

Annex #1 to - After Action  
Report 80th Inf Div D44.

HEADQUARTERS 318TH INFANTRY  
APO 80, U.S. Army

3 January 1945

Subject: After Action Report. - covering Operations of 318th Inf, minus, during its attachment to 4th Armored Div.

TO: Commanding General, 80th Inf Div, APO 80, U.S. Army.  
(Attn: G-3)

24 December 1944:

At 1200 24 December 1944, both 1st and 2d Battalion, 318th Infantry, were out of contact with the enemy. At the time, enemy elements in ETTLEBRUCK (p8240) were contained by the 3d Battalion. The 2d Battalion was moving to reserve positions in OBERFEULEN (p7840) and 1st Battalion was assembled in the vicinity of BERG (p6430). At 1300 the Regiment, less one (1) Battalion, was ordered to move without delay to assist the 4th Armored Division in relieving the 101st Airborne Division and elements of 9th and 10th Armored Divisions who were encircled by the enemy at BASTOGNE (p5558), BELGIUM. The 1st Battalion was entrucked at Colmar (p8235) at 1700 and moved via BISSEN (p7933), ELL (p6431), MARTELLANGE (p5638) to an assembly area in the woods just Northeast of VARNACH (p5642). The second Battalion closed in the area at 2300. Regimental Headquarters, one (1) platoon Company B 305th Engineer Battalion and four (4) ambulances from Company B 305th Medical Battalion left COLMAR (p8235) at 1700 and moved via ELL (p6431) and ARLON (p6122) to FAUVILLERS (p5141) closing at 2300. The 1st Battalion was attached to Combat Command A, 4th Armored Division. 318th Infantry, minus two (2) Battalions, was attached to Combat Command B 4th Armored Division.

25 December 1944:

At 0800 the 1st Battalion attacked from the vicinity of 56425 and fought its way through heavily wooded and extremely rough terrain up to its line of departure by 1100 and moved on to capture the town of TITTINGER (p574) and approximately one-hundred-fifty (150) prisoners by 1400. The 1st Battalion was supported by elements of Company B 35th Tank Battalion. From 1400 until 1600, B and C Companies cleaned out the woods on the high ground East and North of the town. At 1700 the Battalion moved Northeast from the town and made contact with F Company 53d Armored Infantry Battalion along a woods line at 570445.

At 0800 the 2d Battalion jumped off from its assembly area vicinity BURKIN (p5145). The 10th Armored Infantry Battalion was on its left. The Battalion attacked through a large patch of woods for approximately fifteen-hundred (1500) yards to capture the town of CHAMONT (p5148) and the high ground just beyond. The enemy was well dug in on very rough terrain.

26 December 1944:

At 0800 the 1st Battalion jumped off from a position just Northeast of TINTINGE (p5744) and advanced approximately three-thousand (3000) yards against heavy opposition through thick wooded and extremely mountainous country.

26 December 1944:

The 2d Battalion, attacking with the 10th Armored Infantry Battalion, jumped off at 0900, captured the town of GRANVILLE (p5149) and cleared the woods one-thousand (1000) yards to the North.

Early in the evening of the 26th, tank elements of the 4th Armored Division were able to get into the besieged city of ESTOINE (p5558), but were unable to get back out again. An Officer leading a four (4) man patrol went through about four-thousand (4000) yards of enemy held territory. This advance through enemy lines was facilitated by the use of red and green light signals which had been learned from the enemy during the previous two (2) days. The patrol made contact with elements of the 326th Engineer Battalion within the city at 0430A on the 27th and was escorted to the Command Post of the 101st Airborne Division. The patrol brought back an overlay of the positions of the 101st within the city and the G-3 Periodic Report of that unit.

27 December 1944:

1st Battalion attacked to the North at 0800 and captured HOVILLE (p5547) and LIVRCHES (p5648) against heavy resistance. The 2d Battalion attacked at 0800, cleared the woods South of HOBINE (p5351) and advanced to the town. For the night defensive positions were set up Southeast of ASSENOIS (p5253).

28 December 1944:

At 1800 the 1st Battalion was relieved by 3d Battalion 134th Infantry.

During the night the 1st Battalion returned to COLMAR (p8235) in the 80th Division Sector.

At 0800 the 2d Battalion from its positions North of ASSENOIS attacked to the North and made contact with elements of the 101st Airborne Division at 1000, vicinity (550340). At 2200A this Battalion was released to Regimental control and moved the next day at noon to rejoin the Regiment at SCHERLEN (p8238). Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Company returned to COLMAR (p8235) on 29 December 1944. During this operation the two Battalions captured a total of 769 prisoners of war. One (1) Mark IV Tank was destroyed.