

from Soldat by Siegfried Knappe p. 167

Each battery commander would then gather most of his 185 men around him and explain what was happening at the front, where the enemy line was, and so on. It would be at least 7:30 by then, and the men would rest and talk for a while or write letters before turning in. Most of the officers had sleeping bags and the soldiers had horse blankets. We would find the most comfortable place we could and just bed down. After 12 hours in the saddle and then another hour checking to see that everything was in order, I never had any trouble falling asleep.

When it rained, we tried to get into a house or a barn if we were in a village. If we were in the open, everyone had one part of the tent (which doubled as a raincoat), and four people could put their parts together to make a tent in which four people could sleep. Each battery commander always had a tent because he had to have a place that was secure against rain and wind where he can do his map work. Usually he shared his tent with one of his lieutenants.

We could not hear the battles that were being fought ahead of us, because we were now two days behind the invasion force, but we could see the evidence left behind. As we marched we saw the battlefields - the burn tanks, blown bridges, and dead livestock. Trees would be felled across our path every few hundred meters; most had been cleared, but sometimes would have to clear them away. Where bridges were blown, the engineer units had built pontoon bridges.

Handwritten notes in German, starting with "S.K. 167". Includes symbols like a triangle with a cross and various letters and numbers.

Handwritten notes in German, continuing the notes with more symbols and text.

Handwritten notes in German, including a list of numbers and symbols.

NOTES. explain. A short-hand id. < say — a plain, a flat open surface.
happen ~ chance (= hop) → go by. front □ L/R, forward backward orientation indicator (vs. □ position indicator) □ back √ behind □ ahead. would rest
> if. I use > above a word for "would" or conditional (∃Y could, vs. ∃Y could past tense)
officer Latin opus work. fic do ^ -er (person) □ any (for non countable) ∴ any ~ free of sleep (or lie) - also line (— limen line (unconscious) and closed eyelid. secure to danger ~ cliff ↔ .se, apart from lieutenant - dot in middle at left shows from a language other than Latin or Greek, here Fr. □ place □ hold. □ [Latin. vad go]
T.XX show Fr (π table) T truth X things