

HEADQUARTERS 313TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
A.P.O. #80 U. S. Army

Authority 735017  
By CO NARA Date 6-14-04

4 November 1944

SUBJECT: After Action Report for period 1 October 1944 to 31 October 1944 inclusive. (Section I - Summary of daily operations and action).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Channels).

1. NARRATIVE OF EVENTS:

a. The battalion occupied defensive positions at FAUX 1-8 October 1944, continuing direct support of 317th Inf. Howitzers and all battery installations were dug in and permanent OPs established. CP and FDC located in a shellproof vault under a dwelling. Reinforcing Artillery during this period consisted of one battalion of 105 MM Howitzers, (512th FA Bn) and two platoons of 808th TD.

b. On 2 Oct 1944 and 3 Oct 1944 the battalion supported the action of 2nd Battalion, 317th Inf in its attempt to extend the OPLR to include the town of SIVRY. This support consisted of softening-up fires on SIVRY and MT TOULON prior to the attack and screening observation on MT TOULON and MT ST JEAN after daylight, also close in fires as called for by the Forward Observer with the Assault Company. Radio and Wire Communications were maintained with the Forward Observer during the first day and night of this operation.

c. Prior to daylight on 3 Oct 1944 the enemy counterattacked our positions at SIVRY and were successful in retaking the town. The counterattack was preceded by a heavy Artillery and mortar preparation which took out our wire and radio Communications. Certain Barrages and defensive concentrations were called for over the Infantry 300 series radio. The normal and emergency barrages were fired repeatedly in an attempt to break up the attack. Observation from ground OPs above the town was poor during this operation due to weather conditions.

d. On 7 Oct 1944 the battalion coordinated the fires of reinforcing units in the preparation fire prior to the attack of 317th on MT ST JEAN, MOIVRON and JEANDELINCOURT and continued close support during the capture of these objectives. During this period 1-8 Oct 1944, 140 Missions were fired as follows: 23 on Infantry, 5 High Burst Registration, 15 Harassing, 20 Preparations, 12 TOTs, 2 Observation Posts, 2 Command Posts, 1 Counter Battery, 22 Interdiction, 3 Smoke, 4 Machine Gun, 4 Barrage, 10 Mortars, 2 Propaganda, 1 Tank; 8 Base Point Registration, 6 Check Point.

e. At 1830 hrs, 8 Oct 1944, the Battalion displaced to positions in the vicinity of BRATTE. Mission direct support of the 317th Infantry advancing on LETRICOURT and CHENICOURT. Continued on this mission until CT was relieved in this sector beginning 12 Oct 1944. 28 Missions fired during the period as follows: 6 Infantry, 6 Harassing, 6 Interdiction, 2 Machine Guns, 1 Tank, 4 Mortars, 3 Base Point Registrations.

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