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RECORD OF OPERATIONS  
1-31 January 1945

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**CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:**  
**CANCELLED**  
**BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL**  
**DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE**

Authority 135071  
By CO NARA Date 2/22/05

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HEADQUARTERS NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO #9

Auth: CG 9th Inf Div  
Init: ~~4~~  
Date: 5 February 1945

*L 395*

SUBJECT: Report of Operations.

TO : The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

THROUGH: Commanding General, V Corps, APO #305.

**CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO  
CANCELLED  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE**

- SECTION I - Authority
- SECTION II - Introduction
- SECTION III - Report of Operations
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- #3 - Lessons Learned

SECTION I -- AUTHORITY

In compliance with Paragraph 10 (C-4), AR 345-105, this report of operations of the 9th Infantry Division for the period 1-31 January 1945 is submitted.

SECTION II -- INTRODUCTION

1. Command. During the operations covered by this report the 9th Infantry Division was part of V Corps, of the First U. S. Army from 1-31 January 1945.

- a. First Army - Lieutenant General COURTNEY B. HODGES.
- b. V Corps - Major General CLARENCE R. HUEBNER.
- c. 9th Infantry Division - Major General LOUIS A. CRAIG

2. Composition of the 9th Infantry Division. During this period the Division was composed of the following units:

- a. Organic
  - 39th Infantry
  - 47th Infantry
  - 60th Infantry
  - Hq and Hq Battery 9th Infantry Division Artillery
  - 26th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 34th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm How)
  - 60th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 84th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 9th Reconnaissance Troop
  - 9th Signal Company
  - 9th Medical Battalion
  - 709th Ordnance Company
  - 9th Quartermaster Company
  - Hq and Hq Company 9th Infantry Division

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<u>b. Attached and Detachments</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Detached</u>
2 Batteries 413 AAA Battalion	25 Dec '44	3 Jan '45
186 Field Artillery Battalion	20 Dec	26 Jan
196 Field Artillery Battalion	20 Dec	
38 Cavalry Squadron (less troop A)	20 Dec	27 Jan
Troop A 38th Squadron	8 Jan	27 Jan
Company A 47th Anti-Tank Battalion	20 Dec	20 Jan
1 platoon Company A 112th Engineers	20 Dec	4 Jan
Troop A 102nd Cavalry Squadron	25 Jan	27 Jan
3rd Battalion 395th Infantry	20 Dec	31 Jan
99th Reconnaissance Troop	20 Dec	26 Jan
Company A 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion	29 Dec	
2nd Battalion 395th Infantry	24 Dec	5 Jan
Company C 644 Tank Destroyer Battalion	3 Jan	27 Jan
Company A 86th Chemical Battalion	27 Jan	
Company B 86th Chemical Battalion	27 Jan	
Battery B 987th Field Artillery Battalion	27 Jan	

3. Maps. The following maps were used: GERMANY 1/25,000; Sheets 5503, 5504, 5403, 5404.

SECTION III - REPORT OF OPERATIONS

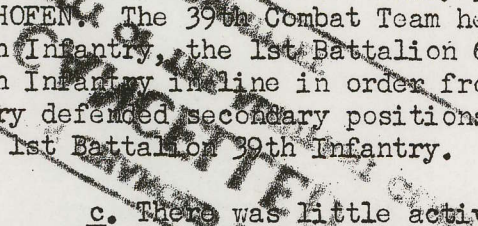
1. 1 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The 9th Infantry Division at the beginning of the period defended a sector extending from the vicinity of the road center at K-949233 north of KONZEN (K-9522) to the high ground at K-952080 east of ELSENBORN (K-9207). The 60th Combat Team was on the north. In this sector, forward positions were held by the 38th Cavalry Squadron and Company A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion (attached). The main line of resistance, consisting of positions in the neighborhood of MUTZENICH (K-9219) and the high ground to the north, was held by the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry. The 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry (less Company G) was held in reserve in company assembly areas along the EUPEN - MONSCHAU highway. Company G occupied a defensive position in the vicinity of K-915218, to the rear of the 3rd Battalion, with one platoon plus one platoon Antitank Company holding a roadblock at K-927226. The 47th Combat Team held the central sector which extended from the road center north of MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the southernmost outskirts of KALTERHERBERG (K-9214). This line was held with the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry of MONSCHAU, the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry (attached) at HOFEN (K-9516), and the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry at KALTERHERBERG. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry defended secondary positions in the neighborhood of K-930168 west of HOFEN. The 39th Combat Team held the southern sector with Companies F and E 39th Infantry, the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry (attached), and the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry in line in order from north to south. The 2nd Battalion 395th Infantry defended secondary positions to the rear of the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry and 1st Battalion 39th Infantry.

c. There was little activity in the 60th Combat Team sector. During the early morning hours, work continued on a minefield in front of the 38th Cavalry Squadron. During daylight, the improvement of defensive installations continued, including re-siting of weapons, erection of wire entanglements, improvement of individual fighting fox-holes, and construction of alternate and supplementary positions.

d. In the 47th Combat Team sector, an attack in platoon strength was made by the 2nd Battalion at 1400A with the mission of clearing the enemy from the west bank of the SCHWALMBACH and establishing an outpost south of KALTERHERBERG in the vicinity of K-945135. Meeting first small-arms and then artillery fire, the platoon advanced to the objective where it was strongly opposed by a well-organized strongpoint, estimated at 50 men dug-in with overhead cover, plentifully equipped with mortars and American machine guns, and supported by artillery of heavy caliber. Outnumbered and fiercely counterattacked from three sides, the platoon was forced to withdraw under cover of smoke. Elsewhere in this sector there was little activity. At 2020A enemy aircraft dropped one 250 lb bomb on HOFEN in the area of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry. There were new



By CO NARA Date 4/24/05 from this incident. After dark the northernmost platoon Company           's with the southernmost platoon Company F.

e. In the 39th Combat Team sector, another effort was made to dislodge the enemy from positions on the west bank of the SCHWALMBACH. The attack was made by Company L, supported by three tanks, which advanced without opposition to the stream in the vicinity of K-955115 to find that the enemy had been bypassed and held a strong position on the height of the HOHE MARK (K-945115). Attacking the position with a flanking movement of two platoons, the company knocked out three machine guns and one mortar emplacement but failed to dislodge the enemy who resisted stubbornly. During the attack, one tank became separated from the others and was disabled by antitank rocket fire in the vicinity of K-945117 on the northern slope of the hill. After nightfall, Company C 60th Infantry established an outpost in the vicinity of K-955115 and Company L 39th Infantry withdrew to our lines.

f. On order from V Corps, the 863rd AAA Battalion (less Battery A) and the provisional batteries of the 460th and 461st AAA Battalions were detached from the Division.

## 2. 2 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Enemy activity on the Division front was slight. Light artillery and mortar fire fell at scattered points, the only concentration occurring in the area of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry, where an estimated 250 rounds fell during the period.

c. Our units continued to hold and improve defensive positions. Prior to daylight, mine-laying parties from the 60th Infantry and Company C 15th Engineer Battalion added approximately 1000 mines to the minefield across the front of the 38th Cavalry Squadron; and after nightfall, an officer patrol and demolition party blew up a pillbox at K-948219. The 47th Infantry sent out a strong combat patrol from the 1st Battalion which harassed and reconnoitered enemy positions in the neighborhood of K-962182. The 39th Infantry delivered harassing fire with a platoon of 4.2 inch chemical mortars (temporary attachment to the regiment from V Corps) and sent out a patrol from the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry which reached the disabled tank lost in action on 1 January and destroyed it with anti-tank rocket fire. Along the entire front harassing and interdiction fire was delivered on a moderate scale.

## 3. 3 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. During this period diversionary attacks in company and platoon strength were made in the Division sector. This action was part of a demonstration by V Corps in support of an assault by other First Army units against the northern flank of the German salient in the Belgium Ardennes.

c. The 60th Combat Team, with the mission of making a diversionary attack against the town of KONZEN, attacked at 1030A with a combat patrol of platoon strength from Company F. Reaching the northern outskirts of KONZEN, the patrol met extremely heavy fire from both within and without the town. Further progress was impossible against this resistance, and attempts at withdrawal under cover of smoke and artillery fire were effectively countered by enemy mortar and small arms fire from the right flank. This action persisted throughout the day, and final elements of the patrol were unable to withdraw until after dark. There were four killed and seven wounded. Elsewhere in the 60th Infantry sector, work continued on defensive installations, including the laying of approximately 1000 additional mines in front of the 38th Cavalry Squadron.

d. In the 47th Combat Team sector, the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry at 1030A sent a combat patrol of platoon strength from Company C to seize and destroy a pillbox at K-950183. The Platoon was supported by one section Company A 746th Tank Battalion, one section Company C 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and

one squad Company B 15th Engineer Battalion. Encountering only slight opposition during its advance, by 1045A the patrol had seized the objective and advanced beyond it to cover the demolition party. While holding the position, the patrol drew only a few rounds of artillery and mortar fire and some scattered small-arms fire. The demolition was completed at 1230A and the patrol returned, bringing with it seven prisoners. Casualties of the patrol consisted of three men wounded by mines, one seriously. The 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry attacked at 0900A with Company E to clear the wooded area in the vicinity of K-945135. The company moved out in two columns. By 1000A, the column on the south flank had reached the vicinity of K-942134 where it was temporarily stopped by enemy fire, and the column on the north flank had reached K-942139 and was moving slowly through artillery, mortar, and small-arms fire. At 1200A the enemy had been cleared out of the woods and driven to the east side of the stream. Enemy mortar and artillery fire continued to be very heavy, however, and at 1300A the company was withdrawn and an outpost established in the vicinity of K-940135. In this action fifteen prisoners were taken, and Company E had one killed and six wounded. One platoon 99th Reconnaissance Troop, ordered to move from its position in the sector of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry and contact Company E, made contact in the vicinity of K-944141 at 1250A. The 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry at 1030A sent a combat patrol consisting of one platoon Company I and one platoon Company K to seize the junction of the three draws at K-962175 with the mission of creating the impression that an attack toward ROHREN (K-9717) was the main effort. Moving over snow and ice and open terrain, the patrol was forced to advance slowly. By 1300A both platoons had reached the high ground north of HOFEN, the left platoon at K-960171 and the right platoon at K-963167. At 1350A the platoon on the right was at K-965165 and receiving artillery fire. The platoon on the left, meanwhile, receiving small-arms fire from an enemy strongpoint at K-963173, attacked and reduced the position by 1430A. This strongpoint was found to be a system of entrenchments three deep with well protected dugouts. At 1445A the patrol was ordered to return. There were no casualties.

e. The 39th Combat Team made demonstrations at 0830A with the mission of driving the enemy from his outpost positions and forcing his withdrawal to the east side of the streamline (SCHWALMBACH). Following a strong artillery preparation, one platoon Company G 39th Infantry moved northeast along the draw in front of the 2nd Battalion 39th Infantry, crossed the stream at K-948197, and, without contacting the enemy, remained in this vicinity with the mission of guarding the left flank. A patrol from Company K 39th Infantry followed Company G to approximately K-946126 at which point it turned north with the mission of hitting the enemy in front of the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry from the rear. This patrol, however, encountered a strong enemy pocket around the disabled friendly tank on the northern slope of the HOHE MARK and, unable to overcome this pocket of resistance, returned to our lines at dusk. A patrol from the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry moved southeast down the firebreak at K-947113 to the stream and then turned north along the streamline on the east bank to the vicinity of K-954111. The patrol came under artillery fire along the streamline and heard enemy activity in the neighborhood of K-955113. It also discovered a large number of enemy dead and considerable abandoned equipment. This patrol also returned at dusk.

f. Battery C 413th AAA Battalion (90mm gun) occupied a position near EUPEN in an AA - AT role. Battery D of the same unit was attached to the 60th Infantry in a close supporting role. During the day both batteries were released from attachment to the Division. In their place, Company C 644th Tank Destroyer Battalion (M10, SP) was attached to the Division. This unit was in turn attached to the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion with the mission of strengthening the divisional antitank defenses.

#### 4. 4 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Other than routine patrolling, there was very little activity along the Division front. The 60th Infantry and supporting Engineers completed the minefield in the 38th Cavalry sector, bringing the total of mines laid to 4500. Also, alternate positions for one platoon Troop B 38th Cavalry

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prepared for occupation. One platoon Company A 112th Engineer Battalion, attached to the 38th Cavalry Squadron, was released from attachment and returned to its parent unit. In the 39th Infantry there was a slight change in troop dispositions. Company G replaced Company F in the line, Company F moving to the former position of Company G near the 2nd Battalion CP.

c. Enemy artillery fire increased somewhat throughout most of the Division sector, most of the fire falling between 1700A and 1830A in the area HOFEN-MONSCHAU - north KALTERHERBERG.

5. 5 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Divisional units continued to hold and improve defensive positions. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry, holding a secondary line in the vicinity of MUTZENICH, continued the preparation of alternate positions for Companies K and L. The 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry, in reserve, improved and rehearsed counterattack plans and conducted a reconnaissance of friendly mine fields in view of possible future operations. Company B 746th Tank Battalion (attached to 60th Infantry) moved a tank into position in the 38th Cavalry sector and fired on targets of opportunity with good results, forcing a number of enemy to evacuate a factory building in IMGEBROICH. The 47th Infantry re-adjusted positions of Company C, in reserve, extending its lines to the high ground southwest of MONSCHAU. A patrol sent out by the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry reconnoitered ground 1500 yards to the east in the vicinity of K-949141 and found the area unoccupied by the enemy. At 1300A the 39th Infantry returned the platoon of 4.2 inch chemical mortars (temporary attachment) to its parent unit. After dark, in conformity with a modification of the Division right boundary, the 2nd Battalion 395th Infantry commenced the relief of the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry on the high ground in the vicinity of K-952080. The 2nd Battalion 395th Infantry was released from attachment and reverted to control of the 99th Infantry Division. Upon completion of the relief, the former position of the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry became the responsibility of the 99th Infantry Division

c. A provisional .50 caliber AA battery, composed of one platoon battery A and one platoon Battery B 376th AAA AW Battalion, was organized and occupied firing positions in the vicinity of K-912183 and K-908151. Attached to the 47th Infantry for control purposes, it had the mission of providing ground support to front line units in addition to its normal AA mission.

d. The enemy during this period was relatively inactive. Considerable artillery and mortar fire fell on the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry in the HOFEN area, and enemy patrols continued to operate along the front, patrols were brought under fire.

6. 6 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. All combat teams continued the defense of their sector and patrolled to the front. In the 60th Combat Team sector, the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry conducted a reconnaissance of an antipersonnel minefield to the south to determine its location and extent in view of the possible execution of counterattack plans. At 1000A one platoon medium tanks and three tank destroyers were moved to the vicinity of K-932229 for the purpose of giving greater tactical value to this force. Elsewhere, tank fire was delivered on targets of opportunity. In the 47th Combat Team sector, a mutual relief of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions 47th Infantry was begun at 1800A and completed at 2005A. Company F, taking over positions held by Company K, placed one squad in the vicinity of K-939169 and a half-squad on roadblocks at each of the following points: K-931155, K-935155, K-940156, and K-941160. During the relief, the enemy shot a flare over Company F and followed it with an artillery barrage, resulting in two casualties. In the 39th Combat Team sector, the relief of the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry by 2nd Battalion 395th Infantry was completed shortly after midnight. The 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry moved to a reserve position on the right boundary astride

the ELSENBORN - KALTERHERBERG road. The 1st Battalion moved to the former positions of the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of K-914~~104~~. A combat patrol, discovering an enemy group entrenched in the neighborhood of the knocked out tank at the HOHE MARK (K-945115), drove the enemy off and established an outpost at the position.

c. The Division Artillery fired routine harassing, interdictory, and counterbattery missions in defense of the sector. Enemy artillery fire during the period was light and harassing in nature.

7. 7 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Other than patrolling, there was little activity along the Division front. In the northern sector, the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry perfected counterattack plans and patrolled in rear areas for enemy infiltrations. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry, holding the MLR on the high ground to the rear of the 38th Cavalry Squadron, patrolled laterally and to the front, maintained roadblocks in the I Company area and in the rear, improved defensive installations, and developed plans for repulsing enemy attacks. The 38th Cavalry Squadron and Company A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion, manning the OPLR, patrolled toward KONZEN and IMGEBROICH for security and enemy information. Trip flares were installed in front of Company A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion. The 47th Combat Team continued to defend the MONSCHAU-HOFEN-KALTERHERBERG area. The 1st Battalion 47th Infantry continued the defense of MONSCHAU, holding positions just to the northeast, east, and southeast of town. The 2nd Battalion strengthened its secondary positions to the north and northeast of KALTERHERBERG which it occupied during the night of 6 January. The 3rd Battalion on the right of the sector strengthened the positions taken over from the 2nd Battalion. The 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry continued the defense of HOFEN, holding positions generally to the east and southeast of town. In the southernmost sector, that of the 39th Infantry, an enemy patrol of one officer and twenty-five men retook the outpost position in the vicinity of the disabled tank at K-946117. At 1300A a platoon from Company C, in an attempt to reestablish the outpost, advanced against strong resistance to within 25 yards of the position but at 1635A was forced to withdraw in the face of heavy machine gun and 120mm mortar fire. The enemy's persistent resistance to our attempts at holding an outpost at the HOHE MARK indicated that he valued it highly for the observation it afforded along the PERCENBACH valley to KALTERHERBERG and for the possible approach afforded by the valley to the KALTERHERBERG-ELSENBORN road.

8. 8 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The front remained relatively quiet. In the northern sector, the 60th Combat Team improved prepared installations and strengthened antitank defenses. Troop A 38th Cavalry Squadron, reverting to unit control from attachment to the 78th Infantry Division, rejoined the squadron at 0753A and closed in a rest area in the vicinity of K-880200. In the central sector, positions remained unchanged, while there was some rotation of troops within the sector. One platoon Company C moved from a reserve position in the vicinity of K-938178 and took over a position held by a platoon of Company B in the vicinity of K-945185. The platoon of Company B moved to the position vacated by the platoon of Company C. During the day, a new outpost was established by Company C at K-948184. The 3rd Battalion intensified patrolling to determine if there was any evidence of the enemy attempting to re-establish positions in the wooded area east of KALTERHERBERG. The provisional .50 cal AA battery (376th AAA AW Battalion) fired a total of 800 rounds on enemy positions, the results of which were unobserved due to low visibility. In the southern sector, the 39th Combat Team received 1 platoon Company D 86th Chemical Battalion (4.2 inch mortar) on temporary attachment from V Corps and employed its mortars against the enemy outpost in the vicinity of the knocked-out tank at K-945118. After dark, a relief of Company A 60th Infantry, in line on the right flank

was begun by Company I 39th Infantry. This relief was still in process at the close of the period.

9. 9 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued the defense of its sector. Our patrols were active along the front, but no contact was made with the enemy. A patrol from the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry advanced under cover of darkness to the vicinity of K-953176. The patrol which set out from the 3rd Battalion the previous night to reconnoiter the wooded area east of KALTERHERBERG reached the streamline in this area and discovered foxholes, trenches, and dugouts previously occupied by the enemy, but no traces of the enemy or of enemy footprints in the snow. Antitank Company 47th Infantry and the provisional .50 cal AA battery fired on enemy positions, again with undetermined results due to poor visibility. There were some changes in troop locations. Company I 39th Infantry completed the relief of Company A 60th Infantry shortly after midnight. Company A 60th Infantry closed in a new area in the vicinity of K-923123, while Company L 39th Infantry took over the former position of Company I in the vicinity of K-926090 on the Division right boundary.

e. The enemy during this period continued to be inactive. Enemy artillery fire, however, increased with 15 shellings reported in the sector.

10. 10 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The 60th Combat Team had little activity. Defensive positions were strengthened with the addition of wire entanglements and snow and ice were cleared from foxholes and gun emplacements. Patrols reached the group of houses at K-952208 on the outskirts of IMGENBROICH (K-9520) without contacting the enemy.

c. In the area of the 47th Infantry, patrolling was intensified to determine enemy dispositions and reactions. A patrol from Company B 47th Infantry pushed out to the MENZERATH area without opposition and investigated a pillbox at K-948180. Concertina wire was discovered along the road south of the pillbox. Attempting to breach the wire, the patrol set off a booby trap, following which an enemy machine gun opened up about 75 yards east of the pillbox. The patrol flanked the machine gun position and silenced it with grenades and sub-machine guns. A patrol from Company C reached a point at K-951187 where enemy activity was observed to center about a house. The patrol then proceeded east to the road at K-954186 where it came under observed machine-pistol and artillery fire. When the shelling ceased, it continued forward and was stopped by machine-gun fire from a bunker at K-953188. The 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry, in the HOFEN area, sent out a combat patrol with the mission of advancing to the vicinity of K-969160 and capturing a prisoner. After coming under enemy artillery fire, the patrol called for supporting artillery and smoke on the objective and reached the position at 0912A. The patrol took one prisoner, who stated that he was one of a six-man outpost. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry sent three rifle platoons (Company K) to search the east side of the stream in the neighborhood of K-950140. The patrols searched a wide area in which many abandoned positions were found but no enemy. In this day's action, all patrols carried out their assigned missions despite the obstacle of deep snow and enemy sensitivity to our advances in the sector. The enemy outpost line was breached in every case.

d. The 39th Combat Team attempted to dislodge the strong enemy outpost in the HOHE MARK area. The attack was made at 0800A by Company A 60th Infantry. The company, however, bypassed the position around the tank at K-946117 and, against machine-gun and mortar fire, advanced to the vicinity of K-950117. At this point, the company received a counterattack from the east and machine-gun



fire from the vicinity of the tank to its right rear. One platoon Company B attempted a diversionary attack from the HOHE MARK to relieve the pressure against Company A but was stopped by heavy machine-gun and mortar fire. After dark, the company was withdrawn and assembled in its previous positions at K-923123. During the movement to the rear, one platoon became separated from the balance of the company and did not reach the assembly area until 2230A. Two men were missing.

11. 11 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. It was quiet throughout the Division sector. Defensive positions were strengthened and patrols were active between adjacent units and to the front. The Division artillery fired routine missions while enemy artillery activity continued to decrease during the period with 87 rounds reported falling in the sector. Approximately half of the reported rounds fell in and around HOFEN, while the rest were scattered over the length of the front.

12. 12 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. In the northern sector, the 60th Combat Team held and improved defensive positions and carried on routine patrolling. Small patrols were sent toward KONZEN and IMGENBROICH with the mission of obtaining information of enemy dispositions, but no enemy contact was made. Enemy artillery fire in the sector was scattered and harassing in effect.

c. In the central sector, defensive positions were maintained with the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry at MONSCHAU, the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry at HOFEN, the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry at KALTERHERBERG, and the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry to the north and northeast of KALTERHERBERG. There were slight changes in positions of the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry. To the front, patrols engaged enemy elements at several points. A patrol from the 1st Battalion which moved out at 2130A to investigate enemy activity in the vicinity of K-947196 reached the "Dragon's Teeth" at K-945195 and observed enemy patrol formations totaling approximately 30 men. The patrol returned to the outpost line, following which small-arms fire was exchanged with the enemy groups. By midnight this had quieted down, though evidence of enemy activity in this area continued. In the HOFEN area, there were light skirmishes with enemy patrols which attacked our outpost positions. The outpost at K-957165 was driven back at 2000A but at 2250 was re-established. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry sent a three-man patrol to reconnoiter the wooded area east of the streamline. When the patrol reached a point at about K-944136, it encountered what was thought to be a six-man enemy outpost. The patrol called for support, and two squads from Company K were immediately sent to its assistance. In the fight which followed, the outpost was taken by surprise, with more than 10 of its occupants being killed and 14 captured. After this action, the position was evacuated and no further engagement with the enemy took place. Enemy artillery fire in the central sector increased over that of the previous day with approximately 200 rounds falling in and around KALTERHERBERG.

d. In the southern sector, the 39th Combat Team carried on routine operations. At 1130A the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry commenced the relief of the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry (attached). This relief was completed at 2100A, with Company A 39th Infantry taking over the positions of Company C 60th Infantry, Company B 39th Infantry taking over the positions of Company B 60th Infantry, and Company C 39th Infantry assembling in the vicinity of the battalion CP. The 1st Battalion 60th Infantry moved into reserve in the vicinity of K-914125. In accordance with instructions from V Corps, one platoon Company D 86th Chemical Battalion (temporary attachment) was returned to control of the 99th Infantry Division. Approximately 150 rounds of enemy artillery fire fell in the northern part of the 39th Combat Team sector during the period.

13. 13 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Other than minor skirmishes along the OPIR, there was little activity in the Division sector. In the HOFEN area, approximately 30 enemy were observed attempting to establish an outpost at K-965148 and brought under small-arms and artillery fire to good effect. At 2345A, an outpost of the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry at K-940135 was attacked by an enemy patrol estimated to be 10 to 12 in number. The outpost defended its position and with the support of a combat patrol sent to its assistance succeeded in dispersing the enemy. A patrol from the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry reconnoitered the high ground in the neighborhood of K-950145 without contacting any enemy. There were some changes in troop locations. Commencing at 0800A, the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry (attached to 39th Infantry) was relieved by the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry. The relief was made progressively by company and completed at 1500A, at which time the 1st Battalion reverted to regimental control and the 2nd Battalion was attached to the 39th Infantry.

c. Enemy artillery fire decreased slightly during the period, with an estimated 300 rounds falling on the towns and road nets in the central part of the Division Sector. The southern tip of HOFEN received the heaviest concentrations.

14. 14 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The situation and location of units remained unchanged. Routine patrolling between units and to the front was carried on, from which there was evidence that the enemy outpost line was being pushed forward, particularly in the area around MONSCHAU. Artillery fire was put down on an enemy group observed outposting the draw at K-964144, and a German patrol which attempted to overrun one of our outposts in the central sector was driven back with small-arms fire. Enemy artillery fire decreased with the exception of a heavy barrage that fell in the HOFEN area around noon. The Division artillery fired seven counterbattery missions on known enemy gun positions.

15. 15 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. In conjunction with an attack by elements of V Corps in the right of the Corps zone, the 9th Infantry Division intensified patrolling in its sector to determine enemy dispositions and reactions. The 1st Battalion 47th Infantry, in the MONSCHAU area, sent forward two combat patrols. A patrol consisting of one squad from Company C had the mission of reconnoitering the vicinity of K-954180. A patrol consisting of a reinforced platoon from Company B had the mission of seizing and destroying an enemy pillbox at K-948180. The patrol from Company C moved out at 0615A but was strongly opposed by machine-gun and rifle fire and forced to withdraw. The patrol from Company B, following an artillery preparation, moved out at 0800A and advanced against light resistance to its objective. It received machine-gun fire from the left flank but this was quickly silenced by .50 caliber guns of the 376th AAA AW Battalion. Additional support was provided by the Antitank Platoon of the 1st Battalion which delivered destructive fire against the pillbox with a 57mm gun at a range of 300 yards. The patrol took 10 prisoners from the fortification before destroying it. At 1130A the patrol returned to our lines, one engineer having become a casualty. The 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry sent a small reconnaissance patrol to the south. This patrol, however, immediately met heavy fire from the direction of its right flank and was forced to retire. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry sent two reconnaissance patrols into the wooded area to the south and southeast. One patrol drew heavy automatic-weapons fire from the east side of the stream and was forced to fall back. The second patrol, consisting of four

men, had not returned at midnight. The 39th Infantry sent forward three combat patrols with the mission of advancing to the streamline to its front. One patrol, consisting of a reinforced platoon from the 1st Battalion, reached a point within 30 yards of the tank at K-946117 and became engaged in a small-arms fight with the enemy outpost in this vicinity. After expending all of its ammunition, the patrol returned. Patrols from the 2nd and 3rd Battalions advanced to the streamline and returned without contacting the enemy, the 2nd Battalion patrol, consisting of one platoon, reaching a point at K-947126, and the 3rd Battalion patrol, consisting of a reinforced squad, reaching a point at K-951107. The 60th Infantry sent out several patrols during the hours of darkness. One patrol of 15 men went out before daylight and obtained information of enemy dispositions in the vicinity of KONZEN, and after dark a small patrol went out to reconnoiter in the IMGENBROICH area. The latter was still on its mission at the close of the period.

c. Our patrol activity drew very little enemy artillery fire. The shellings reported were by single light-caliber guns and did not total more than 70 rounds for the period. Good visibility, the vigilance of air OP's, and the effectiveness of sound and flash ranging teams were probably factors which kept the enemy artillery quiet. Nine counterbattery missions were fired by the Division Artillery.

d. In the 60th and 39th Infantry sectors, slight changes in troop dispositions were made after dark. Troop A relieved Troop B 38th Cavalry Squadron, and Company K relieved Company I 39th Infantry.

16. 16 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division front was quiet during the period, with activity limited to patrolling and the continued defense of prepared positions. Shortly after midnight, a combat patrol from the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry was sent to KONZEN with the mission of destroying installations and taking prisoners. The patrol reached a point below the road junction at K-952223 and came under heavy fire from a well-organized strongpoint around the factory area to the south. After repeated attempts to overcome the resistance, the patrol was forced to withdraw. One of the patrol was killed and another reported missing. The patrol which went to IMGENBROICH on the night of 15 January returned during the early morning hours with a negative report. In the 47th Infantry area, one member of the 4-man patrol from the 3rd Battalion, which had failed to return from its mission the previous day, returned during the morning. He reported that the patrol had run into a strong enemy outpost (vicinity of K-944136) which opened fire with small-arms, machine guns, and mortars, killing one of the patrol and wounding another. Taking cover, the patrol leader and the survivor attempted to work their way back, but the patrol leader, a sergeant, was captured. At 2200A a patrol from Company B 47th Infantry located an enemy outpost at K-951179. At 2330A a reconnaissance patrol from the 3rd Battalion, having reached the streamline in the vicinity of K-948147, was preparing to cross to the east side when it observed about 16 enemy cross the stream and deploy along the west bank. The patrol returned, undetected by the enemy, and artillery fire was called for on the wooded area beyond the streamline. In the 39th Infantry area, a patrol reconnoitered the vicinity of the disabled tank (K-946117) and harassed the enemy outpost with AT rockets.

b. Again, there was some rotation of troops within positions. Prior to daylight, Companies I and K 47th Infantry exchanged places, Company E relieved Company G 39th Infantry, and one squad of Company I relieved the right flank squad of Company B 39th Infantry.

17. 17 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. In the 60th Combat Team sector, commencing at first light, the 1st

and 3rd Battalions, 60th Infantry, rehearsed counterattack plans. This included the actual occupation of previously prepared positions, making of range cards, establishment of communications, etc. After dark patrols reconnoitered the vicinity of KONZEN to determine the effect of an artillery concentration which had been placed on the town. These patrols returned without having contacted the enemy.

c. In the 47th Combat Team sector, a combat patrol from the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry, with the mission of investigating a group of enemy reported to have deployed along the west bank of the stream in the vicinity of K-948147, went out shortly after midnight and found a small number of enemy in position as reported. At 2100A another patrol went out to reconnoiter the streamline. This patrol observed no enemy on the west bank but heard enemy activity on the far side. During the afternoon a small patrol from Company B reconnoitered the blown-up pillbox at K-948180. Advancing east, the patrol came down on the main road at K-955180 and covered the road west from this point to the pillbox. No enemy were seen or heard in this area. During the day, the regimental sector received more enemy artillery fire than usual, the heaviest shellings occurring in the southern part of KALTERHERBERG.

d. In the 39th Combat Team sector, around 0115A a patrol from the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry had a light skirmish with an undetermined number of enemy in the vicinity of K-949098. When the patrol returned, artillery fire was put on the enemy position. During the afternoon a patrol from Company F investigated the HEISTERHAUS (K-944128) and found no enemy in the area. Another patrol which reconnoitered the HOHE MARK found evidence of the enemy, though none were seen.

#### 18. 18 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM

b. Patrolling continued along the Division front. On the north flank, a patrol from the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry observed a column of enemy troops estimated at 150 men moving into IMGENBROICH shortly after midnight. This was believed to be part of a relief taking place in the area. Another patrol, reconnoitering in the vicinity of KONZEN, drew small-arms fire from the town. In the central sector, after dark a patrol from Company B 47th Infantry moved east along the main road from MONSCHAU to the vicinity of the blown-up pillbox at K-948180. Fresh footprints and other signs of recent occupation were found but no enemy. A patrol from the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry which reconnoitered the wooded area to the southeast beyond the stream also found signs of recent enemy occupation but no enemy. On the south flank, before daylight, a patrol from the 2nd Battalion 39th Infantry had a light skirmish with the enemy along the streamline. The patrol withdrew to reorganize and upon returning found no enemy in the area. In the afternoon a patrol from the 1st Battalion got to within 30 yards of the disabled tank at the HOHE MARK and could find no trace of the enemy. After darkness, however, enemy fire was heard in this vicinity.

c. There was very little enemy artillery activity in the sector. An estimated 60 rounds were reported, coming from single light-caliber guns and, in one instance, from a light battery. Counterbattery fire was placed on two enemy gun locations.

#### 19. 19 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Due to a blizzard which persisted throughout most of the day, there was very little activity along the Division front. Patrolling was generally limited to lateral contacts and visits to outposts. After dark a patrol from Company A 47th Infantry went out through the "dragon's teeth" to the vicinity of HARGARD (K-9419) and returned after a brief skirmish with a German outpost.

Patrols from the 39th Infantry went near the disabled tank and saw the enemy in the immediate neighborhood. On the left flank it was evident that KONZEN was still occupied in force.

20. 20 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Patrolling and defense from prepared positions continued along the Division front. In the 60th and 39th Infantry sectors, certain relief of units were carried out. In the left portion of the 60th Infantry Sector, Co C 60th Infantry relieved Co A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion which was ordered released from attachment to the Division and returned to its parent unit. Relief of the forward platoon was not accomplished until after dark due to the possibility of direct enemy observation on the position. Co A 60th Infantry moved into the area vacated by Co C.

c. In the 39th Infantry sector, a mutual relief was effected between the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry and the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry with G, F and E Companies relieving I, L and K Companies respectively.

d. The 1st Battalion 47th Infantry in a readjustment of the left flank, moved one platoon of Co A to a defensive position in depth in rear of the main line. The 3rd Battalion sent four reconnaissance patrols into the wooded area to the southeast. Patrol #1 reached the vicinity of K-942135 at which point it came under heavy small arms fire and returned. Patrol #4 moved to the vicinity of K-947144, crossed the stream at this point, proceeded to K-950144 and returned without contacting any enemy. Patrols #2 and #3 were still out at the close of the period.

e. Enemy artillery increased markedly during the period, starting fairly light but becoming heavier later on. As there were 150 enemy observed in the IMGEBROICH-KONZEN area, this increase can probably be attributed to a desire for the enemy to cover up his troop movements. Our artillery fired nine counterbattery missions on enemy gun positions.

21. 21 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The defense of the sector and the maintenance of contact by patrols was continued on the Division front. On the left, patrols from the 60th Infantry reconnoitering the KONZEN-IMGEBROICH areas encountered small-arms and machine gun fire. In the 47th Infantry sector, a patrol from the 1st Battalion discovered that the enemy had reoccupied the pillbox at 947182 which had previously been blown up by our engineers. The patrol could not approach closer than 40 yards as the position was defended with four machine guns. Waist deep snow, drifted to 5 and 6 feet in places, forced a combat patrol of the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry to return after having reached the point at 959168. A combat patrol of the 3rd Battalion met with heavy mortar and machine gun fire in trying to cross a stream to the east and was forced to return. A patrol sent out before midnight of the previous day, returned after having been stopped at K-943131 by machine gun fire.

c. A combat patrol from the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry set up an ambush on a trail leading to the enemy outpost in the vicinity of the disabled tank (K-946117). An enemy supply group was taken under fire but all escaped. Other patrols reconnoitered in the vicinity of 945107 and in the HEISTERHAUS area, finding both occupied by the enemy.

d. Enemy artillery fire was very light in the Division sector, an estimated 40 rounds, predominantly of light caliber, falling in the entire sector.

22. 22 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector and all units patrolled actively to the front and flanks. Patrols of the 60th Infantry reconnoitering in the KONZEN area, made no contact with the enemy and found the pillbox at K-948218 unoccupied.

c. In the center of the Division sector, a patrol from the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry contacted an enemy outpost of an estimated six men east of the creek near outpost #6 (K-952152).

d. A patrol of the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry heard enemy talking, coughing and sneezing in the vicinity of the disabled tank at K-946117 but could see no one. Later, another patrol, observing 4 or 5 enemy with machine guns near the tank, fired on them, wounding two and forcing the others to disperse.

e. Enemy artillery activity rose slightly during the period with an estimated 150 rounds, mostly harassing in nature and of light caliber, falling within the area. Our own artillery fired four counterbattery missions on known enemy gun positions.

23. 23 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Defense of the Division sector, vigorous patrolling to the front and flanks, and improvement of defensive positions were carried out throughout the period. A patrol of the 38th Cavalry Squadron, with the mission of capturing a prisoner, set up an ambush in the KONZEN area but made no contact with the enemy.

c. In the 47th Infantry zone, a combat patrol of the 1st Battalion advanced through heavy machine gun and mortar fire to the blown pillbox at K-948182. Although the patrol sustained some casualties, it was able to clear the enemy from the position, capturing 6 prisoners, wounding 2 others, killing 1 and forcing the remaining one to flee. A combat patrol of the 3rd Battalion moved into the woods to the vicinity of K-943133, while friendly artillery and mortar covered it by placing fire on every known enemy gun position. The patrol captured three prisoners and returned without drawing any enemy fire.

d. As a patrol of the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry moved along its route, it received enemy fire from points K-946104, 948103, 950100 and from a bunker at 945099.

e. A considerable volume of enemy artillery fell on the KALTERHERBERG-ELSENBORN road and an increase in harassing fire from batteries as well as the usual single pieces was noted throughout the sector with most of the fire falling on the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry and the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry. Our artillery fired nine counterbattery missions during the period.

24. 24 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector with units patrolling vigorously to the front and flanks and improving defensive positions. In response to reports of much enemy movement to the east of the Division sector, all units intensified their patrolling activities, preparing to exploit any possible break in the enemy line and to try to capture prisoners to determine any shifting of enemy troops. A combat patrol of the 60th

Infantry established a 10-man observation post in a house in KONZEN (K-951223) before dawn. Detected by the enemy shortly after daybreak, the patrol was under constant attack from three sides by the enemy garrisoning the town. In spite of this pressure, the patrol was still able to direct considerable effective artillery fire on the enemy and to determine that the church and factory areas in the town of KONZEN are strongpoints held by two enemy platoons. At dusk under cover of smoke, the patrol withdrew after having suffered one officer wounded, two enlisted men wounded, two killed and four missing. Another patrol that attempted to capture three enemy in the IMGENBROICH area was driven off by an estimated 30 Germans.

c. Patrols from the 47th Infantry made no contacts with the enemy, one patrol covering a route from points 948147-951144-952140-945140 thence up the west bank of the stream to the starting point without drawing any fire.

d. Patrol activities in the 39th Infantry sector were highlighted by a brief fire fight at a point 75 yards southeast of HEISTERHAUS (K-945128) when a strong combat patrol came under enemy machine gun and machine pistol fire. Patrols also exchanged shots with the enemy in other locations. A change in troop dispositions occurred when F and E companies effected a mutual relief, F company moving to a front line position.

e. Enemy artillery decreased sharply; an estimated 100 rounds being reported in the sector. Counterbattery fire was placed on 5 known enemy gun locations.

25. 25 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend in the sector with units maintaining contact by patrols and improving defensive positions. In the 60th Infantry sector, after Company B had completed the relief of two platoons of Company C (the third platoon to be relieved after dark), higher headquarters directed that troops in this area be relieved by Troop A 102nd Cavalry Squadron. Also, the 2nd Battalion was restored to the regiment following its relief from attachment to the 39th Infantry, and moved into an assembly area vicinity K-905199.

c. In the 47th Infantry sector, a strong combat patrol of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry suffered five casualties in the vicinity of K-951145, where they ran into booby traps, artillery and small arms fire.

d. The 39th Infantry was relieved of responsibility for the area occupied by the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry when the 1st Battalion 395th Infantry assumed control of the sector at 2400 hours. The 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry then returned to 60th Infantry control.

e. Enemy artillery decreased slightly in volume throughout the sector. Our own artillery fired three counterbattery missions.

26. 26 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend its sector and to improve its positions. Units patrolled to the front and flanks. At the close of the period the 102nd Cavalry Group was in the process of assuming control of the northern portion of the Division Sector.

c. At 2055A the enemy made a determined effort to drive in an outpost of the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry. The attack was started by an eight-man patrol coming from vicinity K-943135. The patrol was allowed to come

within grenade range and was dispersed by small-arms fire. The enemy then threw an estimated 150 men into the attack which was beaten off with the help of fire from another outpost and artillery and mortar fire. Company B 47th Infantry moved to K-943183 after being relieved by Company L 60th Infantry. The 99th Reconnaissance Troop (less one platoon) was relieved from attachment and reverted to the 99th Infantry Division.

d. German artillery continued to be light throughout the period, with an estimated 40 rounds landing within the sector. The Division Artillery fired two counterbattery missions. Effective at 2400 hours, the 186th Field Artillery to the front and flanks.

27. 27 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector, improving defensive positions and regrouping for future operations. Units patrolled vigorously to the front and flanks.

c. At 0100A, the 102nd Cavalry Group assumed control of that portion of the Division sector formerly held by the 60th Combat Team. At the same time, the 38th Cavalry Squadron was relieved from attachment to the 60th Combat Team and reverted to the parent unit. Another enemy counterattack was launched against the same outpost of the 47th Combat Team which sustained last night's attack. This attack was almost identical in nature except that enemy artillery and mortars were used in support. The outpost had been reinforced and with the help of our own artillery and mortar fire, broke up the attack. At 2145A, Companies A, C and F 39th Combat Team relieved Companies K, L and I 47th Combat Team respectively in positions south and southeast of KALTERHERBERG, the latter companies moving to an assembly area vicinity of K-928147. The new boundary between 9th and 99th Infantry Divisions became effective when the 2nd Battalion 395th Combat Team relieved Companies B, C and G 39th Combat Team.

d. Enemy artillery was harassing and interdictory in nature and continued to be light throughout the period.

28. 28 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-825245 until 1125A; after 1125A, K-913167, vicinity KALTERHERBERG, GERMANY.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector with patrolling largely limited to reconnaissance missions and the contacting of adjacent units. Elements of the 60th Combat Team moved into jump-off positions in preparation for future operations. The 47th Combat Team also adjusted the disposition of some of its elements. For the third time, the Division Command Post set up operations in GERMANY.

29. 29 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-913167, vicinity KALTERHERBERG, GERMANY.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector and to regroup in-preparation for future operations. Units maintained patrols to the front and flanks.

c. The 60th Combat Team continued to regroup, moving the 2nd Battalion to positions in vicinity of HOFEN, and other elements to positions north of MONSCHAU in preparation for the coming attack. Company B 86th Chemical Battalion was attached to 60th Combat Team at 1300A. The 2nd Battalion 47th Combat Team moved to the vicinity of HOFEN and the 3rd Battalion completed its assembly near ALZEN. Company A 86th Chemical Battalion became attached at 1730A. In the 39th Combat Team sector, Companies E and F were relieved by the 9th Reconnaissance Troop which had been attached to



the Combat Team at 1330A. The 3rd Battalion moved to assembly positions in the vicinity 927147.

30. 30 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-913167, vicinity KALTERHERBERG, GERMANY.

b. In conjunction with neighboring units, the Division attacked at 0400A, with the 60th Combat Team advancing toward ROHEN, the 47th heading for the high ground about 4,000 yards to the east of the position along the 99 North - South grid line, and the 39th attacking a limited objective vicinity of K-952144. In the 60th Combat Team sector, the 2nd Battalion advanced swiftly, meeting no resistance and securing the town of ROHEN with two companies at 0645A. The entire battalion plus one platoon of tanks and one platoon TD's closed into town at 0915A. In the 3rd Battalion advance was halted after a gain of 300 yards by a strongly defended pillbox at K-960180. Co I, after eliminating this resistance, was held up again by a strong point at K-962179 and was replaced after dark by Company K. At 1400A, fire from tanks and TD's broke up an enemy counter attack of an estimated 40 men at ROHEN.

c. The 47th Combat Team attacked with the 3rd Battalion on the right, 2nd Battalion on the left. The 2nd Battalion advanced with no resistance until the vicinity of K-969157 was reached. There, the battalion was met by enemy small-arms, mortar and artillery fire but by 1725A, leading elements had reached the objective vicinity K-785162. After encountering only sporadic artillery and mortar fire, the 3rd Battalion reached their objective vicinity K-988145 at 1905A. The advance was slowed down more by deep snow than by enemy action.

d. At 0700A, the 3rd Battalion (less Company L plus Company B) 39th Combat Team attacked to the East toward the vicinity K-952144 with Company I on the left, Company B on the right, K following I. At approximately 0845A, leading elements contacted enemy and received heavy small-arms and machine gun fire from the high ground and two bunkers in the vicinity K-953144. Company K flanked and eliminated this resistance and captured 12 prisoners. Company I advanced approximately 200 yards beyond Phase Line "B" (K-952144) but Company B was held up by strong resistance to the front and right flanks.

e. Enemy artillery was very light throughout the period.

31. 31 January 1945

a. Division CP: K-913167, vicinity KALTERHERBERG, GERMANY.

b. The Division continued to attack to the East with the mission of mopping up pillboxes and wooded areas in its sector, seizing WEDDAU K-938188, and seizing the high ground in the vicinity of K-002125.

c. At 0430A the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry, having been relieved by 1st Battalion in ROHREN, attacked WIDDAU. A number of enemy were surprised while asleep in dug-in position on a hill Southwest of the town. Following a 10 Battalion artillery TOT on WIDDAU, Company E entered the town at 0645A, by 1020A the 2nd Battalion had consolidated its position, cleared a road to the town capable of taking 1/4 ton trucks, and had established contact with elements of the 78th Infantry Division north of the town. At the close of the period the 102nd Cavalry Group was in process of relieving the 1st and 2nd Battalions to permit their use as Division Reserve.

d. By 1500A, the 1st Battalion 47th Combat Team had cleared out pillboxes vicinity 970146, 973143 and 963144 meeting moderate resistance consisting of small-arms, unobserved harassing artillery fire and mines.

Progress of the 3rd Battalion 39th Combat Team (attached) was impeded by heavy snow but by 1530A, a circular defense had been established vicinity K-960136.

e. The 2nd Battalion 39th Combat Team followed by the 1st Battalion moved through the 3rd Battalion 47th Combat Team at 0730A to attack south-east toward vicinity K-002125. By 1745A after a fire fight at K-9941142 and K-996137 the 2nd Battalion was tied in at K-996138 and the 1st Battalion had closed into an assembly area vicinity K-990147.

f. Enemy artillery was mostly harassing and unobserved. Our artillery fired several counterbattery, TOT, and interdiction missions.

#### SECTION IV - SUPPLY AND EVACUATION

##### 1. SUPPLY

a. During the month of January the outstanding problems of supply and evacuation were due to deep snow and freezing temperature. The non-availability of winterizing equipment made improvisation necessary. Snow plows, toboggans, felt innersoles and camouflage snow suits were made by service elements of the division. Charcoal was obtained for front-line troops to burn in improvised stoves. Raw wool found in local felt manufacturing plants was used to line foxholes.

b. Rations were consumed on the following basis:

Type	B	86.0%
	C	6.6
	D	1.4
	K	1.8
	U	0.0
	10-in-1	4.2
	Hosp. Sup.	0.0
	Vitamin Pills	195209

c. Gasoline consumption averaged 7,523 gallons per day.

d. Ammunition expenditure for the month was 2108 tons which amounted to the following units of fire for the principle weapons:

##### Small Arms

Carbine	.31
M1903	.03
M1	1.44
MG, cal .30	6.65
MG, cal .50	1.82
Thompson Sub-MG	5.11
Rocket, AT, M6A1, HE	.64

##### Mortar

60mm	2.44
81mm	4.43

##### 105mm, M3

8.06

##### Artillery

105mm How	7.6
155mm How	8.94

2. ORDNANCE. The supply of Ordnance items, particularly weapons

spare parts and accessories, and vehicle spare parts, improved during the last week of the month. Sufficient quantities of all sizes of tires and tubes were received to eliminate a critical situation. Serious shortages continued in GMC brake drums and rear brake lining, GMC and GPW engines and various engine assemblies. Further issues of Prastone were received which brought the division up to 97% of it's total requirement. Alcohol was substituted for the 3% not available.

3. ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE. Work in the Division Ordnance Maintenance Shops continued at peak capacity during the month. Recovery work was heavy throughout the month because of the snow and ice on the roads. The welding section was very active fabricating snow plows, tractor grousers, and other items for winter operations. This made it necessary to evacuate almost all of the automotive welding and body jobs to the supporting Ordnance.

a. The figures below show a numerical comparison between the work done in December and January

	<u>MAJOR JOBS</u>	<u>MINOR JOBS</u>
December	147 (incl 116 Major Assemblies)	512
January	152 (incl 85 Major Assemblies)	701

b. The reduction of Major Assembly replacements compared with the previous month is explained by the unavailability of replacement Major Assemblies. It was necessary to repair and use field expedients in many cases where replacements were made. The use of a number of GMC's was lost due to the non-availability of replacement assemblies.

4. EVACUATION. Casualty evacuation presented no great problem for the first 29 days of the month, as the front was stabilized and casualties were light.

a. On the 30th and 31st of January, over 125 battle casualties were evacuated following a general attack. The snow was everywhere over 18 inches in depth and six feet or more in drifts. Casualties were evacuated with difficulty despite the able help of 62 attached litter bearers from the 482nd and 382nd Collecting Companies. Metal toboggans and ski litters improvised by G-4, Ordnance and Engineer units of the division were used. Many litter hauls were 4000 or more yards through spruce thickets and snow drifted ravines.

b. As the initial attack took place in the face of a blizzard, utmost care was taken by aid men to mark the location of wounded. Blankets and heating pads were taken forward by litter bearers. All men were evacuated within a few hours of being wounded.

c. The weasels were the greatest help in evacuating wounded and were also used to pull toboggans carrying litters.

d. On the initial assault, 30 January, 50 of the 67 battle wounds were from small arms fire. By 31 January, only 11 of 59 battle wounds were small arms fire, the larger percentage coming from shell fragments as is usually the case.

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Injured</u>	<u>Exhaustion</u>
Division Total	47	356	1207	224	42
Evacuated		355	897	145	29
Returned to Duty		1	310	79	13
*Other Units		51	110	40	10
Evacuated		51	110	40	10
Returned to Duty					

5. BURIAL. Ninth Division dead were buried in the First Army Cemetery at HENRI-CHAPPEL, BELGIUM - K705352.

6. CAPTURED MATERIEL. Captured enemy materiel included:

a. Vehicles:

- 2 ea Sedans
- 1 ea Truck (Citroen)
- 1 ea Truck (1-1/2)

b. Guns:

- 2 ea 88mm Field Artillery Pieces
- 6 ea Assault Guns
- 2 ea 75mm Guns
- 2 ea 57mm Guns

7. TRAFFIC

a. During the month of January snow was the principle traffic problem. Because the non-availability of snow-removing equipment, the 709th Ordnance Company fabricated and mounted three straight blades on 2½ ton trucks, and one "V" blade on a half-track. By using these blades together with T/E angledozers and by working all engineer companies on a twenty-four hourschedule, the roads were kept open. Snow fence was erected at all critical drift points. A camouflage screen approximately two miles in length erected along the main lateral route in close proximity to the front also acted as a glorified snow fence. Extensive engineer maintenance was necessary on this screen however, as prevailing strong winds and extreme cold continually snapped the suspension wires causing the screen to fall.

b. A traffic circulation plan was drawn up with priority given to snow and mine removal and widening of two roads from KALTERHERBERG to HOFEN, followed by the opening up of roads HOFEN to ROHREN, HOFEN to DRIESENBOCK, HOFEN to MONSCHAU, and HOFEN to WARLERSCHIED. Additional supply routes for individual battalions were opened.

8. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

a. Problems in construction and maintenance were increased by the continual breaking down of angledozers. Light R-4 dozers were not suitable for the heavy work of removing drifted snow and heavy, D-7 or M-8, dozers were too few to cope with the amount of work on hand. Mines were also a source of trouble. With snow drifts from two to ten feet deep, mine detectors were useless and mine removal became a slow, tedious and uncertain process. Several angledozers became victims of mines thereby further slowing up the work. In the latter stages of the month, preparation was begun for the coming offensive. All defensive barriers, such as mine road blocks, cratering and demolition chargers were removed, and all other mine fields, the removal of which was not vital to the operation, were re-wired in and remarked. At this stage instruction was given to all infantrymen in the preparation of a slit trench in frozen ground by the use of demolitions.

b. As a sidelight to other work, the engineer battalion supervised the opening and operation of a carpentry shop and a dressmaking factory. In the former, toboggans of three types, namely litter, cargo and machine-gun, were made by carpenters borrowed from the infantry regiments. In the dressmaking factory, civilian labor was hired to manufacture snow suits for the division.

c. The following is a tabulation of the work performed by the 15th Engineer (C) Battalion during the month of January:

## SECRET

Abatis prepared for demolition - 1  
 Abatis charge removed - 7  
 Anti-tank mines laid - 4530  
 Anti-tank mines lifted (enemy) - 16  
 Anti-tank mines lifted (friendly) - 671  
 Anti-tank mines destroyed in place - 12  
 Anti-personnel mines removed (friendly) - 13  
 Bridges repaired - 1  
 Bridges constructed and maintained - 1  
 Bridges constructed, portable foot - 2  
 Bridges prepared for demolition - 1  
 Bridge demolition charges removed - 5  
 Booby traps removed (enemy) - 9  
 Corduroy road construction - 1550 yards  
 Craters prepared for demolition - 3  
 Cratering charges removed - 4  
 Craters filled - 1  
 Culverts installed - 10  
 Camouflage screen repaired and maintained - 2½-miles  
 Demolition charges removed from houses - 2  
 Garrison of obstacles and road blocks - 19  
 Gun emplacements prepared - 6  
 Mine fields gapped (friendly) - 3  
 Mine fields rewired - 32  
 Mine fields taped off (enemy) - 1  
 Patrol missions (demolition) - 4  
 Patrol missions (mine detection) - 5  
 Pillboxes demolished - 3  
 Rock hauled for road repair - 334 cu yds  
 Roads posted with shoulder markers - 6 miles  
 Roads swept for mines - 5 miles  
 Road repair and maintenance - 16½ miles  
 Road construction - 6 miles  
 Rock quarries operated - 1  
 Sand hauled for icy roads - 208 cu yds  
 Sanding of icy roads - 21 miles  
 Snow clearance of roads - 76 miles  
 Snow fence constructed - 2650 yds  
 Snow fence erected - 950 yds  
 Sommerfeld track laid - 800 yds  
 Trip Warning Flares installed - 145  
 Wire, double apron, laid - 100 yds  
 Wire, concertina, laid - 360 yds  
 Wire removed - 400 yds  
 Water point setups - 4  
 Water distributed to troops - 603,700 gallons

UNIT	KILLED		DIED		MISSING		WOUNDED		TOTALS												
	IN ACTION	OFF	IN ACTION	OFF	IN ACTION	OFF	IN ACTION	OFF	IN ACTION	OFF											
	EM	TOT	EM	TOT	EM	TOT	EM	TOT	EM	TOT											
Hq. Co.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
9th Sig. Co.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
9th Recon. Trp.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
9th QM Co.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
709th Ord Co.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
10th Mgr. Bn.	7	7	1	1	1	1	22	22	30	30											
9th Med. Bn.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
39th Inf.	11	11	2	2	15	15	3	79	82	110											
17th Inf.	9	9	1	1	6	6	3	83	86	102											
60th Inf.	11	11	5	5	27	27	6	77	83	126											
Div. Arty.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
26th IA Bn.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2											
24th IA Bn.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
60th IA Bn.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
84th IA Bn.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
Spec. Trps.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
Inf Plat.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
DIVISION	1	38	1	38	1	9	1	48	1	48	1	12	264	1	276	1	12	1	359	1	371
TOTALS	1	38	1	38	1	9	1	48	1	48	1	12	264	1	276	1	12	1	359	1	371

NOTE: In addition to above figures, 66 Enlisted men were dropped as Injured in Action.

PRISONERS OF WAR

DATE	OFF	NCO'S	PVTS	TOTALS
Jan 1		3	5	8
2			3	3
3	1	7	16	24
7			9	9
10			4	4
12		2	14	16
13		1		1
15		2	12	14
16			1	1
22			1	1
24		1	10	11
25		1	2	3
26		1	6	7
29			4	4
30		16	108	124
31	2	21	104	127
TOTALS	3	55	299	357

In addition to above figures, 21 PW's were evacuated through medical channels

REPLACEMENTS RECEIVED AND CASUALS RETURNED TO DUTY

DATE	REPLACEMENTS			RETURNED FROM HOSPITAL		
	OFF	EM	TOTAL	OFF	EM	TOTAL
Jan 1				1	14	15
2		4	4	3	153	156
4		12	12		14	14
5		3	3		28	28
6				1	78	79
7		1	1		24	24
8		2	2	3	25	28
10	1	11	12	7	152	159
11		4	4	2	53	55
13		11	11	1	34	35
14	2		2	1	15	16
16		1	1		94	94
17				1	7	8
18		16	16		118	118
20		21	21	6	101	107
22		99	99	1	6	7
23		7	7		12	12
25		1	1	2	102	104
26		5	5		33	33
28		96	96	4	91	95
29		1	1		20	20
30	1	2	3		72	72
31	1		1		14	14
TOTALS	5	297	302	33	1260	1293

Authority 135011  
 By NA NARA Date 2/22/05

*Louis A. Craig*  
 LOUIS A. CRAIG,  
 Major General, U. S. Army,  
 Commanding.

## INCLOSURES:

Maps: GERMANY 1/25,000; Sheets 5503, 5504, 5403, 5404.  
 G-2 Journals 1-31 January 1945  
 G-3 Journals 1-31 January 1945

## DISTRIBUTION:

Copies	1 thru 4	The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
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	6	Commanding General V Corps
	7	Commanding General 9th Infantry Division
	8	Assistant to the Division Commander
	9	Chief of Staff
	10	Adjutant General 9th Infantry Division



## ANNEX NO. 3 - LESSONS LEARNED

1. Hectograph Sketches.

"Hectograph sketches of town and factory areas, made from aerial photographs, were issued to squad leaders 24 hours before the attack. This enabled every man to know his exact job. The advance planning paid off. One large factory in the Duren area was taken with over 100 PWs, scores of enemy were killed with only 6 resulting casualties."

2. Lesson in Patrolling.

"A tour of inspection made by patrol leaders over a "liberated" area in which we had once held a static line, and in which we had patrolled nightly, proved worthwhile. A study of the enemy installations and of the terrain from the enemy's side in the light of day revealed the mistakes in our previous patrolling. The patrol leaders critiqued themselves, learned valuable lessons."

3. OP Line.

"OPs on a static front were tied in on one "OP telephone line". Thus, observers on the left flank were able to report their findings to other OPs up and down the front. Tied in with the OP line were 50 cal Machine Guns, 75mm Assault Guns, the Cannon Co and Artillery observers. A report by our observer could be followed by a mass of fire within a matter of minutes. This harassed the enemy, who soon learned to bolt and dash every time they left their pillboxes."

4. Azimuth Conscious.

"OPs were furnished with large black metal discs on which the face of the compass was painted in white. A revolving metal arrow with a sighting device enabled the observers to lay on objects and to record azimuths. This made the observers "Azimuth Conscious" and facilitated the recording of azimuths."

5. Ski Patrols.

"A ski patrol was formulated from among men who had practically no previous experience on skis. Ten days training by an officer, an experienced skier, paid off when the regiment went into the attack over open ground in deep snow. We didn't try to make expert, downhill runners of our ski patrol, but trained it in cross country "bushwhacking" through wooded country. Men with some experience were gathered from all companies in the regiment and were kept together for the training period. When we went into the attack the patrol was split and farmed out to the two assault battalions. In the attack the skiers were used as special runners between the battalion CP and the companies. Their speed over the snow resulted in continuous control of the assaulting companies."

6. Modification of M67 Time Fuse.

"The problem of long range marking for air bombardment and blinding distant OPs was solved, with the assistance of the Division Ordnance Officer, by modifying the M67 Mechanical time fuze to fit the M116BE smoke. The fuze, which is now stocked by all ASPs, has been of great assistance since it enables the 155mm Howitzer BE M116 HC the best smoke producer to be fired on all marking or screening missions up to maximum range."