

HEADQUARTERS 319TH INFANTRY  
Office of the Regimental Commander  
APO #80, U. S. ARMY

1 February 1945

AG 319

SUBJECT: Reports After Action Against Enemy

From: 1 January 1945

To : 31 January 1945

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

SECTION I.....Summary of daily operations and action (S-3)  
SECTION II.....Intelligence operations (S-2)  
SECTION III.....Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4)  
SECTION IV.....Personnel and allied administration (S-1)

SECTION I - Summary of daily operations and action (S-3)

OBERFEULEN (P777400) 1 - 4 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry to occupy, organize and defend left sector of the Division.

On 1 January 1945, 1st Bn reinforced by K Co 3d Bn and two platoons of Co A, 610th TD Bn, and one platoon Co C, 702d Tank Bn continued to hold positions running from high ground North of RINGEL (P763478) to P764460 with attached K Co 3d Bn outposting TADLER (P749470). 3d Bn, minus K Co, outposted HEIDERSCHIEDERGRUND (P725465) with one reinforced platoon Co L and outposted town of HEIDERSCHIED (P738445). 2d Bn remained in Regiment Reserve vicinity HEIDERSCHIED.

On 2 January 1945, 2d Bn reinforced by K Co 3d Bn, two platoons Co A, 610th TD Bn and one platoon Co C, 702d Tank Bn relieved 1st Bn on position. Relief completed at 1925 hours. 1st Bn closed in HEIDERSCHIED at 2015 and became the reserve Bn of the Regiment. 3d Bn continued to outpost HEIDERSCHIED and outposted HEIDERSCHIEDERGRUND with a reinforced platoon from L Co.

On 3 and 4 January 1945, Bns and supporting units continued to hold positions.

OBERFEULEN (P777400) - HEIDERSCHIED (P738446) 5 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) crosses SURE River 060400A January 1945, attack North and seize GOESDORF, DAHL and NOCHER and prepare ground gained for defense.

319th Infantry had attached in addition to normal attachments Co D, 702d Tank Bn, upon receipt of Division FO #25 giving the Regiment the mission of crossing the SURE River and seizing GOESDORF, DAHL and NOCHER and setting up defense of ground gained. 166th Engr Bn to build bridge vicinity P722466 for crossing. Regimental FO #40 issued to all Bns, attached and supporting units covering operations for 6 January 1945. 2d Bn relieved by 1st Bn, 317th Infantry. Relief effected at 2145 with the exception of one mortar platoon whose relief was completed at 2400 and who closed with Bn in HEIDERSCHIED at 060300A January 1945. Bns prepared to follow Regimental FO #40. 166th Engr Bn worked on bridge which construction was hindered by heavy artillery fire. Due to hostile artillery fire, it was decided to build a trestle instead of a Bailey bridge. One platoon from

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On 2 January 1945, 2d Bn reinforced by K Co 3d Bn, two platoons Co A, 610th TD Bn and one platoon Co C, 702d Tank Bn relieved 1st Bn on position. Relief completed at 1925 hours. 1st Bn closed in HEIDERSCHIED at 2015 and became the reserve Bn of the Regiment. 3d Bn continued to outpost HEIDERSCHIED and outposted HEIDERSCHIEDERGRUND with a reinforced platoon from L Co.

On 3 and 4 January 1945, Bns and supporting units continued to hold positions.

OBERFEULEN (P777400) - HEIDERSCHIED (P738446) 5 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) crosses SURE River 060400A January 1945, attack North and seize GOESDORF, DAHL and NOCHER and prepare ground gained for defense.

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Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

F Co 319th Infantry outposted the bridge site. 319th Infantry Forward CP moved from OBERFULEN (P777400) to HEIDERSCHEID (P738446) and closed at 2145.

HEIDERSCHEID (P738446) - GOESDORF (P729484) 6 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) crosses SURE River 060400A January 1945, attack North and seize GOESDORF, DAHL and NOCHER and prepare ground gained for defense.

Bridge, except for one section of treadway, was completed at 060400A and was passable for foot troops. 3d Bn (reinforced with Mine Platoon 319th Infantry), Co C (less one Plat) 702d Tank Bn, Co A (less one platoon) 610th TD Bn (SF) crossed SURE River at point P722466 at 060400A January 1945, with foot elements and advanced on road to BUDERSCHEID and cut cross country to be in position to attack DAHL. Treadway bridge completed at 060430A. 1st Bn, reinforced with one platoon Co C 702d Tank Bn and one platoon Co A 610th TD Bn (SF), crossed behind 3d Bn with foot elements at 060530A January 1945. At 0650, 1st Bn prepared to enter GOESDORF without artillery preparation. At 0825, 3d Bn foot elements were 1000 yards Southwest of DAHL and receiving very heavy enemy artillery and long range small arms fire from North. 3d Bn forces were temporarily split by this fire but Lt Colonel CHESTON maneuvered his forces and reunited them for an attack on DAHL. Tanks and TDs held up at bridge crossing and just North of crossing by a knocked out German Tank blocking road. Crossing heavily shelled. One TD, 610th TD Bn set on fire by enemy artillery setting off its ammunition. This event further hindered movement of TDs and tanks. Co C, 305th Engr Bn removed enemy tank blocking road, sanded road and removed TD from road. Tanks and TDs proceeded to respective Bns. At 0950, 1st Bn had nearly all of GOESDORF. Occupation of GOESDORF by 1st Bn completed 061000A. Co C 702d Tank Bn joined 1st Bn in GOESDORF. 3d Bn placed artillery concentration on DAHL and jumped off in the attack at 1230. I Co swung Northwest of DAHL to block any threat from that direction. I and K Cos entered town and began mopping up. At 1335, Co D 702d Tank Bn was ordered to GOESDORF to aid in policing town and to remain with 2d Bn when 2d Bn relieved 1st Bn. Remaining tanks and TDs to report to 1st Bn in GOESDORF. 3d Bn had town of DAHL 061400A and were regrouping to advance on NOCHER 061520A. Co C (less one platoon), 702d Tank Bn and Co A (less one platoon), 610th TD Bn on way to 3d Bn at 061400A. 2d Bn ordered at 061500A to move from HEIDERSCHEID to GOESDORF. 3d Bn with tanks and TDs jumped off at 1545 to attack NOCHER. At 1615, 3d Bn took up positions just North of DAHL and prepared for possible counterattack from the North and Northwest. Received heavy German artillery. 1st Bn moved to DAHL and closed in town at 1700. Forward Regimental CP moved to GOESDORF and closed at 1730. 2d Bn foot elements closed in GOESDORF at 1800. Regimental AT Gun Plat attached to 2d Bn. 2d Bn outposted GOESDORF using AT Gun Platoon and Co D 702d Tank Bn in plan. 1st and 3d Bns prepared defensive positions with 1st Bn protecting to the North and Northeast of DAHL and 3d Bn protecting from North and Northwest of DAHL. 2d Bn posted one platoon of F Co at point P728469 to guard approach to bridge. I & R Platoon to send patrol from 3d Bn 319th Infantry to contact 2d Bn 104th Infantry at BUDERSCHEID. At 2300, I & R Platoon sent a patrol to guard bridge crossing at P722466. Bns held positions for the night.

GOESDORF (P729484) 7 - 17 January 1945

Mission: To hold present positions.

2d Bn sent E Co, reinforced by Co D 702d Tank Bn, to make a reconnaissance

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

in force from GOESDORF to BOCKHOLTZ and occupy the village. At 0941, E Co moved out and at 1000 E Co ran into enemy small arms fire at point P738486. E Co became engaged in a fire fight with a strong enemy force. Enemy used tanks in fire fight with E Co. E Co ordered to withdraw to original position in East sector of GOESDORF. PWs taken during this engagement stated that a force estimated as a Bn reinforced with medium tanks were preparing to attack and seize town of GOESDORF. 2d Bn placed artillery and mortar and small arms fire on the enemy in the woods and draw to East of GOESDORF with devastating effect. By 1225, the enemy had withdrawn. 3d Bn sent a strong patrol which swept woods to West of DAHL and contacted 104th Infantry at BUDERSCHIED. This patrol met no enemy. One platoon of TDs from 3d Bn sector ordered to report to 2d Bn in GOESDORF for anti-mechanized security of the town. 317th Infantry sent a platoon, reinforced, to guard crossing at P722466. F Co road block at point P729469 consisted of a rifle platoon plus two bazookas and one AT gun, and was reinforced by one section 80th Rcn Troop consisting of two M-8s, two 37mm guns, two 50 cal MGs, six 30 cal MGs and two bazookas. Regimental I & R Platoon maintained contact with 2d Bn, 104th Infantry, 26th Division. 2d Bn held a perimeter defense of GOESDORF and 1st and 3d Bns outposted DAHL.

On 8 January 1945, an enemy artillery barrage was directed at GOESDORF and DAHL approximately 0530 and 1st Bn reported enemy infantry approaching their position from draw to their Northeast. 2d Bn received enemy infantry attack from draw to the East of GOESDORF simultaneously with attack against 1st Bn. At 0630, 1st Bn received enemy infantry pressure from the Northwest. 1st and 2d Bns directed artillery fire on attacking forces with good effect. 3d Bn was attacked from the Northwest with infantry and tanks. The attack was preceded by artillery fire. 3d Bn, 1st Bn reinforced by the fires of Co A 610th TD Bn and Co C 702d Tank Bn placed deadly fire on the enemy infantry and tanks. Eight enemy tanks known to be knocked out and unnumbered enemy dead littered the fields. 2d Bn, reinforced by the fires of Co D 702d Tank Bn and the artillery fire of 905th FA Bn (Reinf) stopped the enemy and inflicted heavy casualties on enemy personnel. By 1200, the enemy limited his activity to artillery fire. 905th FA Bn (Reinf) continued to harass enemy with their fire. One platoon Co A, 610th TD Bn, was detached from 3d Bn to be attached to 2d Bn at GOESDORF. Due to casualties sustained by Co A 610th TD Bn, 319th Infantry requested an additional platoon of TDs. One platoon, Co B, 610th TD Bn (SP) reported to GOESDORF and was attached to 3d Bn. Two TDs returned from 3d Bn for repair. Major General HORACE L. McBRIDE commended 319th Infantry Regiment (Reinf) for its determination and skill in the defense of GOESDORF and DAHL. Bns held positions for the night.

During 9 January 1945, Bns reinforced by tanks and TDs continued to hold positions. An armored attack developed in the direction of E Co position at 1400 but did not make a penetration of this position. TDs were alerted but enemy armor did not close to sufficient range for effective targets. Enemy armor withdrew to East and Northeast. No further enemy demonstrations occurred during the day.

During 10 January 1945, Bns continued to hold positions and to patrol to the East and North. Contact patrols maintained contact with 2d Bn, 104th Infantry, 26th Division.

At 110700A January 1945, E Co 319th Infantry moved out from position with the mission of seizing BOCKHOLTZ and destroying the enemy there. Advancing through the woods to the East of GOESDORF, E Co approached BOCKHOLTZ from the Southwest. By

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

0855, E Co had reached high ground to the Southwest of BOCKHOLZ and had no close contact with the enemy. The assault forces of E Co held up on high ground due to enemy shelling BOCKHOLZ. E Co swept woods to the Southeast of DAHL meeting no opposition and took up position on high ground to the Northwest of BOCKHOLZ to block from the Northeast. E Co sent a platoon into BOCKHOLZ when enemy artillery let up, to seize town. Met little enemy resistance and by 1150 had occupied town with one platoon and had captured 74 EM PWs and one officer PW. E Co then outposted town with platoon, sent one platoon to comb South edge of woods from BOCKHOLZ to GOESDORF and the SURE River road East to BOCKHOLZ. E Co was released and returned to 3d Bn. E Co found the town of BOCKHOLZ heavily mined and booby trapped. One squad from the 319th Infantry Mine Platoon aided E Co to remove mines and to lay mine fields at P753487, P758489 and P758488. Co C 305th Engr Bn laid mine field at P756484 and installed trip flares covering E Co position. E Co sent a squad to cross road at P759489 and established a block there. A squad minus placed to guard mine field at P756484. One platoon E Co minus in BOCKHOLZ reinforced with one TD, Co A 610th TD Bn and one section of tanks from Co C 702d Tank Bn outposted town. Two platoons E Co held high ground to Southwest of town. The platoon of 80th Rcn moved from position at P730470 to position P752477 and set up road block. One platoon Co F at P730470 returned to Co in GOESDORF. One AT gun left at P730470. At 1912, E Co reported that an enemy patrol attempted to infiltrate into BOCKHOLZ but E Co drove them off. Bns held positions and patrolled to the North, Northeast and West.

On 12 January 1945, E Co continued to hold positions vicinity BOCKHOLZ. The Bns maintained their present positions. The enemy limited his activity to shelling the towns of DAHL, GOESDORF and BOCKHOLZ.

During 13 January 1945, Bns maintained same positions. The enemy increased his shelling of DAHL, GOESDORF and BOCKHOLZ. One platoon, Co B, 610th TD Bn (SP) relieved of attachment to 319th Infantry and reported to Co B, 610th TD Bn (SP).

On 14 January 1945, upon Division order, Co D 702d Tank Bn was released from 319th Infantry and reverted to 702d Tank Bn control. The Bns, reinforced by their supporting weapons, continued to hold and improve their positions. The Bns and Regiment conducted patrols to the North, Northeast and East. Contact maintained with adjacent units.

During 15 January 1945, continued to hold and improve positions. Continued to patrol to the North, Northeast and East.

During 16 January 1945, Bns continued to improve positions. Preparations made to comply with Division FO #26 which had the mission for the 319th Infantry to attack and seize NOCHER and the high ground vicinity MASSELER. Sporadic shelling throughout the day.

During 17 January 1945, preparations made for 3d Bn's attack on NOCHER. Bns and supporting units held present positions. 3d Bn 317th Infantry moved into GOESDORF (P7248) under cover of darkness 17 January 1945 and organized a perimeter defense of the town. Regiment and Bns patrolled vigorously to the North, Northeast and East to determine enemy dispositions.

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

GOESDORF (P729484) 18 January 1945

**Mission:** 319th Infantry (Reinf) attacks and seizes NOCHER and high ground vicinity MASSELER.

3d Bn reinforced with Co G, 2d Bn; one platoon, Co C 702d Tank Bn; one platoon, Co A 610th TD Bn (SP); one platoon, Co C 305th Engr Bn. 1st Bn reinforced with one platoon, Co A 610th TD Bn (SP); one platoon, Co C 702d Tank Bn; Mine Platoon 319th Infantry. 2d Bn, less G Co, reinforced with one platoon, Co A 610th TD Bn (SP); one platoon, Co C 702d Tank Bn. 3d Bn jumped off in the attack at 180700A January 1945 on NOCHER minus any artillery preparation to effect the element of surprise. 1st and 2d Bns remained in position. The foot troops of 3d Bn advanced on NOCHER in two columns: K Co had the mission of blocking any hostile approach toward NOCHER from the West and Northwest at point P730512, I and L Cos with G Co in reserve approached the town from the Southeast with the mission of seizing and occupying NOCHER. At 0740, I and L Cos reached the Southeast edge of town and K Co advanced to Northeast edge of woods at P730510 meeting no opposition. Enemy artillery opened up on DAHL with a heavy concentration. The tanks and TDs of 3d Bn had been ordered to join 3d Bn at 0740. 2d Bn ordered to leave E Co in position at BOCKHOLZ to support 1st Bn by fire when 1st Bn moved out; the remainder of 2d Bn to move to DAHL. At 0820, 3d Bn minus K Co occupied NOCHER and received heavy enemy shelling. K Co held up by enemy in dug in positions at P730512. The CO of K Co directed artillery fire on dug in enemy. The movement of the tanks and TDs was hampered by direct hostile fire, enemy mine fields and large snow drifts. At 0915, one platoon of TDs had reached NOCHER. By 0935, 2d Bn (-) had completed move to DAHL; K Co prepared to move against enemy positions. One Bn of 317th Infantry vicinity KINGEL (P7647) prepared to place fire on high ground just West of MASSELER (P7749) commencing 1115 to support the attack of 1st Bn (Reinf) on this high ground. 1st Bn foot troops jumped off with A and C Cos as the assault Cos and B Co in reserve. Progress was slow due to deep snow and poor visibility. At 1215, 3d Bn had taken the following positions: L Co protecting NOCHER from the North and Northeast, I Co from the East and South, G Co from the West and North, K Co advanced to P730512. Enemy shelled NOCHER and K Co, located vicinity road junction at P730512. At 1225, leading elements of 1st Bn at P750495; heavy shelling in DAHL. At 1410, C Co located at P758498 and receiving heavy small arms fire from draw to the North; A Co at P758496 receiving small arms fire from the East and B Co located at P750496. One platoon of I Co sent out to contact K Co made contact but were cut off by enemy infiltration. The platoon of I Co joined K Co. At 1500, K Co was about 300 yards East and Southeast of road junction P729512 and had a stiff fight with enemy. 3d Bn shifted positions with L Co protecting from North; I Co from the East; G Co, less one platoon, from the West. One platoon G Co tied in with K Co. K Co held position P730509 - P732512. Ammunition for K Co hand carried, a half track being used to get additional ammunition up to TDs and tanks. 1st Bn ordered back to DAHL and by 1930 the Bn had occupied positions with A Co defending from the East, B Co from the North, and C Co from the South. 2d Bn outposted DAHL from the West. The 80th acn Troop patrolled between DAHL and NOCHER on the flanks by dismounted patrols. Contact maintained with 104th Infantry and with the 317th Infantry. Bns maintained positions for the night. The enemy continued to shell NOCHER and DAHL.

GOESDORF (P729484) 19 January 1945

**Mission:** Hold and improve present positions.

At 190837A January 1945, K Co continued attack against enemy-held positions

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

vicinity road junction P729512 and by 1030 K Co occupied all buildings East of the road junction. They found one building heavily booby trapped. Regiment received word from Division not to push on to the North or East but to hold and improve present positions. One platoon from I Co made contact between K Co and 3d Bn in NOCHER (P7351). Trip flares were installed vicinity NOCHER. G Co released by 3d Bn and returned to 2d Bn in DAHL (P7350) closing at 1900. 1st Bn continued to hold present positions.

GOESDORF (P729484) 20 January 1945

Mission: Hold and improve present positions.

During 20 January 1945, Bns continued to hold and improve positions. Trip flares installed vicinity NOCHER (P7352) by 3d Bn with assistance of Co C 305th Engr Bn. At 1028, K Co had fire fight with approximately 30 enemy at P726513, enemy withdrew. Contact maintained with 317th Infantry on our right and with 28th Cavalry on left through attached 80th Rcn Troop. Bns conducted patrolling to the North, East and west of positions.

GOESDORF (P729484) 21 - 22 January 1945

Mission: Received Division FO #27 with a mission to continue attack to the North on Division order.

F Co sent a platoon, reinforced by two squads of Engineers, to sweep woods and draws in grid square P7450 of any enemy and reported mines. The platoon advanced through woods meeting no opposition and removing 12 AP mines. 2d Bn ordered remainder of F Co to join the platoon located at P743508. The terrain and deep snow hindered the assembling of the Co. After assembling, the Co attempted to gain high ground just East of NOCHER (P7351) but were held up by direct fire from the East and Southeast. 1st Bn sent a patrol to make a reconnaissance in area P7549 to P7749. Patrol ran into enemy dug in in grid square P7549 and the patrol was withdrawn to the Bn. F Co set up a perimeter defense at P743508 and maintained position for the night. Regiment and Bns conducted night patrols to the North, Northeast, Northwest and East. Co C, 317th Infantry was ordered to relieve E Co, 319th Infantry vicinity HOCKHOLZ. Relief completed 2235. E Co marched to DAHL and closed at 2355. 80th Rcn Troop, reinforced by one platoon, Co D 702d Tank Bn, relieved from attachment 1800, but remained in GOESDORF.

On 22 January 1945, F Co advanced from position P743508 to high ground vicinity P751510 and dug in positions to protect from the North and East. No opposition met during this advance. F Co maintained contact with the right flank of 3d Bn by patrol. G Co moved one platoon to position P749501 from which they could cover the right flank of F Co by fire and also protect from the North and East. 1st Bn sent one platoon from A Co to patrol to high ground vicinity MASSELER (P7849). The patrol met no opposition but progress was slow due to deep snow drifts. At 1155, 80th Rcn Troop, reinforced by one platoon Co D 702d Tank Bn, cleared GOESDORF. 1st Bn patrol reported no enemy activity in MASSELER (P7849). 1st Bn sent B Co to occupy MASSELER and at 1700, B Co closed in town. 2d Bn ordered to occupy high ground P765500 and P748488. One platoon G Co, reinforced with one section HMGs, outposted high ground at P765500 and one platoon E Co

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

outposted high ground P748488 and extended west to tie in with remainder of 2d Bn in DAHL (P7350). Remainder of 1st Bn moved to MASSELER and occupied the town and high ground to the west maintaining contact with E Co platoon by patrol. 3d Bn ordered K Co back to DAHL for rehabilitation. One platoon I Co occupied former K Co position (P730512) and the remainder of 3d Bn occupied NOCHER (P7351). Co C, 317th Infantry relieved from occupying and defending BOCHOLZ at 1800 to revert to Bn control. Bns held positions for the night and patrolled to the North, Northeast and East. Division FO #28 received and 319th Infantry prepared to carry out mission of clearing enemy from South of WILTZ River in Regimental Zone and of patrolling North of WILTZ River to determine enemy disposition.

GOESDORF (P729484), 23 January 1945

Mission: Seize and occupy KAUTENBACH (P7652), MERKOLS (P7452) and ALSCHIED (P7653).

At 1230, F Co, reinforced with one platoon G Co, moved against KAUTENBACH (P7652). At 1220, 3d Bn moved one Co reinforced against MERKOLS (P7452). At 1410, F Co (Reinf) moved into KAUTENBACH meeting heavy fire from houses on the high ground to the North of town. E Co moved to position on high ground P7451 and G Co (-) moved to NOCHER (P7451). At 1240, L Co (Reinf) advanced against MERKOLS. Co C moved to DAHL (P7349) and A Co occupied positions on high ground P765499. L Co crossed WILTZ River over ice and by 1600 the leading elements approached MERKOLS, meeting no enemy personnel but running into mine fields. Engineers were unable to build class 40 bridge at P741522, but did build a class 8 bridge. At 1805, L Co had secured MERKOLS and moved one platoon of L Co to high ground at P742540. At 1835, F Co held lower part of KAUTENBACH but the enemy held the high part of the town and placed heavy automatic and rifle fire on F Co. Two platoons of F Co tried to maneuver around west flank of the enemy but met heavy fire. F Co ordered to hold up for the night and resume attack early 24 January 1945. L Co consolidated positions. Engineers (Reinf) swept roads of snow drifts and checked for mines.

GOESDORF (P729484), 24 January 1945

Mission: Seize and occupy KAUTENBACH and ALSCHIED.

E Co jumped off in the advance on ALSCHIED (P7653) at 240400A January 1945. The Co advanced without any opposition. One platoon of 166th Engr Bn built Class 8 bridge vicinity MERKOLS (P7452) and at 0630, jeeps could use the bridge. F Co continued to fight for upper portion of KAUTENBACH (P7651). At 0915, K Co moved to MERKOLS. At 0930, E Co gained contact with the enemy in the west edge of ALSCHIED. At 1030, E Co occupied ALSCHIED and mopped up town. The town contained many AT and AP mines. Enemy artillery fell in the town. The Engineers were notified to reinforce the bridge at MERKOLS to a Class 10 bridge. At 1330, K Co closed in MERKOLS. C Co sent a patrol to search out woods to the East of DAHL (P7349). At 1720, E Co reported ALSCHIED clear of enemy; F Co continued to meet strong enemy resistance. At 1740, bridge at MERKOLS reported reinforced. G Co moved out for ALSCHIED from MERKOLS at 1715. At 2020, G Co closed at ALSCHIED and F Co reported town of KAUTENBACH clear of enemy. Contact established and maintained between units in ALSCHIED and KAUTENBACH. Tanks and TDs remained South of WILTZ River.

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

GOESDORF (P729484) 25 January 1945

Mission: Patrol to East to determine enemy disposition.

2d Bn sent a patrol East of CLERF River to town of CONSTHUM (P7954). The patrol, a reinforced platoon, crossed the CLERF River at 1100 and worked its way toward the town. The patrol sent a squad to the west edge of the town and they found enemy dug in in positions around the perimeter of the town. The patrol was called back to the Bn when it was learned that the 5th Division would send its reconnaissance troop to reconnoiter CONSTHUM and vicinity. At 1610, the 2d Bn patrol returned. At 1650, 2d Bn 318th Infantry was attached to 319th Infantry and relieved our units on position by 260130A January 1945. 3d Bn assembled in METKOLS; 1st Bn moved to DAHL. Received orders from 80th Division to move by motor to vicinity LAROCLETTE and become attached to the 4th Infantry Division.

GOESDORF (P729484) - KEWEIBACH (P9239) 26 January 1945

Mission: To relieve the 8th Infantry and one Bn 12th Infantry with two Bns.

The advance party of 319 UT left GOESDORF (P7248) at 0740 for 4th Division CP at FELS (LAROCLETTE) (P9132). At the 4th Division CP, a change in route was received and a new assembly point designated. The command group consisting of the regimental Bn and Co COs left for the new area at 1215. Column intercepted at ETTLEBRUCK (P8239) and informed to assemble at BETTENDORF (P9142). The main body of the UT moved from GOESDORF at 1355. 2d Bn, 318th Infantry released from attachment to 319 UT at 1200. The CP closed at KEWEIBACH at 1420. The movement was without incident and 319 UT completed its mission of relieving 8th Infantry Regiment and 1st Bn, 12th Infantry Regiment by 262200A January 1945. The 1st Bn occupied the right sector of regimental Zone and 3d Bn the left sector. 2d Bn in UT reserve.

KEWEIBACH (P9239) - GILSDORF (P8841) 27 January 1945

Mission: To maintain and improve present positions.

The 319th Infantry (Reinf) held a line running generally from MURREN (P8947) exclusive, Southeast to KEISDORF (P9441) inclusive, with the 3d Bn on the left and the 1st Bn on the right; the 2d Bn was in reserve at BETTENDORF (P9142). The 3d Bn moved its CP from LONGSDORF (P9045) to GILSDORF (P8841). The 2d Bn moved from ETTLEBRUCK (P8239) to BETTENDORF (P9142). The 1st Bn CP remained in the town of MOESTROFF (9241). 905th FA Bn moved CP to GILSDORF. The Bns maintained and improved the positions and established contact on the right with C Co, 2d Infantry. Co A, 91st Cml Bn attached to the Regiment at 1835. One platoon, Co B 633d AAA AW Bn (Mbl) provided anti-aircraft protection for the regimental CP which closed in GILSDORF at 1500. Bns maintained bridge guards on bridges in sector.

GILSDORF (P8841) 28 January 1945

Mission: To maintain and improve present positions.

318th Infantry relieved 22d Infantry on the right of the 319th Infantry. Contact point between 319th Infantry and 318th Infantry established at P442420. 319th Infantry continued to maintain and improve positions. Co A relieved Co B in 1st Bn sector at 2030.

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd)

GILSDORF (P8841) - LINTGEN (P8425) 29 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry to be relieved by UCB 4th Armd Division 29 January 1945 and proceed to rest area Northeast of LUXEMBOURG and become attached to 4th Armd Division for operational purposes only.

UCB 4th Armd Division made preparations to relieve 319th Infantry. All attachments relieved except Co C, 305th Medical Bn. 2d Bn 319th Infantry relieved by 53d Armd Inf Bn at 1640 and 2d Bn proceeded to ROLLINGEN (P8328) closing in new area at 2015. 1st Bn relieved by 10th Armd Inf Bn at 2015 and moved to new area at KEHLIN (P7720). 3d Bn relieved by 51st Armd Inf Bn at 2310 and started moving to new area at STEINSEL (P8821) and HEISDORF SUR ALZETTE (P8520). The Regimental Forward CP moved to LINTGEN at 1830 and closed at 1930. The Regimental CP completely closed in LINTGEN at 2400.

LINTGEN (P8425) 30 - 31 January 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry placed on a one-hour alert status.

319th Infantry, Co C 305th Med Bn attached, occupied bivouac area and proceeded to rehabilitate and re-equip its personnel. Received counterattack plan of 4th Armd Division and a reconnaissance was made of assigned sectors, 30 January 1945.

During 31 January 1945, 319th Infantry, Co C 305th Med Bn attached, continued to occupy rest areas and to rehabilitate and re-equip its personnel. Reconnaissance made for firing ranges in the immediate vicinity of Bn areas. Training program begun to cover squad and platoon tactics and firing of infantry weapons. The regiment continued under one-hour alert status.

*Ralph J. Wevers*

RAIPH J. WEVERS  
Major, Infantry  
S-3

Inclosures: S-3 Journals for January 1945.

Approved:

*W. N. Taylor*  
W. N. TAYLOR  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

SECTION II - INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS (S-2)

Maps: GSGS 4041: Sheets 122, 137.  
Scale 1/25,000.  
GSGS 4414: Sheets 6002, 6003, 6102, 6103, 6202, 6302.  
Scale 1/25,000.

During the month of January, 1945, prisoners were taken from the 987th and 988th VG Regts, 276th VG Div, the 212th and 226th VG Regts, 79th VG Div, the 179th Arty Regt and Der Fuehrer's Brigade. Due to these regiments being greatly understrength and composed of many poorly trained replacements, their state of preparedness must be considered low. Morale of all prisoners was very low, due in part to the low quality food and the fact that officers and NCO's desert their men when attacked.

Enemy defensive positions are well prepared but apparently poorly manned. During several of our attacks, the enemy has been taken entirely by surprise resulting in a general rout. One officer PW taken in the vicinity of KAUTENBACH stated that he was sent to KAUTENBACH to provide anti-tank defense of the road from KAUTENBACH to ALSCHIED. He did not know what unit he was supposed to contact and could find no one who did, so he and his men went to sleep in a house in KAUTENBACH. Extensive use was made of mines and booby traps. After the attack and capture of NOCHER, the enemy infiltrated and placed mines on a previously cleared road. The 987th and 988th Regts were employed N and NE of DAHL and NOCHER; the 212th Regt was employed E of NOCHER and the 226th Regt was employed E of DAHL and in the vic of MASSELER. The 1st Bn, 226th Regt was moved to LONGSDORF on 19 January 1945. A counter-attack with 3 Bns of Infantry supported by tanks was launched from the SE and NW on DAHL at 080640A Jan, but was completely broken up by our arty and mortars. Part of this attack was seen headed toward GOESDORF but was repulsed. The enemy suffered heavy casualties.

It was observed that the morale of PWs captured during the month suffered a definite decline as doubts in their minds of the success of the ARDENNES offensive became stronger. Strong counter-attacks, such as the one on DAHL, tended to lower morale and proved to the Germans the futility of their struggle.

Toward the end of the month, the manpower shortage became increasingly acute indicated by the fact that non-Germans, heretofore employed in rear areas only, were used in front line units.

Most PWs were well informed of the progress of the Russian offensive. Near the end of the month it was noted that the Germans expressed regret that they were captured, since they believed the war would be over soon and the way home via Berlin is shorter than through the PWs.

Often the prisoners are not able to locate the position of their units because they cannot locate themselves on the map. Tying a small tag to each prisoner giving the location of his capture by coordinates has been of value in this regard.

Incl: S-2 Journal for January 1945.

Approved:

*W. N. Taylor*  
W. N. TAYLOR  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

*Roy E. Thacker*  
ROY E. THACKER  
Capt, 319th Inf  
S-2

### SECTION III - Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4).

#### 1. Class I (Rations).

a. Ration requests were submitted to Regtl S-4 for issuance 72 hours later. Requests were consolidated and forwarded to Division QM daily.

b. Requests for rations showed the effective strength of the requesting units and the type of rations desired. Whenever possible, "B" rations were issued to the reserve units.

c. All units were required to maintain a three (3) day reserve for emergency. In the event that the reserve became depleted, a separate request was submitted indicating that the rations were for the purpose of maintaining the three (3) day reserve.

d. All troops were warned that captured enemy foods and beverages would not be consumed except upon release by a medical officer who would check for the possibility of poison having been placed therein.

#### 2. Water.

a. All troops were warned that water secured from other than authorized water points will be chlorinated or boiled before using.

b. Whenever available, water for use by troops was drawn from water points set up by Army or Division Engineers. Units had sufficient Calcium Hypochlorite to purify water drawn from any sources available in the event that there was not an Army or Division Engineer water point. All units were notified that all water regardless of source would be chlorinated prior to use by troops.

#### 3. Class II (Clothing and Equipment).

a. All unit requisitions for Class II supplies were cleared through each Battalion S-4. Special Unit Companies submitted requisitions individually to the Regimental S-4.

b. Requisitions submitted were checked to see that the following were correct:

- (1) Correct nomenclature was used.
- (2) Tariff sizes on clothing requisitions were used.
- (3) SNL groups and stock numbers were shown for ordnance items.
- (4) Only one class of property was shown.
- (5) That basis for requisition was shown and requisition did not exceed authorized allowances.

c. When the property was drawn it was broken down to units and issued on a tally-out.

d. Upon receipt of equipment, units had to turn in all salvage that the new equipment replaced. Salvage was segregated into like items, bundled, and turned in to the Regimental Field Train, where it was in turn consolidated into bundles and turned in to the Class I truckhead.

#### 4. Class III (Gasoline and Oil).

a. Gasoline was issued to units on a can for can exchange basis.

b. Oils and greases were issued to units from stock on hand at the Regimental Field Train.

SECTION III - Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4)(contd).

5. Class V (Ammunition).

a. Third Army Scale basic loads of ammunition was maintained by units at all times.

b. Requests for maintenance quantities were submitted to the Regimental Munitions Officer at the Regimental Field Train when required. Requests contained a certificate signed by an officer that the request did not exceed the basic load.

6. Evacuation.

a. Deceased: Evacuated as near as possible to an axis of communication and the Graves Registration Officer was notified as to the location of the bodies. The collecting point was usually located in the vicinity of the medical collecting point.

b. Prisoners: Evacuated to the Division PWE as soon as possible after interrogation by the Combat Team IPW group.

c. Material: Motor vehicles and weapons were evacuated by units to the Field Train if possible. If not possible, the S-4 was advised as to the location and personnel from the Field Train evacuated the vehicle or weapon to the 780th Ordnance Company.

7. General.

a. Socks were available for issue to all units on the basis of one pair per man each day. This system has contributed much toward decreasing the number of cases of trench foot.

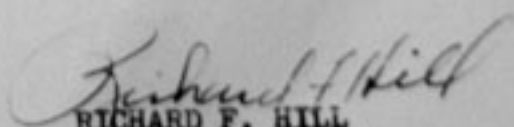
b. Laundry service was slightly improved during the last two weeks of January. The allocation for the 319th Infantry was 135 duffle or barracks bags per week. With this system each man will be able to change clothing at least one time each month.

c. Difficulty was encountered in feeding type "B" rations to front line troops even when the situation permitted. This condition was due to the lapse of time between the requesting and drawing of rations. It is very difficult to know five (5) days in advance what the position of troops will be.

d. Large quantities of both American and enemy material was picked up during the month by Salvage Crews organized by Battalion and Regimental S-4s.

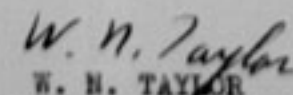
e. An initial issue of 1970 pair of shoepacs was made to the Regiment during the month. The shoepacs were issued to personnel of Rifle or Heavy Weapons Companies except drivers and kitchen personnel.

f. 950 white camouflage suits were issued to the Regiment during January. 500 suits were issued to each Battalion and 50 to Regimental Headquarters Company for use by the Patrol School.

  
RICHARD F. HILL  
Major, Infantry  
S-4

Inclosures: S-4 Journals for Jan 45.

Approved:

  
W. N. TAYLOR  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

SECTION IV - Personnel and allied administration (S-1).

1. Replacements.

During the month of January there was no difficulty in obtaining replacements as had been experienced since our arrival in France in August. The plan of reconverting Communications Zone personnel into riflemen and sending them to the front as badly needed replacements has proved invaluable in keeping up the strength of units that were badly hit during attacks.

2. Recreation.

Whenever the situation permitted and films were available, movies were shown in the Service Company rear area for front-line individuals. The Red Cross Clubmobile Units were received during the month but orders issued not permitting the girls to visit the front lines had made it necessary to take the coffee and donuts up front in jeeps. The availability of donuts were sent to each battalion in turn.

3. Casuals.

It has been noted by this Headquarters during the period that this organization has been in combat that in many cases there is an undue delay in returning to duty personnel evacuated for minor wounds and illnesses. It is realized that in order to permit earlier treatment of more serious casualties at hospitals near the front, the less serious cases must be evacuated farther to the rear. However, based on reports from individuals returning to duty, there apparently is much time wasted mainly during the return trip after discharge from the hospital. If lack of transportation is the principal cause of this delay, it is recommended that the parent unit furnish transportation for the return of such personnel delayed for this reason when the distance to the Replacement Depot is within a 50-mile radius.

*Albert R. Thornhill*  
ALBERT R. THORNHILL  
1st Lt., Infantry  
Adjutant

Inclosures:

Casualty Rpt by types of casualties.  
S-1 Journals for January 1945.

Approved:

*W. N. Taylor*  
W. N. TAYLOR  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

TABLE NUMBER ONE.319th Infantry  
APO 80, U S Army

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPES OF CASUALTIES  
(Figures taken from Battle Casualty Reports from 319th  
Infantry Personnel Office up to and including 31 Jan  
45 for the period 1 Jan 45 to 31 Jan 45)

<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>
1 Jan 45			2	1		3	32
2 Jan 45		1	1			2	6
3 Jan 45			1		1	2	
4 Jan 45			5			5	
5 Jan 45	1		6	3	1	11	3
6 Jan 45	3	1	43	3	11	61	33
7 Jan 45	6	1	32	6	5	50	9
8 Jan 45	13	3	47	11	3	77	
9 Jan 45	2	1	6	6	2	17	8
10 Jan 45	1		3	3		7	
11 Jan 45	2		16	10		28	
12 Jan 45	3		4	2		9	33
13 Jan 45	2		10	2	4	18	2
14 Jan 45	1		6	4		11	7
15 Jan 45			5	3		8	6
16 Jan 45	2	2	1	1		6	2
17 Jan 45				1		1	2
18 Jan 45	19	5	110	9	23	163	1
19 Jan 45			29	2		31	3
20 Jan 45	1	1	4	4	1	11	14
21 Jan 45	1		5	2		8	21
22 Jan 45	2		18	2	1	23	22
23 Jan 45	1		8	1		10	
24 Jan 45	1		20	3		24	14
25 Jan 45		1	6	2	1	10	
26 Jan 45							11
27 Jan 45				1		1	10
28 Jan 45			1	1		2	
29 Jan 45				1		1	
30 Jan 45							33

TABLE NUMBER TWO.

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

<u>Date</u>	<u>PW's</u>
1 Jan 45	1
6 Jan 45	66
7 Jan 45	4
8 Jan 45	31
9 Jan 45	26
10 Jan 45	3
11 Jan 45	65
12 Jan 45	10
13 Jan 45	2
14 Jan 45	6
17 Jan 45	2
18 Jan 45	178
19 Jan 45	10
20 Jan 45	2
21 Jan 45	1
23 Jan 45	2
24 Jan 45	37
25 Jan 45	35
28 Jan 45	5

TABLE NUMBER THREE.

REPLACEMENTS RECEIVED  
(Including Hospital Returnees)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>
1 Jan 45	91
16 Jan 45	1
17 Jan 45	20
20 Jan 45	4
21 Jan 45	9
22 Jan 45	107
23 Jan 45	99
24 Jan 45	197
25 Jan 45	2
26 Jan 45	13
27 Jan 45	11
28 Jan 45	188
30 Jan 45	35

UNCLASSIFIED

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TABLE NUMBER FOUR.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

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

Number

2 -- Silver Star Medals  
23 -- Bronze Star Medals  
605 -- Purple Heart Awards  
122 -- (1st) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart  
43 -- (2nd) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart