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HEADQUARTERS 319TH INFANTRY
Office of the Regimental Commander
APO #80, U. S. ARMY

AG 319

1 March 1945

SUBJECT: Reports After Action Against Enemy

From: 1 February 1945

To: 28 February 1945

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

SECTION I.....Summary of daily operations and action (S-3)
SECTION II.....Intelligence operations (S-2)
SECTION III.....Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4)
SECTION IV.....Personnel and allied administration (S-1)

SECTION I - Summary of daily operations and action (S-3)

LINTGEN (P8426) 1 - 2 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) occupied rest area to rehabilitate and re-equip personnel, and attached to 4th Arm Division for operational purposes only on a one-hour alert status.

On 1 February 1945, an officer representative from each battalion reported to the Regimental S-3 and received instructions and directions of routes concerning counterattack plan of 4th Arm Division. The officers made a reconnaissance of these routes. Major Wevers, Regimental S-3, made a reconnaissance of routes to and from LUXEMBOURG and the route and terrain East of LUXEMBOURG (P8413). Battalions made reconnaissance for possible range sites.

On 2 February 1945, battalions completed reconnaissance of counterattack plan of the 4th Arm Division. Range sites selected by battalions which fired M-1 Rifles, Carbines, LMG, HMG, .50 Cal. MG, bazookas and Rifle Grenades.

LINTGEN (P8426) 3 February 1945

Mission: VOGG to move 319th Infantry (Reinf) 4 February 1945 to area held by CCB, 4th Arm Division, and relieve the 10th and 53d Arm Infantry battalions, the 51st Arm Infantry battalion to remain in present position and become attached to the 319th Infantry.

Battalions continued training and prepared to comply with Regimental Field Order #46 issued to cover VOGG, 80th Infantry Division.

LINTGEN (P8426) - BETTENDORF (P9042) 4 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) marches by motor to BETTENDORF (P9042) - ROESTROFF (P9241) - KIKINREISDORF (P9442) area and relieves CCB, less one Arm Infantry battalion, in left sector 80th Infantry Division Zone starting 040800A February 1945. One Arm Infantry battalion to be attached to 319th Infantry.

3d battalion moved out at 040800A February 1945 and followed route REISDORF (P8520) - CRUCHTEN (P8434) - ETTLEBRUCK (P8239) - DIEMIRCH (P8642) - BETTENDORF

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Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

(P9042) closing at 041000A February 1945. 2d Battalion started moving at 0930 and followed the same route as 3d Battalion, continued to MOESTROFF and crossed Bailey bridge at MOESTROFF and entered the part of town on West side of SAUER river closing at 1235. 1st Battalion and Co C, 305th Medical Battalion moved out at 1125 and 1st Battalion closed in KLEINSDOFF (P9442) at 1330; Co C, 305th Medical Battalion closed in GILSDORF (P8841) at 1300. Regimental CP closed in BETTENDORF at 1500. 905th Field Artillery remained in present position with the CP located in GILSDORF. 3d Battalion, 319th Infantry began relief of 10th Armd Infantry battalion at darkness. K Co, 319th Infantry relieved C Troop of 10th Armd Infantry and was on position at 1835. I Co completed relief of A Troop at 1830. L Co completed relief at 2135 and occupied the town of HOESDORF (P9343). 10th Armd Infantry cleared the area at 2200. Co U, 811th TD Battalion (SF) attached to 319th Infantry at 1630 but did not report until 5 February 1945. Co U, 702d Tk Battalion attached 319th Infantry at 1835 and prepared to move Co U to BETTENDORF. 3d Battalion consolidated positions for the night. 2d Battalion posted a bridge guard at bridge in MOESTROFF and posted one squad of men at NJ P890416 and one squad at NJ P889423, relieving elements of Cavalry attached to CCB.

BETTENDORF (P9042) 5 - 6 February 1945

Mission: To make preparations for crossing of OUR River early 7 February 1945.

On 5 February 1945, 1st and 2d Battalions, the two assault battalions, practiced river crossing vicinity MOESTROFF with assault boats. The foot bridge that was to be constructed by 150th Engineers for practice crossing was not completed. 150 men from the 1st and 2d Battalions carried the assault boats from the trucks to their respective crossing sites.

On 6 February 1945, bridge guard at MOESTROFF furnished by 2d Battalion relieved by guards from Regimental Defense Platoon. 2d Battalion guards at NJ P890416 and NJ P889423 relieved by guards from 51st Armd Infantry Battalion at 1300. The engineers that were in charge of the boats reported to the respective battalions at 1800 and 100 men from I Co carried additional assault boats and foot bridge equipment to the crossing sites. 2d Battalion troops cleared MOESTROFF at 2245 on way to HOESDORF.

BETTENDORF (P9042) 7 - 11 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) attacks 070300A February 1945, crosses OUR River and seizes objective with two battalions abreast. Continue attack to Northeast on regimental Order.

2d Battalion closed in HOESDORF at 070010A February 1945 preparatory to force crossing of OUR River. 2d Battalion experienced considerable difficulty due to the high flood level of the OUR River and the swiftness of the current and heavy enemy artillery and Nebelwerfer concentrations. Foot bridge to have been constructed by 150th Engineer Battalion was never completed, all crossings by the infantry were made in assault boats or by swimming. At 070625A February 1945, 1st Battalion had crossed B and C Cos at site located at P957431 under hazardous conditions aggravated by intense enemy artillery fire. 51st Armd Infantry Battalion maintained a base of fire on the left flank of the Regiment and feinted a river crossing by advancing to the West bank of the OUR River drawing some artillery fire and some mortar fire. At 070705, received word that F Co had made crossing vicinity HOESDORF and were on North side of river by intense

summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

and accurate artillery and mortar fire. By 0715, B and C Cos had advanced 200 yards up the slope of the hill toward high ground at P950447 under artillery, mortar and small arms fire. The 905th FA Bn, attached one platoon 91st Cml Bn and reinforced by the 313th FA Bn and with the 315th FA Bn in general support, fired prearranged concentrations in support of the attack. At 0715, the 51st Arm'd Infantry Bn occupied the town of BETTEL (P9147), meeting no enemy opposition but encountered AP mines. At 0825, the leading elements of B and C Cos had reached a point P953437. Engineers from Co C, 305th Engr Bn went to the assistance of the 150th Engr Bn to construct foot bridges in 1st and 2d Bn sectors. The engineers were unable to get a foot bridge completely across the river at either site. That portion they did get in washed away. The infantry named assault boats to cross troops. By 1000, 1st Bn held a line running generally from P949442 - P952442 - P954443, with B Co on the left and C Co on the right. Due to the heavy artillery concentrations in the 2d Bn area, it was decided to build a foot bridge in 1st Bn sector and move the remainder of 2d Bn troops there to cross. The engineers were again unable to complete a bridge and 2d Bn troops remained restricted to present area due to artillery fire. Attempted to move some guns of Co C, 811th TD Bn to fire on pill boxes located on high ground at P945455 but any movement by the guns from present position drew fire. The artillery placed smoke in area covering 1st Bn crossing site and A Co attempted crossing behind the screen. This screen proved insufficient and a smoke generating unit was secured. This unit provided sufficient cover to cross A Co. 2d Bn was unable to move from present position to take advantage of 1st Bn crossing site due to artillery concentrations. A Co ordered to advance and seize WALLENDORF and outpost the high ground to the North and East. At 1925, A Co had passed by the first house in WALLENDORF and had met no opposition. At 2015, A Co reported the town cleared, no opposition with the exception of mines and booby traps. At 2155, A Co had occupied high ground North and East of WALLENDORF and had sent one squad to guard bridge site in the town. Cos F, B, C and A held ground for the night. 2d Bn, minus F Co, remained South of the river. 3d Bn alerted to make crossing early 8 February 1945. 3d Bn to pull troops off the line into MOESTROFF (P9241) and KLEINREISDORF (P9442), preparatory to crossing. One platoon Co C, 811th TD Bn and one 155mm gun (Sr) fired direct fire using concrete piercing ammunition on pill boxes in Regimental sector from position on ridge vicinity P933433. As many as 50 direct hits with the 155mm gun failed to destroy some pill boxes.

The 150th Engineer Bn, supported by the 1135th Engineer Group, attempted to build a treadway bridge vicinity WALLENDORF (P9642) early morning 8 February, but made no progress. They did manage to construct a foot bridge in 2d Bn sector but it was destroyed by the swift current of the OUR River. No troops crossed on the bridge, 3d Bn started to move to crossing site at P956432. At 0400, 2d Bn attempted crossing by boats. 2d Bn encountered very heavy artillery fire resulting in some direct hits on boats attempting to cross. 2d Bn pulled back to reorganize. At 0612, 3d Bn had made no crossing due to artillery concentrations laid down by the enemy. The boats of 3d Bn had been wrecked by the artillery falling in the vicinity of the crossing. At this time, 2d Bn was able to cross 27 men but the artillery concentrations laid down by the enemy made it impossible to attempt further crossings. The engineers who were to construct two foot bridges, and infantry support bridge and a treadway, were unable to construct any of them. 3d Bn ordered to infiltrate Bn across OUR River in two remaining boats but found it impossible to complete mission. At 0915, the 81st Cml Smoke Generator Co was ordered to set up apparatus to cover 3d Bn crossing. A Co of the 179th Engr Bn handled boats for 3d Bn and made arrangements for 30 wooden assault boats to be carried to an assembly area vicinity 3d Bn crossing. The enemy seemed

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

to have excellent observation of entire river front. Moved guns of Co C, 811th TD Bn (SF) into position to fire on enemy pill boxes and they reported two pill boxes knocked out by their direct fire. 905th FA Bn, attached one platoon Co A, 91st Gnl Bn, reinforced by fires of 313th and 315th FA Bns, fired counter-battery fire but enemy continued to lay in heavy artillery and nebelwerfer barrages at will. 3d Bn attempted another crossing at 1605. The first boat to leave the shore received a direct hit suffering 100 per cent casualties. This was followed by heavy artillery concentrations covering crossing site. All crossings attempt abandoned until darkness. At 2030, 2d Bn had succeeded in ferrying supplies across to bridge group on North side of river and brought back casualties. The engineers decided to attempt to build a floating treadway bridge vicinity WALLENDORF and a "flying ferry" vicinity 3d Bn crossing site. At 2215, 3d Bn had manhandled boats to crossing site and prepared for a crossing. Additional boats sent to 1st Bn to aid in the supply of their troops North of the OUR River. At 2317, the supply and evacuation of 2d Bn completed. At 2400, 2d Bn started crossing those men of F Co who had been separated from their Co the 1st day F Co crossed. At this time the engineers had made no progress on the bridges. 51st Armd Infantry Bn continued to protect left flank of the regiment and to support by fire the attack of the regiment. 1st Bn supplied by boat.

On 9 February 1945, the 150th Engr Bn attempted to build a floating treadway bridge vicinity WALLENDORF (P9542) and a ferry vicinity 1st Bn crossing but due to enemy artillery fire these projects were never started. 2d Bn crossed remainder of F and E Cos and by 0443 G Co was completely across. All crossings completed by boat. At 0520, C Co reported infantry pressure on their right flank but experienced no difficulty in overcoming it. At 0720, B Co reported enemy infantry attack from Northwest in their zone. B Co continued to advance and overcome the enemy infantry and by 0830 had advanced to P957440 - P961435, taking some pill boxes and meeting heavy resistance. 3d Bn was unable to make a crossing due to heavy enemy artillery fire. E and F Cos moving Northwest against enemy pill boxes but progress slow due to heavy enemy small arms fire. One platoon Co C, 702d Tk Bn fired direct fire from vicinity HOESDORF in 2d Bn sector with good effect. Two platoons Co C, 702d Tk Bn attached to 905th FA Bn and two platoons Co C, 811th TD Bn (SF) attached to 905th FA Bn. One platoon Co C, 811th TD Bn (SF) and one 155mm gun from 558th FA Bn (SF) fired on enemy pill boxes with good effect. Arrangements made to supply bridgehead across OUR River by means of liaison planes. Planes from Division Artillery and 905th FA Bn flew 35 missions and succeeded in dropping medical supplies and food and ammunition to the troops. The pilots of these planes displayed courage and skill in carrying out this operation. Division ordered 3d Bn to remain South of the OUR River until further orders and to outpost line P923445 to P933436 with one reinforced platoon. Remainder of 3d Bn in KLEIN-WEISDORF (P9442). F and G Cos attached to 1st Bn. At 1820, Cos held the following positions: E Co P945439, B Co P957840 - P961435, F and G Cos vicinity P946433, A Co vicinity WALLENDORF (P9542), 3d Bn no change. By 2400, C Co had cleared three pill boxes and proceeded to contact B Co.

1st and 2d Bns supplied and evacuated their personnel North of the OUR River during the early morning 10 February 1945. This project carried out by boats with the assistance of 150th Engr Bn under enemy artillery fire. 1st Bn reinforced by Cos F and G continued to advance against pill boxes in their sector, and E Co continued to advance against pill boxes in their sector. Infantry was assisted in

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Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

attack on pill boxes by one platoon Co C, 702d Tk Bn firing direct fire from vicinity HOESDORF (P9343) and one platoon Co C, 811th TD Bn (SP) reinforced by one 155mm gun from the 558th Bn, 155mm (SP) firing direct fire at pill boxes in sector of advance. 905th FA Bn reinforced continued to fire counter-battery fire and indirect fire on pill boxes and infantry. The infantry found all pill boxes in their sector of advance occupied and with good fields of fire. Progress was slow but the infantry, displaying a determined and aggressive spirit, advanced against the enemy's fortifications with the assistance of support fires. Each pill box had to be worked on separately. Satchel charges, pole charges and bazooka fire induced those of the enemy not killed to surrender. During the attack, G Co received a counterattack from enemy infantry estimated at platoon strength and the counterattack was repulsed without incident. Colonel William N. Taylor, Regimental Commander, was wounded by shrapnel from direct fire weapon while at the Regimental CP directing operations. Colonel Taylor's wounds necessitated his evacuation and Lt Colonel Hiram Dives, Regimental Executive Officer, assumed command of the 319th Infantry. By the end of the day's operation, 106 PWs had been captured and unknown enemy dead. 1st and 2d Bns had increased their bridgehead and made it possible to land supplies and materials and evacuate wounded personnel.

During 11 February 1945, the 319th Infantry continued to supply units across OUR River by boat. At 0710, F Co released from attachment to 1st Bn and reverted to 2d Bn control. The 179th Engr Bn worked on floating treadway bridge and made slow progress due to flooded water and intermittent artillery fire. During the day, G Co received a counterattack consisting of infantry, but it proved to be a small force and was easily repulsed. Co C, 305th Engr Bn had been alerted to cross 3d Bn by boat but when the 179th Engr Bn reported bridge would be constructed for foot traffic by 1900, the boat plan was cancelled. G Co released from attachment to 1st Bn at 1100 and reverted to 2d Bn. 1st Bn held present positions. 2d Bn assembled forces vicinity P9543. By 2250, one-half of 3d Bn had crossed bridge to assemble at WALLENDORF (P9642). Bridge did not completely span river, lacking approximately 30 yards, and the troops had to wade the distance to shore in knee deep water. The 3d Bn cleared the bridge at 2312.

WALLENDORF (P9642) - BETTENDORF (P9042) 12 - 17 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) continues attack to the Northeast.

The 179th Engr Bn continued work on floating treadway bridge on 12 February 1945. At 0240, work on bridge interrupted by artillery. At 0545, Forward CP group crossed bridge to WALLENDORF. Bridge completed to 25-30 yards of East shore. At 0715, L Co's leading elements passed point P956439. At 0755, L Co captured its first pillbox taking 15 PWs. By 0830, L Co had seized two additional pill boxes and met heavy resistance from a third pill box at P951442. At 1015, E Co moved out advancing generally Northwest and met stiff resistance from pill boxes to their front. By 1120, one platoon G Co, 811th TD Bn (SP) and one platoon C Co, 702d Tk Bn had arrived at 3d Bn Forward CP and were held until situation permitted their use. At 1330, L Co reached point P953441 and reorganized preparatory to pushing on. L Co sent two squads forward to make reconnaissance of routes of approach to pill boxes located on high ground at P950445. At 1600, L Co jumped off to assault pill boxes vicinity P950445 using artillery fire of 905th FA Bn to cover right flank and TDs and Tks as support weapons. The Tks and TDs experienced difficulty maneuvering over muddy and soft terrain. By 2000, E Co had occupied three pill boxes at P939444, P941445 and P942445. F Co moved to a position Southwest of E Co and G Co moved to vicinity P947435. E Co sent a patrol into

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

AMMELDINGEN and found it unoccupied. 1st bn remained in present positions. At 2030, L Co seized hill 353 (P950445) and proceeded to clear out three pill boxes. K Co moved to position behind L Co preparatory to passing through L Co to hill 386 (P946445). 1st bn sent a reinforced squad with platoon Co C, 305th Engr bn to work on bridge in 318th Infantry sector. By 2105, L Co had seized its 4th pill box on hill 353. At 2215, K Co jumped off for attack on hill 386. At 2324, K Co seized 1st pill box on hill 386. 2d bn held positions for the night. 3d bn continued fighting for objective.

On 13 February 1945, A Co sent one reinforced squad with group of engineers as infantry support while they worked on bridge Northeast WALLENDORF (P9642). By 0230, K Co had gained objective hill 386 (P94445) and began to reorganize its troops. I Co was ordered forward and passed through L Co on way to K Co. Two TDs and one Tk reinforced I Co. K Co received heavy artillery fire on position. K Co had not mopped up all pill boxes in sector but held Northwest crest of hill 386. At 0730, I Co had passed through L Co and were on way to K Co. At 0900, K and I Cos coordinating in mopping up pill boxes on hill 386 and receiving artillery. At 0800, 2d bn with F Co in reserve moved to seize AMMELDINGEN (P9344) and high ground North and Northeast of the town. It had to clear pill boxes in line of advance which proved slow and exacting operation. At 0937, 2d bn moved in on town and high ground after ordering the cessation of all support fires. By 1130, 2d bn had two platoons of E Co on high ground North of town and G Co in AMMELDINGEN, which was found unoccupied. F Co had not moved from present position. 319th Mine Platoon ordered to check AMMELDINGEN and road leading North from town for mines and booby traps. By 1325, K Co held Northwest and West slope of hill 386 and I Co held Northeast and top of hill 386. Both Cos received enemy artillery and mortar fire. Co C, 305th Engr bn checked road from WALLENDORF to AMMELDINGEN and made necessary repairs. 2d bn moved its platoon of tanks to AMMELDINGEN. 51st Armd Infantry bn continued to support infantry from present position. 1st bn maintained present position. 2d and 3d bns consolidated ground gained and held for the night. Colonel N. A. Costello assumed command 1000, 13 February 1945.

At 140145A February 1945, 1st bn moved A Co forward to occupy pill boxes in A Co's sector to straighten the bn line. A Co experienced considerable difficulty in locating the pill boxes due to darkness and the blending of the pill boxes with the terrain. At 0255, K Co sent out patrols to locate pill boxes to the front and experienced the same difficulty as A Co. By 0440, A Co had not definitely located pill boxes. At 0710, K Co received infantry pressure on their right flank and I Co on left flank. 3d bn placed artillery on enemy infantry with good effect. By 0950, fire fight in 3d bn sector ceased and K Co prepared to move on pill boxes base of hill 386 (P944457). By 1115, A Co occupied pill box at P965438 and had cleared area to the rear of this box. 3d bn brought up tanks and TDs to aid in attack on pill boxes. At 1500, F Co had relieved E Co on position. At 1730, K Co supported by fire from Tks and TDs stormed and seized 1st pill box in their advance. K Co continued to work on pill boxes. The soldiers climbed on boxes and threw grenades into the apertures, placed satchel charges and dynamite in ventilator shafts and at doors. The enemy placed automatic and artillery fire on the boxes that K Co attacked, and placed direct fire on tanks and TDs. K Co, due to heavy fire and mounting casualties, had to withdraw. 3d bn directed direct fire from 155mm SP guns at boxes. K and I planned a night attack on boxes. Regiment ordered two platoons TDs, one platoon tanks equipped with 4.5 rockets, one section tank assault guns on high ground vicinity WALLENDORF and controlled fire through

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

regiment. At 2305, I Co moved out in attack on pill boxes.

On 15 February 1945, I and K Cos continued night attack of pill boxes in their sector but due to intensive small arms, mortar and artillery fire they were forced to withdraw to original positions and abandon night attack. The regimental Commander held a conference with all bn and support unit commanders and discussed attack plans of 319th Infantry to comply with Division Field Order #31. 3d Bn ordered to hold up on any further attempts to take pill boxes in its sector. Regimental Field Order #50 issued to carry out mission contained in Division Field Order #31. 319th Infantry (Reinf) received intermittent artillery and mortar fire along the entire front. 905th FA Bn (Reinf) fired in support of 3d Bn and fired counter-battery and harassing fires. Co C, 305th Engr Bn continued to maintain roads and prepare explosive charges. Bns and support units prepared to carry out Regimental Field Order #50. At 2215, received order from Division that Division Field Order #31 was cancelled. All Bns and support units of 319th Infantry notified that Regimental Field Order #50 was cancelled. 3d Bn made plans to continue attack on pillboxes in its area. L Co relieved F Co and F Co assembled in ABBENDINGEN (P9344). I Co extended to the South. A Co extended to the West. Bns held positions for the night.

On 16 February 1945, 3d Bn completed preparation for attack on pill boxes vicinity P944457. At 0830, K Co reinforced by two tanks and two TDS and supported by a five minute artillery concentration moved against pill boxes. K Co received heavy MG and mortar fire initially. The enemy occupied communication trenches connecting pill boxes. By 0930, the small arms fire against K Co lessened but the mortar and artillery stepped up. At 1100, K Co withdrew to original jump off positions. The withdrawal was ordered because of the high number of casualties suffered by K Co. 2d Bn ordered to place 81mm mortars in position to fire German 80mm mortar and US 81mm WP on pill boxes in K Co sector. This firing started at 1715 and continued throughout the night at the rate of 50 rounds per hour. Division experimented with search lights along the division front. At 2200, the searchlights were trained on the 319th Infantry front but the effect was negative. 2d Bn relieved 3d Bn on position by 2110. 3d Bn assembled L Co in WALLENDORF (P9642), M Co in KLEINREISDORF (P9442), I and K Cos in MESTROFF (P9241). 1st and 2d Bns held positions for the night and conducted security patrols to the flanks.

80 Rcn held 51st Armd 17 Sep

Bns held positions during the day of 17 February 1945. The enemy limited his activities to intermittent artillery and mortar fire. Meeting of Bn Commanders and support unit commanders held afternoon 17 February 1945, to lay plans for compliance with Division Field Order #31. Regimental Field Order #51 issued to comply with Division Field Order #31. Part of this plan put into effect when 3d Bn began relief of 2d Bn at 1715, and 2d Bn began to assemble vicinity P944437. 3d Bn completed relief of 2d Bn at 2045. 80th ACA Tp began relief of 51st Armd Inf Bn during the night 17 February 1945. Bns held present ground night 17 - 18 February 1945. 905th FA Bn supported infantry by firing counter-battery and harassing fire. Co C, 305th Engr Bn maintained roads and prepared to comply with Regimental Field Order #51. Bazooka, WP Ammo & Grenades used during day.

WALLENDORF (P9642) 18 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) continues attack to the Northeast.

1st Bn sent C Co, reinforced by one squad mine platoon, to clear out area North of WALLENDORF (P9642) to P94457 and to tie in with L Co. C Co moved out

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Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

at 1045 and by 1130 was half-way through area meeting no resistance. At 1200, the 80th Recon Tp completed the relief of 51st Arm Inf Bn. The 80th Recon Tp was attached to 319th Infantry. By 1320, C Co had reached objective, organized a line P950454 to P956454; tied in with L Co on the left and the GAY River on the right. G Co received some small arms fire from NIEDERSGEGEN (P9646). 3d Bn assisted advance of 318th Infantry by MG fire in 318th Infantry zone of advance. At 1610, C Co attached to 3d Bn for tactical operations. One platoon C Co crossed GAY River and swept East bank and held position just East of C Co. 2d Bn moved from vicinity WALLENDORF (P9344) at 1620 and crossed to East side of GAY River. G Co moved forward and secured the LD for 2d Bn's attack by holding position on reverse slope on nose of hill just west of CRUCHTEN (P9845). C Co tied in with 318th Infantry on their right. Remains of 2d Bn assembled vicinity P961426. 1st and 3d Bns ordered to support attack of 2d Bn, 19 February 1945, by fire on NIEDERSGEGEN. At 2020, A Co relieved C Co on position and C Co returned to WALLENDORF. 1st Bn sent a squad of men to protect engineers as they worked on bridge at P966486. Bns held positions for the night. **MINE PLAT** **CT34 ATTCHD 1 PLAT** **1st Bn** **swept roads N of WALLENDORF. Remains of PLAT cleared Rgt Sector** **GAY HILL (P9643) 19 - 22 February 1945**

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) continues attack to the Northeast.
AT - 1st Bn **relief from ATTACH TO CT319 - 53rd AIB ATTACHD. Rgt CPTD GAY HILL**

On 19 February 1945, G Co had secured LD for 2d Bn by holding ground at P963460 P972462. At 0420, E and F Cos began movement to assembly area just behind G Co. During the movement forward, 2d Bn experienced some difficulty in assembling troops. At 0800, 2d Bn, less G Co, jumped off in attack of NIEDERSGEGEN (P9546), supported by a 15 minute artillery preparation on the town. At 0855, 1st Bn, less A Co, ordered to move to assembly area vicinity P960449. By 0915, E and F Cos held a line P945465 - P951466 with E on the left holding high ground Northeast of NIEDERSGEGEN. G Co ordered to move against the town. As G Co advanced, they met heavy small arms fire from pill boxes Southeast of NIEDERSGEGEN. An eight minute preparation of TD fire, tank rocket fire, and artillery fire coordinated by the 905th FA Bn placed NIEDERSGEGEN. G Co platoon with two platoons of E Co pushed into town at 1415 and by 1432 all of G Co was in NIEDERSGEGEN mopping up. At 1450, 1st Bn moved through E and F Cos to advance on high ground at P9548. The two platoons of E Co rejoined the company and G Co continued to mop up the town. At 1620, 53d Arm Inf Bn began relief of 3d Bn 319th Inf by relieving 1 Co on position. 3d Bn 319th Inf planned to assemble in WALLENDORF (P9642) with one Co on high ground North and West of the town. At 1620, 2d Bn reported NIEDERSGEGEN cleared. By 1900, B and C Cos had reached objective at P9548 and prepared to consolidate position. E and F Cos tied in with G Co with E Co tied in with G Co and F Co tied in with E. At 2020, H Co had joined Bn and tied in with F Co at P953479. 53d Arm Inf Bn relieved 3d Bn complete and 3d Bn closed in WALLENDORF with K Co on the high ground at 2145. 53d Arm Inf Bn then shifted positions, completing the shift at 200345A February 1945. Bns held positions for the night. **BARONKAS** **used in taking NIEDERSGEGEN**

3d Bn moved from WALLENDORF (P9642) at 20045A February 1945 and passed through KEWENIG (P9646) at 0700. At 0920, 2d Bn alerted to move on order this Hq. At 0945, 3d Bn with K Co in the lead followed by I Co moved out to take high ground vicinity P9549. One platoon L Co established a road block at P965473 and the remainder L Co just South of Road block. At 1100, 1st Bn sent B Co to seize NIEDERSGEGEN (P9344). 3d Bn minus L Co received flanking fire from HUTTEN (P9648), B Co with C Co echeloned to the right rear met fire from pill box in its sector of advance but overcame it and moved on toward NIEDERSGEGEN. G Co mopped up pill boxes Northeast of NIEDERSGEGEN. L Co planned to seize HUTTEN to stop flanking fire on

1 PLAT D-702 ATTCHD TO C-702

ON ENEMY: 9TH V6 KC12 200

CPI's
1st Bn **KEWENIG**
2d Bn **NIEDERSGEGEN**
3d Bn **WALLENDORF**

To 3 Regts **1st FEB** **e** **disbanded** **from**
Men of 9TH V6 **at** **WALLENDORF** **53-40**
1st Bn **took** **50** **AWAY** **AT** **NIEDERSGEGEN**
MOO **KOIST** **2d** **disbanded** **as** **two** **companies**
of **flank** **AWAY** **on** **to** **DWC**

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

3d bn and started to carry out that plan. Received word from 80th Division that 318th Infantry would take the town. Could not get word to one platoon of L Co until it had reached the Northwest edge of town. Upon being ordered to hold up, this platoon occupied German positions and returned fire upon enemy in the town. By 1240, B Co was in town of UBERSGEGEN and mopping up, C Co had started moving to tie in with B Co and A Co moved out to seize KOPFERICH (P9448). At 1255, A Co entered KOPFERICH. By 1315, 3d bn (less L Co) had reached objective; K Co P957501-P954495 and I Co P961499 - P963494 - P961491. At 1315, B Co had cleared UBERSGEGEN and had outposted the town from the West and Northwest, C Co had tied in with B Co and outposted on North and Northeast; A Co mopping up in KOPFERICH. 2d bn sent F Co to seize SEIMERICH (P9447) and by 1405 F Co had passed through the town and had seized the high ground (P9447) just west of town leaving a small force in SEIMERICH to mop up. Two platoons E Co sent to SEIMERICH to assist in mopping up and to release F Co troops in the town. G Co alerted to move against pill boxes vicinity 111 386 (P9445). 53d Armd Inf bn notified of G Co's plans. Mine Platoon cleared road from NIEDERSGEGEN to SEIMERICH and held up until KOPFERICH was cleared. G Co had hard fight with pill boxes, knocked out one and due to darkness had trouble locating others. 53d Armd Inf bn ordered to relieve F Co 319th Infantry on position with one Co and to block West of NIEDERSGEGEN with one Co. G Co held fire while C Co, 53d Armd Inf bn pulled out of position to relieve F Co. A Co alerted to move on ROTH (P9448) and seize town. F Co to relieve A Co in KOPFERICH. One reinforced platoon moved out at 1945 to relieve A Co. At 2210, A Co having been relieved by reinforced platoon F Co, started for ROTH via UBERSGEGEN. At 2240, C Co, 53d Armd Inf bn passed through NIEDERSGEGEN. The artillery supported the infantry throughout their operations by observed and harassing fire. Co C 702d Tk bn and Co C, 811th TD bn supported infantry by firing direct fire on observed targets. Mine Platoon cleared road from KOPFERICH to UBERSGEGEN. 53d Armd Inf bn ordered to advance in zone 21 February 1945 and clear area of enemy to line running generally West from UBERSGEGEN to ROTH. 3d bn ordered to seize LAHR 21 February 1945 and 2d bn ordered to move up and block from the North on high ground vicinity P9549. 2d bn ordered to move from present position to position to North and West of 3d bn to protect 3d bn from possible enemy attack from that direction. (VANADIS, BAROOKAS USED)

21 Feb: Capture of ROTH, LAHR & GEICHLINGEN

The 53d Armd Inf bn jumped off at 210600A February 1945 to clear area from present positions North to road running from UBERSGEGEN (P9349) to SEIMERICH (P9245). A Co 1st bn, 319th Infantry advanced on ROTH (P9448) and by 0640 was mopping up the town. ROTH was cleared by 0650 and A Co had set up a defense of the town. 2d bn advances to position South and West of 3d bn. The 53d Armd Inf bn advanced in sector with light resistance. 3d bn moved out in attack on LAHR (P9650) at 0730 with E Co in the lead. At 1020 319th Infantry received the mission to seize GEICHLINGEN (P9451). 2d bn alerted for this task and received platoon of Co G, 811th TD bn that were attached to 1st bn. 1st bn relieved F Co at KOPFERICH (P9448) to join 2d bn. By 1040 3d bn had maneuvered L Co on the West edge of LAHR and E Co just west of L Co. 3d bn laid smoke down to move into town. E Co moved into LAHR at 1325 and received small arms and tank fire. By 1405 53d Armd Inf bn held defensive line 100 yards North of ROTH - UBERSGEGEN road and tied in with A Co at ROTH. A Co relieved and returned to UBERSGEGEN. At 1500, 2d bn moved out in attack on GEICHLINGEN with F Co advancing to seize and hold high ground just East of the town. By 1530, 3d bn had two Cos in LAHR and worked on enemy tank firing from the town. E Co moved out into GEICHLINGEN with little opposition and began rounding up civilians as G Co moved into town. By 1910, 3d bn had cleared LAHR while E Co attacked a strong point in GEICHLINGEN. Co C, 305th Sgr bn and the Mine Platoon 319th Infantry began sweeping roads to allow armor to pass through at n-hour. 53d Armd Inf bn relieved by 80th Recon Tp. 80th Recon Tp to establish contact with 1st bn. 2d bn completed mopping up GEICHLINGEN and made preparation to advance on OBERWICKLER 22 February 1945. I Co relieved F Co on position at 2345. One held positions for the night. (VANADIS, BAROOKAS USED)

RADIO to FWD ... (VANADIS, BAROOKAS USED)

PW's taken by 2d Regt, 2d Ar Div
7900 MORALE. From Troops 2900 equipment

Both found deserted, but mine & body trapped
Sla & body slight when 2d Ar Div took ROTH. PW's taken in same
area remnants of 9th UG & 79th UG. 3d Ar Div in taking LAHR
area and sla & fire for 3 tanks in town. PW's in LAHR by 3d Ar Div.
179 PW's taken in area approx

WIRE COMBAT to 4th CDS

22 FEB.

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

Co C, 305th Engr Bn could not clear road vicinity P963514 because of enemy tank activity during early hours of morning 22 February 1945. At 220510A February 1945, E Co jumped off in attack on OBERGECKLER (P9653) followed by F Co at 0600. At 0645, E Co proceeded to P951530 and came under small arms fire at 0835. 1st Bn ordered to send one Co to GEICHLINGEN to relieve G Co and G Co to join 2d Bn. By 0845, E Co had the 1st house on Northwest side of OBERGECKLER and F Co had advanced to P958528 moving towards town from Southwest. At 0915, 3d Bn received the order to clear road running North from LAHR (P9650) to NJ P963525 and to contact unit on the right. By 0930, E and F Cos were in OBERGECKLER mopping up and had sent one platoon of E Co to high ground P961542. The NJ at P962525 proved to be an enemy strong-point reinforced with armor. G Co moved against this NJ from the West, E Co planned to move South from town against NJ and the 3d Bn to send a force against this NJ from the South. At 1115, A and B Cos began movement to GEICHLINGEN (P9451). I Co received orders to seize and hold bridge at P962521. At 1430, K and I Cos moving against bridge and road junction. K Co at P967518 following a rolling artillery barrage laid down by the 905th FA Bn. 3d Bn received direct fire from AA weapon located at bridge P964526. L Co had one platoon at BURENDURF (P9651). CCB 4th Armd Division to pass through 319th Infantry Zone and attack to the Northeast. When the situation at NJ P962525 cleared up, G Co advanced to P954524 and was pinned down by enemy fire. At 1900, L Co moved from LAHR (P9650) to GEICHLINGEN to contact 2d Bn and to relieve G Co (P954524) and G Co to join 2d Bn. At 2000, I and K Cos mopped up enemy strong-point at P962525 and I Co secured bridge (P963526) which was captured intact. Co C, 305th Engr Bn inspected bridge for demolitions and found it safe. At 2130, G Co had occupied position on hill 472 (P961541) having been relieved by L Co which in turn occupied high ground P951541. 80th Division and 4th Armd Division given the information that NJ P963525 and bridge P963526 had been secured. The armor planned to move at 2200. By 2250, K Co held a line P965524 - P962527. I Co P959525 and L Co P952525. 2d Bn held position with E and F Cos in OBERGECKLER and G Co on hill 472. E Co contained three enemy tanks in South part of town. 1st Bn held position vicinity GEICHLINGEN and ordered to establish a road block at P950524. Bns held positions for the night.

GAY MILL (P9643) - KONFERICH (P9448) 23 - 24 February 1945

Mission: 319th Infantry (Reinf) continues attack to the Northeast.

Leading elements of CCB 4th Armd Inf passed over bridge (P962521) in K Co area at 230100A February 1945. At 0140, the road block from 1st Bn at P950524 was established and contact made with L Co 319th Infantry. A patrol from 2d Bn reported enemy dug in 150 yards North of G Co position on hill 406 (P9754). Tank elements of CCB 4th Armd had engaged the enemy at GR (P969532). 2d Bn had fire fight with enemy infantry and armor in South part of OBERGECKLER (P9653). Bazooka men had knocked out one enemy tank and one had been seen withdrawing from the town. A platoon of Co C, 811th TD Bn (SP) attached to 3d Bn was ordered to report to 2d Bn at P965527. At 1030, 2d Bn reported OBERGECKLER clear with the exception of a few snipers in the South edge of the town. At 1100, regimental CP moved from GAY MILL (P9644) to KONFERICH (P9448) and closed at 1145. At 1420, 1st Bn sent a patrol 500 yards North of GEICHLINGEN (P9451) in draw and contacted no enemy. At 1827, C Co relieved B Co on position and B Co assembled in GEICHLINGEN. 2d Bn 319th Infantry maintained contact with CCB 4th Armd Division. All Bns 319th Infantry alerted for contact with 6th Armd Division coming down from the North.

AL

Light Engr Bn could not clear road vicinity P963514 because of enemy tank activity during early hours of morning 22 February 1945. At 220510A February 1945, E Co jumped off in attack on OBERGECKLER (P9653) followed by F Co at 0600. At 0645, E Co proceeded to P951530 and came under small arms fire at 0835. 1st Bn ordered to send one Co to GEICHLINGEN to relieve G Co and G Co to join 2d Bn. By 0845, E Co had the 1st house on Northwest side of OBERGECKLER and F Co had advanced to P958528 moving towards town from Southwest. At 0915, 3d Bn received the order to clear road running North from LAHR (P9650) to NJ P963525 and to contact unit on the right. By 0930, E and F Cos were in OBERGECKLER mopping up and had sent one platoon of E Co to high ground P961542. The NJ at P962525 proved to be an enemy strong-point reinforced with armor. G Co moved against this NJ from the West, E Co planned to move South from town against NJ and the 3d Bn to send a force against this NJ from the South. At 1115, A and B Cos began movement to GEICHLINGEN (P9451). I Co received orders to seize and hold bridge at P962521. At 1430, K and I Cos moving against bridge and road junction. K Co at P967518 following a rolling artillery barrage laid down by the 905th FA Bn. 3d Bn received direct fire from AA weapon located at bridge P964526. L Co had one platoon at BURENDURF (P9651). CCB 4th Armd Division to pass through 319th Infantry Zone and attack to the Northeast. When the situation at NJ P962525 cleared up, G Co advanced to P954524 and was pinned down by enemy fire. At 1900, L Co moved from LAHR (P9650) to GEICHLINGEN to contact 2d Bn and to relieve G Co (P954524) and G Co to join 2d Bn. At 2000, I and K Cos mopped up enemy strong-point at P962525 and I Co secured bridge (P963526) which was captured intact. Co C, 305th Engr Bn inspected bridge for demolitions and found it safe. At 2130, G Co had occupied position on hill 472 (P961541) having been relieved by L Co which in turn occupied high ground P951541. 80th Division and 4th Armd Division given the information that NJ P963525 and bridge P963526 had been secured. The armor planned to move at 2200. By 2250, K Co held a line P965524 - P962527. I Co P959525 and L Co P952525. 2d Bn held position with E and F Cos in OBERGECKLER and G Co on hill 472. E Co contained three enemy tanks in South part of town. 1st Bn held position vicinity GEICHLINGEN and ordered to establish a road block at P950524. Bns held positions for the night.

Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

By 240500A February 1945, one platoon Co G relieved elements of GCB at P97454. 80th Division ordered 319th Infantry to take over the guarding of bridge at SINSPELT (P9853). F Co reinforced by one section HMGs, one TD and one tank relieved Co G, 51st Armd Inf Bn of guarding the bridge at SINSPELT at 1330. 1st Bn 319th Infantry relieved L Co from position Northeast of GEICHLINGEN (P9651) at 1200 and L Co assembled in GEICHLINGEN. Patrol from 2d Bn checked bridge P986540 and reported that the bridge is partially blown but is passable for foot troops and possibly for jeeps. 1st Bn alerted to move early morning 26 February 1945 and Mine Platoon 319th Infantry will clear roads behind 1st Bn troops. L Co relieved 1st Bn at 1930 and held line P937495 - P941508. 1st Bn assembled in GEICHLINGEN. The I & R Platoon sent a strong patrol to high ground vicinity L0055555 and held ground through the night. The patrol reported one tank and 20 enemy in NIEDERRADEN (P9954). Contact established with 6th Cavalry. Co C, 305th Engr Bn maintained road net.

UTSCHEID (L0156) 25 - 26 February 1945

Mission: To continue advance to the Northeast.

1st Bn moved out from GEICHLINGEN (P9451) at 250602A February 1945 and advanced to NJ P985538, by 0710, where they met a guide from the I & R Platoon. Forward regimental CP moved to UBERGECHEL (P9653). A Co relieved I & R Platoon and 1st Bn occupied high ground P990554 - P998562 and sent one platoon C Co to the high ground to the North. A Co cleared NIEDERRADEN (P9954), taking 20 PWs and knocking out one tank. 1st Bn cleared UTSCHEID and UBERRADEN and established CP in UBERRADEN. 3d Bn had advanced and cleared NIEDERWEIDINGEN (L0257), WEIDIGEN (L0257) and ALTSCHIED (L0358), and set up CP in ALTSCHIED. 2d Bn moved from UBERGECHEL to OUTSCHEID closing at 1730. Forward CP moved to OUTSCHEID. 3d Bn moved two platoons L Co to high ground L045598, one platoon K Co high ground North of SCHTEINHAUSEN (L0559), and one platoon I Co on high ground vicinity L054595. Received orders from 80th Division to clear out area North of present position to PRUM River. 1st Bn alerted to comply with mission and 1st Bn prepared to move out. Bns placed guards over civilians in captured towns. 3d Bn held present positions. 2d Bn outposted OUTSCHEID and 1st Bn prepared to move to the North. *En route to N and NE.*

One 26 February 1945, a patrol from 3d Bn reported bridge at SCHTEINHAUSEN (L0559) blown. This information given to Co C, 305th Engrs. 1st Bn ordered to move North and clear out and occupy PHILIPSWILLER, MAUEL and area between the two towns. The Bn moved out at 0400 by motor to crater in road at L035615 where the Bn detrucked and continued on foot. By 0710, A Co occupied MAUEL meeting slight resistance consisting chiefly of sniper fire; C Co occupied the high ground just South of MAUEL and the remainder of 1st Bn occupied PHILIPSWILLER. A guard was placed over all civilians. 3d Bn moved a platoon of K Co on high ground just North of SCHTEINHAUSEN to guard bridge site; a platoon of I Co on high ground just West of MAUEL to cover the town, and a platoon of L Co on high ground at L052588. Platoon of I Co reported the bridge out leading to MAUEL. This information given to the engineers. The engineers had constructed a bypass at crater L035615 and worked to crater at bridge. The 3d Bn cleared SCHTEINHAUSEN after some small arms fire. The mine platoon 319th Infantry cleared roads in 1st and 3d Bn sectors. 2d Bn sent E Co to MUTTERSCHIED to investigate the town. Found only civilians present so left a guard of eight men and the company returned to OUTSCHEID. 1st Bn investigated MOLLERSDORF (L0261) and found only civilians. These placed under guard. 3d Bn alerted and ordered to cross PRUM River and seize and occupy high ground just West of WEIDERSWILLER (L0257). 3d Bn assembled on West bank of PRUM River prepared to cross at 1000. The mission of 3d Bn cancelled by 80th Division. 319th Infantry

1st Bn 319th Infantry moved out from GEICHLINGEN at 250602A February 1945 and advanced to NJ P985538, by 0710, where they met a guide from the I & R Platoon. Forward regimental CP moved to UBERGECHEL (P9653). A Co relieved I & R Platoon and 1st Bn occupied high ground P990554 - P998562 and sent one platoon C Co to the high ground to the North. A Co cleared NIEDERRADEN (P9954), taking 20 PWs and knocking out one tank. 1st Bn cleared UTSCHEID and UBERRADEN and established CP in UBERRADEN. 3d Bn had advanced and cleared NIEDERWEIDINGEN (L0257), WEIDIGEN (L0257) and ALTSCHIED (L0358), and set up CP in ALTSCHIED. 2d Bn moved from UBERGECHEL to OUTSCHEID closing at 1730. Forward CP moved to OUTSCHEID. 3d Bn moved two platoons L Co to high ground L045598, one platoon K Co high ground North of SCHTEINHAUSEN (L0559), and one platoon I Co on high ground vicinity L054595. Received orders from 80th Division to clear out area North of present position to PRUM River. 1st Bn alerted to comply with mission and 1st Bn prepared to move out. Bns placed guards over civilians in captured towns. 3d Bn held present positions. 2d Bn outposted OUTSCHEID and 1st Bn prepared to move to the North. En route to N and NE.

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Summary of daily operations and action (Cont'd).

informed that 317th Infantry would cross PRUM River and swing North in front of our sector. 319th Infantry to hold present ground VOGG. 3d Bn returned to ALTSCHIED and occupied former positions. Contact established with 28th Cavalry by 1st Bn at OBENPIERSCHIED (10263). Co C, 702d Tk Bn released from attachment to 319th Infantry. One platoon Co D, 702d Tk Bn remained and was attached to 1st Bn. Bns held positions for the night.

GUTSCHIED (L-156) 27 - 28 February 1945

Mission: To hold present positions, rehabilitate men, get equipment in shape, VOGG.

✓ During 27 February 1945, Bns improved present positions and prepared to comply with the verbal orders CG. Guards placed over civilians in captured towns. Patrolled to their flanks.

During 28 February 1945, Bns continued to improve positions and to rehabilitate and re-equip men. Bns continued to patrol to flanks and to supply guards for civilians in captured and occupied towns.

Ralph J. Wevers

RALPH J. WEVERS
Major, Infantry
S-3

APPROVED:

H. A. Costello
H. A. COSTELLO
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

- 12 -
27 Feb: Two Bns (re-sectored) taken by 2d Bn 695th Regt, 40th Div, which had come from vicinity PRUM to occupy H/G on E side of PRUM River across by MAUEL. The Bn (180 men) brought 15 mortars and 500 75mm pieces in train. Sniper fire continued by H/G across river N. NE of MAUEL. 15 Bns ARTY fell in Philipswiller coming by NE.
28 Feb - 1 plnt Co B, 633 AAA Bn protecting R-17 CP. One plnt D-702 TK released by ATCHMNT

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION II - Intelligence Operations (S-2).

MAPS: GSGS 4414. Sheets 6003, 6004, 6103, 6104.
Scale: 1/25,000.

During the month of February 1945, prisoners were taken from the 36th, 57th, 116th VG Regts, 9th Fus Co, 9th Engr Bn, and 9th Arty Regt of the 9th VG Div; 208th, 212th, 226th and 179th Arty Regt of the 79th VG Div; 5th Parachute Div; 915th VG Regt and the 1352 Arty Regt of the 352d VG Div; and the 2nd and 3rd Panzer Regts of the 2d Panzer Div in addition to the 38th AT Bn and 38th Engr Bn of the 2d Panzer Div which were thrown in as front-line infantry troops. PWs from the X Fortress AT Bn and the XV Fortress AT Bn were also taken in the Siegfried Line fortifications. Except for the 2d Panzer Div these units were greatly understrength and were composed of many poorly-trained replacements, rehabilitated veterans of both the Russian and Western fronts, and rear-echelon troops from the supply and engineer battalions. The morale of the majority of these PWs was low due in part to the low quality of food and the fact that they felt they were being sacrificed after the American had broken through to their rear and attacked them from the East in their westwall fortifications. In one case the men of the 2d Co X Fortress AT Bn had prepared a white surrender flag two weeks prior to the arrival of the Americans at their gun positions.

The 2d Panzer Div came into this sector from the north, with the mission of stopping the American breakthrough and to counterattack and regain lost ground. The men were well-equipped fresh troops supported by tanks. But the infantry elements of the 2d Panzer Div were also heavily composed of poor-grade replacements. The tank troops were better-trained men with good morale.

Our attack across the Our River on 7 February 1945 was opposed by the 915th Volksgrenadier Regt, who occupied the pillboxes across the Our River, opposite Hoesdorf and Wallendorf. This Regt was supported by the 1352d Arty Regt. The enemy was well prepared to oppose our attack as they occupied the bunkers and defensive positions and trenches in the vicinity of the bunkers and were reinforced by a great deal of artillery and Nebelwerfer fire. No special or new weapons were seen. Morale of the enemy at this time was good indicated by the fact that each pillbox had to be "taken" by hand fighting, the Germans resisting fanatically. Enemy defenses consisted of pillboxes with connecting trenches placed in excellent positions which made the most use of the terrain. These defenses were supported by heavy artillery barrages. Excellent use was made of the Our River and the high ground in the vicinity of Wallendorf and Anneldingen, to delay our advance. Each pillbox, after it had been taken, either had to be demolished or occupied as the enemy would infiltrate and reoccupy them. The enemy was apparently not expecting our attack across the Our River and into the Siegfried Line at that time; for coincident with our attack, the 36th VGR, a weaker unit than the 915th VGR and one with men of lower morale, came to relieve the 915th from their positions in and around the pillboxes. Due to our attack the 36th VGR reinforced instead of relieved the 915th VGR. Many enemy mines, both AT and AP, were found in the area; approaches to pillboxes and even doors of the pillboxes were mined and booby-trapped.

APPROVED

N. A. Costello
N. A. COSTELLO
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

Roy E. Thacker
ROY E. THACKER
Major, Infantry
S-2

Inclosure: S-2 Journals for February 1945

SECTION III - Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4).

1. Class I (Rations)

a. Rations requests were submitted to Regtl S-4 for issuance 72 hours later. Requests were consolidated and forwarded to Division QM daily.

b. Requests for rations showed the effective strength of the requesting units and the type of rations desired. Whenever possible, "B" rations were issued to the reserve units.

c. All units were required to maintain a three (3) day reserve for emergency. In the event that the reserve became depleted, a separate request was submitted indicating that the rations became low and were for the purpose of maintaining the three (3) day reserve.

d. All troops were warned that captured enemy foods and beverages would not be consumed except upon release by a medical officer who would check for the possibility of poison having been placed therein.

2. Water.

a. All troops were warned that water secured from other than authorized water points will be chlorinated or boiled before using.

b. Whenever available, water for use by troops was drawn from water points set up by Army or Division Engineers. Units had sufficient Calcium Hypochlorite to purify water drawn from any sources available in the event that there was not an Army or Division Engineer water point. All units were notified that all water regardless of source would be chlorinated prior to use by troops.

3. Class II (Clothing and Equipment)

a. All unit requisitions for Class II supplies were cleared through the Battalion S-4s. Special Unit Companies submitted requisitions individually to the Regimental S-4.

b. Requisitions submitted were checked for the following:

- (1) Correct nomenclature was used
- (2) Tariff sizes on clothing requisitions were used
- (3) SNL groups and stock numbers were shown for ordnance items.
- (4) Only one class of property was shown.
- (5) That basis for requisition was shown and requisition did not

exceed authorized allowances.

c. When the property was drawn it was broken down to units and issued on a tally-out.

d. Upon receipt of equipment, units had to turn in all salvage that the new equipment replaced. Salvage was segregated into like items, bundled, and turned in to the Regimental Field Train, where it was in turn consolidated into bundles and turned in to the Class I truckhead.

4. Class III (Gasoline and Oil).

a. Gasoline was issued to units on a can for can exchange basis.

b. Oils and greases were issued to units from stock on hand at the Regimental Field Train.

5. Class V (Ammunition)

a. Third Army scale basic loads of ammunition was maintained by units at all times.

b. Requests for maintenance quantities were submitted to the Regimental Munitions Officer at the Regimental Field Train when required. Requests contained a certificate signed by an officer that the request did not exceed the basic load.

SECTION III - Logistics, supply procedure, problems (S-4)(contd).

6. Evacuation.

a. Deceased: Evacuated as near as possible to an axis of communication and the Graves Registration Officer was notified as to the location of the bodies. The collecting point was usually located in the vicinity of the medical collecting point.

b. Prisoners: Evacuated to the Division PWE as soon as possible after interrogation by the Combat Team IPW group.

c. Material: Motor vehicles and weapons were evacuated by units to the Field Train if possible. If not possible, the S-4 was advised as to the location and personnel from the Field Train evacuated the vehicle or weapon to the 780th Ordnance Company.

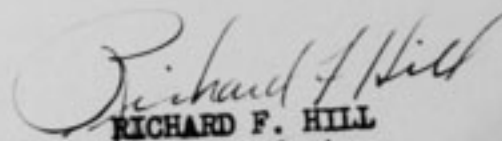
7. General.

a. Socks were available for issue to all units on the basis of one pair per man each day. This system has contributed much toward decreasing the number of cases of trench foot.

b. Laundry service was greatly improved during the month. All dirty clothing on hand was turned in for laundry each week thereby making it possible for each man to have a change of clothing each week. Large quantities of serviceable clothing was recovered from the battlefield by Regtl and Bn Salvage Teams. This clothing was not turned in for salvage but for laundry thereby cutting requirements for new clothing to a minimum.

c. Due to only a two day lag between the time rations are requested and issued it was possible to feed "B" rations to front line troops much more often than it has been heretofore. This system has proven very satisfactory.

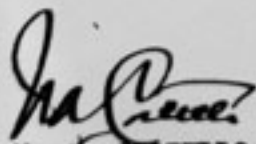
d. Large quantities of both American and enemy material was picked up during the month by Salvage Crews organized by Battalion and Regimental S-4s.


RICHARD F. HILL
Major, Infantry
S-4

Inclosure:

S-4 Journal for February 1945.

APPROVED:


N. A. COSTELLO
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

SECTION IV - Personnel and allied administrative procedures (S-1).

1. Replacements.

During the month of February 1945, it was very difficult to obtain officer reinforcements. During the operations from 7 February 1945 to 21 February 1945 this organization made the crossing of the Our River and breached the Seigfried Line defenses. This organization's losses was very heavy in officers during the above operations and several of the companies had only one officer. It is suggested that requisitions for officers be filled more promptly if possible. This organization had five enlisted men commissioned as Second Lieutenants, AUS, during the month of February 1945.

2. Recreation.

Whenever the situation permitted and films were available, movies were shown in the Service Company rear area and Battalion CP areas. A Red Cross Clubmobile Unit was attached to this unit during the period 27 February 1945 to 4 March 1945 and due to the fact that there was no enemy action during that period the Clubmobile Unit was sent forward to Battalion CP areas.

3. Administration.

During periods of actual contact with the enemy, many self-inflicted wounds were sustained. In order to decrease the rising number of cases of self-inflicted wounds an officer had been appointed to investigate all such cases immediately upon receipt of information at this Headquarters. Cases were investigated to discover whether or not the wound was sustained in line of duty.

Due to the critical paper shortage, conservative measures were taken.

4. Awards and Decorations.

The awarding of Bronze, and Silver Stars and Distinguished Service Crosses were presented without delay. Much delay has been encountered in the securing of Combat Infantrymen Badges and ETO Ribbons.

Albert R. Thornhill
ALBERT R. THORNHILL
Captain, Infantry
Adjutant

APPROVED:

N. A. Costello
N. A. COSTELLO
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

Inclasures:

Casualty Rpt by Types of Casualties.
Prisoners of War Captured (daily)
Replacements Received (daily)
Awards and Decorations
S-1 Journals for February 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

TABLES FOR 2-1 SUMMARY

HEADQUARTERS 319TH INFANTRY
APO 80, U. S. Army

TABLE NUMBER ONE:-

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT BY TYPE OF CASUALTY
(Figures taken from Unit Personnel Section Battle
Casualty Reports up to and including 1 February
1945 to 28 February 1945).

DATE	KIA	DOW	WIA	LJA	MIA	TOTAL	RTD's
1 Feb 45				1		1	11
2 Feb 45							20
3 Feb 45				1		1	18
4 Feb 45			1			2	11
5 Feb 45	1		6	2		8	33
6 Feb 45			54	3	18	90	2
7 Feb 45	14	1	81	10		110	1
8 Feb 45	17	2	21	3	8	47	44
9 Feb 45	15		29	6		41	25
10 Feb 45	6		43	6	2	55	1
11 Feb 45	4		33	3		40	
12 Feb 45	4		25	5	18	40	
13 Feb 45	2		20	2		24	51
14 Feb 45	1	1	13		5	18	16
15 Feb 45			31		15	46	21
16 Feb 45			4			5	4
17 Feb 45	1		2			7	
18 Feb 45	5		16	1		19	17
19 Feb 45	2		41		4	53	
20 Feb 45	8	1	8	1	1	12	
21 Feb 45	2		32	1		49	29
22 Feb 45	15	1	13			15	32
23 Feb 45		2	8			8	9
24 Feb 45				2		2	23
25 Feb 45			6			6	
26 Feb 45			2	1	1	4	
27 Feb 45			3			3	19
28 Feb 45							

TABLE NUMBER TWO: -

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED

5 Feb 45	2
7 Feb 45	6
9 Feb 45	10
10 Feb 45	20
11 Feb 45	96
12 Feb 45	139
13 Feb 45	108
14 Feb 45	29
15 Feb 45	12
16 Feb 45	21
17 Feb 45	3
18 Feb 45	18
19 Feb 45	79
20 Feb 45	310
21 Feb 45	177
22 Feb 45	22
23 Feb 45	80
24 Feb 45	20
25 Feb 45	38
27 Feb 45	14
28 Feb 45	2

TABLE NUMBER THREE: -

 REPLACEMENTS RECEIVED
 (Including Hospital Returnees)

1 Feb 45	11
2 Feb 45	20
3 Feb 45	18
5 Feb 45	81
6 Feb 45	39
7 Feb 45	2
8 Feb 45	1
9 Feb 45	44
10 Feb 45	79
11 Feb 45	6
12 Feb 45	9
14 Feb 45	59
15 Feb 45	210
16 Feb 45	21
17 Feb 45	4
19 Feb 45	17
22 Feb 45	29
23 Feb 45	68
24 Feb 45	9
25 Feb 45	23
27 Feb 45	2
28 Feb 45	43

TABLE NUMBER FOUR: -

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Decorations awarded from 1 Feb 45 to 28 Feb 45

Number

- 1.....Distinguished Service Cross
- 3.....Silver Star Medal (Posthumously)
- 12.....Silver Star Medals
- 1.....Oak Leaf Cluster to Silver Star
- 6.....Bronze Star Medal (Posthumously)
- 70.....Bronze Star Medals
- 1.....Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star
- 490.....Purple Heart Awards
- 134.....(1st) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart
- 32.....(2nd) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart
- 4.....(3rd) Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart

From Regt Hist (US Army School, Ft Benning)

DSC: Pfc McKenzie, Wm J.	33374 825	H-319	for 29 Dec 44	Ringel, Lux.
OLE/SS: Lcol Elliot B. Cheston	0354 466	H-304W	for 26 Nov 44	St Avold, FV Lixieres.
SS: Foyrall, Harold E 1/LT	0132 2983		for 9 Oct 44	Nomeny, FV
SS: T/Sgt Wyatt, Thurman W	20403 366		for 36 Nov 44	St Avold, FV
SS (Post) T/Sgt Thompson, Shelton	33111 036		for 9 Nov 44	Craincourt, FV
SS: Pfc MURDOCK, DONALD N Jr	34300 589		for 8 Oct 44	Lixieres, FV
SS: NAFW SAMUEL L. WILLIAMS	0362 978		" 22-24 Dec	Heiderscheid, Lux
SS: TSgt GOTTLob, MARTIN	37211 498		" 36 Nov 44	St Avold, FV
SS: Sgt Lloyd, Gordon L	35408 211		" 11 Nov 44	Delme Ridge, FV
SS: Lt MERRICK, THOMAS L	0132 582		" 34 Nov 44	Longeville
SS: SSgt MAKER, VINCENT W	35312 095		" 35 Nov 44	Longeville, FV
SS: Lt YOUNG, JAS G	04600 29		" 11 Sep 44	Fort de Haye, FV
SS (Post) SWAN, CHAS J Pfc	36658 N		" 24 Nov 44	TRITTELING, FR

COMMISSION IN Feb 45

2LT JAS ALLESSO Borella	02009 781
1LT JOHN W. ARMSTRONG	02009 801
1LT JOE R. HUGHES	02009 810
1LT HERMAN E. JEEBOE	02009 797
2LT CHAS K. HANSEN	02009 795
2LT CHAS D. CLEMENTS	02009 793