a bouquet of flowers into the jeep. A sudden explosion shook the vehicle, and after the dust had cleared away the two figures in the car were seen slumped down over each other. An enraged M.P., standing at his post near the scene of the explosion, let a volley of slugs fly from his tommy gun, cutting the boy almost in two.

Although the German was killed, his mission for "Der Fueher" was accomplished, and two Americans lay dead in their jeep.

After news of these two incidents got around, there were no desires on the part of anyone in the outfit to venture beyond the confines of their billets. In Jalhay a dayroom was set up behind the mess-hall containing books and magazines. Out at the site similar facilities were set up for the men living there and for the R/T operators who spend the night there when they work the "graveyard shift". By this time the battle for Macher had begun and to amuse themselves, several of the men climbed the tower at La Paraque Michel and watched the "fireworks" which lighted the sky at night.

On October 9th, SGT. JOHN J. ALBIN, SGT. MILTON ROSENBERG, and CPL. ALFRED J. JOHNSON were transferred in grade to Headquarters 3rd Radio Sq. to await shipment back to the States after spending three years overseas including service in Iceland. It was goodbye to "Flight Sergeant"

Rothenberg and his flying supply room. Took the bed to Lucere, for
with his talent, he might have had a bright future in the U.S.C. Perhaps
with all this experience behind him, after the war one day hear of the fly-
ing supply room on a commercial scale.

Most of the men were anxious of these three who were headed back to
the "old country", but as they left camp the luck ones watched their buddies
smile them off with best wishes.

While driving back from supper on the 15th of the month, several boys
looking out of the rear end of the truck carrying them to the site, saw
a T-52 swoop down out of the sky and disappear beyond a hill near the hotel.
At 1100 hours that night, the pilot of the ship found our camp and entered
the air room. We had been part of a squadron that was landing support to
the ground forces still battling for Lucere, and on his way back to the air
base, a piece of flak got him and he was forced to "orchestra land" the aircraft.
Fortunately he suffered only a slight scratch on his hand. After spending
the night with our men at the site, for it was impossible to get him into
town that night, he was returned to his command the following day.

The next day there was a noticeable amount of flying bomb activity
over La Selague Michel and Jelhay. There had been several stray robots
in this area before, but on this day they came at regular intervals.
Apparently the bombs were reinforcing front line troops, but regardless of
this fact, the explosives were coming much too close for comfort.

During the week a group of T-52's which were captured by the Jorries
were flown against us, and the city of Fortiers, 9 kilometers from Jelhay,
was attacked. At the time of the air raid, our mail and DOR AIR UNIT was
in town flying up the little portable boosters when this incident occurred.
It took some time for the passengers in the car to get used to the idea

That their own planes were shooting them up. After they finally realized that had really occurred, they took off for camp wondering if it's worth going to town for the mail after all.

By the twentieth of October, the flying bombs over our camp became almost routine. The guards at night would check their watches every twenty minutes with the deadly missiles as they soared through the air much too close to the ground for comfort. One evening during the last week of the month, a lively little poker game was going on in the cayo room at La Paraque Michel when the roar of a buzz bomb approaching swiftly added to the noise in the room. In almost no time at all the bomb was overhead. The room suddenly became quiet and no one uttered a sound. The missile seemed headed for the building. The windows shook violently and the doors rattled on their hinges. A moment of silence and everyone in the room breathed a sigh of relief. No one spoke, but the card game continued. "Buss Bomb Alley" was intact.

On the 23rd Verriers was put on limits for our outfit and the boys were off to make the best of it. Wine, women, and ²--amusement. That's all they were interested in, and they got it.

The week wore on and in the before we realized it a new month was about to start. Our stay here seemed indefinite. The flight of the buzz bombs seemed uncertain. But Verriers and its freedom were still on limits. Oh, Verriers !

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SIGNAL BATTAL (C)
Station I-747192

APO 695, U S Army
30 November 1944

1. Pvt. John H. Schuler, Pvt. Raymond L. Skinner, Pvt. Raymond V. Morisy asgd & jd fr Hq this sq per par. 5 50749 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 1 Nov 44.

Pfc. Melvin J. Snyder asgd & jd fr Hq this sq per par. 1 50750 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 10 Nov 44.

Cpl. Albin M. Miszczak asgd & jd fr Det "C" this sq per par. 1 50750 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 10 Nov 44.

Pfc. Donald H. Hoffberg trig in gr to Det "C" this sq per par. 1 50750 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 12 Nov 44.

2. Strength on last day of month (30 Nov 44): 7 soldiers, 100 unlisted men.

3. Negative.

4. Negative.

5. Negative.

Poker and Pinochle once more became king. "My call" had sounded the day before, and on the evening of November 2, we were bedded down on our operational site, to test our luck on the turn of a card. Others contented themselves with reading their welcome mail and answering those they had forgotten. To a layman's ears, it would have been a tumult of sound. "Who wants a beer?" "What's to-day's date?" "Who's going to get coal for the stove, it's cold in here?" "Open the door, want me to parboil?" "Where's the Stars and Stripes, I never seen to get one to read?" "What, can you read?" All this, aided by a curse word emitted by a disgruntled poker player venting his wrath at the poor showing of his cards. This in short, was our peaceful little abode.

At seven o'clock, darkness had long set in, smothering the lonely countryside. Inside the roar of voices seemed to gain momentum towards its crisis that usually arrived around midnight. Suddenly the noise was cut short as though by a knife. Ominous though unmistakable sounds of diving planes and machine gun fire invaded our peaceful evening. It was close by. The staccato firing fixed that in our minds. As though spooked outside, we rushed into the darkness. Planes were invisible to us, though their roaring motors assured us they were there, but the sky seemed to bubble with streaks of red which we know only too well to be tracers. Anxious eyes eagerly tried to prevail through the darkness, to no avail. After minutes which seemed hours, the noise of rushing planes died away, leaving only the wind singing its solo song through the trees, and our card game.

Midnight came, and most of the card players had left. Few remained to count their winnings and relate how much more they could

have been ahead if certain cards had fallen differently. Empty beer glasses sat glumly on the tables, newspapers found themselves in scattered positions, and cinders at the bottom of the small stove had been picked up by grinding boots and deposited in all directions. Without a doubt we were in no condition for guests. Still we had one. At his entrance all eyes flipped up and stared hard and long at his dirty countenance, and clothes. It was he who broke the spell. "Mind if I come in? I'd like to see the officer in charge." "What happened?" someone asked up, while another grabbed the phone. "Got mixed up in a bad show" he answered tentily, while sitting in a vacant chair and removing his cap. "What didn't happen could be better" he sighed, running his fingers through his tormented hair. "Lt. White?" the guard at the phone asked. "There's an I. I. F. sergeant down here who'd like to speak to you. I don't think he's in trouble."

The sergeant's story was a recurrence of what had probably happened many times over Europe. They left England early that evening bound for an objective in Germany. On reaching their target, they dropped their load, but a split second later flew across a direct hit in the middle of the plane. The navigator was killed outright. Instantly the skipper gave the order to bail out. The little tail gunner proclaimed that he had no chute, so the sergeant tried to take him down with him. It was no use. The force of the chute opening threw the tail gunner pro. his back into eternity. After landing the sergeant searched for hours for some place to report, till he wandered into our site. Lt. White assigned him sleeping quarters for the night, and in the morning took him to I. I. F. 1. Air Command where an I. I. F. liaison officer took him under his wing.

The 31 of November brought our first real snowfall. It was beautiful, and horrible all at the same time. For miles around we saw a panorama of glistening beauty. Firetrucks bent as if in supplication for relief of their new burden. Beer and rabbit trucks were everywhere, as if to show that amid this land of warfare they alone were not afraid to show themselves to man, nature or God. Truly it was beautiful, a crystal fairyland and a preview of the coming Christmas. On the other hand, it was the opposite. Roads became quagmires. Traffic mounted to a snail's pace, accidents ceased to be the unusual, rather the commonplace. Chow runs were late. The mess personnel beefed, the men "beefed", gulped their food, and rushed to make the first truck back to the site, rather than await the ordeal of riding back on the last run in the dark.

The next day brought added excitement. Our site became "buzz bomb alley" all through the day and night, and as our work we listened for that faint rumble that would proclaim the arrival of Hitler's V-1. As they approached, our shoulders invariably hunched, our jaws tightened, and eyes squinted in anticipation. Though none would admit it, a voice inside us all would scream to high heaven. "Get over, you devil, get going." Sometimes on passing us the arde would stop, and we had to hold on. How far away it would land no one could or would say. Then it would hit. Windows, doors, chairs, and the building's foundation would shudder. That being over, we would wipe the unashamed sweat from our foreheads and get back to work. That night at about 1900 hours a terrific explosion shook the site. All personnel awake and those it awoke believed it to be one of the new V-2's landing dangerously close. Unfortunately they were wrong, for the next morning a Lancaster was in a littered heap near the site.

Six airmen were found dead. All killed in the crash. Disaster had again touched us. Even though it did not claim any of our men, still the death of those brave men brought closer the fact the war was being won by the blood of mankind, so that mankind in the future could live in peace.

Another snowstorm lashed out at us on November 8. That was no mere snowfall. It became a gale in its fullest fury. Road-plows had to be called out to clear the throughfare, wreckers to haul out mired and snowbound transportation. Chains, wheels, tracks, spun themselves into the snow, changing it into a sea of fluid snow and mud. That day our transportation became a thing of the past, and so with the ardor of children on a picnic we tore into our K rations, that had been stored away for just such an occasion. Our living quarters were warm, the rations made hot over our little stoves, so after gazing out of the window we felt lucky. At least secure.

As the months wore on with the usual routine of camp and operational duties, liberty runs brought added joy to the hearts of the men. Shower baths became one of the luxuries to be indulged in. The feeling of warm water upon the body made the men feel like the men they used to be. Two theaters were taken over by the army to show movies for us. That too, made us straighten out our shoulders and realize that we were being thought of by the powers that be.

Between movies, baths, and a few beers here and there, when we next gazed at our calendar (if we had a calendar), it was Thanksgiving Day. To us it became a wonderful experience. Mess Sgt. Poshansky was at his best, as were all his cooks. The turkey was a thing of beauty, in taste and in appearance. The meal was complete in every detail; from turkey to dessert, nothing was missed. That was not all. The table at which we sat was set as though by the

of an artisan. It did not end at that. There is one more occurrence to relate. We had table waiters. All the officers, first sergeant, "Tech and Staffs" waited on the "G.I.'s" as diligently as though it were their profession. Fun was poked at each other, amidst the sound of food slipping down many hungry gullets. Men proved themselves to be men, by not taking undue advantage of the situation. After all had been served, the officers sat down to partake of their festive meal. When stomachs were full, everyone eased back in their chairs, stretched out their legs, and lit up cigarettes. The appearance of complete satisfaction covered all faces. We were at ease in the truest meaning of the word. Some of us wondered, if on the next Thanksgiving we would be around our own tables at home, or if this war in all its tenacity would hold us on the next. We had come a long way in the past year. Invasion, hard going on the beachhead, the advance through France and into Belgium to where we were now located. Though never actively engaged in the fighting line, we had seen death and war in all its horror, and what it brought in its path. In that month alone we had seen or rather heard the death of twelve men. As we counted our attributes and faults, we realized that they, too, would have liked to enjoy that Thanksgiving. We knew also, that there were countless others that have paid the highest toll in the quest of freedom. That is why we had much to be thankful for. We had gone to war, and so far escaped the full fury of its wrath. It is true, we were very lucky.

clt
Detachment "B"
2nd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station O-540990

APO 595, U S ARMY
31 December 1944

1. 2nd Lt. Selbert R. Thierfelder, 2nd Lt. Frederic L.P. White promoted to 1st Lt. per par. 2 SO#336 HQ Ninth Air Force dtd & eff 1 Dec 44.

1st Lt. Hogan G. Hungate asgd & jd fr HQ this sq per par. 6 SO#57 HQ 2nd Rad SQ Mob (G) dtd 12 Dec 44.

Cpl. John E. Teixeira trfd in gr to Casual Pool 70th Replacement Depot (AAF) per par. 9 SO#346 HQ Ninth Air Force dtd 11 Dec 44.

2. Strength on last day of month (31 Dec 44): 7 Officers, 103 Enlisted Men.

3. Change of station by convoy fr L 747192 to L 650385 on 18 Dec 44.
Change of station by convoy fr L 650385 to O 609968 on 20 Dec 44.
Change of station by convoy fr O 609968 to O 540990 on 22 Dec 44.

4. Negative.

5. Negative.

LN 73

2/8

The final month of 1944 will remain long in the memories of every man in Detachment "B". It was a month filled with excitement, contentment, achievement and disappointment. This apparent paradox of emotions is easily explainable in the light of the series of events which took place during this time. The chronicle of these events will show the unit passing from a period of comparative tranquility through one of trial and transit, to one of determined effort to recoup its losses of time and material and to prove an even greater success in the New Year than in the last.

At the beginning of the month the unit was installed at Jalhay and La Baraque Michel in the province of Liege, Belgium. Its operational and administrative functions were being performed with a smoothness, achieved only by a well established routine and sympathetic environment. The operational personnel were working with confidence in the knowledge that as of December 1st they had been credited with the following score: 185 kills, 24 probables, 54 damaged, 45 assists.

On December 5 the German Air Force suddenly changed from the almost completely defensive tactics of previous weeks to a series of ground attacks against the First and Ninth Army Fronts. No Ninth Air Force aircraft were airborne at this time so that the main defense was AAA. Here the Detachment performed a function new in its career. It acted through IX Tactical Air Command as a warning service to AAA units whose success in downing 50 German aircraft is directly attributable thereto.

The early days of December also were marked by a decided increase in German night fighter activity. The recently perfected cooperation between this unit and Detachment "D" was shown to be immensely valuable in spotting this traffic. A perfect illustration of this occurred one

evening when the interchange of information between the two detachments fixed the position of German night fighters over a certain area. Informed by B's duty officer IX Tactical Air Command dispatched a P 61 to this area where it made contact with enemy aircraft. In their haste to avoid attack the German planes deliberately lost altitude and were hit by their own flak within view of the P 61.

Incidents such as these work wonders for morale. They are strong incentives to every "Y" man and Detachment "B" 's operators doubled their vigilance throughout the first two weeks of the month. Those not actually engaged in operations were no less busy, for without their equal diligence in performing the duties of administration, maintenance, and supply, operations would not be possible.

By way of recreation, preparation for Christmas was dominant. The mess made plans for holiday dinners. The village made plans to give us, "their liberators", a really all-out "fete de Noel." The men, in turn, had planned, for December 18, a Christmas party for the village children, each of whom was to have received a present sent especially from America. The mess hall was decorated with wreaths and garlands, and the traditional Christmas tree had already partially been trimmed. Everyone seemed to be preparing for something, but certainly no one was prepared for what actually did occur.

The events of December 17 and 18 put an abrupt end to all plans and preparations, and uprooted the whole Detachment even to the extent of causing a brief interruption in operations.

In the early hours of December 17 thunder broke from the sky in the form of German transport planes darting in and out of the fantastic light thrown off by falling flares. Bravely huge aircraft flew strep-

top level with deadly cargoes. For three hours an awful panorama of war was spread above us. No ack-ack guns were heard in protest. Apparently instantaneously the air had been completely conquered by the enemy.

As morning wore on news filtered through to us that the Germans had broken through, taken Malmedy, and were then pushing ahead, threatening to outflank Verviers. There appeared to be every possibility that they would follow the road between Malmedy and Lupen - the very road upon which our operational site at la Baraque Michel was located. There was but one immediate thing to do, evacuate the Baraque and return to Jalhay from whence further movement could be accomplished more easily.

This seemingly gigantic task was performed in little more than two hours. All equipment and personnel moved in precise order to Jalhay where for the next twenty four hours they waited for orders.

A twenty-four hour guard was posted. Civilians joined us in searches for enemy paratroopers which were known to have been dropped in the nearby fens. By nightfall the roads were crowded with military vehicles. Some bore units fleeing from areas already taken by the enemy, others were filled with fresh troops bound for action. It soon became apparent that an entire army was falling back, but still Headquarters remained silent as to what our action should be.

The little village of Jalhay became a bedlam. Sleeping conditions were impossible. Men slept bunk to bunk wherever a bunk could be placed. Stragglers from the units routed by the Germans found their way into the kitchen at all hours. They flung themselves into every available space and fell asleep from complete exhaustion. At the same time German planes continued to sweep low dropping flares, and nosing generally into our affairs.

The next morning, December 18, the frosty air was once again filled with our own aircraft attacking the enemy a few miles from us. The noise of cannon and machine gun fire was drawing dangerously close, yet no advice had been received as to what the Detachment should do.

Shortly after noon, Major Silverstein drove to Verviers. He found the city in complete confusion and disorder. After some delay a direct order was issued to quit Jalhay immediately, but indicated no destination. It was then decided to seek refuge with Detachment "D" at Fouron St. Pierre, close to the Dutch border.

At Fouron St. Pierre, by agreement between the commanding officers of "B" and "D", S.I.S., IX and XXIX Tactical Air Commands and Eighth Air Force, the two detachments combined operations during the emergency, furnishing close "Y" information without break to both Tactical Air Commands and Eighth Air Force.

On December 21 the majority of men and officers made their way through fog over icy roads to their former installation at Larbaix la Tour in the vicinity of Charleroi. Because these quarters proved inadequate and almost unliveable due to the havoc wrought by their recent occupants, a Belgian F.I. unit, another move of some six to eight kilometers was made to the ancient town of Thuin. Here, all save the operational echelon left at Detachment "D", were comfortably quartered in the town house of the Baron Condébian where they remained to welcome the New Year.

Almost immediately upon arrival at Thuin the entire personnel embarked on an extensive plan of renovation and reorganization. "Liney" vans were sent to Bruxelles, American vehicles to the Ordnance Depot at Charleroi. Radio equipment was repaired, adjusted, or replaced from fully. Every vehicle was painted. Personal clothing was checked and

requisitioned, the mess was reorganized. In short, the thousand and one "little" things which so often escape notice and cause "big" failures were attended to. It was literally a period of recuperation and rejuvenation for most of the unit.

Christmas Day at Thuin can best be described in the words of the enlisted men one of whom writes: "We found ourselves in a castle - a castle all our own in which to spend Christmas." Even though we were restricted we were contented. Our dinner was served in the light of a huge fireplace fire. Beforehand the Padre of the local church blessed our meal. After days of C and R rations the turkey was delicious. Champagne was supplied by the Commanding Officer and the officers along with cigars. Indeed that dinner made us feel like the soldiers we were before the German push.

In the meantime the operational echelon which had remained with Detachment "Y" continued the joint enterprise. Proof of their good work was shown when on December 22 the Commanding General of IX Tactical Air Command called the unit directly and expressed his appreciation to the men of this "Y" service for their part in the great air battles of that day.

On December 29, a suitable base line for fixes being necessary and only possible from the Detachment's former intercept position, IX Tactical Air Command granted permission for "E" 's operational echelon to return to Jalhay. Upon their arrival there, however, they found the town filled to capacity with various army units. They therefore set up about one kilometer from Jalhay, at the little village of Herbiester where they remained through the first of the New Year.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (C)
Station VK-7019

APO 505, U S Army
31 January 1945

1. Pvt. Joseph Manik, Pvt. Charles Metigian, Pvt. John H. Schuler, Pvt. Raymond L. Skinner, Pvt. Bennie C. Smoot, Pvt. Raymond V. Worley aptd Pfc per par. 1 SO#1 HQ 3d Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd & eff 4 Jan 45.

Cpl. Myron V. Bauer rd to Pvt per par. 2 SO#1 HQ 3d Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd & eff 4 Jan 45.

Pfc. Theodore W. Augustyniak aptd Cpl per par. 3 SO#1 HQ 3d Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd & eff 4 Jan 45.

Pvt. Frederick W. Schneider trfd in gr to Co "C" 1709th Sig Sv Bn (Avn) per par. 10 SO#9 HQ Ninth Air Force dtd 9 Jan 45.

1st Lt. John E. Drewry asgd & jd fr HQ this sq per par. 1 SO#3 HQ 3d Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 15 Jan 45.

1st Lt. Franz J. Gerl asgd & jd fr HQ this sq per par. 2 SO#3 HQ 3d Rad Sq Mob (C) dtd 15 Jan 45.

Pfc. James E. Thrift trfd in gr to IX Tactical Air Command per par. 8 SO#30 HQ Ninth Air Force dtd 20 Jan 45.

Detachment "B" 3d Radio Squadron Mobile (C) atchd to 70th Fighter Wing eff 0001 hours 23 Jan 45 per par. 2 secret ltr HQ IX Tactical Air Command.

2. Strength on last day of month (31 Jan 45): 9 Officers, 101 Enlisted Men.
3. Change of station by convoy fr VO-5499 to VK-7019 on 19 Jan 45.
4. None.
5. None.

The month of January 1945 saw Detachment "D", like Gaul, di-
into three parts. The administration section was installed in the
town house of the Baron Gendebien at Thuin, southwest of Charleroi,
the Pittsburgh of Belgium. The operational section was split into
two parts, one at Detachment "D" 's location at Fouron St. Pierre,
near the intersection of the old borders of Holland, Belgium and
Germany, and the other at the village of Herbiester, only a kilo-
meter from our old stamping ground at Jalhay.

Operationally, the New Year was ushered in with unprecedented
activity. The German offensive was at its height. The first of two
echelons which had left Fouron St. Pierre two hours apart on December
29 was set up for operations before the second arrived. It can be
seen they were ready for any and everything by New Year's Day.

Practically everything did happen New Year's Day. The wire
between Herbiester and Detachment "D" where one of our officers
and four men remained to filter all traffic through to our Fighter
Control, was kept sizzling. It seemed as if the entire German Air
Force were airborne.

The men at Herbiester did not need equipment, however, to know
that the Ferris were up. Their eyes and ears sufficed, for over their
heads was being staged a first class air-show. One of the W/T men
gives the following account of that show:

"The enemy attempted to strafe the road to Werviers which ran
right by us. At the same time our Ack-Ack stations had a different
train of thought. At once the sky blossomed into a carpet of shell-
bursts. One aircraft, mortally hurt, spiralled helplessly to the
ground. The others quickly gave evading action, though in the few
minutes of action the German's score stood at three down, two to go,

and no touchdown in sight. It was then they thought of using the return trip tickets. Only one got back to his base to reflect on a brush and hasty intrusion. The other, caught in a direct stream of fire, fell flaming into the nearby forest. For that we erased four marks on the wall placed there the night before for a similar number of buzzbombs which had fallen uncomfortably close."

After January 1, the traffic subsided considerably, due partly to the terrific losses sustained by the German Air Force during the last week of December, and partly to the heavy snows throughout this area. The S/T and Crypt men were kept busy obtaining information usually furnished by another detachment, but whose usefulness to us was greatly impaired due to its remoteness during this emergency, when time was of the essence.

As activity slackened, the men at Herbiester had time to look around their former haunts at Jalhay. They found the place greatly changed by the hordes of First Army troops and the inconvenient enforcement of restrictions enforced by innumerable M.P.'s. One of our men best describes the then existing conditions:

"We had a curfew. To us that was new. After six in the evening if perchance we were in town, we gave the password to the guard (from the 1st Division) or were ushered to their Headquarters and asked damare little questions like, "Would you care for a bullet in the head?" or, "Next time you don't take with the answers, up pops a court-martial like that!" The darkness tended to confuse the guard and the challenged. One dark evening, one of our boys, flitting his idle hours about town, was confronted by an ominous looking rifle held by an equally impressive guard, who issued the challenging half of the password. Our boy stopped, shrugged his shoulders and

gave a negative answer. "O.K.", the guard grunted, "What's the capital of Michigan, then?" There was a moment's silence. "It's Lansing, isn't it?" "How the hell should I know", the guard retorted cuttingly, "Pass on!"

Another one of our operators had a mademoiselle on the other side of town. After visiting his lady-love, he had to run the gauntlet of guards, who off duty were possibly very pleasing fellows, and no doubt kind to old folks and dogs. The said operator being of Central European origin, spoke with a very heavy accent, so whether he knew the password or not, his speech was his undoing, and he was hustled off as a hireling of the Gestapo, or the master mind of a German plot to poison each and every member of the First Division. After five such occurrences he never bothered to remember the password. He figured anything he said would be used against him, so he'd better give up the girl until things grow calmer..

In the meantime those of us at Thuin continued our efforts to put into the best possible condition all equipment and vehicles, as well as reorganize and improve administrative procedure and functions. Here supply took stock of itself, the motor pool accomplished a complete overhaul of vehicles. The mess improved greatly. At last our house appeared to be in order, and the time had arrived to unite once again in one place, and if possible under one roof.

During the first week of the month two officers were dispatched into the Verviers-Spa area to inspect every chateau, farm, or any structure capable of housing our men, and near enough to a feasible site to be practical. By the process of elimination the choice rested between two chateaux at the village of Pays and another near the age of Jehanster, both in the immediate vicinity of Verviers and

in the direction of Spa. This was made necessary because Herbiester and Jalhay could not accommodate our entire unit due to their being filled to capacity by First Division troops.

After due consideration of power lines, tram lines, and the presence of other radio units, several locations were tested in the Jehanster-Fays area. As a result of these tests Jehanster was finally selected. The process of moving from Herbiester and recalling those still at Fourch St. Pierre was accomplished immediately so that before the end of the month the men were housed, fed, and amused in the Chateau Montens, the operational site was installed in the Ville Montens within easy walking distance of the chateau, and next door to the villa possession of a small bungalow was taken by two each lieutenants, two each sergeants, and one each police dog, thus accounting for every last man and dog.

As of January 31, 1945, the Detachment was operating successfully and again directly with its Fighter Control. Once again it was working as a complete unit with all sections cooperating for their common purpose.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station VK-7019

APO 595, U S Army
28 February 1945

1. Cpl Walter C Lardner, Cpl Albert Schultz asgd & jd fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) pP 3 SO 7 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Pfc. Rosario S. Bonanno, Pfc John H Eoff, Pfc Peter G Herrera, Pfc Charles Ketigian, Pfc Raymond E Skinner trfd in gr to 12th Reinforcement Depot pP 15 SO 36 Hq Ninth Air Force.

1st Lt John B Drewry asgd Det "D" 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) pP 5 SO 9 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

1st Lt Franz J Gerl asgd Det "C" 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) pP 6 SO 9 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Maj. Eymon T. Silverstein reld fr atchd to this det pP 1 SO 10 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Cpl Luther E Meuser fr abs sk 128th Evac Hosp to dropped fr asgmt to Hq Det of Pats 4200 U S Army Hosp Plant; Auth Cir 115 Hq ATOUSA dtd 4 Dec 44.

Pfc Joseph Kanik red to Pvt per Spec CM #4 Hq 70th Fighter Wing, and trfd to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) pP 2 SO 15 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

2. Strength on last day of month (28 Feb 45): 6 Officers, 96 Enlisted Men.
3. None.
4. None.
5. None.

The start of the month found our unit well situated in comfortable quarters. Most of the enlisted men were bedded in a large, rambling chateau, outside of Verviers, while the others lived in a roomy little home nearby. It was called the site for want of a better name, though perhaps because all operational work went on there.

Though the month brought no earthshaking occurrences, many changes in the outfit as a whole took place. Two new officers, 1st Lt. Drewry and 1st Lt. Gerl were assigned to the Detachment, and departed almost before the men knew their names. It was very discerning, as we would like to have known both better. C'est la guerre.

Another dour day fell around us on learning that Maj. Silverstein was to leave the Detachment, to be transferred to Headquarters. We can truly say that we all feel badly in losing him. As the enlisted man would say, true, he had some faults, we all have those, but never can we say that ever at any moment did we dislike him. He was our friend. To say more is needless. We liked and admired him. Good luck to him, in whatever he does. May we meet some time again. The major was a great "guy".

Early in the month the outfit had troubles, though they were only domestic. The old-fashioned plumbing went haywire. One day they (I mean pipes) would be working, and the next there would be no end of trouble. Daily it seemed, a liberty run was needed to fetch the plumbers. Like all men of their trade, it took many days to put an end to our difficulties. In the meantime we did not know whether we would use the bathroom or grab up a shovel. At last all was in working order, and everyone felt better.

Between the hours of our respective shifts, the boys would go into town, for a movie, where the Army had three theaters, (the de-

tachment also had three movies a week at the chateau), and to imbibe the local wines. Some renewed friendships they had acquired while they were once before stationed nearby. This, and work, occupied most of the hours. It at least eased the boredom of the long months away from home. Merely a sedative, not a cure.

Then a few blue days came our way, promised court-martial. A few of the boys, misguided in their thoughts, accomplished a few deeds, which brought them to the attention of the powers that be. One was thoughtless enough to lose his truck, another with disrespect to an officer, two others believing that far away fields were green, took off for places unknown. To make matters a bit worse, they absconded with a company jeep, which by and by was found a trifle nicked, nicked enough to junk it for good. At this writing, troubled parties still remain in the goal.

Towards the end of the month, the long promised offensive was started by a hop over the Roer. To the last man, we listened, and hoped for good news. On learning the crossing was successful, and that further news was under a black-out, we knew that this was it. We were right, and pray that this is the last one before victory.

More good news found us. Furloughs to England were forthcoming. Six of our personnel were selected to leave. There were no hard feelings at not being lucky. Rather the others felt that their days were coming. It was good medicine for morale, to know that those who deserved it received the break.

Rumor had it that a first echelon would soon be leaving up where the going was a bit tougher: the long awaited advance into Germany. Numerous rumors flew through the company, as they always do. We would be going here, there, everywhere but home. Some even mentioned that.

That was too much, so we concluded that it did not come from the right latrine.

As the month ended, the detachment looked forward to a new adventure. Perhaps there would be many. Perhaps we would move as quickly as we did through France. It felt good at least to think that way. If that event should happen, there could be only one outcome. Victory, and a good view of the Status of Liberty, and the home that is forever in our mind.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station WF-4150

APO 595, U S Army
31 March 45

1. Pvt. Alfredo O. Abalos, Pvt. Paul M. Bergman, Pvt. Hogan G. Eungate, Pvt. Ernest L. Kohler, Pvt. Fred A. Sain Jr., Pvt. Manuel J. Santos, Pvt. Joseph A. Schinella aptd Pfc Par 2 SO 15 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 5 Mar 45.

Sgt. Henry Schueftan, Sgt. Julius Yellen aptd S/Sgt Par 2 SO 17 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 10 Mar 45.

Cpl. Christopher J. Dardis, Cpl. Ernst Helling, Cpl. Edward F. Leffler, Cpl. John J. McHale, Cpl. John W. Pickard, Cpl. Theodore O. Steinke, Cpl. Roman J. Verhaalen aptd Sgt Par 2 SO 17 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 10 Mar 45.

Pvt. John E. Baldwin aptd Cpl. Par. 2 SO 17 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 10 Mar 45.

Pvt. Kenney K. Smith (Limited Asgmt) asgd & jd fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) Par 1 SO 17 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Pfc. Royal E. Wirth (Limited Asgmt) asgd & jd fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) Par 8 SO 18 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

T/Sgt Rudolph C. Popovits trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) Par 8 SO 18 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

2. Strength on last day of month (31 Mar 45): 6 Officers, 97 Enlisted Men.
3. Change of station by convoy fr vK-7019 to WF-4150 on 26 Mar 45.
4. None.
5. None.

The beginning of March found Detachment "B" operating at Jehanster, Belgium. The entire personnel were housed in a Chateau, a bungalow, and a villa in which operations were also carried on. This location lacked some of the advantages of former sites. It was not as high and its coverage was directionally limited due to terrain. It served its purpose, however, because it commanded the particular area assigned to IX Tactical Air Command.

The men found Jehanster much to their liking. They had ready access to both Verviers and Spa by tram, which, by the way, we were able to D/F along its entire route. After their long stay in nearby Jalhay and Herbister, Jehanster was like home to most of the men. This factor greatly helped morale, and aided in tiding over the monotony of the first comparatively quiet days of the month.

During the first week of the month Cologne was taken, and it became obvious that a move forward was called for. A reconnaissance expedition ventured forth through Aachen, Duren, and the Cologne-Bonn areas. A site was selected at the town of Kendenich within view of the spires of the Cologne cathedral. It was difficult at this time to find quarters because almost every building which had escaped the blasting of our air and artillery forces was occupied by infantry or armored units. Two houses were finally secured and an advance echelon set up operation. One of the men of this echelon describes its arrival at Kendenich in these words:

" - - Two homes were selected, and through our interpreter, Cpl. Baldwin, the civilians were asked to move. At first the woman of the house pleaded and cried in a truly heartrending fashion. Though in our hearts we felt bad about it, we were firm. At last on seeing

that her pleas were of no avail, the crying and chest-beating ended at once. Throughout it all, a heavy duel of cannons was going on across the river. From the hill-top on which we were situated, we had a panoramic view of the proceedings. It was as if we were in another world watching the scene with an all-seeing eye."

Many "incidents" occurred during the pioneering days of our German duty. Some were amusing. The bringing to mark of the local Burgarmeister by an American Corporal, the ever present curiosity of the children - and their older sisters would furnish material for a considerable volume. Other happenings were much more serious and grim as illustrated by the following account by one of our operators:

"Two German girls approached our sentinels and tried to speak to them. None spoke German. At first the girls were chased away. In a short while one of them returned with her mother. It was then that Cpl. Baldwin was sent for. He learned from the woman that two G.I.'s were in their house badly wounded. Four of our men went for them and brought them to our place where our medic, Sgt. Friedman could aid them. One man was shot through the leg, and the other in the stomach and hand. To our consternation we could find no hospital and the badly wounded soldier seemed to be sinking fast. They stuck it out for over an hour when an ambulance finally arrived.

Fraternization appeared to be the cause of it all. Three G.I.'s filled with liquor entered the German house in an effort to seduce the girls living there. Two soldiers who lived across the street, heard the ruckus and attempted to interfere. They were shot for their pains by the drunks - "

In the meantime the main body of the Detachment continued to operate at Jehanster. Complete coverage was being made of the light traffic. About the middle of the month a small group of R.A.F. men and two men appeared on the scene and set up a "test site" in our field. They were greeted by skeptical smiles as they set up two flimsy "limey" vans but these smiles changed to ones of appreciation when they began to pull in traffic. Thereafter the information obtained by them was combined with that by our two echelons and relayed to IX Tactical Air Command, in record time in a complete and accurate form, including "fixes".

On 26 March Detachment "B" in toto, cleared Jehanster and Belgium. The entire unit established itself in a Rhein castle, formerly used as a German flak control center, in the Village of Vochem, a suburb of Bruhl. Here we were as close as we had ever been to the enemy and at the same time as far away from the front. This apparent paradox is explained by the fact that vis a vis across the Rhein was a "pocket" occupied by the Wehrmacht, yet a few miles to the South and North spearheads of allied forces extended deep into the heart of Germany. Almost at once it was realized that our sojourn on the Rhein would be limited and on the last day of the month another recon party set out to seek sites and make plans for events which will be duly recounted in the next installment of our Odyssey.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 595, U S Army
18 Apr 45

314.7

SUBJECT: Unit History

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron
Mobile (G), APO 696, U S Army.

In accordance with directive your Headquarters dated 6 July
1944, Subject and File same as above, unit history of Det. "B"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) is transmitted herewith.

For the Commanding Officer:

JOHN D. LOGAN
1st Lt., Air Corps
Unit Historian

1 Incl
(Unit History in Quad)

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

314.7

APO 595, U S Army
14 May 45

SUBJECT: Unit History

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron
Mobile (G), APO 696, U S Army.

In accordance with directive your Headquarters dated 6 July
1944, Subject and File same as above, unit history of Det. "B"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) is transmitted herewith.

For the Commanding Officer:

JOHN D. LOGAN
1st Lt., Air Corps
Unit Historian.

1 Incl
(Unit History in quad)

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station WJ-5172

APO 595, U S Army
30 Apr 45

1. Sgt. Nathan Zimmer, Cpl. John J. Browning, Pfc. Ronald J. Osgood, Pvt. Doit L. Cross asgd & jd fr Hq this sq par 4 SO 21 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Detachment relieved from operational control to the 70th Fighter Wing & atchd to Hq IX Tac Air Comd par 2 secret ltr Hq IX Tac Air Comd.

Cpl. Vernon A. Hartenstein trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 3 SO 26 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

S/Sgt. Victor A. Gentner, Sgt. John J. Henneesy Jr., Sgt. Heinz W. Milberg, Sgt. Everett B. Reed, Sgt. Robert W. Siefert, Cpl. Solomon B. Drake Jr., Cpl. Thomas E. Marks, Cpl. Charles J. Goodman, Pfc. Paul M. Bergman, Pfc. Buford Henry, Pfc. Hogan C. Hungate, Pfc. Ernest L. Kohler, Pfc. Joseph T. Moss, Pfc. Herman A. Seyfferle trfd in gr to 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) & placed on DS to this detachment par 17 SO 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

2. Strength on last day of month (30 Apr 45): 6 Officers, 86 Enlisted Men, and 14 enlisted men attached from other organizations.
3. Change of station by convoy fr WF-4150 to WG-7146 on 9 Apr 45.
Change of station by convoy fr WG-7146 to WJ-5172 on 25 Apr 45.
4. None
5. None

The first of April, Easter Sunday, was the only time during the month that the entire detachment was united in one place under the one roof of the Schloss Bischoff at Vochan, a suburb of Eruhl. The holy day itself was observed by many of the men by attending mass at the local church - their presence there caused much excitement on the part of the civilian populace - and it is suspected that the reverend father somewhat modified his sermon on our account.

The big push across the Rhine was in full swing. It was obvious that an immediate move was called for - a scouting party made two excursions eastward to find a suitable site. Finally the IX Tactical Air Command fixed Marburg as their next location. Therefore a forward echelon was immediately sent out to begin operations there.

The journey of this echelon was made difficult by inaccurate orders from the IX Tactical Air Command. It was told to cross the Rhine at Coblenz. Upon its arrival at Koblenz - no bridge was found across either the Rhine or the Moselle, and after following the ^{of/} course this latter stream for about 15 miles, punctuated by a series of breakdowns, the entire group retraced its route to Eruhl with nothing to its credit save a very delightful Rheinfahrt in the spring.

The following day the second attempt proved successful. Crossing the Rhine at Remagen the first echelon made excellent time to Marburg where it found the buildings which had been selected by IX Tactical Air Command. It was the former CCS of the Marburger Kavallerie. It was found that quarters were not available for us there, and it was necessary to locate a spot where we could at least spend the night. Military Government directed us to a Bierhaus

formerly used the the S.A. of the city. In the rear of the building enough room was found to park our trucks. As we drove in we received a rude shock - to our left, a small garden held the battered remains of 27 dead American soldiers killed in battle. They were waiting for the truck to take them to their final resting place. We had picked a "post house" for corpses.

Inside the hotel, near the bar, the men made ready for the night. One of the men, filled with the spirit of adventure, set out snooping through the rest of the gloomy building. The only persons living there were a German, his wife, and two Russian girls. Soon our man returned excitedly describing what he had seen. In a room on the first floor he had found walls lined with guns and rifles of every description - shells, flags, armbands, helmets, all cluttered the place.

The next morning a site was located on a hill facing that upon which IX Tactical Air Command was installed. Living quarters were in a wing of a school for wayward girls, conducted by sisters of a protestant order. Our part of the building had recently been vacated by a German Intelligence Station, and documents of the utmost importance were found in the debris left by the German "Nachrichters" in their speedy evacuation.

Operations at Marburg were most successful - the G.A.F. was up in all of its remaining force. The two locations, Bruhl and Marburg, formed an excellent base line upon which to plot definite fixes.

The eastward thrust of our armies necessitated a further move. No sooner had IX Tactical Air Command settled in Marburg, an echelon was dispatched to the area of Kassel. Here near the small town of Zierenberg in the Kreis Wolfhagen was the site of a former M.S. Glider and Mechanics School. At no time during the history of the detachment has it been housed more comfortably in a more scenically

magnificent setting. The operational van was literally perched on a rocky peak on which reception was excellent. The new base line from Marburg to Kassel proved as good as the, Muhl/Marburg line for obtaining fixes.

Still the war pushed on. News of surrendering armies gave joy, news of our President's death gave pain. Each day seemed like the war's final gasp. But the need to follow the eastward push was apparent during the third week of the month. The echelon at Marburg leap-frogged the Zierenberg group in a 150 mile move to Weimar. For the first time since the U.K. a portion of Detachment "E" was installed with the IX Tactical Air Command. In one of a group of buildings formerly used as a German military installation they found comfortable quarters. A site was chosen about 2 miles away on a hill overlooking the city, where Goethe, Schiller, and the former German Republic first saw the light of day.

Success in operation was repeated here. The base line between Kassel and Weimar gave full coverage of the area assigned to IX Tactical Air Command. The traffic was light, but during the closing days of the month the detachment had the satisfaction of feeling that what was "up" was heard by its two echelons so advantageously placed.

Of historic interest to the detachment was the concentration camp at Buchenwalde. The building assigned to the Weimar echelon was unbelievably filthy, additional labor was obviously needed. This labor was easily obtained. A truck went to Buchenwalde where the driver stated our needs. At once swarms of human wreckage volunteered to aid us. Many were too weak to do much but their spirit was an inspiration. Now at last they were helping those who

released them from a hell no Dante could describe. If ever doubt lingered in the minds of our men as to the justice of our cause, that doubt was removed forever.

In our contact with German civilians many amusing incidents occurred during the month. At Harburg one of our men relates the following:

"Another queer matter cropped up during the month. One of the boys while on guard at the front gate noticed one of the young girls in the garden smiling at him. At first he thought this an accident, but it continued. At last when she thought the nuns were not looking, she withdrew a note from the pocket of her dress and threw it over the wire fence. Interested, he picked it up and turned it over to one of the German speaking boys. It read: "Please help us. We are being held here as slaves. Long live America. Please help." After due deliberation among the officers, the note was taken to Military Government. There we were informed that there was no truth in the statement at all. The girls had been placed there for various delinquencies, which though we spared them no more pity, did somewhat enhance them in our casual observation."

In reviewing the history of the detachment for the month of April one salient fact is worthy of permanent recording - success in operation. This success was due largely to the smooth functioning of two echelons which, during the entire 50 days, despite four long distance moves remained in constant operation. It was a major feat, and one for which the detachment feels justly proud.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station WJ-5172

APO 696, U S Army
31 May 45

1. Pfc. Melvin M. Snyder trfd to 1012th Sig Co. 309th Sv. Gp. par 24
SO 116 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Pvt. Frank F. Terney asgd & jd fr 309th Sv Gp par 7 SO 28 Hq
3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt. Conrad J. Ziegler, Arnold C. Zienke aptd S/Sgt par 5 SO 28 Hq
3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 5 May 45.

Cpl. Russell J. Peter aptd Sgt par 5 SO 28 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G)
dtd & eff 5 May 45.

Pvt. Kenney K. Smith, Pvt. Harold L. Strobeck aptd Pfc par 6 SO
28 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff 5 May 45.

S/Sgt Gustav A. Martin aptd T/Sgt par 11 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob
(G) dtd & eff 17 May 45.

Sgt. Kenneth J. Allen, Richard R. Almquist, Albert J. Gruber, Arthur
Klingenstein aptd S/Sgt par 11 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd & eff
17 May 45.

P./

Cpl. Wilbur L. Beeman, William Cox, Theodore E. Gebhardt, John
Gesselberty, Ferdinand P. Grabner Jr., Henry J. Kass, Oren A. Powell,
Alfred Zocha aptd Sgt par 11 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd 17 May 45.

Pfc. Floyd Day, Nicholas Ferrigno, Fred A. Sain Jr., Byron F. Wheeler,
Frederick T. Zito aptd Cpl par 11 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd
& eff 17 May 45.

Pvt. Doit L. Cross aptd Pfc par 12 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd
& eff 17 May 45.

1st Lt. Frederic L.P. White reld fr asgt & asgd Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob
(G) par 2 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Cpl Thomas Manson, Frederick T. Zito trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq
Mob (G) par 3 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

1st Lt. Franz J. Gerl asgd & jd fr Det "C" 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par
5 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

S/Sgt Otto A. Kahn, Cpl Franklin T. Leeds trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad
Sq Mob (G) par 9 SO 30 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

S/Sgt Fred Levy, Sgt Ferdinand P. Grabner Jr., Sgt. Nathan Zimber,
Cpl Arnold Durlacher trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 9 SO 30

On Mayday Detachment "B" was still divided into two echelons, one at Weimar in Thuringen, another at Zierenberg bei Kassel. Operationally the two sites were excellent. The base line of 125 miles proved most effective in obtaining fixes on German airborne traffic as well as locating the surviving German airfields in Eastern Bavaria and Western Czechoslovakia.

The first week of May was filled with tenseness in anticipation of VE Day. The news of surrender of the enemy armies in Italy increased the excitement of every man. It seemed impossible that enemy activity could continue in this country, yet our torrid reception was evidence of the last stand of the Luftwaffe.

Finally on the 8th of May the German High Command gave up the fight. Hitler and his henchmen had either killed themselves or been taken prisoner. It was a day of celebration and of Thanksgiving. The thanksgiving was silent but the celebration was most audible - at Fliegerlager German Rifles and pistols vocalized to the tune of some 500 bottles of Moselle and Rheinwein. - The next night the men at Weimar had their inning with an equal supply. Since no casualties resulted the soirees were deemed complete successes.

VE Day at Fliegerlager was also marked by an uprising on the part of the Polish and Russian Allies who are quartered in lagers in the immediate vicinity. Missions of Burgermeister and Burgers from the nearby Dorfer appeared on the scene bearing tidings of grief and woe. At the Village of Furstenwald one each farmer had had his brains literally knocked out, another suffered the minor ailment of a broken back. At the urgent request of the town officials a guard was sent to the villages. It was surprising with which alacrity the men responded to the call to guard our recent enemies, sleep in

feather beds, eat fresh eggs for breakfast and, it is vaguely suspected, converse somewhat freely with the local Fraulein.

At Weimar no such thrilling events transpired. In much more correct fashion the boys disported themselves. It is said there was a park there which was the scene of some indiscretion. But that is rumor which we would fain discred.

After VE Day, doldrums set in. At both locals the feeling of let-down was uppermost. But at Weimar a Sergeant had a brilliant idea. Why shouldn't the Third Radio Squadron Mobile (G) continue its radio tradition on the giving end rather than on the receiving end? The Ninth Air Force should have a broadcasting station and 3rd Radio should be it and it we are.

Shortly after VE Day another dilemma faced the powers that be. Where would we gather as a unit? The Commanding Officer of Detachment "B" thought of Fliegerlager as an ideal place for consolidation of the squadron. We had buildings, water (when it flowed), commercial power (when it worked), and a scenic wunderland which seemed to be well worth living in. It was difficult however, to persuade the other detachments to quit their comfortable Schloss u.s.w., and gather together in a purely rural atmosphere. Because of lack of space near Headquarters Ninth Air Force Fliegerlager became the last resort - and as a result by the 1st of June Detachments "B" and "D" were well housed at this former Nazi hangout - awaiting Detachment "C" which finally arrived. -

But that brings us to another month which will be faithfully recorded under the heading of Unit History for the month of June 1945.

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

AFG 696, U S Army
16 June 45

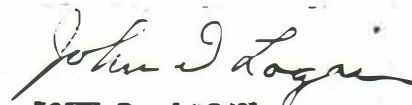
314.7

SUBJECT: Unit History

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron
Mobile (G), AFG 696, U S Army.

In accordance with directive your Headquarters dated 6 July
1944, Subject and File same as above, unit history of Det. "E"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) is transmitted herewith.

For the Commanding Officer:



JOHN D. LOGAN
1st Lt., Air Corps
Unit Historian.

1 Incl
(Unit History in quad)

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station RC-1209

APO 696, U S Army
30 June 1945

1. S/Sgt Fred Levy, Sgt Nathan Zimmer, Cpl Arnold Durlacher asgd & jd this det fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 6 SO 33 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt Roman J Varhaalen aptd S/Sgt, Cpl Oscar Teplinsky and Cpl David Borack aptd Sgt, Pfc Manuel J Santos aptd Cpl par 4 SO 34 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) 11 June 45.

Eff 1 June 45 this det is reld fr atchmt to IX Tactical Air Command & placed under the adm & oper control of the Director of Communications Hq Ninth Air Force par 7 Asgmt & Atchmt Order No.72 Hq Ninth Air Force.

10 officers, 122 EM asgd and 32 EM atchd reld fr asgmt & atchd to Dets "C" & "D" this sq and are asgd & atchd to this det per asgmt & atchmt order No.72 file 370.5 dated 12 June 45.

S/Sgt Lawrence W Fluharty trfd to Det of Patnts, Hospital unknown.

Sgt Kurt S Tannenwald dropped fr asgmt & atchd unasgd Det of Patnts 5th Gen Hosp APO 513 par 2 SO 169 Hq 5th Gen Hosp Cdz 2 MTOUSA.

Sgt Thomas Hanson asgd & jd fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 1 SO 38 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt John S Hankinson atchd & jd fr Det E 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 6 SO 35 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Cpl Samuel N Lowe reld fr asgmt & asgd Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 6 SO 35 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

S/Sgt Frederick Albrecht, Sgt Heinz Petzall, Pfc Allen Hoyda asgd & jd fr Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 5 SO 35 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Cpl William C Herbert, Cpl Cecil O C Joyce, Cpl Benjamin B. Radomski aptd Sgt, Pfc Henry J St. George aptd Cpl par 4 SO 36 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) 25 June 45.

S/Sgt's William Freundel, Edward R Goldberger, Ralph H Goldner, Herbert Scorter, Paul H Weil, Sgt's Thaddeous Chwedyk, Fred R Steven trfd to European Civil Affairs Div MTOUSA APO 687 par 15 SO 170 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Sgt Eric W Ashley, Cpl Theodore Klein reld fr DS to this det & retd to 2d Radio Sq Mob (G) par 17 SO 115 Hq Ninth Air Force.

S/Sgt Seymour Eichel trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 2 SO 39 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Cpl Ernest L Kohler reld fr DS with this det & placed on DS to Hq

3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 3 SO 39 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

1st Lt Mannie Nagel reld fr asgmt & asgd to Det A 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 9 SO 39 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

2. Strength on last day of month (30 June 45); 14 Officers asgd & 1 Officer atchd, 196 ~~MI~~ asgd and 43 ~~MI~~ atchd fr other organizations.
3. Change of station by convoy fr WJ-5172 to RC-1209 on 3 June 45.
4. None.
5. None.

The first few days of June were busy ones at Fliegerlager near Eierenberg bei Kassel. The task of "fitting in" and reorganizing three detachments, "B", "C", and "D", was not an easy one. During its quasi independent career each had formed certain habits and customs which were unique. Now we were reunited, and it became incumbent upon each to cede to the other.

It did not take long for the officers and men to accomplish this assimilation so that by the time the official order dated 12 June, merging the three detachments under the designation Detachment "B", was issued our "oneness" was in fact a fait accompli.

Operationally we were at first at a standstill. Later our work as "Monitors" was set up. It has proved exacting in patience due to the negative results, yet the necessity of such work is evident to all concerned.

Our new operations used but a small portion of the personnel. The R/T men found time heavy on their hands until finally their inactivity was cut short by transfer into other organizations where there are vital demands for German speaking men. Their loss is keenly felt by all those who remain, for they were somehow the identifying members of these detachments.

To stem the waves of boredom which were inevitable after our primary function ceased, an educational program has been instituted. Regular classes have been established in a variety of interesting subjects, in which interest is high, despite the handicaps of lack of educational material available. Those working in this field have been most resourceful in obtaining books and equipment from Göttingen, Luxemburg, Paris, London, and Brussels, often while they

are availing themselves of the long awaited morale building passes and furloughs.

Special Services, too, have done their share. A theater has been made out of a former mechanics school class-room. Here movies, U.S.O. Shows, and local talent perform for the benefit of our isolated unit. - The athletic program is given life by the competition offered by neighboring Infantry units. Softball and Volleyball games with the multi-colored Diploma groups keep enthusiasm high. The re-institution of timely military formalities such as formal retreat which were impossible during our days in the field has proved salutary in effect.

Finally our radio station has progressed steadily. The solving of the multiple technical problems has occupied the attention of many of the men. Program arrangements have called for the attention of others, and actual operations are carried on by still another staff of Ems. The station may now be said to be well past the "test" stage.

The close of the month found Detachment "B" well occupied. It was still waiting for what the future will ultimately bring but with useful employment time passed swiftly and the future, though still unknown somehow seemed nearer.

HEADQUARTERS
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MONTELEONE (A)

HMC/GMG

AFO 696, U S Army
18 July 1945

314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, AFO 696, U S Army
(Attn: Director of Personnel, A-1)

THRU : Station Commander, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, AFO 696, U S Army

Transmitted herewith historical reports for this Squadron for the month of June 1945.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

HARRY W. COX,
1st Lt, Signal Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Incls:
Unit History (dup)
Unit History (1 cy) for Director of Personnel, A-1

Detachment "B"
3rd MBIHQ S.U. Group MBIHQ (C)
Station RC-1209

AG 696, U.S. Army
31 July 1945

1. 1st Lt. Roland B. Given reld fr asgmt par 17 30 176 Hq Ninth Air Force & asgd Hq European Div Air Transport Command 741.

S/Sgt's Edward A. Dubois, Roman J. Vertalilien, Sgt's. Martin Forbes, Henry Friedman, Theodore J. Gebhardt, Ernst Melling, Henry J. Pass, Klaus P. Lohnberg, Irving Margulies, Jacob M. Fatukowski, John C. Schmann, Sam Rosenberg, Henry G. Schaefer Jr., Morris Schaefer, Alfred Koche, Cpl's John W. Baldwin, Arnold Burlacher, Walter G. Hennes, Arant J. Kjaer, Walter M. Gardner, Frank C. Nezera, Alfred J. Bakshak, Helmund H. Wolf reld fr asgd par 12 30 176 Hq Ninth Air Force & asgd European Civil Affairs Div, EUSA, AG 687.

Cpl Paul M. Bergman reld fr US to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (7) par 17 30 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

S/Sgt David W. Wolff, S/Sgt's Andre H. Pivi, Paul T. Zimmerman, Albert J. Gruber, Arthur Klingenstein, Fred Levy, Robert H. Stretz, Hanno W. Tiedens, Conrad J. Wiegler, Sgt's Alfred Rosenberg, Theodore C. Steinke, Nathan Simber, Cpl Albert Schultz trfd in gr to Hq Det, Hq Comd U S Group Control Council par 19 30 181 Hq Ninth Air Force.

T/Sgt's Victor A. Gentrer, John H. Simons reld fr US to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (8) & trfd in gr to Hq Det, Hq Comd, US Group Control Council par 20 30 181 Hq Ninth Air Force.

T/Sgt Gustav A. Martin, Cpl. Henry J. St. George trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9) par 1 30 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9).

S/Sgt Donald W. Greear reld fr US to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (9) par 17 30 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

S/Sgt Kenneth J. Allen trfd in gr to 8th Gun Trg Target Flt par 39 30 181 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Sgt Solomon E. Drake Jr., Cpl Israel Roskron reld fr US to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (9) par 17 30 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Sfc Alfredo C. Abales trfd in gr to 437th Troop Carrier Sq. par 39 30 183 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Cpl Rudolph J. Becker reld fr US to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (9) par 17 30 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

2d Lt. Paul A. Weiss reld fr atchd Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9) & asgd this det par 3 30 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9).

Sgt. Lewis C. German, Cpl. Clyde M. Gotthardt trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9) par 1 30 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9).

Sfc William P. Jones trfd in gr to Det. Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9) par 1 30 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (9).

HEADQUARTERS
3RD MARIO SQUADRON MOBILITY (C)

HAC/dg

APO 696, U S Army.
20 August 1945.

314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army.
(Attn: Director of Personnel, 4-1)

FROM : Station Commander, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army.

1. Transmitted herewith historical reports for this Squadron for the month of July 1945.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

MAJOR W. GON,
1st Lt, Signal Corps,
Adjutant.

2 Incls:
Unit History (dup).
Unit History (1 cy) for Director of Personnel, 4-1

CLASSIFIED BY _____
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY _____
DECLASSIFY ON _____

Review of this document
by D. GORMAN XP 26 Sep 71
DECLASSIFIED BY 12065
by Commander. 08 1783

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EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY _____
DECLASSIFY ON _____

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The beginning of July found Detachment "B" completely organized for work with the mammoth task of consolidating the three detachments, "B", "C", and "D", finished. Personnel fast became acquainted with one another and the thought of individual units soon turned to the idea of one unit.

With the announcement of the point system and critical score, the word that detachments "B" and "D" had been awarded the Bronze Battle Participation Star for the campaign "Ardennes", gave many a more pointed hope that they might soon be going home to civil life.

The operations for the month consisted of W/T monitoring by a group of W/T personnel chosen from the qualified personnel. While the results of this seemed small and perhaps futile, the men realized the necessity of their work, and have done excellently.

The detachments was given a very generous quota for passes and furloughs. This large quota made it possible for many of the men to spend a few days in Paris, Brussels, the Riviera, and the UK: this opportunity for change was a welcome one in that it afforded many a chance to relieve the monotony of life at the Fleigerlager.

Special Services completed its program of activities providing a much fuller schedule of events for the personnel. One of the outstanding programs has been the baseball league; the men of the detachment organized a fine team which was invited to join the league of the 78th Infantry Division. Quite a number of games were planned during the month, and the team made a very splendid showing for itself. Facilities were also made available for volleyball, horseshoes and ping pong. The evening program has been so arranged that there is some form of activity each evening of the week. On Monday night, "Bingo" is played in the detachment Day Room with prizes which are very worth while offered; the game had usually been followed by a movie.

All nights of the week movies are shown, and upon occasions, a P.S.O. show has been presented from the stage built for such shows. There has most certainly been no lack of entertainment.

The Unit School which was begun in June continued to hold classes each day of the week; however, with the transfer of several of the instructors, several of the scheduled classes had to be reluctantly dropped. The Unit library successfully obtained a number of additional volumes of fiction and non-fiction to fill its shelves with a greater number and variety of reading matter. During the month, several tours were conducted to sites of historical interest in the vicinity giving the men an opportunity to know this area more intimately.

Radio KX P.O. continued its nightly broadcasts and has enlarged its library of records; also, several programs have been inaugurated which have met with great response from the personnel stationed in the area. The 70th Infantry Division has provided the station with programs from time to time which have been very good.

The building constructed near the company area by German labor was completed early in the month, and the post barber and the post newspaper - "Stars and Stripes" - moved into two of its three rooms. It is found the construction of this building quite interesting in that it was not done in the manner one would expect.

The month of July passed very quickly and without event as everyone turned his thoughts toward what the new year would bring. Speculation was high, and there was one greatly excited by the possibility of a change.

HEADQUARTERS
3RD AIR FORCE RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE, WY

AIC 696, U.S. Army
19 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER7)

E X T R A C T

3. Det "C", 3rd Air Force Radio Squadron Mobile (C), is activated at
USAF Sta 449, off O/A 20 April 1944, the following personnel, Det
"B" are asgd to Det "C". No travel involved.

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------|
| MSG LT WINKTON, NURD | 0-184659 | Sig C |
| Tec 4 Small, Henry H. | 38040878 | (708) |
| Cpl Image, Altran | 11181780 | (708) |
| Cpl Sharrins, Jack C. | 02088499 | (501) |

By order of WOOD TURNER

W.W. SHUGRELOFF
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W.W. SHUGRELOFF
/t/ W.W. SHUGRELOFF
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

True Copy

Henry Faith
HENRY J. FAITH
Snd Lt. A. C.

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065
by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

E. B. A. Date: *22 January 1980*

H AD. WARTERS
3RD BATTAL 8 UDRON MOBILE (G)

SGT 046, U.S. Army
23 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....9)

EXTRACT

4. 2ND LT HURT E. REINHOLD, O-1645650, Signal, is hereby
appointed Commanding Officer, Det "C", this Sq.

By order of MAJOR TURNER:

W. W. SHANNON
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. W. SHANNON
/t/ W. W. SHANNON
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

True Copy

Henry Faeth
HENRY J. FAETH
2nd Lt. Sig C.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

AFC 636, U S Army
23 April 1944

In reply refer
to: 279.3

SUBJECT: Movement of Troops.

- To : Commanding General, IX Bomber Command, APO 14, U S Army
- Commanding General, IX Air Defense Command, APO 835, U S Army
- Commanding General, IX Tactical Air Command, APO 838, U S Army
- Commanding General, IX Air Force Service Command, APO 890,
U S Army
- Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C), APO 896,
U S Army
- Commanding Officer, 32nd Signal Company Air Force, APO 836,
U S Army

DETAILS

B. Detachment "C", 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile, (C), serial number 3373, consisting of one (1) officer and seven (7) enlisted men, will move from idle allot, Wanta to Aldermaston Court, Wanta, on or about 23 April 1944.

C. Upon arrival at new stations, the Detachment "B", 32nd Signal Company Air Force and Detachment "C", 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C), will be relieved from assignment to present stations and will be attached for rations and quarters by the station commander at destination to units at his station.

By command of Major General [Signature]

Col. G. W. [Signature]
Lt Col. [Signature]
Lt Col. [Signature]
Capt. [Signature]

True Copy

Henry Faith
[Signature]
2nd Lt [Signature]

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

Auth: CG 9 AF
Date: 28 Apr 44
Init: /S/ C R B
C R B

AFPO 696, U S Army
28 April 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)
: NUMBER ...118)

E X T R A C T

ASSIGNMENT AND ATTACHMENT OF UNITS

3. The following Detachment, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), is attached to the XIX Tactical Air Command, for technical and operation control, rations, quarters and administration, effective the date of this order:

Det "C", 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

By command of Major General BRERTON:

/s/ V H STRACH
Brig Gen USA
C of S

OFFICERS:

/s/ C R BIRDARI
/s/ C R BIRDARI
Lt Col A C
Asst Adj Gen

A TRUE CERTIFIED EXTRACT COPY

W W Shaughnessy
W. W. SHAUGHNESSY
Capt., Sig. Corps

The following Officers and enlisted men of this organization departed Cashenden, Kent, England 30 June, 1941.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Heinrich, Kurt E. | 1st Lt. | 31648683 |
| Heath, Henry J. | 2nd Lt. | 3238212 |
| Havice, David J. | 2nd Lt. | 3328337 |
| Havine, Gustave | S/Sgt. | 32394341 |
| Heddy, Herman. | S/Sgt. | 32384011 |
| Hedrl, Ernest J. | S/Sgt. | 32373372 |
| Hedford, Clifford. | Sgt. | 3331322 |
| Hedgato, Gregory W. | Sgt. | 32433713 |
| Hedarty, Lawrence | Sgt. | 32383722 |
| George, Leonard W. | Sgt. | 33313333 |
| Hedberg, Edward W. | Sgt. | 33313376 |
| Hedde, Alton W. | Sgt. | 32313703 |
| Hedillo, Raymond C. | Sgt. | 32343314 |
| Hedler, Charles W. | Sgt. | 32343331 |
| Hedler, Ross W. | Sgt. | 32317334 |
| Hedmanberg, Adolph. | Sgt. | 32377332 |
| Hedman, George E. | Sgt. | 31323333 |
| Hedell, Henry W. | Sgt. | 32343373 |
| Hedeler, Arthur J. | Cpl. | 32313334 |
| Hedmer, John W. | Cpl. | 37113337 |
| Hedner, Russell. | Cpl. | 4333313 |
| Hedson, Roy J. | Cpl. | 37331373 |
| Hedner, Willie W. | Cpl. | 37433332 |
| Hedre, George W. | Cpl. | 32313723 |
| Hedler, Kurt W. | Cpl. | 32333333 |
| Hedrick, Isidore. | Cpl. | 32333713 |
| Hedron, Earl J. | Cpl. | 32343331 |
| Hedton, Harold W. | Cpl. | 32333334 |
| Hedman, Robert T. | Cvt. | 32313331 |
| Hedder, Irwin. | Cvt. | 32313773 |

UNIT HISTORY
DETACHMENT "C"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

PERIOD: ACTIVATION THROUGH 30 JUNE 1944

THE BEGINNING WAS MODEST AND WITHOUT FANFARE. BY S. O. #7 HQ 3RD A&F RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G), DATED 19 APRIL 1944 (REFERENCE 1), DETACHMENT "C" OF THE SQUADRON WAS ACTIVATED AT MIDDLE WALLOP, HANTS, ON 20 APRIL 1944, AND ONE OFFICER AND THREE ENLISTED MEN ASSIGNED TO IT FROM DETACHMENT "B". THE OFFICER WAS 2ND LT. KURT E. HEINRICH, O-164650, SIGNAL CORPS, AND THE EM T/4 HENRY H. SMALL, 33040375, CPL. ALTMAN W. LAMPE, 12181780 AND CPL. JACK S. SHARMS, 32628499.

THIS WAS THE START OF A UNIT WHOSE MISSION IS TO FURNISH INTELLIGENCE ACCUMULATED BY INTERCEPTION OF GERMEN RADIO TRANSMISSION (R/T) TRAFFIC. DETACHMENT "C" IS A COMPLETELY MOBILE UNIT, EQUIPPED TO CARRY ON ITS OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS IN ESPECIALLY DESIGNED VEHICLES PROCURED FOR THIS PURPOSE FROM THE RAF ON REVERSE LEND LEASE. THESE VEHICLES ARE: AN INTERCEPT VAN, AN INTELLIGENCE VAN, A POWER VAN, A STORAGE VAN, AND A DIRECTION FINDING VAN. IN ADDITION THE DETACHMENT HAS AN SCR 399 FOR POINT TO POINT RADIO TRANSMISSION, A TC-9 USED AS A MESSAGE CENTER, AND SUPPLEMENTARY VEHICLES FOR PERSONNEL AND BAGGAGE TRANSPORT.

WHEN OPERATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS, THE INTELLIGENCE VAN HAS A DIRECT TELEPHONE LINE TO THE FIGHTER CONTROL

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by D. GORMAN / X.P. 26/5/74

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by Commandant, USAF 33

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SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY
DECLASSIFY ON Indefinite

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CENTER WITH WHICH THE UNIT IS WORKING, SO THAT INTELLIGENCE MAY BE PASSED WITH MINIMUM DELAY. THE INTELLIGENCE VAN IS ALSO CONNECTED WITH THE INTERCEPT VAN AND THE DIRECTION FINDING VAN IN A TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT, TO INCREASE THE SPEED WITH WHICH INFORMATION PICKED UP IN GERMAN R/T TRANSMISSIONS CAN BE EVALUATED AND TELEPHONED TO THE FIGHTER CONTROL CENTER. THIS IS SUPPLEMENTED BY INTELLIGENCE WIRELESS TRANSMISSION RECEIVED FROM REAR AREAS AND DECODED BY THE MESSAGE CENTER PERSONNEL. IN ADDITION THE DETACHMENT HAS A DIRECT LINE TO A-2 OF THE WING TO WHICH IT IS ATTACHED.

INTELLIGENCE TELEPHONED TO THE FIGHTER CONTROL CENTER INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING DATA:

- 1) INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO GERMAN AIRCRAFT BY GROUND STATIONS OR FORMATION LEADERS;
- 2) POSITIONS OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT;
- 3) POSITIONS REPORTED BY ENEMY SIGHTING OUR AIRCRAFT;
- 4) DAMAGE TO OR DIFFICULTIES OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

IT ALSO INCLUDES INFORMATION CONCERNING GAF REACTION TO OUR RAIDS, COUNTER-MEASURES AND PREDICTIONS OF FUTURE OPERATIONS.

ON 23 APRIL 1944, 2ND LT. HUPT E. HEINRICH, G-1645800 WAS APPOINTED COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE DETACHMENT, PER S. O. #9, HQ 3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (C). (REFERENCE #2)

WHILE STATIONED AT MIDDLE VALLOP, THE UNIT OBTAINED PART OF ITS REVERSE LEND LEASE EQUIPMENT. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT OBTAINED SIX VEHICLES IN ALL, WITH BUT TWO MEN CAPABLE OF HANDLING THIS OUNTERSOME AND, TO THEM, STRANGE CREW.

HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY

NEVERTHELESS, CONSIDERABLE WORK WAS DONE ON THE VEHICLES, WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE A "TEACH AND DO" AFFAIR. BUT THE MENS SPIRITS WERE HIGH, AND ALTHOUGH THEY LACKED EXPERIENCE IN EVERYTHING EXCEPT LINGUISTICS, DETACHMENT "C" SOMEHOW SURVIVED.

CONSIDERABLE SCROUNGING HAD BEEN DONE FOR EQUIPMENT AND IT WAS HOPED THAT THE PERSONNEL WOULD BE GOT THE SAME WAY BEFORE OUR NEXT MOVE, BUT BY SECRET LETTER ORDER HQ 9TH AF DATED 26 APRIL 1944 (REFERENCE #3), DETACHMENT "C" CONSISTING OF ONE OFFICER AND SEVEN ENLISTED MEN MOVED FROM MIDDLE WALLOP, HANTS TO ALDERMASTON COURT, BERKSHIRE ON 29 APRIL 1944 AND WAS ATTACHED FOR RATIONS AND QUARTERS TO UNITS AT THAT STATION. BY SHUTTLING THE TWO DRIVERS BACK AND FORTH ALL DAY, THE MOVE WAS MADE IN THE USUAL MOVING WEATHER- A VERY YET ENGLISH DAY. TENTS WERE PUT UP, AGAIN BY A "TEACH AND DO" METHOD, BUT IT WORKED.

BY PARAGRAPH 3, G. O. #118, HQ 9 AF (REFERENCE #4), EFFECTIVE 26 APRIL 1944, DETACHMENT "C" WAS ATTACHED TO THE XIX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND FOR TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CONTROL, RATIONS, QUARTERS AND ADMINISTRATION. XIX TAC WAS ALREADY LOCATED AT ALDERMASTON COURT WHEN DETACHMENT "C" ARRIVED THERE ON 4 MAY 1944.

THUS THE ACTUAL INDEPENDANT LIFE OF DETACHMENT "C" BEGAN WITH WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED THE "CASTLE PERIOD" DURING WHICH THE SURROUNDINGS WERE MUCH MORE ELABORATE THAN THEY HAVE BEEN SINCE OR ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN THE FUTURE.

ALDERMASTON COURT WAS AN EXTENSIVE WALLED ESTATE WITH A LARGE AND ELABORATE BRICK CASTLE SURROUNDED BY OLD AND STATELY TREES AND BY MAGNIFICENT SHRUBBERY. THE HUGE BANKS OF RHODEDENDRON WERE IN FULL BLOOM IN MAY. THE TREES PROVIDED PERFECT COVER, AND SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF CAMOUFLAGE VERY SIMPLY.

ALTHOUGH DETACHMENT "C" WAS NOT OPERATIONAL DURING THIS PERIOD, AIRCRAFT WERE PRESENT OVERHEAD MUCH OF THE TIME AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF THE UNIT'S FUTURE FUNCTION AND EVENTUAL STATION IN THE BATTLE AREA, TO SERVE WITH THE AIR FORCE UNITS TO WHICH IT WAS ASSIGNED.

THE OFFICER STRENGTH OF THE UNIT WAS INCREASED WHILE IT WAS LOCATED AT ALDERMASTON COURT, WITH THE ARRIVAL OF TWO INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS. ON 17 MAY 1944 2ND LT. HENRY J. FAETH, O-5E0712, JOINED THE UNIT, HAVING BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE 442ND TROOP CARRIER GROUP, IX TROOP CARRIER COMMAND. ON 20 MAY 1944, 2ND LT. DAVID J. SAVAGE, O-5E0357, ARRIVED FOR DUTY WITH DETACHMENT "C". HE HAD ATTENDED R. A. F. SIGNAL SCHOOLS WHICH TRAIN PERSONNEL FOR V/T AND S/T INTERCEPT, AND FOR UTILIZATION OF INTELLIGENCE OBTAINED FROM THESE SOURCES.

THE NEXT MOVE OF THE DETACHMENT WAS FROM ALDERMASTON COURT TO LASHENDEN, KENT, AND TOOK PLACE ON 31 MAY 1944. ON THAT DATE THE STRENGTH OF THE UNIT WAS THREE OFFICERS AND 22 ENLISTED MEN, ADDITIONAL FILLERS HAVING BEEN OBTAINED FROM DETACHMENT "A". AT ITS NEW STATION, DETACHMENT "C" WAS ATTACHED TO THE 100TH FIGHTER SQUADRON. (REFERENCE 45)

NOTHING IN THE NEW SURROUNDINGS SERVED AS A REMINDER OF THE CASTLE GROUNDS FROM WHICH THE UNIT HAD LATELY DEPARTED. ON THE HEELS OF THE RAPIDLY RETREATING RABBITS, PYRAMIDAL TENTS WENT UP ALONG THE EDGES OF A FINE FIELD OF FRESH, GREEN OATS, AND VEHICLES WERE PARKED CLOSE TO THE FENCE ROWS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TREESCOVER AND HIGHER VEGETATION FOR CAMOUFLAGE PURPOSES. LONG BEFORE DARK EVERYONE WAS COMFORTABLY INSTALLED IN THE PYRAMIDS OF CALVES, AND PROBABLY SPENT A MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE NIGHT THAN THE RABBITS WHICH HAD BEEN DISPLACED, WHICH SUDDENLY FOUND THEMSELVES BOOMING AND BOARDING WITH RELATIVES IN NEARBY FIELDS. THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN LESS COMFORTABLE HAD THEY REALIZED THE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THEM OF THIS AMERICAN INVASION OF BRITAIN, AND WOULD HAVE MOVED FURTHER AWAY HAD THEY HAD PROPER RESPECT FOR THE MARKSMANSHIP OF U. S. ARMY PERSONNEL.

NOT THAT NIGHTS REMAINED COMFORTABLE FOR LONG: FOR JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON JUNE 12 THE QUIET SURROUNDINGS OF THE OAT FIELD WERE FILLED WITH A NEW AND STRANGE NOISE, DULL OMINOUS AND PERSISTENT. THE AIR RESOUNDED WITH BURSTS FROM FLAK AND MACHINE GUN FIRE DIRECTED TOWARD ANOTHER NAZI "SECRET WEAPON." FOR MOST OF THE UNIT'S PERSONNEL THIS WAS A BAPTISM OF FIRE, FITTINGLY ENOUGH AN AIRBORNE ONE, IN THE FORM OF THE "BOOBLE-BUCK". FROM THAT NIGHT ON, RIGHT AROUND THE CLOCK THE STREAM OF ROCKET-BOLDS BOARDED OVERHEAD, AND THEN A WELL-KEPT STREAM OF AIRCRAFT CANNON SHELLS BY A LUCKY ACK-ACK BULLET STRUCK THE ENGINE OF THE AIRCRAFT MOTOR,

EVERYONE WAITED WITH THAT AIR OF EXPECTANCY OF THE INEVITABLE WITH WHICH THE BRITISH PEOPLE ARE SO FAMILIAR, AFTER THESE LONG YEARS OF WAR.

WHILE THE UNIT WAS STATIONED AT LASHENDEN, IT HAD ITS FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO STAGE AN OPERATIONAL "DRY RUN". THE 75-FOOT MAST AND A SLOPING ANTENNA WERE SET UP. A TWENTY FOUR HOUR SCHEDULE OF INTERCEPTION WAS ESTABLISHED. TELEPHONE LINES WERE LAID TO THE KING A-2 AND DIRECT TO THE FIGHTER CONTROL CENTER, WHICH WAS CONDUCTING A SIMILAR "DRY RUN." RESULTS WERE DISAPPOINTING, INTERCEPTION BEING POOR DUE TO REMOTENESS FROM THE BATTLE AREA, BUT THE ACTIVITY SERVED ITS PURPOSE AS A TRAINING PHASE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIT'S OPERATION.

ACCORDING TO THE SIGNAL PLAN OF THE XIX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, WITH WHICH DETACHMENT "C" IS TO FUNCTION, THE DETACHMENT WAS TO ARRIVE ON THE FAR SHORE ON D PLUS 22, PROCEED TO THE AREA OF THE FIGHTER CONTROL CENTER OF THE 70TH WING NEAR CRICUEVILLE-EN-BESSIN, AND THERE PREPARE TO REPORT TO THE FIGHTER CONTROL CENTER TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE 100TH WING.

JUST A FEW DAYS BEHIND SCHEDULE, ON 30 JUNE 1944, WITH THE "DOODLE-BUGS" STILL TRAVELING OVERHEAD, DETACHMENT "C" DEPARTED FROM LASHENDEN, KENT FOR FORT C-4, NEAR WINCHESTER, ARRIVING THERE LATE THE SAME DAY. THE STRENGTH OF THE UNIT ON THIS DATE WAS THREE OFFICERS AND 42 ENLISTED MEN, OF WHOM 27 WERE PRESENT. Reference #6.

S-E-C-R-E-T

"D" DETACHMENT
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
APO 696, US ARMY

JDH/rhs
6 September 1944

SUBJECT: Unit History. August 12, 1944 - August 31, 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), APO
696, United States Army.

Headquarters detachment of the 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) had been stationed at a private estate next to the famous Ascot, England, race track for quite some months and had, with the aid of manpower supplied from the U.S., progressively given birth to A, B and C Detachments.

On this sunny Saturday morning, August 12, 1944, Headquarters Detachment evidently was in labor pains again and, lo and behold, at 11 a.m. of this memorable date it brought forth "D" Detachment, per Special Order No. 32, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, Headquarters 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), dated 12 August 1944.

Would we could state that D Detachment sprang Pallas-like from the manpower fountain-head of 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), fully armed and equipped. However, this being 1944 and not Greek antiquity and this being the Army, there existed a pleasant state of initial chaos and confusion until the above-named fateful hour of 11 a.m., when a special formation was called per Special Order No. 32, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, Headquarters 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), dated 12 August 1944.

Sgt. Walter Reese called the formation to attention and read out the list of men who were transferred from Headquarters Detachment to D Detachment. The new detachment, numbering approximately 80 men, was made up of an "Old Timers' Group" who had been with Headquarters Detachment since June 16th and a larger new group who had just arrived from the States.

The new D Detachment then met its Commanding Officer, 1st Lt. Ferdinand Gottlieb who had come from B Detachment of 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) where he had been serving as Operations Officer.

Lt. Gottlieb, who was born in Berlin, Germany, had lived in New York, N.Y. and worked in the field of photography, prior to his entering the Army. He joined the service in January, 1941, and served with the 47th Infantry, 9th Division, and, later with the 9th Signal Co., where he was Section Chief of the Radio Intelligence Platoon, with the rating of Staff Sergeant. He then attended Officers' Candidate School and was commissioned.

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065
by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(1)

S.A.S.

Date: 22 January 1986

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S-E-C-R-E-T

Lt. Gottlieb addressed the men and outlined a tentative program. He emphasized the work to be done in the short time available and asked for a good "esprit de corps". He then introduced Sgt. Walter Reese as Acting First Sergeant of the Detachment. Sgt. Reese came to the 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) from a squadron of enlisted pilots who flew in maneuvers for the Fourth Army on the U.S. West Coast in 1943. He has had 125 hours' flying experience prior to Army service.

The following men were then appointed as leaders of the various sections:

1. Administrative Section - Sgt. Lyle R. Fessenden.
2. Radio Maintenance Section - Cpl. Theodore G. Kufeldt.
3. Cryptography Section - Cpl. Philip Nisenbaum.
4. W.T. Section - Sgt. Peter Dolinawka.
5. Supply Section - Cpl. Walter H. Hammock.
6. Cooks - Pvt. Chester S. Kulikowski.
7. Transportation Section - Pvt. Leo Dionne.
8. V.I. Section - S/Sgt. Robert W. Spiegel, Leader;
S/Sgt. Lewis Becker, Assistant Leader.

Acting First Sergeant Reese, at the 1 p.m. formation, addressed the men along the sentiments expressed by Lt. Gottlieb.

During the days that followed, the sections went to work with a will and everybody began looking forward to the time when actual operations would be started.

Radio Maintenance Section installed all radio equipment into our special vehicles which are a Message Center, an Interceptor Van, a Radio Maintenance Van and a Battery-Charging and Experimental Shop. The boys are now sweating out parts for the Super Pro set (BC 1004), also a set of tools. They are going nuts over the lack of British schematics (circuit diagrams) for the Limey equipment which we are using. There is lots of work and only four men in the section, so everybody keeps plenty busy.

Sgt. Fessenden got the Administrative Section on its feet. There was no equipment and material, no desks, etc., and file cabinets had to be made (and they were made, by Cpl. Tiedens, Pfc York and Pfc Schaefer); lighting and telephone had to be installed in the Orderly Room tent. The type of administrative work to be done had to be determined. On August 18th 1st Lt. James D. Harway and 2nd Lt. William H. Robinson were assigned to 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) and until such further orders could be cut, they worked with D Detachment. On August 27th 1st Lt. Harway was assigned to D Detachment per Special Order No. 35, Paragraph 1, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) dated 27 August 1944 and further appointed Adjutant by the CO. 2nd Lt. William H. Robinson was also assigned to D Detachment per Special Order No. 35, Paragraph 2, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), dated 27 August 1944 and appointed Radio Officer by the CO.

SECRET

DIRECTORATE TDP
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
APO 151, U.S. Army

SUBJECT: Unit History - 1 September 1944 - 30 September 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) APO 696, U.S. Army.

It looks as if September is going to be a month of packing up, moving, setting up operations, packing up again, moving and so on. At any rate, on the first we packed up our trucks and decided what was to go where. On the 2nd, at last, we got those antenna parts we still needed, and, better still, an oscillator and target transmitter. Batteries were also received. On the third, we finished taking down the pyramidal tents, kitchen room, supply tent, etc., then polished up the area in the best army style and lined up the trucks for a quick getaway in the morning.

Came the dawn of the 4th or rather, came a dismal rainy morning with the area outside deep in mud. But we disordered around, loaded and packed cots and blanket rolls, got aboard our respective vehicles and are off at 0715. Goodbye to Annet, and on to our new destination.

One mile out, our intelligence truck broke down the gas cut a hole in the radiator; it was trouble with the carburetor of another Lacey truck and one Lacey vehicle ran out of gas. However, we did arrive at destination at 1415 and one half hour later the remaining trucks arrived.

The men looked over the quarters, "Brookside" and "Memento" and decided that living in them certainly did not involve any military advantages; living in private houses certainly does not compare favorably with living in tents.

Soon after our arrival, our cooks had an excellent chicken dinner ready, which was much enjoyed. After dinner, the kitchen room was set up, guards were appointed and some of the supplies were unloaded. About that time, the war began for us, for shells started to come over from the enemy batteries on the beach coast - a new experience for most of us.

Next morning things started looking. A jeep went after mail, but no luck. We were settling down. Sgt. Messer found out about a digger to handle night call. Later men chose it. Cottlieb and the intelligence section went off with their vans to the operating site on top of a small hill - one of the white hills of Dover. There was a beautiful view of the channel here but, more important, it was a good spot for operations. The trucks were lined up along the trees on the hill, camouflage nets were spread and cover was arranged; the next day, our antennas were erected.

We had some heavy shelling at night; the projectiles came over in bursts of three at fifteen minute intervals. The next morning, on going to the operating site we found a few shell craters right next to the hill leading up to the hill. Don't know what that Jerry has his guns aimed in on us.

SECRET

In connection with operations, Lt. Gottlieb strongly stressed the importance of the operators' staying constantly on their toes during shifts, for even a single word obtained in the net may save many of our soldiers' lives.

From now on the M1 must wear steel helmet, gun and pistol belt at all times.

For the rest of the afternoon we packed personal and unit equipment.

On Thursday, the 21st we rose at 0530, gave the horses a final cleanup, following a thorough G.I. treatment on the preceding day. The trucks are loaded, the officers and M1 have a last breakfast at Follisstone, and at 0610 we are off for France.

For the first two hours our progress is slow and we do not make much mileage; fog is but one factor in slowing us up, there also are those narrow winding English roads and other traffic. We have a hot roadside lunch from the chow truck at noon, then proceed through Andover and Salisbury where we get a glimpse of the famous cathedral. At Andover, one of our 2 1/2 ton trucks has an accident and is "out of action". A detail of M1 sent back from the marshalling area worked until 4 P.M. to unload the truck and transfer the load to a new truck obtained from Ordnance. We had an M1 escort, but even so part of the convoy got lost for awhile and arrived two hours later than the first section.

At 2500 the first section arrived at the marshalling area, near Weymouth. We staid around in the dark, final care given to the horses with corn, bread cut the biscuits and draw "C" rations. Some French are M1, but we are pretty tired and soon everyone has hit the sack. Next morning, the 22nd, we have "D" rations and there are small things all over the place with the men trying to heat the stuff. There is a formation and Lt. Gottlieb explains the need for esprit de corps; he also has high praise for the drivers who performed well under guiding conditions on the preceding day. There is plenty of activity: we change our English money for French franc notes, we draw ammunition and - save the multi-sea sickness pills, and wash bags. Everybody is happy when hot showers are discovered and there is a general cleanup.

Our D-5 truck was unloaded and work for gasoline. Guards were posted and equipment was straightened out. At noon we had "E" rations with hot coffee and at night likewise.

On Saturday the 23rd we are up at 0500, have hot coffee and "F" rations. As transportation has not yet been straightened out, it is today a case of "hang up and wait". We are ready to move, but shall have a few hours. We have some special celebrations and Lt. Gottlieb arranges an athletic team game and some relay races.

We leave the marshalling area at 1100 and get under way for the 10 mile ride to Weymouth. There is a stop on a beach near the embarkation point and we are given those excellent U.S. Navy life preservers which are inflated in an automatic by puncturing two cylinders filled with carbon dioxide. All there is a hot brass chikabille with hot coffee and doughnuts.

A few minutes later we reach the beach and there is our ship, USS 100, all ready to receive us with an open "haw"; we drive right in, an elevator lifts the trucks to

SECRET

In connection with operations, Lt. Gottlieb strongly stressed the importance of the operators' staying constantly on their toes during shifts, for even a single word obtained on the set may save many of our soldiers' lives.

From now on the M4 must wear steel helmet, gun and pistol belt at all times.

For the rest of the afternoon we packed personal and unit equipment.

On Thursday, the 21st we rose at 0530, gave the horses a final check-up, following a thorough G.I. treatment on the preceding day. The trucks are loaded, the officers and M4 have a last breakfast at Polleskone, and at 0810 we are off for France.

For the first two hours our progress is slow and we do not make much mileage; fog is but one factor in slowing us up, there also are those narrow winding English roads and other traffic. We have a hot roadside lunch from the chow truck at noon, then proceed through Arlover and "Lidbury" where we get a glimpse of the famous cathedral. Unfortunately, one of our 2 1/2 ton trucks has an accident and is "out of action". A detail of M4 went back from the marshalling area worked until 4 A.M. to unload the truck and transfer the load to a new truck obtained from Gendarmes. We had an M4 escort, but even so part of the convoy got lost for awhile and arrived two hours later than the first section.

At 2300 the first section arrived at the marshalling area, near Weymouth. We staidle around in the dark, final G.I. treatment with colic, break out the bedrolls and draw "C" rations. Some pipes are lit, but we are pretty tired and soon everyone has hit the sack. Next morning, the 22nd, we have "D" rations and there are small fires all over the place with the men trying to heat the steel. There is a formation and Lt. Gottlieb emphasizes the need for esprit de corps; he also has high praise for the drivers who performed well under grueling conditions on the preceding day. There is plenty of activity; we change our British money for French franc notes, we draw ammunition and - save the rest - sea sickness pills, and visit bags. Everybody is happy when hot showers are discovered and there is a general cleanup.

Our D-5 truck was unloaded and went for gasoline. Guards were passed and equipment was straightened out. At noon we had "E" rations with hot coffee and at night breakfast.

On Saturday the 23rd we are up at 0700, have hot coffee and "F" rations. As transportation has not yet been straightened out, it is being a case of "hangry up and wait". We are ready to move, but still have a day to go. We do have some organized calisthenics and Lt. Gottlieb stresses an individual's job and some relay races.

We leave the marshalling area at 1100 and get under way for the 10 mile ride to Weymouth. There is a stop on a beach near the unloading point and we are given those excellent U.S. Navy life preservers which are built and in an attempt to puncturing two cartridges filled with carbon dioxide. All there is a hot green olive oil with hot coffee and cigarettes.

A few minutes later we reach the beach and there is our ship, LST 499, all ready to receive us with an open "haw"; we drive right in, an elevator lifts the trucks to

the top deck and in a jiffy everything is chained down to the deck and shipshape. The ship moves out into the harbor and is moored to a buoy. The men are happy for there are nice bunks, plenty of hot water and showers and excellent Navy chow, including a coffee siphon which operates on a 2-hour basis. There is some conversation about joining the Navy, but that is before the storm comes up.

The black steam-raising ball goes up in a short time and our captain decides to stay in port overnight. No one is angry about it as long as the chow holds out. The next morning there are whitecaps all around us and a stiff breeze blowing, so it is "no coop" and we stay put for another day. Everybody is now busy washing clothes, doing cleaning up and generally making the best of the hot water which is plentifully available. On Monday the 26th the weather is clear, but still somewhat stormy. However, we get under way in a covey at 11:30 AM, more enough, as soon as our tub clears the breacher the starts rolling like a corker. Naturally, what can one expect of a shallow-draft ship which draws only 15 feet of water! An LST is essential for landing vehicles, but had medicine in a storm. One by one the men quiet down, listen on and go to bed, but the best procedure for "land de nos" is a good prom position and a minimum of food in the stomach.

And the next morning, as we get on deck, there we are beached on Utah beach, near Varenburg, France, with many other ships around us and plenty of equipment being unloaded all around. Our LST has been run up on the beach and we are now awaiting the low tide so that the vehicles can be unloaded directly by driving them out of the lower deck of the ship. But we are out of luck. It seems we did not hit quite the right spot, for several feet of water remain between us and dry land even at low tide. So we wait for high tide and our ship goes out and makes another run onto the beach. But we are out of luck again, for, while we are now closer to dry land, there remains a deep hole right at the door of the ship and no vehicles can be a mind. So it is another night and another morning and another run out and back, but this time we make it. At 2:30 on the 27th we hit the beach and we are now as snug as a nut. The trucks are run off in quick order and were fast, on a road parallel to the beach, then inland for a total distance of about 5 miles to a reception area where we park for the night. We sleep in trucks, under trucks, in truck cabs and in any way which will keep us out of the rain which is now coming down steadily.

We are up at 0500 and breakfast on hot coffee and "W" rations. There are many vehicles in the area and there is some confusion until we finally get under way about 0600 along muddy, winding roads. There is plenty of military traffic and we get our first glimpse of those well-known, winding stone houses. Then we go through St. Lo and Arzon and see the beautiful demarcation which has been wrought and the reality of war comes even closer. There are wrecked army vehicles along the road and transportation covers a main problem, for all along the road are Frenchmen pushing heavily-laden bicycles. We stop for chow near Arzon, then continue through Verdun and, near Villiers, stop for the night. The vehicles are parked in an open field, guards are posted, and all our gear is got settled in gun tents, on cots, and in an old barn which adjoins the village. By way of entertainment, one of the 31 ton trucks caught fire on the road when the air blower went, but Sgt Walker had the engine under control in no time, using the fire extinguisher.

fast streams whose names recalled some of the bitterest battles of World War I, our caravan passed the Belgian border. At 1400 on the afternoon of October 4, the first group of trucks entered the town of Aachen, in which we were to set up operations. Aachen, capital of the Belgian province of Luxembourg and only a few miles from the frontier of the Grand Duchy, was a lively beautiful city of 12,000 inhabitants, who were still cordially friendly to Americans despite the havoc of the invaders in their streets.

A fine mansion in the exclusive residential section of town had been reserved for detachment "B", and it didn't take long for us to take ourselves at home in it. Beds were set up in the bedrooms; the cooks established their kitchen and began preparations for a good hot meal. We had come to the continent as though to live a rugged dangerous life, and all this mansion luxury seemed little too good to be true.

And it was. Our quarters was so beautiful in fact, that high military authorities (at least we relied then with that term) gave credence. One hour after we were installed we were asked out in the car at night, awaiting the winter. Mrs. Detmold and Harney had lively conversations with civilians and army officers, and soon a conveyance was on its way again to what we were told would be our winter quarters. "Military" quarters, they should have called it. Our billet was the ancient abbey of Saint-Oranien, about 4 miles outside of Aachen, and it had to be its own historical interest and the beauty of the woods which surround it to draw us to it. The place, in fact, was a cold, damp, gloomy old building, where water was frozen and spots that for the electric spirits of our crew.

The principal task on the following day, for me, was to get ~~plans~~ into operation. The vans were moved to the courtyard of the old church of St. Remigius in Aachen, and the antennas were hoisted from the high church steeple to the top of an aircraft parking observation tower. A high ledge now formed the artificial camouflage netting. A beam line, by day or night, carried us the various articles which a new house was obtaining for our living quarters. This was the chief of them, a roomy mansion on the foundations of an old castle, only a few miles from the center of town. The Germans had been converting the building into a command post for the Hitler youth, and one of the things was therefore demolished, but with its heavy girders and concrete supports it still remained to provide us with an ample room. I had to get things moved in on the fifth, to clean up and guard against other possible interruptions. The following day, with operations already started at the site, the technical crew dismantled the tent. Everyone was back in order, and the tent was now a more comfortable place than the barracks were during the winter months. It didn't take much time for us to make ourselves at home, with the orderly room, mess hall set up and functioning. Major Silverstein, an officer of the 888th Central Postal Directory, was on hand to see how things were going.

Our new house had a wired floor on the ground level, a vegetable patch in the back yard, a wide gravel lawn with an irrigation system on the left. It had a central heating system, and a fine system of pipes on the grounds provided plenty of fuel for the furnaces. The one drawback was in the kitchen facilities: a single coal stove and a single sink, and a tiny area of a permanent built-in sink which generally refused to drain.

For that we were actually doing our job. The main thing was to get up at the site, from the very beginning, the problem of security. I saw my first guard post. A permanent guard section of five men was in the kitchen area. The guard had the tickets to be detailed to do two hours shifts of guard duty. The first day, and after

several days the guard was applied, this was interrupted by two occurrences. One at the house and the other at the site, in which nocturnal intruders were reported on the grounds and driven away.

October 7 was a red letter day for Attachment "B". After six weeks of isolation two bulging sacks of mail arrived for what must surely have been one of the largest and most enthusiastic mail calls in history. The radio maintenance section took time off from its other jobs to set up electric lights in the cafeteria. The dining room was converted into a big room for evening use (it even had a radio set up in it after a few days). The following day brought some good luck for the men: the first of rations in a month, and a bath run to the big white-tiled shower room of a factory on the outskirts of Arion. The pleasures of town life were once more being discovered, though there were still rain enough to make knowing in town an interesting experience. There are two movie palaces, offering curiously assorted selections of American films with dubbed-in French sound and French titles; also a GI movie several times a week. There were even daily newspapers, for those who could speak French. With quarters established and regular work under way once more, amidst the huge new supply of letters to be answered, there was once more daily of mail to be exchanged. On October 8 Major Silverstein arrived on another one of his winnowing tours. In the evening two announcements were made that made a lot of difference to the fellows, and a lot of talk. First Sgt. Oliver J. Rice was relieved of his post as Acting Radio Sergeant, transferred to the transportation section, and replaced by Sgt. John R. Winter. Second, a list of projects was made public. The bulk of these went to the administration, some to supply sections, with some for intelligence, I/P and ground operation.

It didn't take long for us to adjust nicely to the rigors of life in Arion. Class "B" passes were prepared, and the new first component instituted an elaborate, efficient, guard and detail roster which removed all uncertainty from the free use of leisure time. The men went regularly to shower and get their hair cut by an enthusiastic barber on the block who for a while refused to accept money. Foreign housewives were generous in doing laundry, and my fellows enjoyed invitations to dinner with the local inhabitants. By October 11 the mail was trickling in regularly, with occasional packages besides. Supply sections arrived and obtained stoves and winter clothing, while radio maintenance finally got along-needed equipment.

There was going and coming of officers. Lt. Cottlieb left on October 12 for a journey to the area of what turned out to be our next location. Capt. Shurgenshaw of Headquarters Detachment arrived for an inspection of progress. In the evening the Squadron commander Lt. Col. Furtel, came to visit, and to get the full report on the progress of operations at the site.

Household activities at the Detachment continued at a good pace. An outdoor latrine was built to supplement the cramped indoor latrine and the surplus privy in the block (slight evidence of the GI's made this area particularly lively). A crew of men went into the forest each morning to get firewood, and the shoddy-looking details became a prime source of exercise.

Sgt. Buford of the Radio Maintenance section went on sick call with a punctured ear drum and got a one day ticket to go to the U.S. He was well nursed and cured.

Day and night, in the meantime, the trucks were pulling load and forth from the site, carrying equipment to do the job which sustained the detachment's mission.

close, the men of the Detachment had a good voting record behind them. At least 60% of us had sent in absentee ballots. A medical inspection on the 30th gave us all a clean bill of health. Impregnated clothing and a livage were turned in to Supply.

There was also the inevitable sad side of things. Max, faithful companion of Jeep, the outfit's cheerful, unobtrusive little mascot since the first days at Accot, came down with a painful canine ailment which was pronounced incurable by a GI veterinarian. On the 27th of October she was relieved of her agonies and buried on the castle grounds. Lfc Benny Goldberg, who could always get anything for you wholesale, set off in great style one evening after protracted public tinkering with a rented motorcycle. For two days he was not heard from; then the bad news came that he had been in an accident, broken his leg. He had to be transferred out of the organization. (Two new cryptographers, Cpl Scrimius and Cpl Delonick, had meanwhile joined our ranks). Pvt Jordan and Pvt Vela of the guard section also went to the hospital.

Up at the site business was blowing night and day. Major Silverstein, Colonel Fred and Lt. Col. Quierier of 20th Tactical Air Command came and saw and pronounced what they saw good. A direct telephone contact on with Detachment "D" permitted the exchange and correction of data. On the 28th and 29th there was trouble in the 1/2 way; no signals could be picked up. On the 30th a frayed cable was discovered to be the source of the difficulty. That same evening Lt. Gottlieb came to cheer rubbing his hands with glee. A new 1/2 truck had arrived to supplant the work of the other unit. Six-point bearings would now be possible.

On the 29th of the month two meetings were held for the men of the Detachment. We addressed by an officer of the Counter-Intelligence Corps and warned of the difficulties which we would face as we entered Germany. We listened silently and thoughtfully. There were grim uncomfortable on a cloud of us, we knew, but we were determined to keep on our volatile way on the path to Berlin.

For the Commanding Officer:

J. W. H. H. H.
1st Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant

3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C)
AWO 151, U.S. Army

JTM/STJ
9 December 1944

SUBJECT: Unit History for the Month of November 1944.

FO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C), AWO 696, U.S. Army.

In some ways the month of November was the most congested with October in Detachment 1st 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C). Whereas the Detachment moved often in October, it stayed put in November. Whether the location or the operational status at an island or the residence at the Chalet de la Comandancia de Suron St. Serra was changed.

The draining of the personnel roster which started the detachment in late October stopped at the loss of Pvt Foster, U.S. Marine, on the 1st of the month. Soon thereafter new men began to come in. First among these were Pvt First Class Thomas and Sgt Thomas respectively. Pvt Morris was a barber in civilian life but been cutting hair in his off duty hours.

The Detachment entered into the life of the community when on November 5th a team of soccer players from the unit accepted the challenge of the Suron St. Martin team before a Godly crowd. Unpractical though they were, the "Big Dogs" beating the local team hard and on the back of their trailing 3-0 at half time so nicely. The players were Lt. Gottlieb and Lt. Harnley, 1st Lt. Williams, Sgtt Forest and Tamm, Capt Adams and Roseberg and Walter Corbett, 1st Lt. Olsen, 1st Lt. Kowalski, Roseberg and Lt. Roseberg, and Pvt Anderson.

Again at the invitation of Suron St. Martin, Detachment 1st took part in an Armistice Day celebration. A formation marched to church, attended services, fired a volley of shots in salute over the graves of fallen British soldiers and were invited also to the schoolhouse where toasts were drunk. In the afternoon a formation went to the cemetery nearby and fired a salute over the graves of American men who fell in the recent battle for Suron. It was on this day that Lt. Col. Turkel paid the Detachment an informal visit.

More new men were added when Cpl Cook joined the radio maintenance section and Pts Paul and Vignaburo joined the guard section. With the return of Pvt Vela from the hospital, via a Ground Force job, the guard section now consisted of seven (7) soldiers under the direction of Sgt Reese. This made it possible to relieve all other men of guard duty with the exception of guards on the operational site between midnight and 0730.

The motor section gained a 2 1/2 ton truck and employed a company carrier damaged in an accident, fortunately the riding did not result in more than minor cuts and bruises to the personnel riding. Two new 1/2 ton trucks were also acquired, one taken to the operational site and set up and the other held in reserve.

The new section moved a headquarters to a 3rd floor room in the chalet. This change eliminated U.S. interference in U.S. operations during the day or tomorrow.

A new transmitter was installed in the maintenance van for use in emergencies should the telephone connections break down. The new radio call sign became "Iron-plate"

Direct telephone connections with Flap Baker at Barraque Michel established. It thus became possible to aid each other in the pin pointing of enemy transmissions with the obvious advantage of increased accuracy.

The improvements and additions in equipment and facilities were timely as the important traffic came in steadily. The Detachment's first credit came with the shooting down of a Nazi plane on November 19. More important than this was the Detachment's contribution to intelligence on the strength of the German Air Force which information leads to the saving of lives of Allied flying men.

On the 16th of the month orders were received to transfer Pfc Ernest Spitzer, then on temporary duty with SIAEF, to the G-2 section of SIAEF. Detachment "D"'s loss is SIAEF's gain.

Sgt. John F. Burns came to Flap Dog on the 22nd of the month for duty in Radio Maintenance Section. With his coming an extra room was opened, prepared for occupancy and taken over by the guard section. The guards and maintenance men each had their own quarters from this point on.

Rooms which had been uncomfortably chilly were given precedence when the unit's quota of pot-belly stoves arrived. Correct distribution of the stoves and receipt of regular coal rations put an end to the heating problem at the chateau.

The volunteer carpenters, Cpl Tiedens and Schaefer, completed a shower room in one section of a tiled chicken pen. Two belly gas tanks, an immersion type heater, some fixtures brought from England, lumber salvaged from crating and a nearby woods plus a lot of ingenuity and hard labor went into the building of the new shower.

An added blessing was that from the time of the opening of this shower on, it was unnecessary to use time on the "Liberty Run" to Verviers for bathing purposes leisure hours.

The carpenters next tackled the job of winterizing the three jeeps by enclosing them with plywood doors and windows. This job was nearing completion at the close of the month.

The XXIXth Tactical Air Command Mess Officer conducted an inspection of the mess facilities at the close of the month.

Lt. Hanway was appointed as Unit Claims Officer, Lt. Cobin as Chemical Warfare Officer, S/Sgt Axelrad as Chemical Warfare Non-Commissioned Officer. Pfc Von Schlichten as Information and Education Non-Commissioned Officer.

Direct telephone connections with a field operational unit of the Eighth Air Force were established. This made the intelligence reports of immediate value to bombing as well as fighter operations.

The last day of the month brought misfortune with it when another Weapons Carrier overturned with two men riding. One, Sgt Burns, was taken to the hospital with a possible leg fracture. It is the hope of all that he will be found able to return to the unit.

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

This month the Pay was in Belgian Francs and quite a welcome change from the Dutch Guilder of the month before.

For the Commanding Officer:

JAMES D. HANWAY
1st Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)APO 151, U.S. Army
11 January 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History for the Month of December 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G),
APO 696, U.S. Army.

The month of December arrived quietly enough at the billets of Detachment "D" and gave no indication that it was to be a hectic, exciting thirty-one days. Before it came to a close, however, many unforeseen things were to come to pass and find their way into these annals.

Early in the month arrangements were made to have 1/5 Allagretti of XIX Tactical Air Corps and Special Service Office bring a movie projector and film to the unit. The first presentation was Henry Goddard's "Sweet and Lowdown" on December 1st.

The program was so well received that the men were ready to forego the movie run to Wise which had so often disappointed with poor sound and frequent breakdowns of the projector. The second program on the 7th was still more satisfying. The feature was the highly praised "Bill We Meet Again".

A list of promotions was published on the 5th of the month. The happy men were chiefly in operational sections.

On the 6th the detachment helped the children of the Bouron St Pierre school celebrate St Nicholas day by sending them candy from their PX rations. An interesting comment by one of the children was that it must have been an American St Nicholas this year since there was no chocolate to be had in Belgium.

The information and education non-commissioned officer, now Cpl Von Schlichten, approached his work with zeal and set up bulletin boards with news and information on CSMI courses. His initial efforts met with response in the organization and three men initiated enrollment procedures immediately.

The transportation section located a workshop in the neighborhood and negotiated for its use as a garage. The arrangements were quickly made and the motor maintenance men were able to move under cover of the workshop on the 9th of December. The most unpleasant features of maintenance while being exposed to the elements were thus eliminated.

Capt Bodysk of XIX Tactical Air Corps, a specialist in the section of automotive equipment and receiver and of small arms weapons. His report included timely suggestions for the improvements of some features of the section maintenance and helpful hints regarding ways and means of accomplishing pre section maintenance. Small arms were reported in excellent condition.

The automotive and ordnance inspection was followed on the 10th by the tri-annual administrative inspection conducted by Capt Murray, acting asst IG. The results were summarized in a report rating the detachment excellent with but very minor deficiencies noted.

It was also on the 14th that 2nd Lt. Emile H. Elmer, 1st Lt. James D. Hanney as adjutant, Lt. Hazel also assumed the second secretary office held by Lt. Hanney. With Lt. Hazel came 3/3rd Walter H. Hall as a sergeant and 1st Lt. operator. Pvt Harold Strang was added to the messengers staff section, Sgt Wilhelm, lost to the hospital in October, returned at this time.

The 15th of December was one of entertaining visitors of note. Major General Benedict, Brigadier General Hagen, Commanding General of XIX Tactical Air Command.

The citizens of Norman Oklahoma planned a dance to be given for and in the honor of Detachment "D" but were forced to cancel it when the 105th Cavalry Recon. Bn. moved into the area. The forenoon of the dance was cancelled by the continued rains and the rain by the noon. In the afternoon conditions improved in the neighborhood when the taxi drive through with its own, better in number, of paratroopers, spies, collaborators, etc.

The first drive also brought the 1st Dog Detachment a team of 1st and 2nd operators from Paw Paw and later additional dogs all of several sections who operated jointly with "D" during the operational day days of the Allied counter-offensive. Operations reached an unexpected end during the Christmas holidays.

The Christmas celebration plans had to be altered due to the use of the committee and the detachment was, therefore, a Christmas was celebrated and passed in the main hall. The plans for a dinner in the neighborhood had to be cancelled due to the restriction to the grounds and into it was cancelled in the air hallway and remained the residents of the detachment.

Activities of the detachment remained arranged at the church and court to the property and a car left from the 27th field for and in person to Jones case with three nurses and an assignment to conduct work and a process to the embassy.

These Christmas plans was a part of order and to the for every man given by the business, courses and the magazine. When celebration after a long time to the holiday celebration.

The personnel losses in December were strictly to the hospital. Sgt Louis Jones, Sgt Wiley Young, and Sgt Raymond Young and Antonio Yair were hospitalized during the month.

Special operations on the work of the detachment was by John H. Jones Gen. Jernick, Commanding General of IX Tactical Air Command and by Major Pro Col. Meyer, Deputy Commander of Operations with tactical air to ...

Among the more exciting events of the period of the 1st Cavalry in the air was the capturing of Emilio Hunter. He had been injured when he was shot in the front discharging several rounds into his leg. He fell over and was picked up he called over the Chateau. A search was interrupted and he hospitalized and Pvt Torres captured the fugitive. He was questioned and then he lived to his wounds then turned over to the 125th Cavalry Recon. Bn. for disposition.

In order the 15th of December is ...

For the Com. Staff Witness

The 1st Cavalry Recon. Bn.

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

AFG 696, U.S. Army
11 February 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History.

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), AFG 696, U.S. Army.

The month of January and the new year came to Detachment "D" and found it still under the stress of the emergency caused by the breaching of the Germans in the Ardennes. Only gradually did life return to normalcy at the Chateau De La Commanderie. A full daytime as well as the usual night guard was maintained at the Chateau in the early part of the month and the regular heavily reinforced guard protected the operational site after darkness fell.

Captain Avic, S-2 officer of the 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Battalion, worked with Lt. Vogel in dressing up an adequate defense plan for the site in La Roche. Avic, as Captain Avic's unit was called, ran a telephone line into Flap Log's switchboard. This made it possible to place the Avic men and armored equipment and firepower at the immediate disposal of Flap Log in case of emergency.

The acts of heroism in American uniforms and of parachutists being out in caves were the cause of frequent mishaps by the adventures of the unit. None of the expeditions brought about any captures but this fact was in fact it re-assured the detachment and the neighbors that all was well in the area.

This feeling of security was quite necessary in the planning of relaxation of restrictions and bringing life back to its regular position.

The equipment and furniture loaded up earlier in readiness for a move were unpacked. Lt. Dobin and his advanced cohesion holding a possible site at Neuhouon were recalled when the emergency was believed over. The removal of the daytime guards at the chateau was the unofficial signal that Jerry had once more been completely checked.

The men on loan from Detachment "D" who had been posted or largely in the room opposite the orderly room were moved out into other rooms and the room thus vacated was set up as a day room. It was particularly well suited to the purpose as it was conveniently located on the first floor, was large enough to accommodate the greater part of the unit for services, and had an altar suitable for use in worship services. When a buzz-bomb blew out a large portion of the windows in the room as well as in the remainder of the building, a roll of roofing paper was acquired and a combination weather-proofing and lining job done on the big room.

Along the more unusual and interesting activities of the month were several trips which provided relaxation and diversion for the men. One of these was that of Lt. Cottlieb, Sgt. Hinson and Sgt. Schaefer to Luxembourg to meet with the opportunity afforded to visit Paris. A direct result of the recovery of Chateaufort was the arrival of four new men at the chateau. These were Sgt. James S. Andrews, Pfc. Apollonio, Pfc. Ferio and Pfc. Mike Robertson and Lloyd Johnson. Sgt. Mathews filled a vacancy in the new section left when Lt. Harty was lost to the hospital.

Lt. Kobernic was assigned on duty as a radio operator. Pvt Kobernic was assigned to the guard section and Pvt Harrison to the transport section.

Lt. Robinson and Sgt. Hancock went to Brussels for radio supplies. Lt. Noel and Sgt. Hancock also made this trip to pick up the supplies acquired on the first trip.

The movie projector placed at the disposal of detachments "A" and "B" was brought to Flaplog on the 10th and movies were enjoyed nightly for more than a week. It was returned for use by Detachment "B" when Lt. Goodsell and the rear liaison R/T man departed to go back to operation at "B's" new site.

Another feature of the month of January was the frequency of worship services. It was evident that chaplains enjoyed visiting the stations since five were ready to hold services. One day evening was distinguished religious night. Three chaplains from Gypsy, Major Seltzer and Captains Golder and Kuhl, came to conduct services in all parts.

Captain Don Ross, serving the 10th and 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Battalion, also stopped in for services with the protestants.

A policy of issuing 48 hours pass was established and was begun to avail them selves of the opportunities to visit cities such as Liege, Namstricht and Verveins.

On the 21st a truck started out for Ghent to pick up supplies and start Sgt. Walter J. Moore on his way to Detachment "C". The supplies must have been both in excess and heavy as a detail composed of Mr. Cotton, Sgt. Anderson, Sgt. Lushmann, Sgt. Kulikowski and Sgt. Squire was dispatched to pick them up. Incidentally the detail made a side trip to Paris. Sgt. Lushmann has some business with the American Consul and ends with invitations for himself and Sgt. Squire to eat at the American Embassy.

The bulk of the supplies sent for arrived in the morning when Sgt Brown of Headquarters drove into the courtyard in the evening of the evening on which the truck departed. He brought two 50 caliber machine guns some ammunition and also some much needed new kerosene stoves. These proved to be a major problem the operational was as long as fuel was available. The supplying of kerosene became the next major problem.

Sgt Brown also brought Sgt Paul Binsmann, former 6th Air Force flying R/T operator and acquaintance of many former and radio operators in the Detachment, and Pvs Hatch and Hunt, driver and cook, respectively.

The 21st a list of promotions of privates to private first class was announced. The only privates left in the outfit were those who entered after the recommendations had been made.

At the suggestion of the Inspector General and Major General H. J. Stevens, signal intelligence Officer, 4-2 section, 7th Division, 1st Army, addressed the men on January 21. His subject was the radio signal in the operational success of the Army Air Force and the battle of the land campaign. After the talk given by G. A. Stevens a very long and interesting discussion of the function of Flaplog were conducted of its importance in a world war.

The Medical Department gave the usual check up of health after the physical inspection on the 21st. It was the usual 2000 men, 100000 lbs. weight the month.

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (C)

APO 151, U S Army
31 March 1945

1. Negative.
2. Strength on 31 March 1945: Officers 6, Enlisted men 95.
3. 12 March 1945 departed from Bouron St. Pierre, Belgium (WF-6539) at 1030 hrs by motor convoy. Arrived Hehn, Germany (WF-0687) 1500 hours. Permanent change of station.
4. Negative.
5. Squadron awarded Meritorius Service Unit Plaque and enlisted men of Detachment authorized to wear Meritorius Service Wreath per Sec I, General Order 46, Hq Ninth Air Force.

Squadron awarded battle credit for participation in the campaign "Normandy", per par 1, ltr, Hq European TO USA, File 200.6, dtd 17 Mar 45, subj: "Battle Participation Awards - Normandy Campaign (No. 4)"

UNIT HISTORY
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C)

AO 696, U.S. Army
9 July 1945

Subject: Unit History. (1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945)

To : Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C)
AO 696, U.S. Army

1. Detachment WDF 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C) received an official allotment of grades and ratings for better headquarters 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C), authority: Commanding General USMAF, 27 March 1945, as follows: 3 C/O's, 6 CPL, 2 Pfc and 2 Pvt.

2. Detachment strength on 30 April 1945: 6 Officers and 76 enlisted men assigned 30 April 1945, all enlisted men attached from 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C)

3. Detachment movements during April 1945: Departed Munchen-Laubing camp, Nearn, Germany (AF 8307) 4 April 1945, arrived Halberm, Germany (AF 1517). Departed Halberm, Germany (AF 1517) 17 April 1945, arrived Hohenburg, a village west of Nuremberg, Germany (AF 15180). Departed Hohenburg, Germany arrived Weissen, Franconia, Germany (AF 8308) 21 April 1945. Departed Weissen, Germany, Franconia, Germany (AF 8308) arrived Sommerbuchern, Germany (AF 3103) 24 April 1945.

4. Positive.

5. Unit received notification of award of Presidential Service Unit Ribbon, per General Order #46, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, dated 19 March 1945.

Pfc Paul Kegan was authorized to wear Distinguished Unit Ribbon per letter HQ 9th Air Force, 404th Fighter Group, dated 6 February 1945.

All enlisted members of the unit who were members of the 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (C) from 1 July 1944 to 31 July 1945 were authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit Ribbon with the device "Germany".

All enlisted men who were members of the unit on or after 1 July 1945 were authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit Ribbon with the device "Germany".

Notice was also received that 1st Lt. [Name] was authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit Ribbon with the device "Germany" for his service in France.

The month of April was one move after another for the element "B" as it sought frantically to catch up with and keep up with the rapidly moving front line. Each location proved to be satisfactory for operations for but a few days and in each case it soon appeared necessary to seek a site closer to the scene of activity.

It's Kottlich and Robinson, Cpl Parsons and Pfc Yenik made up a recon-
-aissance party on 2 April to search for a site near Hiltorn. This town was east
of the Rhine in territory giving evidence of having only recently been taken by
Hitler's troops. The site chosen appeared to be an ideal location from the
physical standpoint. Villages were in from 6 main huts, ideal for use by various
sections and teams.

An advanced party took off for the new location on 4 April and prepared to
set up for operations. The main party moved up on the 5th leaving only a small
group to conduct necessary rear schedule business. The advance party was disposed
of because of the refusal of its leader to accept a 577 was picked up from Hiltorn
to replace it. The radio maintenance storage was broken down at this site and
required an extra guard during the last night at Hiltorn. An even exchange of I/F
men came about at the time of the move when I/F men were sent to a forward position and
3 I/F men left to be sent to Infantry 503. The best vehicle of Flap Dog went with him.

A timely increase in personnel came with the addition of three limited
assignment men, Pvt Hutchison, Pfc Reynolds, and Pfc Stoltz and
Kottlich, which assignments gave Flap Dog a nucleus of five capable expansion and
men around which to build a larger guard section as necessary in hostile territory.

The security problem seemed to be solved when a platoon was sent from the 20th
Flap Dog's group to carry a half platoon of guards from the 1st Regiment,
Hiltorn area of the Netherlands for security purposes. These men arrived in time
to send Flap Dog packing up again for a move.

This time the move was to the Dörlinger Forest. A beautiful recreation
site was found on the high point of the ridge of mountains a mile east of
Hiltorn. The location was the old German hunting lodge, formerly a rest home for Ford
Motor Company's Cologne employees. The site was well suited for operations. It was
a natural having a high tower from which to observe the area.

The party including I/F and J/F men moved to a radio and telephone station some
10 miles north of the Hiltorn area to operate as an outstation and maintain I/F
service.

During the stay at the Hiltorn area the chief activities were climbing
the hills in the forest and searching for German soldiers still hiding near in the
area.

berhood. Runs were required almost daily to bring prisoners to the Conquer enclosure in nearby Brackwede. The files of the POW held receipts for 14 PWs picked up in the week and a half of the day.

It was while Flap Dog was at the Huenenburg that the United States lost its beloved and honored leader, President Roosevelt. He was deeply mourned by the detachment as by all allied troops. A special memorial service was conducted by Sgts King and Blake.

Gypsy moved up to Gutersloh 10 miles distant on the 15th of the month. The comparative isolation of the unit was somewhat relieved by Gypsy's moving up. Mail did not come through regularly but one large delivery came up for the lack of its regularity. One important facility still lacking was that of telephone communication. The fact that the camp promised to be a short one made it seem inadvisable to run a line such a long distance to Gypsy.

The time was not long. Flap Dog moved again on the 21st. The place chosen was the villa of Sommerchenburg, southeast of Hainrot. The home was the Grubmann family castle, and the site was but 2 or 3 miles distant though Gypsy was located back at Braunschweig. Between the departure of the reconnaissance party and the arrival of the greater part of the detachment, word came of a Jerry breakthrough northeast of Braunschweig, cutting the road to the new site. Lt. "Agel" who was at the head of the convoy stopped at Braunschweig and arrangements were made to spend the night of the 21st at the Willeh Brauterei, Gypsy's home. The men were billeted in a garage comfortable enough for a night. The next day it had been determined that the success of "breakthrough" was actually a lost column making its way back to German lines. With the assurance that the area was clear Flap Dog moved on its way to what proved to be its last station for April.

The castle was probably the best place yet for Flap Dog. There was steady commercial power, good blackout, running water with adequate sanitary facilities. The property was walled in and therefore easily guarded. The operational vehicles were set up within the enclosure made by the buildings.

Less than 24 hours after arrival operations were begun. Activity dwindled fast, however, and after a few days there was little of importance being picked up on the air.

After a week or so of comparatively little activity, the 17 men picked up a new positive to make use of their long lull accomplishments. The 6239 Tank Destroyer Battalion, responsible for the military environment and security of the area, was in need of interpreters and stepped in every morning to take volunteers along. This occupation was popular and, in turn, very valuable to the government units.

Services of linguists for other prisoners were also required. Sgt. Hiderichsen and Pfc. Mohfeld were dispatched on the 1st to PW and A S detachment of Ninth Air Force Advanced Headquarters.

Several men were hospitalized during the month including Sgt's Sam Rosenberg and Von Schlichten, Pfc's Hinderichsen and Mohfeld, and Sgt. Tschelentz. The last named sustained a broken leg when thrown from a log while working. Sgt. Hinderichsen, 17 section chief, was lost to the hospital in an accident and Sgt. King was forced to leave the section.

By the 26th liberty runs were again being made to Verriers. Men used their time on these runs to take showers as the unit's showerhouse was a little too open exposing the water to the unkind elements. A policy of leaving Verriers at 1700 and returning to St Pierre at 1745 was initiated and it gave the men an extra hour during which they could shop.

Another facility which became less comfortable in the cold weather was the outdoor latrine. When it became necessary to dig a new pit Opie Ejaer and Harris dug one intended for the duration and the latrine box was moved under the most sheltered section of the outhouse. Through it's new construction the latrine was now less exposed to the elements than before.

Seven men of the 925th Signal Battalion arrived to join with Detachment "D" and live in the neighborhood while maintaining the telephone lines with Gablani and Football. Their coming was timely as trouble seemed to develop more frequently as the month passed on.

PX rations came in regularly and extra items to be sold above the basic ration increased in number and variety. Gradually the PX under Sgt Irvin and the PX non-com Cpl Schnafer, began to take on the appearance of a regular institution.

The initiated men's council met three times during the month and was functioning smoothly in caring for special service activities at the close of the month. Among its newly instituted activities was the governing of the day room.

The Information and Education non-com arranged to have the most capable French speaking men conduct classes for those interested in learning the language. Six groups in all were organized and interest evidenced assured their being continued.

The Squadron Commander, Lt. Col Kinkel arrived at the end of the month for a few days stay with the two-fold purpose of holding conferences on research work and interviewing personnel with a view to checking their records against actual backgrounds.

Pay day came on the 31st as usual, and so ended the month of January in Detachment "D".

For the Commanding Officer:

1st Lt. Signal Corp's
Adjutant

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 151, U S ARMY
28 FEBRUARY 1945

SUBJECT: UNIT HISTORY 1 FEBRUARY TO 28 FEBRUARY 1945.

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, 3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G),
APO 151, U S ARMY.

WHEN FLAP DOG BEGAN ITS FOURTH MONTH IN FOURON ST PIERRE, SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE THAT THE "MOBILE" BE DROPPED FROM ITS NAME IN FAVOR OF THE MORE ACCURATE "STATIONARY". IT HAD SEEMED TO HAVE FOUND A PERMANENT HOME IN THE CHATEAU DE LA COMMANDERIE.

WINTER SNOWS WHICH HAD BLANKETED THE COUNTRYSIDE IN THE AREA DURING JANUARY DISAPPEARED SUDDENLY WITH THE ADVENT OF FEBRUARY AND FLAP DOG WAS HURLED ANEW INTO THE BATTLE AGAINST KING MUD. FOR A TIME THE MUD SEEMED TO BE A SURE WINNER. CRUSHED STONE WAS MADE AVAILABLE, BUT TO GET TO IT WAS TO RISK SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE 21/2 TON TRUCKS USED. HENCE IT WAS BROUGHT IN ONLY WHEN THE WEATHER SEEMED MOST FAVORABLE AND THE ROADS MOST PASSABLE. A WEEK OR TWO WENT BY BEFORE IT COULD BE SAID THE MUD WAS REALLY UNDER CONTROL.

THE UNIT WAS WELL NIGH CUT OFF FROM CIVILIZATION BY THE COMPLETE BREAKDOWN OF CERTAIN ROADS LEADING TO IT. THE ROAD THROUGH FOURON ST. MARTIN AND FOURON LA COMTE WAS VIRTUALLY IMPASSABLE THUS DENYING VEHICLES DIRECT ACCESS TO N-27 AND N-43 WHILE EN ROUTE TO MAASTRICHT. FORTUNATELY THE REPAIRING OF A BRIDGE NORTH OF THE OPERATIONAL SITE MADE A DIRECT ROUTE TO N-1 AVAILABLE AND TRAFFIC SOON FLOWED ON SAFELY AND SWIFTLY BY THAT ROUTE.

THE FIRST DAYS OF THE MONTH WERE VERY BUSY ONES. COLONEL TURKEL WOUND UP HIS INTERVIEWS AND DISCUSSIONS AND WENT ON HIS WAY TO BAKER.

AT THIS SAME TIME THE INFANTRY'S DEMAND FOR REINFORCEMENTS BEGAN TO CUT INTO DETACHMENT "D"'S MANPOWER. PFC WALTER ROWE, WHO HAD BEEN WITH THE UNIT SINCE ITS ACTIVATION, AND PVT HATCH AND HUNT, BOTH NEWCOMERS, LEFT ON THE 2ND FOR REINFORCEMENT DEPOTS. S/SGT BECKER ACCOMPANIED THEM AS FAR AS SQUADRON HEAD-QUARTERS.

CPL VON SCHLICHTEN, IN CAPACITY OF UNIT INFORMATION AND EDUCATION NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, WENT TO PARIS TO ATTEND COURSES AT THE ARMY UNIVERSITY STUDY CENTER. HE RETURNED FULL OF ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WORK TEN DAYS LATER.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

LT. GIVEN ALSO WENT ON TEMPORARY DUTY FOR TWO WEEKS, HIS TRIP LEADING HIM TO THE U.K.

CAPTAIN SHAUGHNESSY ARRIVED FOR A QUICK VISIT AND WAS OFF AGAIN IN LESS THAN A DAY.

LT. MORGAN CAME TO MAKE AN INSPECTION OF THE SUPPLY SECTION AND FOUND THINGS TO HIS SATISFACTION.

TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING OF THE CHATEAU BILLETs, NEW QUARTERS WERE SOUGHT FOR SOME OF THE MEN. CPL DUBOIS WENT ON RECONNAISSANCE AND RETURNED WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR A HOME FOR A DOZEN MEN AT THE FOURON ST. PIERRE SCHOOLHOUSE NEAR THE CHATEAU. THE MEN CHOSEN TO MOVE WERE T/SGT WOLFF'S R/T TEAM AND MOST OF S/SGT AXELRAD'S TEAM. A TELEPHONE WAS INSTALLED TO SPEED COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MEN SETTLED BACK TO PASS JUDGMENT ON THE NEW QUARTERS CALLED VARIOUSLY "FLAP GEORGE", THE "OUTHOUSE" AND BY THE OFFICIAL NAME "SCHOOLHOUSE".

THE ADDITIONAL QUARTERS WERE OPENED JUST IN TIME AS SEVERAL MEN JOINED THE ORGANIZATION, AGAIN FILLING UP THE BILLETs IN THE CHATEAU. 1ST LT. JOHN B. DREWRY, FOR A TIME WITH FLAP BAKER, JOINED FOR DUTY AS AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. HE BROUGHT WITH HIM A TINY CANINE COMPANION, WHO WAS UNABLE TO MAKE THE ADJUSTMENT FROM FORMER ACCOMMODATIONS AND DIED SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL. LT. DREWRY IS A NATIVE NORWEGIAN HAILING FROM THE VICINITY OF DROMMEN ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERN SHORE. HE HAD LIVED IN OSLO FOR A TIME.

OTHER PERSONNEL ACQUISITIONS WERE PFCS RUDOLPH BECKER AND ERIC REHFELD, R/T PROSPECTS, AND CPLs ROBERT KULP AND FRANK SOMMERS, MUCH NEEDED MOTOR MECHANICS.

THESE MEN ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO LINE UP FOR COMBAT PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS GIVEN ON 11 FEBRUARY. AFTER THE RESULTS OF THE EXAMINATION WERE MADE KNOWN, THERE WAS TALK OF POSTING A SIGN AT THE GATE IDENTIFYING THE CHATEAU AS THE "HOME FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM" OR AT LEAST THE "HOME FOR THE BLIND", AS LESS THAN ONE THIRD OF THE MEN QUALIFIED FOR COMBAT DUTY.

THE 12TH WAS A RED LETTER DAY FOR FLAP DOG. THE LARGEST DELIVERY OF 1ST CLASS MAIL RECEIVED YET WAS DISTRIBUTED. THERE WERE THREE HEAVILY LOADED SACKS, CHIEFLY DECEMBER LETTERS FROM HOME. IT TOOK SO LONG TO SORT IT THAT NONE OF THE MAIL WAS ACTUALLY DISTRIBUTED ON THE NEXT DAY. A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE MEN RECEIVED UPWARDS OF 20 LETTERS EACH.

THE ENLISTED MEN'S COUNCIL THREW A PARTY ON THE 17TH. CAREFUL PLANNING BY SGTs IRVIN AND KULIKOWSKI MADE IT POSSIBLE TO SERVE REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE REGULAR MOVIE. THE GUESTS OF THE COUNCIL WERE THE OFFICERS, THE WIRE MEN OF THE 925TH SIGNAL BATTALION AND AN ADVANCE PARTY OF THE 99TH INFANTRY DIVISION MEN AND OFFICERS WHO WERE HOLDING BILLETs IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COMING PORTION OF THEIR UNIT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

WHEN THE 99TH DID MOVE ON IN IT WAS DEEMED ADVISABLE TO POST A FULL TIME GUARD AT THE GATE TO DISCOURAGE TOO FREQUENT VISITS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TO THE AREA AND THUS RELIEVE AN EXTRA BURDEN ON THE MESS SECTION CAUSED BY THE UNPREDICTABLE NUMBER OF "GUESTS" LIKELY TO APPEAR AT THE MEALS.

SGTS DIONNE AND EIMERMANN SCoured THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHEN THE 99TH ARRIVED AND EACH MADE CONTACT WITH HIS BROTHER IN THAT OUTFIT. SGT DIONNE HAD NOT SEEN HIS BROTHER SINCE THE LATTER ENTERED THE ARMY SIX YEARS AGO.

A PROMOTION LIST WAS MADE PUBLIC ON THE 23RD. THE MEN IN LINE FOR CONGRATULATIONS THIS TIME WERE WELL SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE VARIOUS SECTIONS. ALL WERE CORPORALS RAISED TO SERGEANT, SERGEANT TO STAFF SERGEANT AND STAFF SERGEANT TO TECH SERGEANT.

WHEN ONE OF THE 926TH SIGNAL BATTALION WIRE MEN CONTRACTED CHICKEN-POX, THEY WERE ISOLATED AND FLAP DOG LOST THEIR COMPANY AT CHOW AND MOVIES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS.

A NEW AREA DEFENSE PLAN WAS DRAWN UP BY THE ADJUTANT AND MEN WERE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARPEN THEIR SHOOTING EYES AND TEST WEAPONS. AN ADEQUATE FIRING RANGE WAS FOUND IN A LARGE FORT NEAR NEUFCHATEAU. SGT TIEDENS TOOK CHARGE, SET UP TIN CAN TARGETS AND ALSO TEST-FIRED THE .50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS. THE CHANCE TO FIRE AGAIN WAS WELCOMED BY ALL.

SGTS TIEDENS AND SCHAEFER SET TO WORK ON ANOTHER CARPENTRY PROJECT. THEY BUILT SHELVES IN THE SUPPLY TRUCK MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO KEEP MOST OF THE STOCK INSIDE THE TRUCK AT ALL TIMES.

MOVIES WERE SHOWN NIGHTLY FOR MOST OF THE MONTH. THERE WERE BUT A FEW EVENINGS ON WHICH NO FILM WAS AVAILABLE. THE HIGHLIGHTS WERE THE FILMS "DEVOTION" AND "RHAPSODY IN BLUE". AN ADDED FEATURE SHOWN ONE EVENING WAS THE FILM TAKEN BY PFC PANTONI WITH SCENES AND ACTIVITIES IN ARLON AND IN AND AROUND FOURON ST. PIERRE.

THE SPRING LIKE WEATHER OF FEBRUARY ENTICED THE CAMERAMEN OUT OF DOORS AND THEY IN TURN KEPT THE DETACHMENT'S FILM DEVELOPERS AND PRINTERS BUSY. ONE OF THE SMALL THIRD FLOOR ROOMS WITH SMALL WINDOW HAD BEEN BLACKED OUT AND SERVED AS A DARK ROOM. INCREASED PRACTICE BROUGHT BETTER RESULTS AS TIME PASSED AND EVENTUALLY VIRTUALLY ALL MEN OF THE DETACHMENT WITH FILMS TO BE DEVELOPED WERE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AVAILING THEMSELVES OF THE SERVICE.

PX SUPPLIES INCREASED IN QUANTITY, VARIETY AND ATTRACTIVENESS. IN FEBRUARY SGT IRVIN WAS ABLE TO SECURE FOR SALE TWO WATCHES, SOME FOUNTAIN PENS AND SOME PERFUME TO SELL.

A LETTER OF COMMENDATION SENT BY LT. GENERAL DOOLITTLE OF THE EIGHT AIR FORCE TO THE NINTH AIR FORCE IN RECOGNITION OF "Y" SERVICES RENDERED BY DETACHMENT "D" WAS FORWARDED THROUGH SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS TO THIS UNIT. THE LETTER GAVE THE SPECIFIC INSTANCES IN THE PERIOD FROM THE END OF NOVEMBER TO THE END OF DECEMBER IN WHICH FLAP DOG HAD SUPPLIED INFORMATION RESULTING IN SHOOTING DOWN NAZI PLANES IN ADDITION TO DAMAGIN OTHERS. FROM THE STANDPOINT OF SATISFACTION TO ALL THE UNIT, THIS LETTER WAS MOST GRATIFYING AS IT RECOGNIZED THE BENEFITS COMING DIRECTLY FROM D'S OPERATIONS AND WAS NOT CLOAKED IN GENERALITIES.

[REDACTED]

AN ALLOCATION OF COMBAT REST PASSES FOR BRUSSELS AND PARIS WAS MADE BY XXIX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND AND MEN WERE ABLE TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE MANY ADVANTAGES FOR THE G.I. IN THESE REST CENTERS. THE PASSES WERE EXTENDED TO 72 HOURS IN THESE CITIES AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

THE MEN UNDERWENT THE USUAL MONTHLY PHYSICAL INSPECTION ON THE 22ND. THE BILLETTS AND MESS WERE INSPECTED BY THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ON THE 26TH.

RELIGIOUS NIGH SERVICES ON AS USUAL TUESDAY EVENINGS.

PAY CALL WAS HELD ON THE 28TH AGAIN WITH BELGIAN CURRENCY.

THUS ENDED THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IN THE LIFE OF FLAP DOG.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

ROLAND GIVEN
1ST LT., AIR CORPS
ASST. ADJUTANT

[REDACTED]

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

APO 151, U.S. Army
31 March 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History for Month of March 1945

TO : Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
PO 696, U.S. Army

The chapter heading for the month of March in the history of Detachment "D" might well be the phrase familiar in the unit "Flag Dog Hides Again". The calendar page had no sooner been turned to March than the storm toward breaking up the home at Chateau St. Pierre began to follow in logical order.

Unsuspectingly enough, a contingent of one officer, Lt. Nagel, and four enlisted men, Sgt Nauch, Cpl's Kjaer and Picapia and Pfc Hill, took off on a trip to the UK on the first. Sgt Walter Schaefer and Cpl Hill also started out for a three day pass in Paris.

With the dawn of the next day, things began to happen. The 79th division moved out of the neighborhood quite suddenly. The first effect of this move was the removal of the daytime guard at the chateau gate. The more important meaning was that the big push was on and the checkerboard division had a part to play in pushing the Nazis back beyond the Rhine.

The success of the drive in general meant that Flag Dog too would soon be on its merry way. Loose ends were drawn together as if in preparation for a move. Cpl. George Goldman, Dentist for the 305th Fighter Control Group, spent three days at the chateau examining and treating teeth. The Gymer medical also came and administered "shots" to those men needing them.

On the 7th of the month a party set out on reconnaissance in the Munchen-Gladbach area in Germany. Lt. Gottlieb Coblenz and Robinson and S/Sgt Herman went out. Having picked a spot in the town of Hehn near Gypser's new location, the officers returned leaving S/Sgt Herman to speak for Flag Dog's right to the location chosen.

Cpl. Tankel arrived to observe preparations for the move and to look over the new location when possible.

The enlisted Men's Council took the hint and advanced the party, scheduled for 10 March, ~~was~~ to the evening of the 7th. Again there were refreshments of beer, cider, sandwiches and cookies. All present and a good time.

The change in plans for the party was timely as the advanced echelon moved out on the night of 10-11. They arrived a few hours later at Munchen-Gladbach-Hehn barracks, (P-35786).

On the 9th drivers Lewis and Thomas returned with a report of very satisfactory conditions. Bunk beds were to be in an old, comfortable house at Hehn and the men had up gasoline, oil, latrine bucket, shower equipment and return immediately.

[REDACTED]

Shower runs were made to nearby baths at each of the locations. The best accommodations were probably at the last location as there was an immense swimming pool at the location giving men their first opportunity to swim since Flap Dog had been activated.

S/Sgt Brauckman, was appointed Special Service NCO and set to work acquiring additional athletic equipment. The Dutch guards immediately challenged the remainder of the detachment to a soccer football game when an area was found at Soamerschenburg. The Flap Dogs came through with a 2 to 1 victory.

Pay call was held on the 30th with German money. All other money was ordered exchanged to marks and at last it became possible to count one's money quickly.

A second scheduled event was the much talked of volley ball match between the old men, i.e. those over 30 years of age, and the young men. The match was started, but never finished as the game stood 1 to 1 when play stopped.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER :

[REDACTED]

1st Lt. Signal Corp's
Adjutant

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

APO 696, U.S. Army
15 June 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 May to 31 May 1945)

TO: Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
APO 696, U.S. Army

1. In compliance with par 1b letter, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, file 314.7, Subject: "Instructions for the Guidance of Unit Historians," the following information is submitted:

(1) Negative.

(2) Assigned personnel 62, attached from Hq. 2nd Rad Sq Mob (G) 21, as of 31 May 1945.

(3) No movements during May, 1945.

(4) Negative.

(5) All members of this detachment between the dates of 25 July 1944 and 14 September 1944 were awarded battle participation credit for the campaign "Northern France" per letter, file 200.6, Hq. ETOUSA, dtd 30 Mar 45.

Cpl. Saul Kagan was awarded battle participation credit for the campaign "Northern France" per letter Hq 404th Fighter Group, 14 May 1945, and for the campaign "Normandy" per letter, Hq 404th Fighter Group, dtd 28 May 1945.

S/Sgt Donald L. Greoar was awarded battle participation credit for the "Air Offensive Europe" per letter, file 200.6, Hq 359th Fighter Sqdn.

Cpl John F. Hook was authorized a bronze battle participation star for the "Air Offensive Europe" as were S/Sgt Theodore G. Kufeldt and Sgt Ralph D. Squire per letter, file 200.6, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 19 Jul 44.

Capt Ferdinand Gottlieb was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service per sec II, GS 59, Hq Ninth Air Force.

The following named enlisted men were authorized to wear "Badge of Qualification as Motor Vehicle Driver and Mechanic" as per AR 600-21, 22 Sept 44: Sgt Leo H. Dickens, Sgt Lewis G. German, Sgt Frank S. Sommers, Cpl Jose Arce, Cpl Robert W. Kulp, Cpl George W. Lewis, and Cpl Manuel A. Schifilliti as Motor Vehicle Drivers; Sgts Dickens, German and Sommers and Cpl Kulp as Motor Vehicle Mechanics.

[REDACTED]

Operations at La Flanck were to have stopped on the 16th but a last minute change caused their being continued until the morning of the 11th. Vehicles were then brought from the site to the chateau and lined up for the move.

The 90 foot antenna, being found cumbersome, was taken to the Conquer Signal Depot for disposition. It was to be replaced by the lighter 70 feet plywood antenna acquired from Gypsy. This change was in interest of the mobility of the detachment.

The next morning three separate echelons were on their way. The going was slow as the roads were in extremely poor state of repair due to the great volume of traffic moving on to the front. One vehicle, the Ruzor van, refused to cooperate in the move. At first it balked at being sent on the 1st echelon. When finally started and worked into the 3rd echelon, it rolled for a time laying the poorest stretch of road behind under its own power. It stopped, however, and had to be towed the greater part of the distance to Hehn.

The impression carried back by drivers Lewis and Thomson proved to be accurate. The town of Hehn had been untouched by the war except in that it depended on Munchen-Gladbach for water and this public utility was not functioning. Drinking water was brought in from water points as usual, but even wash water had to be brought in by trailer or hauled by the vessel full from a hospital across from the billets.

The mess hall was well located in a cafe. It was spacious and well furnished.

Another cafe across from the officers quarters served as the Day Room. Its dining hall made an excellent room for movies. The bar was complete, ready for dispensing GI beer. Wine was procured and the officers donated a generous portion of their cognac ration to the Day Room bar.

Sleeping accommodations were excellent. Many men were able to enjoy their first real beds with springs and mattresses. Shades of civilian days.

Lt. Gottlieb addressed the enlisted men's council on the subject of security, fraternization and military discipline. It was a solemn audience weighing his words as he spoke. The council members took the warnings back to the men they represented.

The following up the instructions on security measures by bed wire barricades were erected to enclose the entire area and two machine gun emplacements were dug at the approaches to the area. One fifty caliber machine gun was set up at the permanent guard's post. Four guards were posted at night and two in the daylight hours.

Capt. Shaughnessy and Col. Hunter paid the unit a quick visit on the 16th and on the 17th Lt. Col. Turkol returned to see how things were progressing and to complete his interviewing of men. Col. Zuckerman, director of intelligence at Gypsy also visited on the 17th.

With the site set up and defense installations completed, other facilities were provided. A volley ball court was laid out and showers were installed for cleanliness and health. An additional shower was made frequently at Conquer and Gypsy. The mechanics stopped in to give the required monthly inspection and found all in order.

Most of the enlisted men heard the articles of war read on the 23rd of the month.

In view of acting to the mobility of the unit a new 399 was procured at headquarters and set up in the field near the officers quarters. It was thus unnecessary to set up a transmitter room removed from the site. Instead the 399 could be easily and quickly moved to a spot satisfactory for transmitting.

A separate D/F and R/T team combination was moved up to an **NEW** installation north of Krefeld-Bordingen and put into operation to give cross bearings. It was designated as miko. The men chosen to go were pleased with their accommodations and operating conditions from all reports which found their way back.

On the 21st the Ninth Army crossed the Rhine river at Wesel and Flap Dog began to wonder just how long the peaceful life at Nohn would last.

A commendation was received recognizing the part played by each echelon in an exceptional record earned by Ninth Air Force flyers in having 98.5% of all planes attack targets or accomplish their missions in a recent period of several days. The commendation had been forwarded from ~~XXIX~~ Tactical Air Command, on down coming to Detachment "D" from Col. R.C. Maude, Director of Communications.

Normal building facilities such as PX, movie and mail continued regularly throughout the month. Sgt Irvin had a separate room set aside as PX and mail room.

The month ended with pay roll on the 31st this time with Dutch Money.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1st Lt. Signal Corps
adjutant

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of hostilities was at hand, then there were other signs such as returning all surplus considered excess to squadron headquarters. At this point even the .50 caliber machine guns were termed excess and were turned in.

The allotment of passes became very liberal with the slackening of activity. One group of men left for Paris with the truckload of supplies being taken to headquarters. A truckload of men went to Brussels in a vehicle detailed to pick up laundry long since waiting at Fourn St. Pierre. A third group of men were given furloughs to the UK.

All these men were counted fortunate in being in lively centers of activity when V-E day arrived. Back at Somerschenburg the day was spent quietly. The general sentiment was that the job was but half finished and that any jubilation was to be withheld until the day the enemy in the Pacific was beaten.

On the 11th and 13th special orders were received listing promotions. One list came for the 2nd Radio Squadron and two others came for the 3rd Radio. The promotions were widely distributed without obvious predominance in any section.

Also on the 13th a call came to transport Lt. **Cabin** by the most expeditious means to headquarters so that he might be sent to the U.S. Group Control Council.

[REDACTED]

Flap Dog's softball team started its season with a sound whipping when it tackled the strong MEW team at nearby Belsdorf. The first and other early games showed that while there was a good deal of baseball talent, there was also a great need for practice. Games with the 771st Tank Destroyer Battalion men of the area were well split between Flap Dog and the TD's.

On May 14th the movie "Two Down and One to Go" was shown to detachment "D". All men present for duty attended and great was the weeping when it was seen how Air Force personnel would be re-deployed to the Pacific in large numbers.

Fifteen R/T men were sent out on detached service to the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey on 15 May. There were very few R/T men remaining after this shipment.

Physical profile examinations were taken at the 108th Evacuation Hospital on the 18th and 19th of the month. The next days were busy ones for the orderly room personnel as Adjusted Service Rating scores and Physical Profile indices were recorded, checked and reported. When all the calculating was finished, the high point men were Cpl Rock with 114 points, S/Sgt Greear with 109, Pfc White with 91, Sgt Mathews with 90 and Sgt Dicene with 89.

A training program was started during the lull in activity. Lt. Drawry was appointed training officer and S/Sgt Strotz training NCO. Subjects treated were Defense and Security, Emergency and Field Living Conditions, Medical and Health Instruction and Small Arms Instruction. The highlight of these classes was the lecture by Lt. Duchwitz, 771st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

The program was interrupted by the preparations for a move. An advanced party was sent out to prepare quarters at Flap Baker's rear echelon. Several false alarms for the movement of the balance of the detachment were sounded as Flap Dog awaited its release from Gy. gy. Permission to move was finally granted at the very end of the month and Flap Dog packed up once more to move off to a new home.

FERDINAND GOTTLIEB
Captain, Signal Corps
Commanding

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

AO 696, U.S. Army
5 July 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 June to 30 June 1945)

TO: Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
AO 696, U.S. Army

1. In compliance with per lb letter, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, file 314.7, Subject: "Instructions for the Guidance of Unit Historians," the following information is submitted:

(1) Det. "D" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) was disbanded officially 14 June 1945 per par 8 ltr HQ Ninth AF, file 376.9 dtd 12 June 1945. All assigned personnel were Det. "E" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G). Atdtd personnel further attdtd Det. "E" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G).

(2) Strength on 30 June: no personnel assign, attdtd, unassign or attdtd fr other organs.

(3) Detachment movements during June 1945: Departed Gommerschenburg, Germany (RY 3109) arrived Fliegerlager 2 miles east Zierenberg, Kassel, Germany, (AO 1209) 1 June 1945.

(4) Negative.

(5) Cpl. Frank D. Paul was authorized Bronze Battle Participation Stars for the campaigns "Normandy" and "Northern France" per letters 200.6 HQ AFMGS, 17 March 1945 and 30 March 1945.

Sgt. James F. Hobart was authorized to wear a Bronze Battle Participation Star for the campaign "Normandy" per letter 200.6 HQ AFMGS dtd 15 Nov 1944.

All personnel present with Det. "D" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) between 14 Dec 1944 and 25 Jan 1945 were authorized a Bronze Battle Participation Star for the campaign "Lorraine" per letter 200.6 HQ IXth Tactical Air Command dtd 12 June 1945.

~~CONTAINS SENSITIVE MATERIAL~~

CLASSIFIED BY USAESS/HO
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 2
DECLASSIFY ON: Indefinite

Reviewed for Declassification
by Shuman/XP Date: 2 Oct 79
DECLASSIFIED per EO 12065
by Commander, USAESS

The month of June started off for Flug Detachment with a move from Pommerschenburg to the Fliegerlager, east and a little south of Hohenberg, Germany. This latter place was pictorially located about 10 miles northwest of Hohenberg, a part of Army 5th Air Force headquarters on their routine "mail run."

The Fliegerlager was a former glider pilot training school located in a cluster of hills. Most fascinating of these hills was the Hoernberg, a huge hill to the northeast. The Hoernberg was covered with unusual rock formations. Its scenic beauty and the destination of the Fliegerlager, Flug Detachment, and the Fliegerlager were the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

By the first of the 1st Detachment was to be notified. Baker moved in soon after, and both detachments had headquarters in the Fliegerlager. Occupied by the Fliegerlager, the Fliegerlager was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

Unpleasant personal changes included the return of Lt. Col. Baker to the hospital in the hospital. This was the first time in 1945 that Baker returned to Hohenberg.

Another incident in the Fliegerlager was the death of Lt. Col. Baker. Baker's death was a great loss to the Fliegerlager. Baker was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager. Baker's death was a great loss to the Fliegerlager.

The Fliegerlager was visited by the Fliegerlager commander, Lt. Col. Baker, and the Fliegerlager commander, Lt. Col. Baker. Baker was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

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The Fliegerlager was visited by the Fliegerlager commander, Lt. Col. Baker, and the Fliegerlager commander, Lt. Col. Baker. Baker was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

By the first of June 1945 all the steps necessary to the Fliegerlager of Hohenberg and the Fliegerlager were accomplished. Baker was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

Flug Detachment had been established after the war of a number of months. Baker was the main attraction of the Fliegerlager.

elf

ATTACHMENT "E"
JICF RADIO SQUADRON HISTORY (G)

ARO 696, U S Army
12 January 1945

UNIT HISTORY -- MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944.

This month was the most active since the early days on the Normandy Beach-head, and was an especially busy one for this detachment as it is the funneling unit for intelligence information for the Squadron.

The amount of traffic handled by the two JICF stations was by far the largest yet. This was due to two reasons:-

1. Enemy activity was at its peak, especially from the night of 16 December to the end of the month. It consisted primarily of support operations for their ground troops and harassing operations against our ground troops.
2. All land-line communication was severed during a portion of the period as a result of the breakthrough and also attacks on our communications centers. The only communication left was radio which handled all types of traffic and was overloaded at times.

However, operationally, the unit's performance was outstanding. Headquarters was kept well informed of all types of enemy activity over the entire front and especially the activity in the breakthrough area. The initial dropping of para-troopers from 90 transports was also received, passed to those concerned, and to headquarters.

Enemy air activity also reached new heights over our particular area during the month with aircraft over every night from 17 December to the end of the month and, in a few instances, they were seen overhead during daylight hours. A few bombs were reported in the vicinity and a comparatively large amount of ground strafing. Only one "Juno-bomb" was heard going overhead during the period.

The climax of excitement came from headquarters on the evening of 19 December in the form of an evacuation readiness plan. It was then that we packed a few things, gassed all vehicles, and in general got ready to evacuate our present site.

But, evacuation was not necessary, and by the end of the month, conditions favored our remaining although the current emergency plan is still in effect.

The direct teletype link, connecting this unit with S.I.C., A-2 section at headquarters carried a very interesting tale during the latter portion of the month. During two or three days it must have appeared like a page torn from an historical novel concerning a ship lost at sea, or at sea. It is part of our responsibility to keep headquarters informed of present communication facilities and their serviceability. At the time land-lines were beginning to fail, these circumstances were reported as they occurred, until 23 December when all outside land-line communication was severed. Information was available in the form of warnings of enemy air activity but could not be passed fast enough to be of value. Anyway, everyone knew of continuous and intensive activity, so additional warnings would not have helped too much.

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065
by Director, NSA/Chief, CCS

A.B.S. 22 January 1980

Det "E", 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C), "Unit History--Month of December 1944", 12 January 1945

Outside land-line communication began an upgrade movement and by the end of the month was almost normal. This incident taught all of us one thing - "Not to rely too heavily on land-lines; Make better and more extensive use of radio, which does not fail so readily during emergencies."

The news service to commands was continuous throughout the month, with good coverage of the war news on all fronts throughout the world.

Mess standards remained as usual - Excellent. Christmas was observed by all with "turkey and all the trimmings" on the mess.

Coal was finally received during the last few days of the month and central heating placed in operation.

Ivan R. Fetter
IVAN R. FETTER,
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE JAMES EARL RAY (C)

NO 696, U S Army
11 February 1945

UNIT DEBRIEF - INTERIM ON JANUARY 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

Aerial intelligence traffic was comparatively slight during the month of January. The tide had turned for "Jerry" and for the most part he had exhausted most of his energies during the arduous breakthrough days of December.

But that was not the main reason for our lack of activity during the period. The Germans started the new year right, supposedly so, with a well planned allied airfield attack on 1 January 1945. It was so well planned that the entire "show" was accomplished (unsuccessfully) with complete R/T silence until the mission had been completed and only sounds heard were landing instructions.

Revised R/T tactics also limited the work and evaluation during the beginning of the month, and the Russian offensive in the east during the latter portion of the month. Many units were drawn from the western front (possibly half their strength or better) for support in the east.

Revised R/T codes, some new codes, and altered procedures limited the work of the squadron from that angle. It was no longer possible to decode the Luftwaffe's flat warning code rapidly, due to a change in code and the addition of registering tables or sheets, which were so fruitful during November and December.

However, the work of the detachment was accomplished very well and to the satisfaction of all concerned. Information was furnished to headquarters as rapidly as available.

The system of passing the daily summary to SHAEF (Air) and Air Ministry was altered on the twentieth. It was formerly passed to Detachment "A" by radio and passed by them to SHAEF and the US by teletype. It is now sent directly from Advanced Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, by teletype to SHAEF and to Air Ministry. A new subscriber has also been added, the Signal Intelligence section of British Second SFG and is passed by teletype directly to them.

INS-OPERATIONAL

The news services maintained its superior standard with added subscribers. The scope of the service, which started on the morning reached to furnish the detachment with the daily news, now extends not only to the Commanding General, Ninth Air Force and Generals of all the Tactical Air Commands, but also to the Main Headquarters, Ninth Air Force by teletype. This also increases the internal distribution at Advanced Headquarters.

All fronts in all theatres are covered with special attention recently to the Eastern European Front and the Pacific War fronts.

The undersigned made a trip to Detachment "C" on 25 January 1945 and Detachment "D", 849th S.I.S., unit attached to VII Tactical Air Command of First SFG

Radio Communication "Unit Mary - North of Jersey 1945", 11 February 1945.

(encl), together with S/L Stacy of _____ Air Ministry. New cryptographic devices and documents were delivered to both units.

S/L Stacy is the W/C expert from Air Ministry and his statements and suggestions were very helpful to both units. Additional information was requested by Stacy in the reports submitted to this detachment which in turn will be summarized and forwarded in the daily summaries to all concerned. The additional bits of information will aid the experts in the HQ in their research work, and consequently, their findings will assist the field units.

GENERAL SITUATION

Every air activity over our area during the period was practically nil. However, one bomb was dropped in the 4 mile zone on 12 January by a jet aircraft and there were two or three others reported in other sections of the city.

The shelling of the city during the first two weeks, with a form of rocket missile, was the worst experienced to date. During the first of this period, only one or two of the missiles landed or hit the city. These kept increasing in intensity until, on the eleventh, reached its peak. On that date, the enemy launched one or two during the day and at 1:00 hours they began dropping every 20 minutes until 8:30 hours, when the last one for that night was launched. This one landed in the same block as our location, breaking several windows in the house and loosening some of the plaster. It also caused a great rush for the shelter.

On the twelfth, rockets were launched during the day with the bombs mentioned above dropped at 1:00 hours completed the harassing for that day. This particular day, too, will remain fixed in the minds of all men. During the course of the day rockets had landed within a block or two on all sides and it was expected that the next one would be our destiny. But the 1:00 hours bomb two blocks away concluded the activity for that day.

The rockets decreased in intensity from the thirteenth to the seventeenth, when they stopped entirely.

RELOCATION

The undersigned was advised, on 18 January, of the proposed move of Advanced Headquarters, 12th Air Force and to each new quarters and operational site in the vicinity of the proposed location.

The unit planned; departed immediately for Namur, Belgium. A very satisfactory location was found on the twentieth and the unit moved 20 January from the city of Luxembourg to its new base at Noyon, Belgium, a small, beautiful cluster situated high on a hill overlooking the Meuse River. This serves as both housing and operational site.

An advanced detachment consisting of all men were sent to the new location on 27 January to set up communications and a relay for the balance of the unit.

The move was completed very satisfactorily without a break in operation.

Radio Communication, "Unit Diary - March of January 1945", 11 February 1945

Meals - The kitchen functioned very well throughout the month and produced the usual excellent meals. However, during the latter portion of our stay in Luxembourg, rations decreased slightly in their standards.

Transportation - The one 2½ ton cargo truck turned in for motor replacement shortly before the breakthrough was recovered but the Ordnance Depot had not worked on same. The depot was located almost in the area through which the German advance was made and it was feared the truck might be lost. It will be turned in again at another depot.

Supplies - Both sweaters and the new sleeping bags or bed rolls were received and received by all personnel of the unit. The month as a whole was quite cold with a good quantity of snow.

The undersigned departed 31 January for both detachments "B", and "C" to deliver cryptographic devices.

Irwin R. Fetter
IRWIN R. FETTER,
Captain, Sig Co.
Commanding.

DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON (G)

AO 606, U S Army
15 March 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1945

GENERAL

Traffic on the squadron nets during the month was moderate.

Enemy air activity during the first half of the month was very light but gradually built up during the latter half of the period as allied armies advanced on German soil from the North toward the Rhine.

The enemy flank warning system maintained the same deciphered code inaugurated on 1 January 1945. Consequently, the W/E Detachment could not decode such traffic rapidly enough to be of tactical value.

A slight difficulty was encountered during the middle of the month in the receipt of the daily summary by _____ Air Ministry by early morning, although SEAF, _____ and 2nd Tactical Air Force received theirs in good time. It was discovered that the routing was incorrect and this changed, all subscribers received the summaries by early morning.

The work of the unit in getting intelligence information from the detachments and the Air Ministry broadcast and passing on to SIS was accomplished to our recipients satisfaction.

NON-OPERATIONAL

The main non-operational function of this unit is the news service, which provided our subscribers with full coverage of all fronts throughout the month. A translation of the German propaganda news was also provided. However, for several days this was not entirely complete due to bad reception.

The undersigned returned from Detachments "D" and "E" on 3 February 1945, after having delivered new cryptographic devices to both units.

A visit was also made to Detachment "A" on 12 February 1945 to discuss with Major Silverstein, Deputy Squadron Commander, and intelligence officers of Detachment "A" methods or means of getting immediate tactical information through to the W/E Detachments, if there were ever a ~~possibility~~ of a low grade enemy flank warning code. These discussions were terminated and the return trip to the unit made on 16 February 1945.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES

Due partly to our present location, and partly to revised methods in employment of the enemy air forces, no enemy air activity experienced during the period.

Resic Com, "Unit History - Month of February 1945", 19 March 1945, cont'd

ADMINISTRATIVE

The unit lost one man, Pvt. Vernon H. Hughes, to the Ground Forces Reinforcement Center on 8 February 1945. Everyone regretted Pvt. Hughes' departure and are also keeping their fingers crossed for future requirements. The replacement for Pvt. Hughes has not yet arrived, but his arrival has been promised in the near future.

All men received the combat infantry physical during the early part of the month.

Major Silverstein arrived on 17 February 1945 to spend several days with the unit. This was his first visit and the unit felt honored. During his stay, he compiled various reports of the squadron activities, mainly operational, and also commendations which have been received for the squadron as a whole and by the separate detachments from various Air Forces, Tactical Air Forces, and other commands. He departed for Squadron Headquarters on 27 February 1945, well armed with material and documents, to await orders sending him to the states.

A new cryptographic man, 1/c. Edward Schneider, joined the unit on 3 February 1945. The cryptographic section is again fully staffed.

Mess - Our new location appears to be very good from a food standpoint. Better rations have been received, resulting in happier expressions and fuller stomachs. Our new kitchen is the best the unit has had to date, and the mess as a whole has been at its best.

Transportation - All vehicles received a complete check during the month by the local ordinance. The motor in one 2 1/2 ton cargo truck was salvaged and replaced by a new one. Both olive drab and white paint were secured and the men spent the pleasant days out-of-doors, painting vehicles. As a consequence, all trucks received new spring trucks complete with white letters and trimmings.

Also, approximately sixty (60) tons of heavy and fine gravel were hauled and placed on the driveway which is completely serviceable now.

John R. Little
John R. Little,
Captain, Sig Co.
Commanding.

DETACHMENT "A"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

ARO 696, U S Army
31 March 1945

1. Negative.
2. Strength on 31 March 1945: Officers - 1, Enlisted men - 31
3. No change; outfit was stationed at Wexion, Belgium (VO 9607) during entire month.
4. Negative.
5. Squadron awarded meritorious Service Unit Plaque and enlisted men of Detachment authorized to wear Meritorious Service Wreath per Sec I, General Order 46, Eq Ninth Air Force.

Squadron awarded battle credit for participation in the campaign "Normandy", per war 1, ltr, Eq European TC USA, file 200.6, dtd 17 Mar 45, subj: "Battle Participation Awards - Normandy Campaign (No. 4)"

DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
13 April 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF MARCH 1945

OPERATIONAL

The traffic handled on the two squadron radio nets increased some what over the traffic handled during the previous month. Recent advances all along the western front have compelled the enemy airforce into action. Many units were active due to necessity rather than desire. Our troops were over-running their airdromes, etc.

The enemy flak warning code was again decypherable during the month of March and much of it was used operationally. However, it remained a reapherable code and required time to decode. Therefore, much of the material obtained therein could not be used tactically, as it was during the months of November and December 1944.

As our forces advanced towards the Rhein River, the Luftwaffe was forced to move from its airdromes in those areas and the movement of such units to new locations was covered by the enemy flak warning system. Therefore, we were able to maintain an account of the units and how they might be used against the advancing allies. In many cases, they were forced to move entirely too far inland to be of frontline value.

All subscribers to the daily summaries of G.F activity were served without fail during the entire month.

The efforts of the detachment in securing intelligence information from other monitoring units of the squadron and the intelligence broadcast emanating from the UK were reported by SIS as being very satisfactory during the period covered by this report.

NON-OPERATIONAL

Full coverage of all fronts in all theatres was attained by the news service of this detachment. The German propaganada broadcast was covered without fail throughout the entire period.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

There was no enemy activity experienced during the month of March.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The undersigned left for the city of Luxembourg on 29 March 1945 for the purpose of locating a new housing and operational site for the unit in preparation for moving to that city. A very nice house was located and was to be vacated by its G.I. occupants three days before our move was scheduled to take place. Our new home has hot, running water and is centrally heated by a hot-water system. Living quarters promise to be very comfortable, with ample

Basic Comd, "Unit History Month of March 1945" dated 15 April 1945, cont'd.

space for all personnel. However, it appears that the operational section of the detachment will operate in a tent somewhere within the area of the house. With warmer weather coming, that location should not be too uncomfortable -- and with the installation of a stove, it could be made quite comfortable. The advanced party of five men were sent to the new location on 31 March to start setting up operations. The move was scheduled, and executed, on 2 April 1945.

Personnel - Cpl Zavodny was sent to the hospital on 7 March 1945 by the local dispensary for a complete check-up. He seemed to have a nervous condition that the local dispensary could not analyze sufficiently, so he was sent to the air force field hospital for further diagnosis. He returned to the unit on 28 March 1945 classified as Limited Assignment, i.e., unfit for combat duty.

The replacement for Pvt. Hughes, who was sent to the Ground Forces Reinforcement Center last month, arrived on 16 March 1945. Pvt. Bryant is the replacement. He is classified as driver-mechanic, an individual the detachment has needed for some time now in order to keep the unit's seven vehicles in good working condition.

S/Sgt. Forbes left for his seven day leave to the UK on 26 March.

Sgt. Younger left for his seven day leave to the UK on 2 March and returned on 23 March. He reported a very fine and relaxing furlough.

Mess - Our mess section maintained its usual high standards of food.

Supply - Two typewriters were added to our supply of equipment, as well as seven water cans and some badly needed kitchen utensils.

Transportation - No trouble was encountered during the month in motor pool. The complete check-up and repainting of all vehicles during the previous month helped maintenance problems one-hundred per cent.

Ivan R. Fetter
IVAN R. FETTER,
Captain, Sig C.

DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

AFO 696, U S Army
13 May 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF APRIL 1945

OPERATIONAL

The amount of traffic handled on the two squadron radio nets remained unchanged over the amount handled during the previous month. Lightning advances all along the western front compelled the enemy airforce into action. Enemy transport activity was the heaviest during this period. During the period, enemy forces were concentrated on the western front, and, at the same time, were being widely scattered by our air force and advancing ground troops. Thus the enemy was compelled to use their transports and our troops continued to overrun their aerodromes.

Little or no tactical use was made of the enemy flak warning code for this period.

The sudden crossing of the Rhine River and the quick advances made on areas east of its eastern bank by our forces from the North Sea to the Swiss frontier caused a complete disintegration in enemy organization. Many enemy units, aerodromes, etc., were overrun and put out of operation. The month of April saw the complete shattering of interior Germany. During the latter half of the period of this report, enemy action may well have been termed "feeble" and without avail. The latter half, too, saw enemy groupings everywhere completely surrounded by our forces. It was during this period that Allied operations reached their climax. This period, too, saw enemy aerial activity reach a point of desperation but then quickly dwindle to scattered actions at the end of the period.

All subscribers to the daily summaries of GAF activity were served without fail during the entire month.

The efforts of the detachment in securing intelligence information from other monitoring units of the squadron and the intelligence broadcast emanating from the UK were reported by SIS, A-2, Advanced Headquarters, Ninth Air Force as being very satisfactory during the period covered by this report.

NON-OPERATIONAL

Full coverage of all fronts in all theatres was attained by the news service of this detachment. The German propaganda broadcast was covered throughout the entire period.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

There was no enemy activity experienced during the month of April.

Basic Comm, "Unit History-Month of April", dated 13 May 1945 cont'd.

ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned left for the city of Wiesbaden, Germany on 8 April 1945 for the purpose of picking-out a new operational and billeting site for the detachment. A spacious "Castle on the Rhine" was finally chosen and on 10 April 1945, the advanced party, consisting of 5 men and some equipment, were moved to the new location for the purpose of setting-up preliminary operations. The move was scheduled for 13 April 1945, and on that date the remainder of the detachment proceeded to the new location.

Personnel - S/Sgt. Walter E. Forbes returned to the detachment from a furlough in the UK on 16 April 1945. He reported a very fine furlough.

Cpl. Frank J. Coram was married to Miss Christine Alf of the city of Luxembourg on 7 April 1945. The wedding and reception were well attended by members of the detachment. We all extend our congratulations and best wishes to Cpl. and Mrs. Coram.

Mess - The mess section continued to cooperate well and efficiently. However, due to the 10 percent decrease in rations, we were forced to lower our normal high standards somewhat.

Transportation - No serious trouble was encountered during the month in the motor pool. Some of the vehicles were taken into Ordnance for general overhauling and minor repairs and are now in excellent condition.

Supply - Our supply remained more or less static during the month.

Ivan R. Fetter
IVAN R. FETTER,
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding

DETACHMENT "B"
3d RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

AGO 696, U S Army
15 May 1945

Unit History for April 1945

1. Augmentation of ratings received from 2nd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) through agreement between Commanding General, First Tactical Air Force and Commanding General, Ninth Air Force.

2. Unit strength on 30 April 1945 - 1 officer attached from other organization, 20 enlisted men assigned, and 10 enlisted men attached from other organization.

3. 2 April 1945, departed Nepton, Belgium, WO 9607, and moved to Luxembourg, Luxembourg, WF 8213, per movement order No. 29, Advanced No, Ninth Air Force, dated 31 March 1945.

13 April 1945, moved from Luxembourg, Luxembourg, WF 8213, to Wiesbaden Germany, WF 3663, per Movement Order, No. 30, Advanced No, Ninth Air Force, dated 10 April 1945.

4. No losses in action.

5. No awards.

Basic Comm, "Unit History-Month of May", dated 19 June 1945, cont'd

consisting of two men, was sent to the new location for the purpose of holding it for the detachment. The final move was made on 27 May 1945, and the new site promises to be very comfortable and satisfactory.

Personnel - The detachment, and the entire squadron, was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of T/Sgt. Carl Bogich, which occurred on 18 May 1945. T/Sgt. Bogich drowned while swimming in the Rhine River. His body was recovered on 22 May 1945, and was accompanied to the cemetery by four members of the detachment.

Sgt. Gustav Geisel was sent to a general hospital by the local dispensary on 22 May 1945 for a complete physical check-up. He has not yet returned from the hospital but recent reports from Sgt. Geisel indicate that reports of examinations are favorable.

Mess - The mess section continued to operate well and efficiently.

Transportation - The motor pool continued to remain in good condition, with only normal runs to ordnance for routine overhauling.

Supply - Our supply remained more or less static during the period.

John R. Fettes
IVAN H. FETTES,
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding.

SECRET
3RD LINDSAY S. W. DRAIN (1)

19 July 1948

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

1. SUMMARY

The first two items in this report concern the activities of the ...
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2. DETAILS

The daily news report was prepared ... of the ... of the ...
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3. CONCLUSIONS

The information ... of the ... of the ... of the ... of the ...
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4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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over the mess and Sgt Young was transferred in from Detachment 2nd to replace Sgt Hankinson. The operation of the mess was very satisfactory throughout the month.

Transportation - The motor pool personnel and others in the detachment began painting all vehicles, making repairs, overhauls, and in general getting all our vehicles in tip-top condition.

Supply - The unit supply remained static during the period.

FRANK R. BERTON;
Captain, SIGC
Commanding

DEPARTMENT "D"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

AFO 696, U S Army
18 July 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 June to 30 June 1945)

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), AFO 696, U S Army

1. In compliance with Par 1 b, Letter, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, File 314.7, Subj: "Instructions for the guidance of Unit Historians", the following information is submitted:

(1) S/Sgt. Walter E. Forbes aptd T/Sgt. and Cpl. Frank J. Coran aptd Sgt. per Par 1 SO 32, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt. John S. Rankinson rel'd of asgmt this Det and trfd in gr to Det "C", 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) per Par 6 SO 35, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt. Glennis J. Young asgd and jd this Det fr Det "A", 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) per Par 6 SO 35, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Capt. Ivan R. Fetter rel'd of asgmt 2nd Rad Sq Mob (G) and trfd to this Det per Par 5 SO 170, Hq. Ninth Air Force.

Sgt. Varian R. Bauman aptd S/Sgt and Cpl. Donald R. Brown, Cpl. Eugene D. Galloway aptd Sgt. per Par 4 SO 36, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Pfc. Edward Schneider aptd Cpl. per Par 4 SO 36, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

(2) Unit Strength as of 30 June 1945:
EM - Assigned - 19 Officers - Assigned - 1
 Attached - 9 Attached - 3

(3) Negative

(4) Negative

(5) Negative

SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 898, The Army
30 August 1948

Summary - 30 August 1948

Operations

The one squadron net has been maintained throughout the month without fail and communications have been excellent. However, the amount of traffic handling remains heavy. It has proved to be a reliable means of communication when direct landlines to the two field detachments fail, which occurred several times during the month.

Mail Services

The only non-operational function of the detachment, the "Daily News Sheet," was provided without fail throughout the month. Full coverage of news in the Pacific was included.

Personnel

No changes.

Equipment

At technicians, the high point was in the night, was reported in the case of interior for his duty functions and possible discharge from the services.

A slightly increased number of personnel were given assignments to the two field detachments. It has been noted hereby orders are out for men to leave on furlough about a set date and return providing a rotating system for all personnel.

Food - Excellent throughout period.

Transportation - The field truck was turned in to a local organization for replacement with a new, possibly motor replacement.

Supply - No change.

~~CONTAINS SENSITIVE MATERIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFIED BY
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652

Reviewed for Declassification

by *[Signature]* Date: *26 Sep 79*

DECLASSIFIED BY: *[Signature]* 12063

by Commander USAFMS

INCLOSURE

Typed copies of certain pages of the histories are included as an inclosure to these histories because of our inability to produce readable copies of some of the poorer quality, carbon originals. These typed copies bear page numbers that are identical to the illegible pages of the histories.

~~SECRET~~

IT WAS COLD AND DAMP IN THE CARRIAGE OF THE TRAIN THAT WAS CARRYING US TO OUR NEW CAMP, AND THE THIN STREAKS OF RAIN STREAMING DOWN THE WINDOW PANE ADDED TO THE DREARY ATMOSPHERE IN THE LITTLE COMPARTMENT. THE SHRILL BLAST OF THE TRAIN WHISTLE SOUNDED FROM THE FAR END OF THE PLATFORM AND THE LONG GREEN STRING OF CARS CARRYING IT CARGO OF FREIGHT, PLEASURE SEEKERS AND SOLDIERS STARTED OUT OF THE STATION AT STOKE-ON-TRENT.

OVER IN ONE CORNER OF THE TINY COMPARTMENT SAT SOL DRAKE DREAMILY PEERING OUT OF THE RAIN STREAKED WINDOW, "THERE IT GOES MEN," HE SAID, "STOKE-ON-TRENT, BOY I'LL BET WE'LL NEVER FORGET THIS PLACE, WILL WE?" NO ONE ANSWERED.-----THE TRAIN PICKED UP SPEED AS SHE PULLED OUT INTO THE OPEN COUNTRY, AND THE UNUSUAL QUIET IN THE TINY ROOM BECAME SOMEWHAT ANNOYING. THE WET DREARY WEATHER OUTSIDE SEEMED TO REFLECT THE EMOTION OF THE MEN WITHIN AND ALTHOUGH NO ONE SPOKE, WE ALL WERE DEEP IN THOUGHT.

THERE IT WAS MARCH 18, 1944, THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH WHEN MOST GI'S WERE STILL GOING STRONG ON THEIR PAY AND ENJOYING THEMSELVES BUT IN THIS PARTICULAR GROUP THERE WAS NO SIGN OF LEVITY. WE ALL FELT PRETTY BLUE LEAVING OUR OLD OUTFIT AND THE MEN IN IT. BUT MORE THAN THAT, WE WERE DOWN IN THE DUMPS FOR THE REASON WE BELIEVED WE WERE BEING SENT AWAY.

THE RAIN WAS COMING DOWN MORE FIERCELY NOW AND SOL STOPPED LOOKING OUT OF THE WINDOW. HE LOOKED AT THE FACES AROUND HIM AND THEN MUTTERED TO HIMSELF, "I DON'T GET IT. WE ALL DID PRETTY GOOD WORK WITH THE OLD OUTFIT AND WE WORKED LONG AND HARD TO KNOW WHAT WE DO NOW. IT JUST DOES NOT MAKE SENSE."

ALFRED ABALOS LOOKED UP AT HIM AND CASUALLY LIT A CIGARETTE. SOL SEEMED TO KNOW WHAT AL WAS GOING TO SAY AND HE WAITED. ABALOS TOOK A LONG DRAG ON THE WEED, EXHALING SLOWLY AND SAID, "I GUESS WE'RE CONSIDERED PLAIN 'EIGHTBALLS' KID, AND THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT." EVERYONE IN THE ROOM LOOKED UP AT ONCE AS THOUGH THE SAME THOUGHT WAS PASSING THROUGH ALL OUR MINDS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

"EIGHTBALLS," THAT SEEMED TO BE THE ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM OF WHY THIS GROUP OF SPECIALLY TRAINED RADIO INTERCEPT OPERATORS WAS BEING SENT AWAY. THERE WASN'T ANYONE IN THE COMPARTMENT WHO COULDN'T THINK OF SOME ONE OR TWO THINGS THAT HE HAD DONE WHILE HE WAS WITH THE 951 SIG RAD. INT. CO. THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE REASON FOR SUCH A HARSH LABEL.

THE TRAIN SPED ON THROUGH THE RAIN BRINGING US CLOSER TO OUR DESTINATION AND ASIDE FROM AS OCCASIONAL WORD, SILENCE REIGNED. WE HAD ALL AGREED THAT THE REASON FOR OUR TRANSFER HAD BEEN DISCOVERED AND THAT REASON FOR OUR SHIPMENT, WE STILL HAVE A WHOLE NEW FUTURE IN FRONT OF US AND MAYBE WE'LL GET A BETTER DEAL OUT OF THIS IN THE LONG RUN." YES, THE POSSIBILITY OF THAT SOUNDED GOOD BUT STILL WE COULDN'T GET OVER THE THOUGHT OF BEING 'EIGHTBALLS'.

5 -----

ABOUT ELEVEN O'CLOCK THAT NIGHT, WE ARRIVED AT "GRATELEY", A SMALL STATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. IT HAD STOPPED RAINING NOW AND THE SMALL BODY OF MEN ASSEMBLED ON THE OPEN PLATFORM TO AWAIT THE COMING OF AN OFFICER. IN A SHORT WHILE A LIEUTENANT ARRIVED AND INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS LT. HEINRICH. THE NON-COM IN CHARGE TOOK THE SALUTE AND PRESENTED THE OFFICER WITH THE TRAVEL ORDERS IDENTIFYING US AS THE DETACHMENT FROM THE 951 SIG. R. I. CO. "SERGEANT," SAID THE LT. "GET ALL YOUR MEN ABOARD THE TRUCKS AND WE'LL HEAD FOR CAMP AND A BITE TO EAT." THE THOUGHT OF CHOW SOUNDED PRETTY GOOD TO US AS WE HAD NOT EATEN FOR SEVERAL HOURS AND FOR THE TIME BEING WE ALL HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT BEING 'EIGHTBALLS'.

[REDACTED]

SUPPER WAS EATEN QUIETLY, AND FEW WORDS WERE SPOKEN. SLEEPING QUARTERS WERE ASSIGNED WITH THE 414 SIG CO AVN, AND WE WERE TOLD THAT IN THE MORNING THE OFFICER IN CHARGE WOULD INFORM US OF OUR PURPOSE HERE, AND THE NATURE OF OUR WORK. WE ALL TURNED IN AFTER CHOW ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE DAY TO COME AND WHAT WE WOULD BE TOLD.

AT NINE O'CLOCK THE GROUP ASSEMBLED IN THE SIGNAL BLOCK WHERE LT. WAS WAITING TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO US. "YOU MEN ARE HERE," HE SAID, "TO ROUND OUT A NEW RADIO INT. SQDN. THAT WILL BE ACTIVATED IN SEVERAL DAYS. YOU WERE SELECTED BECAUSE OF YOUR TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS-----NO OTHER REASON WAS USED TO SELECT THIS GROUP." WE LISTENED, BUT WERE STILL SCEPTICAL BECAUSE THIS SEEMED TO BE THE USUAL PEP TALK GIVEN A NEW BUNCH OF MEN COMING TO ANOTHER OUTFIT. "IN SEVERAL DAYS," CONTINUED THE LT., "ANOTHER BODY OF MEN WILL ARRIVE TO FORM A SECTION OF THE DETACHMENT THAT WILL BE KNOWN AS THE RADIO TELEPHONY ARM, AND YOUR ARM WILL BE CALLED THE WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY SECTION."

AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION, AN OUTLINE OF WHAT WE WOULD DO, AND WHAT WAS EXPECTED OF US WAS GIVEN BY THE OFFICER, AND WE LEFT THE BLOCK TO DO AS WE PLEASED TILL THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN WE WERE TO TAKE EXAMINATIONS TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH RADIO PROCEDURE WE STILL REMEMBERED AND TO SELECT FOUR MEN TO GO INTO ACTUAL COMMUNICATIONS WORK WITH THE 414 SIG CO.

ON MONDAY MARCH 20, THE EXAMS WERE GIVEN, AND SGT ROSENSWEIG, CPL ZIEMKE, CPL POWELL AND PFC ROTHBERG WERE THE FOUR MEN SELECTED TO GO INTO ACTUAL OPERATIONS. THE REST OF THE UNIT WAS TO ATTEND CLASSES IN RADIO PROCEDURE, AND LOOSEN UP THEIR "FISTS."

NEARLY A WEEK PASSED WITH NO ALTERATION IN THE ARRANGED PLAN FOR TRAINING. WHEN ON THE SIXTH DAY OF OUR STAY AT "NINTH FIGHTER COMMAND," WE WERE MOVED OUT OF OUR BRICK BARRACKS AND INTO A TRNT AREA THAT HAD SUDDENLY SPRUNG UP FROM OUT OF NOWHERE. THE GROUP MOVED THEIR BELONGINGS INTO THE TENT AREA WHERE WE FOUND A NEW GROUP OF MEN WHO SAID THEY WERE TO BE PART OF OUR NEW OUTFIT, AND THAT THEY WOULD FORM THE DIRECTION FINDING ARM, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS OF THIS DETACHMENT.

THAT NIGHT MORE MEN ARRIVED, BUT MOST OF THESE BOYS WERE NOT STRANGERS AS THE GROUP BEFORE THEM WERE. THESE MEN HAD BEEN WITH US WHILE WE WERE PART OF THE 951 RI CO. AND NOW AFTER MONTHS OF TRAINING IN RADIO TELEPHONY, THEY WERE TO BE THE LINGUIST OF OUR ORGANIZATION. TICKLED PINK TO BE TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE OLD OUTFIT AGAIN, BUT MORE THAN THAT, THE NEWS THEY TOLD US OF THE 951 RI CO'S BEING DISBANDED AND FORMED INTO OTHER DETACHMENTS OF THIS NEW ORGANIZATION, FINALLY REMOVED FROM OUR MINDS THE THOUGHT THAT WE WERE CONSIDERED EIGHTBALLS, AND THAT THERE WAS SOME LOGIC TO WHAT LT. HEINRICH SAID ABOUT OUR QUALIFICATIONS BEING THE ONLY MEANS USED TO PICK THE W/T ARM.

NOW THAT THE W/T SECTION FELT BETTER ABOUT THEIR POSITIONS, A NEW GRIPE AROSE FROM THE R/T SECTION. WHEN THEY HAD LEFT THE 951 R\$ CO. SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE TO STUDY GERMAN, THEY WERE SENT TO AN RAF BASE ON THE EAST COAST WHERE THEY WERE BILLETED IN PRIVATE HOMES AND LIVED ON "PER DIEM." NOW "PER DIEM" IS SOMETHING THAT MOST ALL GI'S CRAVE FOR IT PROVIDES THEM WITH MORE FREEDOM, AND ABOVE ALL HOME COOKE MEALS, (WHICH WAS THE CASE WITH THE R/T DETACHMENT) AND THESE BOYS DIDN'T SEEM TO LIKE THE IDEA OF NOT HAVING FRESH EGGS EVERY MORNING FOR BREAKFAST AS THEY USED TO HAVE FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS. HOWEVER IN A FEW DAYS THEY GOT OVER THAT GRIPE WHEN THEY ACCUSTOMED THEMSELVES TO THE DELICIOUS POWDERED SUBSTITUTE SUPPLIED BY UNCLE SAM FOR HIS BOYS.

ON APRIL 7, 1944, DETACHMENT "B" OF THE 3RD RADIO SQDN MOBILE (G) WAS ACTIVATED. IN COMMAND OF OUR DETACHMENT WAS CAPTAIN HYMAN T. SILVERSTEIN, AN AIR FORCE OFFICER WHO IN CIVILIAN LIFE WAS A PROFESSOR OF

[REDACTED]

LITERATURE AT HARVARD UNIV. AND WHO HAD SEEN FRONT-LINE SERVICE IN AFRICA SINCE ENTERING THE ARMY. FROM THE OTHER OFFICERS THAT ARRIVED AT OUR OUTFIT DURING THE WEEK PRECEEDING OUR ACTIVATION, CAME WORDS OF HIGH PRAISE FOR THE NEW C. O. AS BEING A REGULAR GUY, AND AS SQUARE AS THEY COME. IT WAS DURING HIS FIRST LITTLE TALK TO THE DETACHMENT THAT WE REALIZED THE TRUTH IN WHAT THE OTHER OFFICERS WHO HAD WORKED WITH HIM BEFORE SAID, AND THAT IT WASN'T JUST PRAISE BEING GIVEN.

THE CO MADE A LITTLE SPEECH THAT HIT THE POINT IN SHORT ORDER WITHOUT THE USUAL MILK AND HONEY THAT SOME OFFICERS POUR OVER THEIR TALKS TO IMPRESS THE MEN IN THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.

IT WAS A WARM AFTERNOON, AND THE CAPTAIN CALLED THE FORMATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHOW. HE STOOD BEFORE US DRESSED IN THE USUAL OFFICERS' STAND AT EASE. HE SPOKE IN A MEDIUM VOICE THAT WAS MORE EXPLANATORY THAN COMMANDING. "AT 0001 HOURS THIS MORNING THE 3RD RADIO SQDN MOBILE (G) DET. "B" WAS ACTIVATED." YOU MEN ARE NOW PART OF A NEW TYPE ORGANIZATION IN THIS THEATER OF OPERATIONS AND ON OUR WORK IS BEING CLOSELY WATCHED BY HIGH OFFICIALS. WE ALL ARE DEPENDING ON EACH OTHER TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF OUR UNDERTAKING." THAT WAS THE GENERAL TEXT OF THE CAPTAIN'S TALK, AND WITHOUT FUTRHER ADO, WE WERE DISMISSED.

THE W/T SECTION CONTINUED WITH IT'S OPERATIONAL WORK, AND THE R/T AND D/F SECTIONS HAD JUST COMPLETED SETTING UP IT'S SITE AT A NEARBY TOWN IN ORDER TO GET BETTER RECEPTION. AFTER THE CO'S LITTLE TALK, THE THREE SECTIONS BUCKLED DOWN TO SERIOUS WORK, AND TO CARRY OUT THE CAPTAIN'S WISHES TO MAKE OUR OUTFIT LOOK GOOD.

UP TO THIS TIME WE HAD NO OFFICIAL FIRST SERGEANT, BUT SGT. VIC GENTNER WAS CARRYING OUT THE DUTIES OF FIRST SGT UNTIL ONE WAS FINALLY ASSIGNED TO THE DETACHMENT. VIC WAS A REGULAR FELLOW, AND HAD THE RESPECT OF EVERYONE IN THE OUTFIT, WHICH IS MORE THAN SOME FIRST SERGEANTS HAVE. HE DID MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF WORK, OFTEN HELPING THE MEN IN OTHER DETAILS WHEN THEY WERE SHORT STAFFED, AND MORE THAN OFTEN CAME TO THE AID OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS IN SOME SORT OF DIFFICULTY.

HANDLING THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE DETACHMENT WITH SGT. GENTNER WAS 1ST LT. ANDREW J. COPP, WHOSE INFLUENCE HAD A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH THE TACTFUL HANDLING OF THE MEN EXCERCISED BY VIC. A GRADUATE OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY, AND A POST GRADUATE STUDENT OF HARVARD, LT. COPP ACCEPTED A DARE OF FELLOW STUDENTS WHILE VACATIONING IN CHICAGO, TO APPEAR IN AN AMATEUR CONTEST AT THE EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL. AS A RESULT OF THIS CONTEST HE OBTAINED A JOB WITH WILL OSBORNE'S ORCHESTRA, AND LATER SIGNED RADIO CONTRACTS WITH N B C, AND C B S. HE MADE AN ALBUM OF RECORDS, AND BECAME WELL KNOWN THROUGHOUT NEW YORK CITY, PLAYING REGULARLY IN CAFE SOCIETY DOWNTOWN ANDD UPTOWN, THE RAINBOW ROOM IN ROCKEFELLER CENTER, AND OTHER PLACES.

WHILE A STUDENT AT HARVARD, LT. COPP CAME IN CONTACT WITH A PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE WHO LATER BECAME HIS COMMANDING OFFICER IN THE 3RD RADIO SQ-----CAPTAIN SILVERSTEIN.

ON APRIL 24, JUST TWO DAYS AFTER THE "AAF" WAS DELETED FROM THE DETACHMENTS NAME, WE GOT OUR OFFICIAL FIRST SERGEANT. ALL THE BOYS IN THE OUTFIT WERE SORRY TO SEE THEIR FRIEND VIC GENTNER LEAVE HIS SUTIES AS FIRST SGT., BUT THERE WAS NOTHING ANYONE COULD ABOUT IT, AND THE NEW SGT WAS FORMALLY ACCEPTED.

T/SGT. KOHLMAYER WAS A TALL, SOMEWHAT LANKY FELLOW, WITH A QUIET TONE OF VOICE, AND AN AGREEABLE ATTITUDE. IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE WAS GIVEN THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT HELD BY HIS PREDECESSOR.

[REDACTED]

THE NEXT NIGHT, FRIDAY MAY 12, THE 3RD RADIO SQ. HAD IT'S FIRST COMPANY PARTY AND DANCE. THE AFFAIR WAS HELD IN THE BASE DAY ROOM, AND BEER, DOUGHNUTS, AND WRENS WERE PLENTIFUL. WE STARTED THE AFFAIR OFF BY DANCING TO OLD CORNY RECORDS, BUT IN A SHORT WHILE, THE BOYS GOT BROWNE OFF, AND SOMEONE SAT DOWN AT THE PIANO, WHILE A FEW OTHERS RAN OFF TO GET A BANJO, VIOLIN, AND TRUMPET. THE MUSIC WAS A LITTLE RUGGED BUT ANYTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER THAN THE 1935 HIT PARADE TUNES. SO THE DANCE CONTINUED, AND EVERYONE HAD A GRAND TIME EATING, DRINKING, DANCING, AND LATER ON ----- WELL, IT WAS THE NATURAL THINK TO DO.

ON MAY 13, AT 1700 HOURS, THE DETACHMENT WAS ALERTED FOR SHIPMENT, AND A RESTRICTION PLACED ON ALL PERSONNEL. THE SMALL GROUP OF MEN THAT HAD BEEN SENT OUT ON TEMPORARY DUTY, WERE RECALLED, AND THE FIRST ECHELON ORDERED TO PACK AND BE READY TO LEAVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. ON MONDAY MAY 15, UNDER SECRET ORDERS, THE FIRST ECHELON CONSISTING OF THREE OFFICERS AND THIRTY SEVEN EM LEFT BY CONVOY TO THEIR NEW BASE.

IN COMMAND OF THIS ECHELON WAS LT. FERDINAND GOTTLIEB, AND UNDER HIM WERE LTS GOODSSELL AND SHAPIRO. AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE, LT GOTTLIEB AND GOODSSELL WERE TECHNICALLY IN CHARGE OF THE RADIO TELEPHONY SECTIONS OF THE DETACHMENT. LT SHAPIRO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE MAINTENANCE SECTION.

LT. FERDINAND GOTTLIEB WAS BORN AND RAISED IN GERMANY WHERE HE BECAME A STUDENT OF LANGUAGES. IN 1937, LT GOTTLIEB CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AND WITH A KNOWLEGE OF CAMERAS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT, OBTAIN A POSITION AS A SALESMAN AND REPAIRMAN. IN 1941, LT GOTRLIEB JOINED THE ARMED FORCES AS AN ENLISTED MAN AND ON 31 DECEMBER 1942, WAS GRADUATED FROM O C S WITH A COMMISSION OF SECOND LIEUTENANT. DUE TO HIS FLUENT SPEAKING OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT AS A RADIO OFFICER, AND LATER ON BECAME SENIOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.

IN CIVILIAN LIFE, LT GOODSSELL STUDIED VOICE AT SCHOOL, LATER ON BECOMING AN OPERA SINGER IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. HIS KNOWLEGE OF GERMAN MADE A VITAL COG IN THIS OUTFIT SINCE OUR WORK WAS INVOLVED WITH THE GERMAN LANGUAGE.

LT SHAPIRO, A RADIO ENTHUSIAST AS A BOY, WAS A PHYSICS MAJOR AT M.I.T. AND UPON GRADUATION, RECEIVED A DIRECT COMMISSION AS A RADAR OFFICER. EVENTUALLY HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE 3RD RAD. SQ. WHERE HE WAS APPOINTED RADIO MAINTENANCE OFFICER.

WHEN THE LITTLE GROUP OF MEN ON TEMPORARY DUTY LEFT THEIR SITE TO REJOIN THE MAIN BODY OF THE DETACHMENT AT STATION 347, ONE MAN IN THEIR GROUP WAS TAKEN ILL, HOSPITALIZED, AND LATER TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE COMPANY. PFC JIMMY HOLDERNESS WAS WITH THE ORIGINAL DETACHMENT THAT WAS SENT DOWN FROM THE 951 R I CO. TO FORM THE W/T ARM OF THE 3RD RADIO SQD BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN THE WORD "EIGHTBALL" WAS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS. HE WAS PART OF THE OLD OUTFIT IN THE STATES, AND WAS QUITE POPULAR WITH ALL THE MEN. HIS QUIET NATURE AND UNUSUAL ABILITY IN WOOD CARVING MADE HIM A WELL KNOWN FIGURE ON THE POST, AND MANY OF THE SCULPTURED ANIMALS THAT WERE MADE FROM HIS CREATIVE MIND STILL ADORN THE WALLS AND TABLES OF OUR HUTS, AND TENTS TO KEEP HIS MEMORY FRESH IN OUR MINDS

AFTER THE FIRST ECHELON HAD LEFT, ALL TECHNICAL WORK STOPPED, AND THE REMAINDER OF THE ORGANIZATION WAITED FOR ORDERS TO FOLLOW THE INITIAL GROUP. MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT IN HAVING NEW EQUIPMENT ISSUED TO US AND IN THE MORNING LECTURES ON CHEMICAL WARFARE, FIRE ARMS, AND SECURITY WERE THE SOLE MEANS OF KEEPING THE UNIT FROM BECOMING RESTLESS. DAYS WENT ON, AND STILL NO WORD ABOUT OUR SHIPPING, SO FURTHER TRAINING, EXTENDED ORDER DRILLS, AND SHORT HIKES WITH PROBLEMS WERE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF LTS. GIVEN AND SPEARS.

EVERY OUTFIT HAS A CHARACTER IN ITS NUMBERS, AND THE 3RD RADIO SQ IS NO EXCEPTION. SGT MILTON ROTHENBERG IS ASSISTANT SUPPLY SGT IN OUR COMPANY, AND BY NO MEANS AN ORDINARY SUPPLY MAN. WHEN THE IMPOSSIBLE HAS TO BE DONE, SGT ROTHENBERG IS THERE TO DO IT, AND WHEN HE DOES IT, IT IS DONE IN A RUSH. WHEN ALL MEANS OF GROUND SPEED FAIL, SGT ROTHENBERG SPREADS HIS WINGS AND FLIES. SINCE HIS FIRST OFFICIAL TRIP BY AIR FOR THE SAKE OF SUPPLY, THERE HAS BEEN NO MEANS OF KEEPING THE MAN ON THE GROUND. IN FACT WHEN HE GOES UP, EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK GOES WITH HIM, AND HIS TRUSTY AIRCRAFT HAS EARNED THE TITLE OF, "ROTHENBERG'S FLYING SUPPLY ROOM." OFTEN WHEN OUR PATROLS ARE OUT IN THE FIELD

-8A-



[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "B"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
STATION 0-609968

APO 595 U.S. ARMY
30 SEPTEMBER 1944

2D LT. ROLAND GIVEN TRANSFERRED TO DET. "D" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 26 SEPTEMBER 1944.
SGT. CHARLES H. CHRISTENSEN TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 27 AUGUST 1944.
CPL. HENRY JESSE TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 27 AUGUST 1944.
CPL. ALBIN MISZAK TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C" THIS SQUADRON, EFFECTIVE 12 SEPTEMBER 1944.
SGT. JULIUS YELLEN, CPL. EDWARD LEFFLER, PVT. FRED A. SAIN, PVT. J. SCHINELLA, PVT. FREDERICK W. SCHNEIDER, PVT. MANUAL SANTOS, PVT. HERMAI A. SEYFFERLE, PVT. DENNIE O. SMOOT:
ABOVE NAMED ENLISTED MEN ASSIGNED TO THIS DETACHMENT, EFFECTIVE 17, AUGUST 1944.
PFC. CECIL O. JOYCE TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO DET. "C", EFFECTIVE 12, SEPTEMBER 1944.

STRENGTH ON LAST DAY OF MONTH (30 SEPTEMBER 1944): 7 OFFICERS, 104 E.

CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR Q-487015 TO S-001388 ON 2 SEPT. 1944.
CHANGE OF STATION BY CONVOY FR S-001388 TO O-609968 ON 14 SEPT. 1944.

NEGATIVE.

NEGATIVE.

[REDACTED] T

○ ON THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER, WORD CAME BACK TO THE MAIN PART OF THE DET. THAT THE ECHELON WHICH HAD LEFT ON THE 29TH OF AUGUST WAS IN PARIS, AND PREPARATIONS WERE BEING MADE SO WE COULD OPERATE EFFICIENTLY FROM THE EIFFEL TOWER. THE MEN AT NEUFCHATEL PACKED THEIR EQUIPMENT AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS SO THAT WITH THE COMING OF THE NEXT DAY THEY COULD TAKE OFF IMMEDIATELY,----- IF NOT SOONER,-----FOR THE CAPITOL OF FRANCE.

MEANWHILE, THE MEN IN THE FIRST ECHELON HAD BEEN ENCAMPED NEAR VERSAILLES AND SHUTTLING BACK AND FORTH TO PARIS MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE BILLETS WE WERE TO OCCUPY AT THE CITY UNIVERSITY. ON THE MORNING OF SEPT. 2, LT COPP HAD A DETAIL FORMED AND THRUSTING A BROOM INTO THE HANDS OF PFC. ABALOS, SAID, "POLICE UP THE EIFFEL TOWER." "YES SIR" CAME THE REPLY WITH A BROAD SMILE, "I'LL POLICE IT UP LIKE IT'S NEVER BEEN BEFORE."

○ ON SEPT 2D, AT 1900 HOURS THE DET. OFFICIALLY ENTERED PARIS, ONLY FOUR DAYS AFTER THE CITY WAS COMPLETELY IN ALLIED HANDS, AND OCCUPIED THE SWEDISH BUILDING IN THE CITY UNIVERSITY. ALTHOUGH THE ORGANIZATION WAS CREDITED WITH ENTERING THE CITY OFFICIALLY ON THE 2D OF SEPTEMBER, WE HAD DETAILS WORKING IN PARIS THE FIRST DAY AFTER IT'S LIBERATION.

BUS SCHEDULES TAKING THE MEN ON SHIFT TO THE TOWER WERE PUT IN EFFECT, AGAIN OUR OPERATIONS WERE RUNNING SMOOTHLY.

IT WAS QUITE DIFFERENT THERE IN PARIS, BEFORE, THE BOYS WOULD GO MAD FOR THE LACK OF VARIETY IN THEIR AMUSEMENT, BUT IN PARIS THERE WAS EVERYTHING A MAN COULD WANT, FROM HEFTY WOMEN FOR THE RED BLOODED MEN IN THIS DET, TO A PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR THE ANEMIC TYPE.

WINES AND LIQUORS SEEMED TO BE IN VOGUE, AT LEAST THAT'S THE IMPRESSION THE AVERAGE LAYMAN WOULD GET AFTER SEEING THE "BIG PARADE" COME STAGGERING HOME AFTER AN EVENING'S PLEASURE ALONG THE RUE MONTPARNESSE. BACK IN NORMANDY, THE BOYS USED TO HOLLER BECAUSE THE ONLY DRINK THEY COULD GET WAS CAL-

[REDACTED]



M IN THIS DETACHMENT. THE NUMBER OF MEN THAT WERE PROMOTED TOTALLED A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF THE ORGANIZATION, AND UNDOUBTEDLY THAT MUST HAVE SET SOME KIND OF RECORD.

THE DAY AFTER THE RATINGS CAME OUT, CPL. BERGMAN, AND PFC HELLING WERE RE-TRANSFERRED TO THIS DETACHMENT FROM "C". TWO DAYS BEFORE THE RATINGS WERE POSTED, LTS GIVEN AND SPEARS WITH TWELVE EM MOVED OUT OF PARIS AS A FORWARD ECHELON TO A LITTLE TOWN NEAR LAON.

DURING THEIR STAY AT LAON THEY WERE BILLETED NEAR A CHATEAU OWNED BY THE DUKE OF MONACO, AND A LITTLE EXCITEMENT WAS PROVIDED WHEN THE DUKE'S STABLES BURNED DOWN. IT MIGHT ALMOST SEEM THAT THIS WAS AN ACT ON THE PART OF THE GI'S IN THE PLATOON TO GET FRESH MEAT, BUT THEIR FOOD WAS EXTREMELY GOOD CONSIDERING IT CAME FROM THE GERMAN QUARTERMASTER, AND THEREFORE THE BURNING OF THE STABLES WAS CHALKED UP TO CARELESSNESS ON THE PART OF THE OWNERS.

ON THE 14TH OF SEPTEMBER DETACHMENT "B" MOVED BY CONVOY FROM PARIS FRANCE TO MARBAIX, A LITTLE TOWN IN BELGIUM. AT FIRST THE CAMP WAS SET UP IN A FIELD NEAR THE OPERATIONAL SITE, BUT AFTER TEN DAYS WHEN THE WEATHER GOT TOO COLD FOR THE MEN TO LIVE COMFORTABLY IN THE FIELD UNDER A TENT, WE MOVED INTO A CHATEAU THAT WAS OCCUPIED BY GERMAN COLLABORATORS BEFORE THE ENTRY OF ALLIED TROOPS IN BELGIUM.

FROM THE FIFTEENTH OF SEPTEMBER TO THE TWENTY SECOND, ONE 24 HOUR PASS WAS GIVEN TO EACH MAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITING BRUSSELS. EVERYONE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY, AND AFTER ALL WAS SAID AND DONE, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE BELGIAN CAPITAL WAS THE SAME AS PARIS ON A SMALLER SCALE.

WHEN THE MEN AT MARBAIX FIRST MOVED INTO THE CHATEAU MANY SOUVENIRS WERE FOUND INCLUDING SOME ORIGINAL PAINTINGS AND A CABINET FULL OF DARK-ROOM EQUIPMENT. THIS LATTER PART PLEASED THE CAMERA HOUNDS IN THE OUTFIT NO END, AS A GOOD SUPPLY

[REDACTED] T

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station K-747192

APO 595, U S Army
30 November 1944

1. Pvt. John H. Schuler, Pvt. Raymond E. Skinner, Pvt. Raymond V. Worley asgd & jd fr Hq this sq per par. 5 SO#49 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd 1 Nov 44.

Pfc. Melvin M. Snyder asgd & jd fr Hq this sq per par. 1 SO#50 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd 10 Nov 44.

Cpl. Albin M. Miszczak asgd & jd fr Det "C" this sq per par. 1 SO#50 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd 10 Nov 44.

Pfc. Donald H. Hoffberg trfd in gr to Det "C" this sq per par. 1 SO#50 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) dtd 12 Nov 44.
2. Strength on last day of month (30 Nov 44): 7 Officers, 103 Enlisted Men.
3. Negative.
4. Negative.
5. Negative.

██████████

Poker and Pinochle once more became King. "Pay Call" had sounded the day before, and on the evening of November 2, we were bedded down on our operational site, to test our luck on the turn of a card. Others contended themselves with reading their welcome mail and answering those they had forgotten. To a layman's ears, it would have been a tumult of sound. "Who wants a beer?" "What's to-day's date?" "Who's going to get coal for the stove, it's cold in here?" "Open the door, want me to parboil?" "Where's the Stars and Stripes, I never seem to get one to read?" "What, can you read?" All this, added by a cuss word omitted by a disgruntled poker player venting his wrath at the poor showing of his cards. This in short, was our peaceful little abode.

At seven o'clock, darkness had long set in, smothering the lonely countryside. Inside the roar of voices seemed to gain momentum towards its crisis that usually arrived around midnight. Suddenly the noise was cut short as though by a knife. Ominuous though unmistakable sounds of diving planes and machine gun fire invaded our peaceful evening. It was close by. The staccato firing fixed that in our minds. As though spewed outside, we rushed into the darkness. Planes were invisible to us, though their roaring motors assured us they were there, but the sky seemed to bubble with streaks of red which we knew only too well to be tracers. Anxious eyes eagerly tried to prevail through the darkness, to no avail. After minutes which seemed hours, the noise of rushing planes died away, leaving only the wind singing its doleful song through the trees, and our card game.

Midnight came, and most of the card players had left. A few remained to count their winnings and relate how much more they could

~~TOP SECRET~~

have been ahead if certain cards had fallen differently. Empty beer glasses sat glumly on the tables, newspapers found themselves in scattered positions, and cinders at the bottom of the small stove had been picked up by grinding boots and deposited in all directions. Without a doubt we were in no condition for guests. Still we had one. At his entrance all eyes flipped up and stared hard and long at his dirty countenance, and clothes. It was he who broke the spell. "Mind if I come in? I'd like to see the officer in charge." "What happened?" someone spoke up, while another grabbed the phone. "Got mixed up in a bad show" he answered wearily, while sitting in a vacant chair and removing his cap. "What didn't happen would be better" he sighed, running his fingers through his tossed hair. "Lt. White?" the guard at the phone asked. "There's an R.A.F. sergeant down here who'd like to speak to you. Looks like he's in trouble."

The sergeant's story was a reoccurrence of what has probably happened many times over Europe. They left England early that evening bound for an objective in Germany. On reaching their target, they dropped their load, but a split second later flak scored a direct hit in the middle of the plane. The navigator was killed outright. Instantly the skipper gave the order to bail out. The little tail gunner proclaimed that he had no chute, so the sergeant tried to take him down with him. It was no use. The force of the chute opening threw the tail gunner from his back into eternity. After landing the sergeant searched for hours for some place to report, till he wandered into our site. Lt. White assigned him sleeping quarters for the night, and in the morning took him to IX Tactical Air Command where an R.A.F. liaison officer took him under his wing.

[REDACTED]

The 3d of November brought our first real snowfall. It was beautiful, and horrible all at the same time. For miles around we saw a panorama of glistening beauty. Fir trees bent as if in supplication for relief of their new burden. Deer and rabbit tracks were everywhere, as if to show that amid this land of warfare they alone were not afraid to show themselves to man, nature or God. Truly it was beautiful, a crystal fairyland and a preview of the coming Christmas. On the other hand, it was the opposite. Road became quagmires. Traffic mounted to a snail's pace, accidents ceased to be the unusual, rather the commonplace. Chow runs were late. The mess personnel beefed, the men "beefed", gulped their food, and rushed to make the first truck back to the site, rather than brave the ordeal of riding back on the last run in the dark.

The next day brought added excitement. Our site became "Buzz bomb alley" all through the day and night, amidst our work we listened for that faint rumble that would proclaim the arrival of Hitler's V-1. As they approached, our shoulders invariably hunched, our jaws tightened, and eyes squinted in anticipation. Though none would admit it, a voice inside us all would scream to high heaven. "Get over, you devil, get going." Sometimes on passing us the drone would stop, and we had to hold on. How far away it would land no one could or would say. Then it would hit. Windows, doors, chairs, and the building's foundation would shudder. That being over, we would wipe the unashamed sweat from our foreheads and get back to work. That night at about 1900 hours a terrific explosion shook the site. All personnel awake and those it awoke believed it to be one of the new V-2's landing dangerously close. Unfortunately they were wrong, for the next morning a Lancaster was in a littered heap near the site.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Detachment "B"
3rd RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)
Station RC-1209

APO 696, U S Army
31 July 1945

1. 1st Lt. Roland B. Given reld fr asgmt par 17 SO 176 Hq Ninth Air Force & asgd Hq European Div Air Transport Comd APO 741.

S/Sgt's Edward A. Dubois, Roman J. Verhaalen, Sgt's. Martin Forbes, Henry Friedman, Theodore E. Gebhardt, Ernst Helling, Henry J. Kass, Klaus P. Lohnberg, Irving Margulies, Jacob M. Patzkowski, John C. Rohmann, Sam Rosenberg, Henry G. Schaefer Jr., Morris Schmerler, Alfred Zoche, Cpl's John E. Baldwin, Arnold Durlacher, Walter G. Hermes, Arent J. Kjaer, Walter C. Lardner, Frank C. Mezera, Alfred J. Sakshek, Helmund H. Wolf reld fr asgd par 12 SO 176 Hq Ninth Air Force & asgd European Civil Affairs Div, ETOUSA, APO 887.

Cpl Paul M. Bergman reld fr DS to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) par 17 SO 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

M/Sgt David R. Wolff, S/Sgt's Andre H. D'Avi, Paul W. Eimerman, Albert J. Gruber, Arthur Klingenstein, Fred Levy, Robert H. Strotz, Nanno W. Tiedens, Conrad J. Ziegler, Sgt's Alfred Rosenberg, Theodore O. Steinke, Nathan Zimmer, Cpl Albert Schultz trfd in gr to Hq Det, Hq Cmd U S Group Control Council par 19 SO 381 Hq Ninth Air Force.

T/Sgt's Victor A. Gentner, John R. Sinnema reld fr DS to this Det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) & trfd in gr to Hq Det, Hq Comd, US Group Control Council par 20 SO 181 Hq Ninth Air Force.

T/Sgt Gustav A. Martin, Cpl. Henry J. St George trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 1 SO 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

S/Sgt Donald W. Greear reld fr DS to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) par 17 SO 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

S/Sgt Kenneth J. Allen trfd in gr to 8th Gun Tow Target Flt par 39 SO 181 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Sgt Solomon B. Drake Jr. Cpl Israel Beskrone reld fr DS to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) par 17 SO 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Pfc Alfredo O. Abalos trfd in gr to 437th Troop Carrier Gp. par 39 SO 183 Hq Ninth Air Force.

Cpl Rudolph J. Becker reld fr DS to this det fr 2d Rad Sq Mob (G) par 17 SO 113 Hq Ninth Air Force.

2d Lt. Paul A. Weiss reld fr atchd Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) & asgd this det par 3 SO 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (C).

Sgt. Lewis G. German, Cpl. Clyde R. Gotthardt trfd in gr to Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob par 1 SO 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Pfc William P. Jones trfd in gr to Det "A" 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) par 1 SO 40 Hq 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

HWC/dg

APO 696, U S Army,
20 August 1945.

314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Report

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army.
(Attn: Director of Personnel, A-1)

THRU : Station Commander, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army.

1. Transmitted herewith historical reports for the Squadron for the month of July 1945.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

HARRY W. COX
1st Lt. Signal Corps.
Adjutant

2 Incls:
Unit History (dup).
Unit History (1 cy) for Director of Personnel, A-1

[REDACTED]

084

[REDACTED]

Six nights of the week movies are shown, and upon occasions, a U.S.O. show has been presented from the stage built for such shows. There has most certainly been no lack of entertainment.

The Unit School which was begun in June continued to hold classes each day of the week; however, with the transfer of several of the instructors, several of the scheduled classes had to be reluctantly dropped. The Unit Library successfully obtained a number of additional volumes of fiction and non-fiction to fill its shelves with a greater number and variety of reading matter. During the month, several tours were conducted to sites of historical interest in the vicinity giving the men an opportunity to know this area more completely.

Radio IX TAC continued its nightly broadcasts and has enlarged its library of records; also, several programs have been inaugurated which have met with great response from the personnel stationed in the area. The 78th Infantry Division has provided the station with programs from time to time which have been very good.

The building constructed near the Orderly Room by German labor was completed early in the month, and the post barber and the post newspaper - "Bars and Stripes"- moved into two of its three rooms. Many found the construction of this building quite interesting in that it was not done in the manner one sees at home.

The month of July passed very quietly and without event as everyone turned his thoughts toward what the next assignment would be. Speculation ran high, but none was too greatly excited by the prospects of a change.

REFERENCE # 1

HEADQUARTERS
3RD AAF RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U.S. Army
19 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....7)

E X T R A C T

3. Det "C", 3rd AAF Radio Squadron Mobile (G), is activated at USAAF Sta 449, off O/A 20 April 1944, the following personnel, Det "B" are asgd to Det "C". No travel involved.

| | | |
|------------------------|----------|-------|
| 2ND LT. HEINRICH, KURT | 0-164650 | Sig C |
| Tec 4 Small, Henry H. | 33040375 | (766) |
| Cpl Lampe, Altman W. | 12181780 | (766) |
| Cpl Sharmins, Jack S. | 32628499 | (501) |

By order of MAJOR TURKEL

W.W. SHAUGHNESSY
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W.W. SHAUGHNESSY
/t/ W.W. SHAUGHNESSY
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

A True Copy

HENRY J. FAETH
2nd Lt. A C.

087

REFERENCE #2

HEADQUARTERS
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U. S. Army
23 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
 :
NUMBER.....9)

E X T R A C T

4. 2ND LT KURT E. HEINRICH, O-1645650, Sig C, is hereby
aptd Commanding Officer, Det "C", this Sq.

By order of MAJOR TURKEL:

W.W.SHAUGHNESSY
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W.W.SHAUGHNESSY
/t/ W.W. SHAUGHNESSY
1st Lt Sig C
Adjutant

A True Copy

HENRY J. FAETH
2nd Lt. A. C.

088

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

APO 696, U S Army
28 April 1944

In reply refer
to: 370.5

SUBJECT: Movement of Troops.

TO : Commanding General, IX Bomber Command, APO 140, U S Army
Commanding General, IX Air Defense Command, APO 638, U S Army
Commanding General, IX Tactical Air Command, APO 595, U S Army
Commanding General, IX Air Force Service Command, APO 696,
U S Army
Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), APO 696
U S Army
Commanding Officer, 392nd Signal Comapny Air Force, APO 696
U S Army

E X T R A C T

2. Detachment "C", 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile, (G), serial number 50708, consisting of one (1) officer and seven (7) enlisted men, will move from Middle Wallop, Hants to Aldermaston Court, Berks, on or about 29 April 1944.

10. Upon arrival at new stations, the Detachment "B", 392nd Signal Company Air Force and Detachment "C", 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), will be relieved from assignment to present stations and will be attached for rations and quarters by the station commander at destination to units at his station.

By command of Major General BRERETON:

/s/ C. R. BIRBARI
/t/ C. R. BIRBARI
Lt Col A C
Asst Adj Gen

A True Copy

HENRY J. FAETH
2nd Lt. A C

089

The following Officers and Enlisted Men of this organization departed Sashenden, Kent, England 30 June, 1944.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Heinrich, Kurt E. | 1st Lt. | 01645650 |
| Faeth, Henry J. | 2nd Lt. | 0580712 |
| Savage, David J. | 2nd Lt. | 0582357 |
| Levine, Gustave | S/Sgt. | 32244341 |
| Sawady, Herman. | S/Sgt. | 33034311 |
| Soehl, Ernest J. | S/Sgt. | 32573072 |
| Bedford, Clifford | Sgt. | 16061623 |
| D'Amato, Gregory J. | Sgt. | 32443716 |
| Fluharty, Lawrence W | Sgt. | 35386720 |
| George, Edward J. | Sgt. | 35312830 |
| Goldberger, Edward R. | Sgt. | 36326976 |
| Lampe, Altman W. | Sgt. | 12181708 |
| Lanzillo, Raymond C | Sgt. | 16145814 |
| Mayer, Charles F. | Sgt. | 32428091 |
| Rohr, Hans E. | Sgt. | 32427094 |
| Rosenberg, Rudolph. | Sgt. | 33577602 |
| Sharmins, Jack S. | Sgt. | 32628499 |
| Small, Henry H. | Sgt. | 33040375 |
| Bradley, Marvin J. | Cpl. | 14126264 |
| Bulmer, John W. | Cpl. | 37219357 |
| Gardner, Russell. | Cpl. | 4533813 |
| Hanson, Roy J. | Cpl. | 37301670 |
| Joiner, Willis F. | Cpl. | 37493663 |
| Saetre, George A. | Cpl. | 16087290 |
| Wien, Kurt W. | Cpl. | 32290298 |
| Demchak, Michael. | Pfc. | 35587140 |
| Dixon, Earl J. | Pfc. | 39843931 |
| Walton, Harold H. | Pfc. | 32465044 |
| Leyman, Robert F. | Pvt. | 12023401 |
| Shofer, Irwin | Pvt. | 39197704 |

NOTHING IN THE NEW SURROUNDINGS SERVED AS A REMINDER OF THE CASTLE GROUNDS FROM WHICH THE UNIT HAD LATELY DEPARTED. ON THE HEELS OF THE RAPIDLY RETREATING RABBITS, PYRAMIDAL TENTS WENT UP ALONG THE EDGES OF A FINE FIELD OF FRESH, GREEN OATS, AND VEHICLES WERE PARKED CLOSE TO THE FENCE ROWS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TREESCOVER AND HIGHER VEGETATION FOR CAMOUFLAGE PURPOSES. LONG BEFORE DARK EVERYONE WAS COMFORTABLY INSTALLED IN THE PYRAMIDS OF CANVAS, AND PROBABLY SPENT A MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE NIGHT THAN THE RABBITS WHICH HAD BEEN DISPLACED, WHICH SUDDENLY FOUND THEMSELVES ROOMING AND BOARDING WITH RELATIVES IN NEARBY FIELDS. THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN LESS COMFORTABLE HAD THEY REALIZED THE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THEM OF THIS AMERICAN INVASION OF BRITAIN, AND WOULD HAVE MOVED FURTHER AWAY HAD THEY HAD PROPER RESPECT FOR THE MARKSMANSHIP OF U. S. ARMY PERSONNEL.

NOT THAT NIGHTS REMAINED COMFORTABLE FOR LONG: FOR JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON JUNE 12 THE QUIET SURROUNDINGS OF THE OAT FIELD WERE FILLED WITH A NEW AND STRANGE ROAR, DULL OMINOUS AND PERSISTENT. THE AIR RESOUNDED WITH BURSTS FROM FLAK AND MACHINE GUN FIRE DIRECTED TOWARD ANOTHER NAZI "SECRET WEAPON." FOR MOST OF THE UNIT'S PERSONNEL THIS WAS A BAPTISM OF FIRE, FITTINGLY ENOUGH AN AIRBORNE ONE, IN THE FORM OF THE "DOODLE-BUG". FROM THAT NIGHT ON, RIGHT AROUND THE CLOCK THE STREAM OF ROCKET-BOMBS ROARED OVERHEAD, AND WHEN A WELL-AIMED STREAM OF AIRCRAFT CANNON SHELLS OR A LUCKY ACK-ACK BURST STILLED THE SOUND OF THE ROCKET MOTOR,

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
APO 151, U.S. Army

SUBJECT: Unit History - 1 September 1944 - 30 September 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) APO 696, U.S. Army.

It looks as if September is going to be a month of packing up, moving, setting up operations, packing up again, moving and so on. At any rate, on the first we packed up our trucks and decided what was to go where. On the 2nd, at last, we got those antenna parts we still needed and, better still, an oscilloscope and target transmitter. Rations were also received. On the third, we finished taking down the pyramidal tents, Orderly Room, Supply tent, etc., then policed up the area in the best army style and lined up the trucks for a quick get-away in the morning.

Came the dawn of the 4th or rather, came a dismal rainy morning with the area ankle deep in mud. But we floundered around, folded and packed cots and blanket rolls, got aboard our respective vehicles and are off at 8:15 A.M. Goodbye to Ascot, and on to our new destination.

Some miles out, our intelligence truck breaks down the fan out a hole in the radiator; it was trouble with the carburetor of another limey truck and one limey vehicle ran out of gas. However, we did arrive at Folkestone at 1515 and one half hour later the remaining trucks arrived.

The men looked over the quarters, "Brooklea" and "Lismore" and decided that living in them certainly did not involve any military hardships; living in private houses certainly does compare favorably with living in tents.

Soon after our arrival, our cooks had an excellent chicken dinner ready, which was much enjoyed. After dinner, the Orderly Room was set up, guards were appointed and some of the trailers were unloaded. About that time, the war began for us, for shells started to come over from the enemy batteries on the French coast - a new experience for most of us.

The next morning things started humming. A jeep went after mail, but no luck. We were settling down. Sgt. Reese found out about a dispensary to handle sick call. After noon chow Lt. Gottlieb and the intelligence section went off with their vans to the operating site on top of a nearby hill - one of the White Cliffs of Dover. There was a beautiful view of the channel here but, more important, it was a good spot for operations. The trucks were lined up along the trees on the hill, camouflage nets were spread and power was connected; the next day, our antennas were erected.

We had some heavy shelling at night; the projectiles came over in bursts of three at fifteen minute intervals. The next morning, on going to the operation site we found a deep shell crater right next to the road leading up to the hill. Don't tell us that Jerry has his guns zeroed in on us?

On the 12th Lt. Hanway went out for rations and so we are all set again for a while.

On the 14th, the V.I. section went on a 24-hour system of shifts, from 0015 to 0715, - 0715 to 1230, - 1230 to 1730, and 1730 to 0015. There was more shelling around the site, but it seemed unaimed and rather irregular. We also had a clothing check.

The V.I. operators are now getting some raid reports and sometimes things get pretty exciting in the vans, especially when several operators get messages simultaneously and are yelling for action to get them through to the intelligence van.

As a town, Folkestone is not a G.I.'s paradise and it definitely bears the impact of wartime existence. When shelling starts, everything shuts down tight and the enemy has been inconsiderate enough to keep the alarm in action most of the time. The town is pretty dead, but it has a high spot: a public bath which was quickly discovered and so we have "shower liberty runs" at appropriate intervals, operations permitting.

Our supply section went out a-hunting again. Pvt Paden went after signal equipment and Pvt. Dionne went after oil and grease which were badly needed. It is also worthy of note that we had cake for dinner today, the 14th of September.

We have a new officer in the unit. He is 1st Lt. Harold Cobin, A.C., is a member of the officers' reserve corps and served in the first World War. Lt. Cobin is to be our intelligence officer and has been around to the operating site to familiarize himself with the set-up and equipment.

Radio maintenance section just got a new S-27 VHF set to replace an old one and also some spare parts.

Well, it looks like we are getting ready to move again, toward real business now. We draw entrenching tools, picks, insect powder, water-treating pills, other odds and ends, check clothes, and Lt. Hanway calls for salvage. On the 19th we take the airdrops down and on the morning of the 20th there is a big cleanup of the site. Trucks are readied, camouflage is taken down, operations stop and at noon all the equipment is driven down the hill and back to our Folkestone location.

There is a meeting of the EM at 1530 and Lt. Hanway reads and explains the Articles of War. Lt. Gottlieb then gave a short review of the past few weeks and expressed his satisfaction with the way the EM had worked and cooperated with him and with one another. He asked for continued cooperation; he had specially high praise for the radio maintenance section which was directed by Lt. Robinson; the men in this section are Cpl. Kufeldt, Pfc. Squire, Pvt. Carpenter and Pvt. Grekar. He stated that the mail situation was still well snafued, but that he would try his very best to untangle the difficulties at the earliest convenience. He also stated that 25% of the EM of the unit had been recommended for promotion and he hoped that the promotions would be approved; these men were taken mostly from the administrative and maintenance sections, since too little information was as yet available as regards the operating sections.

In connection with operations, Lt. Gottlieb strongly stressed the importance of the operators' staying constantly on their sets during shifts, for even a single word obtained on the set may save many of our soldiers' lives.

From now on the EM must wear steel helmet, gun and pistol belt at all times.

For the rest of the afternoon we packed personal and unit equipment.

On Thursday, the 21st we rose at 0330, gave the houses a final cleanup, following a thorough G.I. treatment on the preceding day. The trucks are loaded, the officers and EM have a last breakfast at Folkestone, and at 0610 we are off for France.

For the first two hours our progress is slow and we do not make much mileage; fog is but one factor in slowing us up, there also are those narrow winding English roads and other traffic. We have a hot roadside lunch from the chow truck at noon, then proceed through Andover and Salisbury where we get a glimpse of the famous cathedral. At Andover, one of our 2 1/2 ton trucks has an accident and is "out of action". A detail of EM sent back from the marshalling area worked until 4 A.M. to unload the truck and transfer the load to a new truck obtained from Ordnance. We had an M.P. escort, but even so part of the convey got lost for awhile and arrived two hours later than the first section.

At 2300 the first section arrived at the marshalling area, near Weymouth. We stumble around in the dark, find some pyramidal tents with cots, break out the bedrolls and draw "C" rations. Some fires are lit, but we are pretty tired and soon everyone has hit the sack. Next morning, the 22nd, we have "C" rations and there are small fires all over the place with the men trying to heat the stuff. There is a formation and Lt. Gottlieb emphasizes the need for esprit de corps; he also has high praise for the drivers who performed well under grueling conditions on the preceding day. There is plenty of activity: we change our English money for French franc notes, we draw ammunition and - save the mark - sea sickness pills, and vomit bags. Everybody is happy when hot showers are discovered and there is a general cleanup.

Our D-5 truck was unloaded and went for gasoline. Guards were posted and equipment was straightened out. At noon we had "K" rations with hot coffee and at night likewise.

On Saturday the 23rd we are up at 0500, have hot coffee and "K" rations. As transportation has not yet been straightened out, it is today a case of "hurry up and wait". We are ready to move, but still have a few hours. So we have some organized calisthenics and Lt. Gottlieb arranges an athletic team game and some relay races.

We leave the marshalling area at 1100 and get under way for the 10 mile ride to Weymouth. There is a stop on a beach near the embarking point and we are given those excellent U.S. Navy life preservers which are inflated in an instant by puncturing two cartridges filled with carbon dioxide. And there is a Red Cross clubmobile with hot coffee and doughnuts.

A few minutes later we reach the dock and there is our ship, LST 493, all ready to receive us with an open "maw"; we drive right in, an elevator lifts the trucks to

the top deck and in a jiffy everything is chained down to the deck and shipshape. The ship moves out into the harbor and is moored to a buoy. The men are happy for there are nice bunks, plenty of hot water and showers and excellent Navy chow, including a coffee spigot which operates on a 24-hour basis. There is some subversive talk of joining the Navy, but that is before the storm comes up.

The black storm-warning ball goes up in a short time and our captain decides to stay in port overnight. No one is angry about it as long as the chow holds out. The next morning there are whitecaps all around us and a stiff breeze blowing, so it is "no soap" and we stay put for another day. Everybody is now busy washing clothes, doing cleaning up and generally making the most of the hot water which is plentifully available. On Monday the 25th the weather is clear, but still somewhat stormy. However, we get under way in a convoy at 1430 and, sure enough, as soon as our tub clears the breakwater she starts rocking like a cradle. Naturally, what can one expect of a shallow-draft ship which draws only 13 feet of water! An LST is excellent for landing vehicles, but bad medicine in a storm. One by one the men quiet down, disappear and go to bed, for the best preventive for "mal de mer" is a good prone position and a minimum of food in the stomach.

And the next morning, as we get on deck, there we are beached on Utah beach, near Carentan, France, with many other ships around us and plenty of equipment being unloaded all around. Our LST has been run up on the beach and we are now awaiting the low tide so that the vehicles can be unloaded directly by driving them out of the lower deck of the ship. But we are out of luck. It seems we did not hit quite the right spot, for several feet of water remain between us and dry land even at low tide. So we wait for high tide and our ship goes out and makes another run onto the beach. But we are out of luck again, for, while we are now closer to dry land, there remains a deep hole right at the door of the ship and no vehicles can be landed. So it is another night and another morning and another run out and back, but this time we make it. At 2200 on the 27th we hit the beach and we are now actually in France! The trucks are run off in quick order and move fast, on a road parallel to the beach, then inland for a total distance of about 5 miles to a reception area where we park for the night. We sleep in trucks, under trucks, in truck cabs and in any way which will keep us out of the rain which is now coming down steadily.

We are up at 0500 and breakfast on hot coffee and "K" rations. There are many vehicles in the area and there is some confusion until we finally get under way about 0800 along muddy Normandy roads. There is plenty of military traffic and we get our first glimpse of those solidly-built Normandy stone houses. Then we go through St Lo and Carentan and see the terrible destruction which has been wrought and the reality of war comes over closer. There are wrecked enemy vehicles along the road and transportation seems a main problem, for all along the road are Frenchmen pushing heavily-loaded bicycles. We stop for chow near Argentan, then continue through Vernemil and, near Tilliers, stop for the night. The vehicles are parked in an open field, guards are posted, and officers and EM got settled in pup tents, on cots, and in an old barn which adjoins the fields. By way of excitement, one of the 2 1/2 ton trucks caught fire on the road when the air cleaner upset, but S/Sgt Kelley had the matter under control in no time, using his trusty extinguisher.

On Friday the 29th we pack up and start for Paris, stopping to refuel at a special area designated for the purpose. At 1400, shortly after passing through Versailles, we arrive near our next stop and then pull in La Jonchere, a chateau which once belonged to Lucien Bonaparte but which right now "belongs" to Detachment "D". It is located near the towns of Malmaison and Rueil, about 8 miles from Paris, on top of a hill with a beautiful view. Only a few weeks ago the place was occupied by the 2nd German Funkchorcherregiment; they left in a hurry and they did a thorough job of smashing up equipment and messing up quarters, but we still find use for some things. Some rooms are cleaned out for use as living quarters, we get settled down, guards are posted and there is some souvenir hunting, but Lt. Gottlieb issues a warning against possible booby traps, mines, etc. He also warns against wasting gasoline, which has now become especially precious.

Here at La Jonchere we find our friends from Headquarters Detachment and "get the dope" on what to do, where to go and how to speak French. Ane so ends the month of September.

For the Commanding Officer:

JAMES D. HANWAY
1st Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
APO 151, U.S. Army

JDH/fhl
6 November 1944

SUBJECT: Unit History, 1st October to 31 October 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G), APO 696
U.S. Army.

At the beginning of the month of October the suggestion was made that the name of our organization be changed to 3rd Radio Squadron (Volatile) instead of 3rd Radio Squadron (Mobile). The extreme fluidity of our movements during the remainder of the month made this quip seem almost reasonable.

We started out comfortably established in the chateau at La Jonchere, enjoying our first hot rations after several days of transient Ks and Cs. Clothes were washed, long delayed letters written, and from the wealth of miscellaneous junk and xxx baggage left behind by the former Nazi occupants of the site, a host of souvenirs ranging from mattresses to copies of Dr. Goebbel's "Das Reich" found their way into duffle bags and into packages destined for home. A few enterprising spirits made their way into the caves in which the Germans were said to have kept their electrical equipment, but beat a quick retreat when they heard unmistakable human sounds proceeding from the interior. Returning, armed with carbines and just a little frightened, they found that the Nazi "ghosts" was only a little old French woman come to gather mushrooms in the underground caverns. But the adventure was not without positive results, for Lt. Robinson and his intrepid Radio Maintenance men brought back with them all sorts of invaluable plunder to add to their supply. For the next few nights they sat up late, pulling condensers and resistors out of captured U.S. Radio sets that the Germans had used. From the verandah of the barracks there was asplendid view of the winding Seine River and the Paris faubourga, a sight tempting enough to excite the explorative instincts of more than one GI. We weren't disappointed. We liked France and the French girls, particularly the little ones that came running up to us to shake hands and tell us how wonderful we Americans were.

At La Jonchere our unit lost the services of Pfc Ernest Spitzer, former writer of these annals, who was detached for service with SHARF in his civilian field of chemical research. We acquired a new intelligence officer, 1st Lt. Roland Given, who had formerly been with Detachment "B". Lt. Given had lived many years in Germany, had veen an officer since November, 1942.

On October 2, Lt. Gottlieb returned from his scouting expedition to our site of operations. The restful idyll was over; Flap Dog was on its way to do a job. On the next morning at 1100 the first group of vehicles took to the road, led by the Detachment Commander. Two other echelons, led by Lts. Hanway and Cobin respectively, followed at short intervals. This echelon system of travel worked very successfully. The groups camped separately for the night, all in the general vicinity of Rheims. We set our sacks in the straw of a peasant stable, drank cheap champagne in a village cafe, and ate our "C" rations and coffee heated on French kitchen stoves.

After a journey which took us, with many detours (for the Germans had blown up all the bridges in France, it seemed, just to delay Flap Dog) through villages and

[REDACTED]

past streams whose names recalled some of the bitterest battles of World War 1, our caravan passed the Belgian border. At 1400 on the afternoon of October 4, the first group of trucks entered the town of Arlon, in which we were to set up operations. Arlon, Capital of the Belgian province of Luxembourg and only a few miles from the Frontier of the Grand Duchy, was a lively cheerful city of 12,000 inhabitants, who were still cordially gracious to Americans despite the hordes of GI invaders in their streets.

A fine mansion in the exclusive residential section of town had been reserved for detachment "D", and it didn't take long for us to make ourselves at home in it. Cots were set up in the bedrooms; the cooks established their kitchen and began preparations for a good hot meal. We had come to the continent expecting to live a rugged dangerous life, and all this sudden luxury seemed a little too good to be true.

And it was. Our set-up was so delightful in fact, that high military authorities (at least we veiled them with that term) grew covetous. One hour after we were installed we were packed and out in the street again, awaiting the unknown. Lts. Gottlieb and Hanway held hasty confabulations with civilian and army officers, and soon a convoy was on its way again to what we were told would be our winter quarters. "Wintry" quarters, they should have called it. Our billet was the ancient abbey of Clairefontaine, about 4 miles outside of Arlon, which despite its own historical interest and the beauty of the woods which surrounded it densely on all four sides, turned out to be a cold, damp, gloomy old building, more suited for hants and spooks than for the electric spirits of our crew.

The principal task on the following day, however, was to get ~~xxxxxxxx~~ into operation. The vans were moved to the courtyard of the old church of St. Donat in Arlon, and the antennas were hooked from the high church steeple to the tip of an aircraft warning observation tower. A high hedge row supplemented the artificial camouflage nets. Meanwhile, by dint of skill, espionage, and various devious tricks a new house was obtained for our living quarters. This was the chateau D'Enach, a roomy mansion on the Neufchateau road, only ten minutes from the center of town. The Nazis had been converting the building into a schoolhouse for the Hitler youth, and one of the wings was therefore demolished, but with its nearby garage and servant quarters it still promised to provide us with adequate room. A twelve man detail moved in on the fifth, to clean up and guard against other would-be GI occupants. The following day, with operations already started at the site, the transfer from Clairefontaine took place. Everyone was much happier, except for the three boys whose duffle bags went astray in the moving process. It didn't take much time for us to make ourselves at home, with the orderly room and mess hall set up and functioning. Major Silverstein, commander of Detachment "B" was on hand to see how things were going.

Our new house had a wrecked German car on the front lawn, a vegetable patch in the back yard, a wide green lawn full of grazing cattle on its left. It boasted of a central heating system, and a fine stretch of timber on the grounds promised plenty of fuel for the furnace. The one drawback was in the latrine facilities: a single commode and a single spigot emptying into a temperamental little basin which generally refused to drain.

Now that we were actually doing our job (things began to hum up at the site, from the very beginning) the problem of security became more important than ever. A permanent guard section of five men began its duties at the church. The men at the billets were detailed to do two hour shifts of guard at the house at night, and after

[REDACTED]

several days the guard was doubled. This was prompted by two occurrences. One at the house and the other at the site, in which nocturnal intruders were reported on the grounds and driven away.

October 7 was a red letter day for Detachment "D". After six weeks of isolation two bulging sacks of mail arrived for what must surely have been one of the largest and most enthusiastic mail calls in history. The radio maintenance section took time off from its other jobs to set up electric lights in the chateau. The dining room was converted into a day room for evening use (it even had a radio set up in it after a few days). The following day brought more good luck for the men: the first PX rations in a month, and a bath run to the big white-tiled shower room of a factory on the outskirts of Arlon. The pleasures of town life were once more being discovered. Shops were still full enough to make browsing in them interesting. There are two movie palaces, offering curious assortments of American films with dubbed-in French sound and Flemish titles; also a GI movie several times a week. There were even daily newspapers, for those who could speak French. With quarters established and regular work under way once more, and with the huge new supply of letters to be answered, there was once more plenty of mail to be censored. On October 9 Major Silverstein arrived on another one of his whirlwind tours. On the same day two announcements were made that made a lot of difference to the fellows, and a lot of talk, First Sgt. Walter J. Reese was relieved of his post as acting first sergeant, transferred to the transportation section, and replaced by Cpl. John R. Sinnema. Second, a list of promotions was made public. The bulk of these went to the administration, mess and supply sections, with some for intelligence, D/F and transportation.

It didn't take long for us to adapt nicely to the pattern of life in Arlon. Class "B" passes were prepared, and the new first sergeant instituted an elaborate, efficient, guard and detail roster which removed all uncertainty from the free use of leisure time. The men went regularly to shower and got their hair cut by an enthusiastic barber on the block who for a while refused to accept fees. Belgian housewives were generous in doing laundry, and many fellows enjoyed invitations to dinner with the local inhabitants. By October 11 the mail was trickling in regularly, with occasional packages besides. Supply scouted around and obtained stoves and winter clothing, while radio maintenance finally got along-needed oscilloscope.

There was going and coming of officers. Lt. Gottlieb left on October 12 for a journey to the area of what turned out to be our next location. Capt. Shaughnessy of Headquarters Detachment arrived for an inspection of records. In the evening the Squadron commander Lt. Col. Turkel, came to visit, and appeared to be well pleased with the conduct of operations at the site.

Household activities at the Chateau continued at a good pace. An outdoor latrine was dug to supplement the cramped indoor facilities and the single privy in the back yard. (A slight epidemic of the GI's made this move particularly timely). A crew of men went into the forest each morning to get firewood, and the woodchopping detail became a prime source of exercise.

Cpl Kufeldt of the Radio Maintenance Section went on sick call with a punctured ear drum and got a one way ticket back to the U.S. He was both mourned and envied.

Day and night, in the meantime, the trucks were pulling back and forth from the site, carrying them to do the jobs which fulfilled the Detachment's mission.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There may have been a few kinks to straighten out at first, but the mission was being performed, and performed well. At least Maj. Gen. Vandenberg, commanding the Ninth Air Force thought so, for he commended the work of our new Detachment in a letter of October 13th 1944, addressed to the Squadron Commander.

Lt. Gottlieb was back from "somewhere up north", and the rumors which began to follow on the trail of his return were finally confirmed. On October 17th an advance party, led by the C.O., set off to a new location to prepare the way for us. The rest of the men made ready to follow up two days later, but an official order from the 29th Tactical Air Command directed us to continue operations at Arlon. Once more hastily packed duffle bags were just as hastily opened. Which was just as well, for on October 19th the Detachment received its first regular pay since leaving Ascot. Old debts were paid off and new problems arose in connection with conversion tables from dollars to pounds to Frenchfrancs to Belgas. For a few days we continued to lead our normal routine life. The folding cots which had stood us in good stead from the very first days of our activation were made our individual responsibility now, and no longer were to travel as general Detachment property.

Our moving orders came through at last. At 7:30 on the morning of the 22nd the first of two echelons rolled down the streets of Arlon. We motored down good roads through the Ardenne Forests, turning autumn gold. Early in the afternoon we arrived at our site, an orchard near the hamlet of La Planck in the Belgium province of Limbourg, only a few hundred yards from the Dutch frontier, and not many miles from Germany itself. The men of the advance party had worked hard in the mud of the past few cold rainy days, and the three large antenna poles were already erected. Telephone and power connections were hooked up. On the morning of the 23rd we started operations.

The sight of our new quarters excited a chorus of oohs and ahs. We were to stay in the big dining room, spare bedrooms and over-stable rooms of the Commanderie at Fouron-St. Pierre, another hamlet about three miles from La Planck. The Commanderie was whla was locally called a "castle". It was a handsome 17th century brick chateau, with adjacent barns and outbuildings ringing a courtyard. The whole was surrounded by a deep wide moat full of fish, and could be entered only through a single driveway guarded by an imposing spired gatehouse. The two great wooden gates were shut at night to out unwanted visitors. At a Detachment formation on the morning of the 23rd, Lt. Hanway exhorted the enlisted men to maintain the good order of the property, and to be on our best behavior before the civilians, including assorted representatives of the Belgian nobility, who were still living on the premises.

By the end of the month, Detachment "D" had made itself at home in the Commanderie. Meals were served in a commodious basement Mess Hall. Stoves were found to heat up the rooms, and load of coal was obtained to heat the stoves. The single toilet in the building was made off limits for EM during daylight hours, and an outdoor latrine was dug in an outhouse beyond the moat. Since the fortress-like character of the chateau made security easier to enforce, only a single interior guard was posted at night, on a two hour shift. Through there was no town nearby, the men went on evening walks in the vicinity, and the village of Aubel, 4 miles off, was a good object for free daylight hours. Mail was called for every day at the APO in Maastricht, Holland, and PX rations became a weekly occurrence. An effort was made to establish a movie run into Vise three times a week, but difficult roads and blackout driving put a damper on this after the first attempt. However a truck left for the GI showers in Verviers every morning, and by the end of the month a daily afternoon liberty run to the same town was under way. With Election day coming

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close, the men of the Detachment had a good voting record behind them. At least 60% of us had sent in absentee ballots. A medical inspection on the 30th gave us all a clean bill of health. Impregnated clothing and salvage were turned in to Supply.

There was also the inevitable sad side of things. Wac, faithful companion of Jeep, the outfits cheerful, unobtrusive little mascot since the first days at Ascot came down with a painful canine ailment which was pronounced incurable by a GI veterinarian. On the 27th of October she was relieved of her agonies and buried on the castle grounds. Pfc Benny Goldenburg, who could always get anything for you wholesale, set off in great style one evening after protracted public tinkering with a rental motorcycle. For two days he was not heard from; then the bad news came that he had been in an accident, broken his leg. He had to be transferred out of the organization. (Two new cryptographers, Cpl Crumrine and Cpl Delenick, had meanwhile joined our ranks). Pvt Jordan and Pvt Vola of the Guard section also went to the hospital.

Up at the site business was booming night and day. Major Silverstein, Colonel Maud and Lt. Col Quarrier of 29th Tactical Air Command came and saw and pronounced what they saw good. A direct telephone connection with Detachment "B" permitted the exchange and correction of data. On the 28th and 29th there was trouble in the D/F van; no signals could be picked up. On the 30th a frayed cable was discovered to be the source of the difficulty. That same evening Lt. Gottlieb came to chow rubbing his hands with glee. A new D/F truck had arrived to supplement the work of the other unit. Pin-point bearings would now be possible.

On the 29th of the month two meetings were held for the men of the Detachment. We addressed by an officer of the Counter-Intelligence Corps and warned of the difficulties which we would face as we entered Germany. We listened silently and thoughtfully. There were grim uncomfortable days ahead of us, we knew, but we were determined to keep on our volatile way on the path to Berlin.

For the Commanding Officer:

JAMES D. HANWAY
1st Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G)

APO 151, U.S. Army
11 January 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History for the Month of December 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G),
APO 696, U.S. Army.

The month of December arrived quietly enough at the billets of Detachment "D" and gave no indication that it was to be a hectic, exciting thirty-one days. Before it came to a close, however, many unforeseen things were to come to pass and find their way into these annals.

Early in the month arrangements were made to have T/5 Allegretti of XXIX Tactical Air Command Special Service Office bring a movie projector and film to the unit. The first presentation was Benny Goodman's "Sweet and Lowdown" on December 1st.

The program was so well received that the men were ready to forego the movie run to Vise which had so often disappointed with poor sound and frequent breakdowns of the projector. The second program on the 7th was still more satisfying. The feature was the highly praised "Till We Meet Again".

A list of promotions was published on the 5th of the month. The happy men were chiefly in operational sections.

On the 6th the detachment helped the children of the Fouron St, Pierre school celebrate St Nicholas day by sending them candy from their PX rations. An interesting comment by one of the children was that it must have been an American St Nicholas this year since there was no chocolate to be had in Belgium.

The information and education non-commissioned officer, now Cpl Von Schlichten, approached his work with zeal and set up bulletin boards with maps and information on USAFI courses. His initial efforts met with response in the organization and three men initiated enrollment procedures immediately.

The transportation section located a workshop in the neighborhood and negotiated for its use as a garage. The arrangements were quickly made and the motor maintenance men were able to move under cover of the new shop on the 9th of December. The most unpleasant features of maintenance while being exposed to the elements were thus eliminated.

Capt Bodnyk of XXIX Tactical Air Command conducted an inspection of automotive equipment and records and of small arms weapons. His report included timely suggestions for the improvements of some features of 2nd echelon maintenance and helpful hints regarding ways and means of accomplishing 3rd echelon maintenance. Small arms were reported in excellent condition.

The automotive and ordinance inspection was followed on the 14th by the tri-annual administrative inspection conducted by Capt Murray, actg asst IG. The results were summarized in a report rating the detachment excellent with but very minor discrepancies noted.

S E C R E T

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

APO 151, U.S. Army
11 February 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G), APO 696, U.S. Army.

The month of January and the new year came to Detachment "D" and found it still under the stress of the emergency caused by the breakthrough of the Germans in the Ardennes. Only gradually did life return to normalcy at the Chateau De La Commanderie. A full daytime as well the usual night guard was maintained at the Chateau in the early part of the month and the regular heavily reinforced guard protected the operational site after darkness fell.

Captain Avis, S-2 Officer of the 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Battalion, worked with Lt. Nagel in dreaming up an adequate defense plan for the site in La Planck. Antic, as Captain Avis's unit was called, ran a telephone line into Flap Dog's switchboard. This made it possible to place the Antic men and armored equipment and firepower at the immediate disposal of Flap Dog in case of emergency.

Reports of Nazis in American uniforms and of parachutists hiding out in the caves were the cause of frequent manhunts by the adventures of the unit. None of the expeditions brought about any captures but this fact was important as it re-assured the detachment and the neighbors that all was well in the area.

This feeling of security was quite necessary in the planning of relaxation of restrictions and bringing life back to its regular routine.

The equipment and furniture loaded up earlier in readiness for a move were unpacked. Lt. Cobin and his advanced echelon holding a possible site at Bergloon were recalled when the emergency was believed over. The removal of the daytime guards at the chateau was the unofficial signal that Jerry had once more been completely checked.

The men of loan from Detachment "B" who had been quartered largely in the room opposite the orderly room were moved out into other rooms and the room thus vacated was set up as a day room. It was particularly well suited to the purpose as it was conveniently located on the first floor, was large enough to accommodate the greater part of the unit for movies, and had an altar suitable for use in worship services. When a buzz-bomb blew out a large portion of the windows in the room as well as in the remainder of the building, a roll of roofing paper was acquired and a combination weather-proofing and blackout job done on the day room.

Among the more unusual and interesting activities of the month were several trips which provided relaxation and diversion for the men. The first trip was that of Lt. Gottlieb, Sgt Tiedens and Cpl Schaefer to Squadron Headquarters with opportunity afforded to visit Paris. A direct result of the stopover at Chantilly was the arrival of four new men at the chateau. These were Sgt Marion L. Mathews, Pfc Apostolos Zaferiou and Pvts Mike Norbertowicz and Lloyd Thomason. Sgt Mathews filled a vacancy in the mess section left when Cpl Young was lost to the hospital.

[REDACTED]

Pfc Zaferiou was assigned to duty as an R/T operator. Pvt. Norbertowicz was assigned to the guard section and Pvt Thomason to the transportation section.

Lt. Robinson and Sgt. Hammock went to Brussels for radio supplies. Lt. Nagel and Sgt. Hammock also made this trip to pick up the supplies acquired on the first trip.

The movie projector placed at the disposal of Detachments "B" and "D" was brought to Flap Dog on the 10th and movies were enjoyed nightly for more than a week. It was returned for use by Detachment "B" when Lt. Goodsell and the four Baker Liaison R/T men departed to go back to operation at "B's" new site.

Another feature of the month of January was the frequency of worship services. It was evident that chaplains enjoyed visiting the chateau since five were ready to hold services. Tuesday evening was designated Religious Night. Three chaplains from Cypsy, Major Smeltzer and Captains Goldman and Ruhl, came to conduct services in all faiths.

Chaplain Ben Rose, serving the 113th and 125th Cavalry Reconnaissance Battalions also stopped in for services with the Protestants.

A policy of issuing 48 hours passes was established and men began to avail themselves of the opportunities to visit cities such as Liege, Maastricht and Verveirs.

On the 24th a truck started out for Chantilly to pick up supplies and start Sgt. Walter J. Reese on his way to Detachment "C". The supplies must have been both important and heavy as a detail composed of Lt. Cobin, S/Sgt Fessenden, S/Sgt Kuhlmann, Sgt Kulikowski and Cpl Squire was dispatched to pick them up. Incidentally the detail made a side trip to Paris. S/Sgt Kuhlmann had some business with the American Consul and ended with invitations for himself and S/Sgt Fessend to eat at the American Embassy.

The bulk of the supplies sent for arrived in the meantime when Sgt Brown of Headquarters drove into the courtyard in the evening of the same day on which the truck departed. He brought two 50 caliber machine guns sans ammunition and also some much needed new Kerosene stoves. These proved to be adequate for heating the operational vans as long as fuel was available. The supplying of kerosene became the next major problem.

Sgt Brown also brought Sgt Paul Eimermann, former 8th Air Force flying R/T operator and acquaintance of many former 2nd Radio Squadron men in the detachment, and Pvts Hatch and Hunt, driver and cook, respectively.

The 24th a list of promotions of privates to privates first class was announced. The only privates left in the outfit were those who entered after the recommendations had been made.

At the suggestion of the Information and Education non-com Capt. A.C. Stevers, Signal Intelligence Officer, A-2 section, XXIX Tactical Air Command, addressed the men on January 24. His subject was the role played by Flap Dog in the operational success of the Army Air Forces in the air battles of the Nazi offensive. After the talk given by Capt. Stever's many men previously uncertain as to the function of Flap Dog were confident of its importance in the march toward victory.

The Medical Department gave the outfit a clean bill of health after the physical inspection on the 25th. It was the second such inspection within the month.

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By the 26th liberty runs were again being made to Verviers. Men used their time on these runs to take showers as the unit's showerhouse was a little too open exposing the bather to the unkind elements. A policy of leaving Verveirs at 1700 and returning to St Pierre at 1745 was initiated and it gave the men an extra hour during which they could shop.

Another facility which became less comfortable in the cold weather was the outdoor latrine. When it became necessary to dig a new pit Cpls Kjaer and Harris dug one intended for the duration and the Latrine box was moved under the most sheltered section of the outhouse. Through far from comfortable the latrine was now less exposed to the elements than before.

Seven men of the 926th Signal Battalion arrived to mess with Detachment "D" and live in the neighborhood while maintaining the telephone lines with Oakland and Football. Their coming was timely as trouble seemed to develop more frequently as the month passed on.

PX rations came in regularly and extra items to be sold above the basic ration increased in number and variety. Gradually the PX under Sgt Irvin and the PX non-com Cpl Schaefer, began to take on the appearance of a regular installation.

The Enlisted Men's council met three times during the month and was functioning smoothly in caring for Special Service activities at the close of the month. Among its newly instituted activities was the governing of the day room.

The Information and Education non-com arranged to have the most capable French speaking men conduct classes for those interested in learning the language. Six groups in all were organized and interest evidenced assured their being continued.

The Squadron Commanding Lt. Col Turkel arrived at the end of the month for a few days stay with the two-fold purpose of holding conference on research work and interviewing personnel with a view to checking their records against actual backgrounds.

Pay day came on the 31st as usual. And so ended the month of January in Detachment "D"

For the Commanding Officer:

MANNIE NAGEL
2nd Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant

[REDACTED]

DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G)

APO 696, U.S. Army
9 May 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945)

TO : Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G)
APO 696, U.S. Army

1. Detachment "D" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile(G) received an additional allotment of grades and ratings per letter Headquarters 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), authority: Commanding General USSTAF, 27 March 1945, as follows: 3 S/Sgt, 6 Cpl, 2 Pfc and 2 Pvt.

2. Detachment strength on 30 April 1945: 6 Officers and 76 enlisted men assigned 30 April 1945, 21 enlisted men attached from 2nd Radio Squadron Mobile(G)

3. Detachment movements during April 1945: Departed Munchen Gladbach, Hehn, Germany (WF 0687) 6 April 1945, arrived Haltern, Germany(A6152). Departed Haltern, Germany(A6152) 10 April 1945, arrived Huenenburg, 2 miles west of Bielefeld, Germany(RB5180). Departed Huenenburg Germany arrived Broitzem, Braunschweig, Germany(RX 8808) 21 April 1945. Departed Broitzen, Germany, Braunschweig Germany (RX 8808) arrived Sommerschenburg, Germany (RY 3103) 22 April 1945.

4. Negative.

5. Unit received notification of award of Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, per General Order #46, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, dated 19 March 1945.

Pfc Saul Kagan was authorized to wear Distinguished Unit Badge per letter 200.6 Headquarters 404th Fighter Group, dated 6 February 1945.

All enlisted men of the unit who were members of the squadron between 6 June 1944 and 24 July 1944 were awarded Battle Participation Credit for the campaign "Normandy".

All enlisted men who were members of the unit as of 25 September 1944 were awarded Battle Participation Credit for the campaign "Germany".

Notice was also received that 1st Lt. Mannie Nagel, who joined this organization 14 December 1944, is awarded Battle Participation Credit for the campaign "Northern France".

[REDACTED]

The month of April was one move after another for Detachment "D" as it sought frantically to catch up with and keep up with the rapidly moving bomblines. Each location proved to be satisfactory for operations for but a few days and in each case it soon appeared necessary to seek a site closer to the scene of activity.

Lt's Gottlieb and Robinson, Cpl Parsons and Pfc Yonika made up a reconnaissance party on 2 April to search for a site near Haltern. This town was east of the Rhine in territory giving evidence of having only recently been taken by Ninth Army troops. The site chosen appeared to be an ideal location from the physical standpoint. Billets were in form of 6 man huts, ideal for use by various sections and teams.

An advanced party took off for the new location on 4 April and prepared to set up for operation. The main party moved up on the 6th leaving only a small group to conduct necessary rear echelon business. The Limey D/F van was disposed of because of the refusal of its motor to run and a 575 was picked up from Baker to replace it. The Radio Maintenance storage van became mired at the site and required an extra guard during the last night at Hehn. An even exchange of R/T men came about at the time of the move when Pfc Nezera came from headquarters and Cpl York left to be sent to Infantry OCS. The best wishes of Flap Dog went with him.

A timely increase in personnel came with the addition of three limited assignment men, Pvts Hutchison, Perez and Reynolds. These and Pvts Seabolt and Yesilosky, March acquisitions gave Flap Dog a nucleus of five combat experienced men around which to build a larger guard section so necessary in hostile territory.

The security problem seemed to be solved when a promise came from the 20th Tank Destroyer Group to supply a half platoon of guards from the 1st Regiment, Limburg army of the Netherlands for security purposes. These men arrived in time to find Flap Dog packing up again for a move.

This time the move was to the Teutoburger Forest. A beautiful recreation spot was found on the high point of the ridge of mountains 2 miles east of Bielefeld. The lodging was the chateau Huenenburg, formerly a rest home for Ford Motor Company's Cologne employees. The site was adjacent to the chateau. It was a natural having a high tower from which to string antennae.

One party including D/F and R/T men moved to Quadrangle Able's station some 10 miles north of the Huenenburg to operate as an outstation and furnish MEW with R/T service.

During the stay at the Huenenburg station the chief pastimes were climbing the hills in the forest and scaring up German soldiers still hiding away in the Neigh-

[REDACTED]

borhood. Runs were required almost daily to bring prisoners to the Conquer enclosure in nearby Brackwede. The files of Flap Dog hold receipts for 14 PW's picked up in the week and a half of the stay.

It was while Flap Dog was at the Huenenburg that the United States lost its beloved and honored leader, President Roosevelt. He was deeply mourned by the detachment as by all allied troops. A special memorial service was conducted by Sgts King and Blake.

Gypsy moved up to Guetersloh 10 miles distant on the 15th of the month. The comparative isolation of the unit was somewhat relieved by Gypsy's moving up. Mail did not come through regularly but one large delivery made up for the lack of its regularity. One important facility still lacking was that of telephone communication. The fact that the stay promised to be a short one made it seem inadvisable to run a line such a long distance to Gypsy.

The time was not long. Flap Dog moved again on the 21st. The place chosen was the village of Sommerschburg, southeast of Helmstedt. The home was the Gneisenau family castle, Quadrangle Able was but 2 or 3 miles distant though Gypsy was located back at Braunschweig. Between the departure of the reconnaissance party and the arrival of the greater part of the detachment, word came of a Jerry breakthrough northeast of Braunschweig cutting the road to the new site. Lt. Nagel who was at the head of the convoy stopped at Braunschweig and arrangements were made to spend the night of the 21st at the arifield Broitzem, Gypsy's home. The men were billeted in a garage comfortable enough for a night. The next day it had been determined that the supposed "breakthrough" was actually a lost column seeking its way back to German lines. With the assurance that the area was clear Flap Dog moved on its way to what proved to be its last station for April.

The castle was probably the best home yet for Flap Dog. There was steady commercial power, good blackout, running water with adequate sanitary facilities. The property was walled in and therefore easily guarded. The operational vehicles were set up within the enclosure made by the buildings.

Less than 24 hours after arrival operations were begun. Activity dwindled fast, however, and after a few days there was little of importance being picked up on the air.

After a few days of comparatively little activity, the R/T men picked up a new pastime to make use of their linguistic accomplishments. The 8239 Tank Destroyer Battalion, responsible for the military government and security of the area, was in need of interpreters and stopped in every morning to take volunteers along. This occupation was popular and, in turn, very valuable to the government units.

Services of linguists for other purposes were also required. Cpl Diderichsen and Pfc Rehfeld were dispatched on the 21st to PW and X Detachment of Ninth Air Force Advanced Headquarters.

Several men were hospitalized during the month including Sgt's Sam Rosenberg and Von Schlichten, Pfc's Binderman and White, and Pvt Yesilosky. The last named sustained a broken XXXX leg when thrown from a 2 1/2 while working. S/Sgt Dulinawka W/T section chief, was lost to the hospital in an accident and Sgt King was named to head the section.

[REDACTED]

Shower runs were made to nearby baths at each of the locations. The best accommodations were probably at the last location as there was an immense swimming pool at the location giving men their first opportunity to swim since Flap Dog had been activated.

S/Sgt Brauckmann, was appointed Special Service NCO and set to work acquiring additional athletic equipment. The Dutch guards immediately challenged the remainder of the detachment to a soccer football game when an area was found at Sommerschenburg. The Flap Dogs came through with a 2 to 1 victory.

Pay call was held on the 30th with German money. All other money was ordered exchanged to marks and at last it became possible to count one's money quickly.

A second scheduled event was the much talked of volley ball match between the old men, i.e. those over 30 years of age, and the young men. The match was started, but never finished as the games stood 1 to 1 when play stopped.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

MANNIE NAGEL
1st Lt. Signal Corps
Adjutant


DETACHMENT "D"
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)

APO 696, U.S. Army
9 July 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 June to 30 June 1945)

TO: Commanding Officer
3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G)
APO 696, U.S. Army

1. In compliance with par 1b letter, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, file 314.7, Subject: "Instructions for the Guidance of Unit Historians," the following information is submitted:

(1) Det. "D" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) was disbanded officially 12 June 1945 per oar 8 ltr Hq Ninth AF, file 370.5 dtd 12 June 1945. All assigned personnel trfd Det "B" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G). Atchd personnel further atchd Det. "B" 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G).

(2) Strength on 30 June: no personnel asgn, atchd, unasgd or atchd fr other orgns.

(3) Detachment movements during June 1945: Departed Sommerschenburg, Germany (RY 3103) arrived Fliegerlager 2 miles east Zierenberg, Kassel, Germany, (RC 1209) 1 June 1945.

(4) Negative.

(5) Cpl Frank D. Paul was authorized Bronze Battle Participation Stars for the campaigns "Normandy" and "Northern France" per letters 200.6 Hq ETOUSA, 17 March 1945 and 30 March 1945.

Sgt. James F. Hobart was authorized to wear a Bronze Battle Participation Star for the campaign "Normandy" per letter 200.6 Hq ETOUSA dtd 16 Nov 1944.

All personnel present with Det. "D" 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) between 16 Dec 1944 and 25 Jan 1945 were authorized a Bronze Battle Participation Star for the campaign "Ardennes" per letter 200.6 Hq IXth Tactical Air Command dtd 18 June 1945.

[REDACTED]

The month of June started off for Flap Dog with a move from Sommerschenburg to the Fliegerlager, east and a little south of Zierenberg, Germany. This latter place was pictoresquely located about 10 miles northeast of Kassel, target of many 8th Air Force bombardiers on their routine "milk run."

The Fliegerlager was a former glider pilot training school located in a cluster of hills. Most fascinating of these hills was the Doernberg, a hump behind Dog's barracks. The Doernberg was covered with unusual rock formation. Its summit became the first destination of all of Flap Dog's hikers and photo-fiends.

Dog was the first of the R/T detachment to become settled. Baker moved in soon from Weimar and both detachments helped prepare the quarters to be occupied by Charlie, moving up from the Nuernberg area.

Unexpected personnel changes included the return of Sgt. Sam Rosenberg from a long stay in the hospital. Sam had left the outfit in April from Haltern.

Another encouraging change was the sudden shipment of Cpl John F. "124 point" Rock to headquarters. Rock was rewarded for his wisdom in turning down a well-deserved furlough to the UK. He would have missed the most important shipment of his army career.

Some few promotions came in. These were the promotion of Sgt. Eimermann to staff sergeant, Cpl. Paden to sergeant, Pfc's Mezera, White, and Willey and Pvt. Seabolt to corporal, and Pvt. Young to private first class.

Furloughs were plentiful both to the UK and to the Riviera. Most talked of trip to the UK was that of Lt. Given who married Miss Mary Cooper while there. The very best wishes of the detachment were with him.

The station was visited by the squadron commander, Lt-Col. Turkel, and the adjutant, Capt. Brinson. Lt. Ogren, squadron supply officer, also visited and threw the awaited bomb-shell into the administration when he brought the order affecting the consolidation of Detachments B, C, and D into one detachment, B. The order was effective 12 June 1945; the same Ninth Air Force letter announced official release of the several R/T detachments from their respective TAC's, effective 1 June 1945.

By 24 June 1945 all the steps necessary to the disbanding of Charlie and Dog administratively were accomplished. Final morning reports were submitted and the detachments began preparing records for the actual complete consolidation which was inevitable with the promise of many personnel losses to come.

Flap Dog had been disbanded after ten months of operation. These ten months had been interesting, educational, exciting and gratifying for all men in the detachment. As the men scatter to take up new assignments in the armed forces, there is a feeling in each of pride in his unit which, in its short existence, played such an important role in the winning of the war in Europe.

[REDACTED]

FERDINAND GOTTLIEB
Captain, Signal Corps
Commanding

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
12 January 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

This month was the most active since the early days on the Normandy Beach-head, and was an especially busy one for this detachment as it is the funneling unit for intelligence information for the squadron.

The amount of traffic handled by the two NCS stations was by far the largest yet. This was due to two reasons:-

1. Enemy activity was at its peak, especially from the night of 16 December to the end of the month. It consisted primarily of support operations for their ground troops and harassing operations against our ground troops.

2. All land-line communication was severed during a portion of the period as a result of the breakthrough and also attacks on our communications centers. The only communication left was radio which handled all types of traffic and was overloaded at times.

However, operationally, the unit's performance was outstanding. Headquarters was kept well informed of all types of enemy activity over the entire front and especially the activity in the breakthrough area. The initial dropping of paratroopers from 90 transports was also received, passed to those concerned, and to headquarters.

Enemy air activity also reached new heights over our particular area during the month with aircraft over every night from 17 December to the end of the month and, in a few instances, they were seen overhead during daylight hours. A few bombs were reported in the vicinity and a comparatively large amount of ground strafing. Only one "Buzz-bomb" was heard going during the period.

The climax of excitement came from headquarters on the evening of 19 December in the form of an evacuation readiness plan. It was then that we packed a few things, gassed all vehicles, and in general made ready to evacuate our present site.

But, evacuation was not necessary, and by the end of the month, conditions favored our remaining although the current emergency plan is still in effect.

The direct teletype link, connecting this unit with S.I.S., A-2 section at headquarters carried a very interesting tale during the latter portion of the month. During two or three days it must have appeared like a page torn from an historical novel concerning a ship lost at sea, or an equal. It is part of our responsibility to keep headquarters informed of present communication facilities and their serviceability. At the time land-lines were beginning to fail, these circumstances were reported as they occurred, until 23 December when all outside land-line communication was severed. Information was available in the form of warnings of enemy air activity but could not be passed fast enough to be of value. Anyway, everyone knew of continuous and intensive activity, so additional warnings would not have helped too much.

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Det"E", 3rd Rad Sq Mob(G), "Unit History—Month of December 1944", 12 January 1945

Outside land-line communication began an upgrade movement and by the end of the month was almost normal. This incident taught all of us one thing - "Not to rely too heavily on land-lines; Make better and more extensive use of radio, which does not fail so readily during emergencies."

The news service to commands was continuous throughout the month, with good coverage of the war news on all fronts throughout the world.

Mess standards remained as usual - Excellent. Christmas was observed by all with "turkey and all the trimmings" on the menu.

Coal was finally received during the last few days of the month and central heating placed in operation.

IVAN R. FETTER,
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding,

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
11 February 1945

UNIT DIARY - MONTH OF JANUARY 1945

OPERATIONAL

Actual intelligence traffic was comparatively slight during the month of January. The tide had turned for "Jerry" and for the most part he had exhausted most of his energies during the Ardennes breakthrough days of December.

But that was not the main reason for our lack of activity during the period. The Germans started the new year right, supposedly so, with a well planned allied airfield attack on 1 January 1945. It was so well planned that the entire "show" was accomplished (unsuccessfully) with complete R/T silence until the mission had been completed and only sounds heard were landing instructions.

Revised R/T tactics also limited the work and evaluation during the beginning of the month, and the Russian offensive in the east during the latter portion of the month. Many units were drawn from the western front (possibly half their strength or better) for support in the east.

Revised W/T codes, some new codes, and altered procedure limited the work of the squadron from that angle. It was no longer possible to decode the Luftwaffe's flak warning code rapidly, due to a change in code and the addition of recyphering tables or sheets, which were so fruitful during November and December.

However, the work of the detachment was accomplished very well and to the satisfaction of all concerned. Information was furnished to headquarters as rapidly as available.

The system of passing the daily summary to SHAEF (Air) and Air Ministry was altered on the twentieth. It was formerly passed to Detachment "A" by radio and passed then to SHAEF and the UK by teletype. It is now sent directly from Advanced Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, by teletype to SHAEF and to Air Ministry. A new subscriber has also been added, the Signal Intelligence section of British Second TAF and is passed by teletype directly to them.

NON-OPERATIONAL

The news services maintained its superior standard with added subscribers. The scope of the service, which started on the Normandy Beachhead to furnish the detachment with the daily news, now extends not only to the Commanding General, Ninth Air Force and Generals of all the Tactical Air Commands, but also to the Main Headquarters, Ninth Air Force by teletype. This also increases the internal distribution at Advanced Headquarters.

All fronts in all theatres are covered with special attention recently to the Eastern European Front and the Pacific War fronts.

The undersigned made a trip to Detachment "C" on 25 January 1945 and Detachment "D", 849th S.I.S., unit attached to XII Tactical Air Command of First TAF

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Basic Communication "Unit Diary - Month of January 1945", 11 February 1945.

(Prov), together with S/L Stacey of _____ Air Ministry. New cryptographic devices and documents were delivered to both units.

S/L Stacey is the R/T expert from Air Ministry and his statements and suggestions were very helpful to both units. Additional information was requested by Stacey in the reports submitted to this detachment which in turn will be summarized and forwarded in the daily summaries to all concerned. The additional bits of information will aid the experts in the UK in their research work, and consequently, their findings will assist the field units.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Enemy air activity over our area during the period was practically nil. However, one bomb was dropped in the immediate area on 12 January by a Jet aircraft and there were two or three others reported in other sections of the city.

The shelling of the city during the first two weeks, with a form of rocket missile, was the worst experienced to date. During the first of this period, only one or two of the missiles landed or hit the city. These kept increasing in intensity one or two during the day and at 1900 hours they began dropping every 20 minutes until 2340 hours, when the last one for the night was launched. This one landed in the same block as our location, breaking several windows in the house and loosening some of the plaster. It also caused a grand rush for the shelter.

On the twelfth, rockets were launched during the day with the bombs mentioned above dropped at 1700 hours completed the harassing for that day. This particular day, too, will remain fixed in the minds of all men. During the course of the day rockets had landed within a block or two on all sides and it was expected that the next one would be our destiny. But the 1700 hours bomb two blocks away concluded the activity for that day.

The rockets decreased in intensity from the thirteenth to the seventeenth, when they stopped entirely.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The undersigned was advised, on 19 January, of the proposed move of Advanced Headquarters, Ninth Air Force and to seek new quarters and operational site in the vicinity of the proposed location.

The trip planned; departed immediately for Namur, Belgium. A very satisfactory location was found on the twentieth and the unit moved 29 January from the city of Luxembourg to its new site at Wepion, Belgium, a small beautiful chateau situated high on a hill overlooking the Meuse River. This serves as both housing and operational site.

An advanced detachment consisting of six men were sent to the new location on 27 January to set up communications and make ready for the balance of the unit.

The move was completed very satisfactorily without a break in operation.

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Basic Communication, "Unit Diary - Month of January 1945", 11 February 1945

Mess - The kitchen, functioned very well throughout the month and produced the usual excellent meals. However, during the latter portion of our stay in Luxembourg, rations decreased slightly in their standards.

Transportation - The one 2 1/2 ton cargo truck turned in for motor replacement shortly before the breakthrough was recovered but the Ordnance Depot had not worked on same. The depot was located almost in the area through which the German advance was made and it was feared the truck might be lost. It will be turned in again at another depot.

Supply - Both sweaters and the new sleeping bags or bed rolls were received and welcomed by all personnel of the unit. The month on a whole was quite cold with a good quantity of snow.

The undersigned departed 31 January for both Detachments "B", and "D" to deliver cryptographic devices.

IVAN R. FETTER
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
15 March 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1945

OPERATIONAL

Traffic on the squadron nets during the month was moderate.

Enemy air activity during the first half of the month was very light but gradually built up during the latter half of the period as allied armies advanced on German soil from the Roer toward the Rhine.

The enemy flak warning system maintained the same recyphered code inaugurated on 1 January 1945. Consequently, the W/T Detachment could not decode such traffic rapidly enough to be of tactical value.

A slight difficulty was encountered during the middle of the month in the receipt of the daily summary by _____ / Air Ministry by early morning, although SHAEF, _____ and 2nd Tactical Air Force received theirs in good time. It was discovered that the routing was incorrect and this changed, all subscribers received the summaries by early morning.

The work of the unit in getting intelligence information from the detachments and the Air Ministry Broadcast and passing on to SIS was accomplished to our recipients satisfaction.

NON-OPERATIONAL

The main non-operational function of the unit is the news service, which provided our subscribers with full coverage of all fronts throughout the month. A translation of the German propaganda news was also provided. However, for several days this was not entirely complete due to bad reception.

The undersigned returned from Detachment "B" and "D" on 3 February 1945, after having delivered new cryptographic devices to both units.

A visit was also made to Detachment "A" on 12 February 1945 to discuss with Major Silverstein, Deputy Squadron Commander, and Intelligence officers of Detachment "A" methods or means of getting immediate tactical information through to the R/T Detachments, if there were ever a recurrence of a low grade enemy flak warning code. These discussions were terminated and the return trip to the unit made on 16 February 1945.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Due partly to our present location, and mainly to revised methods in employment of the enemy air forces, no enemy air activity experienced during the period.

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Basic Comm, "Unit History-Month of February 1945", 15 March 1945, cont'd

ADMINISTRATIVE

The unit lost one man, Pvt. Vernon E. Hughes, to the Ground Forces Reinforcement Center on 8 February 1945. Everyone regretted Pvt. Hughes' departure and are also keeping their fingers crossed for future requirements. The replacement for Pvt. Hughes has not yet arrived, but his arrival has been promised in the near future.

All men received the combat infantry physical during the early part of the month.

Major Silverstein arrived on 17 February 1945 to spend several days with the unit. This was his first visit and the unit felt honored. During his stay, he compiled various records of the squadron activities, mainly operational, and also commendations which have been received for the squadron as a whole and by the separate detachments from various Air Forces, Tactical Air Forces, and other commands. He departed for Squadron Headquarters on 27 February 1945, well armed with material and documents, to await orders sending him to the states.

A new cryptographic man, Pfc. Edward Schneider, joined the unit on 3 February 1945. The cryptographic section is again fully staffed.

Mess - Our new location appears to be very good from a food standpoint. Better rations have been received, resulting in happier expressions and fuller stomachs. Our new kitchen is the best the unit has had to date, and the mess as a whole has been at its best.

Transportation - All vehicles received a complete check during the month by the local ordnance. The motor in one 2 1/2 ton cargo truck was salvaged and replaced by a new one. Both olive drab and white paint were secured and the men spent the pleasant days out-of-doors, painting vehicles. As a consequence, all trucks received new spring frocks complete with white letters and trimmings.

Also, approximately sixty (60) tons of heavy and fine gravel were hauled and placed on the driveway which is completely serviceable now.

IVAN R. FETTER
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding,

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696 U S Army
31 March 1945

1. Negative.
2. Strength on 31 March 1945: Officers - 1, Enlisted men - 31
3. No change; outfit was stationed at Wepion, Belgium (VO 9607) during entire month.
4. Negative.
5. Squadron awarded meritorius Service Unit Plaque and enlisted men of Detachment authorized to wear Meritorius Service Wreath per Sec I, General Order 46, Hq Ninth Air Force.

Squadron awarded battle credit for participation in the campaign "Normandy", per par 1, ltr, Hq European TO USA, file 200.6, dtd 17 Mar 45, subj: "Battle Participation Awards - Normandy Campaign (No. 4)"

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO, 696 U.S. Army
18 May 1945

Unit History for April 1945

1. Augmentation of ratings received from 2nd Radio Squadron Mobile (G) through agreement between Commanding General, First Tactical Air Force and Commanding General, Ninth Air Force.
2. Unit strength on 30 April 1945 - 1 officer attached from other organization, 20 enlisted men assigned, and 10 enlisted men attached from other organization.
3. 2 April 1945, departed Wepion, Belgium, VO 9607, and moved to Luxembourg, Luxembourg, VP 8213, per movement order No. 29, Advanced No. Ninth Air Force, dated 31 March 1945.

13 April 1945, moved from Luxembourg, Luxembourg, VP 8213, to Wiesbaden Germany, VM 3663, per Movement Order, No. 30, Advanced Hq. Ninth Air Force, dated 10 April 1945.
4. No losses in action.
5. No awards.

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, US Army
19 June 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF MAY 1945

OPERATIONAL

The smaller of the two squadron nets was discontinued at the beginning of this period. The amount of traffic handled by the remaining net was very slight. The surrenders of the individual enemy divisions were monitored by the detachment, as was the final order to "cease firing" when it was issued by command of Admiral Doenitz on 8 May 1945.

Little or no tactical use was made of the enemy flak warning code for this period.

During the period 1 May to 8 May 1945, enemy activity on all fronts of this theatre was very slight. This condition climaxed by the enemy surrender on 8 May 1945 and the celebration of Victory in Europe Day on 10 May 1945.

All subscribers to the daily summaries of GAF activity were served without fail during the final stages of the European war.

The efforts of the detachment in securing intelligence information from other monitoring units of the squadron and the intelligence broadcast emanating from the UK were reported by SIS, A-2, Advanced Headquarters, Ninth Air Force as being very satisfactory during the period covered by this report.

NON-OPERATIONAL

Full coverage of all fronts in all theatres, including the peace conference, was attained by the news service of this detachment. The German propaganda broadcast was covered was covered during the period 1 May to 8 May 1945.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

There was no enemy activity experienced during the month of May.

ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned departed for the future site of Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, Bad Kissingen, Germany, on 10 May 1945 for the purpose of choosing a new site for the detachment. Considerable difficulty was encountered in locating a suitable site, but a very comfortable house was finally chosen, located on the outskirts of the town. On 16 May 1945, a pre-advanced party,

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Basic Comm, "Unit History-Month of May", dated 19 June 1945, cont'd

consisting of two men, was sent to the new location for the purpose of holding it for the detachment. The final move was made on 27 May 1945, and the new site promises to be very comfortable and satisfactory.

Personnel - The detachment, and the entire squadron, was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of T/Sgt. Carl Begich, which occurred on 18 May 1945. T/Sgt. Begich drowned while swimming in the Rhine River. His body was recovered on 22 May 1945, and was accompanied to the cemetery by four members of the detachment.

Sgt. Gustav Geisel was sent to a general hospital by the local dispensary on 22 May 1945 for a complete physical check-up. He has not yet returned from the hospital but recent reports from Sgt. Geisel indicate that reports of examination are favorable.

Mess - The mess section continued to operate well and efficiently.

Transportation - The motor pool continued to remain in good condition, with only normal runs to ordnance for routine overhauling.

Supply - Our supply remained more or less static during the period.

IVAN R. FETTER
Captain, Sig C.
Commanding

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
18 July 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF JUNE 1945

OPERATIONAL

The one squadron radio net has been maintained although during the month of June very little traffic was passed over this channel.

Due to the consolidation of Detachments "B", "C", "D", and the discontinuance of Detachment "F" (Det "A", 2d Radio Sq.); the number of operational squadron stations was reduced to three. Those being Detachment "A", "B", and "E".

The Detachment "A" W/T link with the RAF Station at Cheadle, Staffs was also discontinued. The direct teletype link with Air Ministry, however, has been maintained.

Due to the cessation of hostilities, the RAF "Y" Broadcast emanating in the United Kingdom, has also been discontinued.

NON-OPERATIONAL

The "Daily News Sheet" was produced without fail throughout the month. Since the cessation of hostilities, our subscriber list has been reduced to five. The sheet is in Headquarters on or before 0815 each morning and parts of the news concerning the Pacific War Theatre are used at the morning briefings.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The undersigned departed 20 June 1945 for the United Kingdom to deliver cryptographic materials to Air Ministry. Also included in this trip was a visit to the RAF Station at Cheadle, Staffs for the purpose of a study and consultations on current "Y" activities.

PERSONNEL

A quote of furloughs were allocated to the detachment and Sgt Raymond T. DeBrunner and Sgt Jack R. Morell were given a seven day furlough during the period.

Sgt. Morell utilized his furlough to England to good advantage by securing himself a bride. He had been "sweating out" his furlough since permission was granted for his marriage in April. The wedding took place 20 June 1945 at old Acton Town, London. He states it was simple but beautiful, and darned happy about the whole thing.

Mess - Sgt. Hankinson, our mess sergeant since the unit was formed, has been transferred to Detachment "C". Sgt Bradshaw took

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over the mess and Sgt Young was transferred in from Detachment "A" to replace Sgt Hankinson. The operation of the mess was very satisfactory throughout the month.

Transportation - The motor pool personnel and others in the detachment began painting all vehicles, making repairs, overhauls, and in general getting all our vehicles in tip-top condition.

Supply - The unit supply remained static during the period.

IVAN R. FETTER
Captain, SigC
Commanding

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DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
18 July 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History. (1 June to 30 June 1945)

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Radio Squadron Mobile (G), APO 696, U S Army

1. In compliance with Par 1 b, Letter, Headquarters, Ninth Air Force, File 314.7, Subj: "Instructions for the guidance of Unit Historians", the following information is submitted:

(1) S/Sgt. Walter B. Forbes aptd T/Sgt. and Cpl. Frank J. Coram aptd Sgt. per Par 1 SO 32, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt. John S. Hankinson reld of asgmt this Det and trfd in gr to Det "C", 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) per Par 6 SO 35, Hq, 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Sgt. Glennis J. Young asgd and jd this Det fr Det "A", 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G) per Par 6 SO 35, Hq, 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Capt. Ivan R. Fetter reld of asgmt 2nd Rad Sq Mob (G) and trfd to this Det per Par 5 SO 170, Hq, Ninth Air Force.

Sgt. Varian R. Bauman aptd S/Sgt and Cpl. Donald R. Brown, Cpl. Eugene D. Galloway aptd Sgt. per Par 4 SO 36, Hq. 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

Pfc. Edward Schneider aptd. Cpl. per Par 4 SO 36, Hq, 3rd Rad Sq Mob (G).

- (2) Unit Strength as of 30 June 1945:
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| EM - Assigned - 19 | Officers - Assigned - 1 |
| Attached - 9 | Attached - 3 |
- (3) Negative
- (4) Negative
- (5) Negative

~~SECRET~~

DETACHMENT "E"
3RD RADIO SQUADRON MOBILE (G)

APO 696, U S Army
20 August 1945

UNIT HISTORY - MONTH OF JULY 1945

OPERATIONAL

The one squadron net has been maintained throughout the month without fail and communications have been excellent. However, the amount of traffic handled remains meager. It has proved to be a reliable means of communication when direct landlines to the two field detachments fail, which occurred several times during the month.

NON-OPERATIONAL

The only non-operational function of the detachment, the "Daily News Sheet," was provided without fail throughout the period. Full coverage of the war in the Pacific was included.

ADMINISTRATIVE

No changes.

PERSONNEL

S/Sgt McDaniels, the high point man in the unit, was returned to the zone of Interior for his 30 day furlough and possible discharge from the services.

A slightly increased number of personnel were given furloughs to both the UK and Riviera. A plan has been setup whereby orders are cut for men to leave on furlough about the same date men return providing a rotating system for all personnel.

Mess - Excellent throughout the period.

Transportation - One 2 1/2 ton truck was turned in to the local ordnance shop for complete overhaul and possible motor replacement.

Supply - No change.

IVAN R. FETTER,
Captain, SigC
Commanding

~~SECRET~~