

1 Sept 1944

FACTORY

358th Infantry

Division learned from civilian sources, that there was a "pocket" of Germans in the vic of 358th area. G-3 ordered that this "pocket" be captured. 3rd Bn was informed that they would have a reinforced company available for this mission. This pocket was SW of REIMS. At 1010, Lt. B. J. Clark, Lt O with Division, brought a french civilian to the CP to guide the company.

No tanks were reported in the area.

Lt. Clarke also brought the Army boundaries - FISMES (TO 536) PONTAVERT (TL697) thence along the AISNE RIVER and ARDEPHOFS CANAL to SEDAN, LUZERY, WEASWAMPASH, all inclusive to 1st Army.

XX Corps was directed to be prepared to move E or NE.

Major Falvey attempted to get german arms to equip the FFI but was unsuccessful. He notified the 1st Bn of this and requested that they loan the necessary weapons. He also informed Lt. Col. Clarke and Lt. Col. Bealke, CO 3rd Bn that five trucks would be furnished to transport troops to the "pocket", he will also take two sections of mortars and a platoon of cannon company.

345 FA offered help to the 1st Bn.

1545 - "Gasoline shortage acute - conserve!" So ordered Lt. Col. Clarke.

At 1725, additional MP's were sent to 3rd Bn to patrol ST MASMAS.

1835 - Status of XX Corps: 7th Armd leading (out of gas) at DIEPPE, have secured bridgehead over the river around VERDUN. 5th Inf is in VERDUN. 90th Div: no orders, no gas!

"L" Co back to Bn. "I" Co on way back to regiment at 2400.

2 Sept 1944

Still in same position.

At 0131, "I" Co closed-in. They had no enemy action. New German line reported to be at METZ. VERDUN was heavily bombed by Germans during the night.

The day was spent in collecting information concerning the Allies and the enemy. Gas masks were ordered to be worn, just in case---

3 Sept 1944

Still in same position.

News of the Underground activities in all the occupied countries were constantly pouring in.

Patrols were cut down due to gas shortage.

At 1645, the 358th was alerted to move across the RIVER MEUSE. All units were notified. Time - sometime tomorrow.

1900 - Major Falvey stated move would be to VERDUN, or further, and would be done by shuttling. The move was to start at 0800.

At 2100, FFI reported German burning houses and taking French prisoners in FOUGIERS, about 40 Km away.

At 2240, our information on the coming move was very vague - "Move at 0800 - establish bridge head on the MEUSE RIVER." Division stated they did not expect to put out the order tonight.

4 Sept 1944

Div F.O. No. 29, ordered the 358th:

"CT 358

- (1) Assemble regiment by marching, in area indicated on overlay.
- (2) One (1) QM truck company released to your control West of CHARNAY, upon completion of movement of the 357th.
- (3) Move CT 8 via route "B" to vic of BRAS as division reserve.
- (4) Co "A" reverts to regimental control upon completion of relief by elements of CT 9.

Acting upon the above order, the 358th issued the following F.O. 19 (insert)

At 02255 the artillery fired upon a group of Germans who immediately dispersed and disappeared. At 0825, message from Corps: "Divert forces. Have troops marching through FOUGIERS to locate enemy reported in that vic. XX Corps G-2 will furnish details later." This order was not intended for 358th.

At 0830 Division stated "no relief from gas shortage." Units were all notified. Move to be made on 5 September.

L-210



Authority **NND 735017**By **13r** NARA Date **12/9**CT 358th Inf.  
5 Sept 1944

F. O. No. 19.

MAPS: France, Belgium 1/100,000

1. a. (Omitted)  
b. (Omitted)
2. CT 358th (mtz) moves 060630 Sept to occupy its assigned sector of the VERDUN bridgehead.  
For route, IP, OM, see overlay.
3. a. 3rd Bn, from assembly area at BOULIGNY, move by marching to occupy its assigned portion of the Regimental sector, coordinating at indicated limiting points with 357 Inf on the right and 90th Rcn Tp on the left.  
b. 2nd Bn, using 2 1/2-ton trucks from 357th Inf, move by motor to detrucking point within its Z, relieve 90th Rcn Tp in its sector coordinate with 3rd Bn at limiting point.  
c. 1st Bn (less 1 rifle co w/Gn co) moving with elements of 712th Tk Bn under CO 712th Tk Bn occupy assembly area indicated on overlay as Reg'l Reserve.  
d. 3rd FA Bn moving from present position in time to clear CT IP (JONCHERY) at 0730, occupy assigned area in direct support of 3rd Bn.  
e. Cn Co move 1 rifle company of 1st Bn to 1st Bn area then occupy position in direct support of 2nd Bn on bridgehead line.  
f. AT (less mine platoon used as Reg'l guides) move as indicated on overlay, coordinate anti-tank defence of Reg'l sector.
  - x. (1) AT mine platoon augmented by 20 men from 1st Bn post guides along Reg'l route.
  - (2) 2nd and 3rd Bns patrol assigned OPL sector, contact on limiting points every 2 hours on odd hours.
  - (3) Quartering parties move ahead of unit column, contact Capt. Adler (CT S-3 representative) at CT Cp flag location (ETAIN 504770).
4. Kitchen trucks move under regimental control with service company, released to battalion control on arrival at new area.
5. CT CP moves following Cn Co., closes present positions 0730, opens new location 1200.

CLARKE  
Comdg

Official:

NICHOLS  
S-3



Authority NND 735017By 13r NARA Date 12/9

5 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

Reg't F.O. No. 19 attached:

At 0200, Capt Smith, 344 FA Ln O, reported a smash-up involving two jeeps. Capt. Shipe notified 1st Bn and told them to investigate. The report returned stated that and "E" Co jeep, 358th, and 345 FA jeep had met head on. Of the seven passengers, six were killed! Lt. Beard and 1st Sgt. Foley and Cpl. Hart of our "E" Co were among those killed. Others were artillery personnel.

At 0630, Division sent a new order. H-Hour 1000. All units were notified by Capt. Shipe. He also ordered the Quartering Party to the CP for 1000.

At 0755, Capt Shipe gave the I & R platoon the orders. Bns were notified to pick up gasoline at Service Co.

At 0845, Division ordered "Assemble immediately". Capt Shipe informed all units of this order, as follows: The 2nd Bn, in order to hit IP at ST MASMAS, started their march at 0800. Order of March would be 3rd Bn, 2nd Bn 1st Bn on foot with the Reg'tl Motor Officer in charge of transportation. Necessary organic transportation to move by bounds with the troops. Special Units were to move under direction of RTO.

At 1320, G-3 informed Lt. Col. Clarke to be prepared to move one Bn. 3rd Bn was chosen and notified. Reg'tl CP move to designated place at 1530.

At 1435, G-3 notified Lt. Col. Clarke:  
"Move 3rd Bn to an assy area in the vic of VERDUN tonight. Have all kitchen trucks go back to QM, and gas up to carry 3rd Bn tomorrow. Tomorrow, 3rd Bn is to move up and reconnoiter on the left until the rest of the Reg't comes up".

At 1530, CP moved to ST HILAIRE LE GRANDE and opened at 1630.

At 1745, 2nd Bn closed in.

1950, "One Bn to ride on tanks and one on 357th kitchens trucks". Trucks will arrive in the morning. Movement of Reg't to be at 0700. 1st Bn on tanks - 2nd Bn on trucks. G-3 directed 2nd Bn be supported by Arty and cross IP at 0700. Tanks will leave their area at 0030 and travel on the "Old Roman Road."

Plans were now made for the coming move and field order No. 19 was issued during the night.

6 Sept 1944

At 0528, it was learned that the 3rd Bn had closed-in at 0020. This information was received from Mr. Vilmur, Ass't Maint Officer.

At 0730, Germans break through at DUN! Strength unknown.

At 1240, a new CP was opened just East of BARENCOURT. Lt. Grubbs, AT CO, was briefed on Bn positions by Lt. Col. Clarke, so AT defences could be immediately set-up.

At 1345, the dispositions of the 1st and 3rd Bns were changed. G-3 notified Major Nichols at 1455, that we would probably attack to the NE tomorrow. An order would come later. At 1525, the 949th (Medium Howitzers) reported that they had observation this side of LANDRES and were in contact with the 3rd Bn.

1st Bn closed-in new area at 1530. At 1628, wire was in to 2nd and 3rd Bns. 3rd Bn was paid at 1650. The G-3 stated jump-off time would be 0800 - marching and shuttling. Order to come later.

At 2020, Major Nichols informed units of the forthcoming move. "Shuttle move - 0800 - move NE - 1st Bn, 3rd Bn, 2nd Bn - 1st Bn (Mtzd) - other two Bns march. 358th will not follow 7th Armd. They are spearheading in 5th Div area. 357th and 358th will move abreast. 359 in Reserve."

Lt. Col. Clarke stated: "We will march on foot in advance guard formation, with TD's along with us. Rear Bn to put out patrols to left flank. Men to be warned that "the picnic is over!" We will have radio contact with artillery plane. Capt Knowles of the 344th FA, will remain at head of the column. At 2240, the CP was informed that the Reg't would have an extra light artillery Bn atchd. At 2400, Lt. Col. Stilwell phoned and stated: "358th will move at 0800 to fwd assembly area - then push ~~to~~ reconaissance to MOSELLE RIVER - not to commit more than one Bn and to envelope anything it hits. The 359th will take care of the North, rear, flanks. The 358th will be Division's left flank."



Authority NND 735017By 43r NARA Date 12/9

7 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

Div FO No. 30 gave the following orders to the 358th Inf.

" 3. b. 358th Inf.

- (1) Move by marching at 070800 to assy area (overlay).
- (2) Reconnoiter within Z to MOSELLE RIVIER and develop enemy resistance upon West bank committing not more than one Bn.
- (3) Provide for the left flank security of the Div within the Z along the general line indicated.
- (4) Be prepared to attack on order, and in conjunction with the 357th Inf to seize Obj's 1 and 2 and to continue the attack to the Div Obj."

At 0020, "F" Co was attacked by light tanks, mortars, and machine guns. This force came from SPINECORT. At 0300, F Co reported enemy still to their front, including infantry on trucks, going East from SPINECORT. They estimated "Several tanks" and trucks.

By 0300, all units were notified of the situation. All units were also in possession of the plans of the movement. 359th Inf was making arrangements to relieve F Co so that it would be ready to join the regiment.

At 0405, the I & R platoon reported SPINECORT in enemy hands and that the Germans had captured a jeep and an armored vehicle. It seems that an enemy tank and 25 men on a half-track had captured SPINECORT.

From various sources it was learned that the Germans were establishing a line - AUDON - AUMENTAY - COUNES - FERANVILLE - VILLE APT.

Plans were now underway to leave the 2nd Bn in place until the 359th could relieve them. At 0600, G-3 reported he would ask the CG about it.

During the night the 90th Rcn Tr was attacked and lost one jeep and an armored car. It was later learned that the enemy was using these vehicles to aggressively patrol our areas.

Due to a change in orders 1st Bn was ordered to attack and hold SPINECORT, others were to remain in place and upon receipt of orders be prepared to resume attack on original mission.

The 359th will follow up the 358th advance and put up road blocks and protection of Div left flank. Major Lytle's Bn (1st) will hold up at check point 1 for further orders.

At 1000, moved CP to vic of S9681S (1/2 Km SW of LANDRES. It was here that Lt. Clarke brought additional information of pending orders. Pvt. Olso of the I & R platoon returned with information of the 357 and their column was at 680798. They were halted temporarily to fire on enemy column of horse drawn column of artillery along road running through 706800. At 1020, Col. Clarke returned to the CP after having given orders to 3rd Bn CO to disengage I and L Companies so as to move to South and East. At this time the I & R was recalled and given mission of reconnoitering to South and East. 357th Ln O reported that they were attacking BRIEY with one Bn and keeping 1st Bn in an assy area to exploit any gains.

While the 3rd Bn was fighting a battle East of LANDRES, the 1st Bn motorized move to vic of MONS to be assembled in that area. The Reg'tl CP would be at NORROY for the night and plans were in effect to move there immediately. During all this, our 1st Bn had moved to the vic of MAIRIE with one company at the edge of the woods near our cannon company. The 3rd Bn and 2nd Bn were near TRIEUX. Capt. Nichols of the 607th TD's stated he would put his CP near 358 CP on high ground. The CP opened at NORROY at 2120. So we were disposed for the night with 2nd and 3rd Bns in the vic of TRIEUX, 1st Bn in vic of MAIRIE and the Reg'tl CP at NORROY.

At 2145, Col. Clarke dispatched Lt. Riddlehoover to 2nd and 3rd Bns with the following order: 2nd and 3rd Bns tie in for the night for an all around defense. Two Bn's of arty are available to you for use during the night. Be prepared to resume march at 080700 by route TRIEUX - MONS - MERANGES - FONTOY - ALGRANGE, high ground SW of VOLKRANGE (799850). 3rd Bn advance guard with 2nd and 1st Bn one plat TD's and one plat AT attached to each. Reg'tl CP will close NORROY at 0700 and open in vic of TRIEUX. Will follow advance Bn. Communication will be radio. Co A of 712th Tanks were told to remain in present location and to send W/S/R to Reg'tl Hq a Ln O. The Reg'tl CP guard was increased with proper road blocks placed at all possible points. Capt. Wise was given situation and remained at CP the rest of the night or thought he would.



Authority **NND 735017**By **13r** NARA Date **12/9**358th Inf  
7 Sept 1944

F. O. No. 20

Maps: France, Belgium 1/100,000

1. a. See intelligence annex.  
b. 90th Div with 5th Div on right moves East 070800 Sept to seize the city of THIONVILLE (8685)
2. 358th Inf, with 344th FA Bn in direct support, moves 7 Sept to march objective BOIS DIT HECQUECHOLTZ (7287) patrols North to Div boundary and East to MOSELLE RIVER within its zone and awaits further orders.  
For IP, route, check points, see overlay.  
OM - 1st Bn Adv Guard  
3rd Bn  
2nd Bn
3. a. 1st Bn move mtz 0730 to detrucking area, cross IP dismounted at 0830 and move on indicated route to march objective as advance guard for the regiment. Develop any enemy found until fully comitted. Initially, outpost march objective.  
b. 3rd Bn commence assembly from ridgehead line at 0730, follow 1st Bn at 800 yards. Do not become involved in enemy engagement of 1st Bn without orders.  
c. 2nd Bn commence assembly to right of Bn sector 0730, follow 3rd Bn at 800 yards as Regimental reserve. At 0800, commence flank protection to left (North) flank of Regt by strong mtz detachments moving on roads paralell to and on the North of Regt'l route of advance. Reports to be made from patrols to Regt'l march CP hourly, by messenger or radio.  
d. Cn Co, from initial positions, at detrucking area, commencing at 0800, support the advance of the 1st Bn. Move by bounds when beyond effective range of advance guard.  
e. AT Co coordinate AT defences of the regiment establishing successive blocks along North flank of the Reg't as indicated on overlay.  
f. Sv Co remain in present position until further orders.
- x. (1) MTO deliver kitchen trucks to 1st Bn prior to 0700. When 1st Bn has detrucked, supervise movement of motor elements of the Regt to that point avoiding route taken by foot troops if possible.  
(2) All Bns retain minimum necessary transportation including vehicular AA mounts. Remainder revert to Regt'l MTO at 1st Bn detrucking point following clearance of foot troops.  
(3) All commanders demand that individuals are alert, reminding all concerned that the enemy action in this sector may originate from any direction.  
(4) Halts - SOP. Necessary air and ground sentries to be alerted during halts. If march is uninterrupted, lunch to be eaten after closing in march objective otherwise 1150 - 1230.  
(5) I & R platoon patrol to front and flanks of advance guard Bn. Reports to advance guard commander and regimental S-2.  
(6) Details on patrol missions following concentration in march objective - later.  
(7) Elements of 359th Inf secure the rear of the column.
4. Kitchens revert to Regt'l control in Bn area.
5. Regt'l CP move by bounds between 1st and 3rd Bns during halts.  
Bn CP's at head of Bn column, except 1st Bn head of advance guard reserve.

CLARKE  
Comdg



ANNEX NO. 1 a. TO ACCOMPANY F. O. NO. 20

1. a Known enemy locations 6 Sept 1944 - see overlay
- b 43rd Cav reports 2000 Germans 061800 Sept in AUDIN (6687).
- c Reliable source reports 250 Germans in LONGUYON 062000 Sept. 500 more Germans with Artillery are expected during the night 6-7 Sept. Bridge at 454967 blown during night 5-6 Sept.
- d German Army Camp at W8586. The 559 Inf Div recently activated there and consists mostly of Polish personnel.
- e 10 Germans reported in BEUVILLE (5194) at 060800 Sept.
- f Small group Germans at FILLIERS 060800 Sept.
- g VILLEHOUT (U6999) occupied by enemy 5 Sept.
- h THIONVILLE occupied by enemy 5 Sept.
- i Third Cav reports probable defense line W and S of THIONVILLE (U8687) along ELANGE (8287) - NILLANGE (U7694) - TERVILLE (U8394) - UCKANCE (U8579) well defended by Inf, Tanks, AF guns and MG's.
- j Possible enemy line from AUMETZ (7092) to PONTOY (7485).
- k 43 Cav reports 2,000 SS Troops at MOYAURE (U7873) dug in East of Woods.
- l Large number enemy troops at ST PIERRE VILLERS (U5189) - Time 061925 Sept.
- m 150 Infantry - 2 Tanks, 2 Arty pieces - 4 MG's in MANGE (U6775) as of 061530 September.
- n MANGE (U6876) occupied by Germans 061200 Sept.
- o 1500 SS Troops seen moving South from VILLERS 042745 Sept.

GENERAL ENEMY INFORMATION

2. All bridges blown between METZ and THIONVILLE except bridges at METZ and THIONVILLE
3. Germans in STENAY 061600 Sept.
4. Civilians in Germany are armed.
5. German planes mislead U.S. trucks by engaging in mock dog fights then attacking columns on roads.
6. 8 train loads of troops arrived in NANCY from STRASBOURG on 4 Sept. 27 additional trains are expected in the next ten days.
7. During the last 5 to 6 days when the allies discontinued the push to the East the Germans have returned to many points that they had left and key points are being fortified.

ESTIMATE OF SITUATION

The Germans are setting up strong outguard positions to keep our forces from reaching the Siegfried Line as long as possible. The enemy has SS Troops in this area and may counter-attack us, most likely from the North.

ENEMY CAPABILITIES

1. Counter-attack from the North with one Regt.
2. Attempt to hold his various delaying positions.
3. Attack our column with aircraft.

Most likely - No. 2

Official:

*Falvey*  
FALVEY  
Maj, 8-2

CLARKE  
Comdg

DISTRIBUTION:

1 CO and File	1 Cn Co
1 Ra Bn	1 AF Co
1 344 FA Bn	1 Co B 607 TD
	1 I&R Plat



8 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

From 2400 on everything was serene until 3rd Bn called and asked one hour delay in jump-off time to clear out their town of snipers (FONTROY). At 0400, Col. Stilwell called with the startling message that the Division CP, which just Southwest of us had been attacked by German tanks - they said one hundred of them! Warned that our 1st Bn was between the two forces. Our entire CP was alerted for defence against these tanks that were apparently heading this way. For the next two hours, it was the task of moving one battalion in the direction of the Div CP from vic. of TRIEUX. Also, Cannon Co was ordered to aid Div CP by moving from MAIRIE to the vicinity of NORROY. During this time, General McClain, General Weaver, and Col. Clarke held many conferences by telephone and the deployment of troops for immediate action were discussed. Lt. Helle was sent to 2nd Bn with messages while Lt. Rice ran the possible enemy positions to 1st Bn. At 0635, word received that Div Artillery CP was surrounded and needed help badly. There was a tank battle over the Div CP with considerable amount of small arms fire. We were informed that the Div CP had moved, in the meantime, to HIGNY.

Shortly after 1st Bn had received order to move, the town of MAIRIE, where the CP was located, was attacked by a tank and armored column. A battle followed with the final count that the 1st Bn had knocked out three Tiger Tanks and 20 half-tracked vehicles. Prisoner count and enemy dead is still undetermined. At 0800, ~~TA~~ TD Ln O, Lt. Stone reported that the TD Co was under heavy fire (friendly) due to enemy tank action on the other side.

0815, General Devine was at the CP with information that the artillery CP was safe but had lost all their equipment. He radioed the Div CP this information. While all this action took place, the CP was watching nearly all the fight from the high ground on which the Regt'l CP was located. The enemy tanks were not completely cleared in the area until 1600. Three enemy tanks were knocked out not more than 1000 yards from the Regt'l CP.

1010 - 3rd Bn needs 81 mm mortar ammunition.

1027 - The CG 90th Div states that the column that over-ran the Div CP was headed for BRIEY and undoubtedly merely "stumbled" in to the Div CP by accident, and obviously unaware that they were fighting a more or less "non-tactical group". Another column had over-ran 1st Bn CP which was thought to have been a Panzer Brigade.

1112 and Major Lytle called and stated that they had accounted for 125 PW's, three panther tanks, 20 personnel carriers (armored). This is actual count. Also stated he was consolidating positions and mopping-up.

1115 - One Co of Engineers going into defensive position at MARNVILLE.

1150 - Capt. Campbell, Regt'l Surgeon, went to 1st Bn to evacuate both American and German wounded. He returned shortly with 67 German wounded. He returned later again with more wounded.

1315 - Col. Stilwell ordered 358th to hold one Bn in TRIEUX to connect with 1st Bn of 357th and protect right flank of 358th. Attack west with other Bn to join 1st Bn. Continue attack to NW with both Bns to join Dull in vic. of BONVILLERS. Use Engrs to recapture Arty CP. Boundrys between regiments remain the same.

1330 - General Weaver says we have recaptured Div Arty CP, and most all the vehicle that were left there when the enemy attack came.

1345 - Lt. Donohue returned with message from 2nd Bn that E and G Co's were in contact with the enemy. Enemy tanks in front of G Co. Lytle is still consolidating before he can move.

All during this action, the Regt'l CP was established in the church Belfry where the entire surrounding country side could be seen. They constantly reported tanks and enemy action throughout the day and aided the direction of artillery fire.

1630 - Major Lytle stated that after a more accurate count of the 1st Bn Battle for MAIRIE they had knocked out 48 half-tracks, 20 of which had assault guns on them, (about 75mm) 7 tanks, 2 dual track motorcycles, 1 turck, and this does not include those knocked out by C CO. Major Lytle stated that Lt. Major of the 949th FA Bn deserves credit for knocking out many tanks by his skilful direction of artillery tanks between his position and the enemy vehicles. Later Lt. Henderson received Silver Star for this action. 1920 - Col. Bealke reports heavy artillery fire on his positions including some mortar. 1930 - 2nd Bn hit by counter-attack and is in no position to attack before dark. This was reported to G-3 by Col. Loomis.

2040 - PW's inform us that the Germans are attacking this sector with all they have and have already made three large scale counter-attacks against the 90th Div. They have been feeling us out, so they state.

At this time contact with 357 was nil - radio or telephone - due to enemy resistance

2050 - Artillery fires for the night would be planned for the event of a counter-attack. Interdiction in town of TRIEUX, in woods SW area of our troops, interdiction between 66 and 67 grid lines, also CR near ANDERNY and between Hill 335 and 82 grid. Interdiction fire will be taken by Corps Arty and they will fire four times on each



8 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

2320 - Orders to move C Co first thing in the morning  
2335 - All Bns report quiet except for artillery fire falling in their areas.



9 Sept 1944

HISTORY

350TH Infantry

From 0001 to 0125 all quiet so far. CP defense ~~adequate~~ adequate.  
0150 and 1st Bn reports everything quiet. 2nd Bn reports heavy artillery fire in their area. From 0150 to 0700 they reported sporadic artillery falling on them. Orders were issued to bns to be prepared to attack on order from Div. Everything quiet except for artillery fire falling in all battalions. French civilians report TRIEUX evacuated by the Germans.

0815 - Lt. Col. Clarke ordered 3rd Bn to occupy TRIEUX and report on the civilian report that the town had been evacuated and that it had been heavily mined by the Germans. 2nd Bn to patrol and mop-up woods that were attacked yesterday according to plans. In addition 3rd Bn was to contact 2nd Bn and set-up road blocks in AUDON - BRIE road. 0929 and 3rd Bn to move to the East to the factory. Polish civilians report the Germans have withdrawn to NW to regroup and reorganize.

1150 - Co C 200 yards in the woods. No resistance. 1200 - A Co at ST PIERRE and met some sniper fire. 3rd Bn in TRIEUX. 1215 - CP moved from NORROY to TUCGEYNEIUEX. 1255 - 100 to 150 Italians some in uniform and some not in custody of 3rd Bn. Turned over to 2nd Bn so that 3rd Bn could push on. 1410 - 2nd Bn is at halt waiting for 3rd Bn to take MELLAVEILLERS. 3rd Bn just west of 3rd Bn. 1st Bn patrolling to railroad tracks.

1510 - 3d Bn had established contact with the enemy about checkpoint 11. at 1745 1st Bn CP in Sancy. 1820 Col. Bealke stated he might not be able to get through the town tonight. 1830 - 359th is in Audun with one company. The other Bn is NW of Audin. 1st Bn is at Malaevillers. Reg't CP is there also. 357th 1st Bn in NEUFCHER, "K" Co on Hill 313, 3rd Bn, -K Co in AVRIL, 2nd Bn in BRIEY.

1943 - New CP opened at TRIEUX in three houses fairly close together. Col. Clarke received orders from Gen. McClain to hold up till 358th moves up. 358th will attack at 0900 with its objective ALGRANGE.

2200 - Col. Bealke has taken FONTOY and is mopping up. The town is huge and in a draw. 3rd Bn will secure all roads leading in and out of the town.

2250 - Col. Clarke gave orders to 3rd Bn that 3rd Bn will continue to mop up FONTOY and continue the advance to the East in its zone, 2 1/2 Km East of ALGRANGE. Be prepared to advance to high ground on grid 80 with 1 platoon of tanks attached.

2255 - 2400, all quiet and orders in hands of the various commanders.



8th Inf  
9 Sept 1944

F. O. No. 22

MAPS: France 1/100,000 (Verdun and Neunkirchen Sheets)

1st Bn - Co A, 712th Tk Bn (minus 1 plat) attached, commencing 0800 clear out BOIS DITHECQUEHOSTL take check point 17, move to objective A, (ANGEVILLERS 775892,) be prepared to continue advance to SE on order.

2nd Bn - Regt '1 reserve, remain in present position, prepared to move to FONTOY on orders.

3rd Bn - 1 platoon Co 712th Tk Bn and AT mine platoon atchd, commencing 0800 complete mopping-up FONTOY, continue advance to E to objective B (765859) on orders, prepared to advance to SE.

Cn Co - continue present mission direct support of 1st Bn.

AT Co - 1 plat each to 1st and 3rd Bn, 2 plat in mobile reserve. Mine platoon atchd 3rd Bn at 0700.

Co B 607th TD Bn - in direct support - no change.

Co A 712th Tk Bn leave 1 plat with 3rd Bn. Remainder of Co atchd to 1st Bn, Co report to CO 1st Bn in 1st Bn area 0730. 1 plat to 3rd Bn 0800.

344th FA Bn and supporting Corps Arty direct support.

Clarke  
Comdg

Nichols  
S-3



10 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

0001 to 0730 all quiet except for artillery fire falling in area.

0135 - 1st Bn reached the LD and ready to jump-off but 3rd Bn help hp by road blocks.

0800 - Attack jumped-off with 1st Bn. 3rd Bn still held up by road blocks in FONTOY. Blocks consisted of steel rails and mines. Both 1st and 359th moving without opposition. FONTOY is in a large cup with cliffs on all sides. Many booby traps and mines found there. 0950 - and Gen. McClain advises that we halt at objectives A & B until 359th closes on us. We do not wish to expose the Div Rear to the threat in the 359th sector.

1000 Road block cleared and 3rd Bn moving.

1050 - 357th moving in direction of UCKANGE. 359th moving without opposition using tanks to great advantage.

1125 - A reinforced company was left at check point 17 by the 1st Bn. At the same time, Col. Clarke ordered 2nd Bn to West side of FONTOY, 2nd and 3rd Bn CPs at FONTOY. Regt'l CP at FONTOY closed at 1400.

G-3 reported 357th firing on VOLKRANGE and moving troops to MARSPICH and that the 359th has AUMETZ encircled.

1420 - 1st Bn reported passing through part of the Maginot Line close to Obj. A.

1430 - Col. Bealke called, wanting to take town of ALGRANGE and was ordered to reconnoiter draw and patrol beyond but not to go over in force. These orders were changed at 1700 for him to attack and secure Objective 2. At 1750, 3rd Bn was en-route to Objective 2 and the 1st Bn had been shelled. 1st Bn had then received orders to pull the reinforced company "A" to their Bn area.

At 1935, 3rd Bn was through the town of ALGRANGE and trying to take the high ground just to the East. Engrs were having trouble from Mortar fire in filling a huge crater in the road. The crater was hindering the supply route and was constantly under fire.

1940 - Col. Bealke called for Ln Plane to check for artillery and mortar positions of the enemy. On hill East of Algrange, these positions were surmised to be located. Col. Bealke also wanted reinforcements to guard supply line to the West. A company from 2nd Bn, "E" Co, was sent to accomplish this mission.

Col. Clarke ordered the following for the 11th after receiving verbal orders from Div: 1st Bn stand fast, supply and rearm tanks in the morning. 2nd Bn, "E" Co, stands fast on mission of guarding MSR of 3rd Bn. 3rd Bn attack 0800 on to No. 2. Looks like right outfit of 357th will help you. Lytle has been conspicuous with no artillery fire from the enemy for the past hour. Cn Co - same mission, AT Co - same mission, Tanks - be prepared to send 1 plat with 1st and 3rd Bn's at 0645. TD - no change.

2140 - Col. Bealke at CP and says enemy is throwing everything at 3rd Bn. He just can't make it and will hold til daylight. K Co over-ran enemy dug-in positions, took no prisoners and were very glad E Co was guarding that supply line to the 3rd Bn. Col. Bealke will receive heavy artillery support to sweep the entire front of the 3rd Bn.

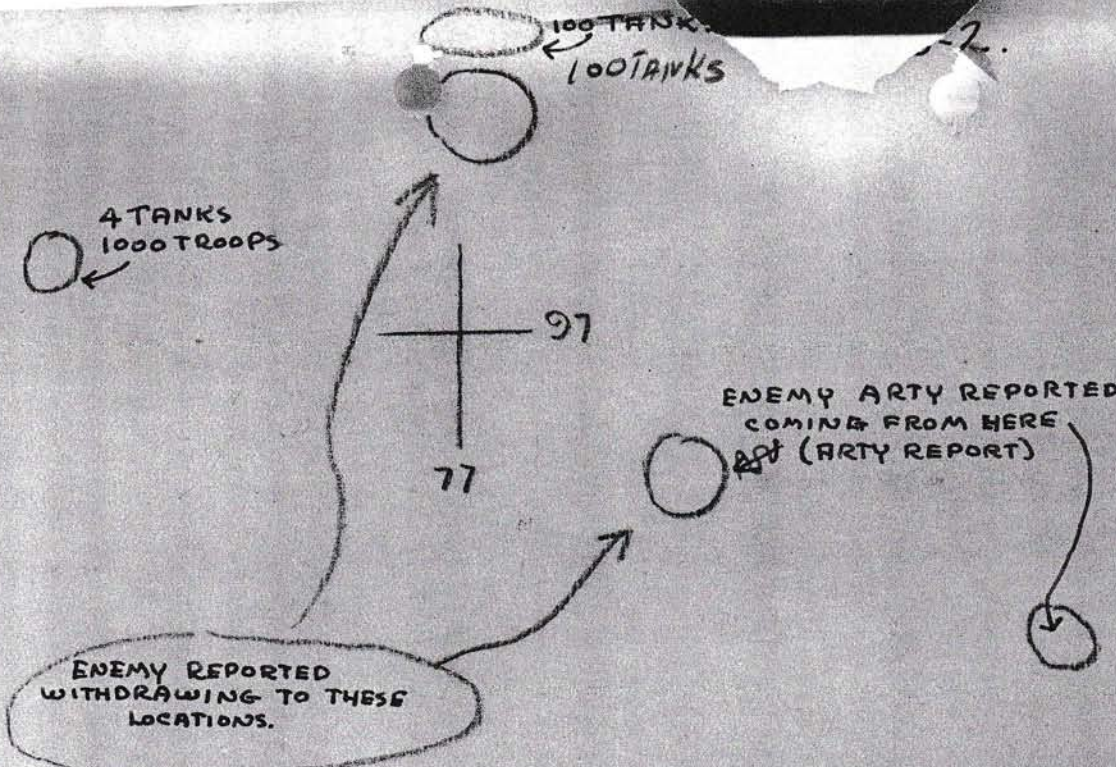
2140 - to 2400 - Plans were being dispatched to units. Artillery fire falling. 344th FA and atchd artillery giving heavy support to 3rd Bn, Engrs still trying to fill that crater in the road which extends from the bottom of the ditch to the wall of the factory and it is impossible for any vehicle to get around it. Ammo and food taken to 3rd Bn. Col. Clarke reporting to Div on the 3rd Bn situation. 357th would aid 3rd Bn if they needed it in the morning. And reports of considerable enemy movement from North to South, end this rather full day of activity.

Div "Field Message No. 3" for operations on 10 Sept 1944 is as follows (excerpt):

358th Inf, with Co A, 712th Tk Bn atchd:

- a. Attack at 0800 to seize Obj 2.
- b. Be prepared to continue attack to Obj. 1 on order
- c. 357th Inf prepared to assist 358th Inf in the capture of Obj 2.

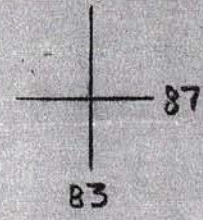




ARTY AND MORTAR  
FIRE FALLING  
1700 to 2000  
10 SEPT. -

PW STATED 3rd Co. 59 INF. IN DELAYING  
POSITION WHILE REST OF BN WITHDREW  
ACROSS MOSELL RIVER. STATED THIRD CO.  
WOULD WITHDRAW DURING NIGHT 10 AND 11 SEPT.

MACHINE GUNS  
MACHINE PISTOL  
MORTARS



GERMAN POLICE  
CONSCRIPTING CIV.  
TO DIG TRENCHES NEAR  
THIONVILLE (PW REPORT.)

HEAVY AA  
ROAD BLOCK  
GERMAN TR  
NO ???

INFANTRY DUG-IN  
(CIV REPORT)

- (1) ONLY UNIT IDENTIFIED DURING PERIOD WAS 3rd Co. 59 INF AT. 785905
- (2) ENEMY POSITIONS AT 775850, VERY STRONG, BECAUSE OF TERRAIN FEATURES.
- (3) ARTY. FIRE FALLING AT 7890, SEEMED TO BE FROM AN INF CANNON CO. CONSISTING OF 6-75 MM AND 2-105MM CANNON.
- (4) THE ENEMY WILL PROBABLY WITHDRAW TO EAST BANK OF MOSELLE RIVER DURING NIGHT 10 & 11 SEPT. BUT MAY LEAVE DELAYING POSITIONS AND WILL PROBABLY HAVE ARTY CONCENTRATIONS PLANNED FOR ALL CRITICAL POINT ON THE WEST BANK OF THE RIVER.

S-2 OVERLAY  
1:100,000  
ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING  
PERIOD 100600 - 1021000 SEPT.



358th Infantry  
12 Sept 1944

F. O. No. 23

Maps: France 1/100,000 (Neukirchen Sheet)

1. a. Enemy still holds 300-yard bridgehead consisting of barricades and AT defences West of MOSELLE RIVER at THIONVILLE.
2. No change.
3. a. 1st Bn (less Co B attd to 2nd Bn) mop up that portion of THIONVILLE West of the river exclusive of enemy bridgehead (now contained by 2nd Bn).  
b. 2nd Bn, with present attdmts plus Co B 358th Inf, continue present mission to capture that portion of THIONVILLE, West of MOSELLE RIVER.  
c. 3rd Bn remain in present locations as Regt'l Reserve.  
d. Gn Co, from present positions, support 2nd Bn and fire on targets of opportunity on East bank of MOSELLE RIVER.  
e. AT Co continue present attdmts. Mine platoon assist 2nd Bn in removal of demolitions found in THIONVILLE.  
f. 344 FA Bn in direct support of 2nd Bn.
4. Issued separately.
5. No change.

CLARKE  
Comdg

Official:

Nichols  
S-3



Authority NND 735017By 13x NARA Date 12/9

SECRET

90TH INF DIV  
VIC ANGEVILLERS  
140800B SEP 44

FIELD MESSAGE NO. 5

TO CO 358TH INFANTRY.

1. The following units atchd to your command immediately:

344th FA Bn  
345th FA Bn  
Co B 315th Engr Bn  
1 Plat Co A, 1 Plat Co D, 712th Tnk Bn  
Co B, 607th TD Bn.

2. Effective at once, you will assume responsibility for that portion of the Div Z from Garche (888897) to Richmond (860768) E to the MOSELLE RIVER.

MISSION: To prevent enemy crossing the MOSELLE R within Z indicated maintaining contact with 43rd Cav Sq on the N and on the S with the 90th Rcn Tr.

3. The 3rd Bn 358th will be held in position as Div Res and is not to be used by you without prior approval from this Hq.

4. The bulk of your force will be kept in the vic, or W of THIONVILLE. 1 Rifle Co reinforced as deemed necessary will occupy UCKANGE. Similarly, a garrison will be placed in the vic of GARCHE. The river line is to be actively patrolled day and nite.

MC CLAIN  
Comdg.STILWELL  
G-3

SECRET



Authority **NND 735017**By **13r** NARA Date **12/9****8th Inf**  
**14 Sept 1944**

F. O. No. 24

Maps: France 1/100,000

1. a. Issued separately.
- b.** 90th Div (-) moves to vic of METZ.

2. 358th Inf with the following attachments:

344th FA Bn  
 345th FA Bn  
 Co B 315th Eng Bn  
 1 Plat Co A, 1 Plat Co D, 712th Tk Bn

Assumes responsibility for that portion of the Div zone from GARCHE at (888897) to RICHMONT (860768) East to the MOSELLE RIVER, to prevent enemy crossing the MOSELLE RIVER within zone indicated, maintaining contact on the North with 43rd Cav Squadron and on the South with the 90th Rcn Trp.

3. a. 1st Bn will move to area NW of THIONVILLE so as to deepen the defences of the 2nd Bn. Will be prepared to move in any direction to accomplish Regt'l mission.

b. 2nd Bn (-) will prevent the enemy from crossing the MOSELLE at THIONVILLE. It will maintain foot and motor patrols by day and night along the river line between GARCHE (888897 and RICHMONT (860768). One rifle company reinforced by one platoon 358th AT Co and one section heavy machine guns placed vic of GARCHE. One rifle company reinforced by one platoon 358th AT Co and one section of heavy machine guns occupy UCKANGE (850794).

c. 3rd Bn will remain in present positions as Div reserve, maintain liaison with Div and Regt.

d. Cn Co in direct support of 2nd Bn (-) from positions West of THIONVILLE.

e. AT Co - one platoon to defend in vic GARCHE, 1 plat to defend the vic of UCKANGE, 1 platoon West THIONVILLE to defend West of town and act as mobile reserve.

f. Arty - 344th FA Bn be prepared to place defensive fires between GARCHE and THIONVILLE both inclusive with supplementary missions of taking over or reinforcing 345th FA Bn sector.

345th FA Bn be prepared to place defensive fire between THIONVILLE and RICHMONT both inclusive with supplementary mission of taking over or reinforcing 344th FA Bn sector.

g. Co B 607th TD Bn:

(1) 1 plat vic of 1st Bn to fire SE to cover THIONVILLE.

(2) 1 plat vic of 3rd Bn to fire NE to cover THIONVILLE.

(3) 1 plat vic THIONVILLE.

h. 1 Plat Co A, 1 plat Co D 712th Tk Bn remain in present location vicinity (828858) as Regt'l reserve.

i. Co B 315th Engr Bn move to assembly area vic of 358th Inf CP, complete clearing road blocks in THIONVILLE, assist 2nd Bn in preparing river line defences.

j. I & R plat make initial contact with 43rd Cav Squadron to North and 90th Rcn Trp to the South.

4. No change.

5. No change.

CLARKE  
Comdg

Official: **SHIPLETS**  
Capt, Ass't S-3

## DISTRIBUTION:

1 Ea Bn	1 AT Co
1 G-3	1 607 TD Bn
1 S-3	1 712th Tk Bn
1 Cn Co	



Authority NND 735017By 13r NARA Date 12/9

11 Sept 1944

HISTORY

8th Infantry

0100 - 0545 Everything quiet so far was the report given to Div every hour. Arty fire of extremely high caliber fell on the Regt'l zone all night.

At 0715 G-2 gave us the information that the 5th AD was being attacked by tanks and infantry of an undetermined strength at U8045. I Co patrols have been on obj 2 and had not been fired on by machine guns as they were last night. They did not patrol the woods. K Co patrols have not yet been heard from. All this information was given G-3 by plane.

0830 - 3rd Bn reported they were on the ridge that they could see and could not take last night. 0835 brought the news that we were to have aid from an air corps bombing mission and that we were to go no further North than RONCHERVILLERS down to check point 25 (775892) and South to grid line 88 through SAN MICHEL into THIONVILLE. Air Corps to bomb 84788, 8193, 864934 between 1000 and 1600. 2nd Bn no further than objective 2 today. This information was given by phone to all sub-ordinates units.

0905 - General Weaver believes that the delaying action being fought by the enemy is to allow the bulk of the forces to fall back to a fortified line just where he doesn't know. He also advises that the enemy is breaking-up into small groups and that we should keep our trains and supply units button-ed up so as to protect our flank and rear.

1050 - Regt'l CP to move to draw where "E" Co was last night and the 2nd Bn to move East of FONPOY. 357th would like to fire in front of 3rd Bn sector as soon as 357th relieves 1st Bn and will secure objective 1.

1100 - 3rd Bn has taken objective 2 at 1015 and L Co was securing South side of hill.

1300 - 357th disposed with the 1st Bn at HAYANGE. 3rd Bn patrols in UCKANGE. 2nd Bn patrols to river at FLORANGE.

1315 - Division orders 1st Bn to secure objective, 1; establish an OP on objective 2. As a result of this order 1 company of tanks went to 1st Bn to aid their movement.

1410 - The communications and new CP had been selected in MILVANGE (schoolhouse) and for the Engineers to clear 3 blown overhead railroad bridges on the MSR. In the meantime, Lt. Donohue reported the 359th moving to ANGEVILLERS. BUSCHARGE, ESCH, DUDELANGE, BETTENBOURG, POMPIERRE reported clear of enemy.

1513 - 357th 1st Bn had occupied the hill North of HAYANGE. 2nd Bn patrolled to UCKANGE. FLORANGE reported it clear. 3rd Bn to RICHMONT to UCKANGE. CP of 358th closed at MILVANGE (776837) at 1830. 1750 - Capt Shipe and Lt. Rice were dispatched to MARSPICH to check on 357th company. Reported that they were the first Americans to enter the town. There are some germans at TERVILLE however and civilians report 2,000 germans at THIONVILLE.

167



Authority NND 735017

By 43r NARA Date 12/9

12 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Inf.

0001 - 0630 Quiet during the night except for artillery fire falling in 358th sector. All outposts reported during the night that track vehicles could be heard moving from West to East. All information was disseminated during the night and relayed to Div Hq. 1st Bn fired considerable artillery until 0200 when it then asked for harassing and interdiction fires.

0730 2nd Bn jumped off in its attack and reported several very loud explosions thought it could have been bridges or communications being blown. 0820 and 1st Bn on its objective and 2nd Bn is closing in at check point 2. 0830 - artillery reported bridges blown in THIONVILLE and one still in tact. It is a belief of Lt. Martin of the 315th Engrs, that the Germans are using excessive amounts of explosives because of the huge amount of un-exploded material they found. 0912 - 2nd Bn attacking as rapidly as possible to secure remaining intact bridge at THIONVILLE. 1st Bn is to secure their positions and support by fire the attack of the 2nd Bn on THIONVILLE. The tanks will be attached to the 2nd Bn for their assault on THIONVILLE. G-2 reports an unestimated amount of tanks and infantry moving to meet "E" Co.

1148 - Regt'l CP closed at VOLKRANGE and little did we know or believe that this was to be our "home" for over two weeks! Tanks reported at MANON and 2nd Bn was warned of an impending tank attack. 1200 to 1800 2nd Bn assaulted the town from the SE by driving E Co straight through the town to a point 500 yards south of the main bridge. F and G Co's then assaulted the town from the West to East. Heavy small arms fire, with heavy artillery, road blocks well defended, plus mines, booby traps, and demolitions hampered the advance of the 2nd Bn. An air mission was asked for on the East side of the river in THIONVILLE. Dive bombers would bomb and strafe enemy escape routes across the East side of the MOSELLE. Enemy column reported to be moving into woods, across the river, at 887840. 359th was occupying and securing ETAIN for the night.

1730 - 3rd Bn was to attack and mop up TERVILLE. Lt. Espinosa, our French In O, reported TERVILLE clear.

1910 - Major Schulz called and stated that the resistance was in the center of town. 2027 and verbal orders were received from General McClain to clean up THIONVILLE in the morning. Co B of the 1st Bn is attached to the 2nd and the 1st will mop up THIONVILLE tomorrow as directed by the General. The one company will report to the 2nd Bn tonight, remainder of 1st will stand fast for tonight.

2055 - 3rd Bn closed-in area and I Co was sent to TERVILLE to occupy and secure the town.

2222 Orders confirming verbal orders earlier were received. All units buttoned-up for the night.

16



13 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

0035 - B Co reported in positions.

0035 - 0750 All quiet except for small arms fire and heavy artillery from other side of the river.

0856 - Fighter bomber mission on East side of the MOSELLE at 0900. 1st Bn on the move to mop up THIONVILLE. 1420 - Col. Clarke returned to CP with orders from General McClain to cross river at two points.

1430 - to 1840 Plans reconnaissance for river crossing were being made. Intensive studies were made and all those present were quite concerned about the river crossing. No one at the CP thought a great deal of the plan and it was better thought to cross the river north of THIONVILLE. The plan was to cross at two points North and South in the outskirts of THIONVILLE. After crossing they would have been on an island between a canal and the river. Just beyond were many railroad tracks and no place whatsoever to dig in. 1906 - Col. Clarke left for Div to meet with the General.

2110 - After much planning and discussion the plan was postponed for 24 hours so as to allow for a more detailed plan of attack.

2300 - Indications that we would be pulled out of this sector or hold present positions of a defensive nature.

14 Sept 1944

0001 - 0720 All quiet save an excessive amount of artillery fire falling in the 358th sector. The 3rd Bn reported and was later verified that the Germans had and was using a three gun battery.

0850 - Div order arrived at CP and called for 358th to prevent enemy from crossing river between GARCHÉ to RICHMONT (See order and overlay) 3rd Bn was to remain in their present location at AUX CHENES as Div reserve.

1015 - Orders from Col. Clarke to increase civilian aid for S-2 information. Gen. Weaver, as Div representative, was to remain in our CP. Everyone was busily engaged in effecting the relief necessary and putting up defensive positions throughout the rest of the day.

2345 - 3rd Bn was ordered by Div to move to Vic of ST MARIE AUX CHENES at 0700

15 Sept 44 as division reserve. This lessened our strength considerably.

2400 - All plans completed and 3rd Bn was ready to move at 0700.

15 Sept 1944

0001 to 0630 - All quiet except for continual enemy active patrols and arty fire. Throughout the rest of the day, 1st Bn was preparing coordinated defensive plans with 2nd Bn. 2nd Bn busily engaged in improving positions and bettering communications. Capt. Wise and his Cn Co were busy trying to put the guns of the Maginot Line into action. Only one battery of Med. Arty was left now and only one platoon of Engrs remained. Thus, our strength has been cut considerably. The 43rd Cav reported often of their activities to the North as well as did the 90th Rcn Tp report their activities on the South. The Engineers worked rapidly in clearing out unexploded demolitions and mines from THIONVILLE. Bridge reported to be badly damaged. Extensive plans are being made for patrols to cross the river in the vic of GARCHÉ and UCKANGE. Late in the day the guns of the Maginot Line, as manned by our Cannon Co men, boomed out once again against the Germans on the East side of the Moselle River as they did in the Free France days of 1939. All throughout the day and night heavy artillery fell in THIONVILLE and around the forts on the Maginot line.

16 Sept 1944

All day and night heavy artillery fire and mortar fire landed in THIONVILLE. Several civilians were reported as casualties. B Co of the Engrs continued to clean up demolitions. Newspaper men were here to take pictures of Cannon Co manning the forts of the Maginot Line. A patrol of the 1st Bn is to cross the river tonight with the aid of three recon boats. During our stay Col. Clarke issued orders to unit CO's to get men and equipment cleaned-up. Transportation will be checked carefully and moving pictures will be shown. Lt. Ackel, SSO, has also set up Christmas Shopping Service, and showers have been arranged by Lt. Pyes. But with all these "side lights" of war, the men will be always on the alert for an attack from the East side of the MOSELLE river.



And so to the "Residential Sections." These streets were carpeted! Durable rope and fabric carpets of attractive designs ran the length of these four foot wide streets. The rooms, off these streets, were also carpeted. The floors were of hard wood. The walls were mostly knotty pine. The furniture was something to behold! Beds, with excellent springs - tables, cabinets, dressers, ward-robos (complete with hangers!), night tables and bookcases - these were made of solid oak and maple, and were held together, not with nails or glue, but with wooden pegs. The chairs and divans were seated and backed with cain and fiber. All rooms were equipped with attractive floor and table and desk lamps, and radiators for steam heat! No furniture was there that could possibly be damaged by dampness - and there was absolutely no dampness - another example of excellent engineering.

Almost every room had its own bathroom. Some of the bathrooms were finer than our finest hotels at home! Completely tiled floors, walls - and tubs! The "public" baths were also tiled and equipped with the most modern fixtures. The very best glass was used throughout for mirrors.

These "Residential ~~Sections~~ Sections" stretched for miles (or so it seemed). In some instances, these rooms were on a different level, but for the most part, Block "H" was level.

Along the main streets, there were inconspicuous little arch-ways, with foot wide steel ladders, some going straight up, others breaking the ascent with tiny "landings". Five stories - straight up - and the gun turrets. There were, of course, other means of reaching the turrets.

The big guns, of course, were electrically operated. They are hydraulically lifted to desired position, then fire, and then hide away again. There were emergency emplacements there, also, for other guns, to fire in any direction.

This Block was intercommunicating with other forts by tunnel and by rail. Thousands of soldiers and tons of equipment could be shifted all over the line without confusion or having to ever leave this fabulous fastness - a vastness so great that neither of the two great empires that had owned it could not use it to any advantage!

Its great dynamos, its superv radio connections, its inconceivable amount of equipment - all to no avail - but the feat of engineering, the planning and the labor of man that made this Line an actuality, should, and will, go down in all time history as a credit to the great nation that built it.

#### Personal

And now to the 358's ~~Personal~~ History of the Fort!

This fort was found by members of the 1st Bn and Capt. Wise, our Cannon Co. Commander. Capt Wise and his company soon had the south part of the fort in operation and fired some 1500 rounds from the 8 guns found! The 1st Bn loaned Capt Wise about 30 men so as to augment his man power, because he had to man both the fort and his own company guns. A few days later and Capt Wise had the north part of the fort in operation! Now he had 16 guns in all! More men were loaned to him by Major Lytle, 1st Bn CO. After firing all 16 guns for two days, Capt Wise thought it best that he only operate the north 8 guns. During this stage of 16 guns and then 8, his battle weary "fort commando's" had fired 3000 rounds. Word was at last received from 3rd Army to continue firing, but alas, "Black Charlie's" and his "fort commando's" were out of projectiles! During this time the 2d Bn had been relieved by 1st Bn on the river front and Capt wise had to train a new gun crew for his fort. Major



**Magint**

**Maginot Line (page 3)**

**358 Infantry**

Schultz very willingly gave him all the men he needed.

The round is made up of five parts and all they needed was projectiles, so Lt. Col. Clarke ordered the entire area searched for projectiles. Verdun was even "invaded" by the hunters! In talking to Capt Wise, it was found out that when the first round was fired, he, with his crew, had a 200 foot lanyard to pull because of the danger that the guns might be "booby-trapped". Capt Wise also claims that on ten rounds he set the guns at maximum range, and elevation and all the power bags or charge he could put in. He then pulled the lanyard, crossed his fingers for Adolph's people. The ten rounds were never seen, needless to say.

Much honor goes to Capt. Wise and his "fort command's for their excellent work in "working over" many targets on the east bank of the river, woods and roads. Casualties caused by this firing will never be counted because of poor observation. A further note could be added that the men could only fire 20 rounds, then go out for air, as the ventilation was very poor. No one could fix the electric ventilator system because they were much too busy firing!



17 Sept 1944

HISTORY

3 TH Infantry

During the early morning hours Bns reported the results of their patrols. 2nd Bn reported that an enemy patrol (number undetermined) had crossed the South Bridge (RR) at THIONVILLE. Otherwise, all was quiet throughout the night.

1st Bn reported that on their patrol, one man was wounded, three men were missing and that all their boats had been sunk. The men had to swim back. The enemy had used flares and had shot mortars, arty, a 50 mm tank gun and MG's at them. The patrol had encountered some twenty Germans at the RR bridge across the river.

At 0300 2nd Bn reported enemy digging in across the river from Co G. At 0700 enemy planes were flying over the 358th area. An enemy patrol was scattered in Co F area by rifle fire.

At 1015, the Engrs, less one platoon, (which stayed with us) reverted to Div control.

Liaison with adjacent and friendly troops was kept. Exchange of information was constant. Recon of roads was made regularly.

At 1305, 1st Bn had seven more guns, under the direction of Capt. Wise, Cn Co Commander.

With the idea to make the Germans think we are bringing in reinforcements, it was decided to have the artillery fire some white phosphorous at 2200 and then move some TD track vehicles around in the area immediately across the river from the Germans.

By 1840, Cannon Co reported it had fired 150 rds from the Maginot Line this day, making a total of 1000.

The CP was informed at 1840, that the 357 was to make a night advance right up to the pill boxes and in the morning attack them with flame-throwers and "everything else". The 359 was to support the attack by fire.

PW's gave pertinent information about defense across the river.

At 2010, B Co reported flares over their company area.

At 2200 an enemy column was reported proceeding South along East bank of the MOSELLE.

At 2245, the "smoke deal" was called off.

18 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

At 0038, 2nd Bn was notified of a Div report, that enemy tanks had crossed the bridge at 875724, and that the artillery was firing on them. (The outcome as yet unknown). The E Co patrols were not moving out.

At 0405, Recon reported enemy did not cross the river, as earlier reported.

Co E patrol now reported enemy still in place - no withdrawal.

1st and 2nd Bn now have only three boats each. At 1020, Gen. Weaver, visited the CP. He was briefed on the situation. He checked on the artillery ammunition and found it "ok".

Reports of the enemy were received by various liaison officers and other communication.

At 1310, Lt. Col. Clarke decided that the 1st Bn would relieve 2nd Bn. He was emphatic that the word be delivered other than by telephone. The idea was that the enemy received the impression that we were getting reinforcements. The following message was sent by Ln O to the 2nd Bn: "1st Bn moves afternoon 19 Sept to take over sector now held by you. Initiate recon preparatory to occupying present position of 1st Bn as Regt'l Res. Responsibility for defence of MOSELLE RIVER passes to 1st Bn, 191900 Sept. Do not move your troops before dark, 19 Sept. CO 358th Inf.

At 1345, Gen. Weaver arrived with plans to make river crossing onto the railroad yard on the East side of the MOSELLE. Col. Clarke was not all in accord with the General's plan in that this would leave no protection to our troops once they got across the river. There was no place to dig in and the Germans would be looking down their throats. It was Col. Clarke's judgment that the crossing should be made North of THIONVILLE instead of right in the town itself where the Germans were undoubtedly the strongest.

At 1405, G-2 arrived and Col. Clarke discussed with him the river crossing plans of Gen. Weaver. At 1915, it was understood that the 1st and 2nd Bn's would merely "exchange" CP locations.

The nearby roads, bridges, and towns were reported as clear of enemy, except for enemy observers on high ground and, in some case, in high buildings. These observers were causing no little trouble.

The enemy continued to move South, on the other side of the river. Some were digging-in. At 2000 RICHMONT was in enemy hands, however, the Recon Tp had a listening



19 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Inf.

Up to 0625, patrols reported "all quiet". However, at 0625, 8 - 16 Germans crossed the MOSELLE RIVER between E and F Co's. They fired MG's at the CP. The enemy was now smoking the town of UCKANGE. By 0700, Co E was receiving heavy MG and Arty fire. They were trying to find the enemy strength. UCKANGE was being attacked from three sides. At 0720, Co E asked for help. Lt. Col. Clarke alerted the 1st Bn to have one company ready to move on order. He then ordered one platoon of tanks to the town, and ordered that they take the Infantry with them on tanks. AT 0800, Co E reported dire decreasing and visibility very poor. Gen. McClain was now on his way to this CP. By 0850, Co E situation was thought to be "in hand". The CG arrived and was of the opinion that more Maginot Line guns would be used.

At 1000 Co E reported all quiet and settled down again. No report on casualties. Now enemy information was gathered, received and exchanged with friendly units, as was situations of adjacent units. The Rcn troop kept the CP posted on all enemy developments to the front.

At 1330, Cn Co was notified to be on the alert. The CG, XX Corps, was on his way to inspect the guns of the Maginot Line.

The results of last night's artillery fire was still unknown, due to poor visibility. The Rcn reported villages that were now cleared of the enemy and also reported small fire fights with patrols.

At 1535, Gen. Weayer left the CP.

By 2300, both 1st and 2nd Bns were all "closed -in". They reported to Capt. Shipe that all was quiet. Co E had not as yet closed in, however,

Capt Shipe now notified Div, at 2345, that except for sporadic firing, all was quiet.

20 -26 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

During this period the Regiment sat still. It made, and effected, extensive plans for defense, for patrolling and for outpostting of the MOSELLE RIVER against any possible attack by armor or infantry from the East side of the river. Patrols were sent across the river and gathered valuable information. The Rcn troops contributed greatly to the fund of enemy information that was constantly pouring in. Close contact was kept with all friendly units by liaison. Close contact, by patrol, was maintained throughout the Regt'l zone. Plans to combat the enemy, in any situation that might arise, were drawn up and all personnel was completely briefed. On the 20th of Sept, an MP Co was formed within the regiment. Lt. Rines, formerly of Service Co., headed the new Company. During this period the Regimental Commander arranged, through Lt. August Acke, SSO, for a "Christmas Tour" throughout the Regiment. This afforded the men the opportunity to select and send home gifts.

At every opportunity, and without interfering with duty, men were able to see first run motion pictures and take hot showers. The Red Cross, through field director Mr. C. H. Shrout, brought forward a club-mobile.

The FFI, during this period was very active and very helpful. Most of the time, however, they acted upon their own orders. Civilians gave many helpful reports. The artillery continued firing at designated targets. The FFI presented a real problem, however, as they wore non-descript "uniforms", carried German weapons and were not recognizable at night by our outpost guards or patrols.

Plans were made to dismantle and destroy the Maginot Line Guns in the even of an attack by the enemy in which we would have to withdraw behind these guns. The FFI was to evacuate their wounded and process their PW's through us. Men were instructed on "flam-throwers".

At 1200, 22 Sept, Gen. Patton arrived at the CP. The Regt'l Comdr, Lt. Col. Clarke gave Gen Patton our complete situation. The General stated the enemy to our front out-numbered us but their equipment was pathetic. The General remained for dinner and was presented, by the Regt'l Comdr, Lt. Col. Clarke, with a Gestapo Dagger, inscribed "To General Patton", from the 358th Inf. The General and Lt. Col. Clarke later left to inspect the Maginot Line guns. The General and Lt. Col. Clarke later left to inspect the Maginot Line guns.



The Regiment, during this period, played a most important defensive role. It was "right on" the river, and was the center of many hostile towns.

While a night patrol from "A" Co., 1st Bn, was under fire and their boats destroyed, two enlisted men, on the other side of the river, became separated and stranded. They remained there for four days and nights without food, water or even, cigarettes. These men could not swim. On the fourth night, Major Lytel, CO, 1st Bn, and an enlisted man, went to their rescue. Under enemy observation and fire, they set out, crossed the river, and rescued the men!

On the 23d Sept Lt. Hammock and Sgt Fields, "G" Co. were killed when an artillery barrage hit the company.

At 0005, 24 Sept., a patrol of the 1st Bn, one officer and six EM crossed the river and encountered much enemy strength. The officer, Lt. Wells was wounded and died the next morning.

By 1815, 24 Sept, the 7th AD withdrew across the Moselle River.

At 1750, 25 Sept, the G-3 arrived at the CP. He stated that two Bns would move tomorrow and one the next day. Arrangements were now made for these moves and all units were informed.

At 2020, 25 Sept, enemy planes circled over the 1st Bn area. 1st Bn now had flares, one minute ones, dropped over them. Patrols (enemy) were also in their area. The enemy seemed to be concentrating their efforts in the vic of "B" Co. However, no damage was done, and by midnight, all was reported as "quiet".

On the day of the 26th Sept., officers of the unit to relieve us inspected the area and were briefed on the activities we had encountered while we were there.

By 1830, 26 Sept, units were all instructed on the forthcoming move.

It was now decided to have the Regimental CP at Vionville, south of Mars La Tour. The 358th Infantry was now ready for the movement.



Authority NND 735017

By *43r* NARA Date 12/9358th Infantry  
26 Sept 1944

## Movement Orders:

1. a. Deleted.  
b. Deleted.
2. 358th Inf plus attachments moves by shuttling 27 Sept 1944 to advance bivouac area VIONVILLE- ST MARCELLE - REZONVILLE (Exclusive).  
For route of march, IP, time of march, see route sketch.
3. a. 1st Bn commencing 0630 assemble (less B Co) West of 1st hill mass behind present lines. Following breakfast 0730-0830, the Bn will move by marching via route shown on route sketch to AVRIL where Bn will entruck using kitchen trucks used by 2nd Bn and move to bivouac area vic STE MARIE AUX CHENES as division reserve relieving 3rd Bn. Attachment as division reserve effective 0800.  
B Co join 1st Bn West of HAYANGE.
- b. 2nd Bn moves 0700 to vic of ETANGE, entruck at 0730, cross IP (VOLKRANGE) at 0800, clear IP by 0830. Move by motor to detrucking point West of AVRIL where kitchen trucks revert to Regt'l control. Bn moves by marching along route shown on sketch to bivouac area ST MARCELLE and south thereof.
- c. 3rd Bn passing to Regt'l control at 0800, move by marching to bivouac area VIONVILLE and North thereof.
- d. AT Co move 1 plat AT guns with each of 1st and 2nd Bns. When 1st ~~pl~~ reaches bivouac area, AT platoon with it reverts to Regt'l control, remainder of company move to bivouac area vic new Regt'l CP. Pass IP 0850.
- e. Cn Co cross IP 0840, move to bivouac area vic new Regt'l CP.
- f. Hq Co cross IP 0900, move to previously reconnoitered CP vic MARS LA TOUR. Advance party leave for new CP 0725.
- g. 344 FA Bn w/1 btry 345th FA Bn, atched, cross IP 1200, pass 1st Bn at entrucking point (AVRIL) move by route designated on sketch to JARNY where unit reverts to control of 90th Div. Arty.
- h. Co B, 607th TD cross IP 0830 move to JARNY where it reverts to control of its battalion. Elements of 712th Tk Bn atched to 58th Inf, cross IP at 0910, move to ST MARIE AUX CHENES, revert to control of 712th Tk Bn.
- k. Guides will be posted by 358th MP Co.  
Quartermaster parties for Hq Co, Cn Co, AT Co, Sv Co, Coll Co, Mp Co meet at Regt'l CP, at 0700.

CLARKE  
ComdgNichols  
S-3



Authority NND 735017

By 43r NARA Date 12/9

27 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

0001 to 0635, all quiet except for plenty of of air activity including both enemy and friendly aircraft. Spasmodic artillery was also reported. Capt. Stotler reported that the Cav had completed the relief during the night and the 1st Bn was ready to move on to ST MARIE AUX CHENES. 2nd Bn crossed the IP on time as did all units save Co B 607th TD Bn. Capt. Nichols reported that two of his platoons could not get off the hill due to mud and rain. He did however cross the IP some two hours later. The move went well and all battalions closed in their areas in good time. Regimental CP closed in at 1110 while 1st Bn closed in their area at 1115. 2nd Bn closed in at 1845 and 3rd Bn closed in at 1600. Co B 315th Med Bn closed at 1530. AT and Cn Co's closed at 1100. 344th FA bn in and ready to fire at 1755. MP guides and Service Co closed at 2050. (See movement order and overlay).

At 1345, Colonel Clarke acting upon verbal orders told 3rd Bn to send one company to GRAVELOT to contact 359th Inf. They would relieve F Co of the 359th in that town. The relief was not to take place until after dark. The town was under close observation by the enemy and had been dropping in sporadic artillery fire on the town. The company was to be reinforced if 3rd Bn thought it necessary. L. Co was the company selected by Lt. Col. Bealke as the one to occupy GRAVELOT. L. Co closed in at 2115. Remainder of the night quiet except for an occasional German plane flying reconnaissance over head.

28 and 29 September 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

During these two days, we were impressed again by the might from continued attacks by day of the METZ fortifications to the Southeast of the Regimental CP. It ran the "Daily Mail" to the Eastern fortresses of Germany along the METZ line. We could see from our area general where the bombs were falling but not the exact location. Several Germans planes were reported in the area. Work and plans continued on our attack of Fortress Metz. While training in reduction of fortified positions continued. Col. Clarke's orders of clean-up, still stood and disciplinary training as well as technical training was added to the training day. During the lull, feeding and clothing had importance of the training. Weather has been very poor.

The Staff was very busy with its normal catching with necessary paper work while the officers and men were busy training. During these days, 359th beat off two counter-attacks and our "L" Co assisted on both.

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Authority NND 735017

By 13r NARA Date 12/9

30 Sept 1944

HISTORY

358th Infantry

0001 to 0730 all was quiet in the areas except for spasmodic artillery falling in L Co area near GRAVELOTE. Division was informed as such every hour. The hutments that were being built for the 2nd Bn by the Engrs were started with a few trucks loaded with materials coming in during the day. It was the wish of Col. Clarek to get the 2nd Bn out of the mud as soon as possible.

During the night several rounds of friendly TD fire fell on L Co wounding three men and killing one. After a thorough investigation it was found that friendly TD's were firing in the wrong sector. L Co reported some small arms fire coming from their front near the woods SE of Gravelot. All was quiet the remainder of the day until Col. Clarke received message from Gen. McClain telling us that the 358th less all attachments was on a one hour alert to move to XII Corps. We were to get 81 QM trucks. Capt Shipe and Col. Clarke worked out all the details of the move and phoned orders to the subordinate units. Order of march was to have 1st Bn, 2nd Bn and 3rd Bn with Cn, Hq, AT, MP Co's move between 1st and 2nd Bn. MP's would act as road guides and AT could have one platoon with each battalion. It wasn't until the next day that the alert was called off.

To summarize the action for September quickly - From 1 Sept to 4 Sept we remained at a bridge head defensive area around REIMS. On Sept 5 we moved to ST HILAIRE LE GRANDE by foot-march. On 6 Sept 1944, 358th moved to a bridgehead defensive East of VERDUN. On 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Sept 1944, 358th fought its way from BARINCOURT to the West bank of the MOSELLE river taking such towns as SPINECOURT, MONT, NORROY, MAIRY, FONTOY, ALGRANGE, MAYANGE, MARSPICH, VOLKGANGE, METANGE, NEIDER, GARCHE, MANON and TERVILLE and the West side of THIONVILLE. From the 13th to the 26th we stayed as a defensive unit, with the 3rd Bn as Div Res vic of ST MARIE AUX CHENES, on the West bank of the MOSELLE RIVER to prevent the enemy from crossing the river from the East. 1st and 2nd Bns were alternating on the outpost duty after having taken the town of THIONVILLE. 27 th of Sept., and we moved to VIONVILLE and vicinity. 1st Bn put in Div Res at ST MARIE AUX CHENES. L Co put in GRAVELOT to secure that town, having relieve elements of the 359th. 28, 29, 30th we remained in position with orders to be prepared to move in any direction at any time to protect even the XX Corps zone. As it stands and turned out we were even part of the Third Army Reserve.

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