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CIVIL AFFAIRS PROBLEMS AND ACTIVITIES FOR OCT 44.

During the latter part of September and all of October CA was in a static position and the first of the month we submitted a report on dead animals buried, as that work was of highest priority. We used civilians, PW's and the Engineers used bulldozers to clear the many fields where artillery had caused the death of many animals. Some black market operations cropped up but largely on the part of individual farmers. During this period numerous passes were issued to civilians who desired to go to Pont-a-Mousson or to Nancy to join the French army. To reduce circulation across the Moselle two men were designated to represent each village, and were given passes that allowed them to cross on the military bridges. All the small boats along the river were picked up by civilian crews and thus most of the people remained in their own homes or their fields. During the month 6 enemy dead were buried.

The FFI, whose members had been a big help in many ways, was officially disbanded west of the river on the first of October and east of the Moselle on the 15th of the month. Had the problem of the many people east of the river who normally worked in the factories on the west side and who desired to get to their work. This larger problem was solved when Lt. Col. Phelps, G-5 of Corps, proposed and the General ordered a "No Passage Line". People in front of the line were held in that sector and could easily be checked, those behind the line and considerably behind the front could go about their normal business to a great extent without great danger to the Division's security.

Early in the month through civilians we located aerial photographs of the sector immediately before us which have now been passed on to Corps. These photographs were of the various installations and ground area taken by a French aviator now living in Millery where CA was located at the start of November. The population which had been increased to some extent by the Germans evacuating people toward their rear as they retreated, was reduced by allowing quite a few people passes to go to rear areas considerably west of the Moselle and not return.

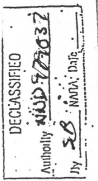
Sent in information on the NAAF flyers who had been buried in Millery by the local people and those who were spirited out by the French. Assisted local people by furnishing transportation to get meat to markets across the Moselle. M. Pomery of Ville-au-Fal was the leader in handling live cattle which was grouped in village herds under a caretaker. About the 7th of October the letters from the Prefet to all mayors, making them responsible for the loyalty of the people in their commune, were delivered in all of the towns in the 318th sector. We also issued a local ruling that movement from one village to another would not be made without a pass from Civil Affairs. On the 7th also CA of the 318th picked up their first PW in civilian clothes in Autreville on a trail picked up by the 314th Field Artillery a part of the combat team.

Moved to Ville-au-Fal to be more in sector of the Regiment. At this time were getting numerous people who were returning to their homes and were picked up as they approached our lines having originally been evacuated or pushed back by the retreating Germans. When the 319th evacuated a large number of people they sent many of them through our area and on Sunday 8 October this had to be stopped in order to avoid running up supplies and transportation. Order in 318th is always "Stand Fast".

On 9 October through my assistant, French-Canadian Dennis Dujardin, we picked up second "deserter" from the German army, one who came in to ask for a pass but his tongue was not good enough to pass the French civilian who volunteered his services to help CA. About this time we located the bodies of the Brass Brothers of Isley, who mission to get information of tactical nature for CA were killed on a hill near trees.

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Civil Affairs Problems and Activities for Oct 44 (Cont.)

Medics of the Regt helped many many times to straighten out the civilian situation by treating and/or evacuating wounded people. About this time, the main problem was sorting out refugees who were pushing back, bag and baggage from liberated villages to the east and we moved to Loisy as the Regt was then in the woods east of St. Genieville. Some food was brought for these refugees many of whom went to Millery and others to Pont-a-Mousson.

On the 11th of Oct all CA officers and others who are interested in civilians met with the Chief of Staff and policies were laid down for the handling of civilians in future operations. We immediately made a copy of our notes and passed them on to the Regt. executive and the S-1.

Two additional PWs in civilian clothes were picked up on 12 October by Corp. Hrehovchak, CA driver, after information was received from M. Pommery in Ville-au-val where the former members of the German army were staying.

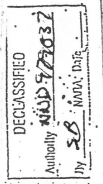
Many mines and unexploded shells and quantities of enemy material are reported by civilians and this information as well as other information of interest to the Regt and higher headquarters was reported quite a few times during the month. Worked closely with CIC in the checking of people received through the lines.

Cooperation with the French Red Cross also helped in the evacuation of wounded and elderly people from the front line area. Each time the Red Cross ambulance came into the area the CAO assisted them and also checked what they wanted to accomplish and notified the troops in the forward area of their intentions. Also during the month CA helped secure flour, bread and clothing and shoes from French sources for the people in the sector.

On 23 Oct through report from a civilian we were able to catch two additional deserters from the German Army who were caught on their bicycles in Morey as they were on their way toward the front line having come from Nancy.

Moved to location where CAO spent time last two weeks in Serieres. Near the latter part of the month we completed a population survey of all of the town in our sector, 13, as to number of residents, number of refugees and number of additional people who could be accommodated as people came from territory still to be liberated.

First evacuation of people from 316th Sector took place during latter part of the month when we moved people coming from in front of our line to a refugee point in the rear. All places in the sector being filled and these people needing care and medical attention, mostly women and small children and some wounded, they were moved to rear areas



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