

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT
IPW TEAM 60-B, 134TH INFANTRY

29 Sep 44

16 PW from the 559th Replacement Bn, 559th Div. All PW from 1st Co.

PW states that the 1st Co and he thinks also the 3rd Co attacked this morning between 5 and 6 a wood in vicinity Fresnes. The two remaining companies acted as flank security. The attack was repulsed with heavy losses. This group of 16 Germans became separated from their company during the attack and taken prisoners.

This Replacement Bn, also called Fusilier Bn, moves on bicycles which they left behind at Oron. All companies have rifles, MG, and bazookas. The 4th Co is a heavy company with 120mm mortars and bazookas. The battalion commander is Major Schneider.

This battalion is in this area 3 to 4 days and came from around Bitsch on the old Franco-German border. The 559th Inf Division was formed six weeks ago and includes the 1125th, 1126th, and 1127th Regts. The personnel of the division is made up of newly inducted soldiers, formerly wounded men who fought on other fronts, and soldiers who had desk and non-combatant duties in Germany. During their training they were told by Himmler to hold us off for a few weeks so that the new secret weapon which would destroy all of France, could be completed.

Morale among the older fighters does not seem to be very high.

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT
IFW TEAM 6C-B, 134TH INFANTRY

29 Sep 44

FW is from the 1st Bn, 1120th Regt.

PW states that his battalion made an attack this morning on Ajdmcourt. The strength of this battalion was 50 men and largely made up of men taken from the supply train of the unit. The attack was made without machine guns and mortars and PW knows of only one machine pistol being used this morning. They did receive a small amount of artillery support, however. Their attack was beaten back after nearly half the men had become casualties. To the left of the 1st Bn, the 2nd Bn went also into the attack.

PW states that the 1st Bn CP is located in a large house near the center of Fossieux. He also says that the General commanding the division left for Germany and that a Colonel is now in command.

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29 SEPT, 44

54 PW taken in the town of Han. All except 4 are from the 1st Bn, 1120th Inf Regt.

The 1st Bn CP was in a large farm house in Han. A few squads from the 4th Co were disposed around Han as security. Also in the village were two artillery officers and two EM. These were from the 8th and 10th batteries of the 1553d Artillery Regt. (Div Arty for 553d Div). The 8th Btry was a 105 btry and officer claims they had lost no pieces. He says that his btry was just moving into position, having arrived here after the other units of the division, and that he was looking for a forward observation post. The 10th btry was a medium btry of 155mm and had lost two of its howitzers.

One PW gave the location of the regimental CP as last he knew it at Letricourt.

The PW collecting point and the trains of the unit are at Wulmont, 8 km north of Fossieux.

Apparently a major feature of the attack was the surprise with which it was executed. It was completely unexpected by the Germans.

We questioned three of the officers about the general situation of the war. Two of them thought that Germany had still a chance to win, while the other conceded that Germany was at the end of its power after five years of war.

PW knew of no concerted effort or counterattack in this area. Their own mission was to take the town of Manhoue yesterday at which they failed. They had not been promised relief, reinforcements or replacements. Some EM speak of the secret weapon, but the officers and most of the men do not believe there is such a thing.

From this and previous reports of PW this seems to be the end of the 1st Bn of the 1120th Inf.

The officers knew that they were fighting opposite the 35th Inf Div.

9/22/44