



THIRTY-SIXTH ARMORED INFANTRY REGIMENT

"Spearhead Doughboys"

★ NORMANDY ★ NORTHERN FRANCE ★ ARDENNES ★ RHINELAND ★ CENTRAL GERMANY

Date:

tance was encountered, and numerous prisoners of war were taken.

4-21-44

TF Hogan resumed the attack toward Dessau at 0600. One force attacked east through Kl Kuhnau, and another attacked north to Gr Kuhnau to take that town and then proceed against Dessau. By 0630 the right column was just about half way through Kl Kuhnau, but the force sent north was held up by a road block defended by small arms and panzerfaust fire on the road leading out of Kl Kuhnau. At 0730 the right column was also held up by a road block and artillery fire. By 0830 the road block to the north had been cleared and the left column started moving slowly. By 1045 the road block on the east was removed, the right column started moving, and by 1430 was in the western edge of Dessau. The left column proceeded to Gr Kuhnau and by 1430 had cleared the town but another road block on the eastern edge of the town was encountered. Overcoming this obstacle, the force moved on, and by 1530 was two thirds of the way from Gr Kuhnau to Dessau. The right column was inside the city and moving. At this time, the CG, 3rd Armd Div, directed that both columns be held in place until CCA, coming in from the south, could come abreast. When this was accomplished, both columns were to resume the attack on order. At 1730 CCA came abreast and the CG, 3rd Armd Div, ordered resumption of the attack. After advancing 400 yards in Dessau the Combat Command was ordered to secure its position for the night. Due to the layout of the city, the left column was somewhat forward of the right column. Orders were issued for the attack to be resumed at first light with the left column remaining in place until the right column came abreast and for both then to continue together.

Combat Command CP moved to Kl Kuhnau at 1415.

TF Richardson (operation under 3rd Armd Div control) started the attack toward Jessnitz at 0530. Attempts to cross the Spittel Wasser Creek were met with very heavy small arms, artillery and mortar fire. Reconnaissance for a suitable crossing was started both to the north and south. A bridge was found intact at 148533, and a battle group attacked Jessnitz from the north supported by the remainder of the



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Task Force from the east and southeast edge of town. Enemy mortar, artillery and small arms fire continued to be heavy, but by 1700 the town was cleared. TF Richardson secured its position in Jessnitz for the night. Company D 83rd Rcn Bn which had been attached to TF Richardson reverted to the 83rd Rcn Bn at 1730 and moved to Wolfen.

The 1st Bn 36th AIR, as part of TF Orr, attacked on the right in Combat Command A toward Dessau, at 0515, and advanced steadily against stubborn resistance throughout the day. The resistance consisted of small arms, panzerfaust, mortar and artillery fire. At last light the main intersection in center of Dessau was reached, and the task force secured itself for the night, prepared to move on at 0600.

The 2nd Bn 36th AIR attacked in its zone at 0530 and advanced against small arms, artillery and mortar fire, encountering one enemy light flak battery. By 1300 the task force objective was secured and contact was established with CCA on the left.

4-22-45

The right column of TF Hogan jumped off at 0600. It moved east to the main intersection in town, then turned north. The left force in the meantime had circled north, and CCA still further on the right (east) flank, circled north and northeast, so that once the movement started in the morning, the point of direction of all forces had changed to almost due north, to finish clearing Dessau. The left column met no resistance initially, and that met by the right column was negligible. Contact was made with CCA by the right column at 0830. Further in the city resistance stiffened, small arms mortar and artillery being encountered, but by 0930 both main intersections near the river had been reached.

Getting to within a few hundred yards of the final objective on the edge of town, the force advanced on two roads. Again, stubborn enemy resistance held up the advance and mines were reported. Inability to get past these obstacles and the necessity