

April 45

HEADQUARTERS 317TH INFANTRY
APO #80, U. S. Army

SECRET

2 May 1945

Subject: After Action Report (S-3).

To : Adjutant General, Washington D.C., thru Commanding General,
80th Infantry Division, APO #80, U.S. Army.

The following report (After Action) from S-3, 317th Infantry Regiment, is submitted in compliance with Section III, 2a, Memo #64, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 24 August 1944.

APRIL 45

1 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) in assembly area vicinity LEIMSFELD, continued to outpost towns units are in. 3rd Bn 317th Inf moved at 1610 to new Regimental assembly area vicinity MADEN; 1st and 2nd Bns, 317th Inf, followed 3rd Bn, and relieved elements of the 318th Inf guarding bridges in the vicinity of OBR MOLLRICK, NDR MOLLRICK, ALTENERUNSLAR. Regimental CP moved to MADEN.

2 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) repulsed an attempted enemy breakthrough with a force of 12 tanks and Inf. 1st Bn 317th Inf seized high ground NE of ALTEHRITTE, 2nd Bn 317th Inf (Regtl Reserve) moved to GROSSENITTE, 3rd Bn 317th Inf seized RENGERSHAUSEN. Co "A", 811th TD (SP) Bn, attached to the 317th Inf, knocked out 4 enemy tanks, two half-tracks, and one gasoline truck, and damaged one enemy tank. The Regiment captured approx 170 PWs, 14 88mm guns, and 3 75mm AT guns. Regimental CP moved to HOLZHAUSEN. Communication with all units by wire, radio and motor messenger.

3 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) continued to protect the Division left flank and to mop-up pockets of enemy resistance. 1st Bn 317th Inf cleared WAHLERSHAUSEN, seized HARLESHAUSEN, and cleared the woods N of town. 2nd Bn 317th Inf (Regimental Reserve) moved to WAHLERSHAUSEN, and the 3rd Bn 317th Inf, Division Reserve from 030800B April to 032000B April, was released to the Regiment at 032000B April. Regiment outposted area N of RENGERSHAUSEN, generally along the Railroad to OBERZWEHREN. Regiment captured 219 PWs.

4 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) attacked to the N 040600B April. 1st Bn 317th Inf captured NIEDERVELMAR, 2nd Bn 317th Inf captured IHRINGSHAUSEN and cleared the area N to the FULDA River; Bn repulsed two enemy counter-attacks, consisting of approx 200 Inf. 3rd Bn 317th Inf (Regimental Reserve) moved to WAHLERSHAUSEN. Regiment protected Division N flank, and blocked hostile routes of escape from KASSEL. Regiment captured approx 607 PWs.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
F.O.M. Carter Capt S.G.-2
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 46

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5 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf), relieved by elements of the 318th Inf N of KASSEL, attacked to the E at 050700B April, and protected Division N flank. The 3rd Bn 317th Inf captured the high ground NW of USCHANG, and, while being relieved by elements of the 272nd Inf, they repulsed an enemy counterattack. 1st Bn 272nd Inf (Reinf) captured LANDWEHRHAGEN, repulsed an enemy counterattack, capturing 72 PWs and killing 50 enemy troops. 2nd Bn 272nd Inf (Reinf) moved to SANDERSHAUSEN. 317th Inf and the 1st and 2nd Bns (Reinf) of the 272nd Inf knocked out one enemy tank, captured 84 PWs, 1 German Military Hospital with staff, and protected Division N flank, repulsing a total of 3 counterattacks.

6 Apr: CT 317 (Reinf) moved by motor and marching to a forward assembly area vicinity of BRUHEIM, and released the 1st and 2nd Bns of the 272nd Inf from attachment. Regimental CP was located at BRUHEIM.

7 Apr: CT 317 (Reinf) moved to the vicinity of REMSTADT, and relieved elements of the 4th Armored Division and the 89th Inf Division. Regiment organized the sector; Regimental CP was at REMSTADT.

8 Apr: CT 317 (Reinf) continued to occupy sector. Co "F" seized TROCHTELBORN, and elements of the 3rd Bn seized PFERDINGSLEBEN. 1st Bn 317th Inf remained in CT reserve. Regimental CP remained in REMSTADT.

9 Apr: CT 317 (Reinf) seized Hill 405. 1st Bn 317th Inf (CT reserve) protected the CT left flank, and blocked all roads into the sector from the NW, N and NE. 2nd Bn 317th Inf seized Hill 405 with one company, and KLEINFÄHNER. 3rd Bn 317th Inf defended sector TROCHTELBORN-NOTTBEN, seized GAMSTADT and FRIENSTEDT. CT 317 CP moved to BUFLEBEN.

10 Apr: CT 317 (Reinf) continued the attack to the E 100700B. 1st Bn 317th Inf (CT reserve) moved to SALOMONSBORN, 2nd Bn 317th Inf seized TOTENSTADT, TIEFTHAL, GISPERSLEBEN against heavy enemy resistance. CT captured 8 20mm AA (dual-purpose) guns, 1 assault gun, and Approx 600 PWs.

11 Apr: CT 317 mopped up GISPERSBEBEN-KILIANI, and seized Hill 230. Co "K" captured MABACH, and repulsed an enemy counterattack of Inf and armor; they knocked out 2 assault guns. CT 317 CP moved to GISPERSLEBEN-KILIANI; CT captured Approx 450 PWs.

12 Apr: CT 317 continued advance to the E, mopping-up elements bypassed by the 4th Armored Division; CT captured portion of ERFURT in zone, WEIMAR and KOTSCHAL; captured Approx 1300 PWs.

13 Apr: CT 317 continued advance to the E, mopping-up elements bypassed by the 4th Armored Division; relieved elements of the 4th Armored Division in JENA, mopped-up JENA E of the SAALE River, and maintained law and order in WEIMAR. CT captured Approx 250 PWs.

14 Apr: CT 317 relieved elements of the 319th Inf in GERA, maintained law and order in WEIMAR, JENA, EISENBERG and GERA. CT captured Approx 900 PWs, including a Brigadier General with his staff of four Officers.

15 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) continued the advance to the E, maintained law and order in GERA, relieved elements of the 319th Inf in GRIMMITSCHAU, and cleared the woods SW of BAD KOSTRITZ.

16 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) continued to maintain law and order in GERA, BADKOSTRITZ, GRIMMITSCHAU and MEERANE, conducting tactical and technical training concurrently.

17 Apr: No change.

18 Apr: No change.

19 Apr: No change.

20 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) moved by motor to an assembly area in the vicinity of EHRL.

21 Apr: 317th Inf maintained law and order in WURGAL, BURGLESAN, SCHLAPPENREUTH and BURGELLERN, conducting tactical and technical training concurrently.

22 Apr: No change.

23 Apr: 317th Inf moved by motor to an assembly area in NURNEBERG, relieving friendly troops in town.

24 Apr: 317th Inf maintained law and order in assigned sector of NURNBERG, conducting tactical and technical training concurrently.

25 Apr: No change.

26 Apr: No change.

27 Apr: No change.

28 Apr: No change.

29 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) moved by motor to the vicinity of KOFERING in Division reserve.

30 Apr: 317th Inf (Reinf) continued in Division reserve, moved by motor to the vicinity of MARTINSBUCH. Co "E" (Reinf) moved to the N bank of the ISAR River in the vicinity of DINGOLFING with the mission to eliminate enemy entrenched in DINGOLFING in conjunction with the 318th Inf.

ADDENDA

1. German resistance during this period was scattered. Many calculated risks were taken to achieve tactical ends which would have proven disastrous under conditions of combat prior to this period.

2. During this period, the deterioration of the German Army continued, particularly evident from the wholesale surrender of large and small units.

James H. Hayes
JAMES H. HAYES,
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S-3