1 Nov 44

Rolf Winkler, Sgt, 2nd Co, 1127th Cactured by 2nd Bn patrol around midnight.

PW was with his plateon in woods at 072246. The 2nd Co area extends from this point to the railroad line to the north.

The strength of the Co is 132 men. It is composed of three plateons and one attached plateon from an outfit unknown. The 1st Plat has 8 heavy machine guns under Lt Scheer. The 2nd Plat, which is PW's, has 4 light MC and around 20 new machine pistols, model 43. The 3rd plat has entirely machine pistols. The attached plateon has a mixture of these different weapons.

The CO of 2nd Co is Lt Becker.

PW states that every plateon had been ordered to prepare a defensive winter position by using barbed wire. PW's plateon finished the job last night and this is how they did it:

About 15 yards in front of the wood there is a net of trip wires connected with hand grenades. A listening post is located at the prominent, uprocted tree behind the trip wires. The guard in the listening post can warn his men in the woods of appreaching danger by publing a wire connected to a hand grenade which will then explode and give the alarm.

Behind the listening post stretches a four-strand barbed wire fence to which are attached empty tin cans. To the rear of this runs a S roll of barbed wire. Behind the listening post a path sigzags thru the wired area. PW states that they are working now on connecting trenches in the wood. The plateon's 4 MG are set up behind the wire.

The 8 heavy machine guns of the 1st Plat are on the height at 076253. The 2nd Co CP is in a pill box in the same area.

To the left of the 2nd Co and at 072239 is the 6th Co. The area between the two companies is open, but covered by machine guns from the 6th Col

Six days ago PW saw about 6 AT guns along edge of wood at 080244.

The kitchen as well as the Bn trains are at Obreck. The arty ammunition is brought from a dump some 30 km from the front line and beyond Morhange.

The regimental CO is Major Hendel.

PW states that at noon yesterday an American observer was seen to be relieved near the cut in the wood opposite PW's position. PW heard his lieutenant state that if observation proved this to be an artillery observation post, sufficient ammunition would be released to lay down an arty barrage in that area.

(Interrogation report, 1 Nov 44, Cont'd)

According to FW, flares have the following significance:

White - used to show their own position in an attack; also used to light up an area.

- a call to their own artillery for support.

Violet- a warning of enemy tanks approaching.

Green - to signal their own arty that their shells were falling on their own troops.

PW gave the password in use today as

Franz Schlamm, Pfc, Engr Plat, 1127th. Age 19, wounded in leg.

PW captured by 3rd Bn at RR station S of CHAMBREY.

PW's patrol of 4 men followed by two squads of 9 men each left cemetery at outskirts of Chateau-Salins at 1800 and proceeded thru Woods de la Marchande in direction Chambrey. The patrol of 4 men crossed the Seille river on a folding boat at unknown point while the rest of the men stayed behind. The mission of the patrol was to locate the guard posts at Chambrey and return to the rest of the men at the river, after which they all would make a raid to capture prisoners.

The patrol arrived undiscovered to RR station at Chambrey where they were shot at. This PW was wounded and the other three escaped.

PW states that there was still another patrol sent out the same time whose mission it was to go deeper into enemy territory.

PW carried with him a hand grenade with a special time delaying device which only detonates the grenade after about 20 seconds. These grenades are thrown in vicinity of an enemy sentinel with the idea that the guard will advance to investigate and grenade will then explode in his face.