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SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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SECTION I

THE SURE RIVER FRONT

1 JAN

With the dawn of the New Year, the 80th Infantry Division held a northwest-southeast line on the left flank of the III Corps. On the Division left, the line began at HILDEBRUNN-ILDEBRUNN, thence to HOLMSTEDT. From that point it ran southeast through the city of EVELBRUNN to a point on the high ground 1200 yards beyond.

OPERATIONAL HISTORY OF THE

80TH INFANTRY DIVISION

JANUARY 1945

In the Division area the Regimental sectors from left to right were as follows:

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The Regiment was improving their defensive positions. "A" Company, 1st Bn, 317th Infantry, occupied the high ground 2500 yards south of HILDEBRUNN. "B" Company held a line from HILDEBRUNN to a point 1200 yards to the northwest. "C" Company was holding a position midway between "A" Company 317th Infantry and "D" Company 318th Infantry. "E" and "F" Companies 317th Infantry, were on the high ground overlooking HILDEBRUNN, 700 yards to the northeast. "G" Company occupied the area 2700 yards east of HILDEBRUNN. "H" Company held the sector 2500 yards southwest of SCHNITZEL. "I" and "J" Companies were in FRULEN. Units of the 317th Infantry were patrolling to the east and northeast developing hostile positions in the vicinity of HILDEBRUNN.

SECTION I

THE SURE RIVER FRONT

1 JAN

With the dawn of the New Year, the 80th Infantry Division held a northwest-southeast line on the left flank of the XII Corps. On the Division left, the line began at HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND, thence to HOLZMÜHLE. From that point it ran southeast through the city of ETTTELBRUCK to a point on the high ground 1200 yards beyond.

Confronting the Division from northwest to southeast were elements of three German Volksgrenadier Divisions-- 9th, 276th and 352d.

GERMAN
9th/276/352
VC DIV

The reverses suffered by the Germans in their Ardennes offensive had caused a change in their tactics to one of aggressive defense adopted to gain time for them to withdraw their battered remnants into the SIEGFRIED LINE.

In the Division area the Regimental sectors from left to right were as follows:

The 319th Infantry held HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND, TADLER, RINGEL and the high ground south of RINGEL. The 317th Infantry sector ran from a point just south of KEHMEN through the woods south easterly to a spot 1500 yards northwest of FEULEN. The 318th Infantry was in position along the ridge running northwest of the city of ETTTELBRUCK, in the city itself, and thence to a point 1200 yards southeast of the city on the high ground overlooking DIEFERT.

The Regiments were improving their defensive positions. "A" Company, 1st Bn, 317th Infantry, occupied the high ground 2500 yards south of WELSCHIED. "B" Company held a line from NIEDERFEULEN to a point 1200 yards to the northwest. "C" Company was holding a position midway between "A" Company 317th Infantry and "L" Company 318th Infantry. "E" and "F" Companies 317th Infantry, were on the high ground overlooking KEHMEN, 700 yards to the northeast. "G" Company occupied the area 2700 yards east of HEIDERSCHIED. "I" Company held the sector 2500 yards southwest of SCHEIDEL. "L" and "K" Companies were in FEULEN. Units of the 317th Infantry were patrolling to the east and northeast developing hostile positions in the vicinity of KEHMEN.

The 1st and 2d Bns, minus "F" Company, 318th Infantry, were in reserve. The 1st Bn was in SCHIEREN and the 2d Bn on the high ground just north of SCHIEREN. "F" Company had relieved the 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and occupied the high ground 1200 yards southeast of ETTELBRUCK. "L" Company was in position along the ridge running northeast from that city, with the right flank 500 yards from its outskirts. "K" Company held ETTELBRUCK and "I" Company was 600 yards to the north.

80th Cavalry

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry which had been in HEIDERSCHEID, relieved the 2d Bn at 1910, 31 December 1944. The positions occupied extended on a line 1600 yards west of KEHMEN, through RINGEL to the high ground 500 yards south of that town. The 2d Bn closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 2030.

"I" Company, 3d Bn, closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 2030 after being relieved by "K" Company which took over its old position in TADLER and outposted the SURE RIVER. "L" Company, with the exception of one platoon which outposted the SURE RIVER at HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND, remained in HEIDERSCHEID.

The 702d Tank Bn had one medium tank company attached to each Regiment. The 610 Tank Destroyer Bn also had one company attached to each Regiment.

702 Tank
610 TD

The 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop assembled in the vicinity of MERZIG to carry out the mission of maintaining contact with the 26th Infantry Division on the left of the Division. The 5th Infantry Division held the sector on the Division right.

80th Cavalry
26th Inf Div
5th Inf Div

The first day of the New Year saw the 317th Infantry continuing to occupy and improve its positions.

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry remained in reserve at SCHIEREN until 1850 when it moved to relieve the 3d Bn. At 2000, the relief was accomplished. The 2d Bn 318th Infantry was in SCHIEREN. "F" Company moved to SCHIEREN after being relieved at 0845 by "E" Company, "E" Company took over the positions on the high ground 1200 yards southeast of ETTELBRUCK, with one platoon occupying the high ground 800 yards south of INGELLORF. The 3d Bn remained in defensive positions until relieved by the 1st Bn at 2000. The 3d Battalion then moved to SCHIEREN, passing

into Regimental Reserve.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry continued to occupy its defensive positions. The 2d and 3d Bns remained in HEIDERSCHEID with the exception of "K" Company which outposted the SURE RIVER at TADLER, and one platoon of "L" Company which outposted the SURE RIVER at HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND.

The 633d AAA Bn engaged four hostile planes reporting one JU 88 probably destroyed during the period. 633 AAA
Ju 88

2 JAN

On 2 January 1945 no changes occurred in the 317th Infantry sector. All units remained in positions held the day before.

"A" and "B" Companies 318th Infantry remained in defensive positions. At 2200, "C" Company, under orders to withdraw upon meeting opposition, moved toward the high ground south of BURDEN. It closed on its objective at 0430 and upon receiving small arms fire from three directions withdrew to its original position on the ridge northwest of ETTELBRUCK. Other units of the 318th Infantry maintained positions and accomplished relief of companies within the Battalions.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry held its positions until 1925 at which time the 2d Bn relieved it. The 1st Bn closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 2015 and became Regimental Reserve. "K" Company, with one reinforced platoon, outposted the SURE RIVER at HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND.

3 JAN

In the early hours of 3 January 1945, elements of the 317th Infantry advanced the main line of resistance and readjusted positions. "A" Company remained on the high ground south of WELSCHIED. At 0315, "B" Company moved to its new positions, 1600 yards west and southwest of BURDEN. The 2d Bn occupied positions 2100 yards southwest of SCHEIDEL, east of HEIDERSCHEID to the high ground overlooking KEHMEN. The 3d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve in FEULEN. "K" Company maintained positions 2500 yards northwest of FEULEN.

On 3 January 1945, the 318th Infantry remained in position. Relief of companies was accomplished within the Battalions. During the day, patrols were sent to determine enemy dispositions.

The 319th Infantry continued to improve its defensive positions on 3 January 1945.

4 JAN

On 4 January 1945, 317th Infantry conducted active patrolling throughout the sector. The Battalions improved their defensive positions, and accomplished relief of front line companies. All remained quiet in the 318th Infantry sector.

The 319th Infantry stayed in the same positions throughout the period. The 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop continued to maintain liaison with the 26th Infantry Division.

So Ken
26 Div

4-5 JAN

Until nightfall of 5 January 1945, no movement occurred within the Division. However the hours of darkness before midnight saw many changes in the readjustment of the main line of resistance. The 1st Bn 317th Infantry was relieved by the 3d Bn 318th Infantry at 2310. The 2d Bn 317th Infantry at 2230 relieved the 2d Bn 319th Infantry in RINGEL.

In the 318th Infantry sector, front line companies were relieved. "G" Company moved to the assembly area in 2 INF/5th DIV SCHIEREN upon relief by the 2d Infantry (5th Infantry Division) at 2145.

The 1st and 3d Bns 319th Infantry remained in position. The 2d Bn 319th Infantry was relieved by the 3d Bn 317th Infantry.

6 JAN

This adjustment left the 319th Infantry free to launch, F/025 on the 6 January 1945, a limited objective attack as directed by Field Order Number 25. Before dawn on 6 January 1945, the 319th Infantry attacked to the north without artillery preparation. The objectives were GOESDORF and DAHL.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry was reinforced with one platoon of "C" Company, 702d Tank Bn, and one platoon of "A" Company, 610 Tank Destroyer Bn (self-propelled). The 3d Bn 319th Infantry was reinforced by the Regimental Mine Platoon, "C" Company (minus one platoon) 702d Tank Bn, and "A" Company (minus one platoon) 610 Tank Destroyer Bn (self-propelled).

702 TK
610 TD

REGT MINE
PLAT

The 166th Engineer Combat Bn completed a bridge across

166 Eng Bn

the SURE RIVER at 0405 in the vicinity of HEIDERSCHEIDER-GRUND and foot elements of the 3d Bn 319th Infantry immediately began crossing. These elements cleared the bridge by 0450, advanced on the road to BUDERSCHEID and then cut across county to take up positions for the attack on DAHL. A position 1000 yards southwest of DAHL was reached by 0825. Here heavy artillery and long range small arms fire from the north was recieved. The Battalion was temporarily halted by this fire and organized for the attack on the village.

It was mid-morning before the tank and tank destroyer units were able to join their respective Battalions. The delay was caused first by the river crossing and then by a road block.

At noon, the 3d Bn 319th Infantry had an artillery concentration placed on DAHL. Following this up with an attack at 1230, "I" Company advanced northwest of DAHL to block any threat from that direction. "L" and "K" Companies entered DAHL at 1300 and began clearing the town. This was completed by 1400, in the face of heavy enemy artillery fire. Defense positions north and northwest of the town were prepared also under heavy artillery fire.

The 1st Bn followed the 3d Bn across the bridge. At 0530, foot elements were advancing north toward GOESDORF entering the village at 0708. By 1000 the village was cleared of enemy.

The 2d Bn which had closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 0200 was in Regimental Reserve. At 1500, the Battalion moved to relieve the 1st Bn in GOESDORF, closing at 1800. The 1st Bn 319th Infantry moved to DAHL, closing into the town at 1700 and prepared defensive positions east and northeast of the village.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, which had been relieved by the 3d Bn 318th Infantry just before midnight 5 January 1945, closed into NIEDERFEULEN at 0110, 6 January 1945, and became Regimental Reserve. They remained there until the afternoon of the same day, then proceeded to HEIDERSCHEID, closing into the town at 1630. The 2d Bn maintained it's positions on the high ground overlooking KEHMEN and SCHIDEL. The 3d Bn remained in it's defensive positions in the vicinity of RINGEL.

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry maintained defensive positions

on the high ground north and northeast of BTTELBRUCK, with "A" Company in BTTELBRUCK.

The 2d Bn 318th Infantry, which was in reserve in SCHIEREN at the opening of the period, was moved to FEULEN, closing there at 1215. It remained in Regimental Reserve.

There was no change in the positions of the 3d Bn 318th Infantry. It continued in a defensive position on the high ground overlooking WELSCHHEID.

The 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop maintained contact with the 26th Infantry Division on the 80th Division left flank and with the attacking 319th Infantry. So Ren / 26 DIV

7 JAN

The dawn of 7 January 1945 found the division improving its defensive positions for expected German reaction to the successful blows against GOESDORF and DAHL.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, in HEIDERSCHIED, remained in Division Reserve. The 2d Bn held its defensive positions southwest of KEHMEN and the 3d Bn remained in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL.

No changes occurred in the 318th Infantry sector.

In the newly seized village of DAHL, the 1st Bn 319th Infantry improved defensive positions on the high ground 1500 yards east and northeast of DAHL. The 3d Bn likewise outposted north and northwest of DAHL, improving its defensive positions throughout the day.

The 2d Bn 319th Infantry held GOESDORF. At 0941, "E" Company was sent to occupy BUCKHOLTZ directly east of the town where the Company had advanced 1500 yards. It ran into heavy opposition. Prisoners taken by "E" Company stated a counterattack was forming. At 1155, "E" Company withdrew into GOESDORF and artillery, mortar and small arms concentrations were ordered placed on the woods and draw east of the village. This fire broke up the German counterattack and by 1225 the enemy was forced to withdraw. The 2d Bn then set up a perimeter defense of GOESDORF.

Throughout the day heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire was received in DAHL and GOESDORF. ✓ The 610 Tank Destroyer Bn destroyed seven tanks and reported four more probably destroyed during the period. 610 TD

7-8 Jan

On the evening of 7 January 1945, the 2d Bn 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment arrived and was attached to the 318th Infantry. Its mission was to go in position as reserve infantry in case of a breakthrough. The Battalion went into position on the long ridge southwest of ETTELBRUCK.

8 Jan

At 0530, GOESDORF and DAHL were subjected to a heavy artillery concentration. This developed into an infantry-tank counterattack at 0630. The 1st Bn 319th Infantry, in defensive positions east and northeast of DAHL, received hostile infantry attack from the draw 1700 yards east of the village. The 3d Bn was attacked by enemy infantry and tanks from the northwest.

The 1st and 3d Bns had been reinforced by the fires of "A" Company, 610 Tank Destroyer Bn and "C" Company 702d Tank Bn. This additional support permitted devastating fire to be placed on the enemy.

610
702

Simultaneously with the attack on the 1st and 3d Bns, the enemy attacked the 2d Bn in GOESDORF. Reinforced by the fires of "D" Company 702d Tank Bn and the 905th Field Artillery Bn (reinforced) the enemy's attack was smashed. Nine enemy tanks were destroyed in this action. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the hostile forces. By 1200, the enemy had limited its activity to artillery fire.

702 TK

Active patrolling was conducted by all Regiments during the rest of 8 January 1945.

9 Jan

On 9 January 1945, the Division maintained and improved its defensive positions.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, in reserve, remained in HEIDERSCHIED until dark. After nightfall, it advanced to relieve the 2d Bn southwest of KEHMEN. This relief was completed at 2355. The 2d Bn held a defensive position throughout the day until relieved by the 1st Bn at 2355. At 2400, it closed into HEIDERSCHIED to become Divisional Reserve. The 3d Bn maintained defensive positions in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL.

The 1st and 3d Bns 318th Infantry held defensive positions in the city of ETTELBRUCK and on the high ground in that vicinity. The 2d Bn remained in reserve at FEULEN.

The 319th Infantry continued the defense of DAHL and GOESDORF on the Division left flank. DAHL was defended

by the 1st Bn on the east and northeast of the village. The 3d Bn 319th Infantry defended to the north and northwest. GOESDORF was held by the 2d Bn.

Active patrolling was carried out by all Regiments throughout the period. The 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop maintained liaison with the 26th Infantry Division on the Division left and operated observation posts in the Divisional area. 80 Rcn
26 Div

Southwest of KEHMEN, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry relieved the 2d Bn just before midnight of 9 January 1945. The 2d Bn proceeded to the village of HEIDERSCHEID, arriving there at 0215, 10 January 1945, and became Division reserve.

The 3d Bn 317th Infantry continued holding the sector in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL on 9 January 1945.

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry, in the vicinity of ETTTELBRUCK, remained in defensive positions until 1800. "A" Company prepared to move to new positions on the north edge of the woods just south of BURDEN. It was closing on it's new position at the close of the period. "B" Company closed into ETTTELBRUCK at 2300. The 2d Bn, in FEULEN, continued in reserve. There was no change in the positions of the 3d Bn south of WELSCHIED.

10 JAN

All Battalions of the 319th Infantry remained in defensive positions on 10 January 1945: the 1st and 3d Bns (reinforced) in the vicinity of DAHL and the 2d Bn (reinforced) in the vicinity of GOESDORF. The Regiment was active in patrolling to the east and north.

9 JAN

Throughout the Division during 9 January 1945, the main line of resistance was strengthened and readjusted. The Regiments were active in conducting patrols to their front.

11 JAN

On the 11 January 1945, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry made minor adjustments in positions southwest of KEHMEN. The 2d Bn, in HEIDERSCHEID, remained in reserve. In the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL, the 3d Bn maintained defensive positions.

In the 318th Infantry sector "A" Company 1st Bn which was advancing toward BURDEN at the beginning of the period, arrived at it's objective without meeting opposition. The company took up a position along the north edge of the

woods, just south of BURDEN, at 0110. "D" Company of the 2d Bn, 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment, attached to the 318th Infantry, moved into positions of "B" Company 318th Infantry just northwest of ETTELBRUCK at 0300. The 2d Bn, in FEULEN, remained in reserve. The 3d Bn made minor adjustments in it's positions south of WELSCHIED. One company in FEULEN was in reserve.

No changes occurred in the sector of the 1st Bn 319th Infantry. In the 2d Bn area, "E" Company reconnoitered in force toward BUCKHOLZ. The company moved out at 0700 and proceeded east to the high ground south of BUCKHOLZ. At 0855, it closed on this objective without meeting opposition. One platoon was sent into the village and cleared it of the enemy by 1150. No changes occurred in the positions of the remainder of the Battalion located in the vicinity of GOESDORF.

The 3d Bn 319th Infantry, with the exception of "K" Company, remained in position. "K" Company left it's position at 1105 and reconnoitered the woods northwest of BUCKHOLZ. After reaching the edge of the woods without meeting opposition, it returned to vicinity of DAHL at 1335.

12 JAN

On 12 January 1945 the 317th Infantry maintained defensive positions within it's sector, with the 2d Bn in reserve in HEIDERSCHIED.

In the 318th Infantry area, the 1st Bn improved defenses from the north edge of the woods just south of BURDEN, along the crest of the hill north of ETTELBRUCK, to the city of ETTELBRUCK. The 2d Bn and "K" Company 3d Bn remained in reserve in FEULEN. The 3d Bn (minus "K" Company) remained in position until 1800 and then moved to new positions south and southwest of WELSCHIED. Elements of the 351st Engineer ^{Regt} Bn and the 631st Tank Destroyer Bn, attached to the 318th Infantry, remained in support positions.

351st ENG BN
631 TD

In the 319th Infantry area, the 1st and 3d Bns maintained defensive positions in the vicinity of DAHL. The 2d Bn had one company in the vicinity of BUCKHOLZ. The remainder of the Battalion was in the vicinity of GOESDORF.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, on the morning of 13 January 1945, was in it's position southwest of KEHMEN. The 2d Bn remained in HEIDERSCHIED in reserve. The 3d Bn held

defensive positions in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL.

13 JAN

On 13 January 1945 the 318th Infantry sector remained unchanged until 2215. At this time, the 2d Bn relieved the 1st Bn in front line positions. Upon relief the 1st Bn moved to FEULEN, closing at 2355.

14 JAN

The situation in the 1st Bn 317th Infantry area on the morning of 14 January 1945, remained practically unchanged. At 1700 "B" company took up positions in SCHEIDER, west and northwest of the town. The move was completed by 1900. The 2d Bn remained at HEIDERSCHEID in reserve, with one company outposting the bridge in the vicinity of HEIDERSCHEIDERGRUND. Minor changes were made in the positions of the 3d Bn in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL.

In the area of the 318th Infantry on 14 January 1945, the 1st Bn remained at FEULEN in reserve. The 2d Bn held positions on line from the vicinity of BURDEN to ETTTELBRUCK. The 3d Bn received a light enemy counterattack at 0600 in the areas of "L" Company and "K" Company. Defensive artillery fire easily repelled the attack.

There were no changes in the positions of the 2d Bn, 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment and "A" Company 631st Tank Destroyer Bn attached to the 318th Infantry. 351st Eng Bn
631 TD

The 319th Infantry maintained its defensive positions in the vicinity of DAHL, GOESDORF and BOCKHOLZ during 14 January 1945. The Regiment conducted patrolling to the north, northeast and east.

15 JAN

The minor adjustments made by the 317th Infantry in its defensive positions continued on 15 January 1945. In the 1st Bn area, "A" Company moved two platoons 1000 yards southwest of KEHMEN into the positions vacated by "E" Company. "B" Company took over the area of SCHEIDEL and vicinity. "C" Company remained in defensive positions southwest of KEHMEN. The 2d Bn continued in Division Reserve in HEIDERSCHEID. The 3d Bn remained active patrolling and reconnoitering for crossings of the SURE RIVER in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL.

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry remained at FEULEN, in reserve, while the 2d Bn held a north-south line from BURDEN to ETTTELBRUCK. In the 3d Bn area no changes in position occurred except an attack by one platoon of

"L" Company at 1400, to clear the enemy from the high ground 700 yards west of WELSCHEID. By 1515, the platoon had gained the objective.

The 2d Bn 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment and "A" Company 351st En 631st Tank Destroyer Bn, attached to the 318th Infantry, maintained their defensive positions.

There were no changes in the positions of the 319th Infantry in the vicinity of DAHL, GOESDORF and BOCKHOLZ on 15 January 1945.

16 JAN

On 16 January 1945, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry maintained defensive positions in the vicinity of KEHMEN and SCHEIDEL. "A" Company and "C" Company were southwest of KEHMEN. "B" Company was in the vicinity of SCHEIDEL.

The 2d Bn 317th remained in reserve until 1830. At this time it began to move from HEIDERSCHEID to relieve the 3d Bn on the line. At 2400 the relief had not been accomplished.

The 3d Bn in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL maintained defensive position throughout the day. At the close of the period, the Battalion was preparing to turn over it's position to the 2d Battalion.

At FEULEN the 1st Bn 318th Infantry, remained in reserve. The 2d and 3d Bns accomplished relief of front line companies during this period. No changes occurred in the Regimental main line of resistance.

The 2d Bn 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment and "A" Company, 351st En 631st Tank Destroyer Bn, attached to the 318th Infantry, made minor adjustments in their respective positions. 631TD

There were no changes in the defensive positions of the 319th Infantry, located in the vicinity of DAHL, GOESDORF and BOCKHOLZ.

At 1300, 16 January 1945, Field Order Number 26, issued by Division Headquarters, directed an attack on 18 January 1945, to seize the high ground in the vicinity of NOCHER and BOURSCHIED. F/026

17 JAN

On 17 January 1945, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry maintained it's defensive position in the vicinity of KEHMEN and SCHEIDEL.

The 2d Bn, which had been in Division reserve in FEULEN, relieved the 3d Bn on the line in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL. The Battalion moved from FEULEN at 1830 on 16 January 1945 and the relief was complete at 0340, 17 January 1945. At 2300, "G" Company 2d Bn moved from TADLER to HEIDERSCHEID and was placed in Division Reserve.

The 3d Bn 317th Infantry moved from its position at 1600 and closed into GOESDORF at 1900. It took over the positions of the 2d Bn, minus "E" Company, 319th Infantry at 2030. "E" Company 319th Infantry continued in its defensive position in the vicinity of BOCKHOLZ.

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry, in FEULEN, remained in reserve. The 2d Bn on the line south of BURDEN to ETTELBRUCK shifted "G" Company from the city of ETTELBRUCK to a new position west of "E" Company. The move was completed at 2055. The 3d Bn 318th Infantry continued to hold its defensive position south and southwest of WELSCHEID.

The 2d Bn 351st Engineer (GS) Regiment, minus "D" Company, which was attached to the 318th Infantry, moved into ETTELBRUCK to take over the defense of that town at 2150. "D" Company remained in defensive positions northwest of ETTELBRUCK. "A" Company 631st Tank Destroyer Bn, attached to the 318th Infantry, remained in its defensive positions. *20 Bn / 351st Eng*

The 1st and 3d Bns 319th Infantry maintained defensive positions in the vicinity of DAHL.

The 2d Bn 319th Infantry, (minus "E" Company), was relieved by the 3d Bn 317th Infantry at 2030 and remained in GOESDORF as reserve. "E" Company remained in BOCKHOLZ during the period, the 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, reinforced with one platoon from "D" Company 702d Tank Bn, was attached to the 319th Infantry. *80 Cav Recon
702 TANK*

Active patrolling was conducted to the north, northeast, and east by the 317th Infantry and 319th Infantry during 17 January 1945.

18 JAN

On 18 January 1945, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry in the vicinity of KEMMEN and SCHEIDEL and the 2d Bn, minus "G" Company, in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL, maintained defensive positions. During the day they supported with fire the attack of the 1st Bn 319th Infantry on MASSELER.

"G" Company, 2d Bn 317th Infantry in HEIDERSCHIED was in Division Reserve. The 3d Bn outposted GOESDORF.

In the 318th Infantry area, on 18 January 1945, the 1st Bn remained in reserve at FEULEN. The 2d and 3d Bns continued to occupy and improve their defensive positions.

On 18 January 1945, the attack of the 3d Bn 319th Infantry on NOCHER was initiated without artillery preparation at 0700. The Battalion was reinforced with "G" Company, 2d Bn 319th Infantry, "C" Company 702d Tank Bn, one platoon of "A" Company 610 Tank Destroyer Bn, and one platoon of "C" Company 305th Engineer Combat Bn.

702 TK
610 TD

"K" Company had the mission of blocking enemy action toward NOCHER from the west and northwest. "I" and "L" Companies approached NOCHER from the southeast and entered the outskirts at 0740. "G" Company (attached) was in reserve.

"K" Company reached the northeast edge of the woods 1000 yards west of NOCHER without meeting opposition. At 0820, the 3d Bn (minus "K" Company) occupied NOCHER and began clearing the town under heavy enemy shell fire. "K" Company was held up by a determined enemy entrenched 200 yards north of the edge of woods (P-730512).

The tanks had been held up by hostile anti-tank fire. One platoon reached NOCHER at 0915. By 1110, "I", "L" and "G" Companies had occupied NOCHER and vicinity. At 1500, the 3d Bn (reinforced) took up defensive positions in the vicinity of NOCHER with "L" Company protecting from the north, "I" Company from the east and "G" Company (minus one platoon) from the west. "K" Company encountered stiff enemy resistance at a point 200 yards south of the road junction 1000 yards west of NOCHER.

On the morning of 18 January 1945 the 2d Bn (minus "G" Company) 319th Infantry was in positions occupied the previous day. At 0700, the Battalion was directed to occupy DAHL. The Battalion (less "E" Company, which remained at BUCKHOLZ) closed into the town at 0935 and occupied defensive positions throughout the day.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry, reinforced with one platoon of "A" Company 610 Tank Destroyer (self-propelled), one platoon "C" Company 702d Tank Bn and the mine platoon of the 319th Infantry, jumped off at 1115 to take MASSELER.

610 TD
702 TK

By 1245, the Battalion had reached a point 1500 yards north of BOCKHOLZ-SUR-SURE without meeting opposition. At 1400, it met heavy opposition from the northeast and east and was unable to advance. The Battalion withdrew to a more favorable position at 1810, then returned to it's original position at 1935.

The 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop (reinforced), 80 KCR using dismounted patrols, reconnoitered between DAHL and NOCHER and on the Division flanks.

19 JAN

On 19 January 1945, the 317th Infantry (reinforced) maintained defensive positions with the 318th Infantry on the right and the 319th Infantry on the left. A line was held between RANNERKNAR and HOEHL by the 1st Bn, while the 2d Bn (minus "F" Company) continued to defend the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL. "G" Company, which had been in HEIDERSCHEID in Division Reserve, relieved "F" Company which moved back to HEIDERSCHEID as Division Reserve. The 3d Bn (minus "K" Company) continued to outpost GOESDORF. "K" Company guarded the bridge in the vicinity of HEIDERSCHIEDERGRUND.

The 318th Infantry continued to maintain defensive positions in it's sector with the 2d Bn on a north-south line, from south of BURDEN to ETTELBRUCK and the 3d Bn on a line south and southwest of WELSCHIED. The 1st Bn remained in reserve at FEULEN. Preparations were made in anticipation of an attack to the north.

The 319th Infantry's mission, on 19 January 1945, was to hold and improve positions taken on the previous day. At 0837, "K" Company 3d Bn continued the attack northwest and then east against enemy-held positions in vicinity of the road junction, 1000 yards west of NOCHER. By 1030 the company had occupied all buildings 400 yards to the east of the road junction. At this time the 319th Infantry was ordered to consolidate it's present positions. One platoon from "I" Company kept contact between "K" Company and the remainder of the 3d Bn (reinforced by "G" Company) in NOCHER. At 1900 "G" Company returned to the control of the 2d Bn which had outposted DAHL on the previous evening. The 1st Bn continued to hold positions defending DAHL on the east, north and south.

20 JAN

On 20 January 1945, the 317th Infantry continued to occupy and improve defensive positions. The 1st Bn

held the line between RANNERKNAR and HOEHL. The 2d Bn (minus "F" Company) continued in defense in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL. The 3d Bn (minus "K" Company) outposted GOESDORF until 1145 when it was directed to move to HEIDERSCHEID. It (minus "K" Company) closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 1530. "K" Company relieved "E" Company of the 2d Bn in the vicinity of RINGEL at 2058. "E" Company remained in RINGEL for the night.

At 1200, 20 January 1945 orders to attack were received by the 318th Infantry. The 2d Bn sent strong patrols to the vicinity of BURDEN at 1645. Finding the town clear, the Battalion moved north, occupying BURDEN and the ground to the northeast at 2055. At 2315, the Battalion moved toward BOURScheid.

The 1st Bn (minus "C" Company) 318th Infantry remained in Regimental Reserve at FEULEN. "C" company moved by motor to BURDEN with the mission to clear the wooded area between BURDEN and BOURScheid. The 3d Bn, at 2030 sent patrols to WELScheid to determine enemy positions.

The 319th Infantry (reinforced) continued to maintain defensive positions in the vicinity of DAHL and NOCHER.

21 JAN

On 21 January 1945, "G" Company 317th Infantry, at 0430 moved from HEIDERScheid where it had been in Division Reserve, to rejoin the 2d Bn in the vicinity of TADLER. At 0600, the 2d Bn jumped off from defensive positions in the vicinity of TADLER and RINGEL to attack to the northeast. Heavy resistance was encountered in attempting to complete the mission of securing bridges over the SURE RIVER and seizing the high ground east of MASSELER. By 1800, the Battalion was fighting in DIRBACH and the surrounding area, but because of continued heavy resistance, it was ordered to withdraw under cover of darkness. At 2310, the Battalion had returned to the TADLER-RINGEL area setting up a defense there.

The 1st Bn (minus "C" Company) 317th Infantry moved out to seize KEHMEN and by 1515, elements of the Battalion were in the town where they encountered some sniper fire. By 1830 the town had been cleared. The 1st Bn (minus "C" Company) remained in KEHMEN and vicinity. "C" Company moved by motor to relieve "E" Company 319th Infantry, in the vicinity of BOCKHOLZ. The relief was completed at 2210. The 3d Bn moving from HEIDERScheid at 1725 to relieve elements of the 26th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and 6th

26 CAV TK
6th CAV Gp

Cavalry Group in BUDERSCHEID, and closed there at 2225.

6 cmw 6r

At 0830, "C" Company 318th Infantry, moved into BURDEN. At 0905 the company was ordered to clear the woods between WELSCHHEID and BOURSCHEID. By 2210, the task was finished and "C" Company moved to FEULEN to rejoin the 1st Bn which was in reserve.

The 2d Bn continued throughout the early morning to advance toward BOURSCHEID and by 0715, it was in position ready to assault the town. At 1415, BOURSCHEID was cleared and the Battalion fanned out to the west, north and east of the town, holding the high ground in those directions at the close of the day.

The strong patrols sent out by the 3d Bn 318th Infantry at 2030 on the previous day encountered little opposition. At 0755, the 3d Bn had moved to the outskirts of WELSCHHEID where a small fire fight ensued. At 0855, WELSCHHEID was taken and, by the close of the period, the Battalion had outposted the high ground to the north, east and southeast.

The 319th Infantry continued to maintain defensive positions and patrolled aggressively from the vicinity of DAHL and NOCHER to determine enemy dispositions. "E" Company 319th Infantry relieved by "C" Company 317th Infantry in the vicinity of BOCKHOLZ, marched to DAHL and closed at 2355.

On 22 January 1945, the 319th Infantry maintained defensive positions and patrolled aggressively to determine enemy positions. At 1715 the 3d Bn occupied the ridge west of WILHELMSS, with "B" Company occupying the town. The 2d Bn remained in the vicinity of DAHL with one platoon of "B" Company outposting DAHL to the northwest and one platoon of "B" Company in the vicinity of BOCKHOLZ. The 3d Bn remained in position in vicinity of BOCKHOLZ.

On 23 January 1945, the 317th Infantry moved to the attack from WILHELMSS at 0750. The 3d Bn advanced to the north and northeast against scattered enemy resistance during the morning. Continuing the attack west of WILHELMSS, the Battalion, turning to the east, was in position at 1415.

SECTION II

THE WILTZ - HOSINGEN FRONT

22 JAN

D/ORDER
(FO# ?)

A Division order issued at 0815, 22 January 1945, directed the 317th Infantry to concentrate at WILTZ. The 1st Bn (minus "A" and "C" Companies) closed into HEIDERSCHEID at 0500. At 1140 the Battalion moved to relieve the 3d Bn in BUDERSCHEID, closing at 1430. At 1830, the 1st Bn moved to WILTZ closing at 2100. "C" Company, relieved from occupying and defending BOCKHOLZ at 1800, joined the 1st Bn in WILTZ, closing at 2100.

The 2d Bn 317th Infantry, from its previously occupied defensive positions in the RINGEL area, moved to HEIDERSCHEID at 0815, keeping patrols out to the east to maintain contact with the 319th Infantry. At 1800, the Battalion moved to WILTZ, closing into WILTZ at 1515.

On 22 January 1945, the 1st Bn 318th Infantry began movement at 0740 to relieve "A" Company 317th Infantry in KEHMEN. The Battalion closed into the town at 1045. "B" Company was ordered to relieve the 2d Bn 317th Infantry in the TADLER-RINGEL area. Throughout the day and night of 22 January 1945, the Battalion maintained defensive positions and prepared to move to WILTZ the following morning.

The 2d and 3d Bns 318th Infantry maintained defensive positions in the BOURSCHIED-WELSCHEID area and patrolled to the SURE RIVER in that area. These Battalions prepared for movement to WILTZ on 23 January 1945.

On 22 January 1945, the 319th Infantry maintained defensive positions and patrolled aggressively to determine enemy positions. At 1715 the 1st Bn occupied the ridge west of MASSELER, with "B" Company occupying the town. The 2d Bn remained in the vicinity of DAHL with one platoon of "G" Company outposting MASSELER to the northwest and one platoon of "E" Company in the vicinity of BOCKHOLZ. The 3d Bn remained in positions in vicinity of NOCHER.

23 JAN

On 23 January 1945, the 317th Infantry moved to the attack from WILTZ at 0730. The 3d Bn advanced to the north and northeast against scattered enemy resistance during the morning. Continuing its attack west of WILWERWILTZ, the Battalion, turning to the east, met increasing enemy

opposition during the afternoon. Positions were secured and occupied on the high ground west of WILWERWILTZ preparatory to continuing the attack to force a crossing of the CLERF RIVER. The 1st Bn initially followed the 3d Bn but later that day moved to the 3d Bn's left flank. The 1st Bn seized ground north of the 3d Bn and by nightfall had prepared defensive position west of ENSCHERANGE. The 2d Bn in Regimental Reserve, moved from WILTZ to ERPELDANGE where it remained during the period.

Although the three Battalions of the 318th Infantry were prepared to move to WILTZ early in the morning of 23 January 1945, the 1st and 2d Bns continued in their defensive positions throughout the day. The 1st Bn outposted KEHMEN and maintained defensive positions in the RINGEL-TADLER area. The 2d Bn maintained defensive positions in the BOURScheid-WELScheid area. It was not until 1530 that the 3d Bn was ordered to move to WILTZ. By 1630, the 3d Bn had cleared the entrucking point in WELScheid and prior to 1830 the Battalion had closed at WILTZ. There the Battalion awaited further orders.

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry (minus "C" Company) continued to occupy defensive positions in the town of MASSELER and on the ridge west of that town. "C" Company moved to the vicinity of DAHL. The 2d Bn sent out "F" Company (reinforced by one platoon of "G" Company) at 1230 to seize the town of KAUTENBACH. At 1410, "F" Company (reinforced) moved into KAUTENBACH meeting heavy fire from houses on the high ground to the north of the town. At 1835, "F" Company held the lower part of KAUTENBACH, but the enemy was subjecting this area to heavy automatic weapon and rifle fire from the high portion of the town. Two platoons of "F" Company tried to maneuver around the west flank of the enemy but met heavy fire. The Company was then ordered to hold it's positions for the night and resume the attack early on 24 January 1945. "E" Company moved to a position on the high ground southeast of NOCHER. At 1240, "L" Company of the 3d Bn, crossing the WILTZ RIVER, advanced towards MERKOLS and by 1600 the leading elements approached the town. At 1805, "L" Company had secured MERKOLS and had moved one platoon to the high ground north of town, approximately 1900 yards west of ALScheid. The remainder of the 2d and 3d Bns maintained the defensive positions of the previous day.

24 JAN

Continuing the attack to the east on 24 January 1945,

20 JAN

the 1st Bn 317th Infantry overcame hostile resistance and seized ENSCHERANGE at 0305. Patrols reconnoitered for crossing sites over the CLERF RIVER. The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained in ERPELDANGE. The 3d Bn continued its attack west of WILWERWILTZ against heavy enemy opposition and secured that town 2400. The 3d Bn requested air attacks on PINTSCHE and HOSINGEN which held enemy troop concentrations. Artillery fire fell on the 1st and 3d Bn areas frequently during the day and was heaviest in the 3d Bn sector.

At 1000, the 318th Infantry was directed to ascertain if it could get another Battalion into WILTZ and if so, the 1st Bn was to move from its defensive positions about KEHMEN and the RINGEL-TADLER area to WILTZ. By 1416 billets were secured and the 1st Bn, closed at WILTZ by 1700. At 2210, the 1st Bn was alerted to move under attachment to the 317th Infantry as soon as that Regiment had gained its first objective. The Battalion was assigned the mission of protecting the 317th Infantry flank. The 2d Bn 318th Infantry continued to maintain defensive positions in the BOURSCHIED-WELSCHIED area, while the 3d Bn remained in the assembly area at WILTZ.

15TBN/512
✓ To 317

The 1st Bn 319th Infantry continued to occupy its defensive positions. At 0400, "E" Company crossed the WILTZ RIVER and moved to ALSCHIED. At 0930, the company had gained contact with the enemy on the west edge of ALSCHIED. At 1030, "E" Company entered ALSCHIED. At 1720, "E" Company reported ALSCHIED cleared of enemy. "G" Company began movement to ALSCHIED from NOCHER at 1715 and closed at 2020. "F" Company continued to fight for the upper part of KAUTENBACH. Enemy resistance remained heavy throughout the day, but by 2020, "F" Company had cleared KAUTENBACH. "L" Company occupied high ground north of MERKILS. "K" Company moved from the vicinity of NOCHER at 0915 to MERKILS, closing at 1330. The remainder of the 3d Bn continued to occupy defensive positions in the vicinity of NOCHER.

25 JAN

Beginning the advance on 25 January 1945 at 0400, the 1st Bn 317th Infantry, had cleared the CLERF RIVER at 0705 and was moving northeast toward DRAUFFEL. It was under constant enemy artillery fire. Reaching a point southeast of DRAUFFEL at 1645, the Battalion halted for the day, sending out patrols in preparations for the attack to the east on the next morning.

26 JAN

At 0005 the 2d Bn 317th Infantry, preparatory to making a crossing at LELLINGEN, began movement from ERPELDANGE to its assembly area on the west side of the CLERF RIVER. At 1430, "F" Company was dispatched to attack PINTSCHE from the south to aid the 3d Bn which was receiving a strong counterattack from that area. At this time, the remainder of the 2d Bn crossed the CLERF RIVER meeting slight resistance in LELLINGEN and by 2325 the Battalion had cleared half of the town. CLERF

The 3d Bn 317th Infantry began the crossing of the CLERF RIVER at WILWERWILTZ at approximately 0125. By 1150, "K" Company and one platoon of "L" Company were across the river. Continuing the crossing, "I" Company moved up on the 3d Bn's right. A counterattack supported by heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire from the direction of PINTSCHE at 1340 slowed the advance. But friendly air support over PINTSCHE at 1436 assisted the Battalion in continuing its advance. The Battalion, at the close of the period had seized and occupied WILWERWILTZ and PINTSCHE on the east bank of the CLERF RIVER. At this point forward advance was halted and positions were consolidated for the night. CLERF

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry, attached to the 317th Infantry, marched from WILTZ at 0800 to the assembly area at ERPELDANGE, closing at 1045. At 1410, the Battalion moved to ENSCHERANGE, closing at 2000. The mission of the Battalion was to protect the flanks of the 317th Infantry. The Battalion remained in Regimental Reserve during the period. 1st Bn 318th
ATL 10 30

The 2d Bn 318th Infantry maintained defensive positions in the BOURSCHIED-WELSCHIED area until shortly after 1645 when it was attached to the 319th Infantry. At 0130, 26 January 1945, the Battalion closed into positions at ALSCHIED KAUTENBACH, and the area between the WILTZ and SURE RIVERS and relieved elements of the 319th Infantry. The 3d Bn 318th Infantry remained in an assembly area at WILTZ.

The 319th Infantry maintained defensive positions throughout the day with the exception of one patrol of platoon strength sent out by the 2d Bn, to reconnoiter the vicinity of CONSTHUM. This patrol returned to the Battalion at 1610. In the evening, the 319th Infantry received orders from Division to prepare to move by motor Div Orders
4 INF DIV

to the vicinity of LAROCLETTE and become attached to the 4th Infantry Division.

319 ATCHD
TO 4 MINE DN

As a result of operations of 26 January 1945, the east bank of the CLERF RIVER was cleared of enemy in the Division Zone. At the close of the period, the 317th Infantry was pressing the attack to the east and had captured the towns of LELLINGEN and SIENENALER. One hundred and thirty four prisoners were taken.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry occupied and seized the high ground in the vicinity of NEIDHAUSEN at 0130. The Battalion then turned to the north and prepared to attack in the direction of DORSCHIED. The 2d Battalion assigned the mission of protecting the Regimental south flank, attacked east against heavy artillery and mortar fire. During the afternoon the Battalion was ordered to hold positions gained. The 3d Bn attacked northeast with BOCKHOLZ as the objective. When the order was received to hold present positions, the Battalion had taken the high ground southeast of BOCKHOLZ. At 1800, the 317th Infantry was attached to Task Force Summers and the Regimental Command Post moved from ERPELDANGE to WILWERWILTZ.

TF
Summers
317th

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry remained attached to the 317th Infantry as Regimental Reserve and moved from ENSCHERANGE to PINTSCHE in the morning. It continued in the afternoon to a point 700 yards west of BOCKHOLZ where it remained until 0250 the next day. The 2d Bn maintained defensive positions at ALSCHIED, KAUTENBACH and in the area between the WILTZ and SURE RIVERS. The 3d Bn remained in the assembly area at WILTZ.

1st Bn 318th
TO 317
AS Rec Rec

At approximately noon, 26 January 1945, the 318th Infantry was ordered to relieve the 22d Infantry 4th Infantry Division. The 1st Bn remained attached to the 317th Infantry. The 2d Bn which had been attached to the 319th Infantry, was returned to the control of the 318th Infantry at 1825 when communications between the Regiment and the Battalion were completed. At 2015, the Regiment was directed to move early on the morning of 27 January 1945.

318th Reliefs
22nd IF/4th DIV

The 319th Infantry moved by motor during the day from assembly areas to LAROCLETTE where new assembly points were designated by the 4th Infantry Division. The movement was made without incident. The 1st Bn occupied the right

4th DIV

sector of the Regimental Zone relieving "E" Company 8th Infantry; the 3d Bn relieved the 1st Bn 12th Infantry and "F" and "G" Companies of the 8th Infantry in the left sector. The mission was completed by 2200 on 26 January 1945. The 2d Bn constituted Regimental Reserve at EPELDORF.

27 JAN

Task Force Summers, which was designated at 1800, 26 January 1945, made plans to continue the attack to the east. The 1st Bn 317th Infantry cleared NEIDHAUSE of enemy by 0250, 27 January 1945. It sent a strong combat patrol to DORSCHIED at dawn, taking that town and MARBUR. "A" Company pushed to the east and occupied the high ground in the vicinity of STERNRICH. The 2d Bn continued to attack eastward to seize MON SCHNITZ. "G" Company met heavy machinegun fire at the edge of the town and took up positions on high ground overlooking the town. The 3d Bn jumped off from the high ground southeast of BOCKHOLZ at 0235 and entered the town at 0445. BOCKHOLZ was cleared at 0620. The 3d Bn was then attached to the 318th Infantry as reserve, the 1st and 2d Bns 317th Infantry were directed to move, on 28 January 1945, to a new area along with the 1st Bn 318th Infantry. At this time the 318th Infantry reverted to reserve.

T.F.
Summers

317 INF Regt
1st Bn / 318

318th INF

Also attached to Task Force Summers, the 1st Bn 318th Infantry attacked from an assembly area seized the day before, by-passed BOCKHOLZ, and continued to the east, seizing HOSINGEN and positions on the high ground in that area. The Task Force was relieved by elements of the 17th Airborne Division and the 5th Infantry Division during the evening and night of 27 - 28 January 1945.

17th ABN
5th DIV

On the morning of 27 January 1945, the 318th Infantry (minus 1st Bn) began rolling to it's new area to relieve the 22d Infantry 4th Infantry Division. The 2d Bn 318th Infantry relieved the 1st Bn 22d Infantry at 1940, in BEAUFORT. The 3d Bn 318th Infantry relieved the 3d Bn 22d Infantry early on 27 January 1945, east of BEAUFORT. A line, running from a point approximately 4000 yards east of BEAUFORT along the SAUER RIVER northwest to REISDORF, was the 318th Infantry's sector.

4th DIV

The 319th Infantry, with the mission of maintaining and improving present positions, held a line running generally from FUHREN (exclusive) southeast to REISDORF (inclusive) with the 1st Bn on the right and the 3d Bn on the left. The 2d Bn was in reserve at BETTENDORF where it

had moved during the day. Bridges within the sector were guarded by the forward Battalions and contact was made on the right with the 22d Infantry.

20 Jan

The relief of the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division and the 31st Infantry Division was accomplished by 0700, 28 January 1945. The 17th Airborne Division moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 317th Infantry were relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

The 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

The 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

20 Jan - 31 Jan

Through 29 January 1945, the 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

On the morning of 29 January 1945, the 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

On the morning of 30 January 1945, the 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

On the morning of 31 January 1945, the 317th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division at 0700, 28 January 1945. The 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to the new Division area, vicinity of 317th, closing at 1730. The 3rd and 4th Battalions remained in their defensive positions.

SECTION III

THE SEIGFRIED LINE

28 JAN

The relief of the 317th Infantry by the 17th Airborne Division and the 5th Infantry Division was accomplished by 0700, 28 January 1945. The Regiment, as Division Reserve, moved to the new Division area, vicinity THEDEBNACH, closing at 1730. 17th AD

The 1st Bn 318th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 317th Infantry and Task Force Summers at 0500, 28 January 1945. It closed into an assembly area at HALLER at 1600. The 2d and 3d Bns maintained defensive positions. TF Summers 317 + 1st/318

The 319th Infantry maintained and improved defensive positions and established contact with the 2d Bn 318th Infantry which had relieved the 22d Infantry late in the evening of 27 January 1945.

The 317th Infantry remained in Division Reserve on 29, 30, and 31 of January 1945.

29 JAN - 31 JAN

Through 29 January 1945 to the end of the month, the 318th Infantry improved defensive positions, laid mine fields, reconnoitered for possible crossing sites on the SAUER RIVER and patrolled the river line.

Until late in the evening of 29 January 1945, the 319th Infantry continued to occupy defensive positions where Combat Command "B" 4th Armored Division relieved the Regiment. The 1st Bn was relieved by the 10th Armored Infantry Battalion at 2015 and moved to a new area at KEHLIN. The 2d Bn was relieved by the 53d Armored Infantry Bn at 1640 and proceeded to ROLLINGEN, closing into the new area at 2015. The 3d Bn, after being relieved by the 51st Armored Infantry Bn at 2310, moved to new area at STEINSEL and HEISDORF SUR ALZETTE, closing at 0205, 30 January 1945. These new areas, northeast of LUXEMBOURG, were to be rest areas where the 319th Infantry became attached to the 4th Armored Division for operational purposes only. The Regiment was placed on a one-hour alert status during the last two days of the month. During this period, the Regiment devoted time to rehabilitation and re-equipment of its personnel. [A training program was begun to cover squad and platoon tactics.] CCB/4AD 10th AD 53d AIB/4AD

During the month of January 1945, Division Artillery fired over 2740 missions, expending 42,004 rounds of 105mm and 14,378 rounds of 155mm ammunition, either in direct support of the Infantry Regiments, or in harassing and interdicting missions.

During this month the 166th Engineer Combat Bn 1135th Engineer Combat Group was in direct support of the Division. The 633d AAA AW Bn provided protection for Division Artillery, service troops, and Division Command Posts. It also rendered ground support for infantry troops. The 702d Tank Bn and the 811 Tank Destroyer Bn were active during the month in support of the various Regiments.

Source from which personnel was obtained - Completed.

2. Changes in Organization.

The 702d Tank Battalion of the 80th Infantry Division was redesignated and activated at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, as the 702d Ordnance (Light Maintenance) Company, under 1/0 3-3, Authority: War Department Letter, The Adjutant General's Office, AG 720.2 (10-12-42) GS-I 25-2 dated 31 October 1942, and General Order Number 10, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 8 November 1942.

The 80th Quartermaster Battalion, 80th Infantry Division, was redesignated and activated at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, as the 80th Quartermaster Company, 80th Infantry Division, under 1/0 10-17, Authority: War Department Letter, The Adjutant General's Office, AG 720.2 (10-12-42) GS-I 25-2, dated 31 October 1942, and General Order Number 11, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 13 November 1942.

The 80th Infantry Division was reorganized 12 August 1943 in accordance with 1/0 Number 7 and allied tables, 15 July 1943, with authorized strength of 737 Officers, 44 War and Officers, and 13,072 Enlisted Men.

In accordance with 1/0 Number 7-3, Headquarters Special Troops, 80th Infantry Division, was activated 12 August 1943, units assigned and/or attached to Special Troops are as follows: Headquarters Special Troops, Headquarters Company, 1st Platoon, 702d Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, 80th Quartermaster Company, 80th Signal Company, Attached Medical, Attached Chaplain, Attached Band.