

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INF REGT
IPW 60

12 Jan 45

REPORT: 2071

1 PW from 7th Co, 14th Para Regt, 5th Para Div.

2d Bn consists of 17 men who were withdrawing yesterday evening in an unspecified direction from their position near VILLERS. They had 1 LMG, a few machine pistols. No contact with other units. 4 days without food.

2 PW from 3d Co 339th Regt, 167 Div

1 PW from 14th Co 339th Regt, 167 Div.

3d Co consisted of 4 men employed as S flank security for Cp of 1st Bn, 331 Regt, to which Bn the 1st Bn of 339 Regt was attached. This flank security at 593531 consisted of 4 men, 2 of which deserted their position. Of the 2 men left one had no ammo for his rifle. To the NW, at about 590534 there were 13 men of 14th Co, 339 Regt, with 4 bazookas, 1 LMG; and 20 to 30 men were in dugouts to the rear.

Yesterday in the late afternoon, when US troops came up the road at 591530, the Germans were ordered to withdraw. PW heard somebody call, "Kommen sie her", and thinking they had made contact with German units were surprised to find Americans there, to whom they surrendered.

Positions: Regt CP 602547
Bn CP 593536

PW states that 13 Co (Inf cannon Co) has still original strength of 80 men. 3d Platoon in position at 604553. No Inf cannon were seen there.

Jan 9th the main road between MALSCHIED and BURG REULAND was badly clogged. PW had to take the field road passing by LASCHIED where he saw 3 tanks. SS units and workshop Co of an unidentified Pz Div were seen moving E from ASSELBORN. At 2200 10 Jan, 2 Royal Tigers were seen at SCHLEIF moving to the rear.

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3 PW from 2d Platoon, 13th Co, 331 Regt, 167 Div.

1st and 2d Platoon were together in position at 612554 to which they had withdrawn 9 Jan. It is probable that 3d Platoon was nearby. Also at this position were 4 120mm mortars, horse drawn; very little ammo for mortars, unit having received no ammo since it was committed over 2 weeks ago. 4 other 120mm mortars were with the Co trains (NE of SCHLEIF). Yesterday trains withdrew to the NE because of heavy arty fire. Elements of 13 Co withdrew from 612554 to the NE yesterday evening, presumably to destination of PW cage of 90th Div.

3 men who are our PW were sent forward to approximately 612546 which was a position previously occupied by 13th Co where they left a few boxes of hand grenades. The mission of these 3 men who were sent forward was to pick up these grenades and to meet a messenger who would tell them where they could find their new platoon leader. The reason the PW were sent forward to pick up the hand grenades was so that the 13th Co as riflemen, could launch a counterattack yesterday morning. Instead of this they received a withdrawal order last night, men who were sent forward for hand grenades remained there to be taken prisoner rather than returning to their Co.

In addition to mortars this Co was also equipped with 2 75mm Inf cannon, 1 LMG per Platoon, a few machine pistols for messengers, and some rifles

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2 PW from 4th Btry, 167 Arty Regt.

Each Bn of Regt has 3 Btrys. 4th Btry had originally 6 105 howitzers, of which 4 came into position at 604549, and 2 were kept in the rear for unknown reasons. While in this position 3 of the 4 guns were damaged by counter-battery fire and 1 destroyed. 2 nights ago, Btry consisting at that time of 1 how, moved to 609549. Since moving to this position 2 of the damaged guns have been repaired and brought forward again. Original strength of personnel in Btry position, 35 men. Losses due to counterbattery fire brought this strength down to 16 by yesterday. 4th Btry had OP at 606552, at which point they had lost fairly heavily in personnel. OP maintained wire communication with one Bn of the 339 Regt, the OP of the 5th Btry, and with 4th Btry firing position. The 4th Btry fired about 80 to 100 rounds per day. Ammo arrived in 2 or 3 horse drawn wagons about 2200 or 2300 daily. The ammo train had formerly been closer but was moved to an unknown place about 20 kilometers away because it had been receiving Arty fire.

4th Btry CO Lt. SPITZFADEN
2d Bn CO Capt. MALMANN

5th Btry is in a well camouflaged position at 62425498. It is believed to have 4 guns in position there, with 2 some where else to the rear with the trains. PW's say 4th Btry had most forward position of Arty and for that reason had more losses than other Btrys.

PW states although ammo came regularly food was not supplied regularly and on some occasions 2 days passed without food. PW does not know of any of our In places used by their Arty or do they know of any oil filled or glass powder filled shells. They state that in this Btry only H F shells and only quick fuses used. The guns are pulled by small tractors of which the 4th Btry had 6 and lost 5. Ammo wagons are horse drawn.

1 PW from Eng Platoon, Hq Co, 331 Regt.

Point of capture 601545. Mission of PW had been to bring food from kitchen in BRAS to Eng Platoon daily. Kitchen and trains have been BRAS for past 4 days. Original strength of Eng Platoon was 73 men, strength yesterday 20 men. All losses having been from Arty and mortar fire. PW brought food to point of capture this morning expecting to find his Platoon there but they had apparently withdrawn. The Platoon's trains in BRAS consisted of 6 wagons with some assault boats, digging tools, and 108 Teller mines, at least 18 of which were exploded by Arty fire. PW states that Co of 331 Regt left his former CP and went to SCHLEIF 3 days ago.

Also 3 days ago PW saw 6 Tiger Royal tanks on highway at 613557.

So far this Eng Platoon has been employed only in digging dugouts. PW does not know of any mines or booby traps being set by them.

Hq Co also consisted of a bicycle Plat which had an original strength of about 30 men, and a Rcr platoon with an original strength of 50 men

CO Hq Co 1st Lt. BERGER
CO 331 Regt Lt. Col. ZELLNER

PW report that in urban points of Germany schools have been closed for the last 4 months. Also factory of Stiller and Hansen mfgs of pursuit planes, has been bombed several times but not hit. This factory is located a short distance to the W of the freight station, in MUNSTER, WESTPHALIA.