

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

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1 November 1944

Subject: After Action Report (S-3) / SEPTEMBER

To : 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.

September 1 - CT continued pursuit of enemy to the east at 0700 with the 1st and 2d Bns abreast, the 1st Bn on the left. CT crossed the Meuse River at Sampigny, 7 kilometers S of St. Mihiel, without opposition. CT continued to advance during day. At 2000 CT was ordered to outpost line St. Mihiel-Montsec-Lantaucourt. 3d Bn passed through 1st and was ordered to OPL. Co A ordered to occupy St. Mihiel.

September 2 - 3d Bn encountered stiff enemy resistance vicinity Apremont and occupied OPL 1200. 1st and 2d Bns occupied defensive positions Apremont-Liouville.

September 3 - CT remained on OPL. Co B ordered to secure trainload of captured enemy material at Essay.

September 4 - CT ordered to make reconnaissance in force as far east as Moselle River. 2d Bn moved to vicinity of Thiaucourt at 0700. 1st and 3d Bns continued to east, 1st Bn leading, 3d in Reserve. At 2200, CT ordered to cross Moselle River, secure bridgehead vicinity Pont a Mousson and Fagny-sur-Moselle 5 September.

September 5 - CT attacked 1000 to secure bridgehead over Moselle River, vicinity Fagny-sur-Moselle and Pont a Mousson. 1st Bn attacked from vicinity Pont a Mousson, 2d Bn from Fagny-sur-Moselle. 3d Bn ordered to attack abreast of 1st Bn afternoon of 5 September. 3d Bn ordered to cross Moselle under cover of darkness night of 5-6 September.

September 6 - CT resumed attack to secure bridgehead over Moselle vicinity of Pont a Mousson. All attempts to cross set by strong enemy resistance. Co L affected crossing but enemy counter-attack wiped out bridgehead. 2d Bn withdrew to high ground vicinity Vandieres. 1st and 3d Bns remained vicinity Pont a Mousson.

September 7 - 1st and 3d Bns took up defensive position on West bank Moselle River vicinity Pont a Mousson. 2d Bn, less Co F, ordered to move to reserve position vicinity Wamey. Co F remained defensive position Vandieres to protect N. flank of.

September 8 - CF remained in place, no movement of troops. Prepared for renewed attack to cross Moselle River.

September 9 - CF continued to hold positions West bank Moselle River. Co F remained at Vandieres. 2d Bn in reserve vicinity Wamey.

September 10 - CF remained in place.

September 11 - CF received orders at 1600 to cross Moselle River following morning 0400 vicinity Dieulouard.

September 12 - CF attacked 0400 to cross Moselle and secure high ground vicinity St. Genevieve, Bezaumont, and Hill 382. Attack jumped off with 2d and 3d Bns in attacking echelon, 3d Bn on right, 2d Bn on left, 1st Bn following 2d Bn. By 0730 all Bns had captured objectives. Organization of ground for defense started 0730 by 1st and 2d Bns. 3d Bn continued advance to East to secure high ground SE of Ville-au-Val.

September 13 - enemy counterattacked from Forêt de Faocq at 0400, Co G on left forced to withdraw to South. Attempts by enemy to infiltrate remainder of Bn sector repulsed. Enemy withdrew. 1st Bn ordered to seize Mt Toulon. 3d Bn secured Hill 375. CF in constant contact with enemy during day. USA, 4th Arm'd Div passed through CF and continued to the East.

September 14 - enemy counterattacked CF position about 1300, using armor. Attack was repelled by Artillery and AF weapons. 1st Bn ordered to return to high ground vicinity Bezaumont. 3d Bn received counterattack on Hill 375. 2d Bn remained in position St. Genevieve.

September 15 - enemy launched strong counterattack against 2d Bn position from Forêt de Faocq, using infantry and armor. Attack was repulsed by 2d and 1st Bns. 702d Tank Bn participated in repelling the attack. Enemy succeeded in taking town of St. Genevieve.

September 16 - enemy counterattacked 3 times against the 3d Bn on Hill 375. 1st and 2d Bns continued to occupy positions vicinity St. Genevieve and Bezaumont.

September 17 - CF attacked to East at 1415. Objective 1st Bn Landremont; objective 2d Bn Hill 351 (Le Min a Vent). 1st and 2d Bns captured objectives late in afternoon.

September 18 - 1st Bn continued to hold Hill 382. 3d Bn ordered to attack Hill 412. 2d Bn continued to hold Hill 351 (Le Min a Vent).

September 19 - 2d Bn ordered to attack Hill 412 in conjunction with 3d Bn. 1st Bn continued to hold Hill 382.

September 20 - 2d and 3d Bns advanced through Bois de Chapitre, the Bois de la Saumont and gained Hill 412. 1st Bn in reserve in Bois de Chapitre East of Millery. Co B attacked Hill 299 South of Millery. Objective captured 1800.

September 21 - 2d and 3d Bns continued to clear Bois de la Saumont of scattered enemy groups and conducted active patrolling to Eastern edge of woods. 1st Bn engaged groups of enemy in Bois de Chapitre attempting to cut supply lines.

September 22 - 2d and 3d Bns continued active patrolling in the Bois de la Saumont. 1st Bn continued to engage scattered enemy groups in Bois de Chapitre.

September 23 - CF ordered to attack at 1600 to the East and seize Hill 401 and Hill 418. Attack jumped off at 1645, 3d Bn leading, followed by 2d Bn. Very little progress made. 1st Bn continued to engage enemy in Bois de la Saumont and protected flank of Regiment.

September 24 - Attack renewed by 3d Bn at 0700. By 1000 3d Bn had reached objective. 2d Bn reached objective (Hill 418) 1200. 1st Bn ordered to relieve elements 318th Inf on Hill 340.

September 25 - 3d Bn ordered to follow 318th in attack on St Jean. 2d Bn ordered to attack Molvrons in conjunction with CGS, 6th Arm'd Div at 0900 26 Sept. 1st Bn continued to hold Hill 340. 3d Bn ordered to attack Mt St Jean.

September 26 - 2d Bn attacked Molvrons at 0900 in conjunction with CGS, 6th Arm'd Div. Attack was repulsed and Bn withdrew to Hill 418. 3d Bn withdrew to high ground South of Mt St Jean. 1st Bn continued to hold Hill 340.

September 27 - Enemy counterattacked 1st Bn on Hill 340 at 0100 and were repulsed with heavy losses. 2d Bn held position on Hill 418. 3d Bn continued to hold position. Active patrolling conducted by all units. CF ordered to organize defensive positions on high ground South of line Moley-Bratte-Vill re les Molvrons. 3d Bn on right, 1st Bn on left, 2d Bn in reserve, S of Montenois.

September 28 - CF continued organization of defensive position. Enemy counterattacked 2d Bn on Hill 340. Attack was repulsed.

September 29 - CF continued organization of defensive position.

September 30 - CF continued organization of defensive position.