

1 Dec 44

Weather: Clear and sunny.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment started the month of December in the vicinity of Troisfontaines, France. The Regiment was in a rest area and spent its time in the care and cleaning of clothing and equipment.

A training schedule was put in operation and individual and team training in the use of bangalore torpedoes, beehive charges, and pole charges were conducted.

The personnel of the Regiment was given an opportunity to shower and obtain clean clothes. Motion pictures were shown and a PX was in operation.

The strength of the Regiment as of this date is as follows:

Officers	143
Warrant Officers	5
Enlisted Men	3035

149 prisoners of war have been processed thru the Regimental cage since 8 Nov 44.

At 1400 this date the Regiment received alert orders for a possible movement to vic Metting. The orders were confirmed at 1600.

Rg Hqs: In Troisfontaines.

Sv Co: In Troisfontaines.

AT Co: In Troisfontaines.

Cn Co: In Dribrunnen.

1st Bn: In Valleystahl. Bn continued cleaning of equipment and engaged in training on attack on fortified positions.

2nd Bn: In Dribrunnen. Same as 1st Bn in training.

3rd Bn: In Troisfontaines. Same in training as other battalions and preparations for movement to assembly area being carried out.

Col. Nelson I. Fooks was in command of the Regiment.

2 Dec 44

Weather: Rain and cold.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regimental Commander issued a warning order to the Bn Commanders at 1340 for attack in the morning. H hour was 0730. The 2nd Bn was given the mission to seize Puberg and the 1st Bn was to attack abreast of the 2nd Bn and seize Wingen. The 3rd Bn was the Regtl reserve. CP CT 398 moved to La Petite Pierre and opened at 1730.

2 Dec 44

Rg Hqs: Left Troisfontaines by motor and traveled to La Petite Pierre.

SV Co: Left Valleystahl for Hangweiler by motor and traveled 18 miles to complete movement at 2340.

AT Co: Crossed IP near Troisfontaines at 1140 and traveled 30 miles by truck, arriving at La Petite Pierre at 1600.

Cn Co: Left Dreibrunden 1135 by motor for La Petite Pierre.

1st Bn: Bn moved to town of Lohr by motor in two series. Closed in at 1406, being 15 miles NE of previous location, Valleystahl. Left Lohr at 1500 by foot for vic 705321, 1½ miles SW Zittersheim where Bn bivouaced in forward assembly area preparatory to morning attack.

2nd Bn: Left Dreibrunden by motor convoy at 0700 and arrived at Schoenbourg at 1000. Troops left by foot at 1500 and arrived forward assembly area at 1800.

3rd Bn: Moved from Troisfontaines to assembly area preparatory to movement into forward assembly area at La Petite Pierre for attack tomorrow morning.

3 Dec 44

Weather: Rain.

Visibility: Fair.

Rg Hqs: Left vic La Petite Pierre by motor and arrived vic Moderfeld.

SV Co: No change.

AT Co: Remained in position near La Petite Pierre.

Cn Co: Left La Petite Pierre at 1300 by motor and arrived at Puberg at 1530.

1st Bn: With supporting 3 TD's from 106 Cav and atchd Engrs attacked at 0730 line of departure vic 715335 outside Zittersheim with immediate objective town of Wingen (735357). Bn drove NE to road outside Wingen to hill above and around town. It was held up by automatic weapons and mortars.

Co A moved out at 0730 to occupy Wingen; Co C occupied several houses in the town.

2nd Bn: The Bn started the attack at 0750 from Schoenbourg and advanced in northerly direction to position of 6000 yards NE Puberg. Mortar and arty fire were encountered during day. The CP moved into Puberg and stayed in private home for the night. Companies F and H were temporarily halted by three road blocks.

3rd Bn: Bn moved to Rosteig without eny opposition. The Bn area was hit by mortar fire. Casualties moderately light to include three officers WIA.

3 Dec 44

Supporting Units:

Arty: 375 and 925 FA.

Engrs: Co B, 325 Engrs.

Armor: Co C, 824 TD Bn.

Chml: Co D, 99th Cheml Bn.

Med: Co B, 325 Med Bn.

The enemy front lines: Soucht, Meisenthal, and Wingen.

4 Dec 44

Weather: Rain and cold.

Visibility: Fair.

Sv Co: Left Hangweiler at 1200 by shuttle movement and traveled 11 miles, arriving at La Petite Pierre at 1315. Movement completed at 1840.

AT Co: Crossed IP near La Petite Pierre at 1100, traveling 4 miles by motor convoy, arriving at bivouac area vic Puberg 1130. The mine platoon was guarding Regtl CP.

1st Bn: Bn continued to attack Wingen. Companies B and C on high ground around town; Co A scattered by fire with location unreported. Yesterday's casualties include 3 EM and 1 O KIA from Co C and 4 EM in Co A WIA. D Company has not heard from 1st sec, 2nd platoon in 14 hours.

2nd Bn: Co F spearheaded Bn attack while G Company remained in old position to resist counterattacks. G Company had two EM KIA and killed 9 of the enemy. Four prisoners were taken.

3rd Bn: Occupying town of Rosteig against stiff resistance on high ground around town. I Co lost 2 EM KIA and 14 EM WIA.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 4 Dec 169 prisoners have been taken.

5 Dec 44

Weather: Rain.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment consolidated its positions on the high ground S of Soucht, Meisenthal, and Wingen.

AT Co: Company protecting flanks and rear of Regt; subjected to shelling.

Cn Co: Fired mission for 2nd Bn.

5 Dec 44

1st Bn: Bn continued efforts to take Wingen and contact A Co with support of arty and assistance of Cn Co and TD unit from 4th Armd. Co C attacked and occupied the town by afternoon. Bn CP moved into Wingen. Co A not located except for 27 men in rear plus 26 men found in town, 13 of whom were wounded.

2nd Bn: Continued to consolidate original positions and patrolled to Meisenthal and Soucht.

3rd Bn: Bn continued attack and seized high ground N & E of Rosteig. Light enemy arty fire encountered.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 5 Dec 183.

6 Dec 44

Weather: Rain and cold.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment advanced N at 0830 to seize and occupy Soucht, Meisenthal, and St Louis and to protect the Division against counterattack.

Rg Hqs: Moved to vic Meisenthal.

AT Co: All platoons returned to company; traveled 8 miles to Meisenthal.

Cn Co: Left Puberg at 1545 traveling by motor for Meisenthal, arriving at 1900.

1st Bn: Bn remained in Wingen, reorganized and regrouped. A Co lost 4 officers and 104 EM to MIA. Civilians claimed these men were captured. The 4 O listed as MIA were Capt C Kierniesky, CO, 1st Lt T. S. Zakely, Exec O, Lt F Bell, platoon leader, and Lt P. S. Greenwood, Jr, platoon leader. 12 men of mortar platoon atchd to Co A were also MIA.

2nd Bn: Bn left front line position near Soucht for that village. Troops billeted in private homes for the night. Mission to defend Division flanks and rear. Two EM wounded in F Co and one arty liaison O killed by booby trap connected to road block.

3rd Bn: Bn advanced on attack from Rosteig to Meisenthal and to St Louis without resistance. There were no casualties.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 6 Dec 185.

7 Dec 44

Weather: Rain.

Visibility: Poor.

Roads: Muddy.

The Regiment maintained contact with the 114th Inf and protected the Division flank. We also advanced to the N keeping contact with the 399th Inf and protecting its flank.

Sv Co: Departed from La Petite Pierre 0800 by motor convoy-shuttle movement. Traveled 18 miles, last vehicle arriving 1140 in Meisenthal.

1st Bn: Bn moved by foot to Meisenthal from Wingen here troops billeted and reorganized while constituting Regtl reserve. Co A spent day in receiving replacements and assigning them to platoons. The Co was re-equipped also. Lt Strickler was transferred from D Co and assumed command of Co A.

2nd Bn: Troops cleaned up, received packages, and were given chance to attend religious services.

3rd Bn: Located in St Louis. Co I advanced to establish road blocks to N & E of St Louis. Companies K, L, M, & Hq Co remained in vic of St Louis where they received harassing arty fire all day. Casualties were light.

Supporting Units:

Co C, 824 TD Bn (towed)

375th FA Bn

Co B, 2nd Chml Bn

Co B, 325th Engr Bn

Co B, 325th Med Bn

PWs: From 8 Nov to 7Dec—188.

8 Dec 44

Weather: Rain and cold.

Visibility: Good.

The Regiment continued to protect the left flank of the Division against counterattack and maintained contact with the 114th Inf on the left and the 399th Inf on the right.

AT Co: Mine Platoon swept road and trail from Meisenthal to St Louis.

1st Bn: Remained in Regtl reserve in Meisenthal; alerted for possible movement to NE at 1415.

8 Dec 44

2nd Bn: In St Louis awaiting orders. A few shells landed in town.

3rd Bn: Companies moved into defensive positions in vic St Louis; encountered mines and booby traps plus light arty and mortar fire. One O WIA and one FO KIA. Co I sent patrols to contact 114th Inf and blocked a road junction from Enchenberg. L Co relieved Co A 399th Inf on position vic 724446. S mines and SHU mines encountered in area. Co K moved from vic St Louis to vic 717444 and patrolled to N & NE.

Additional Supporting Unit: Co B, 781 Tank Bn.

9 Dec 44

Weather: Snow and rain, cold.

Visibility: Poor to fair.

1st Bn: Still in Regtl reserve Meisenthal.

2nd Bn: Moved by foot to vic Sarrensburg and attached to 399th Inf.

3rd Bn: In vic St Louis and maintained contact with 114th Inf.

10 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cold.

Visibility: Good.

OI #2 was issued this date. The Regiment was to continue its advance to the N & NE to Division object--Bitche and surrounding territory.

Rg Hqs: Moved from Meisenthal to vic Lemberg.

AT Co: Left Meisenthal traveling 5 miles to Lemberg.

1st Bn: Moved by foot and motor to about 4 miles SE Lemberg.

2nd Bn: Bn CP located in large chateau in Alt-Schmel. Front line elements heavily shelled with a few shells falling in CP area. Companies still in support 2nd Bn 399th Inf. At 1700 Bn reverted back to Regtl control.

3rd Bn: Moved from St Louis to Lemberg by foot and motor. Encountered mortar & 88mm fire.

Supporting Units: 375th FA Bn, Co B 2nd Chml Bn, Co B 781 Tk Bn, Co C 824 TD Bn, Co B 325 Eng Bn, Co B 325 Med Bn.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 10th Dec—194.

13 Dec 44

Weather: Intermittent rain.

Visibility: Fair.

Rg Hqs: Col Nelson I Fooks reld fr asgmt & trfd to 100th Div. Col Paul G Daly asgt & jd fr 2nd Repl Depot.

AT Co: Mine platoon atchd to Rg Hqs. Company subjected to light shelling. Turned in a suspicious civilian.

Cn Co: Left Meisenthal for Lemberg and fired mission for 3rd Bn.

1st Bn: Bn CP remained on high ground SE Lemberg. Co B assigned and fulfilled recon mission to assist attack of remainder of Regt, this being in reserve. Bn held position and consolidated against possibility of counterattack.

2nd Bn: Bn ordered to proceed to objective by way of WQ778474. Co G advanced to within 200 yds of obj; Company F was temporarily halted by road block, and a tank was brought up to smash it. On its return, tank was put out of action. Co F pushed to left of Co G and consolidated positions. Bn reorganized and dug in for the night.

3rd Bn: Bn CP located in Lemberg. Bn jumped off on attack at daybreak; first obj taken. Bn consolidated position for night before reaching 2nd obj. Casualties moderately heavy as opposition used arty, mortar, and pillboxes.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 11 Dec—197.

12 Dec 44

Weather: Rain.

Visibility: Good.

Roads: Muddy.

The Regt began its advance toward the high ground SW of Bitche at daybreak.

AT Co: Subjected to heavy bombardment.

Cn Co: Recd 50 rounds counter battery fire from 2030 to 2200; interditory fire hourly from 1800 to 2200. Mission fired during counter btry fire.

1st Bn: Company B sent out on patrol mission vic 7647 and 7648. Co was attached to the 3rd Bn. The remainder of the Bn was Regtl reserve.

2nd Bn: Bn pushed forward to Bn obj vic 775480 after meeting some S/A, flak, and arty fire. Co G laid down base of fire for Co F who advanced on the second Bn obj. Position of 2nd obj at end period vic 770483.

12 Dec 44

3rd Bn: Bn started its attack on objective at daylight. Co I advanced behind a rolling barrage to secure the high ground vic 755485. Co K advanced on Co I's left while Co L advanced on the right. The objective was taken with very little resistance although arty and mortar fire fell during the advance.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 12 Dec—200.

13 Dec 44

Weather: Clear and cool.

Visibility: Excellent.

We attacked the Regtl obj and Reyersviller at 0810. We occupied Reyersviller at 1200 into the Regtl obj at 1230. Upon occupation of the Regtl obj the advance continued to the next high ground to the NW, meeting some small arms fire.

1st Bn: Co A, attached to 3rd Bn, occupied Reyersviller unopposed. Co B occupied positions vic 773483 and Co C vic 776475 to protect the Regt against counterattack from the NE.

2nd Bn: Was the first unit in Division to reach the Maginot Line and Co F was the first unit in the Bn to reach it. After the Regtl obj was reached, the Bn began to organize the high ground and sent out patrols to the NW. Co E vic 765488, Co F vic 757495, Co G vic 760490. An 88mm gun was knocked out by arty fire adjusted by CO Co G.

3rd Bn: After the seizure of Reyersviller by Co A, which was attached to this Bn, the Bn occupied the high ground vic 751500 without opposition. Upon occupation there was some small arms fire from snipers.

Companies consolidated positions for the night.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 13 Dec—207.

Enemy Front Lines: None exist.

14 Dec 44

Weather: Cool.

Visibility: Fair.

The mission of the Regiment today was to attack N & NE vic 758515 and continue advance to Regtl obj.

The 44th Div is on our left and the 399th Inf is on our right. The 397th Inf in on the right of the 399th.

The 1st Bn is to make the main effort on the right and is to be passed by the 3rd Bn on the left. The 3rd Bn was to seize the Regtl obj and support attack of 399th Inf on Bitche by fire and prevent any movement on routes N & E. The Regiment is now moving into the Maginot Line area.

14 Dec 44

Rg Hqs: Moved to Reyersviller.

Sv Co: Remained in Meisenthal.

AT Co: Moved to Reyersviller; 1st platoon in mobile reserve in Lemberg; 2nd and 3rd platoons in and around Schwangenbach.

Cn Co: Moved to Reyersviller and fired mission for 3rd Bn.

1st Bn: Bn advanced on Ft Freydenberg at 1400 and met heavy resistance. Coordination of Inf-Arty-Tank neutralized the fort. Cos A and B then advanced upon Ft Schiesseck and were pinned down. Bn consolidated positions at close of period.

2nd Bn: Remained in position to protect the Regtl right flank. Eny patrols were encountered coming up the high ground to go into position. The patrols were captured.

3rd Bn: Bn advanced on the 1st Bn flank to protect it and also supported the attack. Heavy arty, flak, mortar, and small arms fire were encountered by both the 1st and 3rd Bns.

Supporting Units: 375 FA Bn, Co B 761 Tank Bn, Co C 824 TD Bn (towed), Co B 2nd Cml Bn, Co B 325 Eng Bn, Co B 325 Med Bn.

Enemy Front Lines: 754511 to 760500.

PWs: 8 Nov to 14 Dec—227.

15 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cool.

Visibility: Fair to good.

Heavy and medium arty fire was directed on the fortifications of the Maginot Line. Direct hits were scored on the forts. Ft. Freydenberg was hit by a 240mm arty shell after which 7 men came out towards the front lines waving a white flag.

Cn Co: Fired missions for 2nd and 3rd Bns.

1st Bn: Co A attacked Maginot Line positions at 0930 and encountered heavy opposition. After a day-long operation against concrete fortifications of Fts Freydenberg and Schiesseck the company pulled back behind LD. Many casualties were suffered. Co B was in Bn reserve. Co C moved up to line in vic 506-746 at 1300 and sent out patrols.

2nd Bn: Remained in position protecting the right flank of the Regt overlooking Bitche.

15 Dec 44

3rd Bn: Occupied the high ground vic 753498 and manned OP's over-looking the Maginot Line forts awaiting orders to move forward.

PWs: From 8 Nov to 15 Dec—237.

Enemy Information: Ft Simserhof and Ft Schiesseck said to be connected by underground passage. All bridges in Bitche prepared for demolition 6 Dec.

Enemy Front Lines: Vic of Schiesseck.

16 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cool.

Visibility: Fair to good.

The Regiment remained in its present position and prepared to advance on the Maginot forts on order. Arty and air support continued to neutralize the fortifications. Extensive patrolling was carried out at night in the vic of Ft Freydenburg. Machinegun and mortar positions were located by the patrols.

1st Bn: Bn continued to occupy high ground N of Reyersviller. It maintained covering force (Co C) while Cos A and B continued reorganizing. Enemy arty and mortar fire dropped in area. Bn was protecting left flank of Div.

2nd Bn: Remained in position and OP's were overlooking the Maginot forts and Bitche.

3rd Bn: Situation stable; preparing to attack forts tomorrow.

PWs: 8 Nov to 16 Dec—238.

Enemy Front Lines: Vic Ft Schiesseck.

17 Dec 44

Weather: Clear and cool.

Visibility: Excellent.

Col Paul G Daly was wounded in action and evacuated to the 9th Evac Hospital. The Col was wounded in the leg during an enemy artillery barrage.

Lt Col Robert M Williams was asgd and jd fr the 399th Inf. He assumed command of the Regiment.

The Regiment pierced the strongest points in the Maginot Line vic ground W of Bitche. The 3rd Bn spearheaded the attack with Cos I and L leading. The 375th FA, reenforced with medium arty, adjusted with precision on the individual forts neutralizing Ft Freydenberg and others in the Bitche Sector. Ft. Freydenberg was taken by the 3rd Bn.

17 Dec 44

The attack was preceded by an air mission than a 45-minute concentration of arty, cannon and chemical. An assault platoon made up of Co B, 325th Engrs was used to assault the forts. The Sector was defended by dug in riflemen using S/A, M/G, burp guns, and 120mm mortars. 88mm and 75mm shells fell on the advancing troops also. Tanks and TDs fired directly at the strong points.

The 44th Div was on our left and the 397th Inf. on our right.

Cn Co: Intermittently fired on pillboxes.

1st Bn: Bn CP remained in Reyersviller while Bn continued to hold line N of Reyersviller. The mission of the Bn was to protect the flanks of the Regiment, mainly the left flank and maintain contact with the 71st Inf on the left. At the close of the period Co B vic 750508, Co A vic 748500, Co C vic 754508.

2nd Bn: Maintained OP's along the entire front and protected the right flank of the Regiment. At the close of the period Co E vic 752501, Co F vic 758496, Co G 762494.

3rd Bn: Cos I and L lead the attack on Ft Freydenberg and with assault platoons succeeded in taking the fort. Casualties were heavy. At the close of the period positions were consolidated with Co L vic 757513, Co I vic 760512, Co K vic 757508 (Bn reserve).

Supporting Units:

375th FA Bn

Co B 761 Tank Bn

Co C 824 TD Bn (towed)

Co B 2 Chml Bn

Co B 325 Engrs

Co B 325 Med Bn

PWs: 8 Nov to 17 Dec—242.

18 Dec 44

Weather: Intermittent rain, cool.

Visibility: Poor.

The Regiment continued forward to the Regtl objective securing forts of the Maginot Line in its advance.

18 Dec 44

1st Bn: Bn remained in its present position protecting the Division's left flank and maintained contact with 71st Inf on left. Co A dug in one mile N of Reyersviller; Co B occupied position in vic Hill 412; Co C's 2nd and 3rd platoons reld elements of Co K and occupied Ft Freydenberg at 758510.

2nd Bn: Bn prepared to move forward to capture the high ground vic 766529. Co E via 755503, Co F vic 759488, Co G vic 755500.

3rd Bn: After securing Ft Freydenberg and the forts 10 and 11 of Ft Schiesseck, the Bn continued forward at 0930 to capture forts 1, 7, 8, 5, 6, 4, 3, and 9. Large concentrations of arty fell on the troops as they advanced towards the forts. The enemy entrenched around the forts resisted strongly with A/W, S/A, and M/G fire, firing from prepared positions laying down final protective fires. Upon capture the forts were outposted.

PWs: 8 Nov to 18 Dec—265.

Eny Information: PWs stated that food and ammunition were coming into Maginot Line from the Siegfried Line region approximately 15 miles away.

19 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cool.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment continued the attack and moved into the Regtl objective. Co B, 325th Engineers continued preparing the forts with demolitions.

Rg Hqs: Still in Reyersviller.

AT Co: In direct support of attack and subjected to heavy enemy bombardment.

1st Bn: Remained in present position to protect the left flank of the Regiment. The Bn remained in Regtl reserve on orders to be prepared to move at once in case of a counterattack. Co C is occupying Ft Freydenberg, Pillbox #9.

2nd Bn: The Bn began its move forward at 1000 to its objective, the high ground W of Ft Schiesseck, against heavy arty, mortar, and automatic weapons. Co E reached fort #3 and found it vacated and then sent patrols to fort #2 and they were pinned down by furious MG fire. Co F vic 757519, Co G vic 756522.

3rd Bn: The Bn continued to secure the forts in the Schiesseck area. Heavy arty and mortar fire fell on the troops during the whole period and automatic weapons and 88mm fire from vic of Bitche. At 1713 the enemy counterattacked Co L in vic fort #3 with 30 men. The enemy was repulsed and retreated to the NW in a draw. Three prisoners were taken who said that 120 enemy were in the draw. Arty and en fire were placed on the draw immediately. Results unknown.

20 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cool.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment continued to push forward to secure the high ground W of Bitche.

AT Co: Moved into defensive position for expected counterattack.

Cn Co: Fired 14 missions, 707 rounds.

1st Bn: Bn given mission to pass thru 3rd Bn and occupy and secure Hill 370. With Co C leading and B Co following the Bn jumped off at 1000 while A Co took over C Co's former position and became Regtl reserve. The mission then changed to that of securing road junction at 769520. Cos B and C accomplished mission taking 24 prisoners. Cos suffered enemy counterattack at 1430 sustaining several casualties and withdrew slightly.

2nd Bn: Bn continued line of attack at 0730. Co E encountered artillery barrages in advancing towards objective. Co G sent out a patrol to Shorback and reported numerous enemy troops in town. In establishing contact with 71st Inf Co G received considerable small arms and automatic weapons fire.

3rd Bn: The Bn encountered heavy arty and mortar fire while acting as a holding force.

PWs: 8 Nov to 20 Dec—297.

21 Dec 44

Weather: Cloudy and cool.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment began to consolidate and adjust its positions vic Forts Freydenberg and Schiesseck.

Co B, 325th Engrs worked under heavy arty, mortar, and A/W fire during the process of neutralizing the forts of Ft Schiesseck area. Forts numbered 9, 11, 2, 4, 6, and 7 were blown and either partially or completely neutralized.

AT Co: Remained in defensive position near Reyersviller.

Cn Co: Defensive fire during night.

1st Bn: Co A in Bn reserve dug in at 754507. Co B held ground in vic Pillbox #9 NW of Bitche. Co C retired to position at 761516 to strengthen defensive lines. Heavy arty and mortar fire fell on all troops.

2nd Bn: Bn moved into assembly area vic 735500. Heavy fire fell on the troops thruout the day and night. Prepared to occupy positions held by 71st Inf.

21 Dec 44

3rd Bn: The Bn held the high ground around Ft Schiesseck and moved into an assembly area vic 752506. The Bn covered the Engineers while they were neutralizing the forts. There was a heavy concentration of enemy firepower.

PWs: 8 Nov to 21 Dec—300.

22 Dec 44

Weather: Cold.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment continued its movement into new positions.

Rg Hqs: Moved to Siersthal 4 kilometers W.

AT Co: Moved to Siersthal.

Cn Co: Moved to Siersthal.

1st Bn: Bn remained in its present position in the Schiesseck area overlooking Bitche. Heavy arty and mortar fire fell. During the night an enemy patrol passed into Co B area.

2nd Bn: Bn took over positions of 71st Inf. Cos E, F, and G near Holbach.

3rd Bn: Bn took over positions of 3rd Bn, 71st Inf. Heavy concentrations of fire fell around Legeret Farm the vic of Cos I, K, and L.

Supporting Units: 375th FA Bn; Co B, 2nd Chml Bn; Co C 824 TD Bn (towed); Co B, 325th Eng Bn; Co B, 325th Med Bn.

23 Dec 44

Weather: Cold.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment remained in its present location adjusting and continuing preparations of its positions.

1st Bn: Remained in its present location on the high ground W of Bitche. Patrols patrolled to the N and NE and made contact with enemy patrols on outposts.

2nd Bn: Bn continued to strengthen positions. Part of the Bn received clean clothing and showers. Co F sent out patrols. Pfc Birchall, a member of one patrol, remained behind German lines for 7 hours and reported locations of automatic weapons, disposition of troops, and that same patrol had wounded four of the enemy.

23 Dec 44

3rd Bn: Continued to strengthen positions.  
PWs: 8 Nov to 23 Dec—304.

24 Dec 44

Weather: Very cold.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment was relieved by elements of 399th Inf and then reld elements of 397th.

Rg Hqs: Moved to Enchenberg.

AT Co: Moved to Enchenberg, a distance of 3 miles. Took up defensive positions N of Enchenberg.

1st Bn: CP moved to Sierstahl; was relieved by elements of 399th Inf.

2nd Bn: Relieved elements of 397th Inf vic Holbach.

3rd Bn: Remained at Legeret Farms in defensive positions.

PWs: 8 Nov to 24 Dec—307.

25 Dec 44

Weather: Very cold.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment continued its mission of readjusting and consolidating present positions. We maintained contact with 397th Inf on the left, and the 399th Inf on the right.

A Christmas dinner was served to the troops and PX supplies were issued. New combat clothing were issued.

Rg Hqs: In Enchenberg.

1st Bn: In Sierstahl. No enemy activity.

2nd Bn: In Holbach. Little enemy activity. Co G patrol encountered enemy patrol vic 732543; one enemy killed.

3rd Bn: CP in Sierstahl. Troops in defensive positions around Legeret Farms. Co L recd occasional arty and mortar fire.

PWs: 8 Nov to 25 Dec—308.

26 Dec 44

Weather: Clear and freezing.

Visibility: Excellent.

Regiment continued to stabilize its lines and maintain contact with units on left and right. Enemy arty fell thruout the Regtl Sector. Defensive plans for each Bn Sector were made.

1st Bn: Bn strengthened its lines by moving into positions vic 7051; elements of 399th Inf contacted on left.

2nd Bn: Sent out patrols at night to make contact with the enemy. Strong enemy patrols were repulsed by Co G. Light arty fell on front line positions.

3rd Bn: Remained in its present position, manned OP's, contacted units on left and right, and patrolled to the N.

27 Dec 44

Weather: Very cold.

Visibility: Excellent.

The Regiment adjusted and strengthened its positions thruout the day. Each unit sent out patrols to reconnoiter to the front. Units had difficulty digging positions because of the frozen ground.

Light arty fell thruout the day and night.

Supporting Units: 375 FA Bn, Co B 325 Eng Bn, Co B 325 Med Bn, Co C 824 TD Bn (towed).

PWs: 8 Nov to 27 Dec—308.

28 Dec 44

Weather: Freezing.

Visibility: Fair.

Elements of the Regiment patrolled vigorously thruout the day. Patrols sent out adjusted arty fire on enemy strong points. PWs stated the effect of arty fired during darkness.

1st Bn: Moved to Petit Rederching, about 4 miles NW of Sierstahl.

2nd Bn: Stressed security.

3rd Bn: In Regtl reserve. Co I moved to Holbach, Co K in Sierstahl, Co L in Legeret Farms.

PWs: 8 Nov to 28 Dec—310.

28 Dec 44

Enemy Information: One PW said that an order recently read stated that families of German deserters would be punished.

29 Dec 44

Weather: Cold.

Visibility: Fair.

Defensive plan for the Regiment was being drawn up.

1st Bn: The CP remained in Petit Rederching and Bn continued to maintain its defensive positions. Co A moved on foot to position 1500 yards SE of Urbach. Co B moved to Hill 312 NE of Hottviller, and Co C was in reserve in Petit Rederching.

2nd Bn: Co E reld Co G from the line and captured 6 prisoners. Enemy activity limited to mortar and arty shelling. Co F remained in position vic Hottviller. Co G in Bn reserve in Hottviller. Co H mortar men gave information that led to capture of the 6 prisoners.

3rd Bn: In Regtl reserve.

PWs: 8 Nov to 29 Dec—316.

30 Dec 44

Weather: Partly cloudy and cold.

Visibility: Fair.

The Regiment continued strengthening positions. Combat and reconnaissance patrols were sent to the N and NE.

Sv Co: Moved to Demeringen, a distance of 12 miles.

2nd Bn: The outstanding activity of the day was the "Rochester Patrol" of Co G. The patrol consisted of 2nd Lt Rush and 25 EM. The patrol raided the town of Dohlenbach, approximately one mile behind enemy lines, with the mission to destroy all installations and personnel. The mission was accomplished. Two buildings were burned, one M/G silenced, 11 enemy killed, and an unknown number wounded. The patrol suffered no casualties.

Lt Rush was a battlefield appointee as of 15 Dec 44.

3rd Bn: In Regtl reserve.

PWs: 8 Nov to 30 Dec—334.

Enemy Front Lines: High ground N of Epping-Urbach.

31 Dec 44

Weather: Cold.

Visibility: Fair.

The month ended with the Regiment holding defensive positions along the line NW of Bitch.

Rg Hqs: In Enchenberg.

Sv Co: In Demeringen.

AT Co: In Enchenberg, six guns N of Enchenberg, 3 guns in Enchenberg—all guns in defensive position.

Cn Co: In Siersthal.

1st Bn: Troops continued to occupy defenses to N. Bn CP remained at Petit Rederching. Bn patrols captured 15 enemy prisoners in Urbach. Co A vic Urbach, Co B vic Hottviller, Co C vic Petit Rederching.

2nd Bn: CP in Holbach, Co E vic Hottviller, and Co F vic Hottviller.

3rd Bn: In Regtl reserve with CP in Siersthal. Co I in Holbach, Cos K and L vic Siersthal.