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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO #80, C/O POSTMASTER, NEW YORK, N. Y.

7 January 1945

SUBJECT: Unit History Form Month of December 1944.

TO : Commanding General, 80th Infantry Division, APO #80, U. S. Army.
(ATTENTION: Division Historian)

Transmitted herewith is the history for the month of December 1944, of this Battalion, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1, Change 3, AR 345-105.

John W. Browning
JOHN W. BROWNING
Lt Col, FA
Comdg

1 Incl:
Unit History for Month of December 1944

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Al Buller-Rosenthal
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 12 JAN 46

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO #80, C/O POSTMASTER, NEW YORK, N. Y.

1. Original Unit:

- a. 905th Field Artillery Battalion.
- b. Organized 15 July 1942.
- c. Organized at Camp Forrest, Tennessee.
- d. Authority for organization: General Order Numer 1, Headquarters, 80th Infantry Division, dated 15 July 1942.
- e. Personnel obtained by draft.

2. Changes in organization:

No change in T/O, however, Cannon Company, 319th Infantry attached for Combat and administration, effective 11 December 1944, Per Special Order Number 242, Headquarters, 80th Infantry Division, dated 8 December 1944.

3. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted:

- a. 1 December 1944 - 31 Officers and Warrant Officers 465 Enlisted Men
- b. Net Increase - None None
- c. Net Decrease - None 5 Enlisted Men
- d. 31 December 1944 - 31 Officers and Warrant Officers 460 Enlisted Men

4. Stations: Month of December:

- a. Arrived in France 6 August 1944.
- b. 1 December CP at Seingbouse, France (33.85-57.60) 1/25,000 East France
- 4 " " at Macheren, France (30.00-56.35) 1/25,000 " "
- 7 " " at St. Avold, France (33.00-59.00) 1/25,000 " "
- 9 " " at Merlebach, France (32.81-61.29) 1/25,000 " "
- 19 " " at Bining, France (63.40-49.60) 1/25,000 " "
- 21 " " at Lintgen, Luxembourg (84.40-26.00) 1/25,000 Luxembourg
- 22 " " at Hollenfels, Luxembourg (78.50-25.00) 1/25,000 Luxembourg
- at Bissen, Luxembourg (79.30-33.50) 1/25,000 Luxembourg
- 23 " " at Oberfeulen, Luxembourg (77.85-39.11) 1/25,000 Luxembourg
- 26 " " at $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile N.W. of Feulen, Luxembourg (75.10-43.00) 1/25,000 Luxembourg

5. Marches:

a. All marches during December were for the purpose of changing positions to support the tactical situation.

All CP's at towns mentioned.

3 December - Seingbouse, France to Macheren, France, 4 miles, weather cold and raining, roads muddy.

6 December - Macheren, France to St. Avold, France, 4 miles, weather damp, roads wet.

8 December - St. Avold, France to Merlebach, France, 6 miles, weather raining, roads muddy.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

5. Marches: (Continued)

18 December - Merlebach, France to Bining, France, 40 miles, weather clear, roads good.

20 December - Bining, France to Lintgen, Luxembourg, 136 miles, weather clear, and cold, roads good.

21 December - Lintgen, Luxembourg to Hellenfels, Luxembourg, 6 miles, weather wet and cold, roads good.

22 December - Hellenfels, Luxembourg to Bissen, Luxembourg, 10 miles, weather clear, roads fair.

23 December - Bissen, Luxembourg to Oberfeulen, Luxembourg, 7 miles, weather clear and cold, roads fair.

26 December - Oberfeulen, Luxembourg to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northwest of Feulen, Luxembourg, weather clear, roads good.

6. Campaigns:

a. Battle of Germany.

b. 15 September 1944 to present.

c. To conquer Germany.

d. Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces.

7. Battles:

1. The Enemy:

December 1 - The 905th FA Bn continued in its direct support mission with the 319th Infantry. Standard Operating Procedure of one liaison officer per infantry battalion and one forward observer per line company was in effect. Air OP's continued unchanged. Three organic ground OP's were established and operated on a twenty-four hour basis. Enemy artillery fire was comparatively light in the regimental sector, being mostly harassing and interdiction fire.

December 2 - A slight increase in enemy artillery was noted. The Infantry moved to a position below the towns of Freyming and Merlebach; These towns being held by small groups of enemy. Flying bomb passed over CP during the afternoon.

December 3 - A forward observer - liaison officer was sent to the 2nd Cavalry Group operating on the regimental flank. Enemy artillery fire continued to harass infantry installations.

December 5 - Artillery support assisted infantry in clearing enemy from Freyming and Merlebach. Slight resistance reported by the infantry. Enemy using heavy artillery for interdiction and harassing missions. Time bombs exploded in St. Avel, in vicinity of Service Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

December 8 - 319th Combat Team settled in Merlebach for a modified rest period. One company maintained outposts. A liaison officer and one forward observer were with infantry outposts elements. Organic OP's were established. The 905th FA Bn leads XII Corps Artillery in the number of team shell reports submitted.

December 9-17 - Enemy artillery continued interdiction and harassing missions in vicinity of Merlebach. Cavalry units maintained contact with enemy to the north east, between Merlebach and Forbach. Enemy artillery locations were observed by liaison plane and taken under fire.

December 18 - The Battalion moved to vicinity of Singling, France, to take up support of 319th Infantry.

December 19-20 - The Battalion moved to vicinity of Lintgen, Luxembourg and went into general support.

December 22 - The 905th FA Bn was in direct support of 319th Infantry in operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Merzig. Enemy artillery on the road, in vicinity of Merzig, was taken under fire with devastating effect. A supply train on the same road was also destroyed by artillery fire. Infantry reported in contact with elements of the 352 VG Division.

December 23 - Tanks attacks were repulsed with losses to the enemy by Infantry and artillery fire. Small arms and mortar fire increased. Air battles in regimental sector provided a dramatic touch. Infantry moved to positions Heiderscheid, Tadler, and Ringel, after facing considerable opposition. Infantry counter-attacks along front were broken up by artillery concentrations. There was some elasticity in the front but infantry regained lost ground. Infantry may have been in contact with elements of Gross Deutschland Division. Nebelwerfer fire was received in the regimental area.

December 24 - The enemy, with tanks, counter-attacked in the morning but was repulsed. Artillery and mortar fire on front lines increased. Enemy air activity increasing. Infantry was in contact with elements of 79 VG Division. Nebelwerfer fire received in sector.

December 25 - The enemy counter-attacked about midnight but was repulsed. Considerable artillery and mortar fire received. 317th Infantry on our right flank was held up by enemy artillery throughout the day. Battery OP's were established.

December 26 - Enemy vehicular movement was noted to be increasing. A column of 35 vehicles was fired upon with good effect. Enemy artillery fire continues to harass forward elements. Enemy infantry in white camouflage suits were observed from organic OP's.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

December 27 - 3rd Battalion, 319th Infantry received heavy mortar fire during the morning hours. The enemy counter-attacked in the morning with a small force which was repulsed. During the afternoon, the 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry was counter-attacked by a force of at least battalion strength. Heavy losses were sustained by the enemy and the situation was under control one hour after shooting began. An estimated 500 rounds of enemy artillery fell on the 1st Battalion sector during the day. At dusk, our Air OP observed and adjusted upon an enemy battery, with direct hits being observed. Liaison was made with the 14th Field Observation Battalion and utilization was made of their sound and flash base, operating in the vicinity of Heiderscheid. Nebelwerfer fire received in Heiderscheid.

December 28 - The 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry was again counter-attacked by a substantial force but the enemy was repulsed by infantry-artillery fire. Thirty PW's were taken. PW information shows devastating effect of artillery fire. Units are decimated daily and enemy shows increasing inclination to surrender. Entire sector 319th Infantry received artillery fire. PW's claim their commanders ordered ground to be taken at all costs.

December 29 - Artillery fire caught enemy infantry in assembly area and counter-attack that was anticipated never occurred. Enemy shelled near installations. Division Artillery air strip was under fire during entire day, with six liaison planes reported damaged. 905th Air OP's continued to function and enemy guns were observed and adjusted upon. Vehicular activity was observed in the vicinity of Goesdorf. PW's report devastating effect of artillery fire.

December 30 - Enemy counter-attacked in 2nd Battalion sector but was repulsed after artillery barrages had decimated attacking units. Infiltration of enemy infantry necessitated the placing of fires extremely close to our forward elements. Artillery observation and adjustment was excellent. Enemy planes were over area in afternoon and evening. A P47 dropped a bomb near Service Battery installations in Oberfeulen. The plane was not fired upon by our personnel. A five gun battery was observed and adjusted upon by air OP. Direct hits were observed upon 3 of the guns. Enemy artillery continues interdiction and harassing fires. The heaviest concentration reported was in Heiderscheid, where forty rounds fell in five minutes.

December 31 - There was evidence that the enemy withdrew to positions farther to the east. Fox holes occupied yesterday were found empty. A four gun enemy battery was observed and adjusted upon by Air OP. The effect was excellent - massed fires of supporting battalions completely covered the target. There was considerable vehicular activity to the northeast. A group of seven tanks was picked up and fired upon south of Consthum. Enemy artillery fire continued throughout the day with Nebelwerfer fire reported north of Heiderscheid in the early evening. Our infantry determined the outpost line and MLR of the enemy east of Ringel. Some enemy activity over regimental sector was reported.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

The enemy situation at the end of the period showed an aggressive enemy who had used tanks and automatic weapons in successive counter-attacks. Though he suffered heavy losses from artillery and infantry fire, the enemy made repeated attempts to gain the high ground in the vicinity of Ringel. At the end of the month the use of tanks by the enemy lessened in this sector. Enemy artillery was difficult to locate. Excellent results were secured on enemy guns and batteries spotted by Air OP's. Coordination with the 14th Field Observation Battalion aided in determining movement of enemy elements. There was a reported build-up of enemy artillery north of Ringel, across the Sure River. Enemy artillery fire was the heaviest since entering the combat zone. PW's report counter-attacks supported by massed artillery are imminent.

During the month, nine PW's were taken by the 905th Field Artillery Battalion and suspicious civilians were turned over to the CIC for screening. Many Soldbuchs, maps, "log books" and miscellaneous documents were passed on to higher headquarters.

2. Action:

December 1 to 2 (inclusive) - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in its direct support mission of the 319th Infantry, with the Battalion Command Post located in the town of Seinghouse, France. The 512th Field Artillery Battalion reinforced the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion. The 319th Infantry was in a defensive position, defending the northern sector of the XII Corps. Communications between higher and lower echelons, Forward Observers, etc., was by wire and radio. Numerous fire missions were fired on enemy troops and vehicles; also interdiction and harassing missions. These fires were thickened and some were taken over by the 512th Field Artillery Battalion, reinforcing the Battalion.

December 3 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, still with the same mission and supporting unit, took up a position in the vicinity of Macheren, France. This position was occupied by 1400 hours. Registration on two (2) points was completed by 1530 hours. These registrations were accomplished by ground observation as air observation was impossible.

December 4 to 5 (inclusive) The 905th Field Artillery Battalion Command Post remained in the same location, near Macheren, France. Its mission continued to be that of direct support of the 319th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, along with Division Artillery, fired a 15 minute preparation for the 318th Infantry, prior to the jump off of their attack. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion had a Liaison Officer with the 2nd Cavalry Group and the Artillery Battalion fired numerous missions for the Group throughout the day and night. On 5 December 1944, the 512th Field Artillery Battalion was relieved of its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

2. Action:

December 6 to 7 (inclusive) - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved to the vicinity of Batting Les St. Avoild, France with the Command Post in the town. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion supported the outpost line of the 319th Infantry and, as a secondary mission, supported the 2nd Cavalry Group.

December 8 to 17 (inclusive) - The Command Post of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was located in Merlebach, France and the mission was direct support of the 319th Infantry, on a defensive position, outposting the town of Merlebach, France. The communications were by wire and radio. Battery Observation Posts were established and surveyed in. The 319th Cannon Company was officially turned over to the 905th Field Artillery Battalion, by Division order, as "D" Battery, on 11 December 1944. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was given the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 183rd Field Artillery Group on December 10. Numerous missions were fired for them as Time On Target fires. On December 17, the 905th Field Artillery Battalion was relieved of its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 183rd Field Artillery Group. During this period, two (2) one-hour instruction periods per day for officers, were carried on.

December 18 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion moved as part of the 7th serial of the Division motor march from Merlebach, France, to a farm, (Bombacherhoff), east of Singling, France. The battalion left Merlebach, France at 0915 hours, was delayed enroute 55 minutes before crossing the Initial Point by column preceding the battalion, and closed at Bombacherhoff Farm at 1330 hours. Reconnaissance was immediately started for battle position, northeast of Bettviller, France. The battalion took up positions in the vicinity of Bombacherhoff Farm with a mission of reinforcing the fires of the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Wire and radio communication were used.

December 19 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion received several changes of orders during the early morning hours. The outcome of which, put them in direct support of the 2nd Battalion, 319th Infantry. To better accomplish the direct support mission, one Battery ("A") was moved forward. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion had the 276th Field Artillery Battalion reinforcing its fires. The 319th Infantry was relieved of its mission on the line and the 319th Combat Team prepared for a motor march which started after the hours of darkness. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion was still enroute at 200600.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

2. Action:

December 20 - The column being held up at various times during the night, the 905th Field Artillery Battalion did not reach ESCH-SUR A, Luxembourg, until 200845, where the column was halted because of a traffic tie-up. At 1000 hours, the Battalion Commander received instructions from the Division Artillery Assistant S-3 and proceeded to assigned area, making reconnaissance of same for occupation of position. Because of heavy traffic, the battalion did not arrive in the position until 1545 hours. The Battalion Command Post was located in the town of Lintgen, with the batteries approximately 1000 meters northeast of town, taking up a defensive situation, as prescribed by higher headquarters. The battalion closed in its area at 1815.

December 21 to 22 (inclusive) - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion received a mission of direct support of the 319th Infantry. Positions were reconnoitered and before obtaining orders to occupy these positions, the orders were rescinded and the battalion remained in its position in Lintgen. By 1200 hours the orders were again changed, to a direct support mission, supporting the 319th Infantry. The battalion moved to locations in the vicinity of Hollenfels, with the Command Post located in the Chateau Ruinea. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion fires were reinforced by the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Wire and radio communication were used.

December 23 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, being in position, fired numerous missions and registered on a check-point as soon as a plane was made available from the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Prepared defensive fires for the night position of the Infantry. During the night, eight (8) harassing missions were fired to cover up avenues of approach by the enemy. Several missions were fired early in the morning on troops and vehicles assembling for counter-attack. Later, a counter-attack was in process in various sectors of our front. Considerable ammunition was expended in breaking up the counter-attack and, although the Infantry was forced to give ground during the counter-attack, it regained the lost ground by 1200 hours. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion remained in its position in the vicinity of Oberfeulen. The counter-attack took place in the vicinity of Heiderscheid. The following concentrations were fired: 13 Infantry, 2 machine guns, 12 tanks, 1 direct fire weapon, 1 convoy, 1 counter-attack.

December 24 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion remained in position in the vicinity of Oberfeulen and continued in its mission of direct support of the 319th Infantry. After the counter-attack had been repulsed early in the morning, numerous missions were fired on enemy stragglers and mechanized equipment. These fires were reinforced by the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Fired 8 concentrations on Infantry, 1 machine guns and 9 harassing.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

2. Action:

December 25 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued to support the 319th Infantry. A reconnaissance was made for new positions in the vicinity of Mon Zahnen, southeast of Heiderscheid. Positions were occupied after darkness. At approximately 2330 hours, there was a small counter-attack. A normal barrage and several concentrations were fired and the counter-attack was repulsed. Immediately after daybreak, numerous targets appeared and with the reinforcing fire of the 315th Field Artillery Battalion, these targets were destroyed. At daylight, Cannon Company, 319th Infantry, known as "D" Battery, also fired a short barrage on enemy troops. Fired 2 concentrations on artillery, 4 on infantry, 1 on tanks, 2 on vehicles, 1 on Observation Post, 1 on counter-attack, 2 normal barrages and 9 harassing.

December 26 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued to support the 319th Infantry. The 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry, relieved the 2nd Battalion, 319th Infantry, at 1800 hours. The 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry, received a small counter-attack at 1100 hours. Two barrages were fired and the attack was repulsed. Considerable difficulty is being experienced by Observers in making adjustments on targets. It is believed that the terrain is the predominant factor in successfully completing observed missions. Fired concentrations on: 1 counter-battery, 18 infantry, 3 tanks, 12 harassing, 6 preparations, 2 emergency barrages, 4 normal barrages.

December 27 - After the counter-attack of the morning was stopped, the situation was stabilized until 1445 hours when the 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry, was counter-attacked by an enemy force, of at least battalion strength, from the east and southeast. Barrages were fired and repeated several times. Concentrations, both battalion and battery, called for, stopping the enemy with reported heavy losses (reports from our Infantry and prisoners of war). By 1540 hours, the situation was under control. An enemy battery was observed and adjusted on by our Air Observation Post, but darkness prevented observation of results. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued on its direct support mission and was reinforced by fires of the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Communication was by both telephone and radio. Fired 3 counter battery, 8 infantry, 1 vehicles, 13 harassing and 2 normal barrages.

December 28 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in direct support of the 319th Infantry, reinforced by the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Defensive positions were improved. "Able" Battery was displaced to a position to the rear of the 905th Command Post, so as to better support the Main Line of Resistance. The 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry, was counter-attacked at 1430 hours. The attackers came from the east. They were successfully repulsed and 30 prisoners were taken. Enemy artillery fire was heavy on forward elements. Telephone and radio communications were both used. Fired 1 counter-battery, 4 infantry, 3 vehicles, 11 harassing missions, Also, 5 normal barrages.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

7. Battles: (Continued)

2. Action:

December 29 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion took up a defensive situation along with the Infantry and fired some observed targets on enemy troops. Service Battery received considerable shelling and strafing in their area. The battalion remained in the same position it has been in for several days. The 319th Infantry were attacked from the woods to their east and north at about 300415. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, plus "D" Battery, were called on to fire several counter preparations, normal and emergency, and defensive concentrations. Numerous repeats on these fires were called for and were fired. The counter-attack was repulsed at about 300530 and the 319th Infantry pushed forward to clean out remaining enemy. The push forward was preceded by artillery concentrations. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion and Division Artillery reinforced the fires of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion.

The Pozit fuzes have been used for interdiction missions only, being fired at night. Of the 42 rounds fired, we have only observed two early bursts - these appeared to be in the clouds. The effect was unknown as it was unobserved. We are, however, having some difficulty in removing the 48 fuzes from cavitized shells. Fired: 5 time on target, 1 counter-battery, 23 infantry, 2 machine gun, 2 mortars, 4 vehicles, 1 command post, 1 emergency, 1 counter-preparation and 2 normal barrages.

December 30 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion continued in direct support of the 319th Infantry in a defensive situation. Fired 6 time on targets, 2 counter-battery, 6 infantry, 1 mortar, 1 tanks, 1 vehicles and 14 harassing missions.

December 31 - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion Headquarters Command Post located at Mon Zahnen (752-429 Wiltz 122 1/50,000) supported by the reinforcing fires of the 315th Field Artillery Battalion. Both wire and radio communications were used to reach Observation Posts, Forward Observers, and other headquarters. The mission of the 905th Field Artillery Battalion is direct support of the 319th Infantry. The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, being in direct support of the 319th Infantry, fired only a few observed missions throughout the day because of poor observation due to the weather; also fired numerous interdiction and harassing missions, along with Time On Targets on enemy installations. The 315th Field Artillery Battalion assisted in reinforcing the 905th Field Artillery Battalion fires by adding additional fire to enemy installations. Fired 4 time on target, 2 counter battery, 11 infantry, 2 mortars and 12 harassing missions.

3. Attached and/or supporting organizations for month of December:

512th FA Bn reinforcing fires 2 December to 5th December 1944
276th FA Bn reinforcing fires 19 December to 21 December 1944
315th FA Bn reinforcing fires 22 December to 31 December 1944

4. Nine (9) prisoners of war captured during December.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

8. Commanding Officers in all engagements during December:

Battalion Commander:	Lt Col John W. Browning
Executive and S-1 :	Major William M. Gosman
S-3 :	Major Oswald H. Linck
S-2 :	1st Lt Eldred M. Swingen
S-4 :	Captain Lester H. Salter
Hq Battery :	Captain Charles W. Harrison
Battery "A" :	Captain Charles L. Kimzey
Battery "B" :	Captain Charles C. Miller, Jr.
Battery "C" :	Captain Joel B. Stephens
Serv Battery :	Captain Lester H. Salter
Medical Det :	Captain John L. Jeannepeules

9. Losses in Action:

- a. Battle of Germany.
- b. Name, type of casualty and date:

Pfc William H. Kaufman, 33253954, Btry "B", SWA 31 Dec 44
S Sgt Lester J. Schlager, 16094033, Btry "B", LWA 30 Dec 44
Pvt Cleve J. Chavis, 34464269, Hq Btry, SWA 27 Dec 44
Cpl John H. Maehr, 32184268, Hq Btry, LWA 27 Dec 44
Tec 5 Charles W. Kurz, 32075367, Btry "B" LWA 24 Dec 44

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

Award of Silver Star: Joseph W. Hull, 01184853, 2d Lt, FA, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France on 11 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 11 November 1944, 2d Lt Hull distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving as Forward Observer, * * * *

Equipped with only a radio, he proceeded with the company to which he was assigned, in an attack across a hill where heavy shelling from mortars and artillery was encountered. With utter disregard for his own safety, Lt Hull moved alone to the top of the hill in an attempt to discover the source of the fire. While in an exposed position under direct enemy fire Lt Hull directed fire missions upon the enemy battery, successfully having it destroyed, and thus enabling the infantry to advance. The outstanding courage, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty exhibited by 2d Lt Hull exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Silver Star (Posthumously): John R. Porteous, 01184927, 2d Lt, FA, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 November 1944, while acting as a Forward Observer with a company of an infantry regiment during an attack on the enemy, Lt Porteous received wounds from shell fragments. Although urged to retire for treatment Lt Porteous, with complete disregard for his own safety and comfort, elected to remain as Forward Observer and complete his assignment. Repeatedly exposing himself to enemy fire, he continued in his mission until he received additional wounds which resulted in his death. The outstanding personal bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Lt Porteous exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

Award of Silver Star: Charles C. Miller, Jr., 0366813, Capt, FA, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France on 25 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 25 November 1944, Captain Miller, while serving as Forward Observer attached to a company in an attack on the enemy, demonstrated outstanding personal bravery in maintaining constant operation by locating and firing on enemy positions despite the danger of being exposed to heavy mortar, artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire. His planning and controlling of all artillery preparations resulted in the destruction of three artillery pieces, five machine gun positions, two 20mm AA guns and two mortar positions in addition to many enemy troops. As the attack continued to advance, he was wounded in the right elbow by shell fragments from an exploding shell, but with utter disregard for his own condition he continued to control a series of barrages in front of the advancing infantry. The outstanding courage, aggressiveness, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Captain Miller exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama.

Award of Air Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster): Lewis H. Cox, 01181212, 1st Lt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 17 October 1944, to 8 November 1944, as an artillery liaison pilot, in successfully completing the required number of sorties while participating in aerial flight in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Bronze Star: Edward S. Lann, 35385947, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 19 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Award of Bronze Star: Dewey E. Garner, 0435656, Capt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Captain Garner has performed his duties as a Liaison Officer with an infantry battalion during long periods without rest often under constant enemy fire. His calmness and judgment at all times has set an example to the members of his section and has contributed greatly to the success of the coordination between the infantry and artillery. The courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty demonstrated by Captain Garner exemplify the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Award of Bronze Star: Walter R. Gerhardt, 32592222, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944 to 20 November 1944, Sgt Gerhardt has performed his duties as Liaison Sergeant in a superior manner. His constant supervision of his section, and his great interest in maintaining communications enabled the Liaison Officer with whom he worked to effect an efficient infantry-artillery team and direct the fire of the supporting artillery where needed. During periods when the section was constantly under enemy fire, Sgt Gerhardt personally laid and recovered a great deal of wire and maintained communications throughout. The diligence, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Gerhardt exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Jersey.

Award of Bronze Star: Manson B. Hatch, 01165506, Capt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Captain Hatch has performed his duties as Liaison Officer with an infantry battalion, during long periods without rest, often under constant enemy fire. He has acted intelligently and calmly under trying circumstances and has directed and supervised his forward observers and liaison section in a superior manner. The leadership, efficiency, and devotion to duty exhibited by Captain Hatch reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Bronze Star: Andrew E. Holmes, 01170421, 1st Lt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, 1st Lt Holmes has been Artillery Observer and has performed his missions with little relief and in a superior manner. His cool courage and total disregard for his own safety in placing himself in positions where he could observe, has contributed greatly to the success of each battle in which his company was engaged. His courage was demonstrated when, although wounded in the hand in an engagement, he continued with his assignment until the objective was gained. The outstanding bravery, initiative, and devotion to duty displayed by Lt Holmes reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Award of Bronze Star: Thomas W. Leonard, 33320916, Pfc, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Pfc Leonard has performed his duties as radio operator with a forward observation team in a superior manner. His willingness, notwithstanding the danger, has made him an invaluable man and has contributed greatly to the success of the operations of the forward observer sections to which he has been assigned. The initiative, efficiency, and devotion to duty exhibited by Pfc Leonard exemplify the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: George Lipchak, 33304727, Pfc, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944 to 20 November 1944, Pfc Lipchak has performed his duties with a forward observation section in a superior manner. As necessity arose, Pfc Lipchak has filled each duty within the section, acting as wireman, radio operator, and driver. His tireless energy has inspired other members of the section to place great confidence in his ability to be where needed most. The efficiency, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exhibited by Pfc Lipchak exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Alex Manue, 33368291, Cpl, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944 to 20 November 1944, Cpl Manue has performed his duties in a forward observation team in a superior manner. He has, on numerous occasions, set up and repaired wire communications under heavy shell fire. His tireless efforts have been a vital factor in the successful operation of the forward observation team. The efficiency, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty displayed by Cpl Manue exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Bronze Star: Lester J. Schlager, 16094033, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944 to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, S Sgt Schlager has worked as a member of different forward observer teams, for long periods of time without relief. His diligence and tireless efforts have contributed greatly to the installation and maintenance of communications while exposed to dangerous artillery and small arms fire. The courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exhibited by S Sgt Schlager exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Award of Bronze Star: Joseph M. Vale, 01180371, 1st Lt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Lt Vale has performed his duties as Artillery Observer in a superior manner, over long periods with no rest and under continual enemy fire. His courage and disregard for his own safety in placing himself always in positions from which he could observe has contributed greatly to the success of the missions to which he was assigned. The leadership, efficiency, and devotion to duty displayed by Lt Vale exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Missouri.

Award of Bronze Star: Edwin E. Wild, 33320376, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Pvt Wild has performed his duties as wireman with a forward observation section in a superior manner, often coming under enemy fire while laying wire. His ability and ceaseless efforts have contributed greatly to the installation and maintenance of communications vital for the success of operations of his unit. The initiative, efficiency, and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Wild reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: William J. Zwick, 33347899, Cpl, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 31 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944 to 31 October 1944, Cpl Zwick distinguished himself by performing his duties as Liaison Corporal in a superior manner. His actions have contributed greatly to the success and efficiency of operations of various forward observer teams with whom he worked, often under heavy enemy fire. The initiative, ability, and devotion to duty displayed by Cpl Zwick reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Bronze Star: Walter Krafty, 33367793, Tec 4, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Tec 4 Krafty has performed his duties as S-3 Clerk in a superior manner. His ability to work conscientiously and thoroughly have contributed greatly to the operation of the battalion, command post, and fire direction center. His coolness when under great stress has set an example to others and has enabled them to better perform their own work. The tireless energy, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exhibited by Tec 4 Krafty reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Raymon L. McGraw, 33213219, Cpl, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Cpl McGraw has performed his duties as Wire Corporal in a superior manner. Often coming under enemy fire in the performance of his duties, Cpl McGraw not only exhibited a high degree of technical skill and proficiency, but through his untiring and ceaseless efforts as a leader and example, contributed greatly to the installation and maintenance of the communication of the battalion. The tireless energy, initiative, and devotion to duty demonstrated by Cpl McGraw reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Virginia.

Award of Bronze Star: William S. Pazik, 33185411, 1st Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944 to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, 1st Sgt Pazik has performed his duties in a superior manner. Through his tireless efforts, the administrative detail of the battery has been accomplished with a high degree of skill and efficiency. The initiative, energy, and devotion to duty displayed by 1st Sgt Pazik reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Alphonse H. Pyre, 31149405, Cpl, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944 to 28 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 28 October 1944, Cpl Pyre performed his duties as Wire Corporal in a superior manner. His forcefulness and initiative were continually demonstrated and were a large factor in the high degree of efficiency of communication in the battalion. Often coming under enemy fire in the performance of his duties, Cpl Pyre not only exhibited a high degree of technical skill and proficiency but through his untiring and ceaseless efforts as a leader and example, contributed greatly to the installation and maintenance of the communication in the battalion. The tireless energy, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty displayed by Cpl Pyre reflect

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Rhode Island.

Award of Bronze Star: Mike J. Banasiak, 36510609, Pfc, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Pfc Banasiak has performed his duties as Gun Recorder in a superior manner. As recorder at the gun position he has at times assumed the duties of Assistant Executive and has been an inspiration to all members of the gun crews. His accuracy in keeping data on barrages, and preparations has inspired confidence in him by his officers, non-commissioned officers, and members of the crews. The tireless energy, initiative, and devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Banasiak reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

Award of Bronze Star: Harold D. Burk, 35331016, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 28 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 28 October 1944, S Sgt Burk performed his duties as Wire Sergeant in a superior manner. His forcefulness and initiative were continually demonstrated and were a large factor in the high degree of efficiency of communication in the battalion. Often coming under enemy fire in the performance of his duties, S Sgt Burk, not only exhibited a high degree of technical skill and proficiency, but through his untiring and ceaseless efforts as a leader and example, contributed greatly to the installation and maintenance of the communication of the battalion. The tireless energy, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Burk reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Award of Bronze Star: Samuel B. Brown, 33320992, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, S Sgt Brown has performed his duties as Motor Sergeant in a superior manner. His outstanding efforts and continual interest has contributed greatly to the excellent state of motor maintenance within the battery and to the few mechanical failures of vehicles under his supervision. The initiative, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Brown reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Anthony B. Chismar, 33107941, Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 10 September 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 10 September 1944, to 20 November 1944, Sgt Chismar has performed his duties as Chief of Section in a superior manner. Through constant supervision and devotion to his work, he has succeeded in organizing his men into one of the

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

best howitzer sections of the battalion. His initiative, tireless energy, and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Robert E. Dooley, 31304267, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 9 September 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 9 September 1944, to 20 November 1944, Pvt Dooley has performed his duties as radio operator in a superior manner. He has remained on the job for long periods of time without relief and on numerous occasions he has transmitted fire missions while subjected to heavy enemy fire. His skillful operation of the radio has greatly contributed to the successful completion of fire missions of the battery and support of the infantry. The resourcefulness, tireless energy, and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Dooley reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

Award of Bronze Star: Robert J. Ginther, 33368218, Cpl, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Cpl Ginther has performed his duties of Chief of Section in a superior manner. He has displayed exceptional skill in operation of his howitzer section. At all times he has served as an inspiration and example to the members of his and other howitzer sections and his fine handling of men has resulted in the excellent firing record of his gun crew. The tireless energy, initiative, and devotion to duty exhibited by Cpl Ginther reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Award of Bronze Star: Arthur C. Hanson, 37580926, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious achievement in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 8 August 1944, to 20 November 1944, Pvt Hanson has performed his duties as radio operator in a superior manner. He has remained on the job for long periods of time without relief and on numerous occasions he has transmitted fire missions while subjected to heavy enemy fire. His skillful operation of the radio has greatly contributed to the successful completion of fire missions of the battery and support of the infantry. The resourcefulness, tireless energy, and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Hanson, reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Minnesota.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Award of Bronze Star: John W. Browning, 020767, Lt Col, FA, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in France on 1 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 1 November 1944, Lt Col Browning was serving as a battalion commander of Field Artillery. Under his superior leadership and planning of fires in the attack on two enemy held towns in France on that date, his battalion displayed outstanding combat efficiency and contributed largely to the success of the operation. His devotion to duty and untiring efforts are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered United States Military Academy from Texas.

Award of Bronze Star: Theodore M. McCarthy, 18001830, T Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France during the period 8 August 1944, to 30 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Colorado.

Award of Purple Heart: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart was awarded the following named personnel for wounds received as a result of enemy action:

1st Lt Andrew E. Holmes, 01170421, General Order Number 92, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 2 December 1944.

Pvt James L. Griffin, 34893733, General Order Number 92, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 2 December 1944.

Pvt George J. Costello, 33799224, General Order Number 92, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 2 December 1944.

Captain Charles C. Miller, Jr., 0366813, General Order Number 92, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 2 December 1944.

Pvt John C. Richards, 14002522, General Order Number 101, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 11 December 1944.

Sgt William B. Jack, 33071112, General Order Number 102, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 12 December 1944.

Tec 5 Reuben C. Blass, 33348496, General Order Number 102, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 12 December 1944.

Tec 5 Ernest J. Lutjelusche, 37450177, General Order Number 102, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 12 December 1944.

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UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944 (Continued)
905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

10. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:
(Continued)

Tec 5 Charles W. Kurz, 32075367, General Order Number 115, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 28 December 1944.

Pfc Joseph S. Hojecki, 36601742, General Order Number 115, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 28 December 1944.

Pvt Melvin L. Thompson, 35749915, General Orders Number 115, Headquarters 80th Infantry Division, dated 28 December 1944.

11. Photographs:
None.

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