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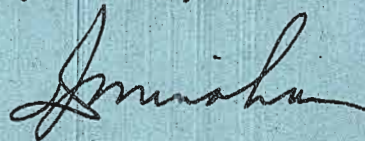
HEADQUARTERS
314TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO # 80, U. S. Army

5 February 1945.

SUBJECT: After Action Reports for Month of January 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. Transmitted herewith are After Battle Reports for January 1945 in accordance with Memorandum 64, Headquarters, 80th Infantry Division, dated 26 August 1944.



D. J. MINAHAN,
Lt. Col., F. A.,
Commanding.

1 Incl - After Battle Report Against
Enemy for January 1945.

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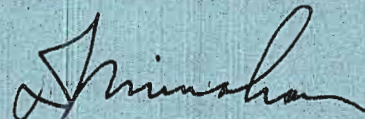
HEADQUARTERS
314TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO # 80, U. S. Army

5 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Comments of Commanding Officer Covering After Action Reports for
Period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. Comments and recommendations concurred in. No additional comments.



D. J. MINAHAN,
Lt. Col., F. A.,
Commanding.

DECLASSIFIED
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314TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO # 80, U. S. ARMY

4 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy During Month of January 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

SECTION I1 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Welsdorf, Luxembourg 80073731, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 23 - 468 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 2
Air OP's - 3
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair, visibility extraordinarily good.

2 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Welsdorf, Luxembourg, 80073731, Service Battery, Pettingen Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 28 - 559 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 3
Air OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair.

3 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Welsdorf, Luxembourg 80073731, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 13 - 373 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: None.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with snow.

4 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Welsdorf, Luxembourg 80073731, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231

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- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 21 - 573 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with snow.

5 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Welsdorf, Luxembourg 80073731, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 19 - 572 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 4
Air OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair.

6 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 18 - 362 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observer - 1
Air OP's - 1
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy.

7 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd, 191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 12 - 419 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: None.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy and cold.
 - b. 191st Field Artillery Battalion reinforced our fires starting at 1600.

8 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D", Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd, 191st Field Artillery Battalions.

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- C. Missions Fired: 20- 308 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 4
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with rain.

9 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 12 - 128 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 3
Air OP's - 3.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair with clouds.

10 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D", Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 16 - 243 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 3
Ground OP's - 4
Air OP's - 3
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with ground haze.

11 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 7 - 84 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 1
Air OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy.

12 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D", Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.

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- C. Missions Fired: 3 - 44 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: None.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with heavy ground haze.

13 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 14 - 150 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Air OP's - 3
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy changing to fair.

14 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 12- 202 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 3
Air OP's - 1
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair.

15 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 25 - 410 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 6
Air OP's - 8
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair.

16 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Hauptertshaf, Luxembourg 7955738956, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 17 - 323 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 6
Ground OP's - 1
Air OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Fair.

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- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Feulen, Luxembourg 7948541162, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
- a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 23 - 326 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 2
Ground OP's - 1
- D. Remarks:
- a. Movement: "D" Battery moved forward 2000 yards so as to be in better position to support Infantry.
- b. Weather: Cloudy with snow flurries.

18 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Feulen, Luxembourg 7948541162, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
- a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions.
- C. Missions Fired: 14 - 341 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 2
- D. Remarks:
- a. Weather: Snow and cloudy.

19 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: 2 miles NW of Berg, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 79693793, Battery "A" 7854137343, Battery "B" 7883037442, Battery "C" 7865237726, Battery "D" Feulen, Luxembourg 7948541162, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
- a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd-191st Field Artillery Battalions and Battery "B" 91st CML Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 23 -
- a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 2
Air OP's - 5
- D. Remarks:
- a. Comments & Recommendations: At 1900 White Platoon, Battery "B", 91st CML Battalion was attached to us for fire control.
- b. Weather: Cloudy turning to fair.

20 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Neider Feulen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 78824120, Battery "A" 7936940957, Battery "B" 7842540960, Battery "C" 7894741031, Battery "D" Feulen, Luxembourg 7948541162, Service Battery, Pettingen, Luxembourg 8231.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
- a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 17 - 225 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Forward Observer - 2
Air OP's - 3

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D. Remarks:

- a. Comments & Recommendations: Battalion displaced to its forward positions in echelon starting at 1530 and closing at 1700.
- B. Weather: Cloudy with snow.

21 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 78824120, Battery "A" 7936940957, Battery "B" 7842540960, Battery "C" 7894741031, Battery "D" Petit Vindhof, Luxembourg 8001643012, Service Battery, Merzig, Luxembourg 757386.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 752nd Field Artillery Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 15 - 352 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 4
Ground OP's - 1
Air OP's - 4
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Comments & Recommendations: Battery "D" displaced at 1738 to forward position to stay within range of advancing Infantry.
 - b. Weather: Fair.

22 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 78824120, Battery "A" 7936940957, Battery "B" 7842540960, Battery "C" 7894741031, Battery "D" Petit Vindhof, Luxembourg 8001643012, Service Battery, Merzig, Luxembourg 757386.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: None.
- C. Missions Fired: None
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Comments & Recommendations: At 1400 the 752nd Field Artillery Battalion ceased reinforcing our fires.
 - b. Weather: Fair.

23 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 78824120, Battery "A" 7936940957, Battery "B" 7842540960, Battery "C" 7894741031, Battery "D" Petit Vindhof, Luxembourg 8001643012, Service Battery, Merzig, Luxembourg 757386.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: None.
- C. Missions Fired: None.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Comments & Recommendations: Batteries march-ordered at 0900 in preparation for move to new sector - on a one hour alert basis - but never received orders to move.
 - b. Weather: Slightly cloudy.

24 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Erpeldange-Wiltz, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 71845497, Battery "A" 7240055425, Battery "B" 7301155091, Battery "C" 7250455236, Battery "D" 7258555024, Service Battery, Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg 7841.

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- B. Mission: General support of 80th Division Artillery, reinforcing 313th Field Artillery Battalion.
- a. Reinforcing Units: None.
- C. Missions Fired: 31 - 520 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Air OP's - 6.
- D. Remarks:
- a. Comments & Recommendations: Battalion now in General support of 80th Division Artillery, reinforcing 313th Field Artillery Battalion. Displaced to new firing position at 1215, closed at 1410, distance 16 miles.
- b. Weather: Fair.

25 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Erpeldange-Wiltz, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 71845497, Battery "A" 7240055425, Battery "B" 7301155091, Battery "C" 7250455236, Battery "D" 725855024, Service Battery, Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg 7841.
- B. Mission: General support of 80th Division Artillery, reinforcing 313th Field Artillery Battalion.
- a. Reinforcing Units: None.
- C. Missions Fired: 40 - 874 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Air OP's - 6.
- D. Remarks:
- a. Weather: Fair.

26 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Lellingen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 76545528, Battery "A" 7644555437, Battery "B" 7606455960, Battery "C" 7643155236, Battery "D" Pintsche, Luxembourg 7648356718, Service Battery, Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg 7841.
- B. Mission: General support of 80th Division Artillery, reinforcing 313th Field Artillery Battalion.
- a. Reinforcing Units: None.
- C. Missions Fired: 28 - 486 rounds.
- a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 4.
Air OP's - 1
- D. Remarks:
- a. Comments & Recommendations: Battalion displaced to forward positions at 1510, closed 1605, distance 6 miles. Battalion fired first battalion volley into Germany at 2043 (Commanding Officer gave command to fire).
- b. Weather: Cloudy.

27 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Lellingen, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 76545528, Battery "A" 7644555437, Battery "B" 7606455960, Battery "C" 7643155236, Battery "D" Pintsche, Luxembourg 7648356718, Service Battery, Nieder Feulen, Luxembourg 7841.
- B. Mission: General support of 80th Division Artillery, reinforcing 313th Field Artillery Battalion (also direct support of 1st Battalion, 318th Infantry Regiment.)
- a. Reinforcing Units: None.

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- C. Missions Fired: 29 - 615 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 3
Air OP's - 6
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy.

28 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Haller, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 95323690, Battery "A" 9507637336, Battery "B" 9537937436, Battery "C" 9470036367, Battery "D" 9573737830, Service Battery Breitweiler, Luxembourg 96903200.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 256th Field Artillery Battalion.
 - Attached Unit: 2nd Platoon, Company "C", 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 88 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: Forward Observers - 4
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Comments & Recommendations: Battalion displaced to new sector starting at 0830, closing in new positions at 1300, distance 36 miles.
 - b. Weather: Cloudy.

29 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Haller, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 95323690, Battery "A" 9507637336, Battery "B" 9537937436, Battery "C" 9470036367, Battery "D" 9573737830, Service Battery Breitweiler, Luxembourg 96903200.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 974th Field Artillery Battalion, 512th FA Bn.
 - Attached Unit: 2nd Platoon, Company "C", 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 6 - 58
 - a. Concentrations: Ground OP's - 4.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Comments & Recommendations: At 0930 the 974th Field Artillery Battalion reinforcing our fires while 276th Field Artillery Battalion ceased its reinforcing mission. At 1130 the 512th Field Artillery Battalion commenced reinforcing our fires.
 - b. Weather: Cloudy.

30 January 1945

- A. Location of Unit: Halle r, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 95323690, Battery "A" 9507637336, Battery "B" 9537937436, Battery "C" 9470036367, Battery "D" 9573737830, Service Battery Breitweiler, Luxembourg 96903200.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
 - a. Reinforcing Unit: 974th & 512th Field Artillery Battalions.
 - Attached Unit: 2nd Platoon, Company "C", 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 2 - 27 rounds.
 - a. Concentrations: None.
- D. Remarks:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy with snow.

S E C R E T

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- A. Location of Unit: Haller, Luxembourg. Headquarters Battery 95323690, Battery "A" 9507637336, Battery "B" 9537937436, Battery "C" 9470036367, Battery "D" 9573737830, Service Battery Breitweiler, Luxembourg 96903200.
- B. Mission: Direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.
a. Reinforcing Unit: 974th & 512th Field Artillery Battalions.
Attached Unit: 2nd Platoon, Company "C", 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion.
- C. Missions Fired: 6 - 24 rounds.
a. Concentrations: None.
- D. Remarks:
a. Weather: Cloudy with rain.

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Operations for the first nineteen days of January were limited to the maintenance of defensive positions in support of the 318th Infantry Regiment as it covered its portion of the South flank of the "Bulge". This period was spent in further improvement of the battery positions for all round defense, especially in regard to tank attack and patrol infiltration. Daily registration checks were made when visibility permitted. Metro messages originating with both Division Artillery and the 93rd Signal Battalion were received and all defensive fires data was kept up to date with latest corrections.

On 19 January an elaborate preparation was planned to support the attack of the 318th Infantry Regiment in a drive to the North. The fire power of four additional battalions was secured in addition to a platoon of 4.2 inch mortars which had been attached to us for fire control. The preparation was never fired when patrols found the town and surrounding ground unoccupied. Another preparation was worked out for continued support but a "sneak" attack made its firing unnecessary.

On 23 January the Division was assigned a new sector at the Southwestern end of the "Bulge". The battalion displaced to new positions the following day with a mission of General Support, reinforcing the fires of the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. Several displacements were made which were coordinated by the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. This was one of the few times that the battalion has had a General Support mission during an attack and it was marked by the general lack of information concerning both our own and enemy Infantry activity. During the night of 24 January a new type (for us) preparation was fired by all reinforcing battalions in support of the following early morning attack. It consisted of TOT's fired on picked spots at intervals throughout the night.

After the successful completion of this operation the Division was relieved by elements of the 17th Airborne Division and displaced by unit to positions formerly occupied by the 4th Division. This battalion once again resumed its normal mission of Direct Support of the 318th Infantry Regiment on 28 January. It occupied positions organized by the previous battalion taking over all installations including a complete wire net. Extensive defensive fire, counter preparation and counter attack plans have been drawn up and prepared.

Remarks and Comments.

The month of January was one of extremely cold weather and heavy snow fall. The operating efficiency of the battalion was not ~~impaired~~ by this fact. The howitzer tube cleaning problem was much simplified by the new cleaning fluid issued for cold weather maintenance. The heavy snow blanket made mine detection impossible since the mine detectors will not operate through heavy snow.

The quality of the Graphical Firing Table is very poor. They have proven very unsatisfactory for continuous field service. The indicator window is very brittle and replacements are unobtainable. A much better rule could be constructed of DOW metal or aluminum with etched graduations and numbers.

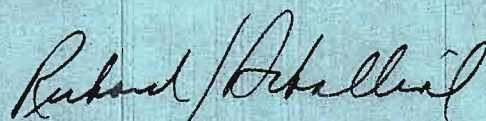
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The standard issue 1/25,000 yard range deflection fan is too long for light battalions and must be cut down to be usable. The material is too thin and the graduations and numbers wear off the back after two months of usage. We have made usable a set by engraving and filling in with black wax the graduations and numbers on the fans we now have.

The Horizontal Control Operator and Vertical Control Operator boards as issued are too large and must be cut down for light battalions. The five ply construction, while preventing warping, presents a hard surface for the plotting pins. A white instead of a yellow pine board would be much more satisfactory.

After a ground observation post, manned by personnel inexperienced in small and large T methods of fire, had experienced great difficulty in obtaining an adjustment using forward observer methods because of the great range to the target, the battalion fire direction center gave instructions to the observer to measure deviation in mils and make positive range sensings only on line shots. Fire direction center then converted the sensings and deviations into commands for the battery and quickly obtained an effective adjustment. This procedure was followed on several occasions with excellent results.



RICHARD J. SCHALLIOL
Major, FA.
S-3.

S E C R E TSECTION II

1st January 1945 - 31 January 1945:

During the first twenty days of the period 314th Field Artillery Battalion had the mission of direct support of the 318th Infantry Regiment. The mission of the Combat Team was a defensive one. We established liaison with Regiment, each of the Infantry Battalions, and Forward Observer teams were sent to each Infantry Company.

During this period we established four ground Observation Posts which were manned twenty-four hours a day. Each Observation Post was given a reference point and all were surveyed in. The coordinates of all locations were passed on to higher headquarters. These Observation Posts were established for a twofold purpose; to cover likely avenues of approach and, to get flash readings on enemy guns. The daylight results were poor due to weather conditions but night readings on flashes were very successful. When more than one Observation Post secured a reading on the same flash we were able by long base intersection to locate the weapon firing. On each of these intersections we requested higher headquarters to fire a Time on Target. As far as we know the results were successful as no further activity was reported from these locations.

All Observation Posts and Forward Observers had both wire and radio communication. Each Observation Post had a direct line plus a party line. It was due to the party line that we were able to get more than one instrument on the same flash. A party line also gives us an extra means of communication.

During the period of 21-28 January we had a General Support Mission reinforcing the fires of the 313th Field Artillery Battalion. We established Liaison to the Direct Support Battalion and supplied Forward Observers and crews. We also maintained liaison with our combat team, 318th Infantry Regiment.

On 28 January the Division received new orders moving it to the vicinity of Haller where we took over the defenses of the sector from the Fourth Infantry Division and assumed the mission of direct support of 318th Infantry Regiment.

In this new location five Observation Posts were established, two of which were manned by the reinforcing battalions, 974th Field Artillery Battalion and 512th Field Artillery Battalion. All Observation Posts were surveyed in and given a reference point. In this position also double Observation Post lines were laid, one of which was a party line.

All during the period Air Observation was coordinated with the reinforcing battalions and a schedule was made out so that observation would be continuous. (weather permitting)

Maps of the 1/25000 meter grid were issued and in large enough quantity for our use. The contour lines of these maps are very inaccurate and it is impossible to determine the correct altitudes of any one point. The issue of 1/50000 meter grid has been inadequate.

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S E C R E T

COMMENTS

The Table of Organization for Forward Observer crews is well below the number actually used and after a few casualties untrained men have to be called upon.

Michael F. Heneghan
MICHAEL F. HENEGHAN
Capt, 314th FABn
S-2

- 2 -

S E C R E T

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The function of supply has in general been satisfactory. Reports are rendered by respective classification.

CLASS I

Rations are coming in regularly but the variety and quantity of meat and green vegetables is insufficient. This is particularly true in the firing batteries where the men perform long hours of manual labor.

Condiments are not being issued in sufficient quantities. With the limited menus condiments for baking are desired.

CLASS II

There is an acute shortage of acetate and scotch tape. These items are very important to an artillery battalion as they facilitate the accurate delivery of fire.

Recent issues of clothing have included shoepacs, camouflage suits, and long leather mittens for use of forward observers and crews. The basis of issue on the above items has been thirty (30) per Battalion. This number is inadequate as there are sixty (60) officers and men employed in this job.

Shoes and field jackets are extremely hard to replace.

CLASS III

Requirements have been met satisfactorily.

CLASS IV

Resupply of ammunition has been very satisfactory. We have encountered no difficulty in drawing ammunitions of the same lot number.

MOTOR NOTES

There is a critical shortage of tires for 1/4 ton and 2-1/2 ton vehicles.

MEDICAL NOTES

Medical evacuations and supply has been satisfactory.

Recommendations:

1. That green vegetables and fresh meat be issued in greater quantity.
2. That scotch tape and acetate be made available.
3. That full rather than token issues be made on shoepacs, camouflage suits, and long leather palm mittens.
4. That replacements for worn out shoes and field jackets be made available.

William H. Hassert
WILLIAM H. HASSERT
1st Lt, 314th FA Bn
Supply Officer.

SECRET

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Message Center traffic during the month was comparatively heavy with approximately 900 items of Administrative nature handled.

Schedules on all administrative reports were maintained thru message center channels during the period. Mail received during the month amounted to approximately 5,000 letters and 600 packages.

Personnel of the Battalion sent home approximately \$6,000.00 and purchased air mail envelopes and stamps in the value of \$540.00 thru the Battalion Mail Clerk.

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY
(Figures taken from S-1 Reports and Morning Reports up to and including 31 January 1945 for the period 1 Jan-45 to 31 Jan-45.)

ENLISTED MEN

<u>DATE</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>LIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>RTD's</u>	<u>NBC</u>
1 Jan							1	1
2 Jan							1	
3 Jan							1	1
4 Jan								2
5 Jan							1	
6 Jan							1	
7 Jan								1
12 Jan							1	2
13 Jan								1
16 Jan							1	
17 Jan								1
19 Jan								1
20 Jan							1	
22 Jan							2	
23 Jan							1	1
26 Jan							1	
27 Jan			2			2		
28 Jan				1		1		
29 Jan								2
30 Jan							1	
31 Jan							1	
<u>TOTAL</u>			2	1		3	14	13

OFFICERS

27 Jan				1		1	2	
28 Jan			2			2		
<u>TOTAL</u>			2	1		3	2	

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND735017S E C R E TBATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY
CANNON COMPANY 318TH INFANTRY(Figures taken from S-1 Reports and Morning Reports up to
and including 31 January 1945 for the period 1 Jan-45 to
31 Jan-45.)

ENLISTED MEN

<u>DATE</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WIA</u>	<u>LIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>RTD's</u>	<u>NBC</u>
4 Jan							1	1
6 Jan							1	
10 Jan								1
11 Jan								1
20 Jan								1
21 Jan							1	
27 Jan								1
TOTAL							2	5

OFFICERS

2 Jan							1	
3 Jan								1
4 Jan								1
TOTAL							1	2

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

None

REINFORCEMENTS RECEIVED
(Including Hospital Returnees)

ENLISTED MEN

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
1 Jan	1
2 Jan	1
3 Jan	1
5 Jan	1
6 Jan	1
12 Jan	1
16 Jan	1
20 Jan	1
22 Jan	2
23 Jan	1
26 Jan	1
30 Jan	1
31 Jan	1
TOTAL	14

OFFICERS

20 Jan	2
25 Jan	1
27 Jan	2
TOTAL	5

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AND 735017SECRETREINFORCEMENTS RECEIVED
CANNON COMPANY 318TH INFANTRY
(Including Hospital Returnees)

ENLISTED MEN

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NO.</u>
4 Jan	1
10 Jan	1
11 Jan	1
20 Jan	1
27 Jan	1
TOTAL	5

OFFICERS

3 Jan	1
TOTAL	1

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Decorations awarded from 1 Jan-45 to 31 Jan-45 incl.

NO.

- 1 Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously)
- 9 Bronze Star Medal
- 3 Silver Star Medal
- 3 Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal

J. F. Roark
J. F. ROARK
Major, 314th FA Bn,
S-1

SECRET