

H-57 6258

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION
A. P. O. 24 U. S. ARMY

604-0.1

IN REPLY REFER TO:

19 October 1945.

SUBJECT: Submission of Historical Material to Theater Historian.

TO : Theater Historian, Headquarters USFET, (Rear), APO 887, U. S. Army.

Inclosed is the combat history of the 4th Armored Division covering the period 17 July 1944 to 9 May 1945.

For the Commanding General:

Lowell A. Spires

LOWELL A. SPIRES,
Major, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adj. General.

1 Incl:
Combat history.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Paul M. Zirble Maj. AGP 25 June 46
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

Master

Colonel Miller
U.S. Army (Retired)

~~Div 100~~
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10585

COMBAT

HISTORY

4TH ARMORED DIVISION

17 July 1944 - 9 May 1945

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Schimsheim, and Ramersheim during the day against light small arms resistance. C/8 and C/53 passed through A/8 and A/53 to take Spiesheim which was outposted for the night. The CP of CC"A" moved to Sprendlingen.

Reserve Command was given the mission of coordinating with and assisting CC"B" and protecting the south flank of the division. They moved from the vicinity of Weinsheim at 0630 through Huffelsheim, Traisen, Herheim, Ebenburg, Altenbamburg, and closed in Furfeld at 0930. A/35 and C/51 were ordered to attack the high ground overlooking Wunsheim. Anti-tank and self-propelled gun fire was received by the force from the direction of Wunsheim and a mine field also hampered progress, but the high ground was taken by 1500. Six self-propelled guns and 3 anti-tank guns were destroyed and 100 prisoners were captured during the day. Elements of "B" and "C" of the 35th Tank Bn were dispatched to clear the towns of Biederhausen, Tiefenthal and Wunsheim and the mission was completed at 1945 with light small arms fire being the chief form of resistance. A/35 and C/51 moved from Wunsheim under cover of darkness for a night attack on Mack. The attack was successful as enemy outposts were taken by surprise. The town of Mack was outposted for the night. The CP of Reserve Command moved to Furfeld.

Enemy losses inflicted during the day included 280 killed, 110 wounded, 653 prisoners, 5 self-propelled guns, 1 Mark VI tank, 23 trucks, 8 88mm guns, 2 75mm guns, 7 20mm guns, 1 half track, 5 machine guns, 3 scout cars, 2 motorcycles, and 1 horse-drawn vehicle destroyed.

4th Armd Div casualties included:-

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
Off	0	5	0
EM	9	29	1

20 March 1945:-

Enemy resistance in the 4th Armd Div sector was broken as enemy elements attempted to flee to the south before the advance of the division. The enemy attempted to set up a defense line between Alzey and Bingen but the 4th Armd Div advanced so rapidly that these enemy units were forced to retreat. Toward the end of the day the retreat of the enemy became disorganized and confused and the division advanced with little opposition.

Elements of CC"A" attacked from high ground in the vicinity of Spiesheim and Schimsheim at 0600 with Worms as the objective. B/8, with infantry support from the 10th, took Albig at 0800 with no opposition, then proceeded east of ALZEY and took Gau-Heppenheim. P 47's bombed and strafed enemy columns fleeing southward from Alzey. A/8 and C/8, with supporting infantry, cleared the towns of Armsheim, Flinheim, Bornheim, and Ramersheim with little or no opposition. Road blocks were found in most of the towns but were undefended. A/8 proceeded through Alzey which had already been taken by CC"B" and captured the towns of Dautenheim, Blodsheim, Monzernheim, Westhofen, Abenheim, and Herrnsheim. Herrnsheim was cleared by 2000 and the high ground to the north outposted for the night. Resistance in these towns was light and consisted of undefended road blocks and scattered small arms fire. B/8 and B/51 proceeded through Dittelsheim and Bechteln against light resistance and captured Osthafen against rear guard resistance. Osthafen and surrounding high ground were outposted for the night. Some slow-moving enemy columns fleeing toward the Rhine were captured without putting up a fight. The CP of CC"A" was moved to Westhofen.

March 1945-19

The units of CC"B" continued the attack toward Worms from the vicinity of Wendelsheim at 0700. After an artillery preparation in Erbas-Budesheim by the 68th Armd FA Bn and B/37, Companies "B" and "C" of the 10th Armd Inf Bn, together with A/37, entered the town with no resistance. A/37 and C/10 continued on to enter Heimersheim to the northeast to be in a position to support the attack on Alzey and at 0815 fired an artillery barrage on the town. B/37 and B/10 entered Alzey at 0930 and the only resistance was road blocks, covered by small arms, which was quickly wiped out. The column then proceeded to the southeast in a two-propelled drive on Dintesheim and Eppelsheim. Numerous prisoners were taken enroute, as the air force, proceeding ahead of the attacking force, destroyed several columns leaving the enemy with no means of transportation at 1215, A/10 and C/37 attacked Eppelsheim simultaneously with the attack of B/10 and B/37 on Dintesheim. Both towns were cleared of enemy bazooka and small arms fire by 1345 and CC"B" assembled along the road southeast of Eppelsheim for a final drive toward Worms. The column advanced rapidly and entered Pfeddersheim at 1530. Only light resistance was encountered but both bridges over the Pfrimm River had been destroyed. C/37 and A/10 circled the town to the north and found a bridge at Leiselheim which they crossed and entered the town of Pfifffligheim. While this force was engaged in clearing the town of bazooka and small arms resistance, A/37 and C/10 by-passed Pfifffligheim to the south and entered Worms at 1925. A/10 and C/37 cleared Pfifffligheim by 1700 and proceeded to Worms where bridges connecting the two parts of the town were destroyed. One platoon of C/37 was able to cross on a temporary bridge and reached the west bank of the Rhine where an outpost was set up which captured and killed many of the enemy as they attempted to cross the Rhine in boats. All bridges over the Rhine had been destroyed by the enemy. In the meantime B/37 and B/10 had entered Hochheim, taken the town, and outposted it for the night. The 35th Tank Bn and the 51st Armd Inf Bn which were attached to CC"B" from Reserve Command, advanced along the division right flank, taking the towns of Offenheim, Weinhaim Flornborn, Ober-Florsheim, Dalsheim, and Nieder-Florsheim against light enemy resistance. They outposted high ground around Pfeddersheim. Elements of CC"B" had advanced approximately 31 miles during the day.

The units of Reserve Command continued to protect the flank of the division from enemy attempting to break out of the Saar-Naselle trap in the vicinity of Stein Beckenheim and Wendelsheim.

Forward Echelon moved from Beckenau at 1030 and closed in Frei-Laubersheim at 1200.

Enemy losses inflicted during the day included 217 killed, 275 wounded, 949 prisoners, (prisoners of war from the 47th Inf Div and the 54th Nebel-Werfer Regt) 13 105mm guns, 6 88mm guns, 1 155mm gun, 5 75mm guns, 1 37mm gun, 6 20mm guns, 8 self-propelled guns, 2 anti-tank guns, 5 Mark V tanks, 1 Mark IV tank, 4 tanks (type unknown), 7 half tracks, 50 horse-drawn vehicles, and 30 miscellaneous vehicles destroyed. The 489th AAA Bn shot down three enemy planes and damaged two others. The planes shot down were an ME 262, and FW 190.

4th Armd Div casualties were:-

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>
Off	1	2
EM	4	45

March 1945-20

21 March 1945:-

A message was received from XII Corps for the division to move north along the Rhine River and clean up enemy resistance between Worms and Oppenheim. Elements of the 5th Inf Div relieved CC"B" to mop up Worms and by 1100 this relief was complete. Units of CC"B" northward at 1130 and cleared the full wing towns: Osthofen, Bechtheim, Mottenheim, Alsheim, Dorn-Dunkheim, Frettenheim, Hillesheim, Dalgesheim, Eimsheim, Weinsheim, and outposted the west bank of the Rhine in the vicinity of Gimsheim. The CP CC"B" moved to Bechtheim. Scattered small arms fire was the only form of resistance encountered by the advancing forces.

The units of CC"A" assembled in the vicinity of Hessloch and Fremersheim in preparation for clearing the area to the north in a parallel Advance to that of CC"B". 20 enemy aircraft attacked as the units were assembling but were driven off by machine gun fire without causing any damage. The left column of CC"A" cleared Gau-Knagernheim, Gau-Odernheim, Undenheim, and Kengernheim, while the right column cleared Dittelsheim, Dalgesheim, Uelversheim, Weinsheim, Dalheim, and Dienheim. They outposted the area in the vicinity of Ludwigshohe, Wienheim and Oppenheim. The CP of CC"A" moved to Gau-Odernheim. They also made contact with the 90th Inf Div which was advancing to the south along the Rhine. Enemy resistance was light but many prisoners were rounded up as they attempted to reach the Rhine. The enemy was disorganized in this area and most prisoners surrendered without giving position.

Elements of the 35th Tank Bn and 51st Armd Inf Bn, which had been attached to CC"B", reverted to control of Reserve Command, which had assembled in the vicinity of Stein Beckenheim.

Enemy losses for the day included 75 killed, 56 wounded, 701 prisoners, 1 88mm gun, 1 anti-tank gun, 3 self-propelled guns, 12 trucks, 4 staff cars, 1 armored car, 1 motorcycle, 5 barges and 4 miscellaneous vehicles destroyed. A large radio station was captured in Worms.

4th Armored Division casualties were:-

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
Off	0	2	0
EM	1	5	1

Two enlisted men from the 8th Tank Bn and one from the 49th AAA Bn left to attend Officer Candidate School, (Par 1, SO 60 and Par 1, SO 61, cs, Hq 4th Armd Div.).

22 March 1945:-

During the night of 21-22 March, the division was relieved by elements of the 5th Inf Div., which was to establish a bridgehead across the Rhine River in the vicinity of Oppenheim. Both combat commands were alerted to move to a division assembly area in the vicinity of Sand Fraunach.

The units of CC"A" moved out from the vicinity of Oppenheim at 1300 and closed in a general assembly area in the vicinity of Spandlingen at 1700. The CP of CC"A" moved to Hackenheim.

CC"B" also alerted to move to the assembly area but the 5th Inf Div had encountered such little opposition in establishing a bridgehead over the Rhine that the move was cancelled. Units of CC"B" remained in the vicinity of Bechtheim and utilized the day for maintenance of vehicles and care of equipment.

March 1945-21

Enemy planes were over during the day but were driven off without inflicting damage.

Reserve Command remained in the vicinity of Steinbockenheim and continued to block roads on the division south flank.

Twenty-three enlisted men and 2 officers were placed on temporary duty with the 17th Reinforcement Depot for return to the United States for 30 days rest and recuperation. (Par 1, SO 62, Hq 4th Armd Div cs).

23 March 1945:-

Major General Hugh J Gaffey, who assumed command of the division 3 December 1944, was assigned to duty as Commanding General of the XXIII Corps of the 1st Army. Brigadier General William M Hoge, formerly commander of CC"B", 9th Armd Div., was named Commanding General of the 4th Armored Division.

The division was alerted to cross the Rhine River at 0900 the following day and to attack through the bridgehead of the 5th Inf Div. The objective of the division was to try to seize a bridge over the Main River in the vicinity of Hanau. The order of march was CC"A", 25th Cav Recon Sqdn, CC"B" and Reserve Command.

With the exception of the 22nd Armd FA Bn, the units of both combat commands remained in their assembly areas preparing to attack the following day. The 22nd moved from Dern Durkheim at 0830 through Eibelshausen, Flonheim, Wendelshausen to Gumbshausen, closing in at 1145. When CC"B" was alerted to 22nd returned to its original assembly area.

Forward Echelon moved from Frei-Laubersheim at 1530 and closed in Kegnheim at 1700.

24 March 1945:-

Units of CC"A" moved out from their assembly area in the vicinity of Sprendlingen at 0700 and passed through Gau-Buckelheim, Wallertheim, Sulzheim, Worrstadt, Udenheim, and Dexheim. At 0900 CC"A" began crossing the Rhine River over the pontoon bridge at Nierstein. All units of CC"A" had completed the crossing by 1250. The column passed through Leheim but ran into heavy resistance in the vicinity of Wolfskehlen, Philippe Hospital, and Crumstadt. This resistance consisted of anti-tank, bazooka, and small arms fire. Once this resistance was reduced, the column advanced rapidly against light resistance passing through Eschollbrucken, Pfungstadt, Eberstadt, Nieder Ramstadt, and reached a position in the vicinity of Ober-Ramstadt by 0100. The CP of CC"A" moved to position in the vicinity of Ober Ramstadt.

CC"B" moved from the vicinity of Bechtheim and began crossing the Rhine at 1600 with the mission of protecting the advance of CC"A", by blocking any enemy attacks from the south. After crossing the river, the CC"B" column advanced through Gainsheim, Leheim, and Erfelden without opposition, but at Stockstadt they encountered bazooka, and small arms fire. C/10 and A/37 entered the town and cleared it by 1900. A/10 and C/37 then entered Hahn at 1930 and cleared it of small arms resistance. The column then advanced south along the autobahn and by 2215 had entered Hanlein after knocking out several bazooka teams which were covering a road block at the entrance.

Units of Reserve Command moved from their assembly area in the vicinity of Furfeld at 1915 and followed a route through Wonsheim, Willstein, Gau-Buckelheim, Wallertheim, Sulzheim, Worrstadt, Udenheim, Dexheim, and began crossing the Rhine at 2345. After crossing the Rhine they proceeded through Geinsheim, Lecheim, Wolfskehlen, Griesheim, Eschollbrucken, and closed in Pfungstadt early in the morning of the 25th.

The entire division (approximately 2500 vehicles) crossed the Rhine River in 18 hours (240900-250300). After crossing the river, unofficial reports from the Air Corps clocked forward elements of the division as moving 7 miles in ten minutes. As the division crossed the bridge over the Rhine the enemy bombed and strafed in an attempt to destroy the bridge. The bridge was not damaged and no damage was done to the vehicles.

Forward Echelon moved from Kengernheim at 2100 and closed in an area south-east of Lecheim at 2345.

The Administrative Center moved from Felch and closed in Sprendlingen.

25 March 1945:-

CC"B" continued the attack at 0745 from the vicinity of Hehnlein. Bickenbach and Seeheim were taken with no opposition. B/10 and B/37 entered Ober Beerbach and quickly cleared the town of small arms resistance. Approximately 400 prisoners surrendered without putting up much of a fight. Jugenheim, Nider Rodau, and Reinheim were taken by 0930 against scattered enemy small arms fire. A hospital was captured at Jugenheim with approximately 300 wounded enemy soldiers. The column then advanced rapidly through Spachbrucken, Habitzheim, Richen, Schaafheim, Gross Ostheim and reached the Main River south of Aschaffenburg at 1400. A highway bridge and a railroad bridge over the river were captured and elements of the 10th Armd Inf Bn and the 37th Tank Bn quickly began to cross. After the 6th tank of D/37 had crossed the bridge collapsed from damage done to it when the enemy attempted to blow it before our arrival. The engineers quickly reinforced the railroad bridge for other vehicles to cross and a bridgehead was established by 1600. 150 enemy prisoners were taken from the woods near the bridgehead after our forces had sprayed the woods with machine gun fire. At dusk several attempts by enemy planes to destroy the bridge were unsuccessful. At 1730 AB/10 and BC/37 entered Aschaffenburg to clear the city, but orders were received to withdraw and set up a perimeter defense around the bridge. The CP of CC"B" moved to Gross Ostheim. CC"B" had advanced rapidly against light resistance and the advance was so rapid that the enemy destroyed several supply dumps, as they had no time to transport the supplies to rear areas.

CC"A" continued the attack at 0600 from the vicinity of Ober Ramstadt. The force passed through Rosserd, Dieburg, Gross Eirborn, Bartenhausen, and Altheim without opposition. Considerable resistance from anti-aircraft guns was encountered at Babenhausen until these enemy positions were destroyed. Moderate anti-aircraft fire was also encountered at Zellhausen. The column by-passed Seligenstadt and went on to seize a bridge over the Main River at Klein Auheim. The bridge was damaged but infantry and tanks passed over quickly and established a bridgehead at Grossauheim. At 2000 an enemy railroad train, loaded with troops, pulled into Grossauheim, and it appeared as though they were unaware of the presence of American troops. The train was mounted with 4 150mm guns and several anti-aircraft guns. A sharp fight ensued and our troops were forced back to the bridge before artillery fire broke up the enemy counter-attack. Positions north of the river were strongly outposted for the night. The CP of CC"A" moved to Froschhausen.

March 1945-23

After moving most of the previous night, Reserve Command closed in Eschollbrücken at 0300. A task force from the 35th Tank Bn and 51st Armored Inf Bn was sent to clear Darmstadt, entering the city at 1330 and reporting it clear at 1430. There was no resistance as the city had been thoroughly bombed by the air force. At 1600 Reserve Command moved from Eschollbrücken to Dieburg with the mission of blocking any enemy attacks between Eberstadt and Dieburg.

The rapid advance during the day covered approximately 40 miles in a period of 18 hours.

Forward Echelon left Lohheim at 1615 and closed in Rosdorf at 1930.

Enemy losses inflicted during the 24th and 25th included: 2606 prisoners, 567 killed, 217 trucks, 128 staff cars, 21-3 75mm guns, 4-88mm guns 27 20mm guns, 10 self-propelled guns, 2 anti-tank guns, 1 flak car with multi-barreled 20mm gun, 3 105mm guns, 26 anti-aircraft guns, 3 40mm guns, 2 motor cycles, 1 bus, 4 half-tracks, 20 wagons and 3 planes destroyed; 400 box cars, 4 locomotives, and 1 train full of enemy supplies and ammunition was captured at Dieburg.

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
Off	2	5	1
EN	17	60	4

26 March 1945:-

CC"A" continued to hold a small bridgehead over the Main River at Crossauheim although they were forced back to the bridge by the arrival of a train load of enemy reinforcements on the previous night. Enemy planes made several attempts during the night to destroy the already damaged bridge over the river but were unsuccessful. At 0530, CC"A" repulsed an enemy counter-attack of 50 infantrymen supported by artillery fire. The attack was repulsed by machine-gun small arms fire. A task force composed of one company from the 35th Tank Battalion and one company from the 51st Armored Infantry Battalion was sent to Zellhausen to be prepared to reinforce CC"A" in the event their situation became acute. Accurate enemy artillery fire hampered the work of the engineers who were trying to construct a bridge over the Main River so tracked vehicles could cross. At 1400, a combat team from the 26th Infantry Division moved through CC"A" positions to clear Crossauheim. CC"A" supported this attack and it was necessary to rattle the enemy cellars with the use of hand grenades. The 8th Tank Battalion awaiting construction of the bridge, outposted the towns of Heinstadt, Seligenstadt, and Zellhausen and captured a large supply depot southwest of Heinstadt, which contained an estimated 2 1/2 million dollars worth of medical supplies and 10,000 tires. Sporadic artillery fire from across the river fell on the towns outposted by the 8th Tank Battalion.

The bridgehead of CC"B", south of Aschaffenburg, was attacked by enemy planes early in the morning but no damage was done to the bridge. These air attacks were followed by an enemy counter-attack of 11 self-propelled guns and 2 tanks. Three of the self-propelled guns were destroyed by fire from the 37th Tank Battalion, and the remainder of the force withdrew to the south. Orders were received during the day that CC"B" would be relieved by the 26th Infantry Division and would be prepared to enlarge the bridgehead at Hanau and attack toward Wilsen.

A special task force from CC"B" was organized with Captain Baum, 10th Armored Infantry Battalion, in command with the mission of freeing approximately 900 American prisoners at a camp south of Hammelburg. This camp was approximately 55 miles behind enemy lines. The force was composed of A/10, C/37, Plat D/37,

March 1945-24

AG/10, and Ren/10. B/37 and E/10 attacked Schweinheim at 2100 from their bridgehead over the Main with the purpose of clearing the main street for the task force to pass through the town and get started on its mission. The 22nd, 66th and 94th placed a heavy barrage on Schweinheim, after which B/37 and E/10 entered the town. Resistance consisted of bazooka and small arms fire. E/37 had one tank knocked out by bazooka fire but by 2230 the route was cleared and the task force started out on its mission. B/37 and E/10 returned to their original positions of outposting the bridgehead south of Aschaffenburg (See History file for complete report of task force commander.)

The units of Reserve Command moved from Disburg at 1600 and closed in Babnhausen at 1945.

Enemy losses inflicted during the day included 608 prisoners, 215 wounded, 189 killed, 12 - 88mm guns, 14 - 20mm guns, 1 locomotive, and 6 railroad cars destroyed. The 489th AAA Bn shot down 1 JU-88 and 3 HE-111 as they bombed and strafed bridgehead positions. The 25th Cav. Ren. Sq. captured a German concentration camp, between Ober-Roden and Nieder-Roden, with over 1200 political prisoners and a train load of rations.

4th Armored Division casualties were:-

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
Off	2	5	--
EM	13	67	12

27 March 1945:-

The following troop list went into effect at 1900.

<u>CC"1"</u>	<u>CC"B"</u>	<u>Reserve Command</u>
53	51	10(-A, AG, Ren)
2	35	37(-C, Flat D)
A/25	C/25	D/489
B/704	C/704	24 (-A & B)
B/24	A/24	A/704
C/489	A/489	
A/46	B/46	
A/126	B/126	

<u>Division Troops</u>	<u>Supporting Troops</u>
25 (-A, B, C)	177th FA Group
D/704	276th FA Bn
A/10	179 FA Bn
Ren & AG Platoon 10th	191st FA Bn
C/37, Flat D/37	
66	
94	
22	

The 32nd Regiment of the 26th Infantry Division was attached to CC"1" for the purpose of clearing Grossauheim and Hantu while the 101st Regiment took over the bridgehead positions of CC"1" so the units could prepare for an attack toward Giessen the following day. At 0800, an enemy counter-attack of infantry supported by artillery fire drove elements of the 26th Infantry

March 1945-25

Division back to the Main River but by 0915 the situation was under control and the counter-attack had been repulsed. The engineers completed the trestle-way bridge over the river at 1500 after several interruptions due to counter-attacks and artillery fire. Elements of the 35th Tank Battalion and 51st Armored Infantry Battalion, which had supported CC"A" in bridgehead operations, reverted to battalion control.

Early in the morning, elements of the 26th Infantry Division began relieving CC"B" at the bridgehead south of Aschaffenburg. At 1800, the units of CC"B" moved from positions along the Main River south of Aschaffenburg to an assembly area in the vicinity of Weiskirchen. They followed a route through Schraffenheim, Babenhausen, Budenhofen and Jugesheim. The CP also moved to Weiskirchen. The 51st Armored Infantry Battalion now in CC"B", moved from Zillhausen at 1027 and closed in Hausen at 1150.

The 37th Tank Battalion and 18th Armored Infantry Battalion, which were now attached to Reserve Command, moved from the bridgehead south of Aschaffenburg at 1800 via Gross Ostheim, Schraffenheim and closed in Babenhausen at 2000.

Forward Echelon moved from Rosdorf at 0900 and closed in Jugesheim at 1100.

Enemy losses for the day were 64 prisoners.

4th Armored Division casualties were:-

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>
Officers	--	1	10
Enlisted Men	10	20	290

28 March 1945:-

The objective of the division was the high ground east of Giessen in the vicinity of Grunberg. Advance elements moved out at 0500 to attack to the north through the Hannau bridgehead. The division crossed the trestle bridge at Grossauheim in one column as the highway bridge could not be reinforced to permit heavy traffic.

Elements of CC"A" which had been supporting the bridgehead operations crossed the Main River at 0300 and moved through the eastern outskirts of Hannau as the 26th Infantry Division was still clearing the city. By 0900 they reached a position south of Rosdorf and received some machine-gun and small arms fire. This resistance was neutralized as the enemy surrendered after seeing the strength of the attacking force. Stubborn resistance was encountered at Ostheim as the enemy fired bazookas from buildings and it was necessary to rout them with hand grenades. Ostheim was cleared by 1145. Throughout the remainder of the day, light small arms fire was the only resistance encountered by the column. From Ostheim, CC"A" advanced rapidly to the north following a route through Eichen, Altenstadt, Staden, Bingenheim, Gerolteit, and Hunzen. In the vicinity of Hunzen a long column of enemy vehicles was overrun with many vehicles destroyed and a large number of prisoners taken. The attacking force reached the objective (Grunberg) at 1800 and outposted the town for the night. The CP of CC"A" closed in Grunberg at 1900.

CC"B" moved out from the assembly area near Weiskirchen and cleared the CP (Hausen) at 0530. By 0715 the column had crossed the river and was attacking to the north of Hannau. A mined road block covered by bazooka fire in the woods north of Wilhelmsbad temporarily halted the column but the bazooka positions were knocked out and the road block destroyed. From that point on little re-