(2)

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON



DO NOT REMOVE FROM THIS OFFICE

WAR DEPARTMENT RECORDS BRANCH, A.G.O.

HISTORICAL RECORDS SECTION

ROOM MB-858 PENTAGON

JAN. '45

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

* * * * * * * * * * * *
* [illegible]: CG, 87th Inf Div *
* INIT: B *
* DATE: 5 February 1945 *
* * * * * * * * * * * * *

OPD - Ets-1

HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

HISTORICAL RECORD

(After Action Against the Enemy Report)

1 January 1945 - 31 January 1945 Incl.

ANNEXES

A. S-2, S-3 Journal.

387-FA(912)-0.3

16503

SECRET UNCLASSIFIED RESTRICTED CONFIDENTIAL
REGRADED
A. O. Dobbs, Maj. AGD
13 May 46
ORDER SEC ARMY
BY TAG PER

Incl 13 (added)

4 DEC 1946
10503

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* TH: CG, 87th Inf Div
* INIT: [illegible]
* DATE: 5 February 1945
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

S E C R E T

E-451

HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

5 February 1945.

SUBJECT: After Action Report for Month of February 1945.

TO : AG, U S Army, Washington, D. C.
(through channels)

1. Personnel:
   a. Total effective strength:
      (1) At beginning of period 1 January 1945:
         Officers.....30
         Warrant Officers..... 2
         Enlisted Men.....448
      (2) At end of period 31 January 1945:
         Officers..... 30
         Warrant Officers..... 2
         Enlisted Men.....446
   b. Killed in Action:
         Officers..... 1
         Enlisted Men..... 1
      Wounded in Action:
         Officers..... 1
         Enlisted Men..... 2
      Missing in Action:.....
         Officers.....
         Enlisted Men..... 1
   c. Reinforcements:
         Officers..... 2
         Enlisted Men..... 3
   d. Other changes: None.

2. Enemy A rtillery Action:
   a. 1-9 Jan 1945: Bn Ex and party under shellfire while on Rcn 2 Jan 1945 - Cp rec shelling on 4 Jan 1945; 2 civilians wounded.
   b. 10-20 Jan 1945: "A" Btry position rec shelling on 17th- "C" Btry position rec shelling on 18th.
   c. 20-31 Jan 1945: Bn Comdr & Bn Ex pinned down by shellfire while fwd on 23 Jan 1945- "C" Btry position receiving shelling on 24th- 30 & 31 Cp and Btry positions rec shelling.

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

3. Own Operations:

1 Jan 1945 - Bn in position in vic Recogne, Belgium. 0900 Bn dept positions & displaced to new positions in vic Fruex, Belgium. Bn in D/S of CT 347th Inf Regt. Div Obj is bridge at Ortheville, Bel. 334th, 107th a nd 108th FA Bns reinforcing our fires. This being New Years Day Bn enjoyed turkey dinner.

2 Jan 1945 - Bn firing scd fires. Bn Ex and party rec shelling while fwd on Rcn. Gen Ford visited CP issuing instructions that Corp was on a defensive mission. Infantry digging in. Counter attack expected.

3 Jan 1945 - Bn firing scd fires. 334th FA Bn reld of reinforcing Bn. Infa ntry plan to attack on all front 040915.

4 Jan 1945 - Bn firing scd fires and preparation for attack. CP rec shelling at 1700. Two civilians wounded. Rpt rec that S/Sgt Greenberg wounded while a cting as FO.

5 Jan 1945 - Rpt rec that Lt Pfanz wounded while fwd as FO. 107th FA Bn reld of reinforcing Bn. 770th FA Bn now in position to reinforce Bn.

6 Jan 1945 - Bn firing H&Is & TOTs. CP visited by Col Waterous. Bn Comdr rt to CP fr Regt CP a nd reports that 347th Inf being reld by 1st Bn of 345th Inf. Bn now in D/S of 345th Inf Regt.

7 Jan 1945 - Bn continued firing scd fires. Personnel of Bn attended Protestant Services at 1430. Enemy C/attack against Bonnerue, Bel. Bn fired 614 rds on attack. Enemy occupied Bonnerue. Fwd Obsr left in town. Corp prepared serenade but didnt fire it as 1st platoon of Co "C" not accounted for. At 2055 Inf reoccupied Bonnerue. Contact made with FO. Bn continued firing obs fire on tanks & horsedrawn artillery moving into woods north of Bonnerue.

8 Jan 1945 - 108th FA Bn reld (relieved) of reinforcing Bn. Enemy again occupying Bonnerue. Com out with FO. Gen Ford visited CP while all support was firing on Bonnerue. At 2115 rpt rec that Lt Casper, Ln O 345th Inf identified Lt Booth as one of a group of 3 officers & 17 enlisted men captured earlier in day in Bonnerue. S/Sgt Cieslak & Sgt Watson were members of Lt Booth's section. It is assumed they were captured also but they were not identified.

9 Jan 1945 - Bn firing scd fires. Ln planes observing fr air; first time in several days due to wea ther. Little firing throughout day due to poor visibility and thick woods .

10 Jan 1945 - Situa tion on front is very quiet. Inf driven from Prinropre during night taking up positions 400 yds S of town.. Bn Comdr made rcn for new positions however Bn maintained present positions.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

11 Ja n 1945 -Inf has reoccupied Prionpri. Corp established defensive mission as of 2400 10 Jan 1945. Inf to est front lines and out post lines. No contact with enemy. Obs good. Air obs maintained.

12 Jan 1945 - Rpt rec tha t 3rd Bn has occupied St Hubert. At 1830 "B" & "C" Btries, half of FDC, radio and wire personnel displace to new positions in vic Jennenville, Belgium. Front lines quiet. 3rd Bn occupying St Hubert along with British & French forces.

13 Jan 1945 - At 1015 remainder of Hq Btry & "A" Btry displace to new positions. At 1330 Bn Comdr & Ba Ex rt fr rcn. Rpt that they contacted French forces in Lavachiere, Belgium, who informed that the enemy had withdrawn to positions across the Orthe River. Bn to ma intain present positions and maintain close contact with Regt CP.

14 Jan 1945 - Radio silence maintained. Bn preparing to dept for new sector in vic Luxemburg. Reshuffling and reloading of Am completed.

15 Jan 1945 - Bn dept Jennenville, Belgium at 1045 in order "A", "B", "C", Hq and Service. Arrived Flaxweiler, Luxembourg at 1515 after aprox 76 mile motor march. Firing Btries occupied positions. CP not esta blished.

16 Jan 1945 - Bn proceeding to Berberg, Lux to relieve 44th FA Bn, 4th Div. Bn occupied positions by infiltration. Div on defensive. Bn in D/S of 347th.

17 Jan 1945 - Bn digging in. Rec Bronz Stars issued to S/Sgt Greenberg & Lt Harris. Rec 1st reinforcement, T/5 Turner who was assigned to Hq Btry. "A" Btry reports at 2100 that position is receiving enemy shellfire.

18 Jan 1945 - Bn firing demonstration. Rear positions located in case it necessary to withdraw. Rec 2d Lt Coe as reinforcement. "C" Btry position receiving enemy shellfire.

19 Jan 1945 - Div remains on defensive. Front lines quiet.

20 Jan 1945 - Gen Ford held Bn Comdr's meeting in CP. Film shown to troops.

* 21 Jan 1945 - Front lines quiet. No activity fwd. At 1730 rec rpt that Lt Hamilton, A ir Obsr & S/Sgt Sutliff, Ln Pilot, killed in crash.

22 Jan 1945 - Div remains on defensive. Front lines quiet.

23 Jan 1945 - Situation remains same. Bn Comdr & Ex pinned down by shellfire while fwd and had to await darkness to ret to CP.

24 Jan 1945 - Div Arty S-3 held S-3 meeting in CP. "C" Btry position receiving shell fire. Bn Comdr rt fr Regt Cp at 2115 and rpts that Div is being reld by 76th Div.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

25 Jan 1945 - Bn reld by 302nd FA Bn by infiltration. Bn dept Bergurg, Lux at 1630.

26 Jan 1945 - Bn arrive Basbellan, Lux at 0500 after aprox 80 miles motor march. Bn to displact in position. Arrangements made to feed Inf personnel of 1st Bn,347th. Firing Btries encountering plastic land mines enroute to positions. Pfc Franklin, "B" Btry wounded. 1 vehicle lost. Btries in position at 1800.

27 Jan 1945 - Div Obj is high ground west ofOur river. No contact with enemy. Bn preparing to move fwd as soon as roads are cleared by Eng. Bn dept Basbellan and a rrived at Lengeler at 1800. 740th FA Bn reinforcing Bn.

28 Jan 1945 - At 0300 orders rec that Div is being reld by 4th Div. Bn to dept to sector in vic St Vith. At 0900 elements of 42nd FA Bn arrive to reld Bn by infiltration. Bn to remain in position until further orders. Bn to reinforce 42nd FA Bn until given CSMD.

29 Jan 1945 - Bn awaiting orders to move. Reinforcing 42nd FA Bn.

30 Jan 1945 - Bn Comdr on Rcn. At 1200 Bn Ex rec msg fr Bn Comdr by radio to bring Bn fwd. Bn dept positions and arrive to new positions in vic Neidingen, Belgium. Bn receiving enemy shellfire in this position.

31 Jan 1945 - Bn Comdr on Rcn. Bn Ex with Regt CP. Bn awaiting orders to move fwd. Rec 2nd Lt Jackson & 2d Lt Anderson as reinforcements. Rec CSMD fr Bn Ex by Rad. Bn dept at 1615 and arrive new positions in vic Heuem, Belgium at 1900. Bn receiving enemy shell fire in these position.

Notes- Morale extremely high throughout month. Bn had access to showers while at Freux, Belgium a nd Berberg, Luxembourg. Passes issued to personnel to Luxembourg and Paris. During month Bn fired 473 missions for at total of 12,234 rounds expended.

4. Supply:

a. Class I - Supply of rations was excellent. It was necessary to reduce our operational reserve from three days to a two day supply. "K" rations were obtainable for forward observer parties only. Cleaning and preserving supplies have been very poor. More laundry soap, scrubbing brushes and brooms are needed.

b. Class II - Supply of individual clothing and equipment was very good. Every man was supplied with overshoes. Some artic clothing has been received for forward observers. Artic clothing still required for most of the men are shoe pacs, mittens and hoods.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 773501

Supply of organizational equipment was satisfactory. Items most urgently needed are:

Quartermaster - Axes
Ordnance - Trucks 2½ ton 6 x 6, Combat tires, vehicle tool sets.
Engineers - Generator & map ca ses.

c. Class III - Supply of fuels, oils and lubricants was excellent and restricted only by our ability to haul it. There was a very limited supply of coa l and it was often unobtainable.

d. Class IV - No a ctivity.

e. Class V - Supply of ammunition was excellent. White phosphorous ammunition wa s needed but was unobtainable. Pozit fuzed ammunition was supplied this month for the first time.

5. Lessons learned:

a. Forward Observers and Liaison Officers should be armed with a Carbine instead of the pistol, for two reasons:
(1) Added protection.
(2) In order to be as inconspicious as possible and less attractive to snipers.

b. In a rapidly moving situation batteries BA-39 and BA-40 are as important as ammunition.

c. 610's should be wrapped in a GI blanket or carried into a house each night to prevent freezing. Not only of interior parts but also the antenna used with battery packs. (Had trouble on two occasions during last operation with the antenna freezing and sticking)

d. All FO sections must be equipped with 1/4 ton trailer. Insufficient room in 1/4 ton jeep for all equipment. (Nine sections constantly maintained).

e. Dug in or otherwise protected OP's with wire communicatior should be installed immediately upon change over from offense to defense.

f. In the rough terrain in which recent operations have been made, complimentary angle of site is very important and must be taken into consideration to obtain effective fire.

g. When in a position for any length of time, a check registration of 2 or 3 rounds on a point was found to give results as accurate as any other, thus saving time and ammunition.

Thomas W Bender
THOMAS W. BENDER
Major, FA
Executive.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* [redacted]TH: CG, 87th Inf Div *
* [redacted]T: 12 *
* DATE: 5 February 1945 *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 912TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 448
U S ARMY

5 February 1945

EXTRACT OF UNIT JOURNAL

1 Jan 1945

0030 Bn Comdr, Ln O's, Fwd Obsrs dept for 347th Regt CP.
0130 Bn Comdr & party rt to CP
0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 293 rds expended, 12 H&Is, 1 TOT & 1 RR.
0745 Bn Comdr with adv pa rty dept for new CP in Freux, Belgium.
1000 CP esta blished in Freux, Bel., com complete & Btries laid & rdy to fire.
1000 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1030 Bn completed registration.
1100 Bn Comdr rt to CP
1100 Bn Comdr dept for 1st Bn CP and 1st Bn OP.
1115 Overlay of position as of 312230 Dec rec fr 347th Inf Regt.
1115 Overlay fr Ln O #2 as of 010600.
1115 Msg fr Ln O #2.
1115 Msg fr Ln O #3.
1115 Msg fr Ln O #1.
1200 Gen Ford visited CP.
1230 Col Major, 108th FA and Col Rostron, 107th FA visited CP.
1300 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1600 Msg fr Ln O #2.
*1800 Bn reld fr reinforcing 336th FA Bn.
1800 Bn assumes D/S of 347th. 347th Obj is bridge at Ortheville, Bel. 334th, 108th, 107th FA Bns reinforcing Bn.

2 Jan 1945

*0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 726 rds expended, 2 Reg, 2 prp, 20 H&Is, 2 TOT.
0900 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1000 Col Major, 108th FA Bn visited CP.
1025 General Ford visited CP.
1130 Col Burnette, 770th FA visited. 770th FA reinforcing Bn.
1145 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1330 Bn Ex and Btry Comdrs dept on rcn.
1435 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1545 Bn Ex and party rt to CP after being shelled while on rcn.
1800 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
2130 Gen Ford issued instructions that Corp was on defensive mission, plan defensive fires, Inf digging in. No withdrawl. Expect C/Atk.

~~S E C R E T~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

3 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty- 709 rds expended, 2 reg, 1 prep, 23 H&Is, 4 TOTs.
1130 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1230 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1400 Bn Comdr dept for 1st Bn, 3rd Bn & Regt CP.
1630 Bn Comdr rt to CP
1900 334th FA Bn reld 66 reinforcing Bn.
1915 Overla y fr Ln O #2.
2400 Plan to a tta ck on a 11 of front at 040915 Jan 1945.

4 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty-921 rds ex, 1 Reg, 1 prep, 38 H&Is,3 TOTs.
0800 Bn Comdr dept for fwd OP.
1030 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1410 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1515 Gen Ford visited CP.
1540 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1700 CP under enemy shell fire. No casualties. Shelling fr aprox Ax 800. Two civilians wounded.
1700 Rpt rec that S/Sgt Greenberg wounded while acting as FO.
2100 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
2230 Bn Comdr rt to CP.

5 Jan 1945

0430 Rpt rec that Lt Pfanz wounded while a cting as FO.
0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 1137 rds ex- 1 prep, 40 H&Is, 4 TOTs.
0700 107th FA Bn reld of reinforcing Bn.
1000 770th FA Bn in position of reinforcing Bn.
1300 Bn Comdr dept for 347th Regt CP.
1600 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
2030 Bn Ex dept for Regt CP.
2130 Bn Ex rt to CP.

6 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty- 1367 rds expended, 1 Reg 38 H&Is, 4 TOTs.
1100 Col Waterous visited CP.
1330 Bn Comdr dept for 347th Regt CP.
1500 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
2030 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
2300 Bn Comdr rt to CP with information that 347th Inf being reld by 1st Bn of 345th Inf. Inf digging in to hold ground. 912th in D/S of 345th Inf.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

7 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 1223 rds ex-1 Reg, 1 prep, 44 H'Is, 5 TOTs.
1430 Protestant Services held by Chaplin- Batteries attended.
1700 Ln O rpt enemy atck on Bonnerue. 6 tanks observed accompanied by enemy Inf. A tck preceded by hvy arty and mortar fire.
1900 Bn fired 614 rds obs fire against atk. Reinforced by 108th & 335th FA Bns. 2 enemy tanks out. Enemy occupied Bonnerue. Fwd obsr left in town.
1930 Corp serenade prepared for Bonnerue but not fired because 1st plat Co "C" unaccounted for.
2055 Bonnerue retaken by Inf. Reestablished contact with Fwd Obsr.
2115 Bn firing against C/atk on Bonnerue. Fwd Obsr adj fire. Enemy rpt moving tanks and a rty into woods N of Bonnerue.

8 Jan 1945

0600 A m rpt to Div Arty- 1591 rds ex- 1 Reg, 29 H&Is.
0900 108th reld of reinforcing Bn.
0930 Com out with FO, 3rd Bn. Suspect he and Section were captured by enemy.
1500 Gen Ford visited CP while all support was firing on Bonnerue
1360 335th reinforcing Bn.
2115 Rpt rec that Lt Ca sper, Ln O, 345th Inf identified Lt Booth a s one of a group of 3 O's & 17 EM captured earlier in day in Bonnerue, Belgium, S/Sgt Cieslak & Sgt Watson were members of Lt Booth's deta il, were with him, and it is assumed were captured with him. However they were not identified.

9 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 807 rds Ex, 22 H'Is, 4 TOTs.
1000 Ln Planes observing fr air (first time up in several days).
1300 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP to obtain situation.
1345 Bn Comdr rt to CP-situation- Bn in D/S 347 (3rd Bn). 1st Bn held positions during day. Inf adv a prox 300 yds during day. Poor visibility and thick woods hampered observation; therefore firing was light.

10 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty- 315 rds Ex, 2 Reg, 2 prep, 6 H'Is, 9 T.Op.
1030 Bn Comdr & Btry Comdrs dept CP on Rcn.
1100 Situation- Front is very quiet. Our Inf driven fr Prinopre during night taking up positions 400 yds S of town. PW's rpt of 3 enemy btrys. This was forwarded to Div Arty & Btry's were fired on.
1230 Bn Comdr's party rt to CP fr Rcn.
1330 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1530 Bn Comdr rt to CP- Bn to maintain positions occupied.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

11 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 181 rds Ex, 5 H'Is, 3 T.Ops.
0615 Inf occupied Prinopre during night. Corp established defensive mission as of 2400, 10 Jan 1945. Inf to establish front lines and out post lines.
0800 Rpt rec fr FO's of no activity on front. Enemy seem to have withdrew. Observation good. Air observation maintained.
0830 Rpt rec fr FO's that Inf has occupied Bonnerue.
1000 Bn Comdr dept CP to conta ct Inf.
1345 Rpt rec that 3rd Bn 347th Inf being committed.
1350 Bn comdr rt to CP with info that Inf has no contact with enemy.

12 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty-No firing-
0730 Rpt rec that Inf has occupied St Hubert, Belgium.
1300 Gen Ford visited CP.
1400 Bn Comdr dept CP on Rcn & to 347th Regt CP.
1615 Bn Comdr rt to CP and ca lled Btry Comdrs to CP.
1730 Bn Comdr & Btry Comdrs dept CP on rcn for CP & GP.
1800 Bn Comdr & party rt to CP with orders to displace half of FDC, wire and radio and personnel and 2 firing Btries.
1830 Half of FDC, wire & ra dio personnel displa ced to new positions. CP established in Jenneville, Belgium, B & C Btries displaced to positions in vic of Bonnerue.
2000 Situation: No firing throughout night. 3rd Bn occupying St Hubert along with British & French forces. 2d Bn occupying Amberlue, Bel. No conta ct with enemy which is assumed to have made an organized withdrawl.

13 Jan 1945

0600 No firing throughout night.
0800 Bn Comdr dept for fwd OP & Regt CP.
0930 Bn Ex dept to PX meeting at Div Arty.
0945 Remainder of Hq Btry and A Btry dept for new positions
1015 Rema inder of Bn closed in positions in vic of Jenneville, Bel.
1030 Bn Ex rt to CP in Jenneville, Bel.
1045 Bn Comdr rt to Bn Cp.
1105 Bn Comdr & Ex dep on Rcn for possible positions in vic of Lavachiere, Belgium. While there they met French forces who informed them that the enemy had withdrawn across the Orthe River. Bn Comdr and Ex rt to CP at 1330.
1345 Bn Comdr dept for Div Arty.
1415 Bn Comdr rt to BN CP with instructions to maintain present positions and to keep close conta ct with Regt CP.
1900 Bn Ex completes arrangements for reshuffling and reloading Am.
2000 Bn rec notice to observe radio silence 0800, 14 Jan 1945.
2200 No firing throughout day. No contact with enemy.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

S E C R E T

14 Jan 1945

0800 Radio silence observed.
1000 No conta ct with enemy.
1200 Our Ln Officer with Regt reports he and party are to depart at 1330 as billiting party.
1230 Bn Comdr rec orders to rpt to Regt CP at 1400.
1330 Bn Comdr dept for Regt CP.
1545 Bn Comdr rt to Bn CP with info that Div is preparing to CSMD by CT to new sector. Assembly area to be near Luxembourg.
1700 Bn S-3 dept for Regt CP to receive further orders.
1910 Bn S-3 rt to CP with orders for Bn to cross IP at Recogne at 1120, 15 Jan 1945 and procede to new positions in Dutche of Luxembourg.
1930 Btry Comdrs rpt to CP for orienta tion on Mtr march.

15 Jan 1945

0900 "C" B ry prime mover hit active shell. Prime mover left behind guarded. Gun towed by 5th section truck.
1045 Bn dept Jenneville, Belgium on mtr arch in order, A, B, C, Hq, Sv.
1515 Bn arrived Flaxweiler, Luxembourg after 76 mile mtr march. Btries displaced in position. Sv Btry in position at Beyren. During trip "C" Btry burned out rod in vehicle. Vehicle exchanged by Ordnance
1545 Bn Ex dept CP a rea for Div Arty to obtain mission, leaving orders not to est CP.
1730 Bn Ex rt to Cp issuing orders to bed down and prepare to CSMD, 16 Jan 1945.

16 Jan 1945

0700 Bn Comdr dept CP area to Regt CP and on Rcn.
0900 Bn S-3 and Btry Comdrs dept CP area to meet Bn Comde and go on Rcn to new positions in the vic of Berberg.
1100 Bn S-3 and Btry Comdrs rt to CP a rea.
1115 Bn rec CSMD.
123 0 Bn arrives Berberg, lettered batteries and Hq btry closed in positions occupied by 44th FA Bn. Bn reld 44th FA Bn 4th Inf Div.
1400 Bn Comdr dept CP for 1st Bn, 3rd Bn, Regt CP and Div Arty.
1600 Bn Closed in position, CP established, Btries laid andrdy to fire.
1645 Bn has reld 44th FA Bn. All of 44th FA Bn have cleared the area.
1730 Bn Comdr rt to CP. reports mission of Div is defensive. Bn in D/S of 347th. Our FO's exchanged positions with FO's of the 44th.
1930 Com complete except Div Arty and Division.

17 Jann1945

0830 Bn Comdr depts CP for Div Arty to rec orders & mission.
1230 Bn Comdr rt to CP. Issues for Bn to dig in. Prepare for H'I fires in preparation for atk scd for AM of 18 Jan 1945. To be watchfil for C/atk.
1530 Bn Ex depts CP to inspect GP.
1530 Red overlay of positions of 1st Bn fr Ln 1.
1530 Rec Bronz Stars issued for Lt Harris & S/Sgt Greenberg.
1645 Bn Ex rt to CP - sta tes that GP weal dug in and that concealment good.

18 Jan 1945 Con'td

1700 Sv Btry closed in position in vic of Eschweiler.
1700 Rec T/5 Turner as first reinforcement- assigned to Hq Btry.
1800 Am rpt to Div A rty- 96 rds expended- 6 H&Is.
1945 Bn Comdr and S-3 dept CP for Regt CP to rec plan of fire.
2100 Rpt rec fr "A" Btry that position is being shelled.
2145 Bn Comdr & S-3 rt to CP with plan of fire, both defensive and demonstration for 18th Jan 1945.

18 Jan 1945

0330 Bn firing demonstration.
0600 A m rpt to Div Arty-704 rds ex-4 Reg 1 prep, 6 H&Is.
0900 Btry Comdrs rpt to CP.
0915 Bn Comdr & Btry Comdrs dept CP on rcn in vic Eschweiler. Positions to be used in ca se of withdrawl.
0930 FO's rpt front is quiet; visibility poor due to for; Inf maintaining occupied positions.
1000 "C" Btry rpt positions under enemy shellfire-no casualties.
1000 Rec 2d Lt Coe as reinforcement; assigned to "C" Btry.
1145 Bn Comdr and party rt to CP after locating rear positions. Engrs to dig in positions.
1515 Bn Comdr depts CP to inspect GP.
1530 Rec fire plan of 3rd Bn as of 162230 Jan 1945.
1645 Bn Comdr rt to CP-Sta tes "C" Btry receiving Shelling.
1730 Ln O rpt front quiet. Inf maintaining positions.

19 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 481 rds expended, 1 Reg, 9 H&Is.
0700 Situation- Front is quiet- Div remains on defensive
0915 Bn S-3 depts CP for Div Arty to a ttend S-3 meeting.
1200 Bn S-3 rt to CP- rec plan of fires & Am allowance.
1430 Bn Ex dept CP to attend meeting at Div Arty.
1600 Bn rt to CP.
1700 Rpt rec that front is quiet- patrols being sent out. Div remains on defensive.

20 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 264 rds expended-3 Reg, 12 H&Is,1 TOT, 4 T.Op.
0700 Situation- Front quiet. Div remains on defensive.
1400 Gen Ford holds Bn Comdr's meeting in CP.
1600 Gen Ford & Bn Comdrs dept CP.
1700 Bn had film shown to troops during day. All Batteries attended.
1800 Front remains quiet. patrols being sent out. Div on defensive.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

21 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 159 rds ex-1 reg 8 H&Is, 5 T.Op.
0700 Front lines remain quiet- Div on defensive.
1200 Bn Ex and S-3 Sgt dept CP to attend S-2 meeting at Corp Hq.
1400 Bn Comdr depts CP for fwd Inf Bns Op
1600 Bn Ex & S-2 Sgt rt to CP.
1630 Bn Comdr rt to CP- sta tes no activity fwd. Inf & FO's rec some shelling.
1700 Bn rec T/5 Melanson & Pvt D'A lto as reinforcements; Melanson asgnd to Hq Btry & D'Alto to "C" Btry.
1730 Rpt rec that Lt Hamilton, Air Obsr & S/Sgt Sutliff, Ln Pilot killed in plane crash.
1745 Bn Ex dept CP for Air Strip to check air plane crash.
2215 Bn Ex rt to CP- sta tes plane crashed a t 1630 at Air Strip, ea st of city of Luxembourg. Engine sta lled when trying to land. In turning to avoid building plane crashed nose first into ground. EM & O extrica ted by medics and apparently Lt Hamilton died instantly and S/Sgt Sutliff died on way to hospital in ambulance.

22 Jan 1945

0600 A m rpt to Div Arty- 173 rds expended, 2 Reg, 9 H&Is, 4 T.Op.
0700 Front lines quiet- negative report fr patrols. Div remains on defensive; 1st Bn to be relieved by 2d Bn.
1300 Bn Comdr depts CP for fwd FO's.
1700 Bn Comdr rt to CP- no activity on front.
1800 Situation- 2nd Bn relieving 1st Bn on line. Front is quiet patrols being sent out. Div remains on defensive.

23 Ja n 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 136 rds expended, 3 Reg, 4 H&Is, 2 T.Op.
0700 Front lines quiet. Div remains on defensive. Patrols during night rt after being under MG fire- rpt negative.
1300 Bn Comdr & Bn Ex dept CP for FO's.
1600 Rpt rec that Bn Comdr & Bn Ex pinned down by Shell fire.
2000 Negative rpt fo Ln O #2.
2100 Bn Comdr & Bn Ex rt to CP- while fwd under shellfire and had to wait for darkness to rt.
2200 Rpt rec fr Ln O's that hvy enemy patrols out.

24 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty- 294 rds expended- 3 Reg, 10 H&Is, 1 TOT, 7 T.Op.
0700 Front lines quiet. No change. Negative rpt fr patrols.
1000 Div A rty S-3 held S-3 meeting in CP.
1300 Bn Comdr dept CP for Div A rty to attend meeting.
1530 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1530 Rpt rec that Btry "C" under shellfire.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

24 Jan 1945 Con'td

2000 Bn Comdr dept CP for Regt CP.
2115 Bn Comdr rt to CP- ca lls for Btry Comdrs. Issues orders that Bn is being relieved by elements of 76th Div. Bn to dept occupied positions and proceed to sector in Belgium, relieving 17th Air B Div. Plans made to move Bn. Order of march- "A", "B", "C", Hq and Sv.

25 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div A rty- 190 rds ex-3 Reg, 8 H&Is, 4 T.OP.
0430 Lt Fussell dept Hq Bt y to guide 302nd FA Bn to CP.
0730 Lt Regen dept CP with advance pa rty to act as billeting party.
0815 Elements of 302nd FA Bn arrive CP.
1100 Bn being reld by infiltration.
1115 March order & rt of ma rch rec fr Regt CP.
1330 Elements of 302nd FA Bn occupied our positions by infiltration. Registration completed. Bn awaiting time set to cross IP.
1630 Bn CSMO under command of Lt Col MONN.

26 Jan 1945

0500 Bn arrive Basbellan, Luxembourg after traveling aprox 80 miles. Coord: 74.9-73.2.
0900 Bn rec orders to displace in positions. Bn in D/S of 347th Inf Regt.
0915 Bn Ex & Btry Comdrs dept on Rcn.
1000 Plans completed to feed Inf of 1st Bn enroute to front lines.
1200 Bn Ex & party rt to CP. Btries to displace a t 1300 in order Abel, Baker, Charlie.
1300 Abel Btry depts to displace in position.
1400 CP established in Basbellan, Luxembourg.
1400 Rpt rec that Firing Btries encountering plastic land mines entoute to positions. Btries strandedon road until road swept by Engrs. 1 vehicle lost. Pfc Franklin "B" Btry wounded.
1800 Btries in position, laid and rdy to fire; Coord: A 77.1-73.15, B 76.84-73.25, C 76.76-73.84.
2000 No contact with enemy. No firing.

27 Jan 1945

0600 No firing throughout night. No conta ct with enemy. 84th Div 1st Army on our ~~right~~ left. 90th Div on our right. Inf Obj is high ground west of Our River. Bn in D/S of 347th.
0900 Bn preparing to occupy positions fwd as soon as roads are swept by Engrs.
1030 Our front lines 81.95.76.5.
1200 Bn Comdr & party dept on rcn.
1415 Firing Btries moving fwd and displacing in new positions. Coord: "A" 80.76-76.07, "B" 80.5-75.9, "C" 80.52-76.17.
1615 Bn Comdr rt to CP.
1630 Hq Btry depts Basbellan.
1715 CP established in Lengeler, Belgium, Coor: 79.7-76.33.
1800 740th FA Bn now reinforcing our fires. 8 "
2000 Bn to fire H&Is and called for fires during night.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 73501

28 Jan 1945

0600 Am rpt to Div Arty- 183 rds ex-4 H&Is, 1 T.Op. 6 Defensive.
0800 Rec Opera tional instructions #15 at 0300, Orders that Div being reld by 4th Div.
0900 Elements of 42nd FA Bn a rrive CP; to reld Bn by infiltration.
1030 Bn Ex and party dept CP as billeting party in vic St Vith.
1415 Msg by rad fr Bn Ex to stay in position.
1430 Orders fr Div Arty to maintain present positions.
1600 Bn Ex & pa rty rt to CP with orders that Bn is to remain in occuppied positions. Roads congested ahead.
1630 Btry Comdrs ca lled to CP and given orders to remain in positior
2151 347th Inf reld by 11th Inf. 42nd FA Bn supporting. This Bn to to remain in position & reinforce 42nd FA Bn until rec CSMO. Bn Comdr rec written statement fr 42nd FA 6 that 42nd FA Bn in position and in support of Inf.

29 Jan 1945

0600 A m rpt to Div A rty- 74 rds expended, 1 H&I, 1 T.Op.
0830 Bn awaiting orders to move. Reinforcing 42nd FA Bn.
0930 Bn S-3 dept CP for Div Arty to rec orders.
1030 Msg fr Ln O #2 that fire on Mg during night was extremely effective.
1315 Bn S -3 rt to CP after being on rcn for Gen Ford. Rpts area still congested. Bn to await further orders.
1330 Bn Comdr dept CP for Div Arty.
1445 Bn Comdr rt to Cp. Plan to spend night in present position.

30 Jan 1945

0600 A m rpt to Div Arty- 64 rds expended, 2 H&Is, 2 T.Op.
0915 Ln O with Div Arty rpt to Bn Comdr to go on rcn in new position area.
1015 ~~xxxx~~ Bn Comdr and adv party dept CP on Rcn.
1200 Bn Ex rec msg fr Bn Comdr by rad to move Bn fwd.
1245 Bn dept Lengeler, Belgium.
1600 Bn arrive new positions in vic Neidingen, Belgium.
1730 CP est a t Neidingen, Belgium. Btries laid & rdt to fire. Coord:Hq, 86.60-84.61, A85.35-83.95,B84.98-83.85, C84.87-83.86.
1830 Bn Ex dept CP for Regt CP to act a s Ln O.
2000 CP and Btry positions receiving enemy shellfire. No casualties.

31 Jan 1945

0690 Am rpt to Div A rty- 36 rds expended, 1 TOT.
0930 Bn Comdr dept CP for rcn and Regt CP.
1030 Rec reinforcements, Lt Jackson & Lt Anderson.
1200 Bn awaiting orders to move fwd.
1230 Rec rpt that 2nd Bn, 347th moving fwd.
1545 Rec CSMo fr Bn Ex by rad and to follow 2nd Bn 347th
1615 Bn dept positions. ~~Bn~~Ex and Bn Comdr joined convoy enroute.
2000 Bn displace in new positions in vic Heuem, Belgium. Btries laid and rdy to fire. Coord: CP 93.04-88.36, A 93.26-88.47, B 93.03-88.55, C 93.39-88.56.
2100 336th FA Bn reinforcing our fires.
2200 Ln O's rpt Inf rec very little resistance.

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND 735017