

## Logistics Group Three: Source A

*“Meanwhile, our artillery and all the supporting weapons, which meant practically everything we had and could commandeer, were thundering away in that tremendous 45-minute preparation. It started at 2:45 a.m. The effect was a thick, continuous curtain of fire close to the river bank of the far shore. A total of 8400 rounds of field artillery ammunition was expended. The 557<sup>th</sup> Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion fired a total of 272,736 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition, wearing out 125 barrels. The crews of the 771<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion supported the crossing and the follow-up for about 15 hours, firing so much ammunition that they often became sick from the fumes in the tanks and had to get out to relieve their nausea. A total of 120,000 rounds were fired by 24 multiple-mount 50 caliber machine guns, and 4000 rounds were sent off by 24 60 mm. mortars in 15 minutes. T/Sgt. George H. Hale, Company C, said the barrage ‘was so heavy that as we approached the water to man the boats, we were nearly shocked ourselves.’”*

Excerpt from Lieutenant Theodore Draper, *The 84<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division In The Battle Of Germany, November 1944-May 1945.*

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Who created it? \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize the excerpt in your own words:

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