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

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

Section I: Summary of Daily Operations and Action.

November 1 and 2: Continued in defensive positions and prepared plans for the attack.

November 3: Attack started at 0500 hours with Division and Corps firing counter-battery missions. The 905th FA Bn fired a 45 minute preparation prior to the attack in support of the 319th Infantry. The 905th FA Bn was reinforced in the support of the attack by the 319th Cannon Company, and Two platoons of the 808 TD's Company "A". The attack progressed slowly.

November 9: The attack again jumped off at 1400 hours and proceeded with little opposition taking Delme Ridge by dark. The 905th FA Bn moved - "B" Battery during daylight hours, "C" Battery during darkness and the CP during darkness to Aulnois sur Seille. The 775th FA Bn was attached as a reinforcing Battalion and when the 905th FA Bn moved forward as a Battalion, the 775th FA Bn took over as a direct support battalion. This was accomplished by having the 905 FA Bn Liaison Officer with radio going to the 775th FA Bn and thereby keeping contact with Forward Observers and Liaison Officers by radio.

November 10: The 905th FA Bn supported the attack of the 319th Infantry as they advanced taking Tincry, then Bois de Tincry, Bois de Bacourt, and Hill 328. The 905th FA Bn CP moved to Puzieux. Gun batteries moved northeast of this town.

November 11: The 319th Infantry continued to punch forward with the direct support of the 905th FA Bn and the 775th FA Bn reinforcing. The 905th FA Bn moved forward during the afternoon and the 775th FA Bn took over direct support through Liaison Officer of the 905th FA Bn, who in turn has a 608 Radio in contact with Liaison Officers and Forward Observers and wire from the 905th FA Bn old CP to the CP of the 775TH FA Bn.

November 12: The attack was held up because of bridges over the Niad Francaise River being blown. The Engineers constructed some; however, priority was given to the Armor and because of this priority, other units were held up to the extent that the attack was not resumed until 1400 hours.

November 13: Reconnaissance was started early in the morning with the idea of moving before noon. Due to the lack of bridges and priority given to other people, the 905th FA Bn wasn't able to cross the Niad Francaise River until late in the afternoon. Closing in the new position at 1600 hours, the battalion in the vicinity of Lucy, CP in Lucy.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
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SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

Section I: Summary of Daily Operations and Action (Continued)

November 14: The 905th FA Bn still in Lucy and the 319th Infantry moved slowly to the Rotte River encountering no enemy. Three Companies proceeded over the Rotte River.

November 15: The 905th FA Bn moved to Lesse in support of the move across the Rotte River. The move was made before daylight with plans to continue to move to positions near Landroff.

November 16: The 905th FA Bn moved to Suisse after firing a short preparation for the Corps. The 905th FA Bn being en route at the time and the 775th FA Bn, being in position at Destry, took over the direct support mission of the 905th FA Bn and fired a preparation for the 2nd Battalion, 319th Infantry before they cleared the Bois de Zante. The 905th FA Bn CP moved to Landroff after darkness and after wire communications had been established between forward and rear positions

November 17: The firing batteries moved up in the vicinity of Landroff and immediately upon closing fired a preparation in the woods south of Engelberg and Le Haut Bois, so that "I" Company could clean out the area and also the town of Harprich. Word was received from the Infantry that the preparation fired by the 905th FA Bn and 775th FA Bn was very satisfactory. "I" Company was able to accomplish its mission except for clearing out the town of Harprich although they met practically no resistance through this area, darkness enveloped the movement and they returned to their original positions. The following day in a coordinated attack, the 35th Division moved through this area and countered no resistance whatsoever.

November 18: A one hour preparation for the Corps for an attack made by the 35th Division was fired. This preparation was fired by all artillery in the Corps. Also at noon a 30-minute preparation was fired to advance and take Guebering and Le Grand Bischwald. This preparation was fired by the 905th FA Bn, by the 775th FA Bn reinforcing the 319th Cannon Company, reinforcing and 315th FA Bn, general support. The Infantry met no opposition except from artillery and mortar fire.

November 20: In the afternoon the Battalion moved to Viller in expectation of a renewal of a general attack.

November 21: To continue with the aggressive move that the Division had taken the Battalion moved forward again to Guessling-Hemering early in the morning. Although the weather was raining, the Battalion Air Observer took off in search of enemy artillery, firing on the Battalion positions. While in the air he observed 2 batteries and a single gun. The weather closed in to the extent that he was only able to destroy one battery and one gun, the other battery being at such a range that observation was impossible.

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SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

Section I: Summary of Daily Operations and Action (Continued)

November 22: The Battalion moved to positions in the vicinity of Faulquemont, with the Battalion CP in the town. This move was brought about by the division going into a defensive situation. Prior to the Battalion moving they fired a 6 minute preparation at the request of the 314th FA Bn, who were firing a preparation for the 318th Infantry in order that they could relieve a company surrounded in the town of Laudrefang.

November 23: The 905th FA Bn remained in position while the Infantry moved several units about in preparation for an attack. The Battalion had a very delightful dinner served at noon time with plenty of food for all. It was even rumored that some of the men went back for thirds and received food.

November 24: Plans were worked on in preparation for an attack to take place on the 25th of November. Everyone was busy in making plans, and revising plans already made. This continued throughout the day.

November 25: The 905th FA Bn reinforced by the 775th FA Bn and a platoon of 808 TD's, fired a preparation in support of the Infantry. After firing the preparation the firing batteries displaced one at a time about 1500 meters north of Faulquemont to continue support of the attack. The attack moved along slowly as the Infantry met much fire on its way after much hard fighting, the Infantry reached Longeville les St. Avold and dug in for the night.

November 26: The 319th Infantry again jumped off on an attack to take St. Avold. This attack was preceded by a preparation fired by the 905th FA Bn reinforced by the 775th FA Bn, 512th FA Bn, and one platoon 808 TD's. Again, like on the previous day, the Infantry received considerable fire. Much friendly artillery fire was placed on suspected and observed targets. Several enemy pill boxes were fired on by direct fire by the 808 TD's, however, these targets were picked up and called for by artillery forward observers. Several preparations were fired on wooded areas and hills, prior to the Infantry's attack of these positions. Many enemy casualties were observed as the objectives were taken. The Infantry proceeded as rapidly as could be expected and were often penned down because of flanking fire from the enemy as other units had not advanced quite as rapidly. The outskirts of St. Avold were entered, the Infantry being met by heavy direct fire. As the hour of the day was growing late some elements of the Infantry, withdrew to high ground, reorganized for the next day's attack. The 905th FA Bn moved forward as a Battalion to the high ground in the vicinity 2000 meters south of Longeville les St. Avold in the afternoon. A Liaison Officer was sent to the 775th FA Bn, who took over the direct support missions while the 905th FA Bn displaced forward.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
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SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

Section I: Summary of Daily Operations and Action. (Continued)

November 27: Throughout the night numerous TOT concentrations were fired on the town of St. Avold and vicinity and numerous harrassing and interdiction missions were fired. These fires being planned by higher headquarters. A preparation was fired prior to the Infantry's jump off for the attack and this preparation was fired by the 905th FA Bn, 775th FA Bn, 512th FA Bn, and a platoon of 808 TD's. The Infantry advanced meeting little or no resistance, took the town of St. Avold, out-posted it, and proceeded on their advance to seize the high ground on a line running north and south 1500 meters of Pit Ebersviller to Hill Moulin Neuf and high ground on the southern slope of wooded area Foret de Steinberg. As little resistance was met throughout the day, the 905th FA Bn moved forward and took positions in the southeast section of St. Avold on the road to Venheck. The reinforcing units also moved forward, however, at later times.

November 28: The Infantry meeting no resistance on the 27th moved forward on the 28th without any preparation. They proceeded rapidly without meeting any enemy contact. Around noon the mission of the Infantry was changed to that of defending the north flank of the XII Corps. The 905th FA Bn having made previous reconnaissance moved to positions southwest of Seingbouse with the CP in the town of Seingbouse. During the late afternoon and early night, numerous concentrations were fired both in the Northern sector in front of the 319th Infantry and the eastern sector in front of the 317th Infantry in order to repel counter-attacks. The firing proved successful in that there were no break-throughs by these counter-attacks.

November 29 and 30: The CP and vicinity received considerable enemy artillery during the day and night. Observation was extremely bad, therefore it was impossible to fire many observed missions. There were numerous unobserved fires, TOT's and harassing fires fired throughout these two days. Several casualties were suffered and one man evacuated due to enemy artillery fire.

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HEADQUARTERS 905TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
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SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

SECTION II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc.

1 November - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion, in direct support of the 319th Infantry, remained in defensive positions in the vicinity of Jeandelincourt. Three Battery Observation Posts continued to operate and one forward observer was with each of the four front line companies. Liaison was maintained with the Infantry Battalions and at the regimental command post. The small scale attack to clear Abaucourt - Letricourt - Aulnois Sur Seille of the enemy started at 1300. By 1700 the Second and Third Battalions were on their objective and were outposting the towns. A withdrawal to original defensive positions followed. The S-2, 905th Field Artillery Battalion, interrogated a captured enemy forward observer of the 1151st Field Artillery Battalion located in vicinity of Feville. The PW report was distributed by 80th Division Artillery.

2 November - Our lines received increasing mortar and artillery shelling. Largest concentration reported was 17 rounds.

3 November - Mortar and artillery shelling greatly lessened, while use of colored flares increased. Low visibility reported by OP's.

4 November - Enemy artillery and mortars of larger caliber reported.

5 November - Propaganda mission fired into Mailly-sur-Seille, Craincourt and Thezey-St. Martin.

6 November - General increase in enemy artillery activity. Leaflet picked up in Letricourt read, "Men of the 80th, why have you been stopped in your drive for the past three weeks? Why is it that you can't go on to Berlin? Your wives are going to spend a lonesome Xmas!" Enemy observed digging in on Delme Ridge, vehicular and troop movements seen on route-de-Metz and vicinity of Liecourt. An increase in colored flares was noted. Ground OP's were able to intersect on several enemy batteries by flash means during this period.

8 November - The attack began at 0500. The battalion counter-battery fire, observed and adjusted by the liaison plane observer, was effective. Resistance grew increasingly stronger as the attack progressed.

10 November - Attack resumed. Air observation and adjustment on enemy batteries, mortars and anti-tank weapons was conducted with destructive effect. Liaison was established with the 775th Field Artillery Battalion. Delme Ridge was taken.

11 November - The attack preceeded. Effective fire was placed upon pillboxes. Enemy battery destroyed on outskirts of Bacourt.

12 November - Infantry moved forward with tank support. Time fire adjusted on enemy infantry in open with excellent effect. A total of five missions upon enemy infantry were fired during the day.

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SECTION II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc.

14 November - Forward movement again resumed. No resistance reported. Unit was alerted on possibility of a tank attack from northeast. Enemy tanks were contained before entering our sector.

15 November - Unit was again alerted by possibilities of tank attack. Enemy activity was contained by forward tank elements. Two civilians were turned over to Division CIC for screening. Missions were fired upon enemy batteries, vehicles and infantry. A P-47 was hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed near the CP.

16 November - Preparation fire proved extremely effective. The regiment took 400-500 prisoners. Forward observers were able to adjust effective fire upon assembling enemy infantry.

17 November - Preparation fire again proved very effective. A propaganda mission was fired. Resistance was very slight. Some artillery fire received.

18 November - Effective fire placed on enemy guns. Time fire adjusted on enemy infantry in woods. 35th Division, on right, moved through areas battalion had fired upon previously with slight resistance. Enemy artillery (largest concentration eight rounds) reported.

19 November - Withdrawal of enemy from Metz could not be observed by air OP. Two artillery pieces were destroyed by air adjustment; one anti-tank gun destroyed by adjustment from a ground OP.

21 November - Weather hampered observation by air OP. Was able to adjust effectively on five artillery pieces.

22 November - The 905th Field Artillery Battalion supported the 314th Field Artillery Battalion in effectively placing fire upon enemy troops and installations, enabling the 318th Infantry Company to withdraw from a position where it had been surrounded.

23 November - In Faulquemont a wire truck of Headquarters Battery was booby-trapped by placing a grenade on one end of a wire attached to the drum on a power reel. This incident took place while wire personnel were at mess. The device was discovered before any damage was done. Two civilians were apprehended and placed with the CIC for questioning. Enemy artillery concentration of four rounds reported.

24 November - Enemy artillery concentration of six rounds reported. Heavy mortar shelling reported in 2nd Battalion section. Enemy machine gun nests effectively fired upon.

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SECTION II: Intelligence Operations, Use of Sections, etc.

25 November - Attack resumed. Infantry elements received considerable artillery, mortar and machine gun fire. Time fire adjusted upon enemy troops. Two enemy, four gun, batteries and one single gun adjusted upon. Direct hits and excellent coverage of area observed. The fight for Longeville Les St Aved was difficult but at 1652 infantry elements entered the town. Three prisoners were captured by Headquarters Battery personnel. PW's were "equipped" with safe conduct passes.

26 November - Infantry attacking St Aved met artillery and mortar fire. Ground adjustments on mortars and air adjustments on artillery proceeded satisfactorily. One gun was destroyed; two were neutralized. The high ground near St Aved enabled the enemy to hold the 319th to positions west and south of the city. Much small arms fire was encountered from buildings in the outskirts of the city.

27 November - After an extensive artillery preparation, the 1st Battalion, 319th Infantry advanced through St Aved, meeting no resistance and outposted the town.

28 November - The CIC was informed and investigated enemy maps and documents found in the 905th CP in St Aved. Infantry elements continued to move to the east to occupy the high ground. Enemy artillery fire, in increasing quantity, reported in regimental sector. At 2003 the 905th Field Artillery Battalion placed harrassing fire on German soil (the town of St. Nikolaus).

30 November - Small arms and mortar fire increased in the Regimental Sector. A general increase in enemy artillery fire was noted. 905th Field Artillery Battalion in direct support of 319th Infantry Regiment in their defensive position at end of month.

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By ED NARA Date 9-23-00

SUPPLY OFFICE
905th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO 80, United States Army

1 December 1944

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy
Section III Logistics, Supply Procedure, Problems

TO : The Adjutant General
Washington, D.C.

1. In accordance with Paragraph 10, AR 345-105, as amended by Change 3, the following report is submitted for the calendar month of November, 1944:

a. Class I Supplies: No problems.

b. Class II Supplies:

(1) Clothing and equipment;

jacket, field, sizes 34 and 36-R
raincoat, dismounted, size large
can, meat
cup, canteen

No replacements have been available for the above listed items.

(2) Organizational equipment;

(a) Sight, panoramic, M12.

A good deal of difficulty has been had with the above listed item due to condensation of moisture on inside of lens.

(b) Replacement on motor vehicles has been exceedingly slow; particularly the replacement of truck $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton 6x6 and truck $1\frac{1}{4}$ ton 4x4. No replacement on winches have been available whatsoever.

(c) This organization has never received its original issue of maintenance equipment (ME-13) for radio sets SCR 608, 609, 610. The lack of this equipment is especially felt at this time since after four months of continuous operation radio failures are frequent.

(d) Replacement on all sizes of tires and tubes is exceedingly slow.

c. Class III Supplies: No problems.

d. Class IV Supplies: None authorized.

e. Class V Supplies: No new problems though same difficulties as to lot numbers and confusion at ASP's continue.

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2. Comments, Observations, Recommendations: With transportation facilities cut to the bone by our Table of Equipment, resupply of vehicles, tires, and tubes, must be improved. While most supply difficulties can be overcome through initiative and expedients, there is no substitute for missing prime movers and ammunition vehicles. Continued deficiencies in this connection will constitute a serious threat to our continued operations.

Lester H. Salter
LESTER H. SALTER
CAPTAIN FA
Supply Officer

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HEADQUARTERS 90TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO #80, C/O POSTMASTER, NEW YORK, N. Y.

SUBJECT: Report After Action Against Enemy.

Section IV: Personnel and Allied Administration for month of November 1944.

All administrative and personnel work of the Battalion was satisfactorily accomplished by the Personnel Section in the Division Rear Echelon. All enlisted men and officers were paid for month of November on 30 November. All morning report summaries were submitted to Personnel Section on time and the Regular Morning Reports were submitted through channels in the proper manner. All reports on Battle casualties are up to date. It is noted that this Battalion has not been receiving the type of replacements that have been requisitioned. At present the battalion is short ten officers. A requisition has been submitted some time ago to fill the vacancies but no officers have been received to date.

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