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HEADQUARTERS 424TH INFANTRY  
JPO 443 U S Army

106th Reference 87-A

1 June 45

SUBJECT: After-Action Report for 1-9 May, 1945

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D.C.  
(THRU CHANNELS)

The month which saw the end of the war in Europe also saw the 424th Infantry Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division continuing its mission of taking charge of part of the million of German prisoners rounded up by the Allied Armies. During the month, the total of prisoners of war under control of the regiment passed the 300,000 mark, with the P.W.s gathered in seven temporary enclosures in the BIEBER-MAINZ area.

During the month also, the strength of the regiment was increased by assignments and attachments from its normal strength of 3,200 officers and men to more than 11,000 troops. A complete list of these attachments is included in Enclosure 1. The assigned strength of the unit was doubled with assignment of 3,000 reinforcements.

The following camps were established: Temporary Prisoner of War Enclosure A-3, at BAD KREUZNACH, 6952 Provisional Overhead Battalion; A-6, BRETZENHEIM, 3rd Battalion, 424th Inf.; A-7, BIEBELSHEIM, 1st Battalion, 424th Inf.; A-8, DIETERSHEIM, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Inf.; A-12, HEIDESHEIM, 2nd Battalion, 424th Inf.; A-16, HECHTSHEIM, and A-18, ZAHLBACH, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Inf. List of commanders is included in Enclosure 2.

Weekly totals of prisoners for each of the enclosures are listed in Enclosure 3, this letter.

The end of April had seen Enclosure A-12, controlled by the 2nd Battalion, 424th Inf., filled past its capacity, and so on 1 May, the 3rd Battalion opened its enclosure at BRETZENHEIM, and received its first load of prisoners. Each of the enclosures was built by the engineer troops of Advance Section, Communications Zone.

On 2 May, the regimental command post, which had been at HEIDESHEIM, near MAINZ, was moved to INGLEHEIM-AM-RHEIN, into a large former schoolhouse. Regimental Headquarters Company and Service Company also moved to INGLEHEIM. At the same time, headquarters of the 106th Infantry Division was set up at BADENS.

At a review in the vicinity of HEIDESHEIM in which the Commanding General was reviewing officer, Combat Infantrymen Streamers were presented to three companies, and awards made to 41 officers and enlisted men of the regiment. The men and their awards were:

Silver Star Medals: Second Lieutenant Dale R. Carver, Headquarters Company Third Battalion, Second Lieutenant Robert L. Honaker, Company G, Staff Sergeant John R. Goldosik, Company E, Staff Sergeant Alvin P. Swanson, Company I, Sergeant Roy W. Wandell, Company K, Technician Fifth Grade Marshall W. Walker, Medical

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CLASSIFICATION  
**CANCELLED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
*Henry J. Griffin Capt A S D*  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 14 Mar 1946

3106- INF (424) 0.3



Detachment, Private First Class Harry V. Arvanis, Company K, Private First Class Elmer F. LaPleur, Headquarters Company Third Battalion.

**Bronze Star Medals:** Lieutenant Colonel Charles P. Girard, Headquarters Third Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Donald Washington, Headquarters Second Battalion, Major Robert E. Knapp Regimental Headquarters, Major William B. Perlman, Regimental Headquarters, Major Jerome G. Taylor, Headquarters Second Battalion, Capt Wiley L. Cassidy, Headquarters Company Second Battalion, 1st Lieutenant Charles E. Brown, Company B, 1st Lieutenant Kermit C. Oswald, Headquarters Company Second Battalion, 1st Lieutenant Earl M. Ussell, Company C, Second Lieutenant Victor Cappelle, Company F, Second Lieutenant Delbert V. Edgett, Company H, Second Lieutenant Anthony M. Panlatis, Company D, Technical Sergeant George E. Brenner, Company I, Technical Sergeant Francis J. Christoun, Company I, Technical Sergeant Glenn D. Risk, Antitank Company, Staff Sergeant William L. Hissong, Company I, Staff Sergeant Riley W. Neeks Company B, Staff Sergeant Murten J. Slight, Company I, Staff Sergeant Andrew G. Yakupchik, Company D, Technician Third Grade Frank Frank Jr., Medical Detachment, Technician Fourth Grade Clarence H. Strickler, Company C, Technician Fourth Grade Lawrence H. Walden, Medical Detachment, Corporal William A. French, Company D, Corporal Delbert G. Rediger, Company G, Technician Fifth Grade Marshall E. Walker, Medical Detachment Private First Class Myrle Adkins, Medical Detachment, Private First Class Thomas G. Coen, Company B, Private First Class Clifford E. Desch, 331st Medical Battalion, Private First Class Albert E. Fanning, Headquarters Company Second Battalion, Private First Class Reuben E. Lebeaux, Company F, Private First Class John V. Williams, Company E.

**Bronze Star Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster):** First Lieutenant Earl M. Ussell, Company C, and Private First Class Ernest Balazs, 331st Medical Battalion.

**Award of the British Military Ribbon - Sergeant Peter Bablak, Company M, is awarded the British Military Ribbon in lieu of the Military Medal.**

Companies A, B, and H received the Infantryman streamers for their guidons, showing that at least 65% of their command had been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

The regiment was increased by two battalions on 3 May when 3rd Infantry Headquarters moved to LINTPORT, and the 2nd



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and 3rd Battalions of that regiment were placed under command of the 424th Inf. The Anti-Tank Company of the 424th was attached to the 2nd Battalion.

Rapid increase in the number of prisoners received is shown by the fact that by 3 May, the 3rd Battalion enclosure had received 33,632.

Prisoners were received by truck and train from east of the Rhine river. They were processed in this manner: POWs all went to one camp until that camp's capacity was reached. On arrival, they were run through a searching line, then were segregated into various categories, such as officers, non-coms, privates, Hungarians, other satellite nationalities, special nationals, children and women. These groups then were split up into bodies of five thousand each and assigned to a compartment. Each compartment had a staff selected from the internees, headed by the lager-führer. He in turn was subordinate to camp führer, and the camp führer was in charge of all internal affairs under the American Staff. Cook stoves were set up in each compartment and regular kitchen staffs prepared the food. Interior guards in each compartment were appointed, and minor disciplinary problems taken care of by the prisoner staffs.

Medical care was excellent. Field Hospital units were set up at each enclosure to care for serious cases. Prisoner medical personnel cared for their own wounded and sick, under direction of the American Medical staffs. In each compartment, small medical units were established to care for the "sick call" cases. All prisoners were deloused, with two tons of DDT powder used in the process.

Typical of the careful medical scrutiny was illustrated later in the month, when two cases of suspected typhus fever were reported at the 1st Battalion camp at BIBBELSHEIM. This camp immediately was quarantined for 21 days, and no further cases were reported.

All dealings with the prisoners of war were controlled by the Articles of the Geneva Convention, which were strictly adhered to.

On the 6th, preferential treatment for Russian nationals was directed and all Russians in the compartments were placed by themselves and given such advantages as could be made available to them.

With the growth of the 3rd Battalion camp at BREITENHEIM, Cannon Company was attached to the 3rd Battalion for guard duty.

Two cases of wire sabotage in the regimental area were reported, and a patrol of wires immediately was established. Other civilian relations, however, were quiet.

On 8 May the 1st Battalion opened its camp, A-7, at BIBBELSHEIM, and began to receive prisoners. The next day, the



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2nd Battalion of the 3rd Infantry assumed command of A-8, at DIATERSHEIM.

A total of 550 women prisoners were received at A-3, at BAD KREUZNACH, and the totals on V-E day stood: A-3, 62,072; A-6, 98,653; and A-12, 65,619.

For the Commanding Officer:

R.D. UNDERWOOD  
Capt., Inf  
Regtl. Historian

**OFFICIAL:**

*Carl M. Hulbert*  
CARL M. HULBERT  
Capt., Inf.  
Adjutant