

SECTION IV

BRIDGEHEAD ON THE NIED FRANCAISE RIVER

To insure the safety of the bridge at HAN-SUR-NIED, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry 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 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 Infantry began crossing the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER at 0230, 12 November 1944. Thus, the first bridgehead across the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER was securely held by the 80th Infantry Division.

On 11 November 1944, the attack of the 318th Infantry 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 Battalion had cleared the woods and moved toward BOIS DES HAIES (southeast of THIMONVILLE). At 1130, this Battalion had cleared the woods of scattered enemy resistance and moved east towards MORVILLE-SUR-NIED. However, enemy fire coming from that town temporarily held up the attack. Before darkness fell, 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, advanced 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.

"B" Company 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, then moved northeast and seized FLOCOURT without delay.

The 3d Bn 318th Infantry, in Regimental Reserve vicinity of MONCHEUX, moved at 1720 to pass through the 2d Bn, 200 yards east of FLOCOURT. By 1740, leading elements of the Battalion 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. A railroad bridge was secured intact over the river southeast of ST EPVRE, but the Battalion did not cross the river.

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

The 319th Infantry, with two battalions abreast, attacked at 0800, 11 November 1944.

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 "G" Company 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). "E" Company swung around the left flank of "G" Company and made the attack on the town. "F" and "G" Companies supported "E" Company by fire from HILL 328. At 0945, "E" Company was in BACOURT and at 0955, the town was outposted.

"E" and "G" Companies continued the attack to the east and by 1510 leading elements of the 2d Bn reached the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER. Positions were prepared on the high ground west of the river in the vicinity of HILL 271. "F" Company, in reserve, moved to the vicinity of BACOURT.

The 3d Bn 319th Infantry, having halted its attack west of LE HAUT DU MONT, continued the attack to the east at 0800, 11 November 1944. At 0900, this Battalion, with "I" Company on the left and "L" on the right, was atop LE HAUT DU MONT and sweeping the woods there. "K" Company remained in reserve vicinity HILL 326. At 1015, "I" Company had advanced to the east nose of LE HAUT DU MONT overlooking PREVOCOURT, while "L" Company advanced to the southeast nose. "I" Company entered PREVOCOURT at 1245, while "L" Company was moving on HANNONCOURT, southeast of PREVOCOURT. At 1300, "L" Company began mopping-up scattered enemy resistance in HANNONCOURT.

The advance by the 3d Bn 319th Infantry continued eastward to the high ground west of the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER. Front line positions were occupied by "I" and "L" Companies between ST JEAN FME and HANNONCOURT, with "I" Company on the left, "L" Company on the right, and "K" Company 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 Infantry strengthened and extended its bridgehead across the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER.

The 1st Bn remained in position, outpostting 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 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 CENS-ITAIRE.

In an attempt to knock out the bridge, enemy mortar and artillery fire fell constantly throughout the day in the vicinity of HAN-SUR-NIED.

On 12 November 1944 the 318th Infantry 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, with "B" Company 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 Battalion was relieved from its positions in the vicinity of LUCY by the 1st Bn 319th Infantry, which was able to make a crossing of the river in the vicinity of FREMERY.

The 3d Bn 318th Infantry, holding the west bank of the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER in the vicinity of ST EPVRE, by using the railroad bridge which had been captured intact

the previous day, began crossing the river at 1105. Moderate enemy resistance was met but the Battalion succeeded in establishing its bridgehead, seizing VATIMONT at 1305 and then occupying the high ground north and south of the town. These positions were held for the night.

The 2d Bn 318th Infantry remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of FLOCOURT.

The 319th Infantry, following Combat Command "A" 4th Armored Division on the 80th Division right flank, planned to cross the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER at FREMERY on 12 November 1944. However, a change in armored plans necessitated the 319th Infantry to force the crossing, using a foot bridge constructed that morning by "C" Company 305th Engineer Combat Bn.

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. 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 had two companies across the river at 1625, took FREMERY and meeting little enemy resistance, moved northeast toward high ground.

The 1st Bn followed the 3d Bn and moved north towards LUCY, entering the town at 1900 and relieving the 1st Bn at 2000.

All three Battalions of the 319th Infantry held positions for the night. The 3d Bn consolidated the high ground about 1000 yards northeast of FREMERY.

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

The 2d Bn, occupying the high ground east of HAN-SURNIED, moved northeast towards HERNY. By 0830, leading elements were entering the town and by 0850, the Battalion had 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 had reached the crossroads west of

MANY, with light enemy mortar and artillery fire harassing our troops. MANY was entered at 1220, scattered enemy resistance was subdued and the high ground north and north-east of the town was occupied. Here the advance was halted by Division order and the ground was organized for the night on line (110460 to 12045B).

The 3d Bn moved eastward from the high ground east of ADAINCOURT at 0800, 13 November 1944 and upon reaching the overpass north of HERNY, swung northeast toward the town of ARRIANCE. By 1325, the Battalion 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 1944 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 Infantry, attacking northeast towards CHENOIS, left LUCY at 0900. Supporting the 1st Bn was "B" Company 702d Tank Bn, one platoon Anti-Tank Company and the 3d Platoon of "B" Company 808th Tank Destroyer Bn.

At 1015, "B" Company 702d Tank Bn, meeting only light enemy opposition, entered CHENOIS 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 Infantry cleared LESSE by 1115 and moved on HOBACOURT. This town was seized by 1500 and the Battalion moved to take up a defensive position for the night south of the VATIMONT-ARRAINCOURT highway.

The 3d Bn 318th Infantry, 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 PLOCCOURT, 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 Battalion 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 PREMERY, at 0700, moved northwest to sweep BOIS DE LUCY. The mission was completed at 0910. The Battalion then assembled in the northeast sector of the woods. At 1030 it 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 "C" Company 248th Engineer Combat Bn. The 2d Bn closed into PREMERY at 1645 and sent "F" Company to outpost the southern edge of BOIS DE CHICOURT. The Battalion sent patrols through the woods and finding no enemy, withdrew "F" Company into the Battalion position.

The Division maintained its bridgehead east of the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER on 14 November 1944. The three Regiments of the Division moved to establish a Main Line Of Resistance southwest of PAULQUEMONT.

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 1944 and forward elements entered ARRIANCE at 0830. The town was outposted by 1150. That afternoon, the Battalion 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, remained in HERNY.

On 14 November 1944 the 318th Infantry took-up positions

to the east.

The 1st Bn moved from the vicinity of HOLACOURT to the vicinity of BRULANGE. "A" Company outposted the high ground north of BRULANGE, while "C" Company outposted the high ground about 500 yards east of THONVILLE. "B" Company 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" Company occupied ARBAINCOURT.

The 319th Infantry continued the pursuit of the enemy on 14 November 1944.

The 1st Bn, in LESSE, 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 Infantry, 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 Battalion were entering BOIS DE RIDE (northwest of DESTRY). The advance was continued to the northeast against light enemy resistance. At 1615, "E" Company crossed the ROTTE stream in SUISSE via a footbridge found intact. By 1650, the company occupied SUISSE and "G" Company followed at 1950.

The 2d Bn received an enemy counterattack of tanks and infantry at SUISSE at 1950. 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" Company 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 DANDROFF, where an enemy counter-attack, reinforced with armor, was taking place.

The 1st and 2d Bns, receiving harassing enemy artillery fire, consolidated positions for the night. The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained at CHICOURT.

Field Order Number 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 Infantry, 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 outpost HERNY. The 2d Bn continued to occupy and defend MANY and the high ground to the east and northeast. The 3d Bn (minus "I" Company) continued to occupy the vicinity of ARRIANCE, defending the ground to the north and northeast of the town. "I" Company maintained a road block at ADAINCOURT.

The 318th Infantry continued to improve its position on 15 November in compliance with Division Field Order Number 15. Plans were made with the 319th Infantry and Task Force "F", 6th Armored Division to attack to the north and 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 "B" Company 808th Tank Destroyer 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 "B" Company 808th Tank Destroyer Bn moved into a defensive position in the 3d Bn sector.

At 0300, 15 November 1944, a German attack against elements of the 6th Armored Division, developed in the vicinity of LANDROFF. XII Corps ordered the 30th Infantry Division to send the necessary infantry reinforcements to LANDROFF to aid in repulsing the attack.

"E" Company 319th Infantry was given the mission of reinforcing elements of the 6th Armored Division in LANDROFF. Moving from the vicinity of SUISSE, the Company closed into the vicinity of LANDROFF at 0430 and aided in repulsing the enemy attack. By 0830, "E" Company had cleared LANDROFF of the enemy and occupied the town.

The 1st Bn, occupying positions south of ARRAINCOURT and BRULANGE, with one company in BRULANGE, moved into position east of the town, (HILL 252).

The 2d Bn, in SUISSE, ("E" Company 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 counter-attack was successfully repulsed by 1300.

The 3d Bn 319th Infantry, in reserve vicinity CHICOURT, began movement at 0845, 15 November 1944 towards DESTRY where the Battalion went into an assembly area.

Following the German counterattack, the 1st Bn, reinforced by "C" Company 702d Tank Bn, attacked at 1720 to seize the ridge COTE DE SUISSE northwest of LANDROFF. This high ground was consolidated, with "A" Company on the left, "B" Company on the right, and "C" Company in SUISSE.

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

The 3d Bn remained in Reserve position vicinity DESTRY.

During the early hours of 16 November 1944, the 3d Bn 317th Infantry (minus "I" Company) adjusted its position on the west (left) flank of the Regimental Zone. Moving at 0100 from positions north and northeast of ARRIANCE, the Battalion occupied positions west of ARRIANCE in the eastern edge of LE BOIS CENSITAIRE. Forward elements of the Battalion outposted HILL 252 (southwest of ARRIANCE) and the high ground midway between ARRIANCE and MANY. This movement was completed by 0445. "I" Company continued to maintain the road block in the vicinity of ADAINCOURT.

The 317th Infantry made no changes in troop dispositions during the remaining daylight hours. The 1st Bn, as Regimental Reserve, continued to occupy and outpost 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 Infantry relieved the 2d Bn from its positions in the vicinity of MANY. The 2d Bn then reverted to Regimental Reserve, closing into the vicinity of HERNY at 2205.

On 16 November 1944, a coordinated attack by the 1st

and 3d Bns 318th Infantry and Task force "F" 6th Armored Division secured the Main Line Of Resistance vicinity CHEMERY and the high ground north of THICOURT. The 2d Bn, in Division Reserve, continued to occupy HOLACOURT and vicinity.

At 0900, 16 November 1944 the 3d Bn 318th Infantry attacked to the northeast from its positions northwest of THONVILLE. "I" Company advanced towards BOIS DE THONVILLE, with "K" Company on the left. By 0940, "I" Company 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 with "I" and "K" Companies reaching the southern edge of BOIS DE THONVILLE. The enemy continued to contain the Battalion's advance with small arms and harassing artillery fire. At 1200, the Battalion was approaching the east-west road, south of CHEMERY. The advance continued against moderate enemy resistance and "I" Company seized CHEMERY at 1355. "K" Company remained in BOIS DE THONVILLE, while "L" Company remained in Battalion 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 BRCLANGE, 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" Company remained west of EINCHEVILLE as Regimental Reserve.

On 16 November 1944, the 319th Infantry launched a coordinated attack, with elements of the 6th Armored Division, to secure a Main Line Of Resistance from CHEMERY to ADELANGE, BOUSTROFF, VILLER, and LANDROFF.

The 1st Bn, reinforced with one platoon of "C" Company 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 Battalion, with "B" Company on the right and "C" Company 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 Infantry on the left.

Elements of the 6th Armored Division moved into position to fire on EINCHEVILLE. "B" Company prepared to follow the armor into the town. At 1235, Task Force "B" 6th Armored Division entered EINCHEVILLE and "B" Company followed to

occupy the town at 1355.

At 1348, "A" Company moved from a reserve position to the road junction southeast of CHEMERY and "C" Company moved on the town at 1405. "A" Company (reinforced by one platoon "C" Company 702d Tank Bn) continued the advance to the northeast to seize AD' LANGE at 1645. The high ground to the west was outposted and "C" Company, which occupied CHEMERY and outposted the high ground to the east, was contacted. These positions were consolidated and organized as the Main Line Of Resistance.

The 2d Bn, occupying positions in the vicinity of LANDROFF, launched an attack to the northeast on 16 November 1944. At 1210, "G" Company, which was in position north of LANDROFF and "E" Company, in position east of the town, advanced to sweep the BOIS DE ZANTE. One platoon of "C" Company 702d Tank Bn advanced between the two Companies. "E" and "G" Companies, meeting little resistance, advanced rapidly and reached the base of HILL 309 at 1330. Here heavy small arms fire held up the advance.

At 1500, "F" Company, in position west of LANDROFF, moved northeast to sweep BOIS D'EINCHEVILLE and occupy BOUSTROFF. By 1745, "F" Company 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, "E" and "G" Companies overcame the enemy resistance from HILL 309. "G" Company moved on VILLER, while "E" Company remained on the high ground southeast of BOIS D'EINCHEVILLE. VILLER was taken at 1745. One platoon of "G" Company occupied the town and two platoons occupied 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 Battalion was alerted to move to LANDROFF. Moving shortly thereafter, it closed into LANDROFF at 1645 and outposted the town. Thus the 319th Infantry established its Main Line Of Resistance on the right (east) flank of the Division Zone, on a line CHEMERY - ADELANGE - BOUSTROFF - VILLER and LANDROFF.

The Division had completed the establishment of its Main Line Of Resistance to protect the north (left) flank of the XII Corps. During 17 November 1944 this mission was continued.

The 317th Infantry held defensive positions within its sector on the left (west) flank of the Division Zone. The 1st Bn held positions in the vicinity of MANY; the 2d Bn (in Regimental Reserve) remained in vicinity of HERNY; the 3d Bn held positions west of ARRIANCE.

The 318th Infantry 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 CHERMERY.

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; the 3d Bn continued to occupy the right sector of the Regimental Zone in the vicinity of CHERMERY and BOIS DE THONVILLE.

At 1015, 17 November 1955, the 319th Infantry 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" Company (reinforced) 319th Infantry swept through the BOIS DE ZANTE. The advance was continued to the east and at 1410, "I" Company had advanced to a point 1000 yards south of VILLER on the ridge. No enemy dispositions were encountered. At 1520, "I" Company 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" Company called for artillery fire on these two areas. The 905th Field Artillery Bn and the 775th Field Artillery Bn fired the missions with very satisfactory results.

Darkness fell and at 1810, "I" Company withdrew to the woods south of VILLER. The Company reorganized and moved back to LANDROFF, closing in at 2100.

The 1st Bn continued to hold and improve defensive positions in the vicinity of CLEMBRY and ADRIANGE on 17 November 1944, 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 1944, the 2d Bn 317th Infantry, in Regimental Reserve vicinity HERNY, sent "S" Company to relieve "I" Company on the road block at ADAINCOURT. "I" Company reverted to Battalion control. Otherwise there were no changes in troop dispositions from the previous day.

May 20 11-11-44
G Company

The 318th Infantry continued to occupy and improve defensive positions from the high ground northwest of BOIS DES TAILLES eastward to CHEMERY on 18 November 1944.

The 319th Infantry employed the 3d Bn on 18 November 1944 to seize the high ground on the right flank of the Regimental Sector, thus extending the Main Line Of Resistance to the north and northeast. At 1045, the 3d Bn, reinforced by "C" Company 702d Tank Bn, moved from the vicinity of LANDROFF to an assembly area in BOIS D'EINCHVILLE. At 1200, "L" Company 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 VAHI-LES-FAULQUEMONT in support of the attack. At 1230, "I" and "K" Companies began their advance towards HILL 291 (northeast of BOUSTROFF). "L" Company reached its objective at 1250, while "I" and "K" Companies seized HILL 291 at 1315. "K" Company held the hill, while "I" Company sent a platoon to relieve "L" Company from its position southeast of BOUSTROFF. "L" Company, advancing through the woods LE GR BISCHWALD, seized HILL 271 and then sent a platoon to seize the high ground (220445) in BOIS DU BISCHWALD. "I" Company sent another platoon to relieve this "L" Company platoon. The 3d Bn then consolidated these positions, with "K" Company on the left on HILL 291, "L" Company 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" Company (minus two platoons) closed into VILLER. During the days advance, the Battalion encountered only light mortar and long range machine-gun fire.

The 2d Bn, which had held the vicinity of BOUSTROFF and VILLER, reverted to Regimental Reserve on 18 November 1944 and assembled in VILLER at 1715.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry continued to hold and improve defensive positions in the vicinity of CHEMERY and ADELANGE. One platoon of "A" Company established contact with "K" Company on the right. The Regiment consolidated positions for the night and conducted vigorous patrolling to the front and right flank.

The 317th Infantry continued to occupy and improve defensive positions within its sector 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; the

3d Bn held positions west of ARRIANCE.

Patrols from the 1st and 3d Bns discovered 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 PAULQUEMONT, but the attack of the 80th Division on 16 November 1944 overran the line of the 36th Volksgrenadier Division, causing the enemy to fill in the 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 Infantry 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 1944. Both Regiments conducted vigorous patrolling to maintain contact with hostile forces.