

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INF REGT
IPW 60

27 Feb 45

18 PW from following units:

1st Co, 343 Regt, 183 VG Div
3d Co, " " " "
Hq Co, 330 Regt " " "
1st Co, 219 Anti-Tank Bn, 183 VG Div
3d Co (Army AA) 219 Bn
Fortress Anti-Tank Co 20/10

1st Co 343 Regt: Before attack strength was about 40 men armed w/5 MG Co CO Lt Frel: CO 1st Bn Capt. Spalkhafer. CP Co had been in church in HUECKELHOVEN.

PW was from group of 7 men providing small arms cover for an AT gun at 946733; infantry component ordered to withdraw back to HUECKELHOVEN, leaving AT gun: were captured attempting to evacuate wounded.

3d Co., 343 Regt: Company consisted of two platoons each with approximately 20 men strength. 1st Plat had position in DOVERACH and 2nd around mine just north of DOVERACH. Had 2 HMG in last house W side of DOVERACH-HUECKELHOVEN road which they were unable to fire because of heavy arty: HMG abandoned in this house. Trains of this company are in HOFEN.

Hq Co., 330 Regt: PW has been AWOL from this company for 6 weeks during which time he has been with 4th Co, 343 Regt. The Hq Co had been sent forward to aid in defense of HEINZBERG in Jan and was completely scattered. Since this time PW has been with infantry howitzer platoon, 4th Co, 343 Regt.

PW believes that 330 Regt about completely wiped out in HEINZBERG battle. Unit had been reformed in December.

Weapons remaining yesterday in 4th Co, 343 Regt were two 75mm infantry howitzer (2 having been lost); these were in GOKRATH. They are horse drawn and have 3-man crews. Also in GOKRATH were 3 120 mortars, 6 80mm mortars and some HMG, all this equipment having been sent there two nights ago.

Trains of company are in HOFEN.

PW says there is an SS officer with each bn of the regt.

1st Co, 219 AT Bn: This company has no more AT guns. 9 were lost at DRENNEN early in January and the remaining 3 were lost yesterday. One of these three at 946742 was destroyed by the crew who were all subsequently wounded by direct arty hit. Two AT guns were left intact at 944745. The guns were all tractor drawn 75mm. At DRENNEN 30 to 40 men of this Co were lost leaving a strength of 40 men, all of whom except 18 were at the trains. Each gun has 6 man crew.

Trains had been in BELLINGHOFFEN (013750) but had left for unknown destination after heavy bombing two days ago during which 4 men were killed and some wounded. Trains consisted of 12 small tractors, 1 personal carrier, 12 motorcycles and 1 horse.

Six days ago there was an ammo depot in THUMBIT woods at 610737.

2d Co of this Bn had 6 75mm assault guns and 3d Co had 9 37mm AA guns. PW has not heard of these companies since early January. CP 1st Bn, 351 Regt to which this Co was attached was in RR

station at DOVYAN and moved yesterday to pill box on side of
HUCKELNOVEN - BINDLING road.

CP of 1st Co, #19 AT Bn in house at 946746.

3d Co (Army AA) 219 Bn: Co had 8 37mm AA guns which left HUCKELNOVEN
in direction of RHEVOT about 20 Feb.

PT states that composition of this battalion, formed four weeks
ago, was as follows: 1st Co was infantry for close protection
of other companies. 2d Co had artillery (est) 150. 3d Co had
9 37mm AA guns, and 4th Co was an engineer unit. Mission of the
AA Co was protection of arty at 949755.

Co CO is Lt Pestan.

Fortress Anti-Tank Co 20/10: Company equipped with 12 76.2mm
Russian AT guns. Guns were horse drawn but Co had no more horses.
CP in GEMEREN. Adjacent similar unit to the right (N) was AT Co
8/10. Co of 8/10 is Capt Voroschek.

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INFANTRY REGT.
IPW TEAM #60

27 Feb. 45

117 PW

330th Regt (1st Bn. Hq., 1st Company, 6th Company, and 4th Company)
1st Bn. Hq.: The regiment consists of 2 battalions. Three days ago
2nd Bn. had the mission of counterattacking to retake BAAL. The Regi-
mental CP went with the 2nd Bn., and the 1st Bn. was attached to the
343 Regt. since that time. CO of 1st Bn. was Capt. Wolf. As last known
Bn. CP was in pill box in SIEDLUNG HUECKELHOFEN. Yesterday morning,
Capt. Wolf received urgent order from Regt. for companies to withdraw
to SCHAUFFENBERG.

PW from this unit was severely wounded in last war and classified
4-F. All such persons have been put in VG Divisions.

1st Co., 330th Regt.: Strength today was 50 men, 4 or 5 light
machine guns, and several small bazookas. CO is Lt. Sperrhagel.
Company had mission counterattacking at DOVEREN on 24 February, but
the attack collapsed under small arms fire and company was disorgan-
ized. The 3rd Company took part in the counterattack and suffered the
same fate. 2nd Company is supposed to be in reserve north of HILFARTH.
The last replacements received by the 330th Regt. were 140 men who
arrived on 2 February.

4th Co., 330th Regt.: Strength of company is 70 men, with 2 heavy
machine guns, 6 80mm mortars, and 2 120mm mortars. CO is Lt. Kerkhof.
Company was ordered yesterday to withdraw from RATHEIM to ALTMYHL, which
seems to be a concentration point for withdrawing units.

The 1st Bn. of the 985th Regt. of the 275 VG Division was transferred
to the 330th Regt. two weeks ago and distributed throughtout the Regt.
The 275 VG Division no longer exists.

Hq. Co., 343 Regt.: Hq. Co. consists of 40 bicyclists, 10 to 15
engineers, 10 to 15 signal men, and headquarters personnel. Regt. is
commanded by Col. Radke. Division commander, Gen. IANKE, was replaced
a week ago by Col. WARRELMANN. CP of the Regt. was to be moved to
GERNHOF (9678) today.

PW was told that the last mines were laid in HUECKELHOFEN and between
this town and BAAL; there are no mines in the SCHAUFFENBERG area. There
is a car with abandoned radio equipment in SCHAUFFENBERG at 93457540;
radio communication has not been used in this area because of wired pill-
boxes.

Until 4 days ago, Division CP was in NOHENBUSCH.

4th Co., 343 Regt.: Armed with 2 case-mated 120mm mortars, 2 75mm
infantry nowitzers, and 6 80mm mortars. The case-mated mortars were
destroyed because they could not be moved; the infantry nowitzers were
taken to GOLKRATH yesterday; 2 of the 80mm mortars were discarded along
with the 80mm ammunition, and the remainder were taken to SCHAUFFENBERG.
Strength of the company was 30 men.

13th Co., 343 Regt.: Strength is 45 men. Consists of 2 platoons of
120mm mortars (5 mortars), 1 platoon with 2 75mm horse-drawn howitzers,
1 Sound and Flash platoon, and 1 platoon with 3 120mm case-mated mortars
(destroyed yesterday). Company is commanded by Lt. Helwig. 3 of the

heavy mortars have been rescued but are carried by the men, because all the horses were captured in KLEIN GIADBACH. Of the other 2 mortars, 1 was destroyed by artillery fire and the other by a muzzle burst. The Sound and Flash platoon was committed as Infantry for protection of the mortars.

PW from this unit observed an SS officer supervising mine-laying and was warned by this officer not to use the road which leads from the railroad station at HUECKELHOFEN running parallel to the tracks and east of them for a stretch of about 1 kilometer. Mines were also laid in the fields east of this road.

219 Arty. Regt.: 50 men of Hq. Battery, 4th Bn., mostly foreigners, were committed as Infantry three days ago. Another group of about 20 men from various firing batteries of the Regt. were committed at the same time in a "Punishment Platoon". The 4th Bn. is commanded by Major STROBL and CP was last known to be in GENSEKEN (phon.).

Fortress Anti-Tank Companies: 2 such companies formed for area defense have been encountered. Each originally had 12 76.2mm horse-drawn Russian Anti-Tank guns. Practically all are now in our hands.

219 Truck Company, 183 Division: This company is part of the 219th Supply Regiment (Division train). The company has 80 men and 35 trucks. One-third of these are wood-burners, 1/3 are Diesel, and 1/3 burn gasoline. The latter have been immobile for some time. They include several captured American and Russian trucks. The trucks were last seen 18 Feb. in BECKRATH (054798). The company is commanded by Lt. Klemmt. The Supply Regt. is commanded by Major Von MOSSIG. The CP of the Regt. is in BECKRATH at CR 058801.

PW from this company was a Czech and in civilian life was an engineer. Before the war he aided Jews to escape from Germany to Czechoslovakia until his secretary betrayed him and he was put in a concentration camp. He bribed his way out of camp and was drafted into the army. In Sept. 1944 he attempted to disable himself by burning his feet with sulphuric acid, but it was discovered that his injuries were self-inflicted and he was prosecuted with the probably result being a death sentence. Before the sentence was adjudged, it was discovered that he had also sabotaged 5 army trucks. He was put in the Punishment Platoon of the Division, assigned hard physical work, and in general was mistreated. (Name of PW is Josef Zapeletal.)

PW discloses that ERKELENZ is heavily mined and German motor traffic had to detour around the city. There is a mine depot in woods between RHEINDT and RHEINDAHLER. The code name for this depot is MONICA-2. MONICA 1, another mine depot, is to the left and right of road at 970813. These are depots for Teller and Rail mines.

There is a heavily mined area around the water tower in WICKRATH. These mines were laid by Corps engineers stationed in the town. There are also mined obstacles and prepared demolitions on the road BECKRATH-WICKRATH. A 300-yard stretch of road centering at 948718 from the ROER River to DOVERHEIDE was heavily mined 20 January.

On 18 Feb. an SS unit was observed in BECKRATH.

The railroad station at ODENKIRCHEN (097828) is an ammunition DP.

A Class 1 Supply Depot at HOLTUM (997812).

INTERROGATION REPORT
134TH INFANTRY REGT.
IPW TEAM #60

27 Feb. 45

117 PW

330th Regt (1st Bn. Hq., 1st Company, 6th Company, and 4th Company)
1st Bn. Hq.: The regiment consists of 2 battalions. Three days ago 2nd Bn. had the mission of counterattacking to retake BAAL. The Regimental CP went with the 2nd Bn., and the 1st Bn. was attached to the 343 Regt. since that time. CO of 1st Bn. was Capt. Wolf. As last known Bn. CP was in pill box in SIEDLUNG HUECKELHOFEN. Yesterday morning, Capt. Wolf received urgent order from Regt. for companies to withdraw to SCHAUFFENBERG.

PW from this unit was severely wounded in last war and classified 4-F. All such persons have been put in VG Divisions.

1st Co., 330th Regt.: Strength today was 50 men, 4 or 5 light machine guns, and several small bazookas. CO is Lt. Sperrhagel. Company had mission counterattacking at DOVEREN on 24 February, but the attack collapsed under small arms fire and company was disorganized. The 3rd Company took part in the counterattack and suffered the same fate. 2nd Company is supposed to be in reserve north of HILFARTH. The last replacements received by the 330th Regt. were 140 men who arrived on 2 February.

4th Co., 330th Regt.: Strength of company is 70 men, with 2 heavy machine guns, 6 80mm mortars, and 2 120mm mortars. CO is Lt. Kerkhof. Company was ordered yesterday to withdraw from HATHEIM to ALTMYHL, which seems to be a concentration point for withdrawing units.

The 1st Bn. of the 985th Regt. of the 275 VG Division was transferred to the 330th Regt. two weeks ago and distributed throughout the Regt. The 275 VG Division no longer exists.

Hq. Co., 343 Regt.: Hq. Co. consists of 40 bicyclists, 10 to 15 engineers, 10 to 15 signal men, and headquarters personnel. Regt. is commanded by Col. Radke. Division commander, Gen. LANGE, was replaced a week ago by Col. WARRELMANN. CP of the Regt. was to be moved to GENHOF (9678) today.

PW was told that the last mines were laid in HUECKELHOFEN and between this town and BAAL: there are no mines in the SCHAUFFENBERG area. There is a car with abandoned radio equipment in SCHAUFFENBERG at 93457540: radio communication has not been used in this area because of wired pill-boxes.

Until 4 days ago, Division CP was in HOHENBUSCH.

4th Co., 343 Regt.: Armed with 2 case-mated 120mm mortars, 2 75mm infantry nowitzers, and 6 80mm mortars. The case-mated mortars were destroyed because they could not be moved; the infantry nowitzers were taken to GOLKRATH yesterday; 2 of the 80mm mortars were discarded along with the 80mm ammunition, and the remainder were taken to SCHAUFFENBERG. Strength of the company was 30 men.

13th Co., 343 Regt.: Strength is 45 men. Consists of 2 platoons of 120mm mortars (5 mortars), 1 platoon with 2 75mm horse-drawn howitzers, 1 Sound and Flash platoon, and 1 platoon with 3 120mm case-mated mortars (destroyed yesterday). Company is commanded by Lt. Helwig. 3 of the

heavy mortars have been rescued but are carried by the men, because all the horses were captured in KLEIN GIADBACH. Of the other 2 mortars, 1 was destroyed by artillery fire and the other by a muzzle burst. The Sound and Flash platoon was committed as Infantry for protection of the mortars.

PW from this unit observed an SS officer supervising mine-laying and was warned by this officer not to use the road which leads from the railroad station at HUECKELHOFEN running parallel to the tracks and east of them for a stretch of about 1 kilometer. Mines were also laid in the fields east of this road.

219 Arty. Regt.: 50 men of Hq. Battery, 4th Bn., mostly foreigners, were committed as Infantry three days ago. Another group of about 20 men from various firing batteries of the Regt. were committed at the same time in a "Punishment Platoon". The 4th Bn. is commanded by Major STROBL and CP was last known to be in GENEKEN (phon.).

Fortress Anti-Tank Companies: 2 such companies formed for area defense have been encountered. Each originally had 12 76.2mm horse-drawn Russian Anti-Tank guns. Practically all are now in our hands.

219 Truck Company, 183 Division: This company is part of the 219th Supply Regiment (Division train). The company has 80 men and 35 trucks. One-third of these are wood-burners, 1/3 are Diesel, and 1/3 burn gasoline. The latter have been immobile for some time. They include several captured American and Russian trucks. The trucks were last seen 18 Feb. in BECKRATH (054798). The company is commanded by Lt. Klembt. The Supply Regt. is commanded by Major Von MOSSIG. The CP of the Regt. is in BECKRATH at CR 058801.

PW from this company was a Czech and in civilian life was an engineer. Before the war he aided Jews to escape from Germany to Czechoslovakia until his secretary betrayed him and he was put in a concentration camp. He bribed his way out of camp and was drafted into the army. In Sept. 1944 he attempted to disable himself by burning his feet with sulphuric acid, but it was discovered that his injuries were self-inflicted and he was prosecuted with the probably result being a death sentence. Before the sentence was adjudged, it was discovered that he had also sabotaged 5 army trucks. He was put in the Punishment Platoon of the Division, assigned hard physical work, and in general was mistreated. (Name of PW is Josef Zapeletal.)

PW discloses that ERKELENZ is heavily mined and German motor traffic had to detour around the city. There is a mine depot in woods between RHEYDT and RHEINDAHLEN. The code name for this depot is MONICA-2. MONICA 1, another mine depot, is to the left and right of road at 970813. These are depots for Teller and Rail mines.

There is a heavily mined area around the water tower in WICKRATH. These mines were laid by Corps engineers stationed in the town. There are also mined obstacles and prepared demolitions on the road BECKRATH-WICKRATH. A 300-yard stretch of road centering at 948718 from the ROER River to DOVERHEIDE was heavily mined 20 January.

On 18 Feb. an SS unit was observed in BECKRATH.

The railroad station at ODENKIRCHEN (097828) is an ammunition DP. A Class 1 Supply Depot at HOLTUM (997812).