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BY RAKAY ON 122105

HEADQUARTERS 318TH INFANTRY
APO 80, U. S. ARMY

2 December 1944

PLAN FOR ATTACK 4 DEC

1. Troops opposite the Div consist of elements of the 17th SS Div with most of the 38th Regt opposed to us. This Regt has recently received replacements of foreigners. There have been some desertions and the morale is not high. There are some tanks against us. The most that have been seen are seven or eight.

2. The XII Corps continues its advance Eastward. The 26th Div and 4th Armd Div have crossed the SAAR in the neighborhood of SAARUNION and are moving North. To facilitate this movement the 35th Div, the 6th Armd Div, and the 80th Div attack at H-hr, 4 Dec. The 35th Div advances in its zone to obtain a bridgehead over the SAAR. The 6th Armd Div and 80th Div have limited objectives (see overlay).

3. The 6th Armd Div attacks with CGA (Hines) with two columns abreast.
Composition:

Wall (right):

50th Armd Inf

One (1) Co Medium Tanks, 68th Tank Bn

One (1) Co Light Tanks, 68th Tank Bn

One (1) Plat of Engrs

One (1) Co 603 TD's

In reserve - 69th Tank Bn (Kennedy)

The Bn Assault Gun Plat - 6 - 105's

Arty support - 212th FA and 696th FA

Brown (left):

44th Armd Inf

One (1) Co Medium Tanks, 68th Tank Bn

One (1) Co Light Tanks, 68th Tank Bn

One (1) Plat of Engrs

One (1) Co 603 TD's

In reserve - 68th Tank Bn (-) (Duval)

The Assault Gun Plat (6- 105's) of 68th Tank Bn

Arty support - 128th FA and 276th FA

General support - 231st FA and 191st FA (155)

General reserve - (Britton) 9th Armd Inf

4. 2d Cav Group attacks to our North, captures MORSBACH, and moves in the direction of FORBACH with the 6th Cav Group North of that.

5. This Regt, with Companies A and B of the 702d Tank Bn and Co C of the 610 TD Bn, supported by Co B 305th Engr and Btry A 633 RA Bn, attacks with two (2) Bns abreast at H-hr, 4 Dec, and seizes the Div objective. The Regt is further supported by the 314th FA Bn (Reinf).

6. The 2d Bn on the right; with one (1) plat of Regtl AT Co, one (1) plat of Co C 610 TD Bn, and Co A 702d Tank Bn, advances and seizes a bridgehead over the railroad track to its direct front and covers the construction of a tank passage made by the plat of Co F 305th Engrs in direct support. It then advances in its zone of action and seizes the high ground East of PFARREBERSWEILER, seizes the woods around the cross road South of THEEDINGEN, THEEDINGEN, and Hill 373 to the North. Line of departure and boundaries (see overlay).

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7. The 1st Bn on the left; with one (1) plat of Regt AT Co, Co C of the 610 TD Bn (-), and Co B 702d Tank Bn, attached, advances and seizes PFARRERSWEILER and a bridgehead to support the construction of a tank passage over the railroad and stream in PFARRERSWEILER by the plat of Co B of the 305th Engrs in support; it continues its advance in the zone of the Bn (see overlay), seizes the high ground at Hills 316 and 317, advances further to Hill 326, and takes the high ground and woods in the vicinity of Hills HRAPEL, 342, and 296.

8. The 3d Bn, in reserve, moves to PFARRERSWEILER on command or executes plans 1, 2, 3, or 4 (see overlay).

9. Co B 305th Engr Bn, less two (2) plats supporting the 1st and 2d Bns, remains in reserve during the initial period of the attack in the vicinity of SEINGBUSCH. The Co has attached to it two (2) tank recovery vehicles from the 702d Tank Bn and a tank dozer (if obtained from any source available); the latter to be used in connection with the bridgehead of the 2d Bn. The Co will be prepared to place approximately thirty (30) feet of treadway bridge at either or both crossings and will make available the Engr bulldozer for use in the town. Both plats supporting Bns will be prepared to demine all roads within the zone of the Bns and will commence this operation as soon as consistent with the construction of the tank passages.

10. Tanks: Co A of the 702d Tank Bn (8 tanks) will be attached to and operate with the 2d (right) Bn. It will provide a radio in the same channel as the tank Co Comdr, to be available at the rear CP of the 2d Bn in HENRIVILLE, and the radio will move with it. Co A 702d Tank Bn will remain headed East and in defilade along the main road HENRIVILLE - PFARRERSWEILER (see overlay). It will move on command through the PFARRERSWEILER tank crossing or the Southern tank crossing and act in conjunction with the 2d Bn when across.

Co B of the 702d Tank Bn, less detachments, will move initially with the attack of the 1st Bn on PFARRERSWEILER; one (1) plat acting in conjunction with Co C and approaching the town from the Southwest, the other plat with Co B approaching the town from the Northwest. The remaining plat of Co B 702d Tank Bn will remain in position on the ST AVOLD - PFARRERSWEILER road and will move on command through the crossing at PFARRERSWEILER or the Southern crossing. Co B 702d Tank Bn will act in conjunction with the 1st Bn, not only in seizing PFARRERSWEILER, but in the completion of its objectives.

A liaison officer from the 702d Tank Bn, with a radio capable of operating in the same channels as Co A and Co B of the 702d Tank Bn, will report to the Regt Hq at GENWEILER at H-hr minus 60.

In their work in conjunction with the Inf, tank companies will move from objectives or vicinity only on command of the Inf Bn Comdr to which they are attached.

11. TD's: One (1) plat of Co C 610 TD Bn is attached to the 2d Bn. It will move, with Co A 702d Tk Bn, across the tank crossing immediately after the crossing of the tanks and take positions to defend the tank crossing against attack by enemy tanks. Upon moving on successive objectives, the TD plat will accompany Co A of the 702d Tank Bn and protect them from enemy tank attack.

Co C 610 TD Bn, less one (1) plat, is attached to the 1st Bn; will remain in defilade along the road ST AVOLD - PFARRERSWEILER. It will cross the tank crossing in PFARRERSWEILER or the Southern crossing, as directed, immediately behind Co B 702d Tank Bn, and will take positions to defend the crossing from enemy tank attack; will accompany Co B 702d Tank Bn in its movement on successive objectives and continue this protection.

Both platoons have the mission of aiding the tanks in knocking out enemy emplacements.

The recon platoon of Co C 610 TD Bn will be used for normal recon purposes at the discretion of the Co Commander.

12. AA: Btry A 633d AA Bn, from positions along the East flank of the KNEB BUSCH woods, utilizes four (4) to eight (8) quads and such 40mm Bofors as can be put into position, will take Hills 316, 317, and 326 under fire during the period of Arty preparation and accompanying fire. They will lay a line to the CP of the 1st Bn in SEINGEBUSCH and lay also to the 314th FA Bn. They will coordinate this support with the fires of the 314th FA Bn; will lift fire at their command, the command of the 1st Bn, or on seeing flares and smoke signals (see later paragraph).

13. Cn Co: The Cn Co, with a Fwd Observer with each assault Bn, will move to positions from which they can reach a line 500 yds beyond FOLKLINGEN; register with one (1) gun 3 Dec and move during night 3 - 4 Dec. They will coordinate fire with the 314th FA Bn during preparation and accompanying fires and be prepared to fire smoke on call.

14. Regt AT Co will attach one (1) platoon to each assault Bn; will attach the mine platoon to Co B 305th Engr Bn, to take effect 3 Dec. Co, less detachments, remains under Regt control.

15. The 81mm mortars of the 3d Bn, from positions west of the woods BARSCH BUSCH, will assist the Arty preparation and accompanying fires. Fires to be coordinated by Arty Liaison Officer. Special attention to cut Southwest of Hill 316 and positions on slopes.

16. Mortars of the 319th Inf to be requested to fire on HARTE BUSCH woods throughout the attack; lift fires on call. Coordinated by Arty Liaison Officer.

17. The 808 TD Bn will execute direct fire on the Regt objectives; fires to be coordinated by the Arty Liaison Officer; lifted as in paragraph 12.

18. 314th FA Bn (Reinf): 15 minutes preparation and 30 minutes accompanying fires; will coordinate fires of AA, 808 TD's, 3d Bn 81mm mortars, mortars of 319th Inf, and reinforcing fires; will smoke Hill 373, TENTEILINGEN, Hill 305; and be prepared to smoke Hill 326 on call.

19. Liaison and Communication:

- a. CCA will send officer, liaison, with radios and appropriate channels, to Hq 2d Bn at HENNVILLE and Hq 318th Inf at GEMWILLER.
- b. 318th Inf will lay a line and send liaison officer to 319th Inf.
- c. 318th Inf will lay to CP of Co B 305th Engr Bn; the latter will have a Sgt with vehicle at this Hq.
- d. The 702d Tank Bn: Liaison radio vehicle in same channel as Co Commander at rear CP of 2d Bn, as in above paragraph. Similar procedure with 1st Bn. Officer with radio vehicle in appropriate channels with both A and B Co's at Regt Hq (see above paragraph). Communication also through CO 702d Tank Bn by telephone and radio.
- e. Regt will run line to Regt CP and supplement communication by 284 radio.
- f. Regt will run to each Bn CP. Bn Commanders will lay telephone line forward and supplement this communication with 300 radio.

20. The L&R platoon will be prepared to move out on Regt order and effect physical contact with the 2d Cav Group on the North or the 6th Armd Div on the South.

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21. Bridges:

PFARREBERSWEILER Bridge and crossings - Lt WALSH in charge. Priorities:

- a. Engrs.
- b. Co B 702d Tank Bn.
- c. Co C 610 TD Bn (-).
- d. Co A 702d Tank Bn (if Southern crossing unavailable).
- e. One (1) plat Co C 610 TD Bn (if Southern crossing unavailable).
- f. AT guns plus Regtl attachment of 1st Bn (immediate mission - protection of bridgehead).
- g. Bn ammunition train 1st Bn.
- h. AT guns plus Regtl attachment and Bn ammunition train of 2d Bn (if Southern crossing unavailable).

Southern crossing: Lt GLASIER in charge. Priorities:

- a. Engrs.
- b. Co A 702d Tank Bn.
- c. One (1) plat Co C 610 TD Bn.
- d. Co B 702d Tank Bn (if PFARREBERSWEILER bridge unavailable).
- e. Co C 610 TD Bn (less one plat) (if PFARREBERSWEILER bridge unavailable).
- f. AT plat plus Regtl attachment of 2d Bn (initial mission - protection of bridgehead).
- g. 2d Bn ammunition train.
- h. AT plat plus Regtl attachment and 1st Bn ammunition train (if PFARREBERSWEILER bridge unavailable).

22. Civil Affairs: Civilians will be kept in cellars until cleared by the CIC in all towns occupied. Their control will be under the Bn Comdr occupying the town. Coordination through Maj PEARSON.

23. Regtl CP will remain in GENWEILER until ordered forward; Regtl OP vicinity Hill 313 west of PFARREBERSWEILER - Capt WEGMAN; PW to PFARREBERSWEILER on command.

24. Straggler lines as in Memorandum, dated 19 Nov. Salvage and burials as in Memorandum, dated 10 Oct.

25. Flares and smoke signals:

- a. Fires on Hills 316 and 317 will be lifted on signal: two (2) orange smoke pots and/or two (2) amber star parachute flares.
- b. Fires on Hill 326 will be lifted on signal: two (2) green smoke pots and/or two (2) green star parachute flares.
- c. Fires on Hill 373 will be lifted on signal: two (2) red smoke pots and/or two (2) white star clusters.
- d. On arrival of 1st Bn at HERAPEL and Hill 342 fires will be lifted on command of forward observer.

L. MEVICKAR
Colonel, 316th Inf
Commanding

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