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

1300

3 December 1944

Subject: After Action Reports, November 1944

To : Commanding General, 80th Infantry Division, APO # 80 U.S. Army
and Division Historian, Captain Hanson

1. Enclosed are after action reports for S-1, S-2, S-3 and S-4 staff sections this regiment, covering period from 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 inclusive.
2. Also enclosed is the S-1 journal and the S-3 journal covering period from 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 inclusive.
3. Additional pertinent data is enclosed in the form of Message Center Books from S-1, S-2, S-3 and S-4, and Field Orders.

FRANK J. WATSON
Captain, Infantry
Regimental Historian

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

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(3-1)/NOVEMBER

4 December 1944

Subject: After Action Report, Personnel Administration, period
1 November 1944 through 30 November 1944.

To : Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. through Commanding
General, 80th Infantry Division, APO # 80 U.S. Army.

1. As a result of difficulty experienced in accounting for men as a result of extremely rapid turnover in previous engagements, further checks on status of personnel assigned were initiated early in the month covered by this report. In preparation for possible losses of first Sergeants, a simple instruction sheet (Inclosure 1) Casualty Reporting and Preparation of Morning Report Summaries was prepared and distributed. The intention of these instructions was to simplify reporting through improved uniformity and to guide that individual designated to replace a first Sergeant casualty in the preparation of necessary reports. To further assist in preparation of morning report summaries, a form was stenciled outlining required information and indicating the distinction in types of casualties. (Inclosure 2)
2. To assist first Sergeants in accounting for individuals assigned to each company, rosters of all assigned personnel are being prepared every 15 days. Maintained in a current status, these rosters are forwarded to companies with instructions attached, at every opportunity, to enable first Sergeants to check men physically present against a record of those assigned. (Inclosure 3) Discrepancy can be noted and investigated immediately and reported on morning report summaries.
3. It has been noted and reported by the Regimental Surgeon that a number of replacements have reported to the Regiment suffering from the early stages of the disease known as Trench Foot. When questioned, these replacements have all stated that they have progressed rapidly through replacement channels since landing on the Continent with no opportunity to care for their feet. Many have indicated that they have had wet shoes and socks on for several days before reporting to this unit. It is recommended that, insofar as practicable, some provision be made within replacement channels to inspect the feet of men on their way to joining a combat unit in an effort to avoid their arrival in that unit with an already developing case of Trench Foot.
4. Replacements have been received who apparently are in classes other than for full combat duty. These men state that they were told

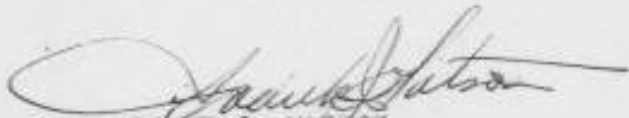
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at Replacement Dep(to see the Surgeon of wh. over unit they were finally assigned to. This is resulting in the burdening of medical installations of combat units with the administration of these personnel.

5. Frequently upon assignment of replacements or upon the return to duty of officers or enlistedmen, proper entry is not made on morning report summary to pick up those assigned on orders as physically present in a company. The procedure adopted allows for a one day suspense from date assigned or returned on orders. If an individual in this category is not indicated on his company summary as joining that unit, a form letter is dispatched to the proper battalion headquarters, in order that the battalion Sergeant Major may check with the unit to determine whatever knowledge is had of soldier's status. A copy of this form (Inclosure 4) is attached. Should this tracer fail to cause a report 48 hours following its submission, a further tracer is sent from Personnel to the Regimental S-1 for investigation. A copy of this form (inclosure 5) is attached.

6. As a result of increased diversity in remarks and entries necessary in the preparation of payrolls, an instruction sheet, (Inclosures #6) consolidating all information pertinent to proper payroll preparation was prepared for each company clerk. These instructions allow for consistent order in the entry of remarks, and for uniformity of types of remarks used in each payroll of the Regiment.

7. Immediately upon the assignment of replacements to the Regiment, a team consisting of four clerks is dispatched to the Division Replacement Area to interview all men concerning allotment and pay status. One clerk instructs the men in the value of increased allotments for savings and purchase of War Bonds. One clerk secures from the men all sums of British and United States Currency. The two remaining clerks type the necessary allotment forms to complete new allotments, changes and substitutions. WDFD Form 38 is prepared in duplicate for those men submitting currency and information on the form includes the name and address of person to receive this money, which is transmitted through Personal Transmission Account. As the allotment forms are completed, signatures of the men concerned are obtained and the allotment is thus completed prior to their movement to join the companies to which assigned.


FRANK J. WATSON
Captain, 31th Infantry
Personnel Officer

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After Action Report, S-3 317th Infantry-December 1944 (Contd).

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Leon Zickerman
LEON ZICKERMAN
Capt., 317th Inf.
S-3

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

L-300

3 December 1944

Subject: After Action Report (S-2). /NOVEMBER

To : Adjutant General, Washington D. C., through Commanding
General, 80th Infantry Division, APO #80, U. S. Army.

The following report (After Action) from S-2, 317th Infantry
Regiment, is submitted in compliance with Section III, 2a, Memo #64,
Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 24 August 1944.

1 November 1944 - No change in enemy front lines in Div sector.
Our patrols were fired on during early morning darkness on the E bank
of the SEILLE R. Harassing (enemy) mortar and Arty fire fell during
the day in MORVILLE, PORT SUR SEILLE and CLEMERY, but did no damage.
There was considerable flare activity during the night. River receded
slightly.

2 November 1944 - No change in front lines (German) in our sector.
Heard hammering and sawing on E bank of SEILLE R early in morning
indicating the Germans are building shelters. Harassing German Arty
and mortar fire fell in our sector. There was considerable flare
activity during the night, and hammering was again heard on the E
bank of the river.

3 November - No change in the German front lines in our sector.
German activity was observed in the vicinity of EPLY during the day.
German harassing Arty and mortar fire fell in our area during the
day. Our patrol captured one (1) German from 3d Co, 1451st Fortress
Bn on E bank of river W LE MOULIN FARM. Germans took no counteraction
and were probably unaware of the activity. LE MOULIN FME was mortared
early in the evening. We suffered some casualties. German harassing
Arty and mortar fire were received during the day. There was flare
activity during the night.

4 November 1944 - No change in German front lines in our sector.
German harassing Arty and mortar fire fell in PORT SUR SEILLE, MORVILLE
and CLEMERY; also FME DOMBASIE. Searchlights were reported in the
vicinity of ST JURSE. There was considerable flare activity during the
night.

5 November 1944 - No change in German front lines in our sector.
During the morning 15 rounds Arty fell in FORT A MOUSSON with no effect.
German harassing Arty and mortar fire fell in PORT SUR SEILLE and
CLEMERY.

6 November 1944 - No change in German front lines in our sector.
Mortar and Arty fell in CLEMERY, MORVILLE, PORT SUR SEILLE and FME
DOMBASIE during the day. There were a number of duds. Some Arty
landed in FORT A MOUSSON. In the night there was the usual flare
activity.

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7 November 1944 - No change in German front lines. There was flare activity during early morning. Mortar and Arty fire fell in CHEMINOT. There was flare activity at night.

8 November 1944 - Our attack surprised the Germans who did not believe we would attack in such unfavorable weather. The SEILLE RIVER rose quickly during the morning and forced our troops to wade through water for about 200 yards, knee deep. PW's were captured from the 1431st Fortress Bn. By the end of the day, the Germans had been forced back to the general line RAUCOURT-ST JURE-MAILLY. German mortar and Arty fire was very active but did not succeed in blowing up our bridges. AP minefields on the hillside in the vicinity of EPLY caused our troops some casualties.

9 November 1944 - Through unfavorable weather, we continued to force the Germans back and by the end of the day, their line was E of SECOURT, running N and S. PW's were captured from 37th SS Regt and 1126th Regt. Mortar and Arty fire was received all day. The MOSELLE RIVER was very high.

10 November 1944 - Mortar and Arty fire fell in RAUCOURT, RAUCOURT-NEUVES road and RAUCOURT-ST JURE road. Tanks (6) were reported at POMERIEUX. No of prisoners captured indicates that the 1431st Fortress Bn is no longer effective. The 48th Inf Div has also lost heavily. PW's were captured from 17th AA Bn, 128th Inf Regt. Enemy front lines non-existent and no definite front line could be established. However, LUPPY was clear of enemy.

11 November 1944 - BECHY was shelled by 150mm steadily during the morning. Their scattered elements continued their disorganized withdrawal to the E, and the Inf offered only slight resistance to our advancing columns. PW's were captured from the 128th Inf Regt, who were supposed to defend E bank of NIED RIVER in the vicinity of HAN-SUR-NIED. They had support of several quadruple mounted 20mm flak guns, and 10 tiger tanks. The bridge at HAN-SUR-NIED was not blown by the Germans. Despite plunging MG fire on the bridge, our troops pushed across, captured HAN-SUR-NIED, and consolidated their positions around town under cover of darkness. The disorganized enemy left weapons on their positions when they withdrew.

12 November 1944 - German Arty and mortar fire fell constantly trying to knock out the HAN-SUR-NIED bridge, and interdicting the road W out of HAN-SUR-NIED. It was 120mm mortar, 75 and 150mm Arty fire and seemed to come from the NE. Tiger tanks were reported in HERNY. 400 lbs of assorted demolitions charges were removed from the HAN-SUR-NIED bridge by our engineers. The enemy occupied ADAIRCOURT-BOIS DE CENSITAIRE-HERNY. There was very little SA fire on our troops who occupied the hills immediately NE, E and SE of HAN-SUR-NIED.

13 November 1944 - PW's continued to come in from the 128th Inf Regt, and the 42d AAA Arty Regt was identified who had 88's. PW's were caught from the 951st Regt, part of the 361st Gren Regt. HERNY was cleared of enemy, and by 1110, enemy mortar and Arty fire was falling in the town. PW reports indicate the 128th Inf Regt and the 951st Regt withdrew last night. Several AA, AT, and Arty pieces were along the HAN-SUR-NIED - HERNY road, having been knocked

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out by our forces. In the afternoon, a PW (officer) from the 2d Bn, 268th Arty Regt, established the fact that the 36th Volks Grenadier Div is concentrating in the vicinity of FAULQUEMONT. Later identifications established the 1st Bn of the 165th Inf Regt as being in the Bois de Mainvillers. Enemy were cleared from MANY and very soon, both 150mm Arty and 120mm mortar fire started falling in town. PW established that elements of the 813th MS Bn, 126th and 128th Regts and 148th Replacement Bn had been formed into a CT called "Kuehn". This seems to indicate that there isn't much left of these outfits. At night an enemy tracked vehicle was stopped coming E on the MANY-HERNY road at the Eastern entrance to HERNY. Seven men were captured, 1 officer (German) was wounded, and 2 got away. They were from a Headquarters Heavy Arty Bn, which has 3 companies of nine (9) 88mm each. The half-track was looking for their gun, but got lost.

14 November 1944 - Arty and mortar fire continued to land in MANY and on our positions E of that town. The HERNY-MANY road was interdicted by 75mm enemy Arty firing from the S and NE. ARRIANCE was occupied without incident, other than some MG fire from the woods to the N. German mortar and Arty started to fall in ARRIANCE soon after we occupied it. The 110th Inf Regt, part of the 36th Volks Grenadier Div was identified by PW's captured in the vicinity of MAINVILLERS. They indicated one Bn of this Regt was in the Bois ELVANS. It is apparent that there are enemy in the FORST DE REMILLY, both Arty and Inf. The enemy line runs W of Mainvillers into the woods NW of there.

15 November 1944 - Enemy front lines from BJ 280 on CHANVILLE-ARRIANCE road generally E through MAINVILLERS. Mortar and Arty fire was received in ARRIANCE, MANY and HERNY. The German 165th Regt faces this Regt and seems to lack aggressiveness. Our patrols report extensive booby-traps and mines in FORST DE REMILLY.

16 November 1944 - No change in enemy front lines. German Arty fell in ARRIANCE in spite of the fact that we had withdrawn from that town, another indication of their lack of aggressiveness, since they didn't even patrol sufficiently to discover our change in dispositions. Arty also fell in MANY and HERNY. Nebelwerfer fire fell in HERNY at about 1110. Two (2) enemy aircraft passed over our area in the afternoon, but took no action.

17 November 1944 - No change in enemy front lines. German Arty fell in ARRIANCE, HERNY and MANY. Otherwise, there was little activity in our sector.

18 November 1944 - No change in enemy front lines. During the day, German Arty and mortar fire fell in HERNY, MANY, and ARRIANCE. At 1740, the Germans heavily shelled our area with all calibres of mortar and Arty. Our patrol was able to enter MAINVILLERS during the night, and found the Germans had apparently withdrawn during the night.

19 November 1944 - Patrols established that Germans had withdrawn during the night. The exact positions they withdrew to are not yet known. There was no Arty received during the day. Minefields were found in the RR station in MAINVILLERS and on roads in FORST DE REMILLY.

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20 November 1944 - Mines were found on all roads leading N from HAIRVILLE and ARIANCE, and the enemy had blown all culverts and executed numerous craters, making vehicular circulations very difficult. All bridges over the RIED ALLEMAND R in our sector were blown, but a foot patrol to the CITE GABRIEL indicated the enemy had withdrawn N of there. The town of GUINELANG was heavily mined. There were extensive minefields and many demolitions of culverts and road craters on the N bank of the RIED ALLEMAND R. No Arty fell in our sector.

21 November 1944 - Enemy front lines HAUT-VIGNERELLE-BANHIDENSTOFF-TRITTELING. Some Arty fell in ELVANGE-ORANGE and ORVILLE. German patrols and outposts were rather amateurish, and were killed, captured or ran away whenever our patrols found them. The RIED ALLEMAND rose during the day, and the weather remained wet.

22 November 1944 - During the night the enemy blew down a large smokestack in the vicinity of the CITE GABRIEL. Many deserters were picked up, representing a marked increase over our former experience. Light Arty fire continued to fall in ORANGE and FLETRANGE, evidently unobserved.

23 November 1944 - our patrol succeeded in cutting underground WIRELINE cables in the vicinity of GUINELANG and BLOUVILLE SUR RIED, on the afternoon of the 22d. There was no contact with the enemy other than extensive mines in GUINELANG.

24 November 1944 - Enemy lines: N side of woods between 154400-154400-154400 along road to BANHIDENSTOFF. 3d Bn 165th Regt relieved by 1st Bn, 165th, who occupied above mentioned line. 165th Regt CP at 2d bend Q196981. Line very thin both sides AT ditch. 3d Bn 165th Regt was S of line between 154400 and 154400 Q1969. 1st Bn relieved night of 22d and 23d Nov, and had orders to go to LAUBRYANG to seal our defence and to make a counterattack. Bn was relieved by 3d Bn, 661st Regt, 347th Div, which occupied same ground as 1st Bn 165th Regt.

BANHIDENSTOFF now occupied. Activity from FT BANHIDENSTOFF to FT TRITTELING. Foot bridge at of BANHIDENSTOFF is intact at present. BASIN VIGNERELLE all bridges blown and roads cratered.

25 November 1944 - FT BANHIDENSTOFF clear of enemy. Road mined from LANSOUVILLE to BANHIDENSTOFF to HAUT VIGNERELLE S to BASIN-VIGNERELLE. AP mines on S slope Hill 400 between Rd and top of Hill. Minefield at 207507 to 215210. Sumner 208509. Mines in edge of woods 21333, both sides of road Band S at 210308, field 243544 marked with signs and wire mined, and enemy blowing culvert and preparing road block via 211511. (Time 1505).

Arty: 1st Bns fell at TRITTELING on road 1st Bn is using. Arty and mortar falling in TRITTELING. M and P Cos receiving mortar and Arty fire at 0915-0949.

Corps reports column horse-drawn Arty from TRITTELING moving N at 100 rd intervals 1545. Also column horse-drawn Arty moving SE out of FALSOUVILLE (24354). Considerable troop movement in ST AVOLD. 3d Bn receiving interdicting fire (88mm) at 191548 coming from due East.

one (1) motorcycle and 20 men moving in woods at 0854305; 1 of 2 enemy vehicles from 08049 to FALSOUVILLE 02358 at 1030. 2 Pw's

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identified as 36th Fusilier Co, strength 50 men, 6 LMG's, 2 bazookas, transportation, 15 bicycles. Mission to take FORT LAUDRETFANG, but failed when attacked by our forces. Morale of troops low.

26th November 1944 - At 2040 hrs, patrol on high ground E of RR tracks fired on by Arty from Vic FALSCHVILLER. 50 to 60 enemy troops withdrawing on Hill W of BELLING. 1st Bn receiving 20mm fire (Q2654). Rd mined at Q243543 and Q244540. RR bridge at Q264547. Trees NE VALMONT prepared for demolition. CR prepared for demolition (Q247564) in ST AVOLD. Rd from ALTVILLER to ST WOLD prepared for blasting.

Trains of 13th Co 118th Regt in HOMBURG-HAUT.

PW reports 87th Inf Regt on L, 118th on center, 163th Inf Regt on right. (3) 75mm How at N side VALMONT (Q241550) 36th Div Clearing Station at FORBACH (Q392657).

Patrol reported some enemy activity at R50956.

27 November 1944 - 80th Recon troops report 50-60 enemy withdrawing on hill W of BELLING. 1st Bn reports they are receiving 20mm fire at (Q2654). AT ditch reports d to be above FALSCHVILLER, time 2315, will be filled as soon as work on bridge is completed. The road is reported mined at (Q243543) and (Q244540). The enemy also continued delaying demolition activity by blowing the RR bridge at (Q260547) and preparing the trees along the road NE of VALMONT for demolition. PW interrogation revealed no new identifications of units confronting the Regt, but did establish the presence of the 87th Inf Regt in ALTVILLER (Q264531), LACHAMBRE (Q278540), HOLBACH (Q286531) and BILDING (Q306515), with a reported weak strength. PW further stated that he observed no great number of his troops in this sector except in HOMBURG-HAUT (Q300588) and that one battery of unknown calibre was located in the vicinity of HOMBURG-BAS (Q311594). The trains of the 13th Co, 118th Regt were reported by PW's to be in HOMBURG-HAUT (Q300588) and that all four 75mm howitzers of the 3d battery, 268th Arty Regt, have been destroyed. Of (6) 75mm howitzers in the 3d battery, 268th Arty Regt, only 2 guns were left and the location of these was unknown by the PW's. The total count of PW's for the period was 63.

6 PW's captured at the road junction (Q260547) established no new identification confronting the Regt, but did confirm that the 87th Inf Regt was on the enemy's left flank, the 118th Inf Regt in the center and the 163th Inf Regt was on the right. The enemy had the 8th Co, 118th Regt at the N side of VALMONT (Q241550) this morning with (3) 75mm howitzers firing for the same area in support. The 36th Inf Div Clearing Station was reported by a PW as being located in FORBACH (Q392657).

Patrols during the night from the 2d Bn reported the bridge over the RR at FALSCHVILLER had been blown, and that the bridge at (Q26255) was intact and that enemy were reported talking in the Vic of this same bridge.

28 November 1944 - Enemy tanks and Inf reported heading W from Pfareberweiler. Estimated 200 SS (3755) dug in around PFARBERSWEILER, also supported by armor. Received 20mm fire from Vic L69985. Civ reports Arty unit of about 100men, morale very low, some deserted and refused to fight-left village of GUNVILLER, Sat 25 Nov at 0700, all retreating to SAARBRUCKEN. One Bn SS troops also reported in this Vic. Bridge at 278565 intact 24' wide, 15' high. Undetermined

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number of tanks in PFARBERSWEILER.

29th November 1944 - 5 tanks supported by Inf moving on road E from THEODINGEN (Q3859), fired on 2d Bn. SA firing continued in town of PFARBERSWEILER (Q3657). Enemy troops reported moving E out of PFARBERSWEILER. 16 enemy tanks moving NW of THEODINGEN and in general direction of KOCHERN (Q3660) and FOLKING (Q3661). Enemy reported in HENRIVILLE and AT gun on high ground N and NE of PFARBERSWEILER. 3 PW's captured Vic BOIS DE BIRSON BUSH, identified from 17th SS security Co. Elements of 1st Bn located at following places: Security Co in position in front of woods BIRSON BUSH (Q350380) and 3d and 4th Co's in PFARBERSWEILER - approx strength of 3d and 4th Co's Sec. Bn, 75 men each. (3) AA 20mm guns mounted MK III chassis also in PFARBERSWEILER. Report that main body of troops in PFARBERSWEILER (Q365577) withdrawn at 1300, one group went S on rd to CAPPEL, others withdrew across field NE to THEODINGEN (Q386593).

30 November 1944 - German tanks had crossed river N of RR bridge. Hostile aircraft over FOLSCHVILLER at 1436. Enemy direct fire Wpn located Vic Q36568 in woods in front of 2d Bn. PW reported that 17th SS medical Co of approx 80-90 men is armed with rifles w/o brassards, fighting in FARSCHVILLER fighting as infantry.

Robert M. Walker
ROBERT M. WALKER
Capt, 317th Inf
S-2

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

L-300

1 December 1944

Subject: After Action Report (S-3). /NOVEMBER :

To : Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., through
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.

1 November 1944 - Regt continued to occupy and improve its defensive Pos. Technical and tactical training was conducted. During the hours of darkness, 2d Bn relieved 1st Bn. completed 2230.

2 November 1944 - Regt continued to occupy and improve Def Pos. Technical and tactical training was conducted.

3 November 1944 - Regt continued to occupy and improve Def Pos. Active patrolling was carried out. Technical and tactical training was conducted. The 2d and 3d Bns each sent out a combat patrol with mission of capturing a prisoner - one prisoner was captured.

4 November 1944 - Regt continued to occupy and improve Def Pos W SEILLE R. Technical and tactical training was conducted. Plan for future Atk was received.

5 November 1944 - No change.

6 November 1944 - No change.

7 November 1944 - No change.

8 November 1944 - Regt attacked 0600 w/mission of seizing bridgehead E SEILLE R and Adv to NE. Formation: Two (2) Bns abreast, 1st on Right, 3d on Left and the 2d in Res. Crossing of R was made in Engr boats, foot bridge and fords. By 0700, 1st was across River and had seized high ground S EPLY; 3d Bn had crossed River and had seized high ground N EPLY by 0720. Enemy fire was relatively light during the morning and was ineffective, with the exception of enemy fire from the N flank, which delayed the Adv 3d Bn. At 1200 the 2d Bn was ordered to follow in Z 3d Bn and seize EPLY which was by passed by both assault Bns. F Co was sent to seize EPLY and received only SA fire. After capturing the town, the Bn dug in for the night on Hill N EPLY. Co "A" 702d Tk Bn succeeded in crossing River about 1600, advanced in Z 3d Bn to assist their Adv. The 1st Bn halted Vic RAUCOURT and the 3d Bn on high ground W ST JURE for the night.

9 November 1944 - Regt continued the Adv at 0630. 1st Bn seized RAUCOURT during the morning and 3d Bn seized ST JURE. Forward Bns

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Charles Chapman
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advanced with only slight opposition. By 1630 1st Bn had captured SECQUAT and moved out to high ground NE SECOURT. 3d Bn stopped for the night on high ground N 1st Bn.

10 November 1944 - Regt continued Atk to NE 0900. The Adv throughout the day was met with light SA and heavy Arty fire. 1st Bn succeeded in advancing as far as LUFFY where they halted for the night and the 3d Bn reached Hill 254 at (979421) where they held up for the night.

11 November 1944 - Atk was continued at 0630 w/1st Bn on the left and the 2d Bn on the right. The Bns met only light SA fire, but received heavy Arty fire during the morning Adv. 2d Bn seized TRAGNY and FLOCCOURT. As the Bns reached the high ground W of NIED R, the SA fire and the Arty fire became extremely heavy; also direct fire with AAA weapons. About 1530 the 1st Bn, under extreme difficulty, crossed the bridge and captured HAN-SUR-NIED. The terrain was entirely against the 1st Bn. The high ground was in enemy hands and they had MG crossfire and AAA fire directly on the Bridge. With only a few men left, the 1st Bn secured the town of HAN-SUR-NIED. At this time the 2d and 3d Bns were ordered across the bridge, and to take the high ground on NE and NW of town. This was accomplished about dark, being the first bridgehead across the NIED R in this sector. The Regtl CP moved to HAN-SUR-NIED about 2400.

12 November 1944 - The Regt extended and strengthened the bridgehead and reorganized. The Corps Commander came to CP with express purpose of congratulating The Regtl CO on his fine work and the work of the Regt. Extremely heavy Arty and mortar fire was received throughout the day and night.

13 November 1944 - Resumed Atk 0800 meeting light SA opposition and heavy Arty fire. 2d Bn on right and 3d Bn on left advanced rapidly in Z of Adv. Div ordered Regt to halt. 3d Bn halted on high ground W ARRIANCE and 2d Bn captured HERNY and MANY and halted. 1st Bn moved up and occupied HERNY in Regtl Res.

14 November 1944 - Still no orders for further advances. 3d Bn seized ARRIANCE and the high ground to E. 2d Bn occupied and defended MANY, and the high ground to NE and E. 3d Bn occupied ARRIANCE and high ground to E. 1st Bn occupied HERNY.

15 November 1944 - Regt was ordered to shift Def Pos from E to NE. All Bns remained relatively in the same locations.

16 November 1944 - 2d Bn established their CP in MANY and organized and occupied the high ground N of that town. 3d Bn established their CP in ARRIANCE and organized and occupied the high ground N and E of that town. 1st Bn remained in Res Vic HERNY. "I" Co manned Rd block Vic ADAINCOURT.

17 November 1944 - 3d Bn moved its CP to SEUTRY and organized and occupied the high ground S ARRIANCE. 1st Bn relieved 2d Bn in line during hours of darkness.

18 November 1944 - 2d Bn, in Res, sent "E" Co to relieve "I" Co or their Rd block; completed 1155. Other units, no change.

19 November - No change.

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20 November 1944 - "G" Co relieved E Co on Rd block at ADAINGOURT, completed 0730. 1st and 3d Bns were ordered to push forward, using "A" Co initially, followed by Bns. Both Bns pushed on up to the NIED ALLEMAND R w/o opposition, reaching the R about 1515. 1st Bn remained in FALQUEMONT and the 3d Bn in CREMANGE. Both found bridges already blown, but both sent Flats across River to outpost Pos.

21 November - Only activity was strong patrols to front and flanks, and 3d Bn established Rd block Vic MEMILY and GUINGLANSE.

22 November 1944 - Regt ordered to go into Div Res. 1st Bn moved to MAINVILLERS, 2d Bn remained at MANY. 3d Bn moved to HERNY.

23 November 1944 - No change.

24 November 1944 - 2d Bn moved to FALQUEMONT and relieved a Bn 319th Inf in Pos NE FALQUEMONT. 1st Bn moved to CREMANGE and the 3d Bn moved to MAINVILLERS.

25 November 1944 - 1st Bn - Started moving NE from Vic CREMANGE, reached TRITTELING 1100 and LAUDREFANS at 1130. Encountered little SA fire and moderate enemy Arty and mortar fire. Started moving again at 1400, gained high ground NE of LAUDREFANS, and dug in there for the night.

2d Bn - Attacked to the NE at 0800 from Pos NE FALQUEMONT. Reached high ground NW FOSCHVILLER and halted there at 1600. Small pockets enemy resistance encountered throughout the Adv, but intense enemy Arty and mortar fire received.

3d Bn - Followed 1st Bn in Adv to NE and halted between TRITTELING and LAUDREFANS approx 1600.

26 November 1944 - 1st Bn - Attacked at 0800 to the E. By nightfall Bn had cleared and outposted ALTVILLER. Light SA resistance encountered.

2d Bn - Sent "G" Co to clear FOSCHVILLERS at 1300. Met sniper fire and heavy Arty and mortar fire. Approx 1600 town was cleared and remainder of Bn moved in.

3d Bn - Advanced to Vic VALMONT. Light SA and moderate Arty and mortar fire received.

27 November 1944 - 1st Bn moved to and occupied high ground E of ALTVILLER. 2d Bn moved to Vic EBERSVILLER. 3d Bn moved to Vic LACHAMBRE. Small pockets of enemy resistance encountered with medium Amt of enemy Arty and mortar fire received.

28 November 1944 - 1st Bn advanced to high ground S of FARBERSVILLER. Received heavy Arty and mortar fire. 2d Bn advanced to high ground N of FARBERSVILLER. 3d Bn advanced to and entered FARBERSVILLER, meeting heavy enemy SA, Arty and mortar fire. Received counterattack at nightfall.

29 November 1944 - 1st Bn on Pos received SA fire. 2d Bn received two (2) counterattacks of five (5) tanks and infantry, both repulsed. 3d Bn continued house to house fighting in FARBERSVILLER. Regt received order to revert to Div Res. This was completed at 2330.

30 November 1944 - No change.

~~Subsidiary~~

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L-300

HEADQUARTERS 317TH INFANTRY
APO #30, U. S. Army

5 December 1944

Subject: After Action Report (S-4), 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944.

To : The Adjutant General, Washington D. C., through Commanding General,
80th Infantry Division.

1. The month of November 1944 from a supply viewpoint began in an uneventful manner, but passage of time established it as a period of many difficult supply problems. At the beginning of the month the organization was still in the static situation which it had entered early in October. Steady progress had been made in bringing the equipment to a very satisfactory status.

2. By the 8th of November 1944 when the Regiment resumed the advance, crossing the Seille River, only one major shortage of ordnance existed, nine 60mm Mortars. This shortage had been partially remedied by the issue of additional 81mm Mortars to the heavy weapons companies. However, this was not a satisfactory solution. The mortars were not capable of being maintained in close support of rifle platoons in the attack. Their only value is as a reserve to be used in the event the situation stabilizes enough to allow the heavy weapons company to put them in action in addition to the normal complement of mortars. The crossing of the Seille River, while quickly effected by the foot troops presented a major difficulty for transportation because of the flood stage of the river and the unstable condition of its banks. It was not until twenty-eight hours had passed that a satisfactory supply route to the troops was established. The first of two ponton bridges established (Clamery) had to be closed because after the passage of one third of the Regiment's organic transportation the approaches became impassable. When the second ponton bridge (Pert-Sur-Seille) was completed at 0300 9 Nov 1944 it was still necessary to clear the roads on the eastern side, of mines which had been extensively employed by the enemy. Resupply and the evacuation of wounded during this period was exceedingly difficult and could be accomplished only on foot.

3. Operations during the month featured frequent cross country movements by the Battalions not readily accessible to satisfactory vehicular routes. On several occasions it was necessary to effect the daily resupply of Battalions by packing supplies to the troops. Extensive demolitions of roads and bridges aggravated this situation. On the night of 26 November when the 1st Battalion was in the vicinity of Altiviller, vehicular traffic could not reach it until the construction of a Bailey Bridge at Pölschviller. To insure the Battalions resupply prior to continuing the advance the morning of 27 November 1944 it was necessary to organize carrying parties. This was accomplished by Lt. Clark, Battalion Supply Officer and adequate Class I and V supplies arrived at the Battalion by 0200 27 November 1944. Somewhat similar difficulties had been experienced by Lt Jennings, Supply Officer of the 2nd Battalion, on the night of 25 November 1944. The Battalion had advanced across country and was located NE of PAULQUERONT at (Q203523) Map: France 1:100,000 SAARBRUCKEN sheet. The engineers were unable to repair the roads in time to be of use. Attempts to reach Battalions using Jeeps across country failed. The Jeeps could not negotiate the mucky terrain.

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The Battalion Supply Officer finally solved the problem by loading the supplies on a two and a half ton truck which successfully traversed the boggy ground. Upon reaching the Battalion with the supplies, the truck was utilized to evacuate ten wounded men who required immediate attention.

4. November was characterized throughout by extremely inclement weather. Immersion Foot (Trench Foot) presented a very serious problem and resulted in the evacuation of many otherwise combat effectives. A Division sponsored program of a daily change of socks was initiated. Clean socks were issued daily with the rations. Soiled socks were collected at the same time and forwarded through channels to be laundered and returned to the organization for reuse. The principle obstacle encountered was the collection of the soiled socks. Toward the end of the month substantial returns were achieved but at no time did the turn in equal the quantity issued. Overshoes, Artics were used in conjunction with the sock program. Extreme difficulty was experienced in educating the troops of the necessity of wearing the Artics. Their opinion was that it was impossible to wear the overshoes and make the long difficult marches that the tactical situation demanded.

5. The vigorous and extended operations of the Regiment since committed to action has led to a considerable traffic in all classes of supplies. It has been necessary to handle large amounts of salvage material, and replacement items drawn to replace combat losses and that rendered unserviceable in combat.

6. It was during November that the Regiment received its first complete issue of combat boots. Early in the month the new sleeping bags were received and issued. This bag is well liked by the men but they express the opinion that they prefer not to use it in a frontline foxhole while subject to enemy action.

7. A recapitulation reveals that there is hardly any type article of issue that has not been salvaged and replaced since 5 August 1944. For example, 655, Five gallon water cans have been replaced. 1028 intrenching shovels have been required to replace those lost or salvaged. One article that runs into formidable numbers is gloves. 4149 pair have been received and still present requirements cannot be met. Activity in ordnance has been even more impressive; 83 automatic rifles, 25 heavy machine guns, 23 light machine guns, 28-60mm Mortars, 16-81mm Mortars have been replaced. Salvage operations have been vigorously pushed. To mention a few; 18,948 socks, 4123 shoes, 4475 canteens, 10 heavy machine guns 14 light machine guns, 2654 M-1 rifles have been returned to the appropriate branch. Much of this material was capable of being returned to service with few if any repairs.

8. During the month higher headquarters authorized and made available six additional two and a half ton trucks per regiment to facilitate the movement of bedding rolls of the troops. Two trucks were assigned to each Battalion and materially improved the handling of the rolls. These vehicles filled a long felt want and should be permanently incorporated in the T O & E of the Infantry Regiment.

Archie C. Jamison, Jr.
ARCHIE C. JAMISON, JR.
Major, 31st Infantry;
S-4.

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