

The guards woke us at one in the morning with orders to pack and march. We broke a hole in the floor and dropped our extra kit to the Russians (POW's). Cranach wouldn't let us have a wagon so we stole a small one. Also harness and straps (pulled at [unclear]).

We left Crazer at 03.00 hrs in the morning. The civies were sorry to see us go as they were afraid of the Russians. The latest news had the Russians at Sneyd-ermühle. 60 Kilom.

The snow drifts made it hard going. The snow started again so we stopped and had lunch at a small village. The snow finally got so deep that we were forced to drop the wagon about 8 kil. from Bahn. We stopped off at a Tr. lager for an hr.

We were carrying a good supply of food.

That night we reached Bahn and slept in old barracks with no lights. The soldiers and civies were all fitters here.

Jan. 30

Left early in the morning and marched to the Dorf of MARIENTHAL. Many men pick up sleighs here.

Cappy couldn't walk and he rode a wagon with refugees. Levenport and Colleen got a big sleigh and we pulled our kit.

Stalin
Largard
Pomeroy

Pomeroy

At Schomfeld Dale and I bought a sheep for a shoe bar. It was big enough to hold Ward's, copying ~~myself~~.

At Newburg we stopped at a Fr. Lopez and they treated us good. After a bit of arguing we managed to get bread

Jan 31.

Marched to Niponwice and slept in an abandoned Fr. Lopez. We had a hard time getting up a light here.

Feb. 1. Birthday

from outside line, getting on in front of the group between

Rose early and moved to Koth Nainig were we crossed the Ober R. The road was crowded with refugees who were turned away from the bridge.

Many guns were in position along the river and road blocks were ready. Things looked serious. The shore and ice were laid with mines and the bridges had explosives tied all over them!

Almost had the appearance of a front line town. The city was full of soldiers and army equip. Some of the troops were just off the front and were badly worn out and demoralized.

We slept in a very fair and they were very good cells. We were given some of our ^{last} rations here. The roads have always been full of refugees.

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Feb. 2,

The weather has turned warm and the snow has all melted. We dragged our sledge for several kils and dropped it. The latest rumour claimed Russian spearhead had pushed to Königsberg. (a small town near Königsberg not to be confused)

At a late hour we reached Angermünde and marched a couple of kils west to Klein Zieten where we slept in an old Russian lager. It was very dirty & crowded. Most of the men were limping and badly beat. Fraser's syndicate bought a wagon so our kit rode next day. The men tried to steal 2 wagons next day but the civies caught them. The wagon travelled easy and we had two crews for pulling 5 each crew.

Feb 3.

We stopped in a school at Friedrich'swalde.

By Hitler on the Reich's Auto Bahn. We saw one of the biggest raids on Berlin. Through the cloud patches the squadrons of bombers looked like rockets with the vapour trailing behind the motors. The air and ground was ~~vibrating~~ vibrating and we could hear the rumble of bombs.

(17155) We travelled through Templin a nice looking town where we noticed bomb damage. We got six to a loaf and coffee here. The people were hostile.

Brown said we wouldn't eat their soup but we got hungry afterwards

Feb. 4, Sunday

Slept at a mill outside of Milmer'sdorf Very clean good rooms with stove. We were given spuds here.

Feb 5,

At Vogelsang we slept in a hay barn. Bread is very short. The refugees are eating everything up.

Feb 7.

Marched through Gausee, Lindow to Schönberg. Slept in a barn behind a pub. Spuds here but no bread.

Feb 6.

Moved on toward and through Zehdenick to Badungen where we slept in a small barn. Bread here.

Feb 8,

Took a short cut to New Ruppin. (Working on defenses even to here) The roads are always full of refugees and nearly every place is short of bread.

Feb 9

Slept at Dessow had a good stew here & bread. The people are very friendly. Slept in a straw barn. We were told we must work here but we got orders to move on.

Feb. 10

We had to march with Russians. The ^{roads} ~~roads~~ were bad and marching very slow. We stopped at ZERNATZ. It was raining hard and most of us soaked.

Feb 11

Moved to VOITBRÜCKE by Breddin. Roads bad & marching slow. We moved into an English lager of 43 men. No Red Cross. We cleaned up here.

This kommando had plenty of vegetables but for us non-workers bread was ten to a loaf. We stole spuds and carrots. After a few weeks we were freed to work in the leek fields as the Russians were taken away. Brown went to Tuckenwalde and got us a fifth of a parcel.

March 19

Moved off and joined a large band of Indians. They were in bad shape and badly organized.

We stopped at Spatz where we slept in barns. We had a small ration of soup here.

March 20, moved on to Gräningen through Katherow (bent damage here). Slept in a barn with Indians and trading was brisk. Good ^{soup} supps.

March 21,

Moved to Brandenburg. We stopped in a Russ. Lager here for supps. Later the Canadians were moved to a Fr. Lager. They gave us tea, brews & supps.