

SUPPLY ANNEX

The Division was relieved from the "line" and went into an assembly area South of Luxembourg City early in January 1945. The period from 15 January to 22 February, (The long promised "rest" for maintenance and resupply), was a Supply Officer's dream come true.

The unprecedented drive of the next two and a half months that carried us into Czechoslovakia for V-E Day directly reflected the value of the preparation. The rapidity of the movements left Depots and Supply Points for the rear and trips to them were of necessity less frequent. However, the units, being well equipped and supplied at the outset, were able to continue their advance despite the problems of resupply. Fewer casualties, fewer vehicular losses and less damage to equipment than were suffered in previous campaigns offset the difficulties encountered.

The functioning and mechanics of General Supply in the Medical Battalion and of Medical Supply in the Division followed the pattern set forth in the History covering the preceding six months of combat. No radical changes were made in the system of resupply previously established. No problems peculiar to Medical Supply were faced during the period.

The recommendations made in the History for the year 1944 are reiterated. In addition, it would be well to add Four (4) Splint Sets, Army to T/E 8-76, "Hq" and "Hqs" Co. Arm'd Med. Bn., to be carried with the Division Reserve Medical Stock, for more rapid replacement of those consumed by the Medical Detachments.

Complete inventory and inspection of all classes of property was conducted soon after cessation of Hostilities. The "shortage" report for Medical Property indicated that the method of resupply practiced in this Division was an effective one. The only "big" figures were the following:

	AUTH.	ON HAND	SHORT
Surgical Dressing Box	44	21	23
Kit First Aid Gas Casualty	434	174	260
Kit First Aid Motor Vehicle 12 Unit	1179	840	339

The Surgical Dressing Boxes were broken down into smaller more adaptable boxes built into the Peeps by Med. Det. Personnel. Shortage of the original containers led them to report the entire assemblage "short".

The Kits, First Aid Gas Casualty and Motor Vehicle 12 Unit, were carried in general purpose vehicles, and were seldom reported "lost" when a vehicle was destroyed, consequently no replacements were issued. If the Kits cannot be made on-vehicular equipment and issued with the vehicle, the Medical Supply Officer should arrange to equip every General Purpose vehicle with a Kit, First Aid Motor Vehicle 12 Unit, before it is issued to the unit by the Ordnance Officer. Gas Casualty Kits could be placed in every third or fourth vehicle replaced by the Ordnance Officer to any unit.

The Division went back to "garrison" life the first of June, with Battalions separated by considerable distances, the Medical Battalion being centrally located in the Divisional area. Requisitions for expendables and Pharmacy Items were filled once weekly, distribution coordinated by the Combat Command Surgeons for units in their areas.