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HEADQUARTERS XX CORPS

APO 340

U. S. ARMY

1-8 (incl.) MAY 1945

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY
314.7



CLASSIFICATION

CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

DOWNGRADING CENTER

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

AGO MICROFILM

ITEM NO:

3632

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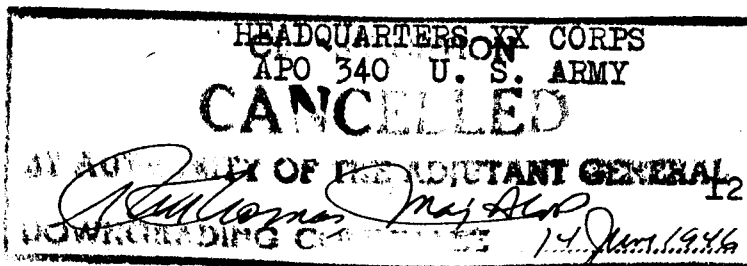
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NWD 755017

By

SSB

WMA, Date



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AUTH: CG, XX CORPS,

INITIALS:

DATE:

AG 314.7

12 June 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Combat Operations, 1 May to 8 May 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

THRU : Commanding General, Third U. S. Army, APO 403.

SECTION I - Narrative of Operation
SECTION II - G-1 Summary
SECTION III - G-2 Summary
SECTION IV - G-3 Summary
SECTION V - G-4 Summary
SECTION VI - G-5 Summary

SECTION I - NARRATIVE

1. This period of combat operations in Germany and Austria by XX Corps, Third U. S. Army for the period 01 May to 08 May 1945 (inclusive) is submitted in accordance with provisions of paragraph 10, change No. 4, AR 345-105.

2. On the first of the month the 13th Armored Division was extended along the INN River searching for bridges or bridge sites in XX Corps zone of advance preparatory to the drive into Austria and the joinder with the Russians. Behind the armor all three Infantry Divisions, the 65th Infantry on the left, the 71st Infantry in the center, and the 80th Infantry Division on the right, had been committed and had made numerous unopposed crossings of the ISAR River and were sweeping the one hundred square mile area between the ISAR and INN Rivers.

3. Remnants of the WEHRMACHT, cut off and cut up, were dissolving into a hopeless, fugitive mob. Masses of Hungarian troops, disarmed and on foot, their escort wagons flying white flags clogged the roads as they sought their way into our rear area where they could be "officially" captured. There were little groups who continued to fight, who here and there formed a hard core that had to be torn apart by the Infantry. The few fanatical enemy who retreated contented themselves with futilely blowing the bridges across the INN River.

4. During the day of 02 May the Infantry had closed up along the INN River while two special task forces of the 13th Armored Division established bridgeheads in Austria. The opposing forces were by now a beaten, confused and retreating mass so disorganized and lacking in communication that the further use of Armor would have only further blocked the roads. Consequently the 13th Armored Division was assembled along the right flank of XX Corps and patrols searched rear areas for bands or groups of German soldiers while the balance of the Division assisted in the evacuation of prisoners of war.

5. All three divisions crossed the INN River on 03 May with

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BRAUNAU (Hitler's birthplace) falling without a fight to the 80th Infantry Division on the same day. By shuttling elements forward and entraining on existing railroad facilities the three infantry divisions advanced southeast on a 40 mile front immediately south of the DANUBE River through AUSTRIA towards a junction with Guard Lieutenant General BIRUKOFF's 20th Guard Infantry Budapest Corps (Russian).

6. CZECHOSLOVAKIA was separated from AUSTRIA and the entire side torn out of the Alpine redoubt area by 05 May when all three Infantry divisions after an approximate 115 mile advance closed along the ENNS River from ENNS (WO080) on the DANUBE River south until the ENNS River converges with the REICHRAMING River at (WO244).

7. On the 5th of May, 1945 in accordance with Third U. S. Army directive all troops were halted along the ENNS River line and officers leading motorized patrols were instructed to advance east and make contact with the Russians. On further directive 06 May from Third U. S. Army, these patrols were ordered to halt in place and not advance further to the east. At 071800B May, the Commanding General of the GERMAN ARMY GROUP SOUTH signed unconditional surrender terms at XX Corps Headquarters in ST MARTIN, AUSTRIA. Earlier in the day, 070847B May 1945, the announcement was received from SHAEF of the unconditional surrender of all German Land, Sea and Air forces effective 090001B May 1945. All Divisions and Corps troops were notified immediately and the processing and evacuation of prisoners of war began. At 082400B May 1945, the five bridges across the ENNS River were closed to further German troops movement west and the count of prisoners began. In the eight day period 325,630 prisoners of war had been captured.

SECTION II - G-1 SUMMARY

I. GENERAL: On the first of the month of May, the 13th Armored Division was extended along the Inn River searching for bridge sites where crossings could be made, while the Infantry Divisions were sweeping across a one-hundred-mile-square area between the Isar and Inn Rivers. The Wehrmacht was quickly disintegrating into a milling mob and the Hungarian soldiers were surrendering by thousands. On 3 May 1945, the infantry divisions crossed the Inn River taking Hitler's birthplace of Braunau without a fight. Swiftly shuttling elements forward, the divisions of XX Corps surged into the Alpine Redoubt, separated Czechoslovakia from Austria and closed along the Enns River. Here they were halted by Third United States Army directive, while officers leading motorized patrols sped ahead to contact the Russian forces. On 7 May 1945, at 1800, the Commanding General of the German Army Group South signed unconditional surrender terms at the XX Corps Headquarters in St. Martin, Austria. On 9 May 1945, at 0001, the unconditional surrender of all German Land, Sea and Air forces was announced.

II. REINFORCEMENTS: One armored and three infantry divisions plus numerous Corps troops were employed at various periods of operations during this period. The maintenance of peak combat efficiency necessitated securing 2696 reinforcements for units under the XX Corps.

III. PRISONERS OF WAR: The aggressive onslaught of the XX Corps and the weakening resistance of the Nazi forces made possible the

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capture of prisoners in unprecedented numbers. Supply vehicles were kept busy moving prisoners of war from division to Corps collecting points. There, Third U. S. Army furnished personnel and trucks to evacuate the prisoners of war to the Army enclosures. During the first eight days of May, a total of 323,840 prisoners were taken, over twice as many as had been taken during the entire month of April.

IV. BURIALS: A body collecting point was established in each division quartermaster area, the 3048th Graves Registration Company, under Third Army control, processing and evacuating the dead. Corps troops used these division collecting points to evacuate their dead.

V. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS: The XX Corps Awards and Decorations Board considered 254 recommendations for decorations and awards during the first eight days of May. The following awards were made by the Corps Commander: three (3) Silver Stars, one of which was awarded posthumously, plus one (1) Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star; sixty-five (65) Bronze Star Medals; one of which was awarded posthumously; two (2) Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters to the Bronze Star Medal, one of which was awarded posthumously; and one (1) Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal.

The following recommendations were forwarded to higher headquarters: two (2) Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters to the Distinguished Service Medal; four (4) Legion of Merit recommendations; and sixteen (16) recommendations for the Distinguished Service Cross.

VI. LEAVES, FURLONGHS AND PASSES: The monthly quota for the return of personnel to the United States on temporary duty for rehabilitation, recuperation and recovery was announced by higher headquarters. The quota for Corps Troops received for this period was sixteen (16), of which 8% could be officers. This quota was allocated to Corps Troops based on length of combat service. Divisions also received a quota, based on length of time in combat, directly from Army. Individuals selected were persons who had been hospitalized for wounds, had been decorated for gallantry or who had extended overseas service with efficient performance of duty. The period of the leave or furlough was forty-five days.

Permission to grant passes to visit Paris for not over 72 hours to members of Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops was received from higher headquarters. The quota for the month of May was (10) officers and sixty (60) enlisted men every seventy-two hours. Divisions received a quota of fifteen (15) officers and seventy (70) enlisted men.

VII. STRENGTH REPORTS: Daily periodic reports were submitted to XX Corps by all divisions and Corps units, catalogued and compiled at XX Corps and then forwarded to the Commanding General, Third United States Army. The report was submitted in code by telephone, radio or courier to reach Third Army Headquarters by 0400 of the day following the report, and included by units the effective strength, number of personnel killed, missing or captured, wounded, sick or injured, reinforcements received and prisoners of war captured. A consolidated report was submitted to the XX Corps Commander daily. Cumulative totals for the period are as indicated below. Totals for units include their activities only for the period of time they were assigned to XX Corps, and are estimated totals only based on daily periodic reports.

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<u>UNIT</u>	<u>KILLED</u>	<u>MISSING OR CAPTURED</u>	<u>WOUNDED (HOSP)</u>	<u>SICK OR INJURED (HOSP)</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>REIN- FORCE- MENTS</u>	<u>PW CAPT'D (Thru 12 May)</u>
65th Inf Div	9	3	55	130	197	391	57078
71st Inf Div	10	21	63	218	312	631	95913
80th Inf Div	1	1	11	203	216	558	131539
13th Armd Div	7	1	24	21	53	52	16030
Corps Troops	13	8	78	310	409	564	23280
TOTAL	40	34	231	882	1187	2696	323840

SECTION III - G-2 SUMMARY

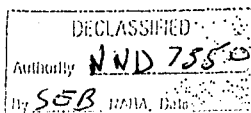
1. INTRODUCTION: Its once mighty Army nothing but a collection of battered remnants, its proud and vicious Luftwaffe now but a memory and the final desperate hope of a secret weapon impossible of fulfillment because time as well as space had run out, the German nation faced the month of May with the utter certainty of defeat. Already the Nazi leaders were shucking their swastikas and going to ground in a desperate hope that they could find sanctuary in the mountains or anonymity in the garb of a peasant farmer. The Army - what was left of it - still fought in places in automatic obedience to orders given not because there was any military hope but because it meant a few more hours of life to the leaders who had brought it to its ruin. But by the very nature of the situation what was to happen in May could hardly be anything but an anti-climax. April had seen the Russians and the British and American forces joined, the vaunted redoubt proved but a myth and Hitler reported dead in the ruins of Berlin. The nation's tragedy was that in the hour of its defeat it could not even call on honor to soften the blow. The last shreds of national honor had disappeared long before in the stink of the concentration camps and the horrors of the extermination centers.

2. GENERAL: There was no front line as our troops reached the INN River vic of BRAUNAU (Z9273) on the first of the month and all units reported enemy resistance moderate to nil as we pushed our advance rapidly by to the Southeast. Where fighting occurred it appeared to be carried on principally because isolated units were in ignorance of the overall situation. Communications, as any kind of a cohesive system, had ceased to exist in the German Army. There was no artillery in the sense that a Corps or an Army has artillery, there were only isolated guns and occasionally batteries, and of course there was no such thing as air support. The German 88s proved that they could still hurt when, as occasionally happened, we ran into nests of them. But by and large what resistance was met was from small-arms and machine guns. Very few mines were encountered, the harried enemy had no time for them.

3. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD: By the 2nd the enemy had been driven S of the INN but scattered groups N of the river continued to surrender. Blown bridges were the principle obstacle

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and the 13th US Armd Div reported those at BRAUNAU (Z9276), MARKTL (Z7874) and NEU OTTING (Z6773) destroyed. The 80th US Inf Div encountered many bridges blown including those at (U628020), (U65021), (Z670731), (Z606885). There was some artillery fire in PASSAU (Q2213) but most of the resistance was from small arms and even that was light or merely a token show of force. A number of Hungarian officers surrendered or were captured, including the CG of the 25 SS Div HUNYADI and his staff. The Hungarians were almost unanimous in their claim that they had been treated by the Germans not as soldiers but as captives. They showed no inclination at all to fight.

On the 3rd our troops had reached SCHARDING (Q2000), vic RIED (V2672), vic PIERATH (V1271), vic BUCH (V0075), BRAUNAU (Z9375), vic HAIMING (Z8269), the wooded area (Z7867) and vic ALT (Z6670). All units reported but feeble resistance everywhere. Masses of Hungarian troops, disarmed and on foot, their escort wagons flying white flags, became a familiar feature of the landscape as the defeated "Allies" of the Germans sought their own way back to some place where they could be officially "captured".

Air reports on the 4th indicated almost complete confusion on the part of the enemy as he desperately tried to find some way to keep from being crushed between the converging drives of the Russians and our forces. Ground troops continued to report scattered opposition mainly from isolated groups temporarily defending towns. In desperation and confusion some of these troops fought viciously but in no case was sustained resistance encountered. This was to be the continued pattern of enemy action for the next three days until the 7th when Generaloberst Dr LOTHAR Von RENDULIC, CG of Army Group South signed the articles of unconditional surrender at XX Corps Headquarters in ST MARTIN, AUSTRIA, at 1800 hours. It became effective at 0001 hours 8 May. Under its terms all troops under his command capitulated.

For XX Corps this marked the end of all organized resistance and the end of the war in Europe.

4. CONCLUSION: With the end of hostilities, the German Army became clearly revealed as the broken thing it was. Its gray clad men took their places in the assembly areas, to be sorted, catalogued and if found to be plain and honest soldiers discharged. For the SS and the war criminals within its ranks would come the proper punishment.

SECTION IV - G-3 SUMMARY

The concluding phase of XX Corps' engagement with the enemy in the European Theater of Operations found organized enemy resistance virtually ended. The Nazi lines had collapsed. The 13th Armored Division was extended along the INN River and three Infantry Divisions: the 80th Infantry Division, the 71st Infantry Division and the 65th Infantry Division were coming up fast to make the final plunge into AUSTRIA and contact the armed forces of the U.S. S.R. What was left to the Germans for the defense of the "Redoubt" was a beaten, confused retreating mass that could turn to fight only in knots of resistance. The resistance was summarily disposed of after all three of the Infantry divisions closed into AUSTRIA on 03 May and advanced approximately 115 miles to the ENNS River by 05 May. There in accordance with orders from higher headquarters all troops were halted to allow Russian Forces to occupy the east banks of the ENNS River. Contact was made with the Russian Forces on 081845B May 1945.

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Authority **NWD 755017**
By **SEB** NADA, Date

1 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Cool and overcast with intermittent rain and occasional snow throughout the period.

Aviation: No missions flown due to weather.

80 INF DIV: Forced crossings of the ISAR River at four places with the 318th RCT on the left and the 319th RCT on the right, or South, and cleared the South banks of the ISAR River in the division zone. The 318th RCT attacked with the 1st and 2d Battalions abreast, the 2d Battalion attacked South from MANNING (U5717), crossed the ISAR River, and during the late afternoon crossed the VILS River and captured the town of REISBACH (U6008). The 1st Battalion on the right continued its attack to the West along the South bank of the ISAR River and seized DINGOLFING and continued on to the VILS River, while the 3d Battalion in reserve followed behind. The 319th RCT crossed the ISAR River with the 1st and 2d Battalions abreast at NIEDVIEBACH (U4312) and NIEDRAICHBACH (U3710) respectively, and closed across the river at 0925. The 3d Battalion followed the 1st Battalion across the ISAR River and passed through the 1st Battalion to reach the VILS River at 2155. The 317th RCT remained in division reserve and began crossing the ISAR River during the afternoon.

71 INF DIV: From its bridgehead on the East banks of the ISAR River the division continued its attack to the South and East with three Regiments abreast, and leading elements had advanced eleven miles. The 66th Infantry, on the left (North) flank, advanced with the 1st and 3d Battalions abreast against scattered resistance overrunning many communities and towns on an axis LAPPERSDORF (U7217), EICHENDORF (U7716), and SPEILBURG (U7814). The 5th RCT in the center crossed the ISAR River at 0830 in a column of Battalions, by boat and Engineer bridge, in the vicinity of LANDAU. After closing across the river at 1220, the 2d and 3d Battalions abreast attacked Southeast in their zone and by 1330 had advanced against little opposition to a line extending South from EXING (U7117) to HAAG (U6714). By late afternoon all battalions had crossed the VILS River by a ford located in the vicinity of AUFHAUSEN (U7014), and a partially destroyed bridge in the vicinity of METTHAUSEN (U6714). The 14th RCT on the right, from its positions South of the ISAR River continued its attack to the South and East, with the 1st and 3d Battalions abreast. The woods and towns in its zone were cleared against light resistance. ROTTERS DORF (U6513), LOTTERS DORF (J6411), HOHERSKIRCHEN (U6608), and MATTERS DORF (U6708) were seized. The treadway bridge at LANDAU was opened at 1600 and at the close of the period the division had closed across the River. With the exception of brief but intense fire-fights at EXING and WISSELDORF, enemy resistance was negligible.

65 INF DIV: Initiated movement to forward assembly areas South of the ISAR River at 1200 hours. The 261st RCT on the left, and the 259th RCT on the right, crossed the ISAR River and began their advance to the Southeast making rapid progress against scattered enemy resistance. The 261st RCT left the 3d Battalion at STRAUBING (U5442) and with the 1st and 2d Battalions abreast captured HOUSBACH (Q0515) and SANDBACH (Q0715). The 259th RCT departed the assembly area in the vicinity of REGENSBURG at 1530 and occupied the towns of ALDERSBACH (U9413), OSTERHOFEN (U8824), and VILSHOFEN (V0118). The 260th RCT, as division reserve, moved from REGENSBURG at 1800 to assembly area in the vicinity of SCHONERTING (U9616).

13 ARMD DIV: Drove CCA on the left and CCB on the right Southeast against scattered resistance to reach the INN River late in the afternoon. CCR followed CCA and moved forward to take up positions between the two advance Combat Commands. At the end of the period the Combat Commands had initiated vigorous patrolling for either a bridge intact or a bridge site over the INN River.

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Authority NND 755017
By 558 12/11/01, Date

2 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Overcast skies with light rain throughout the period.

Aviation: No missions were flown due to the weather.

80 INF DIV: Advanced rapidly to the South from the ISAR River to the INN River with the 318th RCT on the left and the 319th RCT on the right, the 317th RCT in reserve, encountering completely disorganized enemy formations and only occasional resistance which was quickly eliminated. The only delay was occasioned by the difficult road net and enemy demolitions on the VILS River and numerous small streams within the zone of advance. By the end of the period the two advance regiments had closed up throughout the division zone on the INN River, on elements of the 13th Armored Division occupying positions along the Northern banks of the INN River.

71 INF DIV: By foot and motor, the division moved over twenty-three miles Southeast with leading elements crossing the INN River into AUSTRIA. The 66th RCT (Company A 635th TD Battalion, towed), one Company 761st Tk Battalion, Company A 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion) started its movement to the Southeast in a column of battalions, leap-frogging by motor to expedite the advance, the attack culminated in the crossing of the INN River into AUSTRIA by the 1st Battalion. The 1st Battalion had moved to the vicinity of EGGLFING (V1385), by motor. It there detrucked and moved to a dam in the vicinity of (V1485) and captured four enemy who had been left behind to blow the bridge. The entire battalion then proceeded to cross the dam unopposed. The 5th RCT in the center (Company B 635th TD Battalion; Company A 761st Tk Battalion) moved by foot and motors to the vicinity of ERING (V0181) with the 2d Battalion leading. By 1930 one company had crossed the river on the dam against small arms fire. At the close of the period one-half of the battalion was on the South side of the river in perimeter defense, while the remainder was preparing to cross under the cover of darkness, supported by fire of the 1st and 3d Battalion in position along the river. The 14th RCT on the right (Company C 635th TD Battalion)(Company B 761st Tk Battalion) (Company C 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion) advanced by motors along the right flank against light resistance. Forward elements were dismounted when fired upon to attend to the resistance, while the remainder of the column swept forward to positions in the vicinity of WITTBRIITH (Z8983), and continued its advance Southeast on the left flank of XX Corps, moving thirty miles during the period, the 261st and 259th RCT's abreast. The 2d Battalion 261st RCT attacked PASSAU on the North flank and at the close of the period had cleared three-quarters of the town. The 1st Battalion had arrived at NEUHAUS (Q2001) and attacked across the INN River to SCHARDING (Q2002) at 1855 hours. At the close of the period, one company had crossed and the remainder of the battalion was following. Strong resistance, consisting of artillery and machine gun fire was initially encountered but was neutralized by supporting artillery, machine guns, and AAA weapons. The 3d Battalion was relieved at STRAUBING and reverted to Regimental reserve. The 259th RCT on the right reached the INN River encountering no resistance at all. The 260th RCT, as divisional reserve, was enroute to an assembly area in the vicinity of RESCHAU (Q1001) at the close of the period.

13 ARMD DIV: CCA on the left flank of XX Corps established a bridgehead with TF PALMER over the INN River at BRAUNAU (Z9276). CCB in the center assembled on the North side of the INN River in the vicinity of EISENFELDING (Z6774) preparatory to following Company B of the 59th AIB, which had crossed the river and established a bridgehead in the vicinity of NEUOTTING (Z6773). CCR which had struck South of CCA and CCB had established a bridgehead over the INN River at MARKTL (Z7874) and had ferried TF DOWNEY across the river. TF DOWNEY, built around the 16th AIB, had struck Southeast to secure bridges at BURGHUSEN (Z7863) and HOHENWARTH (Z7467) by nightfall.

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3 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Cool with continuous light rain showers throughout the period.

Aviation: No missions were flown due to the weather.

Operations Instructions were issued changing the XX Corps direction of attack to the East in accordance with Third U S Army directive. XX Corps ordered the three Infantry divisions to attack East abreast and directed the armor to assemble in a designated area after the 80th Infantry Division had passed through. With the DANUBE River constituting the Northern boundary of the Corps zone of advance, the attack was planned East to make contact with the Russians with the 65th Infantry Division on the left (North) flank, the 71st Infantry Division in the center, and the 80th Infantry Division on the right (South) flank. All Infantry divisions were ordered to attack with the maximum speed and energy and would continue the attack both day and night.

80 INF DIV: Moved to the North bank of the INN River opposite BRAUNAU during the day preparatory to crossing the river and attacking South and East. All three battalions of the 318th Infantry crossed the INN River West of BRAUNAU and established a perimeter defense of the bridge site. While the 1st Battalion of the 317th Infantry closed into BRAUNAU at 2050B, the remainder of the regiment was prepared to continue the crossing during the night. The 319th Infantry remained on the North banks of the INN River as division reserve. Construction of a bridge across the INN River at BRAUNAU was begun during the late morning and was continued at the close of the period.

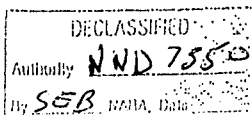
71 INF DIV: While the fourteenth regimental combat team moved across the INN River as division reserve, the two assault regiments advanced over thirteen miles and expanded the division bridgehead on the AUSTRIAN side of the INN River. The 66th regimental combat team on the left started crossing the INN River at 0730B with the 2d and 3d battalions abreast and the 1st in reserve. After assembling on the AUSTRIAN side of the River, the 1st and 2d battalions attack southeast with the 3d battalion in reserve. After a thirteen mile advance the 2d battalion captured REID (V2673) against intense but brief enemy resistance consisting of small arms and antiaircraft fire by 2015B. The 5th regimental combat team on the right after closing across the INN River by 1600B advanced twelve and one-half miles unopposed to a line extending south from SENFTENBACH (V2178) to BUCHLIETENG (V1410).

65 INF DIV: Continued its rapid advance southeast. The 2d battalion of the 261st regimental combat team cleared SCHARDING while the remainder of the 261st cleared PASSAU of the four hundred SS troops and three Tiger tanks. The 261st continued its attack to reach WAIZENKIRCHEN (V5389) against no resistance. While the 261st Infantry was engaged at PASSAU, the 260th regimental combat team was committed on the left or North flank and after clearing woods in the vicinity of SANDBACH (Q0915) the regiment crossed the 1st and 3d battalions over the INN River with the 2d battalion in the process of crossing at the end of the period. The 259th Infantry (- 3d battalion attached to the 261st regimental combat team) was placed in division reserve and prepared to cross the INN River and staged forward in the zone of the 261st regimental combat team.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in position and passed elements of the 80th Infantry division through its front line, portions of the division began assembling on the right flank of XX Corps in preparation for future operations.

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4 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Broken clouds throughout the morning which changed to light rain during the late evening.

Aviation: Three missions were flown during the morning and one hundred and ten motor transports, four locomotives, and eighteen railroad cars were reported as destroyed or damaged.

80 INF DIV: Commenced movement of assault elements across the ENNS River while the 319 regimental combat team relieved elements of CCR 13th Armored division east of the INN River. Foot elements of the 318 Infantry crossed the river and established a bridgehead defense of the bridge which was completed at 0930B at BRAUNAU. The 317th Infantry in the meantime had been motorized and was moved across the INN River in the zone of the 71st Infantry division and at the close of the period was moving East along the north flank of the division's zone of advance.

71 INF DIV: Continued its attack east advancing twenty five miles by foot and motors against light to moderate enemy resistance. The 66th regimental combat team on the left attack from RIED (V2273) and ST. MARTIN (V2382) moving 25 miles after motorizing the 3d battalion which captured the city of WELS (V6770) and seized bridges over the TRAUN River. The 1st and 2d battalions followed on foot to close at 2000 hours in the vicinity of WELS. The 5th regimental combat team on the right swept east against no organized resistance approximately 17 miles to captured LAMBACH (V5662) and seize bridges over the AGER River. The 14th regimental combat team was motorized and after passing through the 66th Infantry at WELS continued its advance east to the ENNS River and seized two bridges at GRABEN (V5962) at the close of the period.

65 INF DIV: On the left of the divisional zone of advance, 260th regimental combat team closed across the INN River and after advancing against scattered enemy resistance captured EFFERDING (V6587). The 261st regimental combat team (-2d battalion in PASSAU) advanced four miles southeast while the 259th regimental combat team closed across the INN River and followed the 261st regimental combat team.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in an assembly area and performed the necessary maintenance preparatory to future operations.

5 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Overcast sky with light rain throughout the day.

Aviation: No missions flown due to weather.

Operations Instructions were issued whereby a halt line was established on Third United States Army order from the convergence at ENNS (W0080) of the DANUBE and ENNS Rivers extending south along the western banks of the ENNS River until it joins the REICHRAMING River at (W0244). After reaching this halt line, all divisions were ordered to send strong motorized patrols commanded by officers east to meet the Russian army.

80 INF DIV: While the 318th regimental combat team remained in positions south of BRAUNAU (Z9376) prepared to move to the east, the 319th regimental combat team on the left moved the 2d and 3d battalions from an assembly area south of BRAUNAU in motors ninety five miles east to close along the western banks of the ENNS River. The 1st battalion moved by train from BRAUNAU to VOLKLBRUCK. The 317th regimental combat team moved east by motor and after an advance of fifty two miles closed along the ENNS River on the south flank of XX Corps. Many towns were captured and seven thousand two hundred and forty prisoners of war were taken.

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71 INF DIV: Moving on approximately a ten mile front the division advanced twenty three miles east with the 5th regimental combat team capturing STEYR (V9760) and seizing a bridge across the ENNS River. With the exception of fire fights engaged in by the 5th regimental combat team in the vicinity of NIEDERGLINK (V9764) and the 14th RCT in the vicinity of ZIPBACHZELL (V7364) and SATTLEDT (V7061). Enemy resistance was negligible. Columns of retreating enemy soldiers retreating surrendered and offered no resistance.

65 INF DIV: Advanced twenty five miles along the left or northern flank of XX Corps. The 260th Infantry relieved elements of the XII Corps in LINZ and occupied the city. The 259th and 261st Infantry regiments moved forward to the Corps objective namely the ENNS River and were within sight of it at close of period.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in assembly area in the vicinity of TANN (Z8181) performing maintenance and prisoner of war evacuation. Aid in the form of ration and medical attention was furnished to four thousand one hundred American prisoners of war and fifteen thousand prisoners of war in German concentration camps.

6 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Low overcast skies with intermittent rain.
Aviation: No missions flown due to weather.

80 INF DIV: Continued to clear enemy in zone and assemble troops. Task Force SMYTHE (313 FA Battalion, Company A 702 Tk Battalion, Rcn Company 811 TD Battalion, Company B 305 Engr Combat Battalion, 1 Platoon Company C 94 Chemical Battalion, and 80th Cav Rcn Troop) assembled in the vicinity of MAISDORF (V7249). The Task Force attack south at 1700B and reached MICHELDORF (V7739) without resistance. Here representatives of enemy groups in the area began negotiations for surrender. While the 1st battalion (318th Infantry) sent motorized patrols throughout its area checking all roads, the 2d and 3d battalions moved from BRAUNAU by train at 1900B en route to a forward assembly area. The 319th Infantry upon relief by elements of the 71st Infantry division closed in a forward assembly area at 2145B. The 317th RCT assembled in place along the right flank of XX Corps prepared for movement and attachment to Task Force SMYTHE.

71 INF DIV: Consolidated its positions along the ENNS River and relieved elements of the 80th Infantry division along the southern flank of its zone. Strong motorized patrols were sent east of the ENNS River with the mission of contacting Russian forces. These patrols encountered strong resistance which stopped their advance east of the STEYR-ESBACH (V2165) road.

65 INF DIV: Consolidated its positions along the ENNS River line. The 260th Infantry continued occupation of LINZ and maintained patrols to prevent looting. The 261st Infantry on the left (north) and the 259 Infantry on the right or south occupied the west bank of the ENNS River and guarded the three bridges captured intact over the ENNS River in the divisional zone.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in its assembly area in the vicinity of TANN, Germany performing maintenance and prisoner of war evacuation.

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7 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Low overcast with no precipitation throughout the period.

Aviation: No missions were flown during the period.

The announcement of the unconditional surrender of all German Land, Sea, and Air forces effective 090001 hours was received at 0847 hours. All Division and Corps troops were immediately notified and ordered to cease offensive operations and remain in present positions.

80 INF DIV: Maintained law and order in the division zone and collected and processed prisoners of war. The unconditional surrender of a unit the size of a Corps under the command of General Major SOETH at LIEZEN to Commanding General 80th Infantry division cleared the 80th Infantry division zone of enemy resistance. An estimated twenty thousand prisoners of war were captured or surrendered during the period.

65 INF DIV: Halted all movement and assumed defensive positions on receiving the announcement to cease active operations. The 259th and 261st regimental combat teams made the necessary arrangements for the surrender of German troops while the 260th Infantry continued to occupy LINZ and maintain law and order.

71 INF DIV: Upon receipt from Commanding General XX Corps at 0911B hours of orders to cease offensive action, the division halted all units, assumed defensive positions and made preparations to receive the surrender of German troops.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in an assembly area vicinity of TANN, Germany performing maintenance and making a systematic search of the area to pick up German soldiers in uniform or civilian clothes.

8 May 1945

XX CORPS: Weather: Clear and warm with excellent visibility.

Aviation: Demonstration flights were flown over front lines and surrendering columns throughout the day.

The "last shots" of the war in the ETO in XX Corps zone were fired:

65 Infantry Division (869 FA Bn)	071115B May
71 Infantry Division (66 Infantry)	071500B May
80 Infantry Division (80 Rcn Troop)	071230B May
3 Cavalry Group (A Troops 3 Sq)	061600B May
13 Armored Division --	Not engaged in combat operations at time of termination of hostilities.

80 INF DIV: Maintained law and order in division zone and was engaged in the collection and processing of prisoners of war. At 1945B, General DER PANZER TRUPPE (United States Lieutenant General) BAICK surrendered all elements of the 6th German Army north and west of the ENNS River, thereby terminating resistance in division zone. Thirty one thousand two hundred and eleven prisoners of war were taken throughout the day.

71 INF DIV: Assumed a defensive position along the ENNS River in preparation for the influx of surrendering German soldiers. All offensive action east of the ENNS River was halted. On XX Corps order all elements of the division withdrew to the west bank of the ENNS River.

65 INF DIV: The 260th Infantry continued the occupation and maintenance of order in LINZ. The 261st Infantry on the left and the 259th Infantry on the right or south continued the consolidation of positions

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along the west bank of the ENNS River and received and processed surrendering German troops. Three officers from the Russian Seventh Paratroop Division contacted the 259th Infantry at 1910B. Elements of the 261st Infantry contacted RUSSIAN forces in the vicinity of STRENBURG (W1372) at 1845B hours.

13 ARMD DIV: Remained in assembly area vicinity of TANN, Germany performing maintenance and making a systematic search of the area to pick up German soldiers in uniform or civilian clothes.

SECTION V - G-4 SUMMARY

1. During the period 1 May 1945 to 8 May 1945, XX Corps units extended along the INN River preparatory to the drive into AUSTRIA and joining with the Russians. As soon as the river was bridged our troops pushed ahead on roads cluttered with surrendering Hungarians and scattered groups of disorganized Germans. BRAUNAU fell on 3 May without resisting and our troops moved into AUSTRIA by truck and train toward the Russian XXth Guard Infantry Budapest Corps. All troops halted along the ENNS River and motorized patrols were sent forward to contact the Russians. Later these patrols also were halted on 6 May. At 071800B May 1945, the Commanding General of the GERMAN ARMY GROUP SOUTH signed unconditional surrender terms at XX Corps Headquarters in ST. MARTIN, AUSTRIA. Report received from SHAEF stated all German Land, Sea and Air Forces had surrendered at 070847B May 1945. All troops were notified and the evacuation of prisoners began.

2. Bridging materials required for crossing the INN River were loaned to the 80th Infantry Division from the 13th Armored Division, on XX Corps order. This expedited the river crossing of infantry troops by sending a maximum amount of bridging material forward to establish bridgeheads in many places. During these final days of the war when speed and energy of the maximum amount was demanded of everyone, essential materiel and supplies were rushed to the front from every available source in the Corps. Third United States Army was flying rations and fuel in to several airfields in the Corps area up to the last minute and, although supply of these items was critical, operations were carried through without a halt. Equipment shortages included mainly 2 1/2-ton trucks, 1/4-ton trucks, 1 1/2-ton trucks (6x6) cargo, heavy prime movers, wreckers, 1/4-ton truck tires and tubes, major vehicle assemblies, single burner stoves, signal tools. Weapon and combat vehicle replacements were generally adequate during the period. The shortage of GMC engines caused an increase deadline of trucks, 2 1/2-ton cargo. However, the receipt of tank bogie tires relieved the critical situation which existed during the last period. Large quantities of all types of captured and surrendered materiel were found in the area during the final period. Such items as airplanes, aircraft engines, smoke generators, hospital equipment, munitions and factories, vehicles of all types, radios, machinery food, clothing, leather, beer and wine were reported and placed under guard for disposition.

3. Administrative Order number 18 was published on 1 May 1945 at REGENSBURG, GERMANY. XX Corps units were directed to subsist all Allied PW, Enemy PW and Displaced Persons on captured supplies only because of the critical shortage of imported military rations in the European Theater. Changes in supply and service installation locations were announced. On 4 May 1945, Change number 1 to Administrative Order number 18 was published in ADLDF, GERMANY and XX Corps units received their last published administrative changes of the war. The XX Corps CP was established at ST. MARTIN, AUSTRIA (V227825) when the surrender of the German forces was finally negotiated.

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4. The crossing of the INN River was greatly facilitated by the use of two dams in the area. These dams were used as a Class 9 and Class 40 bridge respectively. Because of the poor condition of roads the area between the ISAR and INN Rivers, a one way circulation plan was evolved and put into effect. As more and more enemy units were taken intact, the transportation of these units was organized into truck companies and used in the evacuation of PW's and DP's. 60 trucks from Corps Truck Companies were used in supplying Army Class I and III supply points supporting Corps.

SECTION VI - G-5 SUMMARY

1. During the period covered by this summary, Military Government Detachments, under the control of this section, operated in the following towns:

GERMANY: Regensburg, Straubing, Mallersdorf, Eggenfelden, Landau and Passau.

AUSTRIA: Ried and Linz.

In addition, three Displaced Persons Detachments, with three French MMLA Teams attached, were allotted to XX Corps by Third US Army for the purpose of operating Displaced Persons Collecting Centers in the Corps Zone.

2. The town of Regensburg passed to Third US Army control on 1 May 1945 and with the rapidity of the XX Corps advance, the Corps CP opened in ST MARTIN, AUSTRIA, on 3 May 1945.

3. The operations of Military Government in that part of the area which lay in Germany was uneventful during the period covered by this report. Efforts were directed toward the restoration of a civil administration with particular emphasis on the reorganization of the civilian police agencies.

a. In Straubing, Dr. Otto Hoecht, who had been Burgermeister of that town from 1929 to 1933 and had been desposed by the Nazis, was restored to his former position.

b. In Regensburg, Hans Herrmann, Burgermeister of that town for the past twenty-years, was placed in full charge of the civil administration of the city. Herrmann, a reputed Social Democrat, had been placed in "protective custody" by the Nazis in 1933 but later released to assist in the administration of the city because of his wide knowledge of local governmental affairs.

4. As the Corps passed into Austria and with the rapid disintegration of the German Armed Forces, almost the entire Gau of Oberdonau became the responsibility of XX Corps. Due to the fact that the Military Government Detachments for Austria had been deployed in Italy and had originally intended to enter Austria from the south with the Fifth US Army, no Military Government Detachments were available for deployment in the Corps zone until 7 May, at which time the detachments for the towns of Ried and Linz reported. Up to the time of the formal surrender of the Germans on 9 May 1945, only two of the 14 detachments destined for operations in Gau Oberdonau had arrived. Information was obtained however that the remaining detachments were enroute having been flown into France from Italy for the purpose of entering Austria from the west with the Third US Army.

5. As a result of the unavailability of detachments as outlined

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in paragraph 4 above, much of the work of carrying on Military Government operations fell to the Divisions' Military Government Staffs. The problem of reorganizing the civil administration within the various Kreis of Gau Oberdonau was greatly lightened by the activities of the self-styled Free Austrian Movement. This organization was composed of individuals who had been persecuted by the Nazis, or who were pro-Allied in their sympathies. Taking advantage of the confusion which existed throughout the area, incidental to the retreat of the German Armed Forces, this organization had in many instances, just prior to the arrival of the American Forces, removed Nazi appointees from office and replaced them with individuals who had been anti-Nazi and had previously been removed from office by the Nazis. Every effort was made to utilize the services of these individuals and yet at the same time not recognize the group as a political organization. Suggestions were obtained from this source along with recommendations from former leaders of the political parties existant in Austria prior to the occupation of that country by the Nazis.

6. The most serious problem encountered by Military Government in Austria was the great number of displaced persons in the area and the uncovering of two former concentration camps.

a. The first concentration camp to be uncovered was located at Gunskirchen. Here, some 12,000 Jewish internees from Eastern European countries had been held by the Nazis. When the camp was overrun by the American Forces some 8,000 of these individuals took to the highways. Upon receipt of this information a Displaced Persons Team was immediately dispatched to the area. This team, working in conjunction with the 71st Division, succeeded in rounding up some 7,000 of these individuals but many died along the wayside from exhaustion due to their weakened condition. Because of the deplorable living conditions which were prevalent at the Gunskirchen Camp, it was decided to evacuate the 7,000 which had been rounded up as well as some 3,500 who were hospitalized at that camp to a new camp which was established at Neubau. A Displaced Persons Team, with a French MMLA Team attached, was assigned to run the Neubau Camp, and a Medical Clearing Company was dispatched to the camp by the Corps Surgeon to assist in the evacuation of the sick from Gunskirchen to Neubau and to administer to their needs at Neubau.

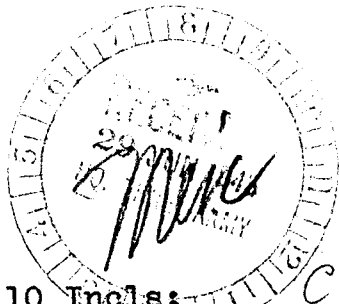
b. Almost simultaneous with the uncovering of the Gunskirchen Camp, a large concentration camp was uncovered by the 3rd Cavalry Group at Ebensee containing some 10,000 persons. Included among the internees were 5,000 Russians, 4,000 mixed Eastern Europeans and 1,000 French. Conditions in this camp were likewise deplorable and some 300 persons died from disease and malnutrition the day the camp was uncovered. All of the inmates of the camp were badly undernourished and many were suffering from various diseases and ailments. No meals had been served at the camp for three days prior to the arrival of the American Forces in the area. A Displaced Persons Team was likewise dispatched to this camp to take over the administration of the camp and secure food and clothing for the inhabitants thereof, and a Field Hospital was assigned by the Corps Surgeon to administer to the medical needs of the camp. In addition, a Public Health Team, allocated By Third US Army, was utilized in both of these camps to help combat the typhus found there.

7. In addition to the two above mentioned camps, there were located in Linz some 40 Lagers. Contained in these camps and scattered throughout the environs of Linz were some 40,000 displaced persons. It is estimated that at the cessation of hostilities there were located within the Corps zone some 200,000 displaced persons. At the

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close of the period a census was being obtained by nationalities so that plans could be effected to commence the evacuation and repatriation of Western Europeans and Russians.

For the Commanding General:



M. A. Hoherz
M. A. HOHERZ,
Major, A. G. D.,
Asst. Adj. General.

10 Incls:

- Incl-1. G-1 Journal.
-2. G-1 Daily Summary.
-3. G-2 Journal.
-4. G-3 Journal.
-5. G-3 Operations Inst.
-6. G-3 Periodic Report.
-7. G-4 Journal.
-8. Adm Orders.
-9. G-5 Journal.
-10. G-5 Daily Summary.

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HEADQUARTERS XX CORPS
APO 340 U. S. ARMY

Report of Operations
08-31 May 1945

08 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. Intelligence and Security: 8 May 1945 saw the cessation of all organized resistance in XX Corps zone and the terms of unconditional surrender being carried out by a cooperative enemy. The only untoward incident of the day was the strafing by one unidentified plane E of LINZ; otherwise, ground, air, and water forces surrendered en masse. Two enemy planes from the PRAGUE area landed on XX Corps airstrip and the crews, some with their families, gave themselves up. The 65th Inf Div accepted the surrender by a German Naval Captain of his Danube River fleet consisting of 36 German and 21 Hungarian boats from 40 to 600 tons, carrying a complement of 40 officers and about 1400 men, and with armament ranging from 20 mm to 88 mm guns. General der Panzer Truppe Balck turned in to the 80th Inf Div all elements of the Sixth German Army N and V of the RHNS River with an estimated strength of 200,000, consisting of 1 Mtn Div, 9 Mtn Div, 1 Pz Div, 3 Pz Div, 5 SS Div VIKING, 1 Ukrainian Div, miscellaneous brigades, and other small battle groups. The 71st Inf Div accepted the surrender of over 20,000 PWs, including elements of Hq. Army Group South, 9 SS Pz Div, 153 Inf Trng Division, and some small miscellaneous units.

b. Relations with Civil Population: With the end of hostilities on 8 May 1945, there began the complete reversal of the aims and duties of the military, and particularly of the agencies engaged in intelligence and counterintelligence work. Where before the attention of G-2 was directed toward fathoming the military intentions of the enemy it now became of prime importance to determine the civilian reaction to our forces, policies and actions. This "reconversion" on the part of the army was, of course, not abrupt but a gradual and continuing process. This accounts for the fact that at the beginning reports and observations regarding civilian reaction were few, scattered and incomplete.

Only five references to relations with the civilian population were contained in G-2 periodic reports between 8 May and 28 May when daily periodic reports were discontinued and Weekly Intelligence Summaries replaced them. The new report, divided into three sections, devoted Part I to Civil Security which to a large extent dealt with relations with the civil population. Prior to this time the reports were, as noted above, few and scattered. On 9 May there was a notation to the effect that the civil population was "very friendly."

G-3. Changes in Status of Units:

Unit	Held Fr	Atchd to or Revert to
30 Pld Hosp (-1st Plat)	XX Corps	66 Med Gp

See Troop List this Hq, 07 May 1945; Incl # 1

CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
J. J. C. [Signature], Pol. PAC
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 15 Feb '46

G-4. On the 8 May 1945, as given in the BOOK MESSAGE originating from this section of the 6 May 1945 the rear boundaries for which this section was responsible were as follows: Beginning at Corps left boundary at BRANDSTATT (V655900), S along road through EFERDING (V655874), BREITNACH (V625817), WALLERN (V605782), RJ at (V604770), RJ (V609760), RJ (613760), SCHMIEDING (V614739), SE to WELS (V670705), SW along HWY 31 to CR (V458521), S along road through RJ (V449503), RJ (V451498), to lateral boundary between 80th Division and 3rd Cavalry Group vicinity (V430470), then W along Lateral Boundary between 80th Division and 3rd Cavalry Group to Corps right boundary at (V085460), roads and town to divisions. Rear Boundary coincides with lateral boundary between 80th Division and 3rd Cavalry Group from (V430470) to (V085460). It is evident from the above message that the rear division boundary which was set by the Corps G-4 was easily ascertained not only on a map but on the ground as well for the points of demarcation between division and corps area were placed as far as was humanly possible at outstanding features all along the line. For example roads were used as boundary lines, the road itself being specifically designated as belonging to either Corps or division. Points of intersection were also easily located such as town or road junctions the specific coordinates of each being given to six places. By pinning down the exact rear boundaries considerable confusion was avoided specifically in the choice of MSR's by the Division G-4's, and the placing of service installations.

09 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. No change.

G-4. On the 9 May 1945, the "post war festive spirit" had died down considerably, so much so that work in the section went ahead with a "business as usual" sign on the door. At that time the two main problems to be faced were the locating of permanent supply installations in the area which XX Corps was to take over under the Eclipse Plan and the traffic situation involved in the transporting of DP's and PW's to DP Camps and PW cages respectively, and the transporting of discharged PW's. The former matter was solely one of planning and consideration of all the necessities and restrictions concerned; the 2nd was a problem requiring specific and immediate action. This action was taken through the use of the limited rail facilities available at the time, and the use of large truck convoys which also entailed the reconnoitering of the main roads in the area to determine their state of repair and trafficability. One of the main limiting factors in the use of truck convoys was the condition of road bridges and railway under and over passes in our area. All these critical points were surveyed by our Traffic and Transportation Sub-section and findings were given to the Corps Engineer when specific instances of destroyed bridges and passes were found and the repair of which was considered essential.

10 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. Intelligence and Security: Additional German units identified 10 May during their assembly under surrender terms included the following: 25 SS HUNYADI Div, 3 SS Pz Regt (2 SS Pz Div), 3 SS Pz Div, 12 SS Pz Div, Corps BEUNAÜ, 3 and 4 Regt of 1 Royal Hungarian Hussars, 8 Army Corps, 710 Inf Div 356 Inf Div, 403 Volks Arty Corps, and various miscellaneous units.

b. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reid Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
3393 QM Trk Co	514 QM Gp	XX Corps
3905 QM Trk Co	514 QM Gp	XX Corps
284 FA Bn (105 H)	XX Corps	

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 71 Inf Div: Continued search for German soldiers in rear area. Contacted Russian troops all along ENNS River in zone.

(2) 80 Inf Div: Sent 1 Plat of 317 Inf to LOSSENSTEIN (xW000470) to prevent Germans from crossing bridge. Sixth German Army started crossing IP at 100530B for rear assembly areas.

G-4. On the 10 May 1945 activity in the Captured Enemy Materiel field began to pick up. Reports and questions started coming in requesting the eventual disposition of scrap dumps located in the area by the subordinate units; a supply of enemy gasoline was located in the area and it was discussed with the QM Section as to the possibility of using this gasoline in US Vehicles. However, this procedure was strictly frowned upon as we weren't certain of the effect that the inferior German gasoline would have on our vehicles. The ultimate use the German gasoline was put to was, simply enough, in the German vehicles which we were using to transport discharged German PW's to the vicinity of their homes, and some of the gasoline was turned over to the German Army HQ in our area which had surrendered to the XX Corps, to be used in the administration of the various details of the surrender. From the viewpoint of accommodations and the locating of the various installations which were to be permanently located in the Corps occupational area not much could be accomplished outside of map reconnaissance. Most of our future area was still under control of other units and it was not considered good policy to go into another unit's area inspecting the various installations. Special permission had to be obtained prior to such a trip, and for the most part, the special permission was not easily obtainable. With the exception of the actual ground reconnaissance for the new Corps CP, little could be done.

As of the 10 May 1945, Third U S Army was pursuing the policy of deciding upon all requests for the use of captured enemy vehicles itself. As a result, the very large number of requests for the use of these vehicles were merely forwarded to Army HQ for action. Instructions were received for the guarding and maintenance of depots containing captured materiel and arrangements were made to release a quantity of food on barges on the Danube River to one of the numerous captured Hungarian Army elements in our area. In a lighter vein, we received information that elements of a German Panzer Army, which was supposed to be moving into the XX Corps zone for the eventual disbandment of same had gotten lost and were a good way off their prescribed route. Considerable consternation resulted. However, the division in the area was contacted and the traffic section of the division was able to straighten out the errant Hun. The normal supply routine with respect to Class I supplies went along unhampered, but strict rationing was instituted on Class III items because of the critical shortage which had developed in POL items.

11 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. Still more enemy units turned up the next day as US organizations reported the identification of KG SOETH, 117 Lt Div, and

1 SS Pz Div.

For several days now, major activity, German and American, was concerned with the attempt to bring order out of chaos. The German commanders themselves did not know what units they would finally control nor in what strength, what with the collapse of communications, the confusion relative to movement to assembly areas, and the desperate preference of the Germans for the American barbed wire over that of the Russians. Strength reports appeared to have been much too high at first; for example, it was now believed that Sixth German Army would total nearer 75,000 than the original estimate of 160,000 - 200,000, one apparent reason being that two of its formerly reported units, 1 Ukrainian Div and 5 SS Div VIKING, could not make the American lines. KG SOETH, with an estimated strength of 18,000, was reported to be composed of Inf Div BACHMAIER, Inf Div FLIESCHER, and Pz Div JAEGER.

b. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
PI Team #49, Det "A"	XX Corps	

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 80 Inf Div: placed guards on all bridges between LUGEN (V896048) and REICHRAMING (W025435).

(2) 65 and 71 Inf Divs continue to guard the bridges in their zone and PWs in assembly areas. 80 Inf Div estimated 25,000 PWs closed into assembly area Vio ST. GEORGEN (Z980710).

G-4. On 11 May 1945, the main G-4 traffic consisted in handling requests for retention of captured enemy vehicles. Decisions were made by Third U S Army G-4 and relayed to the subordinate units of XX Corps. Requests to turn in non-essential items of authorized equipment received by us from subordinate units were also forwarded to Third U S Army with recommendations for approval or disapproval depending upon the individual unit concerned and its particular problems. At this time recommendations for changes in the current T/O and E's received from the subordinate units were also being forwarded to Third U S Army.

12 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. No change.

b. Relations with Civil Population: On 12 May it was reported that there was a "general disregard of military orders to civilians in KREMSMUNSTER (V7560) with widespread disregard for the curfew." Children were reported to have obtained a large number of German flares which they were firing indiscriminately. The situation in the town was quickly overcome by prompt military action.

G-3. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
7 Armd Gp	XX Corps	XX Corps
4th Plat, 122 QM Car Co	XX Corps	XX Corps (9 Div)
899 TD Bn		XX Corps (9 Div)
746 Tk Bn		XX Corps (Assigned)
9 Inf Div		

G-4. Considerable activity was engendered on the 12 May 1945

when the rising waters of the INN River swept out the temporary bridge in the vicinity of BRAUNAU. Traffic was not halted however, although it was impeded to some degree, for we were able to use former one way bridges over the river as two way bridges by permitting traffic to run in one direction for a given length of time (the length of time depending upon the length of the waiting column) and then permitting the traffic to flow in the opposite direction for about the same period. At this point we began to collect and record information on the various installations in the future occupational area which were requested by various units, notably Evacuation and Field Hospitals and Ordnance Repair installations. These units had received permission to survey the new area and had chosen the site which they considered the most suitably located and best equipped for the accomplishment of their primary missions. The units were informed that these installations would be held for them unless some unforeseen need arose which demanded that another unit of some kind be placed there in their place.

13 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. Intelligence and Security: It developed on 13 May that the German Sixth SS Pz Army controlled both Corps BEUNAU (already mentioned) and II SS Pz Corps. The former apparently controlled 710 Inf Div, elements of other Wehrmacht and SS divisions, and miscellaneous units, while reportedly under the latter were 12 SS Pz Div, elements 2 SS Pz Div, possibly elements 3 SS Pz Div, and perhaps 9 SS Pz Div.

During this time and continuing without pause, isolated groups of armed stragglers were being flushed out and apprehended, including at least one detachment of trained saboteurs. CIC and tactical units pressed the search diligently for wanted personalities, arrest cases, and other people of CI interest. One of the most prominent and satisfying arrests was made on 12 May by the 80th Inf Div of ERNST KALTENBRUNNER, successor to REINHARD HEYDRICH, General der Sicherheitspolizei und SD and Reichsfuehrer der SS.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
1st Plat, 60 Fld Hosp	XX Corps	66 Med Gp

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

13 Armd Div: Sent a small party to investigate a report of enemy troops terrorizing civilian population in Vic of SCHALCHEN (VO67711).

G-4. The 13 May 1945 saw no unusual problems arising. Handled during the day were questions of the retention of captured enemy vehicles, transportation of discharged PW's, requests for accommodations, and registration of newly acquired enemy vehicles. Enemy material depots were continually being consolidated by subordinate units and reports were being received on the same. Notable in the handling of the enemy materiel being stored and inventoried was the notification of the various special staff sections of this HQ that certain types of enemy materiel which might be of interest to each section were obtainable at the various installations and could be obtained upon the proper requisition for the same. As a result, for example, a large quantity of captured medicinal and surgical supplies were turned over to the Corps Surgeon for use in German PW hospitals now under our control. Some generators were obtained for use by various units, notably special Service units to be used in conjunction with movies and sound systems.

14 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. a. No change.

b. Relations with Civil Population: On 14 May it was reported that in general the civil population of Austria was friendly toward the Americans to the extent that scenes of welcome sometimes approached those which met troops while moving through liberated France. However, it was also noted that the same enthusiasm was shown when the civilians greeted returning elements of the defeated German army. It was also noted that efforts to cooperate with us came largely from people associated with the Free Austria Committee.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
1st Plat, Co A, 602 Army Engr Cam Bn	XX Corps	1134 Engr C Gp

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

13 Armd Div: Task Force reported no enemy troops terrorizing civilian population in Vic SCHALCHEN (VO67711).

G-4. The 14 May 1945 saw the commencement of activities with the aim of ascertaining what equipment now in the hands of troops was over and above existing allowances and the steps taken toward the return of all such excess equipment to the appropriate Army supply depots. Instructions were issued to all subordinate units directing an immediate showdown inspection of all equipment on hand and the excess to be consolidated and turned in. Requests continued to come in for the retention of captured enemy vehicles and these were promptly indorsed to army.

Bit by bit, more and more units were being allowed to enter into the future occupational area of this HQ for the purpose of finding an adequate location for their future operations. These requests continued to be filled by this office for future decision.

15 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
30 Fld Hosp	66 Med Gp	XX Corps
86 Engr Hv Pon Bn	XX Corps	

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 9 Inf Div: CP opened at INGOLSTADT (WT710250).

(2) 3 Cav Gp: 43 Cav Sp CP opened at ATTERSEE (V330405)

at 141030.

(3) 9 Inf Div units moving to assembly area Vic INGOLSTADT (WT710250). Other Corps units continued training and maintenance of equipment.

c. Units Alerted:

Hq/Hq Det, 26 QM Bn alerted for direct redeployment. Subject to movement on call from CG Delta Base Section.

G-4. The 15 May 1945 passed without undue excitement nor difficulty. Convoys of PW's continued to be processed by the Transportation

and Traffic Sub-section as well as train loads of DP's headed for consolidated DP Camps rather than permitting the DP's to remain at large, roaming the streets and adding a considerable security threat to the operations of the occupational forces.

16 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. To disgress from Order of Battle intelligence for the moment, it may not be amiss to mention here the matter of personnel and material security; a matter which, though it has never reached serious proportions, had become at least of primary theoretical importance as military occupation settled into its groove. Though for long prior to and even following the capitulation of Germany, numerous reports told of plans, some elaborate, on the part of the Party and its affiliates to burrow underground and organize resistance groups, no such organized, widespread or systematic network has yet appeared. Though it is an accepted fact that the plans, at least, were prepared, the realization of those plans appears to have been sabotaged by lack of time, sudden collapse, and industrious zeal of American Counterintelligence personnel. Isolated individual acts against American military personnel and equipment became common after a time, on a small scale, but never has there appeared any indication of system or organization. On 11 May, a German 12 year old boy was injured by a US hand grenade which he threw into an empty building, but it developed that this was the result of ignorance rather than a subversive attempt. On 16 May, the first certain incident of this type was reported when a steel wire was discovered stretched across the road.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
3256 Sig Serv Co	XX Corps	
Hq/Hq Btry, 416 FA Gp	XX Corps	1st TD Brig

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) New boundary between 80 Inf Div and 3 Cav Gp:
(V533468) - (V521450) - (V521429) - (V498405) - (V517320) - (V480270) - (V415194).

(2) 14 Armd Div: CP opened at VELDEN (Z345840).

(3) 80 Inf Div: 2d Bn 319 Inf moved by train to BAD ISCHL (V400180) closing at 151930 and made preparations for the relief of 2d Bn 318 Inf.

G-4. Of interest on the 16 May 1945 was the directive issued to accomplish the turn in of all carrier, cargo M-2's on hand to the Ordnance Control point.

17 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>atohd to or Revert to</u>
264 Engr C Bn	1152 Engr C Gp	XX Corps(1152 Engr C Gp)
1252 Engr C Bn	1152 Engr C Gp	XX Corps(1152 Engr C Gp)
2727 Engr L Equip Co	1152 Engr C Gp	XX Corps(1126 Engr C Gp)
609 Engr L Equip Co	1306 EngrGS Regt	" (1306 Engr GS Regt)
1369 Engr DP Trk Co	1134 Engr C Gp	" (1152 Engr C GP)
572 Engr DP Trk Co	1306 EngrGS Regt	" (1306 Engr GS Regt)
1012 Engr Tdwy Br Co	1134 Engr C Gp	" (1126 Engr C Gp)

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reid Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
87 Engr Hv Pon Bn 1st Plat, Co A, 88 Engr Hv Pon Bn 1306 Engr GS Regt Hq/Hq Co, 1152 Engr C Gp	1134 Engr C Gp XX Corps	XX Corps(1139 EngrC Gp) XII Corps XX Corps XX Corps

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 80 Inf Div: 1st Bn 319 Inf moved to Vic of (V530080). 2nd Bn 319 Inf moved to Vic (V530270). 2nd Bn 318 Inf upon relief by elements of 2d Bn 319 Inf moved to assembly area Vic MOOSBACH (V030700).

(2) 9 Inf Div: 60 Inf Regt closed into assembly area Vic WOLFERSDORF (Y949040) at 162000B. 47 Inf Regt closed into assembly area Vic of WOLNZACH (T870070) at 162300B.

c. Units Alerted: 274 Armd FA Bn, 94 Cml Mortar Bn, and 2727 Engr L Equip Co, alerted for direct redeployment and movement from Third US Army area within 25 days.

G-4. In addition to the normal items on the day's calendar on 17 May 1945 there is one item of special interest. This section had begun to receive instructions for the issuance of items on SIOE's to various units under the HQ. Information concerning the special lists of equipment for HQ and HQ Btry, Motorized FA Bn, 155 mm Gun Bn, 8 inch gun, 8 inch How and 240 mm How, Truck drawn, Tractor drawn, or self-propelled were passed down to Corps Arty Headquarters.

18 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reid Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
112 Co, 1st Auto Regt (Fr) DPTA-3 DPTA-5 DPTA-12		XX Corps XX Corps XX Corps XX Corps

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 80 Inf Div: 319 Inf patrolled 5 miles south of ENNS River and did not contact the Russians or the 15 Army Group.

(2) 9 Inf Div and 14 Armd Div made a Recon of new assembly area. 65 Inf Div and 71 Inf Div continued processing PW's. 13 Armd Div continued training and maintenance of equipment.

G-4. Of general interest is the Motor Vehicle Report received from each of the four QM Truck Companies working under the Transportation Sub section of this office. These reports, submitted daily under the supervision of the QM Bn Hq controlling the truck companies gave our Transportation Officer the information he needed to allot trucks out to the various units which requested them and which depended upon Corps G-4 for most of their transportation. The report for the 18 May is a typical one, showing the number of vehicles and trailers assigned to the Truck Company; the number deadlined; or dispatched already from the previous day or days and also giving the net number of trucks available for the day's dispatch. Close scrutiny of these reports showed how the Company Commander was watching the performance of the necessary maintenance on his vehicles. An exceedingly large number of deadlined vehicles might possibly mean that first echelon

maintenance was being neglected; or that there was another laxity elsewhere in the composite structure of the Hq such as the failure of Ordnance to supply vitally needed parts; the failure of the QM to supply the required amount of POL items and as a result a fairly good picture of the workings of all the allied special staffs sections could be gotten by the G-4. Also on this day, 18 May, considerable interest was aroused by a report on the inspection of the combined German and Hungarian Danube fleet consisting of numerous naval warships of various sizes. The fleet was eventually taken over by elements of the US Navy in the form of a Harbor Control Company. Recommendations for changes to existing T/O and E's continued to come in and were compiled and forwarded to army.

19 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reid Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
88 QM Car Plat		XX Corps (Assigned)

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 80 Inf Div: 1st Bn 317 Inf relieved 2d Bn 317 Inf along ENNS River from LIEZEN to (V770010). Contacted 15 Inf Regt, 3 Inf Div at SCHLADRING (A490820). 1st Bn 319 Inf initiated move to take positions along ENNS River.

(2) 14 Armd Div: Initiated relief of Elms 20 Armd Div and continued expansion into assigned area.

(3) 9 Inf Div: Completed relief of units in INGOLSTADT area and continued Recon of assigned area.

G-4. The policy on allocation of special types of real estate installations was beginning to take on shape. In addition to previous restrictions upon promiscuous displacement of German civilians by directing the use of all public facilities first before private homes and apartment houses were put to use by troops, on the 19 May the allocation of all regular hospital buildings to only hospital units was made. This was done to prevent the use of hospital buildings solely as billets by troops because the number of regular hospital buildings was extremely small in our area compared to the number of German PW medical cases there were to be handled in addition to the setting up of the permanent American Hospitals for the occupational forces. However, to offset this loss of potential billets for troops it must be remembered that a large number of school buildings and hotels would be released by medical units to the troops in exchange for the regular hospital installations. These schools and hotels contained small groups of convalescent PW's who were consolidated in these permanent type hospitals.

20 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. To revert to German Order of Battle, by 20 May, though statistics and information of enemy units were still very sketchy, the following appeared to be the general composition of 6 SS Pz Army, though the information was not complete nor necessarily correct in all details:

I SS Pz Corps: 1 SS Pz Div
12 SS Pz Div
117 Lt Div
356 Inf Div
SS Brig Keitel

II SS Pz Corps: Fuhrer Gren Pz Div

3 SS Pz Div
Sperrverband VOLKMANN (Composition unknown)
Various Pz Jagdverbaende

Corps BUENAU: 710 Inf Div
153 Field Tng Div
Miscellaneous

XVII Corps (Wkr): 9 SS Pz Div (?)
3 SS Regt/2 SS Pz Div (?)
Miscellaneous

II SS Pz Corps was committed North of the Danube. According to Oberst von SCOTTI, of 6 SS Pz Army, elements were detached from divisions and other units of 6 SS Pz Army and formed into Pz Jagdverbaende, and most of these were committed under II SS Pz Corps North of the DANUBE. Excepting 3 SS Pz Gren Regt/2 SS Pz Div, the major parts of 2 SS Pz Div were under command of SCHOERNER (Army Group Center) at the termination of the campaign. 9 SS Pz Div, and 3 SS Pz Gren Regt were detached from their previous commands, and either committed under army control (directly) against the Western Allies, or, more probably, placed under command of XVII (Wehrkeis) Corps. 92 Pz Gren Brig, under direct control of Army Group South, had been committed against the Russians for some time, but about 650 PWs from this unit found their way into our assembly areas. The Brigade was of reinforced regimental size, containing some artillery, possibly some assault guns, a signal company, and a reconnaissance unit, in addition to its regular component of about 2000 Pz Grenadiers.

At the same time, the following information was available concerning 6 German Army, whose strength in XX Corps assembly areas was reported as 3890 officers and 94,295 enlisted men: Pz AOK 6 had only two corps under its command at the termination of hostilities: III Pz Corps and IV SS Pz Corps. Divisions allocated to the Army were as follows:

III Pz Corps: 1 Pz Div
1 Volks-Geb. Div

IV SS Pz Corps: 3 Pz Div
5 SS Pz Div "WIKING"
14 SS Waffen Gren Div (1 Ukr)
9 Mtn Div (Directly under Army control)
158 Feldausbildungs Div (Under 6 Army for a time.)

9 Mtn Div was formed during April from personnel of various mountain replacement depots and training areas, notably the training area of DACHSTEIN. The Mtn Arty School of DACHSTEIN furnished most of the artillery component. 10 Procht Div was formed in the GRAZ area, also during April, but apparently was not committed. Personnel for a large part came from Austrian GAF units. (Earlier sources had reported that the cadre for this formation was furnished by 1 and 4 Procht Divs). 158 Feldausbildungs Div was under 6 Army "for a time", according to Obstlt TUPP Ia (G-3) of 6 German Army (possibly the personnel was used up in short order as replacements). From end of March to middle of April, 117 Lt Div was also under control of 6 Army (the Division later was assigned to I SS Pz Corps, 6 SS Pz Army). Obstlt TUPP further confirms the fact that Pz AOK 6 (6 Pz Army) was the official designation of the formation commonly referred to as 6 SS Pz Army. Polizei Regt 13 (composed of police furnished by SS Polizei Fuehrer, GRAZ) was also at the disposal of 6 Army. The last sector of the Army was as follows:

South boundary: FELDBACH (C15) to GRAZ (B85)
North boundary: MARIAZELL (W63) across the SEMMERING
(X02) to ASPANG (X21)

6 Pz Army adjoined in the North, 2 Pz Army in the South. As

reported earlier, 6 Army was under command of Gen der Pz Truppen BALCK. Other officers were: C/S - GermaJ GAEDCKE; Ia - Oberstlt TUPP; Ic - Maj CZERNICKY.

According to Obstlt TUPP the training areas of Wehrkreis XVII were under control of GermaJ SAUVANT (Sonderkommission of OKH). These, however, had dwindled until only one major area was left: DACHSTEIN.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reld Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
633 AAA AW Bn (Mbl)	XX Corps	III Corps
UNRRA Team - 121		XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 122		XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 134		XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 135		XX Corps

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 14 Armd Div: CP opened at WASSERBURG (Z450500) at 201600B. 319 Inf Regt CP opened at ALTAUSEE (V520110).

(2) 80 Inf Div: 1st Bn 319 Inf took positions along ENNS River from Corps west boundary to (A600900), 2d Bn 319 Inf from (A600900) to (V790010), 1st Bn 317 Inf from (V790010) to (V890060). 2d Bn 317 Inf moved Vic (V950170), 3d Bn 319 Inf moved Vic GMUNDEN (V530430).

(3) 9 Inf Div: Continued survey of installations to be guarded in occupational area.

(4) 14 Armd Div completed relief of Elms in assigned area and assumed command of area at 191830. 65 Inf Div completed plans for relief of 71 Inf Div. 80 Inf Div closed 3 Bns along ENNS River west of LIEZEN (V890070).

G-4. On the 20 May activity centered about instructions received from TUSA directing that a complete inventory of all US equipment now in the hands of troops be made in preparation for redeployment. This rescinded previous instructions with respect to showdown inspections being made. On this date instructions were received to alert the 26 QM Bn Hq for redeployment to the Marseilles Staging Area. This caused somewhat of a problem since the 26 QM Bn was the HQ which coordinated the activities of the four QM Truck Companies now under control of G-4. But the problem was met by setting up what finally labeled the "G-4 Traffic Sub-section" manned by the company commander of one of the QM Truck Companies and several clerks. In addition to acting as company commander, this officer controlled the activities of all four companies, more or less functioning as a one man Bn Hq. The solution has worked well and is still in effect. In addition, the movement of the 26 QM Bn Hq and Hq Det was arranged for through the Transportation Sub-section of G-4. Another problem which arose at this time was the one of maintaining adequate stores to feed all PWs in our area. The feeding of PWs from American supplies was strictly forbidden and, as a result, great care was taken to round up all stores of the defeated German armies in XX Corps area, and to ration them out to the various PW cages.

21 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. The following MG units and attachments were attached:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reld Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
Hq Co E, 3d ECAR & Det		XX Corps
Det 17E3		XX Corps
Det 18E3		XX Corps
Det E113		XX Corps
Det G113		XX Corps
Det I4I3		XX Corps

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reled Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
Det 1513		XX Corps
Det 1613		XX Corps
Det 1813		XX Corps
Det 1913		XX Corps
Det 11013		XX Corps
Det 11113		XX Corps
Det 11213		XX Corps
Hq Co I, 3d ECAR & Det		

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) Changes in boundaries, see OI #93, this Hq, dtd 20 May 45. (See Incl. # 2)

(2) 9 Inf Div: 3 Bn 60 Inf moved to Vic INGOLSTADT (T710250).

(3) 3 Cav Gp (Atchd: 3 Bn 317 Inf(Mtz), 314 FA Bn, and Co's A and C 811 TD Bn(SP) initiated move to new area south of ENNS River at 210645. 3 Cav Gp CP opened at MAUTERNDORF (A505547) at 211855. 43 Cav Sq CP opened at MAUTERNDORF (A504550). 3 Cav Sq CP opened at GRADEN (A355683). 43 Cav Sq made contact with a battalion of the British 78 Inf Div. 3 Cav Sq troops in bivouac in fields between RADSTADT (A326812) to A355683).

(4) Changes in boundaries, see OI No. 94, this Hq, dtd 31 May 45. (See Incl. No. 3).

G-4. There was nothing outside the normal course of events on the 21 May. The section continued to be swamped with routine G-4 matters covering everything from supplies for American troops to convoys and train schedules and supplies for captured German troops. Requests for real estate were recorded, captured enemy material depots spotted and recorded and visited, requests for retention of enemy vehicles continued to pour in. The same situation existed on the 22nd with the addition of numerous requests for information on the appointment of Purchasing and Contracting Officers for non-divisional units.

22 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reled Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
UNRRA Team - 7	XII Corps	XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 11	XII Corps	XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 12	III Corps	XX Corps
UNRRA Team - 83		XX Corps

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 9 Inf Div: 2d Bn 39 Inf closed in Vic (Y400925) at 222040. 3d Bn closed in Vic (T473040) at 221950.

(2) 80 Inf Div: 318 Inf CP opened at MOOSEBACH (V030700). 1st Bn (V120730), 2d Bn at (V060660), and 3d Bn at (V000700).

G-4. No change.

23 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. No change in status of units.

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 9 Inf Div: 1st Bn 39 Inf closed into assembly area Vic ALTENMENSTER (T606828) at 222215 which completed the movement of the 39 Inf into its assembly area. 60 Inf CP opened at HOLZLEITEN (T840150).

(2) 14 Armd Div: Elms of 68 Armd Inf Bn and 47 Tr Bn completed relief of 500 Armd FA Bn at 230700. 398 AAA AW Bn assembled Vic FREISING (Y960860).

(3) 65 Inf Div: 609 FA Bn and 808 TD Bn initiated to occupy area in Div zone to SE of TRAUN FL.

G-4. An interesting situation was met and overcome on the 23 May when several knocked out railroad bridges at PASSAU and SALZBURG stopped the movement of trains containing large numbers of PWs. Unable to continue, trains were brought up on the other side of the demolished bridges, the PWs crossed over from one train to the waiting train on the other side and the trip continued. Relief was rushed to a stranded train loaded with wounded PWs. From the supply viewpoint, lists of critical shortages were being compiled by subordinate units and received by this section for further transmittal to Army.

24 May 1945.

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. Relations with Civil Population: On 24 May, CIC operatives posing as SS men were able to find sanctuary in the farmhouse of a civilian in the TRAUNSEE area proving that some civilians were still willing to "take a chance" in aiding this class of refugees.

G-3. No change in status of units.

Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 9 Inf Div: 1st Bn 60 Inf closed Vic MANCHING (T760000) at 240830. 60 Inf Regt closed in occupational area at 241630. 47 Inf Regt (less 1st and 2nd Bns) closed into occupational area Vic SCHROBENHAN (T580020) at 241400. 9 Div Arty completed closing in occupational area Vic PFAFFENHOFEN (Y780990). 47 Inf Regt CP opened at SCHROBENHAN (T580020).

G-4. No change.

25 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. No change in status of units.

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 9 Inf Div: 60 Inf CP opened at AINAU (T856159). 39 Inf CP opened at AICHACH (Y572032). 1st Bn 47 Inf closed into occupational area Vic HOHENWART (T690050). 3rd Bn in woods Vic (T572032), and the 2nd Bn at (Z746959). 9 Inf Div completed movement into its occupational area at 251500.

(2) 193 FA Gp closed into the FREISING Kreis. 193 FA Gp CP opened at (Y957855).

c. Units Alerted: 3 Cav Ron Sq and 43 Cav Ron Sq alerted for indirect redeployment and movement from Third US Army area within 30 days.

1306 Engr GS Regt alerted for direct redeployment and movement from Third US Army area within 30 days.

G-4. On 25 May, information was received from Third United States Army concerning various units to be redeployed, convoy number, routes, number of vehicles, personnel, etc. The information was received and

recorded and reported to Third United States Army on quantities of German oil, diesel fuel, and Hungarian Signal Equipment located in our area.

Additional Hungarian food dumps were located on the 25 May 1945 as well as numerous German aircraft in good shape located on an airfield in the vicinity of WELS. There were the usual arrangements to be made for the shipping of DPs and PWs and the obtaining of the necessary food supplies for the PW cages. Of special interest was the request made by a division staff officer to burn a concentration camp consisting of 11 wooden barracks buildings which were so completely infested with lice that they were beyond the point of reclamation. The matter was referred to higher headquarters but no response received on this date.

26 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
Hq/Hq Det 26 QM Bn	XX Corps	

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

13 Armd Div Res Comd CP opened at (Z788745) at 261500B.

G-4. On the 26 May 1945 work was immediately instigated on the details necessary to redeploy the 94 Chemical Bn; 2727 Engr L Equip Co; 3 Cav Sqdn; 43 Cav Sqdn; and the 1306 Engr Gen Ser Regt. Investigation was made on the possibility of using Basic Loads of Ammunition for training purposes.

As a step to ease the burden on the already sorely overtaxed Ordnance Maintenance and Repair units, on the 26 May 1945 a directive was sent to all subordinate shops for repair, all necessary 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance work will have been accomplished and the vehicle thoroughly cleaned.

27 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
Hq & 1st Plat, 30 Fld Hosp	XX Corps	66 Med Gp

G-4. On the 27 May 1945 arrangements were made to release several items of captured enemy materiel from the various depots under our control to the 1154 Engr C Gp, and the usual number of requests for convoys and real estate were received and processed.

28 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
Hq/Hq Co, 1139 Engr C Gp	XX Corps	
206 Engr C Bn	XX Corps	

b. Movement of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 3 Cav Gp CP opened at RADSTADT (A320810) at 281520B.

(2) XX Corps Arty: 5 FA Gp CP opened at MATTIGHOFEN (V024597). 204 FA Gp CP opened at SEEWALCHEN (V366449). 5 FA Gp of 204 FA Gp initiated relief of Elms of XV Corps along the West boundary of OBERDONAU state.

G-4. On the 28 May arrangements were made to ship over 150 tons of captured rubber to Liege, Belgium; for Third U S Army to take over several captured airplanes and locomotives located in our area. Details on the showdown inspection reports which were due soon were ironed out for several units and a dispute between one of the divisions and an engineer unit which had received permission from this HQ to go ahead with a wood chopping program and which was prohibited by the division to accomplish same was cleared for all parties concerned.

29 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. Relations with Civil Population: The report of 29 May, the first one which had a section specifically devoted to civil security, confined itself to a statement that there were no signs of civilian unrest and that many civilians were proving valuable sources of information and were showing little interest in regard to underground resistance of any kind.

G-3. a. No change in status of units.

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 80 Inf Div: 3d Bn, 319 Inf began relief of Elms XV Corps East of SALZBURG Kreis boundary in the Vic of BAD ISCHL. 1st Bn, 319 Inf moved West to area between RADSTADT (A320810) and SCHLADMING (A480830).

(2) 5 FA Gp and 204 FA Gp continued relief of Elms XV Corps along North and East boundary of SALZBURG Kreis North of UNTER ACH (V300280).

G-4. On the 29 May 1945, inquiries were made on behalf of one of the divisions with respect to the individual soldiers making purchases in German shops. This was OK'd as long as the soldiers did not purchase any items placed on ration lists by MG. The 337 Harbor Craft Co and 800 Port Co received permission to enter the area and take over control of the Danube fleet. Twelve RR cars of petroleum in 200 litre containers were located at V775355 and disposed of. Since Army no longer differentiated between forward and rear areas, rear boundaries in the Corps Zone were done away with. The hauling of DP's and PW's continued apace and two ice plants were put into operation in the Corps Zone capable of producing as high as nine tons of ice per day.

30 May 1945

G-1. See report for 31 May 1945.

G-2. No change.

G-3. a. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reld Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
139 Evac Hosp	66 Med Gp	XX Corps
Hq & 1st Plat 30 Fld Hosp	66 Med Gp	XX Corps
1st Plat, 60 Fld Hosp	66 Med Gp	XX Corps
65 Med Gp		XX Corps
Hq/Hq Det, 43 Med Bn	65 Med Gp	XX Corps

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reid Fr</u>	<u>Atchd to or Revert to</u>
Hq/Hq Det, 182 Med Bn	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
Hq/Hq Det, 436 Med Bn	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
Hq/Hq Det, 437 Med Bn	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
413 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
414 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
487 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
419 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
432 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
433 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
434 Med Coll Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
456 Mtr Amb Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
586 Mtr Amb Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
593 Mtr Amb Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
581 Mtr Amb Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
598 Mtr Amb Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
647 Med Clr Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
648 Med Clr Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
659 Med Clr Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps
666 Med Clr Co	65 Med Gp	XX Corps

b. Movements of Units, Boundaries, CPs, etc:

(1) 14 Armd Div: 94 Ron Trs relieved at LANDSHUT (V250020) by Elms of 4 Armd Div at 292000B.

(2) 5 FA Gp and 204 FA Gp completed relief of Elms of XV Corps along XX Corps right boundary from (Z820450) to KAMMER SEE (V300270) at 291600B.

G-4. On 30 May we received information and instructed the subordinate units concerned that PASSAU, the INN River and bridges thereon, and all towns on German side of the river belonged to III Corps; the transfer of German assault boats to the 80th Div was arranged for and authorization was given to various units to feed Allied PW's operational rations. Requests for the retention of enemy vehicles continued to be processed and movement orders were issued to the 2727 Engr L Equip Co to proceed to Marseilles.

31 May 1945

G-1. a. General: During the period Corps units were engaged in receiving surrendered Prisoners of War and moving them to designated areas for segregation and screening. Expansion of units into assigned areas was commenced. Training programs were outlined to include occupational duties, preparation for redeployment, and extensive maintenance of vehicles and equipment. All installations were vigilantly guarded and widespread patrols conducted. During this period, in addition to other units assigned and attached, Corps had within its jurisdiction two Armored Divisions and four Infantry Divisions.

b. Personnel: Some reinforcements were received by units of the Corps and many men returned to units from hospitals. The strength of the Corps at the end of the period was 111,376 officers and men.

Redeployment began during the period and some units were informed of their Category. Units were busily engaged in computing ASR scores and transferring personnel. However, Corps redeployment did not get into full operation during this period. The Corps was called upon to furnish five casual shipments of high point men to the Zone of Interior for discharge. A total of 17 officers and 1624 enlisted men comprised these shipments.

c. Prisoners of War: Prisoners of War continued to be a big problem for the Corps. Some 30,752 were captured or surrendered and were processed through Corps cages bringing the grand total of PWs captured by XX Corps to 573,437. During the first two weeks of this period 1684 PWs were discharged. The discharge procedure was accelerated and by the end of the month 132,542 PWs had been discharged and were enroute to their home districts in Germany. Certain types of prisoners were not discharged and arrangements were begun for their

retention in permanent type installations. At the end of the month, Corps had on hand 164,813 PWs.

d. Awards and Decorations: The Corps Awards and Decorations Board considered 436 recommendations for awards and decorations during the period. The following awards were awarded by the Corps Commander:

Silver Star Medal	- 22
Soldiers Medal	- 17
Air Medal	- 11
OLC to Air Medal	- 57
Bronze Star Medal, Heroic Achievement	- 46
Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service	- 241
OLC to Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service	- 6

The following recommendations were approved by the Corps Commander and forwarded to higher headquarters:

Distinguished Service Cross	- 17
Legion of Merit	- 3

e. Leaves, Furloughs, and Passes: On the 14th of May and every 7 days thereafter, Army allotted a quota of 6 officers and 34 enlisted men from Corps Headquarters and Corps troops to visit the Riviera Recreation Area. Divisions also received quotas, based on length of time in combat, directly from Army.

An increase in quotas to visit Paris for 72 hours to members of Corps troops was received from higher headquarters. The quota for the month of May was ten (10) officers and sixty (60) enlisted men every seventy-two hours. Division received a quota of fifteen (15) officers and seventy (70) enlisted men. Fifteen officers and one hundred and eighty-three enlisted men from Corps units were returned to the Zone of the Interior for 45 days rehabilitation, recuperation and recovery.

G-2. Intelligence and Security: The first reported case of wire cutting since the termination of hostilities occurred when the lines were cut 20 May, and the second concerned the cutting and removal of wire in two separate instances during the night of 23-24 May. Here, as in all following cases of interference with US military telephone lines, the act could have been the result (until definitely proved sabotage) of individual spite, ignorance, or petty pilfering. A third telephone wire cut was reported during the night of 25-26 May. Possible sabotage on a large scale occurred in LINZ when fire of undisclosed origin broke out in a railroad car and eventually reached a total of 21 cars containing German ammunition of all types and scrap paper and rags. Most of the cars were damaged or destroyed as were three US military vehicles. On 29 May, two more cases of wire-cutting were reported, with the culprits unapprehended.

By 25 May, a fairly comprehensive report was available on enemy units in one of the Corps assembly areas, MOOSBACH (VO270). Some of the details are as follows:

1 SS Pz Div	221 Officers	5543 EM
5 SS Pz Div	41 Officers	2789 EM

7 SS Mtn Div	3 Officers	93 EM
9 SS Pz Div	25 Officers	706 EM
12 SS Pz Div	46 Officers	1087 EM
13 SS Mtn Div	8 Officers	78 EM
14 SS Waffen Gren Div		68 EM
16 SS Pz Gren Div	8 Officers	559 EM
25 SS and 26 SS Div (Hungarian)	156 Officers	2308 EM
1 Pz Div	232 Officers	5682 EM
2 Pz Div	11 Officers	46 EM
3 Pz Div	262 Officers	6384 EM
23 Pz Div	46 Officers	988 EM
1 Mtn Div	133 Officers	4014 EM
9 Mtn Div	61 Officers	1481 EM
3 Cav Div and 4 Cav Div	13 Officers	510 EM
71 Inf Div	4 Officers	93 EM
117 Lt Div	115 Officers	2525 EM
297 Inf Div	4 Officers	59 EM
356 Inf Div	174 Officers	2422 EM
710 Inf Div	6 Officers	239 EM
I SS Pz Corps & Corps Troops	68 Officers	*1254 EM
IV SS Pz Corps Hq	3 Officers	142 EM
Hq Sixth Army	19 Officers	54 EM
KG Keitel	33 Officers	1251 EM
KG Ney	40 Officers	251 EM
Heeres Pz Jagd Brig 2	10 Officers	66 EM
Sturmbrig 6 SS Pz Armee	20 Officers	650 EM
Volks Werfer Brig 17	24 Officers	242 EM
Volks Werfer Brig 19	24 Officers	405 EM
I Bn/24 Pz Regt (GHQ)	3 Officers	104 EM
LeBeob. Abt (mot) 32	12 Officers	128 EM
Beob. Battr. (mot) 43	8 Officers	148 EM
I Bn/Arty Regt 77 (GHQ)	1 Officer	65 EM
Heer. Pz Jagd Brig 122	20 Officers	73 EM
Heer. Sturmgeschuetz Brig 191	4 Officers	126 EM
Heer. Sturmgeschuetz Brig 261	7 Officers	260 EM
Heer. Sturmartillerie Brig 303	12 Officers	463 EM
Hoeh. Art. Kdr 306	9 Officers	116 EM

* (Exclusive of Signal Troops)

G-3. Changes in Status of Units:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rel'd Fr</u>	<u>Atch'd to or Revert to</u>
4028 QM Trk Co	13 Armd Div	XX Corps
DP-6		XX Corps
DP-10		XX Corps
264 Engr C Bn	1152 Engr C Gp	1176 Engr C Gp
1252 Engr C Bn	1152 Engr C Gp	1154 Engr C Gp
87 Engr Hv Pon Bn	1152 Engr C Gp	1126 Engr C Gp
993 Engr Tdwy Br Co	1152 Engr C Gp	1154 Engr C Gp
1369 Engr DP Trk Co	1152 Engr C Gp	1126 Engr C Gp
2d Plat, 623 Engr L Equip Co	1152 Engr C Gp	1126 Engr C Gp
160 Engr C Bn	1154 Engr C Gp	XX Corps

G-4. On the 31 May 1945, arrangements were made for the 14 Armd Division to turn over several vehicles to the 34 Sig Light Const Bn in the TOPLITZ section (V645130) area, to Third U S Army. The 609 Engr Light Equip Co was alerted for redeployment as well as the 4028 QM Trk Co. Reports of Excess Equipment were received and consolidated and forwarded to Third U S Army.