

*Paris*

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTERVIEWS  
OBTAINED FROM 80TH & 6TH ARMD DIVS  
CONCERNING LORRAINE CAMPAIGN

The combined operations of the 80th Infantry and the 6th Armored Divisions during the LORRAINE Campaign carried them approximately 55 miles from the SEILLE River in the NOMENY and PORT-surSEILLE area on 8 Nov to the SAAR River at a point just across from SAARGUE-MINES on 5 Dec. The 28 days of fighting were marked by a stubborn delaying action on the part of the Germans and extremely bad weather conditions. Heavy rains had the streams and rivers lacing the entire XII Corps zone at flood stage, further slowing up the offensive, and the first snow of the year added to the discomfort of the troops and caused additional hindrance to the attacking units. The first serious epidemic of trench foot (immersion foot) spread to the infantry. Tanks and other armored vehicles found the going almost impossible on several occasions as a result of the mud, rain and snow which gave valuable assistance to the enemy.

**CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO  
CANCELLED  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE**

Principal actions centered around:

1. Crossing and establishing bridgeheads over the SEILLE on Nov 8 by the 317th, 318th and 319th Inf of the 80th Armored Division.
2. Capture of HAN-sur-NIED by elements of both the 6th Armored Division and the 80th Infantry Division 11 Nov in the most critical action of the entire operation.
3. Capture of SANRY-sur-NIED bridge by 6th Armored Division, also on 11 Nov.
4. Capture and defense of LANDROFF by elements of the 6th Armd Div.
5. Two-day (25-26 Nov) action reducing the under-manned forts surrounding ST AVOLD, which fell without being defended the next morning.
6. Capture and defense of FAREBERSVILLER in the face of heavy enemy counter-attacks 28-29 Nov by 317th Inf.

The HAN action was considered so important in the advance not only of the two divisions but also the XII Corps and Third Army that a total of 10 small unit interviews were obtained in an effort to

27

clarify the action----four from the 6th Armd Div and six from the 80th Inf Div.

Total casualty figures for the 6th Armd Div are listed as 1175.  
The breakdown:

	O	EM	Totals
KIA	24	202	226
WIA	53	879	932
MIA	1	16	<u>17</u>
			<u>1175</u>

The 6th Armd Div also captured 866 prisoners of war.

The 6th Armd Div destroyed or captured 75 enemy combat vehicles, 200 guns of 20mm caliber and upwards and 117 other vehicles. During the same period, the 6th Armd Div lost 57 combat vehicles, of which 28 were tanks, and 45 other vehicles.

The 80th Division suffered a total of 3423 casualties during the month of November, approximately three times the number sustained by the 6th Armored. Although the figures for the 80th are for a period longer than the LORRAINE Campaign, it is estimated that fully 95 per cent of the casualties were suffered from 8 Nov on to the end of the month.

The breakdown:

	317th	318th	319th	Division
KIA	102	121	145	388
WIA	792	774	705	2594
MIA	<u>269</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>441</u>
Totals	1163	980	866	3423

(Discrepancies in division totals as compared to regimental totals accounted for by casualties sustained in other units of the 80th Division)