

S-2 & S-3 JOURNAL

Date: 19 January 1945

Place: Kuhlendorf, France

Map:

MSG. NO.	TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE
1	0840	315 CP	Rear CP	(Via Ln 0) Make every effort to push on out to North from your present position to contact B-315th Inf. Hvy combat patrols to feel out ahead, take and occupy all possible ground to your front. Reinforcements will be available to help secure any gains made. Coordinate with 3-315 in your efforts, and go all out to contact B-315 (Time signed 0820 - CO 315 - Hoover, Maj-S-3).
2	0845	Rear CP	Fwd CP	Above msg. Also ey personnel carriers moving into Northern tip of Rittershoffen.
3	1010	Fwd CP	Rear CP	(Via Off) Slight ey SAF in Rittershoffen; no ey arty. A-68 and C-68 sending out patrols as per request of CO, 315.
4	1050	Fwd CP	Rear CP	(Via msgr) Two civilians just outside of Rittershoffen, entering town from the West.
5	1052	Rear CP	Fwd CP	Two civilians seen entering Rittershoffen from the West at 1040.
6	1120	62 Ln	Rear CP	Ey tks seen NW of Hatten and one tk of C-25 moving to attempt to knock it out. 3 ey H/T's knocked out N of Rittershoffen; 7 PW's voluntarily left these H/T's and surrendered at Oberrodern.
7	1210	62 LN	Rear CP	Ey 40mm AT Gun at Hatten at (169348) which was knocked out. Still ey activity in orchard at (169348). Ey 20mm gun at (172345) - trying to take care of it. Mark IV ey tk at RJ 160 and ey Inf between it and Hatten. Arty FO spotted ey foot troops crossing bridge at (180348) - arty firing on them. Intercept of German radio transmission: Repulsed 2 or 3 C/Atks at Hatten and have one of our Bns surrounded at Reipertswiller. Germans are operating on our Channel 36 on SCR 300. Ey C/Atk N, E, & SE of Hatten repulsed without loss of ground. 2 PW's taken E of Hatten state that half of ey ready to surrender.
8	1230	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Patrols trying to work their way to N part of Rittershoffen, but held up by hvy ey sniper fire.
9	1240	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Request fire at 1800, 1815 and 1830 tonight from 4.2 mortars, 81mm mort., and 75mm AG's. Mix fire up, using HE on a point at (158343), while we attempt to work a strong patrol North in the West edge of town.
10	1310	Mort OP	Rear CP	81mm mortars firing on (15783400), approx 10 rds.
11	1515	Medics	Rear CP	Ambulance knocked out on last trip to Rittershoffen.
12	1515	Rear CP	Hq Co	Send H/T to Medics to be used for evacuating casualties from Rittershoffen; they will place Geneva flags on it.
13	1517	Rear CP	Medics	Informed they would get H/T.
14	1527	Fwd FO	Rear CP	Ey Inf in the open at (15853460).
15	1528	Arty Ln	500 AFA	Above info - fire mission.
16	1544	500 AFA	Rear CP	Rds complete (Delay occurred by virtue of fact that 500 AFA was firing Bn mission).
17	1545	Rear CP	Fwd CP	What is effect?
18	1549	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Effect satisfactory; cease firing.
19	1605	Rear CP	Fwd CP	How are things?
20	1606	Fwd CP	Rear CP	No change.
21	1615	Rear CP	Fwd CP	(Via Officer) One copy Secret Mine Field overlay.
22	1640	4.2 Mort	Rr CP	(Via msgr) Cannot use 4.2 mortars tonight in conjunction with 81's & 75's; no authority to fire after dark.

10-24-17

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MSG NO.	TIME	FROM	TO	TEXT
23	1642	Rear CP	Hq Co	(Via msgr) Arrange to have 81's and 75's fire missions which were scheduled for 4.2 mortars tonight between 1800 and 1830.
24	1643	Rear CP	Fwd CP	How are things?
25	1644	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Nothing new.
26	1645	CCA	Rear CP	G-2 of VI Corps reports that ey has captured a number of American tks in the bridgehead area. He may repair these tks and use them with either German or American markings. All personnel will be warned of the use by the ey of American tks. (Signed CO, CCA - 1622 - Armstrong).
27	1732	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Movement of several tks (not known whether ey or friendly) approx two miles north of Fwd CP.
28	1858	Rear CP	Fwd CP	How are things going?
29	1900	Fwd CP	Rear CP	All quiet.
30	1905	Fwd CP	Rear CP	(Via msgr) Arty, it is believed, set an ey ammo dump on fire in Rittershoffen.
31	1915	Rear CP	Fwd CP	(Via msgr) 62 has no info regarding tk movement 2 mi. N of Rittershoffen.
32	1945	48 Tk	Rear CP	(Via msgr) Our rcn has been taken away from us. We're patrolling our road with our rcn plat. Could you run patrol every hour from your Fwd CP to contact A-48 at pillbox just East of your Rear CP to let A-48 know new situation. We are charged with blocking your road in case of break-thru.
33	1955	Rear CP	48 Tk	(Via msgr) Won't run patrols every hour regularly - too much danger of getting caught by ey patrol or fire. Will run at least six patrols nightly for contact at irregular intervals.
34	2100	Rear CP	Fwd CP	(Via Officer) Information obtained from Ln O: Reported at Herlesheim-Gambshheim area ey captured one Armd Inf Bn and one Tk Bn. Ey has taken Sessenheim. Ey may do one of two things: (1) Exploit at Sessenheim in an attempt to capture Haguenau (2) Having gained Sessenheim they may try to break thru along line Hoffen-Oberrodern-Neiderbetschdorf. We are placing most emphasis on Haguenau area and withdrawing 25 Tk Bn behind 62 Inf and moving into Bischwiller area; also moving in 36th and 103d Inf Div's to Bischwiller area, leaving us with sole defense between Voges Mts and Haguenau Forest plus 315 Inf, 222 Inf (- 25 Tk Bn). All comdrs cautioned to be particularly alert. 19 AIB has been C/Atk in Hatten - hand-to-hand battles, but have beaten ey back. RR Sta in Hatten is a strong point. Any info concerning this ey position is not to be discussed over the radio or via telephone, except in case of emergency. (PW reports that all of B-315 forced to surrender completely to ey - B-315 no longer at chd to us).
35	2145	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Ey personnel carriers at (1583430) - 5 volleys for effect - cannot adjust.
36	2145	Arty Ln	500 AFA	Request fire and 5 volleys fired.
37	2150	Fwd CP	Mort UP	(Intercept) AG fire harassing fire (6 rds every hr at irregular intervals) until 0500, 20 Jan at (16003423).
38	2150	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Patrol out at 1830 to West edge of Rittershoffen, attempting to work North (in coordination with diversionary fires by AG and mortar on (158343)).
39	2200	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Do not have personnel for contact patrol to tks at pillbox, but have observation and can cover the first ridge W of Rittershoffen.

Date: 19 January 1945

Place: Kuhlendorf, France

Reg:

REQ. NO.	TIME	FROM	TO	REMARKS
40	2210	Rear CP 62	AIB	Rear: Can you send patrols out 5 or 6 times nightly to tks at pillbox so we can cover area between here and Rittersshoffen by patrols and observation. 62: Cannot furnish.
41	2225	Rear CP C-315		(Via Off) Arrange with C-315 to send 3-man patrol about 5 or 6 times during night out to tks at pillbox E of Kuhlendorf. (C-315 will take care of this).

Status of Personnel on Line

<u>Company</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>E.M.</u>
Hq Co	6	75
Co A	3	97
Co B	4	96
Co C	3	78
Total		346

Date: 20 January 1945

CO 315 JOURNAL

Place: Kuhlendorf, France

10119

NO.	TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE
1	0820	Arty Ln	500 AFA	4 rds HE fired on ey Inf digging in at (15883498).
2	0910	Arty Ln	500 AFA	4 rds additional on above target.
3	1130	Fwd CP	AG OP	(Intercept) AG firing 37 rds at ey in open at (157339).
4	1145	Fwd CP	AG OP	(Intercept) AG fired 40 additional rds on same target as above.
5	1250	Fwd CP	AG OP	(Intercept) AG fired 5 rds on (157339) at ey in open.
6	1315	Arty Ln	500 AFA	Firing CPC ammo on ey inf. in the open at (15883498).
7	1500	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Have Ex O report to CO, CCB, without delay.
8	1500	Fwd CP	Rear CP	Send ambulance to Fwd CP immediately (Medics notified).
9	1530	CCB	Rear CP	Ex O returned to Rear CP with orders for disengagement with the ey.
10	1600	Ex O	Biv Party	We are moving to assembly area in vicinity of Dettwiller to town of Waldowisheim. Billeting parties to leave soon for Dettwiller and pick up co's as they arrive on the North side of Dettwiller. Co's to be moved one tactical co. at a time and Trains by infiltration to Dauendorf. Have all combat vehicles move up to open area SW side of Kuhlendorf. Troops will move from Rittershoffen on foot beginning at dusk, which is approximately 1715. If visibility is poor, it may be necessary to wait a little later. We will arrange to notify C-315 that we will be infiltrating back thru them. A guide from each co. will be posted on the road between Kuhlendorf and Neiderbetschdorf approx 150 yds S of this rd jct near our Rear CP to pick up the co's, and guide them back to their respective vehicles. Each company will establish liaison with this Hq, informing me as they are ready to leave and I will give them clearance, as we must get clearance from CCB before each co. leaves. Route to new area will be posted by Div MP's from Surbourg to Dettwiller. The order of march for troops in Rittershoffen will be as they are moved out of there by CO 68. Hq Co will be the last unit out in order that 81mm mort and AG's may provide protective fires while we withdraw from Kuhlendorf. Protective fires will be on call until the evacuation of Rittershoffen is complete. Route of March: Kuhlendorf, Hohwiller, S at Soultz-sous-Forets, Surbourg (picked up by MP's) Gunstett, Forstheim, Griesbach, Meitersheim, Bitschhoffen, Neidermodern, Schalkendorf, Sueswiller, Ringendorf, Lixhause, Zoehersdorf, Scherlenheim, Willwisheim, Dettwiller (picked up by guides at N edge of town). Absolutely no equipment of any kind or description to be left behind for the ey. I will make available H/T's from here to shuttle back any equipment which it is impossible to carry out. Suggest pulling of troops out from S of Rittershoffen and West thru lines of C-315. We revert to 14 AD control when troops close in at Kuhlendorf, and revert to CCB. Mine field in Rittershoffen to be closed when troops withdraw.
11	1630	CO 315	Rear CP	(Via Ln O) Leave "shell" to consist of one plat with Auto. Wpns & Tks to secure your sector of town. "Shell" to be withdrawn at 0300. Tks withdraw with "shell" and revert to CO 48 Tk Bn.
12	1645	Rear CP	Fwd CP	(Via Officer) Above info (Msgs of 1600 and 1630).
13	2015	- - - - -	- - - - -	First unit began mtd march to Waldowisheim. Trains infiltrating vic Dauendorf.

10-24-45

S-2 & S-3 JOURNAL

Date: 21 January 1945

Place: Waldowisheim, France
Map:

NO.	TIME	FROM	TO	REMARKS
1	0315	- - - -	- - - -	"Shell" of 1 plat B-68 and tks closed in at Kuhlendorf and began mtd road march to Waldowisheim.
2	0325	- - - -	- - - -	Bn Hqs & Hq Co began mtds road march from Kuhlendorf to Waldowisheim.
3	1230	- - - -	- - - -	Entire Bn closed in at Waldowisheim; trains at Reutenbourg.
4	1835	CCB	68 CP	"Light" is 14 AD Rear Boundary. May use lights anywhere south of E-W Road just north of Waldowisheim unless stopped by Corps MP's (via phone).
5	1840	68 CP	All Cos	Above info (via phone).
6	1930	CCB	68 CP	(Via msgr) Units must be specially alert tonight for infiltration of the enemy thru our lines in our own vehicles captured from our neighboring unit - S-2 CCB - Prine, Maj - signed 2000.
7	2040	68 CP	All co's	Above info (via phone).
8	2215	CCB	68 CP	(Via Ln O) Request for overlay showing dispositions of our security in Waldowisheim. (see atchd sketch)
9	2310	68 CP	CCB	(Via Ln O) Sketch of Waldowisheim showing disposition of our security.
10	-	-	-	Unit reorganizing in assembly at Waldowisheim; Sv Co - Reutenbourg.

HQ 68TH ARMD INF BN
KÜHLENDORF, FRANCE
201600 JAN 45

WITHDRAWAL ORDER #1

1. Omitted.

2. a. This Bn will withdraw to vic of Kuhlendorf where it will load on its vehicles and proceed to assembly area vic of Waldowisheim; withdrawal to commence at 1800 by platoon.

b. Order of withdrawal: 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 2-A, 2-B, 2-C, A (-), C (-), Hq (-) 3C plus 3 tks, B-48.

c. C-68 will leave one plat as a skeleton force to hold the Bn sector until 210300. 3 Tks, B-48, will remain to support this platoon until it leaves.

d. Upon withdrawal tks to revert to CO, 48 Tk Bn.

x. Units proceed to new assembly area by infiltration. Destroy any eqpt which must be abandoned. MP's will post the route.

3. Omitted

4. Bivouac party has been sent out.

EDWARDS
Cmdg.

OFFICIAL:

SEIFERT
S-3