

HEADQUARTERS
337th INFANTRY REGIMENT
IPW TEAM

APO #85, U.S. Army
27 April 1945

SUBJECT: IPW Report 18-27 April 1945.

TO : Commanding Officer, 337th Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army.

18 April

PW through cage: 37

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1 Co, 274 Inf Regt	3	1800	vic TORRANERA (7635)	
2 Co "	2	"	"	
3 Co "	4	"	"	
4 Co "	5	"	"	2 PW
		1600	CA del ROSSO	2 PW
				1 wounded
				wounded
11 Co "	1			
14 Co "	2	1100	VEDEGHETO (6829)	
Hq Co, 276 Inf Regt	5	1300	M. CASTELLARO (7435)	surrendered
Hq 1st Bn "	1	1200	MONTEPASTORE	
3 Co "	1	1300	M. CASTELLARO	
4 Co "	1	1800	vic TORRANERA	
Hq 2nd Bn "	1	1300	MONTEPASTORE	
11 Co "	1			wounded
13 Co "	1	1800	vic TORRANERA	
6 Co, 296 Mtn Inf Regt	3	1000	MADELENA (7435)	1 PW
			?	2 PW
11 Co "	4	1600	CA del ROSSO	2 PW
		1000	M. VIGNOLA	2 PW
1057 Med Bn	2	1000	MADELENA	
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274 Inf Regt: I Bn to defend on MONTEPASTORE. 1 Co strength 80; 2 Co 75 (3 Plats, 3 LMG); 4 Co 120 (as of 15 April 8 HMG, 2 LMG). Co said to be split or annihilated. Present strength 40. 11 Co left M. CAPRARA 16 April; at PIANO DI VIGNOLA 170600; MONTEPASTORE 171500. Completely disorganized. 14 Co 70-80 men. 30-35 88 mm bazookas. Ordered on MONTEPASTORE 15 April.

276 Inf Regt: I Bn at N ALBERETA (7529) with Hq Co Bicycle Plat as outposts, II Bn in posn at CAPRARA 15 April. I Bn withdrew to PIANO DI VIGNOLA then to MONTEPASTORE. II Bn Repl Plat 38 men at MONTEPASTORE until 171400. 2 Co strength 40. 3 Co almost wiped out. 7 Co strength 63 on 1 March. 13 Co moved to BAZZANO with 4-75 mm Inf How 17 April. 14 Co rumored wiped out.

296 Mtn Inf Regt: 6 Co, 2 Plats each 18-20 men. 5 LMG, 20 Panzerfaust 60, 5 Panzerfaust 30. Low morale. PW states he does not believe in guerilla fighting. 11 Co left CAPRARA 16 April. At MARZABOTTO 17 April. Moved NE GENGHIS KHAN line, and 3rd Plat proceeded vic TORRANERA 0500 18 April with orders to hold to the last man. Strength 60, 2 LMG only.

DECLASSIFIED

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By W NARA Date 9/10/08

Miscellaneous: 8 Mtn Div came into line 21 Jan. Sectors before breakthrough: 296 Mtn Inf E RENO RIVER down SETAA VALLEY. 297 Mtn LAMA. Withdrawal of 8th Mtn Div to SOUTH TYROL planned with 90 PG to cover retreat through PO VALLEY. Rucksacks already shipped to BAUTZEN vic BRENNER PASS. 8th Mtn Div (formerly 157 Mtn) re-numbered 15 March. 1057 Arty moved vic CERATOLO 171600B. Hwy NW CASELECCHIO full of shell holes, making 8th Mtn Div supply route impassable. Installations: 14 Co, 274 Inf rear at SAVIGNO. 8th Mtn Div CP at CERATOLO 171500. 1057 Olr Sta FORGO PANIGALE (7951). 297 Regt Aid Sta SASSO BOLOGNESE. 276 Inf Regt CP 752236. 2nd Bn 276 Inf supplies S. GIOVANNI.

19 April

PW through cage: 109

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
2 Co, 274 Inf Regt	4	0500		Lost Co 3 days ago
9 Co "	2	0900		
10 Co "	3	0900		
Hq Co, 276 Inf Regt	29	1100	RASIGLIO (757396)	
1 Co "	11	1100	IL FARNE (761394)	Strong point
		181830	LA COLLINA (762387)	1 Officer
4 Co "	16	181830	IL POGGIO (7238)	10 PW
11 Co, 296 Mtn Inf	5		LA COLLINA	
12 Co "	6		"	
13 Co "	1		"	
15 Co "	2		"	
194 Eng	22		LUMINASTO (7633)	1 Officer
7 ZBV	1		vic BEDOSTE (768394)	
3 Btry, 764 Arty	1			Deserter
307 AA Bn	6		C LA COSTA (753338)	
	109			

94 Div objective BAZZANO. Next line of defense on PO RIVER. Div CP already across PO. 276 Inf bdy M.S.GIOVANNI (7539) CALDERINO Road. PW from 194 Eng claims no mines have been sowed since 18 April, and those that have been are in areas already in our hands. Regt Eng Plat has neither AP nor AT mines left. No mines in area N our present posn. According to PW Hq 1st Bn 274 Inf encircled (PW Merden). I Bn 276 Inf left M de VIGIO 170900. At LUMINASTO (7633) 171700 with 13 Co in support. 3-75 mm Inf Hows could not be transported, and were prepared for demolition. Part of I Bn in posn 180600 reverse slope IL POGGIO (7238). Hq 276 Inf arr RASIGLIO (757396) 180200, established Aid Sta and strong point with 40 men at IL FARNE (761394) with 2 LMG, 4 MPs. After firefight moved N 181600. I Bn 276 estimated strength 150-200. 4 Co strong, with 3 HEG and 6 LMG per Plat. MLR 19 April brook at 761389. III Bn 296 Mtn Inf came from SASSO BOLOGNESE. At LA COLLINA last night with 12 Co center, 11 Co right, 13 Co left. 12 Co participated in firefight at LAGUNE 180600. 15 Co strength 80-90, with 2-75 mm Inf How. III Bn estimated strength 150 men.

Miscellaneous: 194 Eng Bn came from CASTELFRANCO, and committed as Inf. 11 Btry, 1057 Arty 3 Ital 150 mm Inf How. Actual wpns on hand IV Bn 9 Ital 150 mm How. 1-3 Bn 36 German 105s as of 172000. 11-12 Btries moved 172000 from S. LEO (787362) approximately 5000 meters airline N. 194 Eng, 3 Cos, 3 Plats and 3 Sqds, full strength 35 per Plat. L Co in posn LA VENEZIA (751409). 3 Co to right.

20 April

PW through cage: 448

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
2 Co, 1057 Repl Bn	12	0800	771438 vic CALDERINO	
3 Co "	1	1000	CALDERINO	
5 Co "	13	0800	771438	
98 Mtn Repl Bn	6	0800	CALDERINO	
13 Co, 296 Mtn Regt	8	0800	771438 M. ROCCA	
Hq Co, 276 Inf	6	0800	CALDERINO	Lost outfit vic MARZABOTTO 16 April
1 Co "	1		RONCA (7236)	Lost Co 18 April
194 Bakery Co	7		CALDERINO	
11 Co, 274 Inf	1		"	
3 Btry, 764 Arty Bn	2		"	
Hq Btry, 1057 Arty	1		"	
138 Bau Btl	2		"	Russians
1057 Sig Bn	3	1000	793470 (GESSO)	
1057 Arty Res Bn	2	1000		
5 Co, 1057 Sig Bn	13	0130	GESSO	
1057 Supply Co	7	0630	CALDERINO	
1 Co, 274 Inf Regt	1	0730	"	
Hq Co, 276 Inf Regt	6	0730	S. RIVABELLA (7745)	
1 Co "	6	0730	CALDERINO	
5 Co "	1	0730	"	
4 Co "	1	0900		
1 Co, 194 Eng	1	0730	CALDERINO	Russian
3 Co, 296 Mtn Regt	2	1200		
13 Co "	42	1200	Hill 342 (778435)	
14 Co "	17	1200	779434	
15 Co "	35	1200	E POGGIO (780434)	
Hq III Bn "	28	1200	N POGGIO	
Hq II Bn "	8			
4 Co, 276 Inf	2			1 Officer
1 Btry, 1057 Arty	4			1 Officer
296 Mtn	2			wounded
13 Co, 296 Mtn	7			Russian mule drivers
1 Bn, 1057 Arty	63	2000	M. CAPRA (7945)	
Unidentified	137			
	<u>448</u>			

1057 Repl Bn, according to 0 PW was committed 1200 21 April with mission to hold ground between Hwy CALDERINO-GESSO left bdy, and M, ROCCA - M. MALGOTTA on right. Strength 400? Bn has been in rear of 296 last three days, getting training in field fortifications. 2 Sqds 5 Co with 2 LMG given mission 192000 to secure road at 771438. Estimated strength: 2 Co 80-120, 3 Co 60-70, 5 Co 60-70.

98 Mtn Repl Bn. 200 men arr Germany 4 days ago. Age 17-18. Distributed at S. LORONZO 19 April. 40 replacements for 296 Mtn Inf arr CALDERINO 192000.

296 Mtn Inf. PW one of 8 from 13 Co, cap in house (774444) estimated Co strength 200900 about 40. Says 29 men moved N with 1-81 mm Mort but no amo. The 122 PW III Bn 296 Mtn captured ca 1200 vic Hill 342 (778435) were given the mission to hold ridge and secure road vic M FRATI (772431) to the last man. 13 Co had 1 LMG in house (777435) and the other in the first house to W of POGGIO (779435). 14 Co 100 meters N 13 Co with 2 LMG, one of them at 781434. 15 Co on 13 Co left. III Bn in PWs opinion annihilated.

Miscellaneous: 194 Bakery Co furnished 60 Inf replacements for training at BAZZANO. 15 left M.S. GIOVANNI (7439) for CALDERINO 19 April. 11 Co, 274 Inf strength 10 men, according to German Lt who spoke to PW night of 19 April. In Lt's opinion 3 Bn 274 Inf annihilated. PW from 3 Btry 764 Arty Bn gives Btry strength as 120. 2-170 mm guns in posn vic road bend 77240h 19 April. 1057 FA Repl Bn Hq Btry with 4-75 mm Mtn How at SASSO BOLOGNESE 17 April. PW from mule train 1057 Sig Bn states all mules killed at BADOLO. No mule replacements since 17 April. 138 Arbeitsbaubattalion (Labor Bn) not employed on fortifications.

21 April

PW through cage: 58

UNIT	PW	TIME	PLACE	REMARKS
1 Btry, 1057 Mtn Arty	3	201800	S Hwy 9 (7947)	
3 Btry "	4		"	
12 Btry "	12		"	
13 Co, 200 PG (90)	1		N ZOLA PREDOSA (7951)	
7 ZBV	3			
4 Co, 296 Mtn	4	202000	CALDERINO	
1057 Arty	7	202000		
Hq, 297 Mtn Inf	2	0930	vic GESSO	1 Lt wounded
1057 AT Bn	1	1400	ANZOLO D'EMILIA (7754)	
2 Co, 296 Mtn	1	1400	"	Deserter
3 Btry, 165 Arty	7	1430	PORGO PANIGALE (8351)	Kitchen personnel
Hq Btry, 194 Arty	2	1500	N BUDRIE (7659)	
2 Btry, 194 Arty Repl Bn	1			
1 Co, 114 Rcn Bn	1	1200	7560	
10 Co, 741 Mtn (114)	1	1100	ANZOLO D'EMILIA	
3 Co, 1044 Inf (232)	1	1200	?BUDRIE	
III Bn, 200 PG Regt	1			Supply train
Hq 194 Arty	2			
194 Repl Bn	1	1500	BUDRIE	
190 Amo Depot	1	1200	ANZOLO D'EMILIA	Russian
4 Co, STOP	2	1200	"	Russian Labor Bn

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PW 1057 AT Bn on det serv with Bau Obse, a labor unit stationed vic ANZOLO D'EMILIA. In charge of detail of Italian laborers building 37 mm gun emplacements along Hwy 9. Guns never arrived. PW 3 Btry, 165 Arty states orders for trains to move to CASTELFRANCO immediately. PW Hq Btry 194 Arty states all 94 Arty lost in mountains and Arty personnel now to be employed as foot infantry. Deserter from 1044 Inf left CASTELUNGO 2 April. Knows nothing of unit. PW 13 Co 200 PG states 200 PG left ZOLA PREDOSA for MODENA 161900.

New identifications: 200 PG Regt, 114 Rcn Bn, 741 Mtn Inf, 1044 Inf (232); 297 Inf.

22 April

PW through cage: 53

3 Co, 1097 Security Bn	5	1100	vic CAMPOSANTO 735815
4 Co "	14	1100	"
6 Co, 361 PG (90)	3	1100	"
4 Co, 1097 Security Bn	1	1500	"
4 Co "	5	2000	BOSCO SALICETA (7083)
2 Co "	2	2000	"

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1 Co, 1097 Security Bn	1	2000	BOSCO SALICETA	
3 Co "	5	1600	CAMPOSANTO (734813)	
42 Bn Provinciale di Modena	4	1630	STUFFIONE (7277)	
Hq 2 Bn, 297 Mtn Inf	4	2200	BOSCO SALICETA	
6 Co	1	"	"	
7 Co	2	"	"	
9 Co	2	"	"	
15 Co	3	"	"	
7 ZBV	1	"	"	
	53			

1097 Sicherungs (Security) Bn Stationed at Bologna since Nov. 1944 performing guard duty and traffic control. Bn (estimated strength 600 on 20 April) left BOLOGNA 202200 with orders to secure withdrawal of 361 PG Regt by defending bridge (735815) at CAMPOSANTO. At S. GIOVANNI in PERSICETO where elms of 361 PG took up defensive posns night of 20 April both 361 and 1097 were routed and disorganized by the extremely heavy arty fire and strafing and bombing in the morning. According to Sgt Major PW from 4 Co elms of 3 and 4 Co, approximately 50 men reached PO 212200 and reported to 1st Lt Gagle in bunker 150 m SE bridge. 220800 3 Co and 4 Co took up defensive posns W side of bridge on dam with outposts in 300 yd radius. They were armed with rifles MP's, and Panzerfaust. Estimated losses at S. GIOVANNI: 3 Co 100 wounded and deserters; 1 Co said to be annihilated. 4 Co 120 wounded and deserters;

II BN 297 Mtn Inf. Estimated strength 0800 22 April 120. Bn committed 220800 with mission to defend E side of dam.

Miscellaneous: 361 Pg. 6 Co strength 19 April 40. 361 PG was in posn at S. GIOVANNI in PERSICETO 20-21 April. Received orders to retreat to MODENA. PW recent replacements from 488 AA and 750 Lt AA. According to PW from II Bn 297, the 297 Mtn, which was 296th's left was almost annihilated in mtns. According to PW from 7 ZBV (atch 296 Mtn) 296 did not get out of the mountains. PW from 7 Co 297 Mtn Inf states defenses on PO are similar to those on PANARO R, with firing posns on top of dams and bunkers on N side. III Bn 297 Mtn estimated strength 150 was to establish second line of defense in BOSCO SALICETA (7083) N and E. In PW's opinion resistance was useless with 2 LMG, rifles, no food and little amo. PW 2 Co 1057 Rcn Bn (30 strong) was held in reserve in defense of CAMPOSANTO bridge. 1057 Rcn reported destroyed in mountains. 42 Bn Provinciale di Modena 400 strong. CO Col Antonio Pette, Fascist. Bn left for PO on MIRANDOLA road 212000. 267 Mtn annihilated CABI.

23 April

PW through cage: 1292

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Hq XIV Pz Corps	1	0800	MEDOLLA (6888)	
165 Baker Co	1	0800		
1 Para AT Bn	1		FOSSA	
3 Regt, 1 Para Div	1			
1 Para Div	3			
1 Para Corps	17		POGGIO RUSCO (7302)	
4 Para Div	1			
4 Para Regt	2			
11 Para Regt (4 Div) 1 Bn Hq	1		POGGIO RUSCO	
296 Mtn, 10 Co (8 Mtn)	50		S. GIACOMO (6602) Trains	

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
297 Mtn	38		S. JUSTINIANO	Elms 6,7,8, Co FERRARA
1057 Mtn Med Bn	17	1000	QUISTOLE (6206)	
1057 Mtn Eng Bn	2		S. GIACOMO	
1057 Serv Co	12		LA COSANTA	
1057 Sig Bn	2		SCHIVENOGLIA (6904)	
Hq 8th Mtn Div	39		"	1 Lt
1057 Bakery Co	74		S. GIACOMO	1 Lt
1057 Arty 3 Btry	1		"	
	1		QUISTOLE	
1057 Div Supply Trains	16		W POGGIO RUSCO (7302)	
1057 Vet Co	1		"	
I Bn 26 Pz Regt	4		N POGGIO RUSCO	
190 Pz Abt (90 Pz Div)	3		QUISTOLE	
165 Fus Bn (65 Inf Div)	1		MIRANDOLA	
Hq 145 Inf Regt (65)	3			
146 Inf Regt (65)	33		6 km S POGGIO RUSCO	1 Lt 12 PW
			S. GIACOMO	1
			CONCORDIA (6196)	14 Co Supply Glm
147 Regt (65)	1			
165 Arty	1			
165 AT Bn	7		500 yds N FOSSA MIRANDOLA	5 PW 2 PW
165 Eng Bn	1			
165 Sig Bn	9		FERRARA	
165 Repl Bn	4			
267 Inf Regt (94 Inf)	78			
94 Fus Bn	6		QUINGENTOLE	
194 Repl Bn	9			
194 Arty Regt Hq Btry	1		REVERE (7311)	
194 Trains	12		S. LUCIA	
	4			
232 Div Trains	1		S. LUCIA	
237 AT Bn	1			
278 Sig Bn	2			
278 Div Supply	18		S. GIACOMO	
992 Inf Regt (278 Div)	1			
994 Inf Regt Trains	8			
578 Inf Regt (305 Div)	2		FOSSA	
305 Instantsetzungszug	3		S. LUCIA	
334 Vet Co (334 Inf Div)	1			
105 Flak Regt	9			
988 Flak Abt	3		S. LUCIA	
307 Flak Ord	2		2 km S CONCORDIA	
307 AA, 1 Btry	3		S. GIACOMO	
4 Btry	8		REVERE	
	20		S. LUCIA	
365 AA Bn	4		POGGIO RUSCO	1 Lt
54 Eng	1			
4 ZBV	9			
7 ZBV	2		S. LUCIA	
1 Para Corps	4		POGGIO RUSCO	
XIV Pz Corps	2			
Hq	1		QUISTOLE	
Hq Arty	2		FERRARA	
433 Eng Regt	1			

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
789 Bau Ers Bn	101		FOSSA	
71 Werfer Regt	4			
157 Arty, 5 Btry ?	1			
661 Arty Regt, (1114 Mtn)	1	1000	S. GIACOMO area	
704 Arty	3			
764 Hvy Arty	1		POGGIO RUSCO	
	3		S. LUCIA	
659 Werfer Brigade	1			
216 Sturm Panzer Abt Ord	2		FOSSA	
	4		S. LUCIA	
277 Ers Bn (307 Flak)	6			Replacements
17 March Bn, 1 Co	1		POGGIO RUSCO	
936 Sicherungs Bn, 2 Co	14		FOSSA	
	1		QUISTOLE	
	5		S. ROCCO	Guard Plat
	2	1500	S. LUCIA	
414 LKW (Transp) Co	1			
Sturmgeschütz Schmitz	1			In hosp at PADUA
2 Felders Btl ZBV OB 1687	1			
194 Repl Bn, 4 Co	6	1500	S. LUCIA	
1 Co	3			
194 Div Trains	12		"	
194 Eng Bn	1	1800	"	
94 Fus Bn Trains	2	1500	"	
8th Mtn Div Trains	20	1500	"	
"	2			2 Officers
				Lt Koch, Capt
				Stubenrecht
1057 Arty Regt, II Bn	2	1800	"	
	1			
1057 AT Bn Trains	20			
1057 Med Bn	8	1800	"	
764 Arty	4	1500	"	
165 Repl Bn	4	1500	"	Lt Heidrich
988AA				
165 Arty Regt, 4 Bn	1	1500	"	
1097 Sicherungs Bn	1	1500	"	
396 Sicherungs Bn	2	1500	"	
414 Kraftfahrkolonne	1		"	
232 Div Trains	1		"	
3 Para Regt	1		"	
7 ZBV	2			
216 Sturm Panzer Abt	2			
114 Div Trains	1			Lt Wagner
278 Eng Bn	1			
506 Transport Bn	2			
165 Div Supply	1			
165 Sig Bn	1			
907 Stab Sturm Geschw. Abt	1			
789 Bau Ers Bn	1			
12 Para Regt (4 Para Div)	1			
297 Mtn Regt (8 Mtn)	1			
1057 Supply Co	13			
1057 Repl Bn	1			
296 Mtn Regt	6			
145 Inf Regt (65 Div) Hq Co	2			
577 Inf Regt (305 Div)	1			
1060 Inf Regt (362 Inf Div)	1			

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
593* Regt, 6 Co	2			
754 Inf Regt (334 Div), & Co	1			
362 Arty Regt (362 Inf Div)	1			
XIV Pz Corps Amc Supply	1			
	4	1800	S. LUCIA	Lt Kahlen Lt Bertram Lt Ortmann Lt Baumann
XIV Pz Corps Hq	1	1900	S. LUCIA	
307 AA Bn, Btry 4	20	1900	S. LUCIA area	
1057 Arty Regt, 11 Btry	11			
1057 Rcn Bn	1			
1057 Arty	1			
553 Arty Regt ZBV MTZ	5			
194 Arty Regt, 4 Btry	21			
7 Btry	1			
194 AT Bn	1			
94 Fus Bn	4			
94 Special Service	1			
274 Inf Regt, 14 Co	2			
165 Arty Regt, 6 Btry	13			
147 Inf Regt	1			
165 Arty Regt	1			
316 March Btry	1			Formerly 116
154 March Co	1			
1368 March Co	2			
390 Butcher Co (390 Div?)	2			
362 Arty Regt, 3 Btry	2			
362 Div Supply	5			
992 Inf Regt (278 Div)	1			
104 Arty Regt* 7 Btry	1			
147 Inf Regt	1			
650 Hvy Arty	1			
1097 Sicherungs Bn	4			
529 Sig Regt	2			
190 Ord (90 Pg) Shop	5			
305 Supply Regt	5			
4 Para Arty	4			
165 Eng Bn	1			Lt. Zucharelli, Pay Officer Major Meyer Capt Weigel Gefr Neubauer Lt Miller, Sonder- führer
PW Camp 63	3			
8th Mtn Div IPW	1			
5 Mtn Div Supply	1			
65 Inf Div	1			1st Lt Munter, Finance
1057 ?	1			1st Lt Katsch Finance
1057 Div Trains	1			Inspector Karemman Motor Officer
Greunich Bn	1			CO Capt Greunich
"	1			Pw Schroeder
"	1			Orderly for Greunich
1043 PW Camp	1			CO Lt Durkes

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
114 Ron Co	61			1st Lt Schoetz, Judge Adv
90 PG Trains	1			
4 Para AT Bn	4			
4 Para Arty	1			
Armee Kartenstelle	6			Stragolin
105 AA Transport Regt	1			Bologna
190 Div Leitskompanie (90)	1			S. Marino
1278 Jagdpanzerkompanie	1			
M.A. 211	9			RR personnel
232 Motor Transport Co	1			
278 Trains	3			
1057 AT Bn	1			
1057 Arty Regt	1			
1057 Med Bn	70			
562 ? Evac Hosp	132	1600	Quistello	
	<u>1232</u>			
Unidentified	60			
TOTAL	1292			

PW Winter Hq XIV Pz Korps states that Hq Moved 221300 to POGGIO RUSCO (7302) from MEDOLLA (6988). PW heard in Hq XIV Pz Corps 22 April that Corps tanks 200 Panthers and Tigers will be in POGGIO RUSCO area. Tanks left MODELLA 20 April with object of crossing PO. Tank ferries at OSTIGLIA and LUZZARO and OCCHIOBELLO. Pontoon bridge vic S. BENEDETTO PO. Another PW from Hq XIV Pz Corps (Medic) at POGGIO RUSCO 230800 says that rumor had it that all Panzer had moved across PO. 2 PW I Bn 26 Pz Regt says 26 Pz attempted to cross at OSTIGLIA, but according to 2 PW from 26 Pz Div Supply it has been common talk that Panzer is destroyed and tanks failed to cross river. 94 Fus Bn was routed at QUINGENTOLE (6709). According to PW from Special Service 94 Div Hq (Theater) who was at REVERE (7311) night of 22 April 94 Inf Div failed to cross PO, that ferry at REVERE did not operate last night. Same PW claims that total 94 Div strength as of 19 April 400. Division completely destroyed and disorganized. XIV Army Hq left SCHIVENOGLIA (6904) and crossed PO at REVERE 22 April. 278 Inf Div Supply Trains managed across the PO. According to PW from I Para Corps elms of a new German Div, the 71 at MIRANDOLA. 8th Mtn Div attempted to cross at REVERE but failed. 789 Bau Ers Bn (Eng Repl Bn) stationed at FOSSA was surrendered by its CO. 789 built fortifications on PO, each Plt working in a different area. Field fortifications at LIBELLA (6811). 1057 Div Supply Train abandoned most of its vehicles 20 April. Driver from 146 Inf Regt Supply (65 Div) that no orders for last five days, and that he was unable to establish contact with his Regt. 992 Inf Regt 278 Inf Div to cross at FERRARA. 365 AA Bn of 105 Flak Regt disorganized at S. GIOVANNI in FERSICETO. Kampfschule NEUHOFF was at FOSSA. 661 Arty Div at PAVOLO.

General impression made by PW interrogation was that of complete breakdown of all supply and rear echelon services. PW claim the beach vic REVERE and S. BENEDETTO PO was over burdened with troops and vehicles, and ferry service was inadequate to take care of the demand. PW expect Italian campaign to end within three four days. If stragglers reach VERONA and can be reorganized and re-equipped next line of defense in mountains N VERONA.

24 April

PW through cage: 831

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
562 Med Bn Trains	2	1100	QUISTELLO	
988 Arty Bn	2	1130	763077	
Civilians	5	1800	S. LUCIA	
	<u>479</u>			
Not identified	<u>352</u>			
TOTAL	831			

The 831 PW who passed through the cage 240001 to 2411800, with the exception of 6 PW and 5 civilians actually are PW captured 23 April. 2 PW reached cage 240100; 308 PW arrived 240145, and 510 PW at 240245. 6 PW arrived between 1100 and 1200, and 5 civilians by 1800.

PW Josef Bach Dienststelle I-55552 (Landshut), 829 Repl Bn, a replacement for 4 Para Div states that 1000 men from 829 Repl Bn at QUINZANO are replacements for 4 Para. PW, it appears from his orders left POZZOLENGO and was to travel by way of ROMEO-FERRARA to BONDENO to join unit. Unit no longer at BONDENO. PW from 4 Para Arty states that 4 Para Arty, II and III Bn with 24-105 How will defend above OSTIGLIA. I Bn 4 Para Arty withdrawn to Germany. 1000 replacements for 4 Para at VERONA. PW Capt (civilian official with Sonderinheit I Organisation Todt) who left VERONA by motorcycle 23 April and was captured 2300 at REVERE states there are no organized units N of PO vic VERONA-OSTIGLIA HWY. Partisan staying at REVERE 9-23 April saw little movement 23 April. 15 half tracks, 30 amphibious Volkswagen and about 2000-3000 troops in all. Claims 20 April there was the most terrible confusion at REVERE units trying to cross with inadequate ferrying facilities. 148 Inf Div to reassemble at PARMA. Assembly point for 144 Mtn Div was MODENA. X Army PW cage at BONDENO. 232 Inf Div was to assemble at MODENA. PW from 90 PG claims that 20 April 361 PG at BUDRIE and 200 PG at MINURIO. Claims Div full strength (15000) but supplies and rations did not get across PO. PW 7 Co, 26 Pz Regt states a few days ago 14 Pz in his company and always enough gas for tanks. ALL other vehicles have been converted to wood alcohol consumption. PW from 6 Co 26 Pz Regt contradicts this statement by stating that he was the next to the last Mark IV to be knocked out between POGGIO RUSCO and OSTIGLIA. Claims gas supply was altogether inadequate. 504 Pz Bn (independent) PW from Trk column states that 3 Tgers were knocked out vic VILLA POMA (7305) and that all Panzer of 504 was lost in the heavy bombardment of the last few days.

Miscellaneous PW morale exceedingly low. The utter confusion of the last few days and the aerial bombardment PW's claim was the most devastating they ever experienced. Random interrogations with rear supply personnel revealst that in PW's opinion very few of Div Supply Trains got across the PO, and it was questionable whether the stragglers who got across the PO could re-assemble and be re-equipped. PW's claim that our tank attacks were most demoralizing and were responsible in the main for disrupting movement to PO. PW Beggerow 963 Sig Intelligence Co (XIV Pz Corps) states that it takes only five minutes to relay intercepted messages about an arty target through Corps and Army to German firing Btry. Claims G-2 XIV Pz Corps is efficient, and Oblt Muller in charge of Sig Int very efficient. PW was formerly driver to Capt Dr Preusch in charge of German agents in Italy. PW has information about system used by Germans in controlling espionage. PW carried on him paper from Army High Command enabling him to wear civilian clothes, send top priority messages, requisition any form of transportation, etc. PW from 988 Arty states that the Bn was to change posns from BOLOGNA to MEDOLLA and then withdraw to GARDA LAKE and assemble at MONTECHIARI. Claims Bn's 170 mm guns and 210 mm How were not evacuated.

25 April

PW through cage : 9

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
511 Vet Co	4	241600	vic SERRAVALLE (7113)	
194 Vet Co	2	"	"	
Hq 1 Bn, 11 Para Regt	1	242200	VALLARSA (662178)	
117 Inf Rgt (98 Div)	2	250800	SUSTINETE	Surrendered

511 Vet Co S. PIETRO IN CARIANO (5266). 4 PW were hastily rushed to OSTIGLIA 22 April and organized with other rear echelon units into an Alarm (Sturm) Co, 200 strong. They were given 35 rounds rifles amo each. Committed vic SERRA* VALLE on approximately 1-3/4 mile front 71025 - 730134. PW state that unit was routed 241000. Similar Alarm companies are being formed. 2 PW from 117 Regt were on det service at SUSTINETE for last seven months. Last hear of Regt three months ago that it was at MASSA, and had suffered heavy casualties. PW claim no Arty passed through SUSTINETE last few days. 2 PW from 194 Vet Co stationed at BONAFICINA were also members of an Alarm Co.

Miscellaneous: PW Werner, Hq I Bn, 11 Para Regt was to join rear supply ctm at NOSEDOLE (6318). Left BONDENO (9691) in the evening 23 April on bicycle. On BONDENO-FINALE-D'EMILIA road at COLOMBARINA (9188) (CASUMARO on German map 1:500,000) saw quantities of destroyed German arty, tanks, and 17 cm Nebelwerfers. Arr CASTELMASSA (8806) 241000 and crossed PO by ferry. PW states there were approximately 100 en soldiers trying to swim across, some of them drowning and crying for help. The ferry was to make only one more trip. Between CASTELMASSA and MELARA (7912) PW only saw individual stragglers who told him VERONA was assembly point for all stragglers. 1 km W MELARA he met three Germans from an AA unit, who told him their 20 mm gun was in posn on the PO in the vicinity, and they could not understand why the Americans had not crossed as yet since they (3 men) alone had the mission to defend that sector. PW by passed OSTIGLIA and travelled by way of COMUNE (7614) PONTE TEDESCHI (750147) PEDEMONTE (728157) TERZA (708153) and CAVALLETTE (6815). This road PW claims was all fortified but all gun emplacements were empty. He saw no new units but individual stragglers here and there. In PW's opinion most, if not all heavy equipment was lost on S side of PO, and that the only defensive line possible was in the mountains N of VERONA should units get reorganized. PW characterizes the events of the last few days as that of unbelievable confusion, the complete breakdown of all organized movement, with equipment left behind, guns and vehicles abandoned. PW believes quick decision is imminent. PW further states that II Bn 11 Para Regt was withdrawn to Germany. I Bn suffered very heavy casualties and 2 Co strength on 23 April 3 men. I and III Bn 11 Para Regt now combined, but in PW's opinion combined strength is exceedingly low.

26 April

PW through cage: 10

334 Vet Co. 9 Russian PW stationed at CIRINGHELI for last six months. Co consisted of 30 Germans, 15 Russians, and 53 horses. PW worked in stables. The 30 Germans fled 25 April and in the opinion of PW have since been captured. 1 Russian from 10 Co of unidentified Regt belonging to 91 Div. PW insisted that his Co was part of II Bn, but was unable to give Regt number. This suggests a Mtn Div. PW further states 91 Div was in the British Eighth Army sector with rear at S.BIAGIO.

PW state that there was little organized movement on VIGASIO-VERONA road on 25 April, merely stragglers moving N 27 April.

27 April

PW through cage; 10

334 Vet Co CIRINGHELLI. PW states his Co (30 men) had surrendered. Unit had no orders for last four days, and he does not believe 334 Inf Div got across PO. PW talked to stragglers from 65 Inf Div 25 April who claim 65 Div completely destroyed. One PW 603 Vet Hosp at FORETTE (605111L).

Italian paratrooper with Eighth Army, stationed at Fiesole, was dropped behind en lines 20 April above SOSPERO (NE MODENA) with 18 others. Mission to destroy en material. Paratrooper claims he saw no large units in SOSPERO area 20-22 April. On 22 April, the day our troops took PROSPERO, the Paratroopers destroyed 3 German tanks and capt 150 PW.

PW from Div Hq, 361 Div "Insel" and PW from 3 Co, 190 FG Regt interrogated at VERONA 270800 state that remnants of 90 FG Div and 361 Div " Insel " were combined 25 April with orders to retreat to BRENNER PASS.

PW from 3 Co, 1 Para Corps Rcn Bn states 1 Para Corps destroyed at BUDRIE.

167 Hvy AA Bn withdrawn to Germany 5 April.

George L. Lam

GEORGE L. LAM
2nd Lt, AUS
OIC IFW TEAM

Interrogated by:

2nd Lt George L. Lam
1st Lt Edward M. Kudla (Russian)
T/5 Karl Ansel
Pvt E. Klugman