



edited by Mad Dog
contains items from German language version

MS # B-622

English
Translated by A. Rosenwald

Erich PETERSEN

February 47

Commanding General of the IV

Lw Field Corps

Questionnaire covering the engagements
of the IV Lw Field Corps in South France

Questions to be answered by Gen der Inf Petersen, IV Lw

Field Corps - submitted to Gen Petersen Dec 1946

1. Did you at any time have control of the 950th Indian Regt ? If so, describe its organization and use. Who was its regimental commander? Was there any other Indian unit? If so, what was its designation?

2. Who was Gen Richter (Wilhelm)'s Ia?

3. Did Gen Schiel have command of the 198th Inf Div during the SoFr Campaign, or only Gen Richter? Who was Ia?

4. Have you any idea where Oberst Hearing now is?

5. Who was Sea Commandant LANGUEDOC, and where was his Hq? He withdrew with the IV Lw Field Corps. Who was the other Sea Commandant, and where was his Hq? Who was Admiral South Coast of France, and where was his Hq?

6. Do you know the present whereabouts of either Maj Wolf or Obst Lt v Lindequist, who were Gen v Schwerin Ia's (189th Res Div)?

7. Gen v Schwerin says that Obst Lt v Lindequist was his Ia until 18 Aug, when he was ordered to: "leave my staff behind for the purpose of completing the staff of the 242 Inf Div, and go to MONTPELIER where I would be subordinated again to the IV Lw Field Corps for command of a task force. My 1st Officer was that day transferred to the 242 Inf Div to replace the Gen Staff officer of that Div who had been badly wounded by a dive bomber". In view of these remarks, by whom was the 189th Res Div commanded from 18 Aug, or did it vanish as a division designation?

8. Do you recall the C O's of any of the Eastern Bns or anyone who worked with them individually or collectively? To be of any value, he will have to be able to discuss their organization and use in some detail. Were they all infantry bns, or different types? How many and what type did you have? Discuss.

9. On Page 6: "A large portion of the Army and Navy coastal batteries were located in ferro-concrete bunkers with firing embrasures in the walls, and observation and command ports were also protected by ferro-concrete". Gen Botsch has stated that these fortifications were concrete only, without reinforcement. What is your present opinion of them?

10. On Page 9, you speak of gear, eqpt and documents having to be destroyed. Can you be more specific, particularly concerning light & heavy artillery and ammo by types?

11. What was the estimated strength on 15 Aug of the following: 716 Inf Div, 189 Inf Div, portion of 338 Div under your control, misc units (see Page 7) ?

During period from 15 Aug - 15 Sept, except as already specifically explained in your Ms, were any of these groups turned over to other control (Gen Kniess, LXIV, or other?)

12. What was the estimated strength of each unit mentioned in par 11 (above), when it left your control?

13. Of the non-Army personnel, ref 11 & 12 above, what specific disciplinary problems did you have with them?

14. Draw an organizational chart of your Corps Hq, filling in

names wherever possible. Please print this - no script.

15. What was your source of personnel replacements in the withdrawal? Before? Did they arrive as individuals or in units?

16. See Richter, page 2. Who was Domdere-regimental commander?

17. Write a separate critique on Gen Richter's Ms (716) and Gen v Schwerin's (189th), being guided by the following:

- a. Point out any inaccuracies.
- b. Comment on any opinions or estimates to which you do not agree (either wholly or in part),
- c. Add to either account any part of the story you consider omitted.

/s/ ROBERT G. MELENDY
Major, QMC

Southern France Campaign

Concerns the Questionnaire covering the engagements of the Lw Field Corps in Southern France.

Several of the questions are overtaken by the arrival here of new generals.

Re quest. 1. The 950 Indian Regt was not subordinated to me, I do not know its commander, nor do I know anything about other Indian units.

Re quest. 2. Since Gen Richter (716 Div) has arrived here, he will be able to answer this question better himself.

Re quest. 3. Gen Schiel was commander of the 198 Div.

Re quest. 4. I do not know the whereabouts of Obst Haering.

Re quest. 5. The Naval Commandant of Languedoc was Vz Adm Schulte Noenting. His Hq was at Montpellier. The Naval Commandant on the eastern bank of the Rhone was Ko Adm Rufus. His Hq was located at Toulon. Admiral for the South Coast of France was Vz Adm Wever, who died just prior to the Invasion of the South Coast. As of the beginning of the Invasion, Ko Adm Rufus was assigned commander of the fortress Toulon. The naval formations east of the Rhone were subordinated to Vz Adm Scheuerle. (The latter was killed in action in East Friesland.)

Re quest. 6. A questionnaire concerning this par has been submitted to Gen Lt von Schwerin. I do not know anything concerning the whereabouts of Maj Wolf. Obst Lt von Lindequist was killed in action near Montelimar in August 44.

Re quest. 7. Obstlt von Lindequist was assigned Ia of the 242 Inf Div on 18 Aug to replace the former Ia, who was wounded there. The main body of the 242 Inf Div remained as occupying force in Toulon. As far as I know, the elements of the 242 Inf Div, which were committed outside of Toulon, were subordinated to the 338 Div, when the retreat movements were started and were incorporated into it later.

The command of the 189 Res Div remained in the hands of Genlt von Schwerin. For a short period only, the control of a combat team in the Invasion zone was assigned to him. As far as I know, the 189 Res Div continued as a division designation.

Re quest. 8. I am not able to name a person, who could give detailed information about them, nor can I recall the names of the commanders. Almost all of the Eastern formations were inf Bns. I have been told, however, that one of them was an Eastern Engineer Battalion. None of them were subordinate to me.

Re quest. 9. I stick to my opinion that the bulk of the Army and Naval Coastal Batteries were emplaced in ferro-concrete bunkers. Gen Vogel and Adm Schulte Muenting, with whom I discussed this question, shared the same opinion.

Re quest. 10. Today, after about three years, I am no longer able to give details. Besides, it belonged to the duties of the divisional commanders.

Re quest. 11. On 15 Aug 44, the estimated strength of the 716 Div was about 10 000 men. Detailed particulars can probably be

obtained from Gen Richter. The strength of the 189 Res Div, I estimated to 5000 men. Of the 338 Div only one Inf regiment was subordinate to me. I am not in the position to give any information concerning units, which were subordinate to other staffs.

Re quest. 12. No information is available.

Re quest. 13. Gen von Schwerin and Genlt Richter ought to be able to answer this question.

Re quest. 14. A sketch in the form of an organizational chart of the chain of command within the framework of the IV Lw Field Corps in July 44 is attached hereto.

Re quest. 15. The reinforcement during the withdrawal was obtained from collecting and assembly points of the Army and from formations of the Luftwaffe (ground personnel). They were brought up to the divisions in form of small formations. In some cases the divisions have used them as complete units or they were divided up between the already existing units. The sources of replacements before the withdrawal can probably be indicated by the divisional commanders.

Re quest. 16. On Page 2 of the work by Gen Richter a mistake has occurred. The word 'DOMDERE' must be replaced by the 'commander of the 1 Bn.

Re quest. 17. The works by Gen Richter (MS # A-875) and that by Gen von Schwerin (MS # A-878) are written in so general terms and supplemented by no map sketches that a critique of these works is

impossible. Seeing that Gen Richter has now arrived at this camp he will be able to write a more detailed report now. The estimates and additions will then be supplied by me.

sgd PETERSEN

General of Inf.

Chain of Commandin the sector of the IV Lw Field CorpsJuly 1944

Commander-in-Chief West

HQ of the 19 Army

Lw Gau Command Western France

Commanding Adm

IV Lw Field Corps

French Mediterr.Coast

Composition of the HQ IV Lw Field Corps

Commanding General: Gen of Inf Petersen

Adjutant :

Special Missions Staff Officer :

Chief of the General Staff

Tactical Group:Personnel Group:Supply Group:

Ia: Gen St Off Tact Op.IIa: Officers roll

O1: 1st Sp.Miss St Off

Ic: Intelligence

IIb: Mens roll

O3: 3rd Sp Miss St Off

O4: 4th Sp Miss St Off

Message Center

Commandant of HQ

Map Section

Engineer Staff Officer

Qu: Quartermaster

O2: 2nd Sp Miss St Off

Qul: 1st Quartermaster

Qu/Wu G: Weapons & Equipm

Qu/mot: Mobility questions

Corps troops:

Guard Comp

Reconn Comp

Air Signal Bn 4

Comdr simultaneously

Signal Officer of the Corps

Explanations:

Subordinated for service purposes

Subordinated for tactical purposes

(Navy and Antiaircraft formations only

in case of ground employment)

Questions to be answered by Gen. der Inf. Petersen, IV Lw Field Corps-
submitted to Gen. Petersen Dec. 1946

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Robert G. Melendy
ROBERT G. MELENDY
Major, QMC
Southern France Campaign

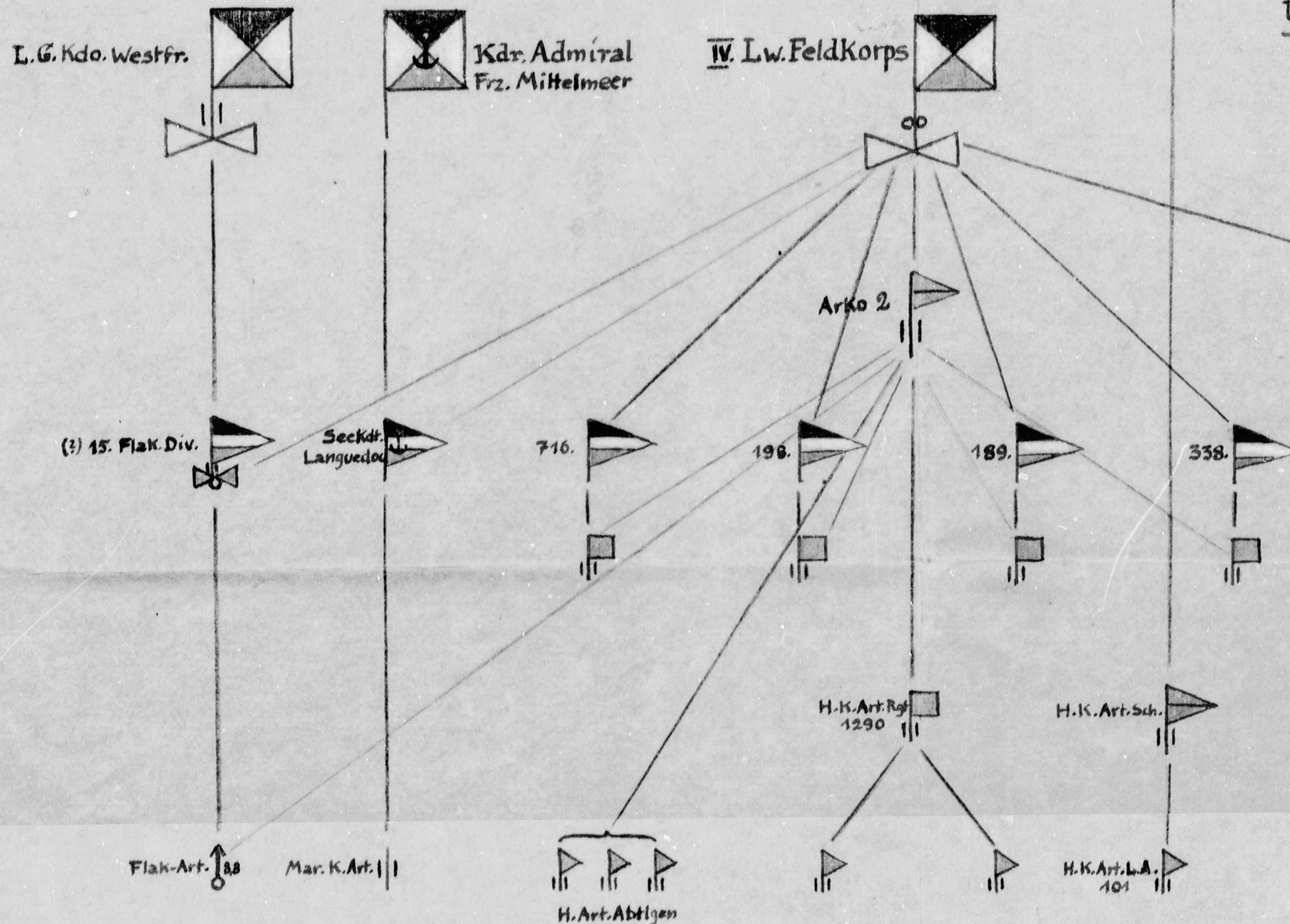
A.O.K. 19

O.B. West

Befehlsverhältnisse

im Korpabschnitt IV. Lw. Feldkorps

Juli 1944.



Gliederung Gen. Kdo. IV. Lw. Feldkorps:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Kdr. Gen.: Gen. d. Fl. Petersen | | |
| Adj.: Ord. Offiz.: | | |
| Chef des Generalstabes | | |
| Führungsgruppe: | Adjutantur: | Quartiermeisterabt.: |
| Ia: O1: | IIa: | Qu: O2: |
| Ic: O3: O4: | IIb: | Qu1: Qu/Wu.G.: Qu/mot.: |
| Hauptregistratur | Kdr. H. Qu. | IVa zgl. Korpsint. |
| Kartenstelle | | IVb zgl. Korpsarzt |
| Stops: | | IVc zgl. Korpsvet. |
| Korpstruppen: | | |
| 60t 30t | Wach Kp. | Aufkl. Kp. |
| | | In. Abt. 4 |
| Kdr. zgl. Korps - NAFU | | |

Erläuterung:

- Truppendienstliche Unterstellung
 - - - Taktische Unterstellung
 (Marine- und Flakverbände nur im Falle des Erdsinsatzes)

Petersen
General F. Inf.