

OPERATIONAL HISTORY OF THE 6888 CENTRAL Postal Directory

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See Photos

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**CONSOLIDATION OF POSITIONS WEST  
OF THE SEILLE RIVER**

/ NOV

The front line of the 30th Infantry Division on 1 November 1944 extended along the SEILLE RIVER, from LAMBERTHAIN to LAMBERTHAIN.

**OPERATIONAL HISTORY OF THE  
30TH INFANTRY DIVISION**

**NOVEMBER 1944**

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In this sector the enemy still occupied some ground west of the SEILLE RIVER. The 26th Infantry Division held defensive positions in the vicinity of LAMBERTHAIN, southeast of LAMBERTHAIN. This area was the right flank of the Regiment as well as the Division. The 34th Infantry Division held the left sector, holding the high ground north of BONS EN BASSIN. The 1st Infantry Division held the left sector.

In compliance with the orders of the 1st Army, the 30th Infantry Division, with the 70th and 71st Infantry Divisions, was to launch a coordinated attack to clear the area between LAMBERTHAIN and LAMBERTHAIN.

Jumping off at 1100, 1 November 1944, the 30th Infantry Division, with the 70th and 71st Infantry Divisions, launched an attack on the town of LAMBERTHAIN. The 26th and 34th Infantry Divisions were employed in this attack. The 26th Infantry Division, in position southeast of LAMBERTHAIN, attacked towards the town and the high ground

north and west. By 1400 SECTION I  
platoon of tanks were The two platoons  
of "F" Company and one  
west of the town. The two platoons  
of "G" Company  
west of the town. The two platoons  
of light tanks then the town from the north.

CONSOLIDATION OF POSITIONS WEST  
OF THE SEILLE RIVER

1 Nov

The front line of the 80th Division on 1 November 1944 extended along the SEILLE RIVER, from LESMENILS to AJONCOURT. The enemy held a small portion of ground on the western side of the SEILLE RIVER in the vicinity of ABAUCOURT and LETRICOURT. The SEILLE RIVER was the next natural barrier for the Division to overcome.

The 317th Infantry occupied the northern sector of the Division Zone. The 3d Bn was on the line along the SEILLE RIVER from the vicinity of LESMENILS 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 2d Bn was in Regimental Reserve.

The 318th Infantry occupied the center sector of the Division Zone. The 2d Bn, on the line between Clemery and the railroad east of MANONCOURT, occupied the left sector of the Regimental Zone. The 3d Bn was on the line in the vicinity of FME DE LA BORDE, south of NOMEY, occupying the right sector. The 1st Bn constituted the Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of LIXIERES.

The 319th Infantry held the southern sector of the Division Zone. It was in this sector that the enemy still occupied some ground west of the SEILLE RIVER. The 2d 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 3d 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 Number 1, issued 30 October 1944, the 319th Infantry, with "C" and "D" Companies 702d Tank Bn and "A" Company 308th Tank Destroyer Bn in direct support, launched a coordinated attack to clear the area ABAUCOURT-LETRICOURT.

FM #1  
30 OCT 44  
808 321

Jumping off at 1300, 1 November 1944, the 319th Infantry achieved tactical surprise and all hostile forces within the area were killed or captured. The 2d and 3d Bns were employed in this attack. The 2d Bn, in position southwest of LETRICOURT, attacked towards the town and the high ground

NOTE \*

north and east. By 1408 two platoons of "F" Company and one platoon of tanks were fighting in LETRICOUR. The two platoons of "F" Company then occupied the high ground east of the town. "G" Company moved at 1422 to occupy the high ground northwest of the town. One platoon of "G" Company 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. By 1445, both Battalions had organized the ground gained. "G" Company dug in on the high ground north of LETRICOURT and elements of "F" Company occupied LETRICOURT and the high ground southeast of the town (HILL 216). "E" Company was in Battalion Reserve.

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" Company were fighting in the town at 1414, mopping-up enemy resistance.

Eight engineer reconnaissance parties reconnoitered the south bank of the SEILLE RIVER for possible crossing sites.

X SOUTH?

"L" Company occupied ABAUCOURT, together with one platoon of light tanks, "I" Company dug in on the high ground southeast of the town (HILL 211) and "K" Company remained in Battalion Reserve. At 1730 the 3d Bn began to withdraw from the vicinity of ABAUCOURT to its former positions occupied before the attack. By 1945 the Battalion had closed into its former positions in the vicinity of BOIS DU HTE DES TRAPPES. The 2d Bn began to withdraw from the vicinity of LETRICOURT at 1800. It closed into its former positions in the vicinity of BOIS D'AULNOIS at 2015. Observation Posts were established on the ground gained by the attack, one southwest of ABAUCOURT and one north of LETRICOURT.

Tanks of the 702d Tank Battalion were released from Battalion control at 1730 and reassembled in LOIS DE BRAS-QUIN. 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.

The 2d Bn 317th Infantry relieved the 1st Bn 317th from its position along the SEILLE RIVER between MORVILLE-SUR-SEILLE and CLEMBRY. Relief was completed at 2000, 1 November 1944 and the 1st Bn closed into the vicinity of PONT-A-MOUSSON at 2230 as Regimental Reserve.

The 318th Infantry made no change in its troop dispositions on 1 November 1944.

2-3 Nov

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.

4 Nov

Field Order Number 14, issued 0900, 4 November 1944, revealed the plans for the Division's role 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.

FO #14

XII Corps was to attack, on Third Army's order, with the 35th, 26th, and the 80th Infantry Divisions abreast.

XII  
35/26/80

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.

6 MAD

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 BELME RIDGE.

35th  
HAND

The XX Corps, on the XII Corps left 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).

XII  
XX

The 80th Infantry Division (reinforced) 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 Division was to be accomplished.

D-DAY

The 317th Infantry, with one company of the 702d Tank Battalion and one company of the 808th Tank Destroyer Battalion 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, then advance eastward on Division order.

808TD  
702TK

The 318th Infantry, with one medium company of the 702d Tank Bn and one company of the 808th Tank Destroyer Bn attached, was to force a crossing over the SEILLE RIVER in the vicinity of CLEMERY and NOMERY, seize the towns of

808TD  
702TK

5 Nov

ROUVES, NOMEY, MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE and PHLIN, then carry the attack to the northeast on Division order.

The 319th Infantry, which was to constitute Division Reserve, was to seize the bridges over the SEILLE RIVER in the vicinity of ABAUCOURT, THEZEY-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 Infantry 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 AJONGCOURT, seize the high ground northeast of SEAINCOURT and push strong combat patrols to THEZEY-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 Tank Destroyer Bn and the 633d AAA AW Bn.

702 TK  
808 TD  
633 ADA

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

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

1117 ENG GP

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.

27 AAA GP

The 610th Tank Destroyer Bn (SP) was to move in the zones of the 80th and 35th Divisions and be prepared to repel enemy tank attacks.

610 TD BN

AND

At 2340, 4 November 1944, the 1st Bn 318th Infantry, in Regimental Reserve vicinity of LIXIERES, relieved the 3d Bn from its position in the line vicinity FME DE LA BORDE, south of NOMEY. The 3d Bn closed into Regimental Reserve, vicinity LIXIERES, at 2358.

5 NOV

On 5 November 1944, the 3d Bn 319th Infantry, holding defensive positions on the high ground north of BOIS DU HTE DES TRAPPES, was relieved by the 1st Bn (Regimental Reserve) at 1540. The 3d Bn reverted to Regimental Reserve and closed into the vicinity of JEANDELINCOURT at 1705.

6 NOV

The situation remained static on 6 November 1944. All Regiments continued to occupy and improve defensive positions and patrol actively to the front and flanks.

The 702d Tank Bn and the 808th Tank Destroyer Bn continued to supplement Division Artillery by firing harassing and interdiction missions.

702 TK  
808 TD

7 NOV

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, 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" Company (reinforced) and ABAUCOURT with "G" Company (reinforced). "F" Company, the Battalion Reserve, established strong points on the high ground between LETRICOURT and ABAUCOURT. All troops were in position by 0530, 8 November 1944.

The Division was ready to push off on "D-Day", 8 November 1944. "H-Hour" was set for 0600.

D-DM  
0600 / 8 NOV

The 317th Infantry was in position on the Division left (northern) flank, with the 3d Bn along the SEILLE RIVER from the LESMENILS-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 Infantry 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 Infantry was in position on the Division right (southern) flank, with the 2d Bn occupying ABAUCOURT and



LETRICOURT, including the high ground in between; the 1st Bn in the vicinity of ARRAYE-ET-HAN; and the 3d Bn in Reserve, vicinity of JEANLINCOURT. 1152 RIVER

The 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 Field Artillery Group
- 512th Field Artillery Battalion
- 974th Field Artillery Battalion
- 775th Field Artillery Battalion
- 731st Field Artillery Battalion
- 183d Field Artillery Group
- 276th Field Artillery Battalion (SP)
- 696th Field Artillery Battalion (SP)
- 752d Field Artillery Battalion (SP)
- 5th Armored Division Artillery
- 128th Field Artillery Battalion
- 212th Field Artillery Battalion
- 231st Field Artillery Battalion
- XII Corps Artillery
- 741st Field Artillery Battalion
- 267th Field Artillery Battalion

Other units furnishing fire support were, the 808th Tank Destroyer Bn and the Cannon Companies of the 317th, 318th, and 319th Infantry Regiments.

808TD

The town of ARRAYE-ET-HAN was cleared of the enemy by 1415.

The advance of the 317th was halted at darkness, with the 1st Bn digging in near JEANLINCOURT and the 3d Bn digging in on the high ground west of ARRAYE-ET-HAN.

The 318th Infantry, employing the 1st and 2d Bns, at-

acked at 0600. The 2d Bn SECTION II used in assault boats,  
the 1st Bn crossing the SEILLE RIVER west of EPLY and  
the 3d Bn across BRIDGEHEAD ON THE SEILLE RIVER. The 3d Bn,  
in reserve, was to follow.

8 Nov

The 317th Infantry 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 Bn on the right and the 3d Bn 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. However, enemy fire from the north flank slowed 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. "I" Company led the advance and crossed the EPLY-LOUVIGNY Highway at 0950, moving toward RAUCOURT. "A" Company, with "B" Company on the right, advanced to take HILL 234 (east of EPLY) at 1030.

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

ASSAULT  
BOATS  
FORDS

The 2d Bn 317th Infantry, 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 1944, the 2d Bn was ordered to seize EPLY which had been by-passed by both assault Battalions. "F" Company 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 "A" Company 702d Tank Bn began crossing the SEILLE RIVER at 1445 to join the 3d Bn 317th Infantry. At 1655 the tanks made contact with the 3d Bn just north of RAUCOURT, the extreme 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 Infantry, employing the 1st and 2d Bns, at-

tacked at 0600. The Battalions crossed in assault boats, 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.

Foot  
bx 1092

Elements of the 2d Bn 318th Infantry had advanced over 300 yards from the river, north of ROUVES and the entire Battalion had crossed the river by 0637. "E" Company, with "F" Company on its left, moved forward against light enemy resistance to within 100 yards northwest of ROUVES at 0648. "E" Company entered 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" Company 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 made difficult by flood conditions. Heavy rains caused the river to overflow its banks in many places. The streets of CLEMERY were inundated on the morning of 8 November 1944.

Flood  
conditions

Meanwhile the 2d Bn 318th Infantry had advanced 500 yards beyond the ROUVES-EPLY road against stiffening enemy resistance. Progress became slower.

The 1st Bn, advancing between ROUVES and NOMENY, also met more determined resistance. This Battalion advanced towards the high ground south of MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE (HILL 217), but was pinned down at 1010 by enemy machine gun fire from that area. 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 the objective for the night.

The ~~tank bridge~~ at CLEMERY was finished at 1300 and "A" and "B" Companies 702d Tank Bn began crossing the SEILLE RIVER, "A" Company to support the 317th Infantry and "B" Company to support the 318th Infantry.

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

The 319th, employing the 1st Bn with the mission of seizing AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE and CRAINCOURT, attacked at 0600, 8 November 1944.

The 1st Bn, using a fixed bridge that had not been blown up by the enemy, crossed the SEILLE RIVER in the vicinity of CHENICOURT and then attacked northward with "B" Company on the left, "A" Company on the right, and "C" Company in reserve. "D" Company 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-LEFRICOURT and supported the attack by fire. The 3d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of JEANDELINCOURT.

"B" Company fought its way into AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE at 0725 and began mopping-up operations. "A" Company was abreast of "B" Company and 500 yards to the east of AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE at 0830, but the attack was halted by enemy machine gun and mortar fire from the high ground northeast of the town. By 1145, "B" Company had completed mopping-up operations and began consolidating its position. "A" Company 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 "D" Company 702d Tank Bn advanced to aid the 1st Bn in its attack on CRAINCOURT.

"A" and "B" Companies, reinforced by "D" Company 702d Tank Bn, launched a coordinated attack on CRAINCOURT at 1545. Determined enemy resistance made progress slow. "C" Company in reserve, ordered up to reinforce "A" and "B" Companies, took a position in the center of the line.

"C" Company 702d Tank Bn relieved "D" Company at 1700, 8 November 1944, and "D" Company returned to JEANBELINCOURT.

The 1st Bn (reinforced) renewed the attack on CRAIN-COURT, advancing to the southern edge of town. The enemy launched a counterattack on "C" Company at 1940 and delayed the attack on the town. "F" Company, in reserve on the west side of the SEILLE RIVER, was ordered to reinforce the 1st Bn and at 2000, moved up. The 1st Bn succeeded in beating-off the enemy counterattack by 2000 and "F" Company occupied AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE. The Battalion then organized and consolidated its position south of CRAIN-COURT for the night.

Field Message Number 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 1944.

FM #1  
8 Nov 44

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 1944.

The armor was to pass through the 317th and 318th Infantry Division to attack at 0600, 9 November 1944 (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 1944. 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, "C" Company attacked the town from the west and seized it at 1000.

The 2d Bn 317th Infantry, in Regimental Reserve northwest of EPHY (HILL 237), moved to a position about 800 yards east of EPHY on the morning 9 November 1944.

The 3d Bn, attacking at 0630 from positions just west of ST JURE, skirted the town of ST JURE on the south and fought it's way against moderate resistance towards the BOIS DE RESSAINCOURT. At 1150 this Battalion held a position just north of RESSAINCOURT. Later in the day it ad-

vanced into the northern sector of BOIS DE RESSAINCOURT.

The 1st Bn, fighting its way northeast towards SECOURT, entered BOIS DE RESSAINCOURT at 1355. "C" Company remained in RAUCOURT. "A" Company 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.

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 "A" Company 702d Tank Bn were engaged in clearing the enemy from ST JURE. "A" Company 702d Tank Bn passed 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 Infantry cleared the BOIS DE RESSAINCOURT and at 1655 was approaching SECOURT. The town was taken before dark and the Battalion moved 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 Infantry jumped off at 0630. The attack was preceded by a 5-minute artillery preparation. The 1st Bn attacked the town of MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE from the south (HILL 217). By 0818, "A" Company, with "B" Company following, was fighting at the southern approaches to the town. "C" Company was in reserve. The town was cleared by 1010 and leading elements of the 1st Bn had advanced eastwards to a point about midway between MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE and PHLIN. In this advance on PHLIN, "A" and "B" Companies advanced abreast of each other. "B" Company was given the mission of seizing PHLIN, while "A" Company advanced on its left (north) flank. "C" Company, in Battalion Reserve, was approximately 1200 meters west of the town. "B" Company was fighting in PHLIN at 1250 and the town was cleared of the enemy shortly thereafter.

At 1322 the 1st Bn was ordered to clear the enemy from THEZEY-ST MARTIN (southeast of PHLIN). "C" Company, in Battalion Reserve, was given the mission. "A" and "B" Companies consolidated and organized the high ground east of the town

for the night. side of CHAINCOURT to a point about 1500 yards southwest of the town and "B" Company occupied the right flank. Meanwhile, the 2d Bn 318th Infantry, on the left (north) flank of the 1st Battalion, 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 were 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 consolidated for the night.

The attack on NOMENY was resumed on the morning of 9 November 1944 by the 3d Bn 318th Infantry with "B" Company and 702d Tank Bn in support. This Tank Company, meeting only slight opposition, was in NOMENY along the SEILLE RIVER at 0900. Two-thirds of NOMENY was reported clear of the enemy at 1010, and by 1120 all clear was reported. The Battalion then moved to MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE, closing in at 1726.

"B" Company 702d Tank Bn then moved northeast from NOMENY through MAILLY-SUR-SEILLE towards PHLIN and thence southeast to support "C" Company 318th Infantry in the attack on THEZEY-ST MARTIN. Fighting in the streets at 1730, "C" Company (reinforced) quickly cleared the enemy from the town. The tanks then returned to PHLIN at 1825.

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.

Flood

The 319th Infantry resumed the attack at 0630, 9 November 1944. The 905th Field Artillery Bn, reinforced by the Cannon Company 319th Infantry and "A" Company 808th Tank Destroyer Bn, fired preparatory barrages between 0600-0630 and then fired in support of the attack.

808TD

The 1st Bn, having halted its attack just south of CHAINCOURT on the evening 8 November 1944, renewed its assault on the town. Enemy resistance in CHAINCOURT was quickly mopped-up and by 0815, the 1st Bn completed the organization and consolidation of its bridgehead across the SEILLE RIVER. "B" Company occupied the left sector, from the river eastward to CHAINCOURT, "C" Company occupied the center,

from the east side of CRAINCOURT to a point about 1000 yards southeast of the town and "A" Company occupied the right sector, east of AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE and south to the AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE-LEMONCOURT road.

"F" Company 2d Bn, remained in AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE.

At 0950, the 3d Bn 319th Infantry was released from Division Reserve. This Battalion was then directed to proceed east of the SEILLE RIVER to take the right sector of the Regimental Zone.

With the clearance of CRAINCOURT, "C" Company 305th Engineer Combat Bn began to construct a support raft bridge at AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE.

It was planned that the 2d Bn (minus "F" Company), with "E" Company in ABAUCOURT and "G" Company in LETRICOURT, would assemble and cross to AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE as soon as the bridge was completed.

The 319th Infantry, on Division order attacked with the mission of seizing DELME RIDGE, three miles northeast of the 319th Infantry 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 Anti-Tank Company, 319th Infantry, the advance was continued to the northeast.

MINC  
PIAT  
ATCo

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" Company was fighting in the town of PUZIEUX and "K" Company, supported by tanks from "C" Company 702d Tank Bn, had advanced to the base of DELME RIDGE. Before the fleeing enemy could properly occupy DELME RIDGE, "K" Company stormed and took the 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 PUZIEUX.

The 1st Bn, in the meantime, attacked ALAINCOURT and



LIOCOURT. At 1545 "B" Company was fighting on the west edge of LIOCOURT and "A" Company had assaulted ALAINCOURT. Both Companies were supported by tanks of "C" Company 702d Tank Bn. "B" Company 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 (minus "F" Company) crossed shortly thereafter, assembling as Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of AULNOIS-SUR-SEILLE at 1835.

At 2310, elements of the 137th Infantry (35th Infantry Division) were reported in DELME. Thus the front between the 80th and 35th Divisions was joined. 137/35

The 313th Field Artillery Bn, in direct support of the 317th Infantry, displaced to positions east of the SEILLE RIVER on the morning 9 November 1944.

The 118th Infantry, employing the 1st and 2d Bns, resumed the attack at 0900, 10 November 1944. The 3d Bn constituted Regimental Reserve.

The 1st Bn moving towards FOVILLE, met no enemy resistance. Elements entered the town at 1030 and cleared the area of scattered enemy resistance by 1100. Tanks of "C" Company 702d Tank Bn were operating with the Battalions. The advance was continued to the northeast, with the town of FOVILLE as the next objective. "A" Company was 500 yards northwest of FOVILLE at 1115 and by 1125, leading elements were 500 yards southwest of FOVILLE. Scattered enemy resistance was met but the 1st Bn seized FOVILLE at 1130. In the advance between the towns of FOVILLE and FUVILLE, the enemy was cleared from the northern end of DELME RIDGE. By dark, on 10 November 1944, the Battalion occupied the high ground east of FUVILLE, where the advance was halted for the night.

The 2d Bn, on the northeast edge of BOIS DE FUVILLE, attacked to the northeast towards the towns of FUVILLE and DELME at 0900, 10 November 1944. By 0945, leading elements were entering FUVILLE against scattered enemy resistance. The town was cleared of the enemy shortly thereafter and the advance continued towards DELME. By 1100 DELME was free

SECTION III

PURSUIT TO THE NIED RIVER

10 NOV

The 317th Infantry, with the 1st and 3d Bns abreast, continued its advance at 0900, 10 November 1944.

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 1944 to seize the town at 1620. The 3d Bn then moved eastward through BOIS ST PAUL advancing to HILL 254 (south of LUPPY) where the attack was halted for the night. Here the 3d Bn contacted the right (southern) flank of the 1st Bn.

The 2d Bn, in Regimental Reserve vicinity ST JURE, moved to relieve the 3d Bn on the night 10-11 November 1944.

The 318th Infantry, employing the 1st and 2d Bns, resumed the attack at 0900, 10 November 1944. The 3d Bn constituted Regimental Reserve.

The 1st Bn moving towards FOVILLE, met no enemy resistance. Forward elements entered the town at 1030 and had cleared the town of scattered enemy resistance by 1100. Tanks of "B" Company 702d Tank Bn were operating with the Battalions. The advance was continued to the northeast, with the town of JUVILLE as the next objective. "A" Company 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 enemy was cleared from the northern end of DELME RIDGE. By dark, on 10 November 1944, the Battalion 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 SAILLY and ACHATTEL at 0900, 10 November 1944. By 0945, leading elements were entering SAILLY against scattered enemy resistance. The town was cleared of the enemy shortly thereafter and the advance continued towards ACHATTEL. By 1100 ACHATTEL was free

of the enemy and the Battalion turned its direction of advance easterly towards the town of MONCHEUX. Elements of the Battalion 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 Division. The attack was halted about one mile northeast of MONCHEUX. Positions were organized and consolidated for the night.

The 3d Bn, constituting Regimental Reserve, moved from MAILLY-SUR-SAILLE on the morning 10 November 1944 towards VULMONT and at 1100 was about 1000 yards west of the town. During the evening 10 November 1944, the Battalion began movement to MONCHEUX to take up a reserve position about 500 yards northeast of the town.

During the night 9-10 November 1944, the 2d Bn 319th Infantry, in Regimental Reserve vicinity AULNOIS-SUR-SAILLE, 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 reserve.

The 319th Infantry, with two Battalions abreast, attacked at 0900, 10 November 1944 from DELME RIDGE. The 2d Bn, reinforced by "C" Company 702d Tank Bn (minus one platoon) advanced on the left; the 3d Bn, reinforced by one platoon "C" Company 702d Tank Bn, advanced on the right.

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

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

"I", and "K" Companies of the 3d Bn entered BOIS DE LA FOUILLOUS, PON DE CHASSE (northwest of TINCKY) at 1255 and cleared the enemy from the woods by 1350. "L" Company moved

towards TINCRY, crossing the stream RAU DE LAMPE at 1350.

At 1500, "K" Company seized HILL 326 (northeast of BOIS DE LA POUILLOUSE PON DE CHASSE). "I" Company tied in with "K" Company on the north and "L" Company on the south. The progress of the Battalion was temporarily halted by enemy fire from HILL 328 to the north. However, the 2d Bn drove the enemy from HILL 328 at 1610, thus allowing "L" Company 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" Company 137th Regiment (35th Infantry Division), on the 3d Bn's right flank and about 600 yards southeast of TINCRY.

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

At 2015, the Division Commander ordered the advance of all three Regiments to continue at 0800, 11 November 1944.

11 NOV

The 317th Infantry continued the attack at 0800, 11 November 1944, 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 rapidly to the east against light small arms fire and heavy enemy artillery fire. At 1100, the Battalion was 500 yards east of BECHY and north of the BECHY-HAN-SUR-NIED highway. By 1300, the Battalion had entered the woods southwest of AUBECOURT. Elements were only 600 yards west of HAN-SUR-NIED at 1400. Enemy small arms, artillery fire and direct fire from anti-aircraft weapons became extremely heavy at this time. However the Battalion entered the town of AUBECOURT at 1720 and after a short skirmish, the town was cleared of the enemy.

At 1800, elements of "A" Company captured intact the bridge crossing the NIED-FRANCAISE RIVER at HAN-SUR-NIED. Elements of the 6th Armored Division crossed shortly thereafter and the bridgehead was held despite heavy enemy fire. 6AD

Meanwhile, the 2d Bn 317th Infantry, which had relieved the 3d Bn from its position vicinity HILL 254 (south of LUPPY) attacked to the east at 0800, 11 November 1944. 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 Battalion was approaching the lakes northeast of PLOCOURT and at 1330, against light enemy resistance, had reached CR D'ETANG (southwest of HAN-SUR-NIED). After passing the lakes, intense enemy small arms, artillery and anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Progress was slowed somewhat by this heavy fire, but by 1340, the Battalion advanced to HILL 225 (southwest of HAN-SUR-NIED).

The 3d Bn 317th Infantry, which during the morning had been relieved by the 2d Bn from its positions south of LURPY, moved to CORVEE DE PRETRE (midway between BECHY and HAN-SUR-NIED) as Regimental Reserve. The Battalion closed into the woods (025444) at 1840. It reached its assigned objective (HILL 253).

Leading elements of the 3d Bn 317th Infantry began crossing the RIVE FRANCAISE RIVER at 0830, 12 November 1944. This crossing was held by the 50th Infantry Division.

On 11 November 1944, the attack of the 316th 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 toward HAN-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 RIVE 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 MOSCHER toward TRIGNY. In the attack on TRIGNY, heavy enemy small arms fire was encountered, but the town was taken by 1800.

"B" Company 702d Tank Bn, attached to the 1st Bn, then went on to seize THIMONVILLE at 1930. The 2d Bn followed the tanks to THIMONVILLE, completed the occupation of the

town by 1000, reorganized SECTION IV to northeast and seized FLOCHET without delay.

BRIDGEHEAD ON THE NIED  
FRANCAISE RIVER

12 Nov

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 30th 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 FLOCCOURT 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 FLOCCOURT. 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 FLOCCOURT 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 "C" 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 "C" 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.

12 NOV  
On 12 November 1944 the 317th Infantry strengthened and extended its 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 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 CHEN-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 PREMERY.

The 3d Bn 318th Infantry, holding the west bank of the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER in the vicinity of ST EPRE, 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 FLOCCOURT.

The 319th Infantry, following Combat Command "A" 4th Armored Division on the 80th Division right flank, planned to cross the NIED FRANCAISE RIVER at PREMERY 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.

317  
CCAF/4AD

The 3d Bn, in position along the west side of the river from ST JEAN PME 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 PREMERY 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 PREMERY.

13 Nov

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-SUR-NIED, 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

6 AD

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 northeast 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 120458).

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.

OVERPASS

Having protected the bridge at MAN-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.

808TD Bn

At 1013, "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 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 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.

c/248CEB

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.

14 NOV

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 1630. 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 HULACOURT 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 EVRE to HULACOURT, closing in at 1915. "F" Company occupied ARRAINCOURT.

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

The 1st Bn, in LESSÉ, 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 FRÉMBRY, 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 "C" 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.

F/O #15  
14 Nov 44

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 HOLLACOURT, became Division Reserve and was to be prepared to counterattack to the northeast, north, or northwest with particular attention to the northwest.

15 NOV

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 ARRANCE, 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 HOLLACOURT 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.

DIV  
F/O 15

6th AD

808TD

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 80th Infantry Division to send the necessary infantry reinforcements to LANDROFF to aid in repulsing the attack.

6th AD

"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.

6th AD

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

On 15 November 1944, a coordinated attack by the 1st

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 COLE 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. "C" 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.

16 NOV  
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

TASK FORCE F  
6 AD

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 HOLA COURT 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 BRUILLANGE, 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 RINCHEVILLE 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.

6 AD

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 RINCHEVILLE (160445 - 172437). Contact was established with elements of the 1st Bn 318th Infantry on the left.

702

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

TF "B"  
6 AD

occupy the town at 1355. held defensive positions within its sector on the left (west) flank of the Division Zone.

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 SAINTE. 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'EMCHEVILLE 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'EMCHEVILLE. 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 BRULANCE 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 - AD LANGE - 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. On 18 November 1944

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 CHEMBRY.

The 1st Bn held the high ground in the vicinity of BOIS DES TAILLES; the 2d Bn, in Division Reserve, remained in BOLACOURT and vicinity; the 3d Bn continued to occupy the right sector of the Regimental Zone in the vicinity of CHEMBRY and BOIS DE THONVILLE.

At 1015, 17 November 1944, the 319th Infantry was directed to send patrols to HANFRICH and the high ground north of the town to determine enemy troop 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 HANFRICH. "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 CHEMBRY and ARRIANCE 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 "E" 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.

775 FA/  
404 FACP

17 Nov

18 Nov

The 318th Infantry continued to occupy and improve defensive positions from the high ground northwest of BOIS DES TAILLES eastward to CREMERY 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'ENCHEVILLE. 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 VAHL-LES-PAULQUEMONT 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 CREMERY and ABBLANGE. 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 PAUQUEMONT, 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.

GERMANS  
36 MVGD  
559 DIV  
48 DIV

Minefields were found by patrols of the 317th Infantry in the vicinity of the railroad station in MAINVILLERS and on roads in the FORST DE REMILLY.

mine fields

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.

The 3d Bn (minus "C" Company) in position southwest of ARRIANCE, moved northeast on the morning 20 November 1944, crossing the railroad tracks (106473) east of ARRIANCE at 1140. Advancing northeast through FORST D'ARRIANCE, FORST DE MAINVILLERS, and FORST DE REMILLY (comprising the southeast part of FORST DE REMILLY), the Battalion, with "B" Company leading, reached the northwest side of the latter woods at 1520. By 1715, the 3d Bn entered ARRIANCE on the south side of the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER. The enemy, having withdrawn north of the river on the previous night, offered no resistance. Reinforced platoons were sent across the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER to occupy the high ground and secure a bridgehead. "B" Company occupied the high ground across the river north of ARRIANCE. No enemy opposition was met. All bridges across the river were found destroyed.

The 3d Bn (minus "C" Company in ARRIANCE), in tactical reserve, moved from ARRIANCE eastward to ARRIANCE, arriving at 1545.

3d Bn

On 20 November 1944, the 318th Infantry moved north to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, occupying PAUQUEMONT.

SECTION V

BRIDGEHEAD ON THE NIED  
ALLEMANDE RIVER

19 Nov

F/0?

During the night 19-20 November 1944 all three Regiments of the Division were ordered to send patrols out to determine enemy dispositions and if no enemy were found, they, on the following day, 20 November 1944, were to occupy the high ground to their respective fronts, independently of each other.

"G" Company relieved "E" Company 317th Infantry from its position on the road block in the vicinity of ADAINCOURT at 0730, 20 November 1944.

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, in position on the high ground in the vicinity of MANY, employed "B" Company to precede its advance towards the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER. Moving out at 1010 towards MAINVILLERS, "B" Company, meeting no opposition, reached the town at 1100. At 1125, "B" Company, still not meeting any opposition, entered LE JEUNE BOIS and then swung north towards CREHANGE. This town was entered at 2025 and patrols were sent across the river to establish contact with the enemy.

The 3d Bn 317th Infantry, in position southwest of ARRIANCE, moved northeast on the morning 20 November 1944, 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 FORET DE REMILLY), the Battalion, with "L" Company 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, having withdrawn north of the river on the previous night, offered no resistance. Reinforced platoons were sent across the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER to outpost the high ground and secure a bridgehead. "I" Company occupied the high ground across the river north of ELVANGE. No enemy opposition was met. All bridges across the river were found destroyed.

The 2d Bn (minus "G" Company in ADAINCOURT), in Regimental Reserve, moved from HERNY eastward to MANY, closing in at 1545.

20 Nov

On 20 November 1944, the 318th Infantry moved north to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, occupying PAULQUEMONT.

The 3d Bn, in position vicinity CHEMBRY and BOIS DE THONVILLE, moved north at 1200. At 1236, "I" Company, leading the advance, entered the woods NEULAENDER. No resistance was encountered. The advance was continued and the first patrol entering PAULQUEMONT encountered but one machinegun and a sniper. By 1647, the 3d Bn was in PAULQUEMONT. "K" Company took up positions on the left, "L" Company on the right and "I" Company reverted to Battalion Reserve. In moving into PAULQUEMONT, crossings over the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER were made at the railroad bridge west of the town and at a low point in the river east of the town (172495). The high ground north of the town was outposted and patrols made their way as far north as TRITBLING, which was reported clear of the enemy. High ground to the north and northeast.

The 1st Bn, holding the high ground northwest of BOIS DES TAILLES, followed the 3d Bn in its advance on 20 November 1944. The Battalion halted for the remainder of the day in the woods DE KRITTESBESCH, south of PAULQUEMONT. The 2d Bn remained in Division Reserve in the vicinity of HOLACOURT.

The 319th Infantry, with the 1st Bn on the left and the 3d Bn on the right, advanced on 20 November 1944. The mission was to extend the Main Line Of Resistance to the high ground south of VAHL-LES-PAULQUEMONT, GUESSLING-HEMERING and HEMERING and to gain contact with the enemy.

At 1200, "L" Company jumped off from the woods LE GR BIECHWALD and moved north in BOIS DE GUESSLING. "I" Company moved out of VILLER on the right of "L" Company. At 1320, "L" Company reached its objective, the high ground in the northwest sector of BOIS DE GUESSLING. "I" Company, meeting no enemy resistance, was approaching its objective (northeast sector BOIS DE GUESSLING) at this time. 60000

The 1st Bn jumped off at 1230 from the vicinity of CHEMBRY and ADELANGE, with "B" Company on the left and "A" Company on the right. At 1350, "B" Company reached its objective (HILL 296) and "A" Company moved to the high ground southwest of GUESSLING-HEMERING (201469). 600

By 1410, both the 1st and 3d Bns held their objectives and reorganized. Preparations were made to continue the advance and seize the towns of VAHL-LES-PAULQUEMONT, GUESSLING-HEMERING, and PONTPIERRE.

At 1455 "B" Company reached the south edge of VAHL-LES-PAULQUEMONT and "A" Company swung right of the town to seize the town on the road to TRITBLING, while "C" Company moved

the high ground to the east (HILL 270). By 1550, "B" Company had taken the town and "A" Company occupied HILL 270 (200485). "A" Company sent a strong combat patrol to investigate possible river crossing sites over the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, and to enter the town of PONT-PIERRE 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 continued its advance on GUESSLING-HEMERRING at 1530 with "D" Company on the left and "I" Company on the right. At 1610, the Battalion occupied GUESSLING-HEMERRING 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-HEMERRING. The 2d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of VILLER.

21 NOV

On 21 November 1944, the Division continued to enlarge its bridgehead across the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER and to protect the north (left) flank of XII Corps. Strong patrols sent to the front and flanks established the enemy's Main Line Of Resistance as HAUTE-VIGNEULLE - BAMBIDERSTROPP - TRITTELLING - TETING.

Having lost the line of the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, the enemy determined to make an attempt to utilize the high ground on which the MAGINOT LINE had been constructed. The old fortifications were being used as command posts and shelters for troops. 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.

60000

"G" Company 317th Infantry contacted elements of the 6th Armored Division in CHANVILLE (west of FORET DE REMILLY) at 1300.

60000

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry continued to occupy URCHANGE and vicinity; the 3d Bn continued to occupy ELVANGE and the high ground to the north; the 2d Bn remained in Regimental Reserve vicinity MANY on 21 November 1944.

21 NOV

At noon 21 November 1944, the 1st Bn 318th Infantry moved from the woods LE KRITZBESCH (south of PAULQUEMONT) into the town itself. "A" Company set up an outpost for the town on the road to TRITTELLING, while "B" Company moved

out to TRITTELING to outpost to the northeast. "I" Company 3d Bn outposted REDLACH to the northwest. "B" Company moved from TRITTELING to LAUDREFANG, reaching the latter town at 1945. The enemy launched a counterattack from the east that cut off "B" Company from the remainder of the Battalion. A patrol left PAULQUEMONT to establish contact with the company, but due to heavy enemy automatic weapons fire, was not able to reach LAUDREFANG. Plans were drawn up to employ the remainder of the 1st Bn, plus one company of tanks, for the relief of "B" Company.

The 319th Infantry enlarged its bridgehead across the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER on 21 November 1944. At 1640, the Regiment was ordered to occupy and organize for defense, the Main Line Of Resistance from TRITTELING, south to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, west of PONT-PIERRE, thence southeast to the high ground northwest of HEMERING (183534-191498-217485).

At 1650, the 1st Bn was ordered to move immediately from PONT-PIERRE and outpost the Main Line Of Resistance from TRITTELING to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, west of PONT-PIERRE (183534-191498). The remainder of the Battalion, to be held in PAULQUEMONT, closed in at 2300, 21 November 1944.

Arrangements made with the 318th Infantry provided for the 1st Bn 319th Infantry to relieve elements of the 318th Infantry in the vicinity of TRITTELING at daylight 22 November 1944.

At 1705, 21 November 1944 the 3d Bn in position north of GUESSELING-HEMERING, was ordered to extend its line to the west and tie in with the 1st Bn west of PONT-PIERRE (191498). This was completed by darkness.

The 2d Bn 319th Infantry remained in Regimental Reserve vicinity VILLER.

Field Order Number 17, issued 1800, 21 November 1944, provided for the 80th Division (reinforced) to continue to protect the left (north) flank and rear of XII Corps by occupying a defensive position from GUINGLANGE eastward to HILL 383 (north east edge of BOIS DU STEINBESCH), thence along the high ground on the eastern side of BOIS DU STEINBESCH south to PONT-PIERRE and southeast to the high ground north and northeast of GUESSELING-HEMERING.

The 317th Infantry was to revert to Division Reserve

FO#17  
21 Nov 44

and establish road blocks in the vicinity of HEMILLY and GUINGLANGE. The 318th Infantry was to occupy the left (north) sector of the Division Zone, while the 319th Infantry was to occupy the right (south) sector of the Division Zone.

22 NOV

At 0800, 22 November 1944 the 317th Infantry was directed to assemble in Division Reserve in accordance with Field Order Number 17, Division Headquarters. F/0 7 CMT

The 1st Bn 317th Infantry began movement from CREHANGE and vicinity at 0930. Elements of the 318th Infantry took over the 317th's sector on the north side of the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER. The Battalion 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 Battalion closed into HERNY at 1700. "K" Company manned the road blocks at GUINGLANGE and HEMILLY.

The 2d Bn 317th Infantry, which had been in Regimental Reserve, remained in HANY on 22 November 1944.

The 318th Infantry effected the relief of "B" Company from LAUDREFANG on 22 November 1944 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 Infantry (minus "B" Company 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" Company, with "C" Company on the right, reached the high ground west of LAUDREFANG. The advance was halted here to establish contact with "B" Company moving out of LAUDREFANG under light enemy mortar fire. Contact with "B" Company was established at 0847. At this time, "A" and "C" Companies began to withdraw to former Main Line Of Resistance positions at FAULQUEMONT, closing in former positions at 1019. "B" Company occupied the vicinity of BRUNDSTUDENT FME (west of LAUDREFANG - 192541). F/0 10

Meanwhile the 2d Bn 318th Infantry, in Division Reserve vicinity MOLACOURT, moved by truck on the morning 22 November 1944 to FAULQUEMONT and reverted to Regimental control. The Battalion then moved by foot from FAULQUEMONT to occupy the left sector of the Regimental Zone. The sector was outposted



by employing "F" Company in the vicinity of HILL 303 (176553). The remainder of the Battalion closed into DURVILLER.

The 3d Bn (minus "I" Company) 318th Infantry, in FAULQUEMONT, occupied the right sector of the Regimental Zone and moved to CITES DES CHARBONNAGES. "I" Company moved from the high ground south of REDLACH to HILL 406 (176545), where defensive positions were dug in.

1535  
0545

"B" Company rejoined the 1st Bn in FAULQUEMONT late in the afternoon 22 November, moving from vicinity BRUND-STUDENT FNE (192541). The 1st Bn then went into Regimental Reserve, remaining in FAULQUEMONT.

The 319th Infantry completed adjustments of its Main Line Of Resistance on 22 November as directed the previous day. By 1130, both the 1st and 3d Bns were in position.

The 1st Bn, in FAULQUEMONT, employing "A" Company and one platoon of "B" Company, outposted its Main Line Of Resistance from TRITTELING to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, west of PONT-PIERRE (183534-191498).

The 3d Bn (minus "K" Company) moved from position north of GUESSELING-REMERING to VAHL-LES-FAULQUEMONT.

"K" Company 319th Infantry maintained the 3d Bn's Main Line Of Resistance from the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, west of PONT-PIERRE (191498), to the east edge of REMERING.

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

Field Order Number 18, issued 2330, 22 November 1944, provided for the Division to attack north and northeast at H-Hour, D-Day and breach the MACINOT 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.

FO #18  
22 Nov

The 808th Tank Destroyer Bn was attached to the Division, one company each attached to the 318th Infantry and 319th Infantry, with the remainder of the Battalion in Division Reserve.

808TD

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

2dCGW

23 Nov

The 80th Infantry Division occupied defensive positions north of the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER on 23 November 1944, protecting the left flank and rear of XII Corps.

On the Division right flank, the 35th Infantry Division continued the attack to the east. Leading elements were reported in the vicinity of ST JEAN ROMBACH (3747). The 95th Infantry Division began movement to concentrate south-east of METZ on the Division's left flank. The 5th Infantry Division continued to assault forts in the vicinity of METZ.

US 35  
US 95

The 317th Infantry, in Division Reserve, remained in positions occupied the previous day, with the 1st Bn in MAINVILLERS, and 2d Bn in MANY, and the 3d Bn in HERTY. Regimental patrols, on the Division left flank, established contact with elements of the 95th Division at RECOURT (0454).

95 M

At 1135, 23 November 1944, the Commanding General announced H-Hour, D-Day, to be 0300, 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 CITE DES CHARBONNAGES, closing in at 1500.

The 2d Bn was directed 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 "I" Company in the vicinity of HILL 383 (155553) and the 3d Bn in CITES DES CHARBONNAGES, with "I" Company in the vicinity of HILL 406 (176545).

The 319th Infantry adjusted its Main Line Of Resistance and consolidated Battalion positions.

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

The 3d Bn (minus "K" Company), in VARL-LES-FAULQUEMONT, moved to FAULQUEMONT also, closing in at 1745.

The 1st Bn adjusted the Main Line Of Resistance with "C" Company outposting the line from HILL 406, eastward to

the high ground north of LAUDREFANG, thence south to the vicinity of LA FILATURE PME (172547-199546-197533). "C" Company closed on this line at 1630.

The 610th Tank Destroyer Bn (Self-Propelled) was attached to the Division on 23 November. The 808th Tank Destroyer Bn (Twd) was to revert to Division Artillery control upon physical relief by the 610th Tank Destroyer Bn.

610  
T D  
808th

24 Nov

The Division enlarged the bridgehead north and north-east 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 Infantry on the line from the vicinity of TRITTELING to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER, west of PONTPIERRE (183534-191498). Relief of the 1st Bn 319th Infantry was completed by 1600. The 1st Bn 317th Infantry, in MAINVILLERS, moved northeast to close in CREHANGE at 1600, 24 November 1944. 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 Infantry, 24 November 1944. The 2d Bn, occupying the left sector of the Regimental Zone, extended its left flank, employing two platoons from "G" Company for this purpose. One platoon occupied HAUTE-VIGNEUILLE, while the other occupied the high ground northeast of the town. "F" Company 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 "I" Company occupying HILL 406 (176545). Preparations were made for the attack on 25 November 1944.

On 24 November 1944, the 319th Infantry strengthened its Main Line Of Resistance in preparation for the attack on 25 November. The 2d Bn, in FAULQUEMONT, moved out at 0513 to relieve "C" Company. At 0730, "F" Company passed through REDIACH and moved towards HILL 400 (188550). Enemy fire from pillboxes held up the advance on this hill. Meanwhile, "G" Company moved onto the high ground north of TRITTELING. "C" Company was relieved at 0800 and returned to FAULQUEMONT. "E" Company 2d Bn, in reserve, moved into REDIACH at 1230. The assault on the pillbox in "F" Company area continued throughout the day but the pillbox was not reduced. The 2d Bn 317th Infantry relieved elements of the 1st Bn 319th Infantry northeast of FAULQUEMONT by 1600. The 1st and 3d Bns remained in FAULQUEMONT.

SECTION VI

BREACHING OF THE MAGINOT LINE

25 NOV

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 Infantry, employing the 2d Bn, attacked in its zone at 0800. Moving eastward from the high ground south of TRITTELING, the Battalion swept through the northern edge of BOIS DE PONT-PIERRE 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 Battalion had 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 had 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 Infantry, in MAINVILLERS, began movement at 0800 to TRITTELING, closing into that vicinity in the late evening 25 November 1944.

At 0800, 25 November 1944, the 318th Infantry, employing the 2d and 3d Bns, launched an attack to the north. The 2d Bn attacked north in the left sector of the Regimental Zone and 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 Battalion reached the north edge of the woods BAMBESCH (164583-178581) where heavier enemy resistance was encountered. The advance was halted until tanks from "B" Company 702d Tank Bn could join the Infantry. 702

Construction of a bridge at BAMBIDERSTROFF was completed

at 1155 and "B" Company 702d Tank Bn crossed shortly thereafter, closing into the woods BAMBECH at 1330 to join the 2d Bn. 762514

The attack to the north was continued and the 2d Bn advanced into the BOIS DE KERFENT (175591) at 1530. "G" Company, supported by "B" Company 702d Tank Bn, attacked ZIMMING and cleared the enemy from the town by 1800. The advance was halted here for the day.

The 3d Bn 318th Infantry, 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 BAMBECH at 1000 by heavy enemy fire. By 1100 the advance was continued and the Battalion seized HILLS 367, 343, 312, and 405 (northeast of BAMBIDERSTROFF) reducing all MAGNOT LINE forts in its zone of advance. Positions for the night were prepared on this high ground west of LONGEVILLE-LES-ST. AVOLD.

The 1st Bn, remaining in reserve, moved from CITES DES CHARBONNAGES to BAMBIDERSTROFF.

The 319th Infantry, employing the 2d and 3d Bns, launched an attack toward LONGEVILLE-LES-ST AVOLD.

The 3d Bn, in PAULQUERMONT, moved north at 0715 to the right flank of the 2d Bn north of TRITTELING.

The 2d Bn met heavy enemy resistance from the pill-boxes on HILL 400 (188550) but this was reduced and the advance was continued 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 KINSELINGERBERG. The enemy was driven off this high ground and the Battalion 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 Infantry sector. The 317th Infantry 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 Tank Destroyer 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 town. 610TD

The 3d Bn was on its objective (the high ground south and southeast 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" Company on BINSSELINGERBERG RIDGE, "K" Company on HILL 371 (200555) and "G" Company on HILL 400 (188550). Relief was completed by 1515. The 1st Bn maintained these positions, with "B" Company on BINSSELINGERBERG RIDGE, "A" Company on HILL 371, and "C" Company on HILL 400.

This offensive resulted in the 319th's capture of four main MAGINOT LINE fortifications - FORTS BINSSELING, NORTH BINSSELING, SOUTH BINSSELING, and QUATRE VENTS. These boosted the total number of forts captured by the Division to eight; FORTS LAUDREPANG and TETING WOODS were captured by the 317th Infantry and FORTS BAMBIERSTROFF and BAMBESCH were captured by the 18th Infantry.

MAGINOT  
FORTS  
TAKEN

26 Nov

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

The 317th Infantry employed the 1st and 2d Bns in the attack. The 1st Bn, in the vicinity of HILL 392 (northeast of LAUDREPANG), attacked to the east, encountering light artillery and small arms fire. The advance was pushed rapidly and by 1045 the Battalion 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 at 1215, the Battalion entered VALMONT 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 Reconnaissance Troop entered FOLSCH-

VILLER the evening of 25 November 1944 and on the 26th the 2d Bn 317th Infantry sent "G" Company 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 TRITTLING, 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 closed in shortly thereafter.

On the morning 26 November 1944, the 3d Bn 318th Infantry 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 Battalion were in KLEINDAL. The high ground north of LONGEVILLE-LES-ST AVOLD was secured by 0845, with "L" Company on the north slope of the hill (196596) north of KLEINDAL. Between 0830 and 1730, "L" Company on the 3d Bn left flank, received five enemy counterattacks, all repulsed without loss of ground. A sixth was forming at 1700. Artillery fire (Time On Target) 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 BAMBIDER-STROFF, moved on 26 November 1944, to ST COMINIQUE PNE (181585). "A" Company moved to fill a gap between the 2d and 3d Bns.

The 319th Infantry 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 "E" and "F" Companies abreast and "G" Company in LONGEVILLE-LES-ST AVOLD as reserve. Light enemy mortar fire was encountered and by 1015, the Battalion had advanced to LES TROIS MAISONS (220579). Here direct

enemy fire from the north was received.

"A" Company 1st Bn, moving from the vicinity of HILL 371, relieved "G" Company 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, small arms, automatic and direct fire weapons was received thus halting its advance. Road blocks and muddy terrain hampered movement of the self-propelled tank destroyers and tanks supporting the Infantry. By 1440 the Battalion 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 that day.

The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground east of BAMBI-DERSTROFF, was directed at 1530 to investigate the village of DOURDHAL. The town was occupied shortly thereafter.

"C" Company 2d Bn 319th Infantry reoccupied LONGEVILLE-LES-ST AVOLD to relieve "A" Company during the early evening 26 November. The 1st Bn (minus "C" Company), using two Companies, relieved the 3d Bn at 2230 from its positions west of ST AVOLD. 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 Infantry Division. 42d Cav Sq  
95th Div

27 Nov

At 0700, 27 November 1944, the 317th Infantry 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" Company 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 MOHNETZEL (288535) and reconnoitred south to the NIED ALLEMANDE RIVER. The Battalion held the high ground southeast of LACHAMBRE during the night.

The 3d Bn, in the vicinity of VALMONT, attacked 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 the Battalion swung its direction of attack 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 Battalion reached the high ground (287556) southwest of MACHEREN, seized the town at 1735 and mopped 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 POLSCHVILLER the town of VALMONT on 27 November, having occupied POLSCHVILLER 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 1944.

On 27 November 1944, the 318th Infantry employed one Battalion to clear the woods on the left flank of the 319th Infantry. 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. Little enemy resistance was encountered by the 1st Bn in its sweep through FORET DE LONGEVILLE. By 1400, "A" and "C" Companies reached HILL 189 (231587), the Battalion objective. At 1715, the 1st Bn closed in ST AVOLD, which was liberated that morning by the 319th Infantry.

Meanwhile the 2d and 3d Bns, in position north of BOIS DE KERPEM and north of LONGEVILLE-LBS-ST AVOLD respectively, closed into LONGEVILLE-LBS-ST AVOLD at 1600.

Troops of the 42d Cavalry Squadron protected the Division north flank and maintained contact with the 95th Infantry Division on the Division left flank. Elements of the 42d Cavalry Squadron operated as far north as PORCELLETE (2162). On the Division south flank, the 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop continued its reconnaissance. 42 Cav/2d Cav Grp

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

The 319th Infantry, employing the 1st and 2d Bns, attacked to the east on 27 November 1944. The 1st Bn, occupying the high ground west of ST AVOLD (238574 - 238568), jumped off at 0900 and by 1000 had entered the town of ST AVOLD, meeting no opposition.

The 319th Infantry 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 had reached the high ground in the southern part of FORET DE STEINBERG (275535) where the Battalion halted its advance. The 1st Bn, moving on the 2d Bn's right and encountering occasional enemy artillery fire, had advanced to HILL 320 (288569) by 1655. 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 Division reached the line of the MANDERBACH RIVER. Here the 17th SS Division, Reconnaissance Bn, reinforced by elements of the 38th SS Regiment of the 17th SS Division used the town of FAREBERSVILLER as a strong point.

GERMAN  
17th SS RGA  
BN+38A  
SS Regt/17  
SS DIV

28 Nov

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

The 317th Infantry 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 Battalion had advanced to the high ground south and southeast of FAREBERSVILLER.

The 2d Bn on the left of the 3d Bn attacked to the east at 0730, 28 November 1944. By 1015 it had reached the high ground north of SEINGBOUSE and by 1515 that afternoon, had advanced to the vicinity of HILL 316 (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 had advanced east of the town to (348575) where small arms and anti-aircraft fire was encountered. However, the advance was continued and leading elements reached the outskirts of PAREBERSVILLER, where bitter fighting developed. The enemy was driven out of the town, but at 1950 he launched a counterattack and retook the eastern part of PAREBERSVILLER. Enemy resistance was fanatical and the 3d Bn was engaged in house-to-house fighting when darkness fell.

The 318th Infantry remained in Division Reserve on 28 November 1944. The 2d and 3d Bns 318th Infantry, in reserve at LONGEVILLE-LES-ST AVOLD, detrucked at 1100 to move to ST AVOLD. Detrucking there shortly after noon, the 2d Bn outposted the town. The 1st Bn, which had moved into ST AVOLD the night before, moved from the town during the afternoon 28 November to GUEVILLER, closing in at 1730.

28-29 NOV  
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 PAREBERSVILLER where the 317th Infantry was engaged with a determined enemy.

The 319th Infantry, advancing to the northeast, resumed its attack at 0800, 28 November 1944. 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 Infantry resumed the advance at 1300, 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, thus tying in with the 1st Bn. east of the 2d and

The 319th Infantry 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 positions with "F" Company on the left, "E" Company in the center and "G" Company on the right, tying in with the 1st Bn north of BETTING-LES-ST AVOLD. The 1st Bn employed "C" Company between the towns of BETTING-LES-ST AVOLD and BENING-LES-ST AVOLD. "B" Company held BENING-LES-ST AVOLD and "A" Company occupied the ground south and southeast of that town. By 2125 both Battalions had consolidated positions gained.

The 3d Bn, in Regimental Reserve, remained at ST AVOLD.

On 29 November <sup>29 NOV</sup> the 317th Infantry maintained its positions in the vicinity of 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 anti-aircraft and tank fire on our troops.

The 2d Bn, in the vicinity of HILL 318 (365588) north of FAREBERSVILLER, without losing any ground, successfully repulsed two enemy counterattacks consisting of five tanks and an unestimated number of infantry. 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 Infantry was ordered into Division Reserve. Relief of the Regiment was to be accomplished by the 318th Infantry.

The 317th Infantry was relieved by 2215, at which time 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.

At 1645, the 1st Bn 318th Infantry east of BEINGBOUSE, began movement forward to take over the positions of the 317th Infantry. The 1st Bn was in position northwest of

FARBERSVILLER at 1815 to cover the movement of the 2d and 3d Bns 317th Infantry to reserve positions.

The 2d Bn, holding outposts in the vicinity of ST AVOLD, 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 Infantry. The Battalion closed into the vicinity of HENRIVILLE at 1600.

The 318th Infantry 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 316th Infantry, at ST AVOLD, moved out of the town at 0800 and closed into 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 Infantry, blocking all routes from the north, continued to hold positions on the Division left (north) flank on 29 November 1944. 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" Company, in position southeast of BENING-LES-ST AVOLD, cleared the woods and took up positions along the north edge of the woods LE KNEEBUSCH (353596). The Company was through the woods and on its new position by 0840. Anti-aircraft 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 1944 to the vicinity of HELLERING (305586), remaining in Regimental Reserve.

The 2d Bn maintained its positions north and northeast of HOMBOUT-HAUT, tying in with the 1st Bn just north of BETING-LES-ST AVOLD.

30 Nov 44

The 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. The Division Artillery fired its first rounds of artillery into Germany on 30

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November 1944. The first round to land on German soil was fired by the 314th Field Artillery Bn.

The 317th Infantry remained in Division Reserve on 30 November, with the 1st Bn in the vicinity of MACHEREN, the 2d Bn in the vicinity of CUENVILLER, 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 FARBERSVILLER, 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 Sector. However there were no counterattacks made by the enemy.

On 30 November the 319th Infantry 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 BENING-LES-ST AVOLD, BENING-LES-ST AVOLD, and the woods LE ENNEBUSCH. The 2d Bn continued to occupy defensive positions in the vicinity of NOMBOURT-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 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.

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

The 317th Infantry Division was reorganized 12 August 1943 in accordance with G/O Number 7 and allied tables, 15 July 1942, with authorized strength of 757 Officers, 46 Warrant Officers, and 13,473 enlisted men.

In accordance with G/O Number 1-3, Headquarters Special Troops, 317th Infantry Division, was activated 12 August 1943, units assigned and/or attached to Special Troops are as follows: Headquarters Special Troops, Headquarters Company, 8th Platoon, 790th Ordnance Light Maintenance Company, 20th Quartermaster Company, 20th Signal Company, Attached Medical, Attached Chaplain, Attached Band.