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HEADQUARTERS 319TH INFANTRY
Office of the Regimental Commander
APO 80, U S Army

11 March 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of transmittal.

TO : Commanding General, 80th Infantry Division, APO 80, U S Army.
(Attention Division Historian).

1. In compliance with AR 345-105 and Memo #64 Hq 80th Inf Div dated 24 Aug 44, the Unit History of the 319th Infantry Regiment for the month of February 1945 is hereby submitted.

2. Request receipt of acknowledgement hereon.

For the Regimental Commander:

Albert R. Thornhill
ALBERT R. THORNHILL
Captain, Infantry
Historian

319-11/P
(2/17)

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS 319TH INFANTRY
Office of the Regimental Commander
APO 80, U. S. Army

UNIT HISTORY

(For month of February)

- SECTION I.....Original Unit.
- SECTION II.....Changes in Organization.
- SECTION III.....Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.
- SECTION IV.....Stations: Permanent or Temporary.
- SECTION V.....Marches.
- SECTION VI.....Campaigns.
- SECTION VII.....Battles.
- SECTION VIII.....Commanding Officers in Important Engagements.
- SECTION IX.....Losses in action; officers and men.
- SECTION X.....Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action.
- SECTION XI.....Important Scenes or Events.

- SECTION I - Original Unit.
- a. 319th Infantry Regiment.
 - b. 15 July 1942
 - c. Camp Forrest, Tennessee
 - d. Selective Service

- SECTION II - Changes in Organization.
- a. None.

- SECTION III - Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.

Totals as of 31 Jan 45 - 112 Officers and 3029 Enlisted Men
Totals as of 28 Feb 45 - 114 Officers and 2864 Enlisted Men
Gain of 2 Off. Loss of 165 Enlisted Men

- SECTION IV - Stations: Permanent or Temporary.

- a. Lintgen, Luxembourg.
Departed on 4 February 1945 at 0900.
- b. Bettendorf, Luxembourg.
Arrived on 4 February 1945 at 1300
Departed on 17 February 1945 at 0900.
- c. Doestroff, Luxembourg and Wallendorf, Germany.
Forward CP arrived in Wallendorf, Germany, at 0930 on 17
February 1945.
Rear CP arrived in Doestroff, Luxembourg, at 0930 on 17
February 1945.

SECTION IV - Stations: Permanent or Temporary. (contd)

- c. Moestroff, Luxembourg and Wallendorf, Germany.
Departed from Moestroff, Luxembourg, at 1030, on 20 February 1945.
Departed from Wallendorf, Germany, at 0900, on 20 February 1945.
- d. Wallendorf, Germany, and Heidersgegen, Germany.
Reptl Fwd CF arrived in Heidersgegen, Germany, at 1000 on 20 Feb 45.
Reptl Rear CF arrived Wallendorf, Germany, at 1100 on 20 Feb 45.

Reptl Fwd CF departed from Heidersgegen, Germany at 0930 on 23 Feb 45.
Reptl Rear CF departed from Wallendorf, Germany, at 1000 on 23 Feb 45.
- e. Koperich, Germany.
Arrived in Koperich, Germany, at 1100 on 23 February 1945.
Departed from Koperich, Germany, at 1300 on 25 February 1945.
- f. Gutscheid, Germany.
Arrived in Gutscheid, Germany, at 1600 on 25 February 1945.

SECTION V - Marches.

1. Lintgen, Luxembourg, - Bettendorf, Luxembourg.
 - a. Purpose: Departed from 1st area to take up positions along the front lines relieving COI.
 - b. Length: Approximately 27 miles.
 - c. Left Lintgen, Luxembourg at 0900 on 4 February 1945 and arrived at Bettendorf, Luxembourg, at 1300 on 4 February 1945.
 - d. Roads were in fair shape but muddy due to warm weather thawing the frozen grounds.
 - e. Route of motor march: Lintgen, Rollingen, Hersch, Colmer, Ettelbruck, Hierich, Bettendorf.
2. Bettendorf, Luxembourg - Wallendorf, Germany.
 - a. Purpose: To establish a forward CF within communication zone with the attacking battalions and to move rear CF in closer contact with forward CF.
 - b. Length: approximately 6 miles.
 - c. Left Bettendorf, Luxembourg, at 1300 on 17 Feb 45. Fwd CF closed in Wallendorf, Germany at 1400 on 17 February 1945. Rear CF closed in Moestroff, Luxembourg at 1330 on 17 February 1945.
 - d. Roads were in fair shape but torn up by shelling of friendly and enemy artillery.
 - e. Route of motor march: Fwd CF from Bettendorf, to Wallendorf, Germany. Rear CF from Bettendorf, Luxembourg to Moestroff, Luxembourg.
3. Wallendorf, Germany, - Heidersgegen, Germany.
 - a. Purpose: To establish contact with attacking troops.
 - b. Length: Approximately 13 miles.
 - c. Left Wallendorf, Germany, at 0930 on 20 February 1945 and arrived in Heidersgegen at 1000 on 20 February 1945. Rear CF moved from Moestroff to Wallendorf, on 20 February 1945.
 - d. Roads were in fair shape and not beat up due to enemy's rapid withdrawal.
 - e. Route of motor march: Wallendorf - Heidersgegen.

SECTION V - Marches (contd).

4. Koperich, Germany.

- a. Purpose: To remain in contact with the attacking troops and to reorganize forward and rear Regt. CP.
- b. Length: approximately 13 miles.
- c. Left Wallendorf, Germany and Neidersgegen, Germany at 0930 and arrived in Koperich, Germany at 1100 on 23 February 1945.
- d. Roads were in fair shape but beat up due to heavy armor pushing forward.
- e. Route of motor march: Wallendorf, Neidersgegen, Koperich.

5. Outscheid, Germany.

- a. Purpose: To remain in contact with the forward battalions and reorganize the regiment while in defensive position.
- b. Length: approximately 6 miles.
- c. Left Koperich, Germany, at 1300 on 25 February 1945 and arrived in Outscheid, Germany at 1500 on 25 February 1945.
- d. Roads were in fair shape and weather was cloudy and dull.
- e. Route of motor march: Koperich, Obersgegen, Geichlingen, Neidersgeckler, Sinspelt, Weiberraden, Outscheid.

SECTION VI - Campaigns.

- a. Northern France.
- b. Germany.

SECTION VII - Battles.

1. Lintgen, Luxembourg, on 1 February 1945.

2. Narrative account of friendly action:

Co C 305 Med Bn attached to 319 CP. Regtl CP in Lintgen, 1st Bn in Kellen, 2nd Bn in Kollingen and 3rd Bn in Heisdorf and Steinsel. Co C 305 Med Bn in Lorentz-Weltzer. 319th Inf (reinforced) occupied rest area to rehabilitate and re-equip personnel and attached to 4th Armd Div for operation purposes only on a one-hour alert status. An officer representative from each Bn reported to the Regtl S-3 and received instructions and directions of routes concerning counterattack plan of 4th Armd Div. The officers made a reconnaissance of these routes. Major Weaver, Regtl S-3, made a reconnaissance of routes to and from Luxembourg and the route and terrain east of Luxembourg. Bns made reconnaissance for possible range sites. Fire communications to all units.

1. Bettendorf, Luxembourg, on 4 February 1945.

2. Narrative account of action:

On 3 Feb 45 VOGG to move 319th Inf (Reinf) to area held by CCB, 4th Armd Div and relieve the 10th and 5rd Armd Inf Bns. The 51st Armd Inf Bn remain in present position and will be attached to 319th Inf. On 4 February 1945 Co C 702 Tk Bn, Co C 811 TD Bn, Co C 305 Engr Bn attached. In support 905 FA Bn and Co C 305 Med Bn. Regtl CP, 3rd Bn CP, Co C 702 Tk Bn and Co C 305 Med Bn in vicinity Bettendorf; 2nd Bn vicinity Moestroff; 1st Bn Kleinreisdorf; 905 FA Bn, Co C 305 Engr Bn vicinity Gilsdorf; Co C 811 TD Bn vicinity Bettendorf. 319th Inf marches by motor to Bettendorf, Moestroff, Kleinreisdorf area and relieves CCB (less one Armd Inf Bn) in left sector 50th Inf Div Zone starting 040800 Feb 45. 3rd Bn moved out at 040000 Feb and followed route Heisdorf, Cruchten, Ettelbruck, Diekirch, Bettendorf, closing at 041000 Feb 45. 2nd Bn started moving at 0930 and followed same route as 3d Bn continued to Moestroff and crossed Bailey bridge at Moestroff and entered the part of town on west side of Sauer River closing at 1235. 1st Bn and Co C 305 Med Bn moved out at 1125 and 1st Bn closed in Kleinsdorf at 1330, Co C 305 Med Bn closed in Bettendorf at 1300. Co C 305 Engr Bn closed in Gilsdorf at 1300. Regtl CP closed in Bettendorf at 1300. 905 FA remained in present position with the CP located in Gilsdorf. 3rd Bn 319th Inf began relief of 10th Armd Inf at darkness. Co E 319 Inf relieved C Troop of 10th Armd Inf and was on position at 1835. Co I completed relief of A Troop at 1830. Co L completed relief at 2135 and occupied the town of Moesdorf. 10th Armd Inf cleared the area at 2200. Co C 811 TD Bn atchd to 319th Inf at 1630 but did not report until 5 Feb 45. Co C 702 Tk Bn atchd 319th Inf at 1635 and prepared to move company to Bettendorf. 3rd Bn consolidated positions for the night. 2nd Bn posted a Bridge guard at bridge in Moestroff and posted one squad of men at RJ P890416 and one squad at RJ P889423 relieving elements of Cavalry atchd to CCB. 905 FA and 313 FA Bn fired the following missions:

4harrassing missions

1 Registration

1. Bettendorf, Luxembourg, on 5 and 6 February 1945.

2. Narrative account of friendly action:

Mission of 319 CP to make preparations for crossing of the Our River early 7 Feb 45. 1st and 2nd Bns, the two assault Bns, practiced river crossing vicinity Moestroff with assault boats. The foot bridge that was to be constructed by 150th Engrs for practice crossing was not completed. 150 men from 1st and 2nd Bns carried the assault boats from the trucks to their respective crossing sites. 150th Engrs brought assault boats up for crossing. Co C 305 Engr made up pile and satchel charges for demolition of pillboxes. The Engrs that were in charge of the

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

1. Bettendorf, Luxembourg, on 5 and 6 February 1945 contd.
2. Narrative account of friendly action contd.

boats reported to the respective Bns at 1800 and 100 men from Co I carried additional assault boats and foot bridge equipment to the crossing sites. 2nd Bn troops cleared Moestroff at 2245 on way to Hoesdorff. Wire to all Bns and supporting units. All attachments made plans for the river crossing and the attack.

1. Crossing of the Our River, Luxembourg-Germany, on 7 February 1945.
2. Narrative account of friendly action:

In support of 319 CT were 150 Engr Bn; 1135 Engr Group and 81st Cml Smoke Generating Co. 2nd Bn CP in Hoesdorf. Mission of 319 CT attacks at 070300A Feb 45 crosses Our River and seizes objective with two Bns abreast. Continue attack to the northeast on Regtl Order. 2nd Bn closed in Hoesdorf at 070010 Feb 45 preparatory to force crossing of the Our River. (2nd Bn experienced considerable difficulty due to the high flood level of the Our River and the swiftness of the current and heavy enemy artillery and Nebelwerfer concentrations Foot bridge to have been constructed by 150th Engr Bn was never completed - all crossings by the Infantry were made in assault boats or by swimming.) At 070635 Feb 45 1st Bn had crossed B and C Companies at site located at P957431 under hazardous conditions aggravated by intense enemy artillery fire. 51st Armd Inf Bn maintained a base of fire on the left flank of the Regt and feinted a river crossing drawing some artillery and mortar fire. At 070705 received word that Co F had made crossing vicinity Hoesdorf and were pinned down on north side of river by intense and accurate artillery and mortar fire. By 0715 B and C Cos had advanced 200 yards up the slope of hill toward high ground at P950447 under artillery, mortar and small arms fire. The 905 FA Bn attached 1 plat 91st Cml Bn and reinforced by the 313th and 314th FA Bn and the general support of the 315th FA Bn fired pre-arranged concentrations in support of the attack. At 0715 the 51st Armd Inf Bn occupied the town of Bettel meeting no enemy opposition but encountered AP mines. At 0825 the leading elements of Cos B and C had reached a point P953437. Engrs from Co C 305 Engr Bn went to the assistance of the 150th Engr Bn to construct foot bridge in 1st and 2nd Bn sectors. The Engrs were unable to get a foot bridge completely across the river at either site. The portion that they did get in washed away. The Infantry with the help of the Engrs from Co C 305 Engr Bn manned assault boats to cross troops. By 1000 1st Bn held a line running generally from P949442 - P952443 - P954443, with Co B on the left and Co C on the right. Due to the heavy artillery concentrations in the 2nd Bn area, it was decided to build foot bridge in 1st Bn sector and move remainder of 2nd Bn troops there to cross. The Engrs were again unable to complete a bridge and 2nd Bn troops remained restricted to present area due to artillery fire. Attempted to move some guns of Co C 811 TDs to fire on pill-boxes located on high ground at P945455 but any movement by the guns from present positions drew fire. The artillery placed smoke in area covering 1st Bn according to plan and Co A attempted crossings behind the smoke screen. This unit provided sufficient cover to cross Co A. 2nd Bn unable to move from present position to take advantage of 1st Bn crossing site due to artillery concentrations. Co A ordered to advance and seize Wallendorf and outpost the high ground to the north and east. At 1925 Co A had passed by the first house in Wallendorf and had met no opposition. At 2015 Co A reported the town cleared, no opposition with the exception of mines and booby traps. By 2155, Co A had occupied high ground north and east of Wallendorf and had sent one squad to guard

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

bridge site in the town. Cos F B C and A held ground gained for the night. 2nd Bn minus Co F remained south of river. 3rd Bn alerted to make crossing early 8 Feb 45. 3rd Bn to pull troops off the line into Moestroff and Kleinreisdorf preparatory to crossing. One platoon Co C 811 TD Bn and one 155MM gun fired direct fire using concrete piercing ammunition on pillboxes in Regtl sector from position on ridge vicinity P933433. 50 direct hits with the 155 mm guns failed to destroy some pillboxes. Wire communications to Regtl CP and OP and to Bns. Radio from Regtl OP to assault Bns and Regtl CP. 905 FA Bn was supported by one plat Co A 91st Cml Bn and 313th and 314th FA Bn. Co C 305 Engr assisted in river crossings and in attempts to build foot bridges. 319th Inf bazooka platoon atchd 1 squad to each Bn. Weapons used during the day were illuminating flares, smoke shells and smoke generator.

1. 8 February 1945. Action near Wallendorf, Germany.
2. Narrative account of enemy action:

Our attack on 7 February 1945 was opposed by the 915th Volksgrenadier Regiment, who occupied the pillboxes across the Our River, opposite Hoesdorf and Wallendorf. This Regiment was supported by the 1352nd Artillery Regiment. The enemy was well prepared to oppose our attack as they occupied the bunkers and defensive positions and trenches in the vicinity of the bunkers and were reinforced by a great deal of artillery and Nebelwerfer fire. No special or new weapons were seen. Morale of enemy was good indicated by the fact that each pillbox had to be "taken" by hand fighting, the Germans resisting fanatically. Enemy defenses consisted of pillboxes with connecting trenches placed in excellent positions which made the most use of the terrain. These defenses were supported by heavy artillery barrages. Excellent use was made of the Our River and the high ground in the vicinity of Wallendorf and Ammeldingen, to delay our advance. Many mines and road craters were encountered.

On 8 February 1945 the enemy continued to resist our advance with very heavy concentrations of artillery and Nebelwerfer fire and automatic small arms fire from bunkers

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

1. 8 February 1945. Action northeast of Wallendorf, Germany.

2. Narrative account of friendly action:

150th Engr Bn supported by 1135th Engr Group attempted to build a treadway bridge across Our River vicinity Wallendorf, early morning 8 Feb 45, but made no progress. Did manage to construct a foot bridge in 2nd Bn sector but was destroyed by the swift current of the river immediately after completion. No troops started to move to crossing site. At 0400, 2nd Bn attempted crossing by boats. 2nd Bn encountered very heavy artillery fire resulting in some direct hits on boats attempting to cross. 2nd Bn pulled back to reorganize. At 0612, 3rd Bn had made no crossing due to artillery concentration laid down by the enemy. The boats of 3rd Bn had been wrecked by the artillery falling in the vicinity of the crossing. At this time, 2nd Bn was able to cross 27 men but the artillery concentration laid down by the enemy made it impossible to attempt further crossings. The Engrs who were to construct two foot bridges, an infantry support bridge and a treadway, were unable to construct any of them. 3rd Bn ordered to complete mission. At 0915 the 81st Cml Smoke Generator Co was ordered to set up apparatus to cover 3rd Bn crossing. Co A of the 179th Engr Bn handled boats for 3rd Bn and made arrangements for wooden assault boats to be carried to an assembly area vicinity 3rd Bn crossing. The enemy seemed to have excellent observation of entire river front. Moved guns of Co C 811 TD Bn into position to fire on enemy pill boxes and they reported 2 pillboxes knocked out by their direct fire. 905 FA attached 1 platoon Co A 91st Cml Bn and receiving direct support from the 313th, 314th and reinforced by the fires of the 315th FA fired, counterbattery fire but enemy continued to lay in heavy artillery and Nebelwerfer barrages at will. 3rd Bn attempted another crossing at 1605. The first boat to leave the shore received a direct hit suffering 100% casualties. This was followed by heavy artillery concentrations covering crossing site. All crossings attempts abandoned until darkness. At 2030 2nd Bn had succeeded in ferrying supplies across the bridge group on north side of river and brought back casualties. The Engrs decided to attempt to build a floating treadway bridge vicinity Wallendorf, and a "flying ferry" vicinity 3rd Bn crossing site. At 2215, 3rd Bn had manhandled boats to crossing site and prepared for a crossing. Additional boats sent to 1st Bn to aid in the supply of their troops north of the Our River. At 2317, the supply and evacuation of 2nd Bn completed. At 2400 2nd Bn started crossing those men of Co F who had been separated from their company the 1st day Co F crossed. At this time the Engrs had made no progress of the on the bridges. 51st Armd Inf Bn continued to protect left flank of the Regt and to support by fire the attack of the Regt. 905 FA Bn fired the following missions:

9 TOT	1 machine gun
4 counterbattery	5 harrassing
7 infantry	4 smoke
	9 preparations

313th FA and 315th FA Bn fired the following missions:

5 counterbattery	6 interditory
24 infantry	1 smoke
9 preparations	1 emergency barrage

150th Engr Bn, supported by 1135th Engr Group, attempted to build two foot bridges but none were successful. Weapons used during the day's actions consisted of smoke generator, rockets fired from tanks, and artillery smoke shells.

1. 9 February 1945. Action northwest of Wallendorf, Germany.

2. Narrative account of enemy action:

Enemy units in contact were the 36th VGR, 9th VGD, both which reinforced the 915th VGR and 352 VGD. The enemy continued to resist our advance with heavy concentrations of artillery and Nebelwerfer fire and heavy small arms fire. Each pillbox, after it had been taken, must either be demolished or occupied as the enemy would infiltrate and reoccupy them.

SECTION VII - Battles (contd)

1. Action northwest of Wallendorf, Germany, on 9 February 1945.
2. Narrative account of friendly action:

179th Engr Bn, 2 plats Co C 811 TD Bn relieved of support from 319th Inf, and 2 plats Co C 811 TD Bn and 1 plat Co C 702 Tk Bn atchd to 905 FA Bn. 150 Engr Bn attempted to build a floating treadway bridge vicinity of Wallendorf and a ferry vicinity 1st Bn crossing but due to enemy artillery fire these projects were never started. 2nd Bn crossed remainder of Cos E and F and by 0443 Co G was completely across. All crossings completed by boat. At 0520 Co C reported Infantry pressure on their right flank but experienced no difficulty in overcoming it. At 0720, Co B reported enemy infantry attack from northwest in their zone. Co B continued to advance and overcome the enemy infantry and by 0830 had advanced to P957440-P961435, taking some pillboxes and meeting heavy resistance. 3rd Bn was unable to make a crossing due to heavy enemy artillery fire. Cos E and F moving northwest against enemy pillboxes but progress slow due to heavy enemy small arms fire. 1 plat of Co C 702 Tk Bn fired direct fire from vicinity Hoesdorf in 2nd Bn sector with good effect. 1 plat Co C 702 Tk Bn atchd to 905 FA Bn and 2 plats Co C 811 TD Bn atched to 905 FA Bn. 1 platoon Co C 811 TD Bn and one 155mm gun from 558th FA Bn fired on enemy pillboxes with good effect. Arrangements made to supply bridgehead across the Our River by means of Liaison planes. Planes from Div Arty and 905 FA Bn flew 35 missions and succeeded in dropping medical supplies and food and ammunition to the troops. The pilots of these planes displayed courage and skill in carrying out this operation. Division ordered 3rd Bn to remain south of the Our River until further orders and to outpost line P923445 to P933436 with one reinforced platoon. Remainder of 3rd Bn in Kleinreisdorf. Co F and G atched to 1st Bn. At 1820 Cos held the following positions: Co E P945439, Co F P957840-P961435, Cos F and G vicinity P946433, Co A vicinity Wallendorf, 3rd Bn no change. By 2400 Co C had cleared 3 pillboxes and proceeded to contact Co B. Wire communications to OP and Bn Rear CPs and supporting units. Radio from OP to assault Bns. Pole charges, stachel charges, bazookas, and smoke generator used in the capture of pillboxes.

1. Action north of Wallendorf, Germany, on 10 February 1945.
2. Narrative account of friendly action:

150th Engr Bn and 179th Engr Bn in support of 319th Inf. 1st and 2nd Bn Fwd CPs north of Our River vicinity bridgehead. 3rd Bn Fwd CP vicinity Kleinreisdorf. 1st and 2nd Bns supplied and evacuated their personnel north of the Our River during the early morning 10 Feb 45. This project carried out by boats with the assistance of 150 Engr Bn under enemy artillery fire. 1st Bn reinforced by Cos F and G continued to advance in their sector. Inf assisted in attack on pillboxes by 1 plat Co C 702 Tk Bn firing direct fire from vicinity Hoesdorf and one plat Co C 811 TD Bn reinforced one 155mm gun from the 558th Bn 155mm firing direct fire at pillboxes on sector of advance. 905FA reinforced continued to fire counterbattery fire and indirect fire on pillboxes and infantry. The infantry found all pillboxes in their sector of advance occupied and with good fields of fire. Progress was slow but the

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

Action of 10 Feb 45 contd.

Infantry, displaying a determined and aggressive spirit advanced against the enemy's fortifications with the assistance of supporting fires. Each pillbox had to be worked on separately. Satchel charges, pole charges and bazooka fire induced those of the enemy **not** killed to surrender. During the attack Co G received a counterattack from enemy Infantry estimated at plat strength and the counterattack was repulsed without incident. Col W. N. Taylor, Regtl CO, wounded by shrapnel from direct fire weapon while at Regtl OP directing operation, Col Taylor's wounds necessitated his evacuation and Lt Col Hiram D. Ives, Regtl Exec Off, assumed command of the 319th Inf. By the end of the days' operation, 106 PWs had been captured and unknown enemy dead. 1st and 2nd Bns had increased their bridgehead and made it possible to land supplies and materials and evacuated wounded personnel. 905 FA Bn fired the following missions:

2 TOT	4 infantry targets
10 counterbtry	1 tank target
8 pillboxes	1 enemy OP
18 harrassing & interdictory	12 registrations

Bazookas, pole charges and satchel charges were used in the capture of pillboxes.

1. 11 February 1945. Northeast of Wallendorf, Germany.

2. Narrative account of action:

a. Enemy action:

The enemy continued to resist our advance with artillery and Nebelwerfer fire and small arms fire. Mines and booby traps are being encountered in the vicinity of pillboxes and along the road. Small arms, mortar and artillery resistance continued as our attack progressed each day.

b. Friendly action:

Continued to supply units establishing bridgehead across the Our River by boat. At 0710, Co F released from attachment to 1st Bn and reverted to 2nd Bn control. The 179th Engr Bn worked on floating treadway bridge and made slow progress due to flooded water and intermittent artillery fire. During the day Co G received a counterattack consisting of infantry, but it proved to be a small force and was easily repulsed. Co C 305 Engr Bn had been alerted to cross 3rd Bn by boat but when the 179th Engr Bn reported bridge would be constructed for foot traffic by 1900 the boat plan was cancelled. Co G released from attachment to 1st Bn at 1100 and reverted to 2nd Bn. 1st Bn held present positions. 2nd Bn assembled forces. By 2250 one half of 3rd Bn had crossed bridge to assemble at Wallendorf. Bridge did not completely span river, lacking approximately 30 yds and the troops had to wade the distance to short in knee deep water. The 3rd Bn cleared the bridge at 2312. Wire to rear CPs and Bns and radio to troops establishing bridgehead. Bazookas, grenades and smoke used in operations.

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

1. 12 February 1945. Wallendorf, Germany,
2. Narrative account of friendly action:

179th Engr Bn in support. Regtl Fwd CP, 1st Bn and 3rd Bn CPs vicinity Wallendorf, Regtl Rear CP in Betterndor, Luxembourg. Mission of 319th Inf to continue attack to the northeast. 179th Engr Bn continued work on floating treadway bridge. At 0240 work on bridge interrupted by artillery. At 0545 Fwd CP group crossed bridge to Wallendorf. Bridge completed to within 25-40 yards of eastern shore. At 0715 Co L leading elements passed point P956439. At 0755 Co L captured its first pillbox taking 15 PWs. By 0830 Co L had seized two additional pillboxes and met heavy resistance from a third pillbox at P951442. At 1015 Co E moved out advancing generally northwest and met stiff resistance from pillboxes to their front. By 1120 1 plat Co C 811 TD Bn and 1 plat Co C 702 Tk Bn had arrived at 3rd Bn Fwd CP and were held until situation permitted their use. At 1330 Co L reached point P953441 and reorganized preparatory to pushing on. Co L sent 2 squads forward to make reconnaissance of routes of approach to pillboxes located on high ground at P950445. At 1600 Co L jumped off to assault pillboxes vicinity P950445, At 1600 using artillery fire of 905 FA Bn to cover right flank and TDs and Tks as support weapons. The Tkd and TDs experienced difficulty maneuvering over muddy and soft terrain. By 2000 Co E had occupied 3 pillboxes at P939444, P941445 and P942445. Co F moved to a position SW of Co E and Co G moved to vicinity P947435. Co E sent a patrol into Ammeldingen and found it unoccupied. 1st Bn remained in present positions. At 2030 Co L seized hill 353 (P950445) and proceeded to clear out 3 pillboxes. Co K moved to position behind Co L preparatory to passing through Co L to hill 386 (P946445). 1st Bn sent a reinforced squad with plat Co C 305 Engr Bn to work on bridge in 318th Inf sector. By 2105 Co L had seized its 4th pillbox on hill 353. At 2215 Co K jumped off for attack on Hill 386. At 2324 Co K seized 1st pillbox on hill 386. 2nd Bn held positions for the night. 3rd Bn continued fighting for objectives. 179th Engr Bn constructed floating Bailey bridge vicinity Wallendorf. Bazookas, pole charges, stachel charges and grenades used in fighting.

1. 13 February 1945. Vicinity of Ammeldingen, Germany.
2. Narrative account of action:

- a. Enemy action:

The enemy launched 3 small counterattacks against our forward elements; two on hill southwest of Weidersgegen, both repulsed; one northeast Wallendorf which succeeded in retaking one pillbox. Moderate artillery and mortar fire was received along the Our River in our sector. The enemy's morale is definitely low, and a defeatist attitude is become more and more prevalent. Self-propelled guns, small arms and mortar fire continues on our forward elements. Moderate concentrations of artillery fire received along the front lines.

- b. Friendly action:

2nd Bn CP vicinity Ammeldingen. Co A sent one reinforced squad with group of Engrs as Infantry support while they worked on bridge northeast of Wallendorf. By 0230 Co K had gained objective, Hill 386 and began to reorganize its troops. Co I was ordered forward and passed through Co L on way to Co K. 2 TDs and 1 Tk reinforced Co I. Co K received heavy artillery fire on position. Co K had not mopped up all pillboxes in sector but held northwest crest of Hill 386. At 0730 Co I had passed through Co L and were on way to Co K. At 0900 Co I and K coordinated in mopping up pillboxes on Hill 386 and received artillery. At 0800 2nd Bn with Co F in reserve moved to seize Ammeldingen and high ground north and northeast of the town. Had to clear pillboxes in line of advance which proved slow and exacting operation. At 0937 2nd Bn moved in on town and high ground after ordering the cessation of all support fires. By 1130 2nd Bn had

SECTION VII - Battles (contd).

b. Friendly action of 13 February 1945.

2 plats of Co E on the high ground north of the town and Co G in Ammeldingen, which was found unoccupied. Co F had not moved from present position. 319th Mine Plat ordered to check Ammeldingen and road leading north from town for mines and booby traps. By 1325 Co K held northwest slope of Hill 386 and Co I held top of hill 386. Both Cos received enemy artillery and mortar fire. Co C 305 Engr Bn checked road from Wallendorf to Ammeldingen and made necessary repairs. 2nd Bn moved its plat of Tks to Ammeldingen. 51st Armd Inf Bn continued to support Infantry from present position. 1st Bn maintained present position. 2nd and 3rd Bns consolidated ground gained and held for the night. Mine plat 319th Inf cleared Ammeldingen of mines and booby traps and road net north of town. Grenades, pole and satchel charges and bazookas were used in capture of Ammeldingen.

1. 14 February 1945. Vicinity Ammeldingen, Germany.
2. Narrative account of friendly action:

At 0445 1st Bn moved Co A forward to occupy pillboxes in Co A sector to straighten the Bn line. Co A experienced considerable difficulty in locating the pillboxes due to darkness and the blending of the pillboxes with the terrain. At 0255 Co K sent out patrols to locate pillboxes to the front and experienced the same difficulty as Co A. By 0440 Co A had not definitely located pillboxes. At 0710 Co K received infantry pressure on their right flank and Co I on the left flank. 3rd Bn brought up Tks and TDS to aid in attack on pillboxes. At 1500 Co F had relieved Co E on position. At 1730 Co K supported by fire from Tks and TDs stormed and seized 1st pillbox in their advance. Co K continued to work on pillboxes. The soldiers climbed on boxes and threw grenades into the apertures, placed satchel charges and dynamite in ventilator shafts and at doors. The enemy placed automatic and artillery fire on the boxes that Co K attacked, and placed direct fire on Tks and TDs. Co K, due to heavy fire and mounting casualties, had to withdraw. 3rd Bn directed direct fire from 155 SP guns at boxes. Co K and I planned a night attack on boxes. Regt ordered 2 plats TDs and 1 plat Tks equipped with 4.5 rockets, 1 sec Tk assault guns on high ground vicinity Wallendorf and controlled fire through Regt. At 2305 Co I moved out in attack on pillboxes. 905 FA Bn fired the following missions:

17 infantry	1 machine gun
9 enemy artillery	1 vehicle
14 TOE	1 mortar
10 harrassing	1 smoke

311 TDs fired 3 harrassing missions. Co C 305 Engr Bn supported Inf by preparing explosive charges and maintaining roads. Mine Plat 319th Inf cleared roads of mines. Bazookas, satchel and pole charges used in capture of pillboxes.

1. 15 February 1945. Vicinity Ammeldingen, Germany.
2. Narrative account of action:

Cos I and K continued night attack of pillboxes in their sector but due to intensive small arms, mortar and artillery fire they were forced to withdraw to original positions and abandon night attack. The Regtl CO held a conference with all Bn and supporting unit COs and discussed attack plans of 319th Inf to comply with Div FO #31. 3rd Bn ordered to hold up on any further attempts to take pillboxes in its sector. Regtl FO #50 issued to carry out mission contained in Div FO #31. 319 Inf (reinforced) received intermittent artillery and mortar fire along the entire front. 905 FA (reinforced) fired in support of 3rd Bn and fired counter-battery and harrassing fires. Co C 305 Engr Bn continued to maintain roads and prepare ex-

SECTION VII - Battles (contd)

2. Narrative account of friendly action 15 February 1945 contd.

Explosives charges. Bns and supporting units prepared to carry out Regtl FO #50. At 2215 received order from Division that Div FO #31 was cancelled. All Bns and supporting units of 319th Inf notified that Regtl FO #50 was cancelled. 3rd Bn made plans to continue attack on pillboxes in its area. Co L relieved Co F and Co F assembled in Ammeldingen. Co E extended to the south. Co A extended to the west. Bns held positions for the night. 905 FA Bn fired the following missions:

3 counterbattery	1 tank
10 infantry	2 vehicles
2 mortars	1 CP

Btry A 158th FA Bn fired the following missions: 2 pillboxes, 2 harrasing and interdictory. Bazooka, grenades, pole and satchel charges used in attack.

1. 16 February 1945. Action vicinity Kleinriesdorf, Germany.

2. Narrative account of friendly action:

3rd Bn completed preparation for attack on pillboxes vicinity P944457. At 0830 Co K reinforced by 2 Tks and 2 TDs and support by a 5 minute artillery concentration moved against pillboxes. Co K received heavy machine gun and mortar fire initially. The enemy occupied communication trenches connecting pillboxes. By 0930 the small arms fire withdrew to original jumpoff positions. The withdrawal was ordered because of the high number of casualties suffered by Co K. 2nd Bn ordered to place 81mm mortars in position to fire German 80mm mortar and US 81mm WP mortar ammunition in pillboxes in Co K sector. This firing started at 1715 and continued throughout the night at the rate of 50 rounds per hour. Div experimented with search lights along the Div front. At 2200 the searchlights were trained on the 319th Inf front but the effect was negative. 2nd Bn relieved 3rd Bn on position by 2110. 3rd Bn assembled Co L in Wallendorf, Co M in Kleinriesdorf, Cos I and K in Moestroff. 1st and 2nd Bns held positions for the night and conducted security patrols to the flanks. 905 FA Bn fired the following missions:

1 counter-battery	2 OP
6 infantry	5 harrasing
1 mortar	1 smoke
5 preparation	3 TOT
5 registration	1 ammunition dump

558th FA Bn fired the following missions:

- 2 pillboxes
- 2 harrasing and interdictory

315th FA Bn fired the following missions:

- 1 preparation
- 1 smoke
- 2 mortar
- 10 enemy battery
- 1 Nebelwerfer
- 1 ammunition dump
- 4 infantry

Co C 305 Engr supported infantry by preparing explosive charges and maintaining roads. 4.5 Tk Rockets, pole charges, satchel charges grenades and bazookas used in attack on pillboxes.