

# SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 127TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION  
APO #35 US ARMY

**DOWNGRADED TO** JANUARY 1945  
**CLASSIFICATION REMOVED**  
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG HJK

UNIT: Jumbo

Period from 0001 1 Dec 44 to 2359 31 Dec 44 16 Jul 46 HED  
Date Initials

SUBJECT: Action against Enemy, reports after/ after Action Reports. (Dec 44)

TO : The Adjutant General, U S Army, Washington, D. C. (Thru Channels)

1. In compliance with AR 345-105 and c-3 thereto the following report is submitted:

Positions were maintained in Hellimer France on the 1st and 2nd of December and fires were delivered in support of 35th Infantry and 6th Armored Division on towns of Heckenransbach, St Hubert and Sarrable.

At 0830 3 December CSMO was given by Battalion Commander and a move of 3 miles was made to St Jean Rohrbach. Mission continued the same. First artillery round from 35th Division to be fired into Germany was fired by No 3 gun B Btry at 1436 4 Dec 44 from positions just east of St Jean Rohrbach. The lanyard, sending out the first round, was pulled by Col Butler B Miltonberger Commanding Officer, 134th Infantry. For the second round by Lt Col Robert L Thompson Jr Commanding Officer, 127th Field Artillery Bn and for the 3rd round by Lt Col Beldon S-3 Division Artillery. A fourth round was sent out by Lt Col Scott 35th Division Quartermaster. Several additional rounds were fired by members of the gun crew.

A move of 6 miles was made on 5 December and positions occupied 900 meters NE of Heckenransbach. On 6 December at 1120 the Battalion fired its first Battalion concentration of 24 rounds into Germany; scoring a target hit on an enemy battery.

7 - 15 Dec 44 - Positions at Neufgrange supporting the Division in establishing positions across the Saar river. Missions consisted of counterbattery harassing and fires against armored counterattacks. During the period 2 artillery demonstrations were attended by the Battalion Executive Officer and Assistant S-3 respectively. 14 Dec marked the 30,000th round of ammunition fired by this Battalion since entering combat.

On 16 Dec a move of 7 miles was made to town of Neunkirch. These positions were occupied thru 22 Dec. Enemy resistance was very stiff during this period and the bulk of missions fired were in repulsing enemy counterattacks.

From the 1 Dec to 22 Dec inclusive a total of 7261 rounds were expended against the enemy. Units supported included besides the Division, the 6th Armored Division and the 2nd Cavalry.

On 22 Dec the Division was relieved from the Saarguemines area and at 1530 CSMO was given. The Battalion arrived in Division billeting area in Metz at 2130. The 23rd, 24th, and 25th Dec were spent in Metz the time being spent in much needed motor maintenance and personnel adjustment.

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JUL 23 1945

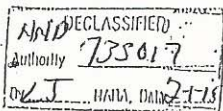
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Ltr Hq 127th FA Bn, Subj: Action against enemy, reports after/ after Action  
Reports dtd 1 Jan 45 contd---

It Yates, Liaison Pilot was presented the 4th Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal at Metz on 24 Dec 44.

On 26 Dec the Battalion became an organic part of III Corps and departed to take part in the attack on the south flank of the German breakthrough in Luxembourg and Belgium. During the trip the Battalion passed thru the NE corner of Belgium and arrived at Bigonville Luxembourg at 2050. Distance marched 99.5 miles. Liaison was established with 219th Field Artillery Bn and mission became support of 137th Infantry CT.

Battalion continued in support of 137th CT thru 28 Dec. Very little resistance was met initially and missions consisted of fires on isolated groups of enemy infantry. An Air Medal Oak Leaf Cluster was presented to Charles J Fitzgerald Aerial Observer at Bigonville on 28 Dec and Bronze Stars were presented to Tec 5 Carter, Tec 5 McGriff and Pvt Manning on this same date and plade for exceptionally meritorious service on 22 Nov 44.

On 29 Dec action became much heavier and missions were fired against tanks with excellent effect. Many dead Germans were found dressed in American uniform worn over the German uniform. Col Thompson departed on reconnaissance at 0930 and at 1612 movement order was given. A march of 10 miles was made and positions occupied in Surre Luxembourg. Enroute the column was delayed by icy roads. Each tractor and gun had to be winched approximately 300 yards to get up a hill into Tintage. Vigorous efforts are being made to obtain rubber tracks for the tractors as they are much more satisfactory for icy surface.

An increasing number of rounds were fired on 30th and 31st Dec into enemy assembly areas and in repulse of counterattacks. On the 31st the Battalion fired 1036 rounds which is more than it has fired on any 24 hour period in the campaign. A total of 1991 rounds were fired for the period 23 to 31 Dec making a grand total for the month of 9252 rounds.

Status of supply and morale of troops for month of December has been Excellent: Casualties, KIA - 0, MIA - 0, WIA - 13; Prisoners of War Captured - 0.

For the Commanding Officer:

*Paul V Campbell*  
PAUL V CAMPBELL  
WOJG, U S A  
Assistant Adjutant

Incls - 1  
Unit Journal w/allied papers.

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