

INTERROGATION REPORT  
134TH INF REGT  
IPW 60

4 Jan 45

74 PW from 331 Regt, 167 Div, including the following companies:  
1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 14 Co, 1st Bn Hq, Eng Plat Hq Co.  
6 PW from 3, 6, and 7 Co, 339 Regt, 167 Inf Div.

The battalions of both these regiments are of company strength. Before the atk this morning the strength of each of the battalions of the 331 was less than 100 men.

The 14th Co of 331 is an AT Co. Two days ago 25 men of the company with four large bazookas and rifles were put in line together as infantry at 566536 attached to the 2nd Bn of the regiment.

Because of losses, the 2nd Bn does not have separate companies any more. Until today the 1st Bn had separate companies. ~~ANYXX~~ Today the 1st Bn CO, his staff and CP were captured.

The left (S) boundary of the 331 Regt is at 572533. To the left of this is the 2nd Regt of the 1st Ss Armd Div. The two units are not closely tied in, but maintain contact by patrols. To the right (N) of the 331 1st Bn is their 2nd Bn, and to their right is the 339 Regt. The boundary between these two regiments is not known exactly. ~~Those men of the 339th were stragglers in 331st Regt area.~~

All PW report their mission as being defensive. They had originally attacked to the west to secure the BASTOGNE hwy, but after decimation had since maintained a defensive position. They expected an atk immediately after the cessation of arty fire this morning, but when the atk did not come they relaxed their vigilance and were later caught unawares.

The CP of the 331 Regt is in dugouts at (596544.)  
The CP of the 167 Div is in a RR tunnel 1 Km NW of the station at SCHLEIF. Known to be there last night.

The 1st Co of the 167 Replacement Bn is at KALENBORN (in Eifel Mts). The strength of this company was 100 men and 6 officers. At least 3 officers and 60 or 70 men have been sent forward to this area: the officers traveled by small car and have arrived here, but the men left on foot on 1 Jan and have not yet arrived. They are not expected at any particular time, They generally march only at night over the supply route indicated in previous report. The replacement Bn has three companies, but the location of the other two or the extent of their commitment is not known. Officer who recently came fwd over this route saw no complete units coming fwd but did see small groups of stragglers, RTD's and 3 or 4 tks (at BURG REULAND) coming forward: also saw 10 parked half-tracks at OBERWAMPACH.

At clearing in woods at about 610451, 4 to 6 horse-drawn 75 mm cannon were observed yesterday.

## INTERROGATION REPORT

4 Jan 45

#2-

The 167 Div has been given no word of relief or reinforcement.

Communication between units of the division is very poor. For units below Bn communication is only by messenger. Bn cannot keep a phone line to regiment and communication between these units was by radio or messenger. For security reasons radio is used only for urgent messages. Call letters and frequencies change frequently. Last call letters for 1st Bn, 331 Regt are N H O (Nordpol Heinz Otto).

The 1st and 2nd Bns of 331 received a few replacements two days ago. These were men taken from the trains and sent fwd.

The 4th Co of 331 is located at approx 580538. It has a strength of 60 men. They have 1 hmg and 1 lmg, 4 mortars (80mm), and 3 75mm Inf cannon. PW say that the cannon and mortars are not in use because they do not have men trained to operate them. This company has suffered 50 casualties all caused by arty fire. The 4 PW who were captured were messengers whose mission was to inform the Bn CO (also captured) of the Co strength.

The 8th Co of the 331 has been dispersed since the atk on 30 Dec and has not been under central control. According to PW the members of this company merely stayed with whatever groups they happened to be after their atk, and were not regrouped as a unit. PW says that they had 15 tanks supporting the attack on 30 Dec. No PW has seen any tanks in this immediate area today.

Engr Plat of 331 Regt committed 10 men as infantry at N flank of Regt I sector. The engineer plat is used only for digging, etc. They claim to have laid no mines or booby traps, and have no engineering equipment except digging tools. The 10 men were armed with 1 mg and rifles: ALL WERE captured.

At noon today, the 13th Co and HQ Co of 331, which had been in vic of Regt HQ as protection were ordered to counterattack. PW say CP is now unprotected, and at same location as reported above. HQ Co has a strength of 69 men (Rcn Plat, Engr Plat, and Comm Plat). The Rcn plat has had 20 casualties due to arty. Exact location as yet unknown, but PW fr HQ Co say that this Co is surrounded.

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HQ Co of 331 Regt believes they are surrounded at 572538. This unit received the order to counterattack and came down the road to the north of Hill %% ready to attack to the SW. At the same time the 13th Co (cannon Co committed as inf) has the mission of attacking our flank farther to the south. The attack is not supported by armor. Strength and location of 13th Co unknown.

PW reported artillery batteries at following locations:  
602547 and 635555. The crew of the  
second battery lives in an isolated house on the north side  
of the BASTOGNE road at 635557

The CP and road net in the vicinity of the 331 Regt CP is guarded by 10 armored cars borrowed from the 1st SS division. The cars are patrolling the roads from the CP to BRAS.

The town of SCHLEIT (6556) is a collecting point for parachute stragglers and SS units.

I P W REPORT

4. January 1945

- S-2  
137th
- 1 PW from 11th Co. 1st S.S. Regt., 1st S.S. Div., captured at 569504  
9th and 11th Co's consolidated, because of heavy losses, exact strength unknown to PW. Mission: Defend RJ 570502. Co. CP of 11th Co. at Villers. PW states, ammunition, food and other supplies sufficient. PW states their mission was to defend sector, knows nothing of reinforcements. PW was in sector for 3 days and had never been in Villers since passing through village 3 days ago. Another PW states 11th Co strength was approx. 30 men. 3rd bn (9-10-11-12th Co) supposedly in this sector. Strength of bn unknown. Regt. committed 14 Dec. 1944 in Germany, vic. Duren, travelled South vic. Trier. Rumors Replacements supposed to have arrived 4 days ago, have never arrived. Mission 4 days ago, to sever Bastogne-Arlon road by east-west attack supported by an west-east attack by the 18th Pz. Div.
- 1 PW. from 8th Co. 14th Para Regt., 5th Para Div. captured at RJ 570502. Strength of 8th Co. 20-25 men. Mission: Defend RJ 570502. Co CP at Villers, 2nd bn CP (forward), Lutremange, Regt. CP (forward) 610520. Ammunition scarce for last 2-3 days. Food supply difficult. PW states Germans were speaking of an attack either late this afternoon or early morning (5. Jan). PW states ~~the~~ 2nd bn is in Villers, strength unknown to PW. Strength of SS troops in this vicinity also unknown to PW.
- 1 PW. from Reserve Platoon, 1st bn, 14th Para Regt., captured at Villers. Strength of unit: 80-85 men as of 2nd Jan 1945 (1st bn). Mission 40 men to clear woods S of Villers. PW states unit withdrew following contact with our forces. 1st bn CP 14th Para Regt at 58595066. PW believes SS dual purpose guns located vic. 590513. 1st bn should have received 80 replacements 2. Jan 45, but did not receive them. Some rifle and MG ammo located at bn CP 58595066. Ammunition, food and other supplies, difficult to obtain.  
1 - 81mm mortar at 58095128, 3 - 120mm mortars at 58165125. PW believes there are 150 troops in Villers, this includes SS and Para troops.

IPW Team  
137th Inf.