

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

30 Sep 44

One PW from the 6th Co, 73rd Inf Regt, 19th Division.
Captured by "L" Co.

PW states his battalion attacked this morning SW of Fresnes thru woods with the objective of reaching a river on the other side.

PW believes that two battalions, numbering together about 300 men, made the attack. The strength of the 6th Co is only 40 men.

They received heavy mortar fire which prevented them from reaching their objective. They were told that after reaching the river, their units would be relieved. PW estimates they had about 80 killed and wounded.

The 19th Division which formerly was an armored outfit and engaged in Russia, was reformed in Denmark as an infantry unit. PW know only of two regiments, the 73rd and the 59th. The division had suffered heavy losses in Russia and reorganized in July.

From the 20 to the 23 Sep the division was engaged at Wallendorf near Trier on the Moselle and suffered many losses from artillery, mortars, and airplanes. They were then relieved by an Air Corps ground division.

On the 28th of Sep the 73rd Regt arrived in Metz but stayed there only overnight. The next day it came by trucks to a village 9 km from here where the men were unloaded ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Yesterday they rested in a wood and at 2100 last night they marched to the attack.

The 2nd Bn Cmdr is Capt Abresch.

PW states they were promised armored and artillery support, but he never saw anything about it. He saw several SS-men in this area yesterday, however.

The men of this unit believe or hope the war will be over in three weeks.

5-4505 AA - 55 batteries - 3-88 - 2-37 forward for
1-73 looking for I.P.

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3 PW from 1st Co, 115th Trng Bn.
Captured by "L" Co.

The 115th Trng Bn attacked this morning the heights SW of Fresnes. At first the attack was led by the reserve company of the 73rd Regt. The men of the reserve company all were armed with machine pistols, but they were too weak in numbers to make much progress so the 115th Trng Bn was thrown in after them. The 1st Co of the Trng Bn was pinned down by machine gun fire and the CO gave the order to retreat into woods on the road halfway between Fresnes and Jallaucourt.

The 115th Bn is made up 80% of Polish men. They were in training at Darmstadt and had completed no more than 4 weeks instruction when they were ordered into France for securing of roads. They left a month ago and were located around Metz. There they left 14 days ago and the day before yesterday arrived in the present area after passing thru Delme. They travelled only at night.

The Bn has 3 companies, each of about 50 men. PW state that the 1st Co originally had a strength of 150 men, but because the men are Polish and unwilling to fight, desertions and sick reports have multiplied rapidly.

The CO of the 1st Co is 1st Lt Fliehe.

PW state they saw 6 105mm assault guns at Delme several days ago. Otherwise they observed no armor.