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Auth: CG, 87 Div
Date: 11 Jan 45
Init: WCR

HEADQUARTERS 346TH INFANTRY
APO 448 U S ARMY

11 January 1945

Subject: After Action Report.

To: Commanding General, 87 Inf Div, APO 448, U S Army
(ATTENTION: A C of S, G-3)

The following After Action Report covers the period 28 november 1944 to 31 December 1944, inclusive.

28 November 1944

Disembarked from ships and boarded LST's which landed on the beach at Lefarve, France. Marched eight miles to bivouac area.

29 November 1944

Entrucked to proceed to Redhorse Assembly Area, located five miles South of St Saens, France.

30 November 1944

Regiment closed into the Redhorse Assembly Area.

1 December 1944

Normal Field Duties.

2 December 1944

Normal Field Duties.

3 December 1944

Received orders for movement towards the front.

4 December 1944

Vehicles loaded in preparation for movement.

5 December 1944

Organizational vehicles departed for Metz, France at 0800 hours. Personnel of Regiment entrained at Critot, France.

6 December 1944

Enroute to Metz, France.

CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE
W. J. ...

387-1NF(346)-0.3

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
Detrained at Mayenne, France and entrucked for billets in Metz.
RESTRICTED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
W. J. ...
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE ... 1945

Master
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After Action Report, Hq 346 Inf, 11 Jan 45 (Contd)

8 December 1944

Remained at billets in Metz, France, preparing for movement the following morning.

9 December 1944

Entrucked at Metz, France, at 0700 hours. Arrived at Kalhausen, France, at 1615 hours.

10 December 1944

Opened CP at Kalhausen and received orders to relieve the 104th Infantry Regiment of the 26th Division at dusk. Ordered to attack in sector at 0930 hours in the morning of the 11th.

11 December 1944

Attack jumped off at 0930 hours. Second battalion on the right, third battalion on the left. Attack fell slightly short of its objective. The second battalion received fairly heavy casualties from tank and pill box fire. A lot was learned and the total casualties were not too heavy.

12 December 1944

Attacked again today in the direction of Rimling, France. Third battalion on the left, first battalion on the right. Very successful day. Regimental objective reached with light casualties.

13 December 1944

Continued attack in vicinity of Rimling. Advanced with stubborn resistance, tanks playing active part. Third Bn on left, first battalion on right. Second battalion placed in regimental reserve in vicinity Gros-Rederching, France. Regimental CP located at Gros-Rederching. Town of Gros-Rederching received heavy enemy artillery shelling. Regt secured objective and assisted the advance of the 328th Infantry on our left. Co A, 761st Tank Bn and Co A, 610 TD Bn were attached to our regiment. Casualties were rather high. Morale of troops was low due to weather--rain and cold. Combat efficiency rated as very satisfactory. Patrols were sent into Rimling tonight.

14 December 1944

Second and third battalion attacked at 0700 hours in vicinity south and west of Rimling. Met light resistance until the capture of Rimling itself; however, the town was taken by noon. First battalion secured ground around and beyond Rimling to north and northeast. Combat efficiency rated as very satisfactory. Morale was good. Casualties were rather heavy.

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After Action Report, Hq 346 Inf, 11 Jan 45 (Contd)

15 December 1944

Attack launched at 0700 hours. Stiff resistance met. Counterattack early in morning repulsed in first battalion sector. Received air support in early afternoon with twelve P-47's. Moved Regimental CP from Gros-Rederching to Rimling at 1410 hours. Our Regiment, first of Division, crossed German border at 1425 hours. First Bn was first to cross by capturing Hill 383. Troops now located in vicinity of Erching, France and Guiderkirch, France. Second Bn captured Guiderkirch and advanced beyond. Colonel Travis, 3d battalion commander wounded in action today. Major Reilly assumed command of third battalion. Cpl Irvin D Carpenter, Co F, voluntarily led a patrol so successfully that CO gave him an on-the-spot promotion to Sgt. He was also recommended for the Bronze Star Medal. At end of day our Regiment was relieved by the 345 Inf and put in Division Reserve. Casualties for the day were light. Combat efficiency was very satisfactory.

16 December 1944

Entire Regiment was assembled in reserve for reorganization. Regiment billeted in vicinity of Rimling and Gros-Rederching. Colonel Costello was relieved of command of Regiment and Colonel Richard B Wheeler from the 35th Infantry Division assumed command at 1300 hours. Rimling received shellings from enemy artillery on several occasions during day.

17 December 1944

Remained in Division reserve today. Battalions were given mission to cover and protect approaches to the Division Assembly area from the East. Casualties were very low, morale good.

18 December 1944

No attack again today. Regiment still being held in Div Reserve and assembled near Rimling and Gros-Rederching. Regiment still has mission of defending Regtl area. Outposts, listening posts, patrols and AT guns posted in vicinity of Rimling and Guiderkirch.

19 December 1944

Still holding positions near Rimling and Gros Rederching. Much patrolling took place. Intermittent artillery fire fell in regimental areas and around regimental CP in Rimling. Regiment ordered to reorganize and re-equip all companies and battalions. Warming houses established for troops. Morale - good.

20 December 1944

Security mission in protecting regimental area still being carried out. Lt Spear, Co H, recommended for Silver Star Medal for outstanding duty against the enemy near Rimling, France.

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After Action Report, Hq 346 Inf, 11 Jan 45 (Contd)

Lt Spear stood up under enemy fire and reorganized his platoon in such a way that it was effectively placed against the enemy.

21 December 1944

Received order to leave present mission and proceed to locations near Obergailbach, Niedergailbach and Bliesburck, France, to relieve elements of the 320th Infantry, 35 Infantry Division. Two battalions, with Company B, 312 Medical Bn attached, relieved the first and third battalions of the 320th Infantry at 1200 hours. The first battalion of the 347th Infantry was attached to us. Our first battalion relieved the first battalion of the 347th Infantry in positions East of Niedergailbach. Our regiment to be supported by the 312 Eng Bn, one Bn of division artillery, 761st Tank battalion, 691 TD Bn, and 549th AAA Bn. Entered defensive positions at dusk ready for attack tomorrow. Morale was good.

22 December 1944

Troops remained in defensive positions in same vicinity. Improved positions, laid mine fields and continued active patrolling. Enemy threatened small counterattack by firing into our positions from dominating ground; however, this was easily repulsed. Combat efficiency rated as very satisfactory. Casualties were light. Sgt Carpenter, Co F, awarded Bronze Star Medal.

23 December 1944

Assumed defensive positions until order was received to move to new area. Left positions without relief. Began assembling for transportation to new area. Nature of change not known.

24 December 1944

Began movement to new area shortly after midnight. Arrived in Munster, France, and billeted in vicinity awaiting further orders.

25 December 1944

Spent Christmas Day in assembly area in vicinity of Munster. Enjoyed special dinner, and all men were given opportunity to attend Christmas church services. Received word to move to new area in early afternoon. Cross IP around dusk. Convoy was bombed shortly after crossing IP. Three D Co men were injured.

26 December 1944

Arrived at assembly area, 10 miles East of Reims, France, at 0900 hours. Regiment encamped for short tactical bivouac. All men ordered to live in out-of-doors. Air guards posted as we did not have air superiority in this sector. Warning tents set up by all units so as to give every man opportunity to get warm.

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After Action Report, Hq 346 Inf, 11 Jan 45 (Contd)

27 December 1944

Another day spent in assembly area. Inspection of all vehicles, weapons and field equipment conducted in afternoon by order of Commanding General. Reorganization of regiment begun. ~~Em~~ transferred within regiment so as to make rifle companies have average strength of 90 men and heavy weapons companies an average strength of 105.

28 December 1944

Still at assembly area. Training schedules begun. Today reclassification proceedings of Majors Lester L Cline and John M Berutich, 1st Bn, were begun. Capt Menashe, S-1, was sent to hospital with a toe infection. Lt William C Richardson assumed position of acting S-1.

29 December 1944

Spent most of day in preparation for move from assembly area. Crossed IP at 1545 hours to proceed to new area. All troops detrucked in vicinity of Glaumont, Belgium, at approximately 2200 hours. Combat troops proceeded by foot to secure positions for tomorrow's attack.

30 December 1944

Troops arrived in area and prepared for attack at 0730 hours. Our combat team, less first battalion (put in Regtl Reserve) with Co B, 312 Med Bn, Co A, 691st TD Bn attached. Given mission to capture and hold objective and blow out all bridges and to establish road blocks in vicinity of St Hubert and Vesqueville, Belgium. Second battalion on right, third battalion on left. Continued advance through day. Later in day all of 346th Inf except second Bn pulled out and put in Division Reserve. Second Bn given mission to contain St Hubert from positions in area of Vesqueville and Bras-Haut, Belgium, to protect left flank of Division and patrol toward St Hubert, main objective of patrols being to capture prisoners. Casualty rate was low. Weather - snow. Regimental CP moved to Recongne, Belgium at 1115 hours.

31 December 1944

Enemy patrol attacked left flank of Company E during early morning. Second battalion attacked Vesqueville at 0845 hours. Sent patrols into St Hubert again and into woods in vicinity of Vesqueville to capture prisoners. Regimental I & R platoon attached to second battalion this morning. Heavy MG and rifle fire received from enemy at Vesqueville. Received word from Division that we were to receive approximately 350 replacements. T/Sgt Alva M Miles, Co B, recommended for promotion to 2d Lt for outstanding leadership of rifle platoon. Casualties low, morale excellent, weather snow and cold.

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