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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

APO #80, c/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

2 October 1944

SUBJECT: Report after Action Against Enemy

Section I: Summary of Daily Operations and Actions

1 Sept - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was in general support reinforcing the fires of the 314th FA Bn with a special mission of direct support following the 1st Bn of the 318th Inf. Around noontime the mission was changed to a direct support mission of the 319th Inf. Regt., advancing on its objective in the vicinity of JOUY-SOUS-LES-COTES. We formed a part of the 319th CT and this CT was held up by slight resistance and blown bridges across the MEUSE RIVER at CHAUVONCOURT.

2 Sept.- The 319th CT resumed their mission and took the objective in the vicinity of JOUY-SOUS-LES-COTES. Here the CT put out outposts and the 905th FA Bn assumed a defensive position to support the 319th Inf. with Artillery fire on on three sides of its outposts.

4 Sept - The 3rd Bn 319th Inf. moved and attacked TOUL with Charlie Btry, 905 FA Bn as the advance guard battery; the rest of the Bn having left its defensive position moved forward to take up positions in the vicinity of TOUL. TOUL was secured and outposted with the assistance of artillery fire from Charlie Btry, which fired on enemy installations on East side of the MOSELLE RIVER causing heavy casualties.

5 Sept.- The 3rd Bn continued to advance to a new objective at GONDREVILLE and FORT DE VILLEY LE SEC. The attack was supported by the 905th FA Bn concentrations on call by forward observers with each company. B Btry was displaced to the East side of the MOSELLE RIVER to give close support in advance of the infantry. This displacement took place by ferrying the battery across the MOSELLE RIVER moving only two guns at a time so that the maximum amount of artillery support could be given at any time. The attack was not successful because of well dug-in fortifications. The 3rd Bn fell back to its previously dug-in positions.

6 Sept - The 3rd Bn, 319th Inf. was again assigned the mission of taking the towns of GONDREVILLE and FORT VILLEY-LE-SEC. This attack was supported by a coordinated rolling barrage fired by the 905th FA Bn and planned concentrations on suspected locations of enemy troops. The attack was also supported by Btry A, 273rd FA (155 mm Guns) firing on the fort and at locations suspected of containing enemy artillery. The rolling barrage was controlled by the forward observers with the two leading companies. The fires were also controlled by air observation from our liaison plane (No 64-J). The attack was not completed by darkness and the Inf. again fell back to their previously occupied positions. The fort itself was very well constructed, of great thickness with many pillboxes.

7 Sept - No change in mission. Batteries moved to alternate positions because of enemy artillery shelling. B Btry was brought to the West side of the river. Additional artillery was received and added to the direct support artillery's plan (905 FA Bn). The additional battery was the 731st FA Bn (155 mm guns). The 905 FA Bn set up four long base observation posts for the specific purpose of intersecting on enemy artillery. Although the base itself worked very satisfactorily, observation and checked out on many targets, we were unable to see any artillery or pick up the flash of enemy artillery.

2.- After receiving little or no fire from enemy positions on the sent out patrols this morning and were able to get into the towns

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