

Ponice

NOVEMBER 1944 HISTORY

(Part I)

(80th Div)

The front line of the 80th Division on 1 November 1944 ran along the Seille River, from Lesmenils to Ajoncourt. The enemy held but little ground on the western side of the Seille River. This was in the vicinity of Abaucourt and Letricourt. (Otherwise, the Seille River was the next natural barrier for the Division to overcome.)

The 317th Inf. occupied the northern sector of the Division zone. The 3rd Bn. was on the line along the Seille River from the vicinity of Lesminils to Morville-sur-Seille. The 1st Bn. occupied the right sector of the Regimental zone along the Seille River from Morville-sur-Seille to Clemery. The 2nd Bn. 317th Inf. was in Regimental Reserve on 1 November 1944.

The 318th Inf. occupied the center sector of the Division zone. The 2nd Bn. 318th Inf., on the line between Clemery and the railroad east of Manoncourt, occupied the left sector of the Regimental zone. The 3rd Bn. was on the line in the vicinity of Fme de la Borde, south of Nomeny, occupying the right sector. The 1st Bn. constituted the Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Lixieres.

The 319th Inf held the souther sector of the Division zone. It was in this sector that the enemy still occupied some ground west of the Seille River. The 2nd Bn. occupied defensive positions in the vicinity of Bois d'Aulnois, southwest of Letricourt. This area was the right flank of the Regiment as well as the Division. The 3rd Bn. occupied the left sector, holding the high ground north of Bois du Hte des Trappes. The 1st Bn. was in Regimental Reserve.

In compliance with Field Message No. 1 issued 30 October 1944, the 319th Inf., with Cos "C" and "D" 702nd Tank Bn and Co "A" 808th TD

Bn. in direct support, launched a coordinated attack to clear the area Abaucourt - Letricourt.

Jumping off at 1300, 1 November 1944, the 319th Inf achieved tactical surprise, and all hostile forces within the area were killed or captured.

The 319th Inf employed the 2d and 3d Bns in this attack.

The 2d Bn, in position southwest of Letricourt, attacked towards the town and the high ground north and east.

By 1408 two platoons of "F" Co and one platoon of tanks were fighting in Letricourt. Two platoons of "F" Co then occupied the high ground east of the town.

Meanwhile the 3d Bn, attacking northwards from the vicinity of Bois du Hte des Trappes, was engaged in a fire fight on the southern edge of Abaucourt at 1408. Enemy resistance was quickly overcome. One platoon of light tanks and two platoons of "L" Co were fighting in the town at 1414, mopping-up enemy resistance.

The enemy defended Letricourt with determined resistance. "G" Co moved at 1422 to occupy the high ground northwest of the town, and one platoon of "G" Co and one platoon of light tanks then attacked the town from the north. By 1445 all enemy opposition in this area was cleared and the position was consolidated.

Eight engineer reconnaissance parties reconnoitered the south bank of the Seille River for possible crossing sites.

By 1445 both battalions had organized the ground gained.

"G" Co dug in on the high ground north of Letricourt, and elements of "F" Co occupied Letricourt and the high ground southeast of the town (Hill 216). "E" Co was in Bn reserve.

"L" Co occupied Abaucourt together with one platoon of light tanks,

"I" Co dug in on the high ground southeast of the town (Hill 211), and "K" Co remained in Bn Reserve.

At 1730 the 3d Bn began to withdraw from the vicinity of Abaucourt to its former positions occupied before the attack.

Tanks of the 702d Tank Bn were released from bn control at 1730 and reassembled in Bois de Brasquin. The 2d Bn had been reinforced with one platoon of medium tanks and two platoons of light tanks. The 3d Bn had been reinforced with one platoon of light tanks and two platoons of medium tanks.

By 1945 the 3d Bn had closed into its former positions in the vicinity of Bois du Hte des Trappes, and the 2d Bn closed at 2015 in the vicinity of Bois d'Aulnois.

OPs were established on the ground gained by the attack, one southwest of Abaucourt, and one north of Letricourt.

PWs totaled 162 for the operation, with 98 enemy known to have been killed. Captured material consisted of 108 rifles, two AT guns, seven mortars, four bazookas, and fourteen machineguns.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf relieved the 1st Bn 317th from its position along the Seille River between Morville-sur-Seille and Clemery. Relief was completed at 2000 1 November and the 1st Bn closed into the vicinity of Pont-a-Mousson at 2230 as Regimental Reserve.

The 318th Inf made no change in its troop dispositions on 1 November.

Infantry regiments of the Division continued to occupy defensive positions west of the Seille River on the 2d and 3d of November. Active patrolling was conducted to develop hostile positions.

FO No.14, issued 0900 4 November, revealed the plans for a new offensive for the 80th Division, as a part of the Third Army's attack

to envelop the Metz area from the north and south and carry the attack to the northeast towards the Mainz-Frankfurt-Darmstadt area.

XII Corps was to attack, on Third Army's Order, with three infantry divisions abreast, the 35th, 26th, and the 80th Division.

The 6th Armored Division was to attack through the 80th Division bridgehead across the Seille River on Corps order and advance northeast to seize the Faulquemont area.

The 4th Armored Division was to attack northward through the 35th Infantry Division bridgehead and advance into the 80th Division zone to assist in seizing Delme Ridge.

The XX Corps, on the XII Corps (80th Div) left (north) flank, was to contain Metz from the west, cross the Moselle River in the vicinity of Thionville, seize Boulay, and then advance northeast. The 5th Infantry Division was to attack to the east on the left (north) flank of the XII Corps (80th Division).

The 80th Infantry Division (reinf) was to attack D-Day, H-Hour, to force a crossing of the Seille River in the Division Zone with three regiments abreast initially and advance to the northeast towards Faulquemont, where relief of the 6th Armored Div was to be accomplished.

The 317th Inf, with one company of the 702 Tank Bn and one company of the 808th TD Bn attached, was to force a crossing over the Seille River in the vicinity of Morville-sur-Seille and Port-sur-Seille to seize Eply, Raucourt and St Jure, and then advance eastward on Division order.

The 318th Inf, with one medium company of the 702d Tank Bn and one company of the 808th TD Bn attached, was to force a crossing over the Seille River in the vicinity of Clemery and Nomeny and seize the towns of Rouves, Nomeny, Mailly-sur-Seille and Phlin, and then carry the attack to the northeast on Division Order.

The 319th Inf, which was to constitute Division Reserve, was to seize the bridges over the Seille River in the vicinity of Abaucourt, Therey-St Martin, and Aulnois-sur-Seille. One battalion was to occupy the high ground between Abaucourt and Letricourt and cover by fire the area east of the Seille River to prevent hostile troop movement to the north from the vicinity of Aulnois-sur-Seille. Assistance to the 318th Infantry by fire on Mailly-sur-Seille was also to be rendered.

The 319th Inf was to be prepared to comply with one of the following on Division order:

1. Cross the Seille River to position in Division Reserve northwest of Mailly-sur-Seille.
2. Cross the Seille River vicinity Ajoncourt, seize the high ground northeast of Craincourt, and push strong combat patrols to Therey-St Martin and the southern part of Cote de Delme.
3. Be prepared to attack and seize Cote de Delme (Delme Ridge) on order of the Commanding General.
4. Move by motor following the 6th Armored Division.

Units attached to the Division were: 702d Tank Bn, 808th TD Bn, and the 633d AAA AW Bn.

Twelve field artillery battalions were to support the attack of the 80th Division initially.

The 1117th Engineer Group was to render general support to the 80th Division and the 6th Armored Division.

Anti-aircraft protection for construction of bridges across the Seille River and crossing of the 6th Armored Division was to be furnished by the 27th AAA Group, consisting of the 452d AAA AW Bn and the 457th AAA AW Bn.

The 610th TD Bn (SP) was to move in the zones of the 80th and

35th Divisions and be prepared to repel enemy tank attacks.

Late in the evening of 4 November the 1st Bn 318th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity of Lixieres, relieved the 3d Bn 318th Inf at 2340 from its position in the line vicinity Eme de la Borde, south of Nomeny. The 3d Bn closed into Regimental Reserve vicinity Lixieres at 2358 4 November.

On 5 November the 3d Bn 319th Inf, holding defensive positions on the high ground north of Bois du Hte des Trappes, was relieved by the 1st Bn 319th Inf (Regimental Reserve) at 1540. The 3d Bn reverted to Regimental Reserve and closed into the vicinity of Jeandolincourt at 1705 5 November.

The situation remained static on 6 November. Infantry regiments continued to occupy and improve defensive positions and patrolled actively to the front and flanks.

The 702d Tank Bn and the 800th TD Bn continued to supplement artillery by firing harassing and interdiction missions.

During the day 7 November 1944 preparations were being completed for the attack on the following day. There were no troop movements during the daylight hours on 7 November, but during the hours of darkness 7-8 November, the 319th made some adjustments.

The 1st Bn, in position vicinity Bois du Hte des Trappes, moved under cover of darkness to the vicinity of Arraye-et-Han.

The 2d Bn, in position vicinity Bois d'Aulnois, occupied Letricourt with "E" Co (reinf) and Abaucourt with "G" Co (reinf) and established strong-points on the high ground running between Letricourt and Abaucourt with troops from "F" Co (Bn Res). All troops were in position by 0530 8 November 1944.

Now the 80th Division was ready to push off on "D-Day" 8 November

1944; "H" hour was set for 0600.

The 317th Inf was in position on the left (northern) flank, with the 3d Bn along the Seille River from the Lesmonils-Cheminot highway to Morville-sur-Seille, the 2d Bn along the river from Morville-sur-Seille to Clemery, and the 1st Bn in Reserve.

The 318th Inf occupied the center sector of the Division zone. The 2d Bn held the ground from Clemery to the railroad east of Manoncourt; the 1st Bn occupied the vicinity of Fme de la Borde, south of Nomeny, while the 3d Bn was in Reserve vicinity of Lixieres.

The 319th Inf was in position on the right (southern) flank, with the 2nd Bn occupying Abaucourt and Letricourt, including the high ground in between, the 1st Bn in the vicinity of Arraye-et-Hen, and the 3d Bn in Reserve vicinity of Jeandelincourt.

The 80th Division Artillery preceded the Division attack with a 45-minute preparation. Twelve other field artillery battalions also participated in fire missions on 8 November 1944. They were:

404th FA Gp	6th Armd Div Arty
512th FA Bn	128th FA Bn
974th FA Bn	212th FA Bn
775th FA Bn	231th FA Bn
731st FA Bn	XII Corps Arty
183d FA Gp	741st FA Bn
276th FA Bn (SP)	267th FA Bn
696th FA Bn (SP)	752d FA Bn (SP)

Other units furnishing fire support were the 808th TD Bn, the 702d Tank Bn, and the cannon companies of the 317th, 318th, and 319th Infantry Regiments.

The 317th Inf launched its attack at 0600, with the mission of establishing a bridgehead east of the Seille River in the vicinity of Eply and continuing the attack to the northeast. With two battalions abreast, the 1st on the right and the 3d on the left, the 317th seized the high ground (HILL 207) south of Eply at 0700 and

the high ground north of Eply (Hill 237) at 0720. Enemy fire was relatively light and ineffective, with the exception of enemy fire from the north flank which delayed the advance of the 3d Bn.

After seizing the bridgehead across the Seille River, the attack was continued with the 1st Bn (south of Eply) and the 3d Bn (north of Eply) moving to the east. Co "I" 3d Bn 317th Inf led the advance and crossed the Eply-louvigny highway at 0950, moving toward Raucourt.

"A" Co advanced to take Hill 234 (east of Eply) at 1030, with "B" Co moving on the right of "A" Co.

Infantry support bridges were constructed at Clemery and Manoncourt (318th Inf area) by 1100. Initial crossings were made by the use of assault boats and fords.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf, which was in reserve in the vicinity of Morville-sur-Seille, began crossing the Seille River at 1108, to take up a reserve position northwest of Eply (Hill 237).

At 1200 8 November the 2d Bn was ordered to seize Eply, which had been by-passed by both assault battalions. "F" Co. received this mission, and by 1530 had fought its way into the center of the town against scattered small arms fire. The town was cleared of the enemy by 1615.

The tank bridge in the vicinity of Clemery was finished at 1300, and Co "A" 702d Tank Bn began crossing the Seille River at 1445 to join the 3d Bn 317th Inf. Contact by the tanks was made at 1655 with the 3d Bn just north of Raucourt, farthest point of advance by this battalion.

The advance of the 317th was halted at darkness, with the 1st Bn digging in near Raucourt and the 3d Bn digging in on the high ground west of St Jure.

The 318th Inf jumped off at 0600, employing the 1st and 2d Bns. The 1st and 2d Bns crossed in assault boats, with the 1st Bn crossing the Seille River west of Nomeny and the 2d Bn crossing in the vicinity of Rouves.

The 3d Bn, in Reserve, was to follow the 2d Bn.

By 0616 elements of both battalions were across the river, and construction of a foot bridge was begun immediately in the 2d Bn area. Light enemy artillery and mortar fire was falling in both areas.

Elements of the 2d Bn 318th Inf had advanced over 300 yards from the river, north of Rouves, and the entire battalion was across the river by 0637.

"E" Co 2d Bn moved forward against light enemy resistance to within 100 yards northwest of Rouves at 0648, with "F" Co on its left. "E" Co was able to enter Rouves shortly thereafter and the enemy was cleared from the town by 0712 8 November 1944.

The footbridge under construction in the 2d Bn area was completed at 0650. The footbridge in the 1st Bn area was finished at 0725, with the remaining elements of "A" Co crossing shortly thereafter.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, began crossing the Seille River in the zone of the 2d Bn at 0725.

Bridging operations along the Seille River were hampered by flooded conditions. Heavy rains caused the river to overflow its banks in many places. The town of Clemery was knee-deep in water on the morning of 8 November 1944.

Meanwhile the 2d Bn 318th Inf had advanced 500 yards beyond the Rouves-Eply road against stiffening enemy resistance and progress became slower.

The 1st Bn, advancing between Rouves and Nomeny, also met stiffer

resistance. This battalion advanced towards the high ground south of Mailly-sur-Seille (Hill 217) but was pinned down at 1010 by enemy machinegun fire from Mailly-sur-Seille. Bitter fighting took place for possession of Hill 217 and after beating off an enemy counterattack at 1600, the battalion took its objective (Hill 217) shortly after dark.

The 2d Bn, advancing towards Mailly-sur-Seille north of Rouves, crossed the Nomeny-Raucourt highway at 1600, and consolidated the ground between the highway and Mailly-sur-Seille for the night .

The tank bridge at Clemery was finished at 1300, and Companies "A" and "B" 702d Tank Bn began crossing the Seille River, Co "A" to support the 317th Inf, and Co "B" to support the 318th Infantry.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, across the river about 1000 yards north of Nomeny, was directed by the CG to clear the enemy from Nomeny. Infantry and tanks were fighting in the outskirts of Nomeny at 1745, but darkness fell quickly, and the tanks were forced to withdraw. Co "I" then halted its attack until the next morning.

The 319th attacked at 0600 8 November 1944, employing the 1st Bn with the mission of seizing Aulnois-sur-Seille and Craincourt.

The 1st Bn crossed the Seille River in the vicinity of Chenicourt, using a fixed bridge that had not been blown up by the enemy, and then attacked northward with "B" Co on the left, "A" Co on the right, and "C" Co. in Reserve. Co "D" 702d Tank Bn remained in the vicinity of Ajoncourt until a treadway bridge could be constructed across the small stream south of Aulnois-sur-Seille.

The 2d Bn remained in positions in the vicinity of Abaucourt - Letricourt and supported the attack by fire. The 3d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Jeandelincourt.

"B" Co fought its way into Aulnois-sur-Seille at 0725 and began mopping up operations. "A" Co was abreast of "B" Co and 500 yards

to the east of Aulnois-sur-Seille at 0830, but the attack was halted by enemy machinegun and mortar fire from the high ground northeast of the town.

"B" Co 319th Inf completed mopping-up operations and began consolidating its position at 1145 8 November. "A" Co held its position east of Aulnois-sur-Seille despite heavy enemy fire.

The treadway bridge crossing the stream on the Ajoncourt-Aulnois-sur-Seille highway (954295) was completed at 1430 and tanks from Co "D" 702d Tank Bn advanced to aid the 1st Bn in its attack on Craincourt.

Companies "A" and "B" 319th Inf, reinforced by Co "D" 702d Tank Bn, launched a coordinated attack on Craincourt at 1545, but stiff enemy resistance made progress slow.

Co "C" in Reserve, was ordered up to reinforce Companies "A" and "B", and took a position in the center of the line.

Co "C" 702d Tank Bn relieved Co "B" at 1700 8 November 1944, and Co "D" returned to Jeandelin court.

The 1st Bn, reinforced, then renewed the attack on Craincourt, and the battalion advanced to the southern edge of town. The enemy launched a counterattack at "C" Co at 1940, and halted the attack on the town. "F" Co 2d Bn 319th Inf, in Bn Res on the west side of the Seille River was ordered to reinforce the 1st Bn and was moving up as ordered at 2000. The 1st Bn succeeded in beating-off the enemy counterattack by 2000 and "F" Co 319th Inf occupied Aulnois-sur-Seille.

The 1st Bn then organized and consolidated its position south of Craincourt for the night.

Field Message No. 1, issued 1700 8 November 1944, ordered the three infantry regiments to consolidate and organize for defense the ground gained during the day's attack. All three regiments were

to resume the attack on the following morning at 0630 9 November.

The 6th Armored Division was given priority on roads in the 80th Division Zone between the hours 0200 - 1200 9 November 1944. The armor was also to have priority on the treadway bridges crossing the Seille River between the hours of 0500 - 1200 9 November.

The armor was to pass through the 317th and 318th Infantry Regiments and carry the attack to the northeast towards the Faulquemont area.

Field message No. 1 also revealed the plans of the 5th Infantry Division to attack at 0600 9 November (on the 80th Division left flank) and cut off the fortress city of Metz from the southeast and east.

Preceded by a 5-minute artillery preparation fire, the 317th Infantry renewed its attack to the east on 9 November.

The attack jumped off at 0630 with the 1st Bn, in the vicinity south of Raucourt, moving eastward to seize the high ground between Raucourt and Ressaincourt at 0720.

After the 1st Bn gained control of the high ground east of Raucourt, Co "C" attacked the town from the west and seized it at 1000.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf, in Regtl Reserve northwest of Eply (Hill 237), moved to a position about 800 yards east of Eply on the morning 9 November.

The 3d Bn, attacking at 0630 from positions just west of St. Jure, skirted around the town of St. Jure from the south and fought its way against moderate resistance towards the Bois de Ressaincourt, and by 1150 this Bn held a position just north of Ressaincourt.

The 1st Bn, fighting its way northeast towards Secourt, entered Bois de Ressaincourt at 1355. Co "C" remained in Raucourt.

To the north, the 3d Bn advanced into the northern sector of Bois de Ressaincourt.

Co "A" 702d Tank Bn, which had been in an assembly area in the vicinity of Eply, began movement at 1455 to support the advance of the 1st Bn 317th Inf.

Meanwhile, the 2d Bn 317th, in Reserve east of Eply, was ordered to move at 1400 to an area just south of St. Jure. At 1524 elements of the 2d Bn and Co A 702d Tank Bn were engaged in clearing out the enemy from St Jure. Co "A" 702d Tank Bn continued to pass through St Jure to a point about 500 yards northeast of the town where it swung to the east to join the 1st Bn on the northern edge of Bois de Ressaincourt at 1615.

The 1st Bn 317th Inf cleared the Bois de Ressaincourt and was approaching Secourt at 1655, taking the town before dark and moving on to the high ground northeast of the town, where the position was consolidated for the night.

The 3d Bn continued its advance on the left of the 1st Bn, and by evening occupied positions southwest of Solgne where the advance was halted for the day.

On the morning of 9 November 1944 the two assault battalions of the 318th Inf jumped off at 0630. The attack was preceded by a 5-minute artillery preparation.

The 1st Bn 318th Inf attacked the town of Mailly-sur-Seille from the south (Hill 217). By 0818, "A" Co was fighting at the southern approaches to the town, with "B" Co following "A" Co, and "C" Co in Reserve. The town was cleared by 1010, and leading elements of the 1st Bn had advanced to the east to a point about midway between Mailly-sur-Seille and Phlin.

In this advance on Phlin, Companies "A" and "B" advanced abreast of each other, with "A" Co on the left (north). "B" Co was given the mission of seizing Phlin while "A" Co advanced on its left (north) flank.

"C" Co, in Bn Reserve, was approximately 1200 meters west of Phlin.

"B" Co 318th Inf was fighting in Phlin at 1250 and the town was cleared of the enemy shortly thereafter.

At 1322 the CG 80th Div directed the 1st Bn to clear the enemy from Therey-St Martin (southeast of Phlin). "C" Co, in Bn Reserve, was given the mission. Companies "A" and "B" consolidated and organized the high ground east of Phlin for the night.

Meanwhile, the 2d Bn 318th Inf, on the left (north) flank of the 1st Bn, advanced northeast from its position between Mailly-sur-Seille and the Raucourt-Nomeny highway towards Bois de Seigneur. At 0835 forward elements of this battalion were on the road north of Mailly-sur-Seille, moving northeast against moderate enemy resistance. The western edge of the Bois de Seigneur was entered at 0922 by the 2d Bn and the woods was cleared by 1339. This battalion continued its drive to the north to advance through Bois de Phlin, clearing the woods by 1515. Here the advance was halted for the day, with positions being organized and consolidated for the night.

The attack on Nomeny was resumed on the morning of 9 November by the 3d Bn 318th Inf with Co "B" 702d Tank Bn in support. This tank company was in Nomeny along the Seille River at 0900 meeting only slight opposition. Two-thirds of Nomeny was reported clear of the enemy at 1010, and by 1120 all clear was reported.

Co "B" 702d Tank Bn then moved northeast from Nomeny through Mailly-sur-Seille towards Phlin, and thence southeast to attack Therey-St. Martin with Co "C" 318th Inf. Fighting in the streets at 1730, Co "C" 318th Inf, reinforced with armor, quickly cleared the enemy from the town. The tanks then returned to Phlin at 1825.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, which had cleared Nomeny at 1120, moved to Mailly-sur-Seille on the afternoon of 9 November, closing there at 1726.

Flood waters of the Seille River hampered the supply and evacuation traffic in the 318th Infantry area on 9 November 1944. All bridges in the area were unserviceable at 0705 with water flooding the approaches to all bridges.

The 319th Inf resumed the attack at 0630 9 November. The 905th FA Bn, reinforced by the Cannon Co 319th Inf and Co "A" 808th TD Bn, fired preparatory barrages between 0600-0630, and then fired in support of the attack.

The 1st Bn, having halted its attack just south of Craincourt on the evening 8 November, renewed its assault on the town.

Enemy resistance in Craincourt was quickly mopped-up, and by 0815 the 1st Bn completed the organization and consolidation of its bridgehead across the Seille River.

"B" Co occupied the left sector from the river eastward to Craincourt, "C" Co occupied the center from the east side of Craincourt to a point about 1000 yards southeast of the town, and "A" Co occupied the right sector east of Aulnois-sur-Seille and south to the Aulnois-sur-Seille-Lemoncourt road.

"F" Co remained in Aulnois-sur-Seille.

At 0950 the CG 80th Div released the 3d Bn 319th Inf from Division Reserve. This bn was then directed to proceed east of the Seille River to take the right sector of the Regimental Zone.

With the clearance of Craincourt, Co "C" 305th Engr C Bn proceeded to construct a support raft bridge at Aulnois-sur-Seille.

It was planned for the 2d Bn (F Co), with "E" Co in Abaucourt and "G" Co in Letricourt, to assemble and cross to Aulnois-sur-Seille

as soon as the bridge was completed.

The 319th Inf attacked at 1400 on Division order with the mission of seizing Delme Ridge, three miles to the northeast from the 319th Inf bridgehead.

The 1st and 3d Bns advanced abreast, with the 1st Bn on the left. At 1430 the 1st Bn captured intact the bridge crossing a stream on the Craincourt - Liocourt highway (965328). The bridge was heavily mined, and after removal of the mines by the mine platoon AT Co 319th Inf, the advance was continued to the northeast.

Meanwhile the 3d Bn, advancing on the 1st Bn right flank, had moved about 2500 yards along the Craincourt-Puzieux Road. At 1545 this battalion was in the vicinity of the railroad tracks (993335) southwest of Puzieux. By 1630 "L" Co was fighting in the town of Puzieux and "K" Co had advanced to the base of Delme Ridge, supported by tanks from Co "C" 702d Tank Bn.

Before the fleeing enemy could properly occupy Delme Ridge, Co "K" stormed this land block and took its objective at 1730. The position on the southern nose of Delme Ridge was then consolidated for the night.

The town of Puzieux, south of Delme Ridge, was cleared of the enemy by 1730, and at dark the 3d Bn held a line running southward from the southern nose of Delme Ridge to the east edge of Puxieux.

The 1st Bn, in the meantime, attacked Alaincourt and Liocourt. At 1545 "B" Co was fighting on the west edge of Liocourt, and "A" Co assaulted Alaincourt, both companies supported by tanks of Co "C" 702d Tank Bn. "B" Co fought its way through Liocourt at 1715 to take the high ground about 500 yards northeast of the town on a line running from northwest to southeast. Alaincourt was captured late in the afternoon of 9 November 1944, while Liocourt was cleared

of the enemy at 1820.

The support raft bridge was completed at 1500, and the 2d Bn (-F Co) crossed shortly thereafter, assembling in the vicinity of Aulnois-sur-Seille at 1835 as Regimental Reserve.

At 2310 elements of the 137th Infantry (35th U. S. Inf Div) were reported in Delme, linking up the front between the 80th and 35th Divisions.

The 313th FA Bn displaced to position east of the Seille River on the morning 9 November 1944 in direct support of the 317th Inf.

Construction of a bridge at Nomeny was completed at 2100 9 November 1944.

The 317th Inf continued its advance on 10 November, pushing off at 0900 with the 1st and 3d Bns.

The 1st Bn, northeast of Secourt, continued its advance to the northeast against light small arms and heavy artillery fire. This battalion pushed forward during the day to the area just south of Luppy, where the attack was halted for the night.

The 3d Bn, having halted its advance the previous day southwest of Solgne, attacked at 0900 10 November to seize the town at 1620. The 3d Bn then moved eastward through Bois St Paul to advance to Hill 254 (south of Luppy) where the attack was halted for the night, with the 3d Bn tying in on the right (southern) flank of the 1st Bn.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity St Jure, moved to relieve the 3d Bn 317th Inf on the night 10-11 November 1944.

The 318th Infantry resumed the attack at 0900 10 November 1944 employing the 1st Bn and 2d Bn in the attack, with the 3d Bn in Res.

The 1st Bn moved towards Foville, meeting no enemy resistance. Forward elements entered the town at 1030, and had cleared the town of scattered enemy resistance by 1100. Tanks of Co "B" 702d Tank

Bn were operating with the bn. The advance was continued to the northeast, with the town of Juville as the next objective. "A" Co was 500 yards northwest of Foville at 1115, and by 1222 leading elements were but 500 yards southwest of Juville. Scattered enemy resistance was met, and the 1st Bn seized Juville at 1330.

In the advance between the towns of Foville and Juville, the 1st Bn cleared the enemy from the northern end of Delme Ridge.

By dark on 10 November 1944, the 1st Bn occupied the high ground east of Juville, where the advance was halted for the night.

The 2d Bn, on the northeast edge of Bois de Phlin, attacked to the northeast towards the towns of Saily and Achatel at 0900 10 November. By 0945 leading elements of the 2d Bn were entering Saily against scattered enemy resistance. The town was cleared of the enemy shortly thereafter, and the advance continued towards Achatel. By 1100 Achatel was free of the enemy and the 2d Bn swung its direction of advance to the east towards the town of Moncheux. Elements of the 2d Bn were fighting against scattered enemy resistance in Moncheux at 1530, and by 1645 this town was added to the list of those liberated by the 80th Division.

The 2d Bn halted the attack about one mile northeast of Moncheux. Positions were organized and consolidated for the night.

The 3d Bn, constituting Regimental Reserve, moved from Mailly-sur-Seille on the morning 10 November 1944 towards Vulmont, and at 1100 was west of the town about 1000 yards. During the evening 10 November, the 3d Bn began movement to Moncheux to take up a reserve position about 500 yards northeast of the town.

During the night 9-10 November, the 2d Bn 319th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Aulnois-sur-Seille, moved northeast to relieve the 1st Bn from its positions in the left sector of the

Regimental Zone, vicinity Liocourt. Relief was completed during the early hours 10 November 1944. The 1st Bn then reverted to Res.

The 319th Inf attacked at 0900 10 November 1944 from Delme Ridge with two battalions abreast. The 2d Bn, reinforced by Co "C" 702d Tank Bn less one platoon, advanced on the left; the 3d Bn, reinforced by one platoon Co "C" 702d Tank Bn, advanced on the right.

At 1030 the 2d Bn had advanced 300 yards into the Bois de Baucourt under heavy machine gun and mortar fire. The progress of the attack was slowed down by stiffer enemy resistance, but by 1335 leading elements of the 2d Bn were 300 yards from the east edge of Bois de Bacourt and continued to advance. At 1455 the 2d Bn cleared the woods and then made preparations to seize Hill 328 (west of Bacourt). With Co "F" on the right, and Co "G" on the left, the 2d Bn attacked and seized Hill 328 at 1610. Positions here were consolidated and held for the night.

The 3d Bn 319th Inf, advancing in the right sector of the Regimental Zone, employed three companies abreast. Xocourt was seized at 1030. The battalion reorganized with Companies "K", "I" and "L" on the line from Xocourt to the road junction northwest of the town of Delme, and then, continued the attack to the northeast.

Companies "I" and "K" of the 3d Bn entered Bois de la Fouillouse pon de Chasse (northwest of Tincry), at 1255 and cleared the enemy from the woods by 1350, reaching the eastern edge at that time. "L" Co moved towards Tincry, crossing the stream Rau de Lampe at 1350.

At 1500 Co "K" seized Hill 326 (northeast of Bois de la Fouillouse pon de Chasse). Co "I" tied in with Co "K" on the north and Co "L" on the south. The progress of the 3d Bn was temporarily halted by enemy fire from Hill 328 to the north. However, the 2d Bn drove the enemy from Hill 328 at 1610, allowing "L" Co to seize Tincry and advance 200 yards to the east of the town. The 3d Bn was then ordered to hold for the night. Contact was made that evening with "G" Co 137th Regt (35th U. S. Div) on the 3d Bn's right flank about 600 yards southeast of Tincry.

The 1st Bn 319th remained in Regimental Reserve, with Companies "A" and "B" occupying positions on Delme Ridge.

At 2015, Maj. Gen. H. L. McBride, Commanding, ordered the advance of all three regiments to continue at 0800 11 November, 1944.

The 317th Infantry continued the attack at 0800 11 November with the 1st Bn on the left and the 2d Bn on the right.

The 1st Bn, having halted its attack the night before south of Luppy, by-passed the town and advanced northeast towards the town of Bechy. This town was cleared of the enemy by 0910, and the advance continued against light small arms fire and heavy enemy artillery fire.

The 1st Bn was advancing rapidly to the east and at 1100 was 500 yards east of Bechy and north of the Bechy-Han-sur Nied highway. By 1300 the 1st Bn had entered the woods southwest of Aubecourt. Elements of this were but 600 yards west of Han-sur-Nied at 1400. Enemy small arms and artillery fire became extremely heavy at this time and even direct fire from A/A weapons was received.

The 1st Bn entered the town of Aubecourt at 1720 and after a short skirmish the town was cleared of the enemy.

At 1800 elements of Co "A" 1st Bn 317th Inf captured intact the bridge crossing the Nied-Francaise River at Han-sur-Nied. Elements of the 6th Armored Division crossed shortly thereafter, and the bridge-head was held despite heavy enemy fire.

Meanwhile, the 2d Bn 317th Inf, which had relieved the 3d Bn from its position vicinity Hill 254 (south of Luppy) attacked to the east at 0800 11 November. The 2d Bn, moving on the right of the 1st Bn, advanced eastward against light small arms fire and heavy enemy artillery fire, reaching a point about 600 yards southeast of Bechy at 1100. When approaching Hill 285 enemy small arms fire increased but the advance continued. At 1305 the 2d Bn was approaching the lakes northeast of Flocourt, and at 1330 had reached Gr d'Etang (south west of Han-sur-Nied) against light enemy resistance. After passing the lakes the 2d Bn encountered intense enemy small arms, artillery and AAA fire. Progress was slowed down somewhat by this heavy fire but by 1840 the 2d Bn advanced to Hill 225 (southwest of Han-sur-Nied).

The 3d Bn 317th Inf, which had been relieved by the 2d Bn during the morning from its positions south of Luppy, moved through Luppy to Corvée de Pretre (midway between Bechy and Han-sur-Nied) as Regimental Reserve. The 3d Bn closed into the woods (025444) at 1840.

To insure the safety of the bridge at Han-sur-Nied, the 1st Bn completed crossing the river after dark. The enemy had excellent

observation from the high ground east of Han-sur-Nied. The town was outposted by the 1st Bn, and at 2235 the 2d Bn moving from Hill 225 (southwest of Han-sur-Nied), began crossing the Nied Francaise River with the high ground east of Han-sur-Nied (Hill 253) as its objective. The 3d Bn 317th Inf was to follow the 2d Bn and take the high ground northeast of Han-sur-Nied.

At 0210 12 November 1944 the 2d Bn reached its assigned objective (Hill 253).

Leading elements of the 3d Bn 317th Inf began crossing the Nied Francaise River at 0230 12 November 1944. The first bridgehead across the Nied Francaise River was securely held by the 80th Infantry Division.

On 11 November the attack of the 318th Inf moved off at 0800 with the 2d Bn on the left and the 1st Bn on the right.

The 1st Bn, on the high ground east of Juville, resumed the attack to the northeast, entering Bois de Juville at 0900 against scattered small arms fire. By 1015 the 1st Bn had cleared the woods and moved toward Bois des Haies (southeast of Thimonville). At 1130 this battalion cleared the woods of scattered enemy resistance and moved east towards Morville-sur-Nied, but enemy fire coming from the town temporarily held up the attack. Before darkness fell, however, the 1st Bn took the town and occupied positions east of the town along the west bank of the Nied Francaise River. Here the advance was halted for the night and a reconnaissance was made for river crossings.

Meanwhile the 2d Bn, moving on the 1st Bn left flank, moved from positions northeast of Moncheux toward Tragny. In the attack on Tragny heavy enemy small arms fire was encountered, but the town was taken by 1000.

Co "B" 702d Tank Bn, attached to the 1st Bn, then went on to seize Thimonville at 1030. The 2d Bn followed the tanks to Thimonville, completed the occupation of the town by 1300, reorganized, and then moved northeast and seized Flocourt without delay.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity of Moncheux, moved to pass through the 2d Bn 200 yards east of Flocourt at 1720. By 1740 leading elements of the 3d Bn were in the town of St Epvre, meeting no opposition. Shortly thereafter the entire 3d Bn took up positions east of the town along the west bank of the Nied Francaise River. The 3d Bn secured a railroad bridge intact over the river south-

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east of St Epvre, but did not cross the river.

The 2d Bn remained in the vicinity of Flocourt as Regimental Reserve.

The 319th Inf advance jumped off at 0800 11 November 1944 with two battalions abreast.

The 2d Bn, occupying Hill 328 west of Bacourt, placed a 15-minute artillery concentration on Bacourt at 0915 and began the advance on the town at 0920. Tanks from Co "C" 702d Tank Bn were to support the attack on the town from the southwest but were slowed down by a minefield north of Hill 326 (025364). Co "E" 319th Inf swung around the left flank of Co "G" and made the attack on the town. Companies "F" and "G" supported "E" Co by fire from Hill 328. At 0945 Co "E" was in Bacourt and at 0955 the town was outposted.

Companies "E" and "G" continued the attack to the east and by 1510 leading elements of the 2d Bn reached the Nied Francaise River and began preparation of positions on the high ground west of the river in the vicinity of Hill 271. Co "F" remained in Reserve, moving to the vicinity of Bacourt.

The 3d Bn 319th Inf, having halted its attack west of le Haut du Mont, continued the attack to the east at 0800 11 November and by 0900 this battalion, with Co "I" on the left and "L" on the right, was atop le Haut du Mont and sweeping the woods there. "K" Co remained in Reserve vicinity Hill 326.

At 1015 "I" Co had advanced to the east nose of le Haut du Mont overlooking Prevocourt, while "L" Co advanced to the southeast nose. "I" Co entered Prevocourt at 1245, while "L" Co was moving on Hannoncourt, southeast of Prevocourt. At 1300 "L" Co began mopping up scattered enemy resistance in Hannoncourt.

The advance by the 3d Bn 319th Inf continued eastward to the high ground west of the Nied Francaise River. Front line positions were occupied by Companies "I" and "L" between St Jean Fme and Hannoncourt, with Co "I" on the left, Co "L" on the right, and "K" in reserve vicinity Prevocourt.

The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Delme Ridge, was ordered at 1035 to move to a reserve position in the east sector of Bois de la Fouillouse pon de Chasse. Movement was completed at 1500.

On 12 November 1944 the 317th Inf strengthened and extended its

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bridgehead across the Nied Francaise River.

The 1st Bn remained in position, outposting the town of Han-sur-Nied. The 2d Bn improved its position in the vicinity of Hill 253 (east of Han-sur-Nied), and occupied more ground to the east towards Herny. The 3d Bn completed crossing the Nied Francaise River at Han-sur-Nied at 0345 12 November 1944. That afternoon at 1630 the 3d Bn moved to the northeast towards its objective, the high ground northeast of Han-sur-Nied and east of Adaincourt.

By 1645 leading elements of the 3d Bn 317th Inf were on the objective and by 1700 the entire battalion had occupied the high ground east of Adaincourt and the southwest tip of le Bois Censitaire.

Enemy mortar and artillery fire fell constantly throughout the day in the vicinity of Han-sur-Nied in an attempt to knock out the bridge.

On 12 November 1944 the 318th Inf established its bridgehead across the Nied Francaise River.

The 6th Armored Division constructed a bridge at Baudrecourt on the morning 12 November 1944 and the 1st Bn crossed here at 1345. Elements of the 6th Armored Division struck out toward Herny and Many, while the 1st Bn 318th, with "B" Co 702d Tank Bn, moved south on the eastern side of the Nied Francaise River to seize Lucy at 1705. Later that evening at 2000 the 1st Bn 318th was relieved from its positions in the vicinity of Lucy by the 1st Bn 319th Inf, which was able to make a crossing of the river in the vicinity of Fremery.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, holding the west bank of the Nied Francaise River in the vicinity of St Epvre, began crossing the river at 1105, using the railroad bridge which had been captured intact the previous day. Moderate enemy resistance was met but the battalion succeeded in establishing its bridgehead, seizing Vatimont at 1805 and then occupying the high ground north and south of the town. These positions were held for the night.

The 2d battalion 318th Inf remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Flocourt.

The 319th Inf planned to cross the Nied Francaise River at Fremery on 12 November, following CCA 4th Armored Division which had advanced north through the 35th U. S. Infantry Division on the 80th's right flank. However, a change in armored plans necessitated the 319th Inf

to force the crossing, using a foot bridge constructed by Co "C" 305th Engr C Bn that morning.

The 3d Bn, in position along the west side of the river from St Jean Fme to Hannoncourt, was to cross first, then to be followed by the 1st Bn, which was to move from reserve position in Bois de la Fouillouse pon de Chasse in time to follow the 3d Bn. The 2d Bn was to support the attack by fire from the vicinity of Hill 271 (west of Lucy).

Moving to cross the Nied Francaise River in the late afternoon, the 3d Bn 319th Inf had two companies across the river at 1625, took Fremery, and moved northeast toward high ground, meeting little enemy resistance.

The 1st Bn followed the 3d Bn, and moved north towards Lucy, entering the town at 1900, and relieving the 1st Bn 318th Inf in Lucy at 2000 hours.

All three battalions of the 319th Inf held in positions for the night, with the 3d Bn consolidating the high ground about 1000 yards northeast of Fremery.

Resuming the attack at 0800 (13 November 1944 the 317th Inf advanced to the northeast against light small arms opposition and heavy artillery fire.

The 2d Bn, occupying the high ground east of Han-sur-Nied, moved northeast towards Herny. By 0830 leading elements were entering the town and by 0850 the battalion cleared Herny and was moving east.

Enemy opposition was previously broken up by elements of the 6th Armored Division and the 2d Bn's advance was quite rapid. By 1110 elements of the 2d Bn 317th Inf reached the crossroads west of Many, with light enemy mortar and artillery fire harassing our troops. Many was entered at 1220, scattered enemy resistance cleared up, and the high ground north and northeast of the town was occupied. Here the advance was halted by Division order, and the ground was organized for the night (110460 to 120458).

The 3d Bn moved eastward from the high ground east of Adaincourt at 0800 13 November and upon reaching the overpass north of Herny, swung northeast toward the town of Arriance. By 1325 the 3d Bn 317th Inf was attacking Hill 252 (west of Arriance) and shortly thereafter cleared the enemy from this vantage point. The advance was halted

here for the night.

Having protected the bridge at Han-sur-Nied, the 1st Bn was released from this mission just before noon on 13 November to move to Herny as Regimental Reserve. Movement was completed by 1535. Enemy artillery fire fell in Herny at 1910 that evening.

On 13 November 1944, the 1st Bn 318th Inf left Lucy at 0900, attacking northeast towards Chenois. Supporting the 1st Bn was Co "B" 702d Tank Bn, one platoon AT Co, and the 3d Platoon of Co "B" 808th TD Bn.

At 1013 "B" Co 702d Tank Bn entered Chenois, meeting only light enemy opposition, and was followed shortly by the infantry. The attack was continued to the northeast, with the town of Lesse as the next objective. Meeting little resistance, the 1st Bn 318th Inf cleared Lesse by 1115 and moved on Holacourt. This town was seized by 1500 and the 1st Bn moved to take up a defensive position for the night south of the Vatimont-Arraincourt highway.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, in position vicinity Vatimont, cleaned out scattered enemy resistance south of the Vatimont-Arraincourt highway and outposted this line in conjunction with the 1st Bn.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Flocourt, moved to a forward area, reaching St Epvre at 0935.

The 319th Infantry resumed the attack to the northeast at 0800 13 November 1944.

The 1st Bn, in Lucy, attacked towards Bois du Baron and by 0830 had advanced 300 yards into the woods. Moderate enemy resistance was encountered and by 1230 the 1st Bn reached the northeast edge of the woods. The eastern sector of Bois du Baron was outposted with two platoons and the remainder of the battalion withdrew to Lesse, closing at 1600.

The 3d Bn, in position northeast of Fremery, moved northwest at 0700 to sweep Bois de Lucy, completing this mission by 0910. The 3d Bn then assembled in the northeast sector of the woods. At 1030 the 3d Bn was directed to advance and seize Chicourt.

Light enemy resistance enabled the 3d Bn to enter Chicourt at 1325 and mopping-up operations were completed by 1440.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Bacourt, moved to the east bank of the Nied Francaise River at 1500, crossing west of Bois

de Lucy on a bridge constructed that morning by Co "C" 248th Engr C Bn.

The 2d Bn closed in Fremery at 1645 and sent "F" Co to outpost the southern edge of Bois de Chicourt. The 2d Bn sent patrols through the woods, and finding no enemy, withdrew "F" Co into battalion position.

The 319th Infantry held these positions for the night.

The 80th Infantry Division maintained its bridgehead east of the Nied Francaise River on 14 November 1944. The three regiments of the Division moved to establish a MLR southwest of Faulquemont.

On 14 November 1944 the 317th Infantry improved its positions from Arriance to Many.

The 2d Bn continued to occupy and defend Many on 14 November and also defended the high ground north and northeast of the town.

The 3d Bn, on the high ground west of Arriance, attacked the town on the morning 14 November and forward elements entered Arriance at 0830. The town was outposted by 1150. That afternoon the 3d Bn attacked towards the high ground east and northeast of Arriance. Heavy small arms and artillery fire was encountered from both flanks but the objective was taken by 1650. A road block was set up northwest of Arriance near the road junction. Positions were consolidated for the night.

The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve, continued to occupy Herny.

On 14 November the 318th Inf took up positions to the East.

The 1st Bn moved from the vicinity of Holacourt to the vicinity of Brulange. "A" Co outposted the high ground north of Brulange, while "C" Co outposted the high ground about 500 yards east of Thonville. "B" Co occupied Brulange.

The 3d Bn, in position vicinity Vatimont, moved to occupy the high ground northwest of Thonville.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, moved from vicinity St Epvre to Holacourt, closing in at 1915. "F" Co occupied Arraincourt.

The 319th Inf continued the pursuit of the enemy on 14 November.

The 1st Bn, in Lesse and with two platoons outposting the eastern edge of Bois du Baron, moved eastward to take its objective at 1300 (117412 to 136410).

The 2d Bn 319th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Fremery, moved northeast to Bois de Chicourt and then advanced through the woods to the east, reaching the northern edge of Rouge Bois at 1240.

By 1500 forward elements of the 2d Bn were entering Bois de Ride (northwest of Destry). The advance was continued to the northeast against light enemy resistance. At 1615 Co "E" crossed the Rotte stream in Suisse via a foot-bridge found intact. By 1650 "E" Co occupied Suisse and "G" Co followed, moving in at 1950.

The 2d Bn received an enemy counterattack of tanks and infantry at Suisse at 1950 but this was successfully repulsed by 2000.

At 1550 the 1st Bn was ordered to put one company across the Rotte stream in Brulange. By 1950 "A" Co occupied Brulange and a task force of the 6th Armored Division in Brulange was sent eastward to support other elements of the 6th Armored Division in Landroff, where an enemy counterattack, reinforced with armor, was taking place.

The 1st and 2d Bns consolidated positions for the night, receiving harassing enemy artillery fire.

The 3d Bn 319th Inf, in Regimental Reserve, remained at Chicourt.

Field Order 15, issued 1800 14 November 1944, provided for the 80th Infantry Division to protect the left (north) flank of XII Corps effective 1200 15 November 1944.

The 2d Bn 318th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Holacourt, became Division Reserve, and was to be prepared to counterattack to the northeast, north, or northwest, with particular attention to the northwest.

Positions of the battalions in the 317th Infantry Regiment remained the same on 15 November 1944.

The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve, continued to occupy and out-post Herny.

The 2d Bn continued to occupy and defend Many and the high ground to the east and northeast.

The 3d Bn (- I Co) continued to occupy the vicinity of Arriance, defending the ground to the north and northeast of the town. "I" Co maintained a road block at Adaincourt.

The 318th Inf continued to improve its position on 15 November in compliance with Division Field Order 15. Plans were made with the 319th Inf and Task Force "F" 6th Armored Division to attack to the north to take defensive ground in the vicinity of Chemery.

The 1st Bn continued to occupy defensive positions in the vicinity of Brulange and Thonville. Two platoons of Co "B" 808th TD Bn moved

into defensive positions in the 1st Bn sector.

The 2d Bn, now in Division Reserve, continued to occupy Holacourt and vicinity.

The 3d Bn, in position on the high ground northwest of Thonville, continued to occupy and defend this vicinity. One platoon of Co "B" 808th TD Bn moved into a defensive position in the 3d Bn sector.

At 0300 15 November 1944, a German attack developed in the vicinity of Landroff against elements of the 6th Armored Division. XII Corps ordered the 80th Infantry Division to send the necessary infantry reinforcements to Landroff to aid in repulsing the attack.

"E" Co 2d Bn 319th Inf was given the mission of reinforcing elements of the 6th Armored Division in Landroff, and moving from the vicinity of Suisse, closed in the vicinity of Landroff at 0430 and aided in repulsing the enemy attack. By 0830 "F" Co cleared Landroff of the enemy and occupied the town.

The 1st Bn, in Suisse, (- E Co in Landroff) moved eastward to hold the line from Suisse to Landroff.

The enemy launched a counterattack at 1215 from the high ground generally northwest of Landroff to Thonville. This counterattack was successfully repulsed by 1300.

The 3d Bn 319th Inf, in Reserve vicinity Chicourt, began movement at 0845 15 November towards Destry where the battalion went into an assembly area.

Following the German counterattack, the 1st Bn 319th Inf, reinforced by Co "C" 702d Tank Bn, attacked to seize the ridge (Cote de Suisse) northwest of Landroff at 1720. This high ground was consolidated, with "A" Co on the left, "B" Co on the right, and "C" Co in Suisse.

The 2d Bn held its position in the vicinity of Landroff, with "F" Co west of Landroff and tied in with "B" Co. "G" Co occupied positions to the north of the town, and "E" Co to the east of the town.

The 3d Bn remained in Reserve position vicinity Destry.

During the early hours of 16 November, the 3d Bn 317th Inf (- I Co) adjusted its position on the west (left) flank of the Regimental Zone. Moving at 0100 from positions north and northeast of Arriance, the 3d Bn occupied positions west of Arriance in the eastern edge of le Bois Censitaire. Forward elements of the 3d Bn outposted Hill 252

(southwest of Arriance) and the high ground midway between Arriance and Many. This movement was completed by 0445.

Co "I" continued to maintain the road block in the vicinity of Adaincourt.

The 317th Inf made no changes in troop dispositions during the remaining daylight hours.

The 1st Bn, as Regimental Reserve, continued to occupy and out-post Herny.

The 2d Bn continued to occupy and defend Many and the high ground to the east and northeast.

The 3d Bn continued to occupy positions west of Arriance in the eastern edge of le Bois Censitaire, Hill 252 (southwest of Arriance) and the high ground midway between Arriance and Many.

At 2105 the 1st Bn 317th Inf relieved the 2d Bn from its positions in the vicinity of Many. The 2d Bn then reverted to Regimental Reserve, closing in the vicinity of Herny at 2205.

On 16 November 1944 a coordinated attack by the 1st and 3d Bns 318th Inf and Task Force "F" 6th Armored Division secured the MLR vicinity Chemery and the high ground north of Thicourt.

At 0900 16 November 1944 the 3d Bn 318th Inf attacked to the northeast from its positions northwest of Thonville. "I" Co advanced towards Bois de Thonville, with "K" Co on the left. By 0940 "I" Co was just south of the woods, and was receiving enemy small arms and artillery fire. The advance was slowed down by this fire, but the 3d Bn continued to advance slowly, with Companies "I" and "K" reaching the southern edge of Bois de Thonville. The enemy continued to contain the 3d Bn's advance with small arms and harassing artillery fire. At 1200 the 3d Bn 318th Inf was approaching the east-west road south of Chemery. The advance continued against moderate enemy resistance, and "I" Co seized Chemery at 1355. Co "K" remained in Bois de Thonville, while "L" Co remained in Bn Reserve 1000 yards to the rear. The vicinity of Chemery was organized and consolidated for defense.

The 1st Bn, on the line between Thonville and Brulange, moved north at 1400 to occupy the left half of the Regimental defensive sector. It received only light fire in moving to the high ground vicinity Bois des Tailles (north of Thicourt). "B" Co 318th Inf remained west of Eincheville as Regimental Reserve.

Darkness fell and "I" Co withdrew to the woods south of Viller at 1810, where the company reorganized and then moved back to Landroff, closing in at 2100.

The 1st Bn continued to hold and improve defensive positions in the vicinity of Chemery and Adelange on 17 November, while the 2d Bn held the vicinity of Boustroff and Viller. The 3d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Landroff.

On 18 November the 2d Bn 317th Inf, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Herny, sent "E" Co to relieve "I" Co 317th Inf on the road block at Adaincourt. Co "I" reverted to battalion control. Otherwise there were no changes in troop dispositions from the previous day.

The 318th Inf continued to occupy and improve defensive positions in the center sector of the Division Zone on 18 November 1944 from the high ground northwest of Bois des Tailles eastward to Chemery.

The 319th Inf employed the 3d Bn on 18 November to seize the high ground on the right flank of the Regimental Sector, extending the MLR to the north and northeast.

At 1045 the 3d Bn 319th Inf, reinforced by Co "C" 702d Tank Bn, moved from the vicinity of Landroff to an assembly area in Bois d'Eincheville. At 1200 Co "L" advanced to the northeast with the woods (195446) southeast of Boustroff as its objective. Artillery and mortar fire was placed on the woods le Gr Bischwald and the town of Vahl-les-Faulquemont in support of the attack. At 1230 Companies "I" and "K" began their advance towards the objective, Hill 291 (northeast of Boustroff). Co "L" reached its objective at 1250, while Companies "I" and "K" seized Hill 291 at 1315. "K" Co held the hill, while "I" Co sent a platoon to relieve "L" Co from its position southeast of Boustroff.

"L" Co then started to advance through the woods le Gr Bischwald and seized Hill 271.1 and then sent a platoon to seize the high ground (220445) in Bois du Bischwald.

"I" Co sent another platoon to relieve this "L" Co platoon. The 3d Bn then consolidated these positions, with "K" Co on the left on Hill 291, "L" Co in le Gr Bischwald, and a platoon each on the high ground (220445) in Bois du Bischwald and in the woods southeast of Boustroff. "I" Co (- 2 Plats) closed in Viller. During the day's advance, the 3d Bn encountered only light mortar and long range machine

ground southeast of Bois d'Eincheville. Viller was taken at 1745, with one platoon of "G" Co occupying the town, and two platoons occupying the high ground to the northwest.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Destry, moved to the northeast edge of Bois de Brulange on the morning 16 November 1944, closing in at 0915.

At 1450 the 3d Bn was alerted to move to Landroff. Moving shortly thereafter, the 3d Bn closed in Landroff at 1645 and outposted the town. Thus the 319th Inf established its MLR on the right (east) flank of the Division Zone, from Chemery - Adelange - Boustroff - Viller and Landroff. The 80th Division had completed the establishment of its MLR to protect the north (left) flank of the XII Corps.

The 80th Infantry Division continued to occupy defensive positions on 17 November 1944, protecting the left (north) flank of XII Corps.

The 317th Inf held defensive positions in the vicinity of Many; the 2d Bn (in Regimental Reserve) remained in vicinity of Herny, and the 3d Bn held positions west of Arriance.

The 318th Inf continued to maintain and improve its defensive position in the center of the Division Zone from the high ground northwest of Bois des Tailles eastward to Chemery.

The 1st Bn held the high ground in the vicinity of Bois des Tailles; the 2d Bn, in Division Reserve, remained in Holacourt and vicinity, while the 3d Bn continued to occupy the right sector of the Regimental Zone in the vicinity of Chemery and Bois de Thonville.

At 1015 17 November 1944 the 319th Inf was directed to send patrols to Harprich and the high ground north of the town to determine enemy troops dispositions.

Moving out of Landroff at 1255, "I" Co (reinf) 319th Inf swept through the Bois de Zante, meeting no opposition. The advance was continued to the east and at 1410 "I" Co had advanced to a point 1000 yards south of Viller on the ridge but found no enemy. At 1520 "I" Co displaced to sweep le Haut Bois. As the company advanced into the woods it received automatic weapons fire from the high ground in the woods and 20mm fire from Harprich. "I" Co called for artillery fire on Harprich and the high ground in le Haut Bois. The 905th FA Bn and the 775th FA Bn fired on these two areas with very satisfactory results.

The 2d Bn, in Division Reserve, continued to occupy Holacourt and vicinity.

On 16 November 1944 the 319th Infantry launched a coordinated attack with elements of the 6th Armored Division to secure a MLR from Chemery to Adelange, Boustroff, Viller, and Landroff.

The 1st Bn, reinforced with one platoon of "C" Co 702d Tank Bn, occupying Cote de Suisse (northeast of Suisse), moved off the ridge at 1012 to launch an attack to the northeast. At 1145 the 1st Bn, with "B" Co on the right and "C" Co on the left, reached a line from the southeast edge of Bois de Thonville to a point about 200 yards north of Eincheville (160445 - 172437). Contact was established with elements of the 1st Bn 318th Inf on the left.

Elements of the 6th Armored Division moved into position to fire on Eincheville. Co "B" prepared to follow the armor into the town.

At 1235 Task Force "B" 6th Armored Division entered Eincheville, and Co "B" followed to occupy the town at 1355.

At 1348 "A" Co moved from reserve position to the road junction 307.3 southeast of Chemery and "C" Co moved on the town at 1405. "A" Co (reinforced by one platoon "C" Co 702d Tank Bn) continued the advance to the northeast to seize Adelange at 1645, outposted the high ground to the west, and contacted "C" Co, which occupied Chemery and outposted the high ground to the east of the town.

These positions were consolidated and organized as the MLR.

The 2d Bn, occupying positions in the vicinity of Landroff, launched an attack to the northeast on 16 November. At 1210 Co "G", which was in position north of Landroff, and Co "E", in position east of the town, jumped off to sweep the Bois de Zante.

One platoon of "C" Co 702d Tank Bn advanced between the two companies. Companies "E" and "G" advanced rapidly, meeting little resistance, and reached the base of Hill 309 at 1330. Here heavy small arms fire held up the advance.

at 1500, "F" Co, in position west of Landroff, moved northeast to sweep Bois d'Eincheville and occupy Boustroff. By 1745 "F" Co had two platoons in the town cleaning up scattered enemy resistance and one platoon on the high ground (Hill 300) southwest of the town.

Meanwhile Companies "E" and "G" overran the enemy resistance from Hill 309. Co "G" moved on Viller, while Co "E" remained on the high

gun fire.

The 2d Bn, which had held the vicinity of Boustroff and Viller, reverted to Regimental Reserve on 18 November and assembled in Viller at 1715.

The 1st Bn 319th Inf continued to hold and improve defensive positions in the vicinity of Chemery and Adelange and established contact with Co "K" on the right, employing one platoon of "A" Co for this purpose. The 319th Inf consolidated positions for the night and conducted vigorous patrolling to the front and right flank.

The 317th Inf continued to occupy and improve defensive positions within its zone on the left (west) flank of the Division Zone on 19 November 1944.

The 1st Bn held positions vicinity Many; the 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained in the vicinity of Herny, while the 3d Bn held positions west of Arriance.

Patrols from the 1st and 3d Bns determined that the enemy had withdrawn during the night 18-19 November towards the Nied Allemande River.

The 36th Volksgrenadier Division had attempted to halt the advance of the 80th Division since 14 November 1944. This division arrived from the Baumholder Training Area where it had been reformed after destruction in Russia in 1943. Its purpose was to establish a line west of Faulquemont, but the attack of the 80th Division on 16 November overran the line of the 36th Volksgrenadier Division, causing the enemy to fill in his gap with combat groups made up of remnants of the 559th Division and the 48th Division. Now the enemy had apparently decided to pull his line back to the barrier of the Nied Allemande River.

Minefields were found by patrols of the 317th Inf in the vicinity of the railroad station in Mainvillers and on roads in the Foret de Remilly.

The 318th and 319th Infantry Regiments continued to hold and improve their defensive positions on 19 November. Both regiments conducted vigorous patrolling to maintain contact with hostile forces.

During the night 19-20 November all three regiments of the Division were ordered to send patrols out to determine enemy dispositions and if no enemy were found, regiments were to occupy the high ground

to their respective fronts, independently of each other, on the following day, 20 November 1944.

Co "G" relieved Co "E" 317th Inf from its position on the road block in the vicinity of Adaincourt at 0730 20 November 1944.

The 1st Bn 317th Inf, in position on the high ground in the vicinity of Many, employed "B" Co to precede its advance towards the Nied Allemande River. Moving out at 1010 towards Mainvillers, "B" Co entered the town at 1100, meeting no opposition. At 1125 "B" Co entered Le Jeune Bois, still not meeting any opposition, and then swung north towards Crehange. The town was entered at 2025 by the 1st Bn, and patrols were sent across the river to establish contact with the enemy.

The 3d Bn 317th Inf, in position southwest of Arriance, moved northeast on the morning 20 November, reaching the railroad tracks (106473) east of Arriance at 1140. Advancing northeast through Bois d'Arriance, Bois de Mainvillers, and Bois d'Elvange (comprising the southeast part of Forêt de Remilly) the 3d Bn, with Co "L" leading reached the northwest tip of the latter woods at 1520. By 1715 the 3d Bn entered Elvange on the south side of the Nied Allemande River. The enemy offered no resistance, having withdrawn north of the river on the previous night.

Reinforced platoons were sent across the Nied Allemande River to outpost the high ground and secure a bridgehead. Co "I" occupied the high ground across the river north of Elvange. No enemy opposition was met. All bridges across the river were found blown up.

The 2d Bn (-G Co in Adaincourt), in Regimental Reserve, moved from Herny eastward to Many, closing in at 1545.

On 20 November 1944 the 318th Inf moved north to the Nied Allemande River, occupying Faulquemont.

The 3d Bn, in position vicinity Chemery and Bois de Thonville, moved north at 1200.

At 1236 "I" Co, leading the advance, entered the woods Neulaender, meeting no resistance. The advance was continued and the first patrol entering Faulquemont encountered but one machine gun and a sniper. By 1647 the 3d Bn was in Faulquemont and Co "K" took up positions on the left, Co "L" on the right, and Co "I" reverted to Bn Reserve.

In moving into Faulquemont, crossings over the Nied Francaise

River were made at the railroad bridge which was intact west of the town and at a low point in the river east of the town (172498).

The high ground north of the town was outposted, and patrols made their way as far north as Tritteling, which was reported clear of the enemy.

The 1st Bn, holding the high ground northwest of Bois des Tailles, followed the 3d Bn in its advance on 20 November, halting in the woods le Kritzbesh south of Faulquemont for the remainder of the day. The 2d Bn 318th Inf remained in Division Reserve in the vicinity of Holacourt on 20 November 1944.

The 319th Inf advanced with two battalions on 20 November; the 1st Bn on the left and the 3d Bn on the right. The mission was to extend the MLR to the high ground south of Vahl-les-Faulquemont, Guessling-Hemering, and Hemering, and to gain contact with the enemy.

At 1200 "L" Co jumped off from the woods le Gr Bischwald and moved north into Bois Guessling. Co "I" moved out of Viller on the right of Co "L". At 1320 "L" Co reached its objective, the high ground in the northwest sector of Bois de Guessling. "I" Co was approaching its objective (northeast sector B de Guessling) at this time, meeting no enemy resistance.

The 1st Bn jumped off at 1230 from the vicinity of Chemery and Adelange with "B" Co on the left and "A" Co on the right. At 1350 "B" Co reached its objective (Hill 296.6) and "A" Co moved on the high ground southwest of Guessling-Hemering (201469).

By 1410 both the 1st and 3d Bns held their objectives and re-organized. Preparations were made to continue the advance and seize the towns of Vahl-les-Faulquemont, Guessling-Hemering, and Pontpierre.

At 1455 "B" Co reached the south edge of Vahl-les-Faulquemont and "A" Co swung right of the town to seize the high ground to the east (Hill 270). By 1550 "B" Co had taken the town and "A" Co occupied Hill 270 (200485).

"A" Co sent a strong combat patrol to investigate possible river crossing sites over the Nied Francaise River and to enter the town of Pontpierre to determine enemy troop dispositions. Finding the town clear of the enemy at 1650, the remainder of the 1st Bn began to move in.

The main bridge crossing the river was found blown up from the

south side.

The 3d Bn 319th Inf continued its advance on Guessling-Hemering at 1530 with "L" Co on the left and "I" Co on the right. At 1610 the 3d Bn occupied Guessling-Hemering and pushed on to the high ground to the north and northeast.

Both battalions consolidated positions, with the 1st Bn in Pont-pierre and the 3d Bn north of Guessling-Hemering.

The 2d Bn 319th Inf remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Viller.

On 21 November 1944 the 80th Infantry Division continued to enlarge its bridgehead across the Nied Allemande River and protected the north (left) flank of XII Corps. Strong patrols sent to the front and flanks established the enemy's MLR as Haute-Vigneulle - Bambiderstroff Tritelling - Teting.

Having lost the line of the Nied Allemande River, the enemy was going to make an attempt to utilize the high ground on which the Maginot Line had been constructed. The old fortifications were being used as CPs and troop shelters, and field fortifications were prepared around these strong points. An anti-tank ditch, dug by impressed civilian labor from nearby towns, ran the length of the Western slope.

"G" Co 317th Inf, relieved of its mission of holding the road block at Adaincourt, rejoined the 2d Bn at Many, closing in at 1230.

Patrols from the 317th Inf contacted elements of the 6th Armored Division in Chanville, (west of Foret de Remilly) at 1300.

The 1st Bn 317th Inf continued to occupy Crehange and vicinity, the 3d Bn continued to occupy Elvange and the high ground to the north while the 2d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve vicinity Many on 21 November 1944.

At noon 21 November, the 1st Bn 318th Inf moved from the woods le Kritzbesch (south of Faulquemont) into the town itself. Then "A" Co set up an outpost outside of town on the road to Tritteling, while "B" Co moved out to Tritteling to outpost to the northeast. Co "I" 3d Bn outposted Redlach to the northwest.

Co "B" moved from Tritelling to Laudrefang, reaching the latter town at 1945. The enemy launched a counterattack from the east that cut off "B" Co from the remainder of the battalion.

A patrol left Faulquemont to establish contact with "B" Co, but

was not able to reach Laudrefang due to heavy enemy automatic weapons fire.

Plans for the relief of "B" Co were drawn up during the night to employ the remainder of the 1st Bn plus one company of tanks.

The 3d Bn (-I Co) remained in Faulquemont on 21 November, while the 2d Bn remained in Division Reserve vicinity Holacourt. "I" Co occupied the high ground south of Redlach.

The 319th Inf enlarged its bridgehead across the Nied Allemande River on 21 November 1944.

At 1640 the 319th Inf was ordered to occupy and organize for defense the MLR from Tritteling south to the Nied Allemande River, west of Pontpierre, thence southeast to the high ground northwest of Hemering (183534-191498-217485).

At 1650 the 1st Bn was ordered to move immediately from Pontpierre and outpost the MLR from Tritteling to the Nied Allemande River, west of Pontpierre (183534-191498), and to hold the remainder of the battalion in Faulquemont. The 1st Bn 319th Inf closed in the town at 2300 21 November.

Arrangements made with the 318th Inf provided for the 1st Bn 319th Inf to relieve elements of the 318th Inf in the vicinity of Tritteling at daylight 22 November.

At 1705 21 November the 3d Bn, in position north of Guessling-Hemering, was ordered to extend its line to the west and tie in with the 1st Bn west of Pontpierre (191498). This was completed by darkness.

The 2d Bn 319th Inf remained in Regimental Reserve vicinity Viller.

FO 17, issued 1800 21 November 1944, provided for the 80th Div (reinf) to continue to protect the left (north) flank and rear of XII Corps by occupying a defensive position from Guinglange eastward to Hill 383 (northwest edge of Bois dit Steinbesch) thence along the high ground on the eastern side of Bois dit Steinbesch south to Pontpierre, and thence southeast to the high ground north and northeast of Guessling-Hemering.

The 317th Inf was to revert to Division Reserve and establish road blocks in the vicinity of Hemilly and Guinglange.

The 318th Inf was to occupy the left (north) sector of the Division Zone, while the 319th Inf was to occupy the right (south) sector of the Division zone.

At 0800 22 November the CG directed the 317th Inf to assemble in Division Reserve in accordance with FO 17, this headquarters.

The 1st Bn 317th Inf began movement from Crehange and vicinity at 0930. Elements of the 318th Inf took over the 317th's sector on the north side of the Nied Allemande River.

The 1st Bn closed in Mainvillers at 1045.

At 1310 the 3d Bn was directed to move back into its Reserve position and establish road blocks in the vicinity of Guinglange and Hemilly. Movement to the rear began at 1320. The 3d Bn (-) closed in Herny at 1700. Co "K" manned the road blocks at Guinglange and Hemilly.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf, which had been in Regimental Reserve, remained in Many on 22 November.

The 318th Inf effected the relief of Co "B" from Laudrefang on 22 November and extended its bridgehead across the Nied Allemande River to the north, taking up defensive positions on the left flank of the Division zone.

The 1st Bn 318th Inf (- Co "B" in Laudrefang) reinforced by one company of medium tanks 702d Tank Bn, launched an attack to the north from Faulquemont at 0730. Moderate enemy resistance was encountered.

At 0847 "A" Co reached the high ground west of Laudrefang, with "C" Co on "A" Co's right. The advance was halted here to establish contact with "B" Co, which was moving out of Laudrefang under light enemy mortar fire.

Contact with "B" Co was established at 0847, at which time companies "A" and "C" began to withdraw to former MLR positions at Faulquemont, closing in former positions at 1019.

"B" Co occupied the vicinity of Brundstudent Fme (west of Laudrefang - 192541).

Meanwhile the 2d Bn 318th Inf, in Division Reserve vicinity Holacourt, moved by truck on the morning 22 November to Faulquemont and reverted to Regimental control. The 2d Bn then moved by foot from Faulquemont to occupy the left sector of the Regimental zone.

The 2d Bn outposted its sector, employing Co "F" in the vicinity of Hill 383 (155554) while the remainder of the battalion closed in Dorviller.

The 3d Bn (-I Co) 318th Inf, in Faulquemont, occupied the right

sector of the Regimental Zone and moved to Cites des Charbonnages. "I" Co moved from the high ground south of Redlach to Hill 406 (176545) where defensive positions were dug in.

"B" Co rejoined the 1st Bn in Faulquemont late in the afternoon 22 November, moving from vicinity Brundstudent Fme (192541). The 1st Bn then went into Regimental Reserve, remaining in Faulquemont.

The 319th Inf completed adjustments of its MLR on 22 November as directed the previous day. By 1130 both the 1st and 3d Bns were in position.

The 1st Bn, in Faulquemont, outposted its MLR from Tritteling to the Nied Allemande River, west of Pontpierre (183534-191498), employing Co "A" and one platoon of Co "B".

The 3d Bn (-K Co) moved from position north of Guessling-Hemering to Vahl-les-Faulquemont.

"K" Co 319th Inf maintained the 3d Bn's MLR from the Nied Allemande River, west of Pontpierre (191498), to the east edge of Hemering.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained in the vicinity of Viller on 22 November.

FO 18, issued 2330 22 November 1944, provided for the 80th Division to attack north and northeast at H-hour, D-Day, and breach the Maginot Line within the Division zone. Line of departure was to be the present front lines. The 318th and 319th Regiments were to push the attack, with the 317th Regiment in Division Reserve.

The 808th TD Bn was to be attached to 80th Division Artillery initially. The 610 TD Bn was attached to the 80th Division, with one company each attached to the 318th Inf and 319th Inf, with the remainder of the battalion in Division Reserve.

The 2d Cavalry Group was to protect the left (west and north) flank of the 80th Division.

Remainder of attachments were normal.

The 80th Infantry Division occupied defensive positions north of the Nied Allemande River on 23 November, protecting the left flank and rear of XII Corps.

On the 80th Division right flank the 35th Infantry Division continued the attack to the east. Leading elements were reported in the vicinity of St Jean Rohrbach (3747). The 95th Infantry Division began movement to concentrate southeast of Metz on the 80th Infantry Division

left flank. The 5th Infantry Division continued to assault forts in the vicinity of Metz.

The 317th Infantry, in Division Reserve, remained in positions occupied the previous day, with the 1st Bn in Mainvillers, the 2d Bn in Many, and the 3d Bn in Herny. Patrols of the 317th Infantry on the Division left flank established contact with elements of the 95th Division at Frecourt (0454).

At 1135 23 November 1944 the CG announced H-hour, D-day, to be 0800 25 November 1944.

The 318th Infantry made minor adjustments within the Regimental Zone on 23 November 1944. The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve at Faulquemont, moved north to Cites des Charbonnages, closing in at 1500.

The 2d Bn was directed by the CG to send a reinforced platoon to occupy Hill 310 (west of Basse-Vigneulle) to protect the Division left flank. This was accomplished by 1730.

The 2d and 3d Bns remained in front line positions, the 2d Bn (-) vicinity Dorviller, with "F" Co in the vicinity of Hill 383 (155553) and the 3d Bn in Cites des Charbonnages, with Co "I" in the vicinity of Hill 406 (176545).

The 319th Infantry adjusted its MLR and consolidated battalion positions.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve at Viller, closed into a new area at Faulquemont at 1015.

The 3d Bn (-K Co), in Vahl-les-Faulquemont, moved to Faulquemont also, closing in at 1745.

The 1st Bn adjusted the MLR with "C" Co, which outposted the line from Hill 406 eastward to the high ground north of Laudrefang, thence south to the vicinity of la Filature Fme (172547-199546-197533). "C" Co closed on this MLR at 1630.

The 610th TD Bn (SP) was attached to the Division on 23 November. The 808th TD Bn (Twd) was to revert to Division Artillery control upon physical relief by the 610th TD Bn.

The 80th Infantry Division enlarged the bridgehead north and northeast of the Nied Allemande River and readjusted positions on 24 November 1944 in preparation for the attack the following day.

The 317th Infantry, in Division Reserve, moved to forward assembly areas. The 2d Bn, in Many, moved north of the Nied Allemande River to

relieve elements of the 1st Bn 319th Inf on the line from the vicinity of Tritteling to the Nied Allemande River, west of Pontpierre (183534-191498). Relief of the 1st Bn 319th Inf was completed by 1600.

The 1st Bn 317th Inf, in Mainvillers, moved northeast to close in Crehange at 1600 24 November.

The 3d Bn, in Herny, began movement to Mainvillers at 1745, and closed in late that night.

Minor adjustments on the left flank were made by the 318th Inf on 24 November 1944.

The 2d Bn, occupying the left sector of the Regimental Zone, extended its left flank, employing two platoons from "G" Co for this purpose. One platoon occupied Haute-Vigneulle, while the other occupied the high ground northeast of the town.

"F" Co continued to hold Hill 383 (155553) with the remainder of the battalion in Dorviller.

The 1st and 3d Bns remained in Cites des Charbonnages with Co "I" occupying Hill 406 (176545). Preparations were made for the attack on 25 November.

On 24 November 1944 the 319th Inf strengthened its MLR in preparation for the attack on 25 November.

The 2d Bn, in Faulquemont, moved out at 0513 to relieve "C" Co. At 0730 "F" Co passed through Redlach and moved towards Hill 400 (188550). Enemy fire from pillboxes held up the advance on this hill. Meanwhile "G" Co moved onto the high ground north of Tritteling.

"C" Co was relieved at 0800 and returned to Faulquemont. "E" Co 2d Bn, in Reserve, moved into Redlach at 1230. The assault on the pillbox in "F" Co area continued throughout the day but the pillbox was not reduced.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf relieved elements of 1st Bn 319th Inf northeast of Faulquemont by 1600.

The 1st and 3d Bns remained in Faulquemont.

The 80th Infantry Division launched a coordinated attack at 0800 25 November 1944. The Maginot Line was broken in each regimental sector. Eight forts of the Maginot Line were captured.

The 317th Inf attacked in its zone at 0800, employing the 2d Bn. Moving eastward from the high ground south of Tritteling, the 2d Bn swept through the northern edge of Bois de Pontpierre to enter Bois

de Teting. Light small arms fire and heavy mortar and artillery fire was encountered. Small pockets of enemy were encountered during the advance and by 1115 the 2d Bn reached the east edge of the woods (212535-212528).

Forts Laudrefang and Teting Woods were captured and mopped up. By 1545 the 2d Bn had advanced to the vicinity of Hill 363 (218538) northwest of Folschviller where the advance was halted for the day.

Meanwhile the 1st Bn, in Crehange, began movement at 0800 to the northeast to take up positions on the left of the 2d Bn. By 1500 leading elements of the 1st Bn reached Hill 392 (northeast of Laudrefang) where the battalion halted for the night. Light small arms fire and moderate mortar and artillery fire was encountered during the advance from Tritteling to the objective.

The 3d Bn 317th Inf, in Mainvillers, began movement at 0800 to Tritteling, closing into that vicinity late evening 25 November.

At 0800 25 November 1944 the 318th Inf launched an attack to the north, employing the 2d and 3d Bns. The 2d Bn attacked north in the left sector of the Regimental Zone; the 3d Bn attacked on the right of the 2d Bn.

By 0825 the 2d Bn had advanced to the high ground (159574) northwest of Bambiderstroff against light small arms fire. At 1020 the 2d Bn reached the north edge of the woods Bambesch (164583-178581) where heavier enemy resistance was encountered. The advance was halted until tanks from "B" Co 702d Tank Bn could join the infantry.

Construction of a bridge at Bambiderstroff was completed at 1155 and "B" Co 702d Tank Bn crossed shortly thereafter, closing into the woods Bambesch at 1330 to join the 2d Bn.

The attack to the north was continued and the 2d Bn advanced into the Bois de Kerfent (175591) at 1530.

"G" Co 318th Inf attacked Zimming, supported by "B" Co 702d Tank Bn, and cleared the enemy from the town by 1800. The advance by the 2d Bn was halted here for the day.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, attacking north from the high ground southeast of Bambiderstroff, cleared the town by 0900 and was halted on the hills before the Forts of Bambiderstroff and Bambesch at 1000 by heavy enemy fire, but by 1100 the advance was continued and the 3d Bn seized Hills 367, 343, 312, and 405 (northeast of Bambiderstroff)

reducing all Maginot Line forts in its zone of advance. The 3d Bn dug in on this high ground west of Longeville-les-St Avold, consolidating and reorganizing for the night.

The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve, moved from Cites des Charbonnages to Bambiderstroff, remaining in Reserve.

The 319th Inf launched an attack at 0800 25 November 1944 towards Longeville-les St Avold, employing the 2d and 3d Bns.

The 3d Bn, in Faulquemont, moved north at 0715 to come abreast of the 2d Bn north of Tritteling and on the 2d's right flank.

The 2d Bn met heavy enemy resistance from the pillbox on Hill 400 (188550) but this was reduced and the advance was continued on through the woods Stocken. By 0920 leading elements of the 2d Bn reached the east-west road from Bambiderstroff and then launched an attack against the enemy on the ridge Einselingerberg. The enemy was driven off this high ground and the 2d Bn held up its advance until the 3d Bn came abreast.

The 3d Bn meanwhile, advancing on the right of the 2d Bn, cleared Laudrefang at 0900 and continued the advance north. The 3d Bn captured Fort Quatre Vents by 1150 and received heavy flanking fire from Hill 392 (208548) which was in the 317th Inf sector. The 317th Inf moved against Hill 392 and the flanking fire on the 3d Bn stopped.

At 1315 the 2d and 3d Bns continued their advance to the north. The 2d Bn was held up on the outskirts of Longeville-les-St Avold, by fire from Hill 310. The 3d Bn, south of Longeville-les-St Avold, moved self-propelled tank destroyers (610th TD Bn) into position to fire on Hill 310. Wiping out enemy resistance from this point, the 2d Bn fought its way into the western section of Longeville-les-St Avold and established strong points on Hill 310 and the high ground (220580). Road blocks were also established on roads leading into town from the north, south, and west. The enemy was contained in the eastern section of the town.

The 3d Bn was on its objective (the high ground south and south-east of Longeville-les-St Avold) by late afternoon 25 November. Heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire was encountered throughout the day in the advance.

Meanwhile the 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Faulquemont, moved north at 1245 to relieve "F" Co on Einselingerberg

Ridge, "K" Co on Hill 371 (200555) and "G" Co on Hill 400 (188550). Relief was completed by 1515. The 1st Bn then maintained these positions, with "B" Co on Einselingerberg Ridge, "A" Co on Hill 371, and "C" Co on Hill 400.

This offensive resulted in the 319th's capture of four main Maginot Line fortifications - Forts Einseling, N Einseling, S Einseling, and Quatre Vents. These boosted the total number of forts captured by the 80th Infantry Division to eight; Forts Laudrefang and Teting Woods were captured by the 317th Inf and Forts Bambiderstroff and Bambesch were captured by the 318th Inf.

At 0800 26 November 1944 the 80th Infantry Division continued the attack to the east. A ten-minute artillery preparation preceded the attack.

The 317th Inf employed the 1st and 2d Bns in the attack.

The 1st Bn, in the vicinity of Hill 392 (northeast of Laudrefang), attacked to the east, encountering light artillery fire and little small arms fire. The advance was pushed rapidly and by 1045 the 1st Bn was at the eastern edge of Bois de Valmont, preparing to attack Valmont. Direct enemy fire was received from the northeast and enemy artillery fire became heavier. However by 1215 the 1st Bn entered Valmont, still under heavy enemy artillery fire. The advance was continued until the high ground 1500 yards southeast of the town was seized. Here the 1st Bn halted its attack for the day.

Troops of the 80th Rcn Tr entered Folschviller the evening of 25 November 1944 and on the 26th the 2d Bn 317th Inf sent "G" Co in to clean out the town. Sniper fire and heavy enemy artillery fire was encountered, but the town was cleared by 1600. The remainder of the battalion closed in shortly thereafter, moving from Hill 363 (218538) northwest of Folschviller.

Elements of the 2d Bn then moved to occupy the high ground 1000 yards southeast of Folschviller.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of Tritteling, moved out at 1115 to follow the 1st Bn in its zone of advance. Leading elements of the 3d Bn reached Valmont at 1235, and the remainder of the Bn closed in shortly thereafter.

On the morning 26 November the 3d Bn 318th Inf jumped off at 0800 with the mission of capturing the high ground north of Longeville-

les-St Avold. Only light resistance was met and by 0835 elements of the 3d Bn were in Kleindal. The high ground north of Longeville-les-St Avold was secured by 0845, with Co "L" on the north slope of the hill (196596) north of Kleindal. Between 0830 and 1730 Co "L", on the 3d Bn left flank, received five enemy counterattacks, all repulsed without loss of ground. A sixth was forming at 1700. Artillery fire (TOT) with six battalions was placed on enemy troops forming for the attack. The sixth counterattack did not develop.

The 2d Bn held its position on the high ground north of Bois de Kerfent.

The 1st Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Bambiderstroff, moved on 26 November to St Dominique Fme (181585). Co "A" moved to fill a gap between the 2d Bn and the 3d Bn.

The 319th Inf mopped-up Longeville-les-St Avold on the morning of 26 November 1944 and launched an attack to the east. A 15-minute artillery preparation was fired in support of the attack.

The 2d and 3d Bns attacked to the east at 0800 with the 2d Bn on the left (north) and the 3d Bn on the right (south).

The 2d Bn attacked with two companies abreast, "E" and "F", with "G" Co in Longeville-les-St Avold as Bn Reserve. Light enemy mortar fire was encountered and by 1015 the 2d Bn had advanced to les Trois Maisons (220579). Here direct enemy fire from the north was received.

Co "A" 1st Bn, moving from the vicinity of Hill 371, relieved "G" Co in Longeville-les-St Avold at 0945.

At 1240 the 2d Bn had advanced to the high ground in the woods Hechenwald (233577 - 233574). Heavy enemy fire from direct fire weapons, automatic, and small arms fire was received by the 2d Bn, halting its advance. Road blocks and muddy terrain hampered movement of the self-propelled tank destroyers and tanks supporting the infantry. By 1440 the 2d Bn held the high ground in Hechenwald woods (238574) south to (238568). This position was consolidated for the remainder of the day.

Meanwhile the 3d Bn, advancing on the right of the 2d Bn, seized the high ground (232563) against heavy enemy fire at 1005. By 1130 leading elements reached the high ground 1500 yards west of St Avold and at 1440 the 3d Bn held the line (238561 - 240560) on the high ground overlooking St Avold. Heavy enemy fire held up further advances

for the day.

The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground east of Bambiderstroff, was directed at 1530 to investigate the village of Dourdhat. The town was occupied shortly thereafter by the 1st Bn.

Co "G" 2d Bn 319th Inf reoccupied Longeville-les-St Avold to relieve "A" Co 1st Bn during the early evening 26 November. The 1st Bn (- "C" Co) relieved the 3d Bn at 2230 from its positions west of St Avold, occupying the 3d Bn's field works with two companies.

The 3d Bn moved to the rear to the vicinity of Hill 371 as Regimental Reserve.

During the day the 42d Cavalry Squadron protected the Division left flank and maintained contact with the 95th U. S. Inf Division.

At 0700 27 November 1944 the 317th Inf resumed the attack to the east, employing the 1st and 3d Bns.

The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground 1500 yards southeast of Valmont, launched its attack towards Altviller. By 0745 leading elements reached the high ground (265536) north of the town. Small pockets of enemy resistance were met and the advance was continued. By 0805 "C" Co reached the south edge of woods Heiligenbusch (280522). Medium enemy artillery and mortar fire was received, but the infantry pushed on to outpost the line 288548 - 280534 (southeast of Lachambre). Patrols cleared the woods Hohnetzel (288535) and made reconnaissance south to the Nied Allemande River. The 1st Bn held the high ground southeast of Lachambre for the night.

The 3d Bn, in the vicinity of Valmont, launched its attack to the east and northeast, seizing the high ground (265545) east of Valmont at 0745 and twenty minutes later took the high ground (269543) west of Lachambre. The town of Lachambre was seized next and then the 3d Bn swung its direction of attack to the northeast towards Macheren.

Moderate enemy mortar and artillery fire was encountered, together with scattered pockets of enemy resistance. By 1505 27 November leading elements of the 3d Bn reached the high ground (287556) southwest of Macheren and at 1735 the 3d Bn seized the town and proceeded to mop-up a disorganized enemy. The battalion halted its advance here, outposting the town for the night.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, deployed its troops between the

towns of Folschviller and Valmont on 27 November, having occupied Folschviller the day before. However this battalion moved to occupy the high ground west of Macheren by 1905 in preparation for the attack to the east on 28 November.

On 27 November the 318th Inf employed one battalion to clear the woods on the left flank of the 319th Inf.

The 1st Bn, in the vicinity of St Dominique Fme, crossed the line of departure (west edge of Foret de Longeville) at 1000 to clear the woods and take the high ground (231587) at the eastern edge. Troops of the 42d Cavalry Squadron protected the Division north flank and maintained contact with the 95th U. S. Infantry Division on the 80th's left flank. Elements of the 42d Cavalry Squadron operated as far north as Porcellete (2162). On the Division south flank the 80th Cavalry Rcn Tr continued its reconnaissance.

Little enemy resistance was encountered by the 1st Bn in its sweep through Foret de Longeville. By 1400 Companies "A" and "C" reached Hill 189 (231587), the battalion objective. At 1715 the 1st Bn closed in St Avoild, which was recently liberated that morning by the 319th Inf.

Meanwhile the 2d and 3d Bns, in position north of Bois de Kerfent and north of Longeville-les-St Avoild respectively, closed into Longeville-les-St Avoild on the afternoon 27 November.

Relief of the 2d Bn 318th Inf was begun by the 3d Bn 10th Inf 5th Infantry Division at 1200 and completed that afternoon. The 2d Bn closed into Longeville-les-St Avoild at 1700.

The 3d Bn was relieved of its mission of holding the high ground north of Longeville-les-St Avoild after it was determined that the enemy had withdrawn to the east and northeast. The battalion closed into Longeville-les-St Avoild at 1600.

Co "C" 319th Inf was motorized during the early hours 27 November to move to an assembly area in the vicinity of Valmont in preparation for the 319th Inf attack. Co "C" closed into the vicinity of Valmont at 0500. The town of Valmont was in the 317th Inf sector.

The 319th Inf attacked to the east on 27 November 1944, employing the 1st and 2d Bns.

The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground west of St Avoild (238574-238568), jumped off at 0900 and by 1000 had entered the town of St

Avold, meeting no opposition.

The 319th Inf was then directed to push rapidly to the east to gain contact with the enemy.

The 2d Bn, which had rendered support by fire to the 1st Bn, moved through St Avold to assemble northeast of the town.

At 1445, both battalions continued the advance to the east. Only occasional enemy artillery fire was received.

By 1515 the 2d Bn reached the high ground in the southern part of Foret de Steinberg (275585) where the battalion halted its advance.

The 1st Bn, moving on the 2d Bn's right, advanced to Hill 320 (288569) by 1655, encountering occasional enemy artillery fire. The advance was held up here for the remainder of the day.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity Hill 371, moved to St Avold and outposted the town to the north and east for the night.

With the end of the defense of St Avold, all organized resistance ceased until advance elements of the 80th Division reached the line of the Manderbach River. Here the 17th SS Div Rcn Bn, reinforced by elements of the 38th SS Regt of the 17th SS Div, used the town of Farebersviller as a strong point.

The 80th Infantry Division continued the attack to the east against enemy resistance on 28 November 1944, gaining 8 miles of ground.

The 317th Inf pushed far to the east, reaching Farebersviller by noon.

The 1st Bn, in position on the high ground southeast of Lachambre, jumped off at 0730, meeting only scattered pockets of enemy. By 1010 elements of the 1st Bn occupied the vicinity of Hill 293 (347565). The advance was continued against moderate opposition and by 1515 the 1st Bn had advanced to the high ground south and southeast of Farebersviller.

The 2d Bn 317th Inf attacked to the east at 0730 28 November 1944 on the left of the 3d Bn. By 1015 the 2d Bn reached the high ground north of Seingbouse and by 1515 that afternoon had advanced to the vicinity of Hill 318 (365588) where the advance was halted for the day.

At 0830 the 3d Bn jumped off with the 2d Bn on its left and the 1st Bn on its right. By 1015 the town of Seingbouse was cleared of the enemy and elements of the battalion advanced east of the town to 348575 where small arms and AA fire was encountered. However the

advance was continued and leading elements reached the outskirts of Farebersviller, where bitter fighting developed. The enemy was driven out of the town but at 1950 launched a counterattack and retook the eastern part of Farebersviller. Enemy resistance was fanatical and the 3d Bn was engaged in house-to-house fighting when darkness fell.

The 318th Inf remained in Division Reserve on 28 November 1944.

The 2d and 3d Bns 318th Inf, in reserve at Longeville-les-St Avold, entrucked at 1100 to move to St Avold. Detrucking here shortly after noon, the 2d Bn outposted the town.

The 1st Bn, which had moved into St Avold the night before, moved out of the town during the afternoon 28 November to move to Guenviller, closing in at 1730.

During the night 28-29 November the 1st Bn moved to the high ground east of Seingbouse to form a defense in depth in case of an enemy breakthrough at Farebersviller, where the 317th Inf was engaged with a determined enemy.

The 319th Inf resumed its attack at 0800 28 November, advancing to the northeast.

The 1st and 2d Bns jumped off from positions occupied the previous night.

The 1st Bn, moving from Hill 320 (288569) met moderate enemy resistance and seized the high ground northeast of Hombourg-Bas where the advance was temporarily halted.

The 2d Bn, moving from the high ground (275585) in the southern part of Foret de Steinberg, seized the high ground northwest of Hombourg-Haut. The advance was temporarily halted here.

The 319th Inf resumed the advance at 1800, with the 1st Bn seizing Betting-les-St Avold and Bening-St Avold, while the 2d Bn took the high ground north and northeast of Hombourg-Haut and the high ground north of Betting-les-St Avold, where it tied in with the 1st Bn.

By 2125 both battalions had consolidated positions gained.

The 319th Inf now held a line facing north, with the 2d Bn on the left and the 1st Bn on the right.

The 2d Bn held its position with Co "F" on the left, Co "E" in the center, and Co "G" on the right, tying in with the 1st Bn north of Betting-les-St Avold.

of Betting-les-St Avoild.

The 1st Bn employed Co "C" between the towns of Betting-les St Avoild and Bening-les-St Avoild. Co "B" held Bening-les-St Avoild, and Co "A" occupied the ground south and southeast of Bening-les-St Avoild.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained at St Avoild.

On 29 November the 317th Inf maintained its positions vicinity Farebersviller against heavy enemy resistance.

The 3d Bn, engaged in house-to-house fighting in Farebersviller, continued to force the enemy from the town. Heavy fighting was in progress throughout the day and the enemy employed AA fire and tank fire on our troops.

The 2d Bn, in the vicinity of Hill 318 (365588) north of Farebersviller, successfully repulsed two enemy counterattacks of five tanks and an unestimated number of infantry without losing an ground. Positions in the vicinity of Hill 318 were maintained throughout the day.

The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground south and southeast of Farebersviller, received enemy small arms fire. Positions here were held throughout the entire day.

During the latter part of the day 29 November, the 317th Inf was ordered into Division Reserve. Relief of the 317th Inf was to be accomplished by the 318th Inf.

The 317th Inf was relieved by 2215, when the 2d Bn closed into an assembly area in the vicinity of Guenviller. The 1st Bn had been relieved at 2030 and closed into an assembly area vicinity Macheren. The 3d Bn was relieved at 2115 and closed into its assembly area in the vicinity of Marienthal.

On 29 November 1944 the 318th Inf relieved the 317th Inf from their line positions.

At 1645 the 1st Bn, east of Seingbouse, began movement forward to take over the positions of the 317th Inf. The 1st Bn was in position northwest of Farebersviller at 1815 to cover the movements of the 2d and 3d Bns 317th Inf to reserve positions.

The 2d Bn, holding outposts in the vicinity of St Avoild, began movement at 1220 to move to the vicinity of Henriville (356555) to take up positions in order to effect relief of the 1st Bn 317th Inf. The 2d Bn closed in the vicinity of Henriville at 1600.

The 318th Inf now held the right and front of the Division Zone with positions extending from northwest of Farbersviller (354585) south to Henriville. Active patrolling was conducted to the front and flanks to determine hostile positions.

The 3d Bn 318th Inf, at St Avold, moved out of the town at 0800 and closed in the vicinity of Macheren at 0915. Later in the day the 3d Bn moved to the vicinity of Seingbouse, closing in at 1835 as Regimental Reserve.

The 319th Inf continued to hold positions on the Division left (north) flank on 29 November, blocking all routes from the north into the Division Zone. Road blocks were maintained constantly and active patrolling was conducted to determine hostile positions.

The 1st Bn, occupying the right sector of the Regimental Zone, continued to occupy Beting-les-St Avold and Bening-les-St Avold. "A" Co, in position southeast of Bening-les-St Avold, swept the woods le Kneebusch (353596) to take up positions along the north edge of the woods. "A" Co was through the woods and on its new position by 0840. AA fire was received by this company at 1005 from the northeast.

The 3d Bn, in the vicinity of St Avold, moved on the morning 29 November to the vicinity of Hellering (305586), remaining in Regimental Reserve.

Late in the afternoon the enemy was engaged at a friendly road block (330600) north of Betting-les-St Avold and was driven off.

The 2d Bn maintained its positions north and northeast of Hombourg-Haut, tying in with the 1st Bn just north of Beting-les-St Avold.

The 80th Infantry Division, after advancing 18 miles in the last six days against determined enemy resistance, halted the attack for the purpose of regrouping its forces, resting its personnel, and servicing its equipment, preparatory to continuing the attack. The 80th Infantry Division Artillery fired its first rounds of artillery into Germany on 30 November 1944. The first round to land on German soil was fired by the 314th FA Bn.

The 317th Inf remained in Division Reserve on 30 November, with the 1st Bn in the vicinity of Macheren, the 3d Bn in the vicinity of Guenviller, and the 3d Bn in the vicinity of Marienthal.

Defensive positions were maintained on 30 November 1944 by the

318th Infantry.

The 1st Bn remained in position northwest and west of Farebersviller, dominating the town with fire.

The 2d Bn continued to occupy defensive positions in the vicinity of Henriville.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained in the vicinity of Seingbouse.

Enemy artillery interdiction fire was received throughout the Regimental Zone. However there were no counterattacks made by the enemy.

On 30 November the 319th Inf continued to occupy and improve its defensive positions on the left (north) flank of the Division Zone.

The 1st Bn remained in the vicinity of Betting-les-St Avold, Bening-les-St Avold, and the woods le Kneebusch. The 2d Bn continued to occupy defensive positions in the vicinity of Hombourg-Haut on the left of the 1st Bn.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained in the vicinity of Hellering.

Only light interdiction artillery fire was received throughout the day.

Organic battalions of the 80th Division Artillery fired a total of 1365 missions during the month, with an ammunition expenditure of 29,876 rounds of 105mm and 5,873 rounds of 155mm, totaling 35,749 rounds.

The 633d AAA AW Bn, attached to the Division, claimed one enemy aircraft destroyed and one probably destroyed during the month.