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Auth: CG 35th Inf Div

Initials *Ryk*Date *11 Nov 44*
1 November 1944HEADQUARTERS 35TH DIVISION ARTILLERY
APO 35, US Army

SUBJECT: Action against Enemy, Report after Action No. 4.

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

1. Reference to Par 10, c 3, AR 345-105; the following after battle report covering Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 35th Division Artillery, APO 35, 7 PM, New York, N.Y. is submitted for period 0001, 1 Oct 44 to 2400 31 Oct 44.

T. L. Futch
T. L. FUTCH
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

Incls - 8

1. G-3 Reports
2. S-3 Reports
3. S-2 Reports, Worksheets, and Messages
4. 35th Div Arty Journal
5. Reports of TD Section
6. Air Liaison Reports and Statistics
7. Misc: FO #6, Hq 35th Div Arty, 7 Oct 44.
List of Coordinates to accompany Defensive Fire Plan, 13 Oct 44.
FO, Hq 35th Div 6 Oct 44
Memo - Notes for Bn Comdr, 18 Oct 44
8. Awards and Decorations

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~~RESTRICTED~~AFTER ACTION REPORT
HQ 35TH DIV ARTY
APO 35, US ArmyBPD
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1 November 1944

INTRODUCTORY: This report covers the factual accounts of the operations of this headquarters in combat from October 1, 1944 to October 31, 1944 and is based on a day by day account of the operations of the S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4, Anti-Tank Section, and Air Liaison Sections. Operations of attached organic and separate battalions will be covered in reports from their respective headquarters.

FACTUAL DATA:

1. Organic Battalions of 35th Division Artillery:

127th FA Bn, 155mm How. M1 Medium Battalion.

CT 320th with 216th FA Bn, 105mm How.

CT 137th with 219th FA Bn, 105mm How.

CT 134th with 161st FA Bn, 105mm How.

2. Strength: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery 35th Div. Arty.

T/O, Officers 20, WO 1, EM 108.Actual, Officers 20, WO 1, EM 104.

3. Casualties:

Killed 0.Sick, gassed, or wounded 3.Evacuated 3.4. Awards: Bronze Star Medal 9.Bronze Star (Oak-Leaf Cluster) 2.Soldier's Medal 2.Air Medal (Oak-Leaf Cluster) 4.

5. No prisoners were captured.

6. Officers and assignments, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery

35th Division Artillery:

Division Artillery Commander

Brig Gen T. L. Futch

" " Executive

Col R. A. Ellsworth

" " S-3

Lt Col Hugh Belden

" " S-1 & S-4

Maj Forrest H Hagenbuch

" " S-2

Maj Thomas W Ross

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Division Artillery A-T

"	"	Air Liaison	Maj George R Allin
"	"	Asst S-3	Maj James N Davidson
"	"	Asst S-2	Capt Franklin J Downing
"	"	Asst S-1	1st Lt Arthur C Waters
"	"	Aide-de-Camp	1st Lt James E Judson
"	"	Aide-de-Camp	1st Lt Myron Linz
"	"	Pilot	1st Lt Carl F Maples
"	"	Pilot	Capt William F Hesselbach
"	"	Surgeon	1st Lt Henry A Roseberry
"	"	Dental O	Maj Chester B Thrift
"	"	Chaplain	Capt James H Stageman
"	"	Chaplain	Capt Gerhard L Belgium
"	"	Com O	Capt Laforest E Hodgkins
"	"	Asst Com O	Capt Marvin A Jones
"	"	Motor Officer	1st Lt Fred H Baker
"	"		CWO Clifford D Mullis

0001.1 Oct 44

The 35th Infantry Division, as part of the XII Corps, began the month of October in a defensive situation that was to remain as such during the entire month. For orientation: The division occupied a defensive position about 15 kilometers Northeast of Nancy, and was flanked on the left, or Northwest by the 80th Infantry Division, and on the right, or Southeast by the 4th Armored Div. Division. The 6th Armored Division meanwhile near the end of the month of September had withdrawn from the Division sector during which time the infantry of the 35th Division had not completed occupation of the MLR. The withdrawal of the 6th Armored caused a certain amount of suspicion so the Germans launched an attack from the East through Chambrey and were finally halted after taking part of the MLR. The mission of the 35th Division, then, was to retake this

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ground lost and establish the MLR. The 134th Inf held positions on the left or Northwest of the Division sector and the 137th Inf held positions on the right or Southeast of the sector. The 320th Inf, in the meantime was in reserve.

The 35th Division Artillery, reinforced by the 182nd Group was coordinated for the attack to take place 1 Oct 1944 to fulfill the division mission, as follows: The 161st FA Bn reinforced by the 255th FA Bn (182nd Group) in direct support of 134th Infantry; the 216th FA Bn direct support of the 320th Inf; the 219th FA Bn reinforced by the 802nd FA (182nd Gp) in direct support of the 137th Inf; the 127th FA Bn and 752nd FA, 945th FA (both 182nd Gp Bns) were in general support.

The general plan of attack was as follows. The 6th Armored Division was to send armor in advance of the infantry to the East toward Chambrey and the North toward Fresnes. The 137th Inf to attack to the East and the 320th Inf to attack to the North, both infantry regiments following the armor. The artillery with the division supported the attack firing on enemy batteries, interdiction and harassing fires, and known enemy locations. Close coordination was maintained with the armor by direct liaison with the armored artillery and by close surveillance by liaison planes. Nine enemy batteries were fired on with air observation with good results on six, and destruction on three. A total of 1523 rounds were fired during the period.

General information: The artillery of the division were particularly careful in occupation of positions and camouflage in and around the positions was reported excellent by the air observers. Alternate positions were selected and dummy positions were erected. Plans were started to make the men as comfortable as possible and men were encouraged to build shelters and prepare the positions for bad weather ahead. With such a defensive mission, this gave the mechanics and the supply sergeants time to catch up on vital inspections and maintenance and issue of clothing for the winter months ahead. The 6,000

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mile maintenance on vehicles was immediately started and care of material had first priority. In general the artillery of the division was located as follows: The 127th FA Bn vic of Bioncourt; the 219th FA Bn vic of Attilloncourt; the 216th FA Bn vic of Bioncourt, and the 161st FA Bn vic of Lanfroicourt. Division Artillery Headquarters and Headquarters Battery remained in Amance during the entire month.

2 Oct 44

In coordination with the attack the 231st FA reinforced fires of the 161st FA Bn and the 128th FA reinforced fires of the 216th FA Bn. These two battalions, being part of the 6th Armored Division Artillery were to assume these missions when the armor was withdrawn from the division right flank. During the period the air OP directed fire on three enemy batteries, one AT gun, one AA position and various enemy infantry concentrations on the division front. Harrassing and interdiction fires at night were stepped up greatly due to an increase in enemy activity at night along the front. The objectives of the infantry and armored were reached entirely by the night of 2 Oct 44 and infantry began immediately to prepare the MLR to prevent a repetition of what had happened before. With the objectives reached the infantry generally held a line as follows: Vic Chambrey North to area S of Fresnes en Saulnois then West to area vic of Jallaucourt (the entire Foret de Gremecey was occupied by our infantry) hence NW vic Malaucourt and then to vic of Fossieux. A total of 1697 rounds were fired during the period.

3 Oct 44

To increase the number of harassing and interdiction fires at night and further to strike a variety of road networks and towns, the practice of using one gun for this type of mission was instituted. To keep enemy sound units from locating our artillery missions were fired simultaneously and on a Corps time fire plan which listed times most desirable for firing throughout the Corps area. Reports from patrols and FO's stated that these fires were very

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effective and caught several enemy horsedrawn columns and foottroops out in the open with heavy losses inflicted. During an air strike marked by our artillery, enemy artillery fired smoke into our area to try and confuse the friendly aircraft. Several TOT missions were fired on towns and concentrated enemy troops with effective results. A total of 880 rounds were fired during the period.

4 Oct 44

During the early morning first evidence of heavy enemy artillery presented itself with three rounds of heavy caliber (assumed 288mm) weapon which landed vic Btry B, 161st FA Bn. There were no duds but huge shell fragments and holes were good enough evidence that we must locate and destroy that particular weapon. Harassing and interdiction fires continued to prove very effective as evidenced by one PW report that the fire of the previous night had almost decimated his platoon on the highway East of Chambrey, and when lifted 300 yards neutralized the main body of his battalion. During the period targets consisted of a few enemy batteries, MG positions, enemy AAA positions, foot troops and a few vehicles. With the division in the defensive the general plan of artillery was to keep hitting strong enemy points and hindering any possible attempt to group for an attack. The artillery thus desired to keep the offensive throughout. The defensive fire plan as attached in the inclosures was amended to include the new infantry gains. During the afternoon division and corps artillery fired intensive harassing fires in the Bois de la Marchande Foret, Coutures, woods SE of Coutures, Chateau Salins, Salennes, Olimpre Farm and high ground East of Salennes vic of Haute Borne. A total of 1129 rounds were expended during the period.

5 Oct 44

During the night 4-5 Oct 44 more harassing and interdiction fires were placed on points mentioned above. The 654th TD Bn was still operating effectively

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with the division and was segregated as follows: A Co in direct support of 134th Inf; B Co in support of 137th Inf and C Co in support of both the 137th Inf and the 320th Inf Regiments. Following the desire of the Division Commander to make the enemy think that we planned an attack and thus to hinder their operations, one platoon of B Co fired six concentrations of indirect fire and then moved around area making considerable noise to give impression of tanks moving into position for an attack. The 448th AAA Bn continued to give constant AA protection being divided out and attached direct to the FA Bns. Two sections of the AAA were placed at this time in position vic of 137th Inf sector with secondary mission of AT defense. At 1430 the 255th FA which had been reinforcing the fires of the 35th Div Arty was released from their mission and moved out of the sector. The artillery plan was changed thus as follows; the 802nd FA Bn reinforce fires of the 161st FA Bn from their present positions, the 219th FA Bn reinforce fires of the 216th FA Bn, and the medium battalions remained unchanged. Following a rotation plan the 137th Inf had been withdrawn from the line and remained in reserve, with the 320th Inf occupying their sector. Several TOT missions were fired in the 134th Inf front, three being fired in the 320th Inf front. Possible attack from the north by the enemy was present at this time, and all FA Bns were ordered to register to the North in the vicinity of Foussieux prior to darkness in order to be able to stop an attack from that area. The 219th FA Bn and the 216th FA Bn further ordered to relay in their sector after registering vic Foussieux. Other units were ordered to remain laid in that direction of North. A total of 961 rounds were fired.

6 Oct 44

Co B, 654th TD Bn relieved of support of the 137th Inf Regiment, now in support of the 320th Inf. The tempo of enemy fires increased during the period and likewise our own harassing and interdiction increased during the night of 5-6 Oct 44. Contrary to all beliefs there was little activity on the front

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during the period. Targets during the day consisted of a few observed fires on scattered enemy vehicles and tanks and small parties of enemy personnel. An attack for the 8th of Oct was planned and the artillery was ordered to register to the North by dark, 7 Oct after which they would revert to their former missions until the attack started. Essentially the attack was aimed at straightening out the line vic of the 35th and 80th Inf boundary vic of Fossieux and gaining the original MLR as planned. During the period a total of 771 rounds were fired

7 Oct 44

A 24 hour daily schedule of harassing and interdiction fires was drawn up and put into effect. An assembly of tanks was broken up by fire from the 219th FA Bn and ground haze limited the firing during the period. The arty fire plan for the division attack in conjunction with the armor on the 8th of Oct at 0615 was as follows: The 161st FA Bn reinforced by the 802nd FA in direct support of the 134th Inf, the 219th FA Bn and the 216th FA Bn reinforcing attack on division left flank and direct support of the 320th Inf. The 127th FA Bn and 945th FA in general support. During the attack the 219th FA Bn and the 216th FA Bn were ordered to leave one howitzer for each battalion laid in their normal zone and continue firing interdiction and harassing during the attack, and these two battalions were further alerted to be able to fire entire battalion in their normal zone on five minute alert. The general plan of the infantry was to follow the armor to Fossieux after which a battalion of the 137th Inf would be committed to man that part of the line. Harassing and interdiction missions were maintained during the night. A total of 1170 rounds were fired.

8 Oct 44

The division attack on Fossieux was preceded by a one hour counterbattery schedule in conjunction with corps arty during which approximately 72 known enemy battery positions were fired on by medium and heavy artillery. The

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light artillery battalions fired a 40 minute preparation beginning at 0530 on Malaucourt, Fossieux, Bois-la-Juree woods, Hill 282 S of Fresnes and Jallaucourt. TOT missions were fired on Arraye-et-Han, Ajoncourt, Chenicourt beginning at 0615. All Bns fired on bridges on the Seille River. The attack jumped off according to schedule and proceeded without too much opposition. A Co of the 654th TD Bn was moved forward in direct support of the 134th Inf while other companies remained the same. One M-10 was put out of action by enemy artillery fire. During the day following the fire on enemy batteries only seven shell Reps were received indicating that the fire was effective on the enemy batteries. During the period liaison planes maintained constant air surveillance although the ceiling was dangerously low. A total of 2561 rounds were fired in the attack.

9 Oct 44

Shell Reps received during the night 8-9 Oct indicated the heavy enemy artillery piece was again directing its fire toward the 127th FA Bn and the 216th FA Bn. Harassing and interdiction fires during all this period were maintained consistently in conformance with the arty plan. The principle action of the day was against an enemy tank threat in the vic of Fossieux where various concentrations of enemy tanks, mortars, assembly areas were reported. Initially 7 enemy tanks were dispersed and turned back by artillery fire, while the friendly TD's knocked out two and set fire to another one. This action continued throughout the afternoon of the 9th and the morning of the 10th. Interdiction on the bridges of the Seille which had been consistent were stopped with the exception of two bridges at Delme where the rate of fire continued at 2 rounds per hour. A total of 1499 rounds were fired during this period of mopping up and consolidation of the gains to Fossieux by the infantry.

10 Oct 44

Continuing the mopping up process, the AOP neutralized two enemy batteries,

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while the fire of the 161st FA Bn broke up an enemy attack of foottroops in the 134th Inf area. During the night more rounds of the 288mm landed in the area and also outside Nancy vic of St Max, where the 35th Div Quartermaster was located. During the rest of the day normal missions were fired with the main enemy activity being in the left sector of the division front. Normal interdiction, harassing fires continued throughout area and also on the bridges at Aulnois and SE of Malaucourt. One liaison plane of the 127th FA Bn received MG fire, wounding both pilot and observer, however plane was landed behind our lines. A total of 1465 rounds were fired during the period.

11 Oct 44

No change in the organic or reinforcing artillery with normal missions during the period. The division sector was relatively quiet, A Co of the 654th TD Bn however, destroyed one MK VI tank and lost one M-10 by tank fire and one by artillery fire. At 1830 the fires of 8 battalions were massed on the town of Coutoures at the request of the 320th Inf who reported considerable enemy activity in the town at this time. Forward observers and Air OP's directed fire on small bodies of enemy infantry and on three enemy batteries. A total of 915 rounds were fired.

12 Oct 44

Area continued relatively quiet with no change in organization for combat, and normal artillery missions. Constant surveillance was maintained with very few targets observed. Four shell reps were received and three batteries were fired upon. This period of quiet aided immeasurably in resting the troops who have been in the line since July and proved valuable for maintenance. Rations were excellent during this entire period and morale was at a peak. Opportunity too presented itself for frequent trips to Nancy on a rotation basis for showers, greatly needed and appreciated by the troops. A total of 777 rounds were fired.

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13 Oct 44

No change in the organization for combat with artillery continuing performing normal missions of harassing and interdiction. Very few targets were fired upon including infantry dug in, enemy mortars and MG's, and few vehicles. At 131000 a 4 Bn TOT was placed on various points in the Bois-de-Aulnois SW of Lemoncourt; reports from the PW's stated that enemy troops still occupied this forest. The 752nd FA with the 182nd Gp was given the primary mission of reinforcing fires of XII Corps Arty and the secondary mission of reinforcing the fires of the 161st FA Bn. The 945th FA to reinforce the fires of the XII Corps Arty and secondary mission to reinforce fires of the 216th FA Bn. A total of 627 rounds were fired.

14 Oct 44

Missions and organization for combat remained the same with the division front relatively quiet. Targets fired upon consisted of two enemy mortar positions, two enemy battery positions, enemy vehicles and enemy MG positions. Strict ammunition economy ordered of all battalions upon receipt of letter attached HQ XII Corps restricting fires of the artillery to those, a. deemed necessary to maintenance of position and to reasonable protection of troops; b. routine fires to be only retaliatory--that is, we hand back what is received and; c. units will allow stockages in unit to become less than a basic load only in emergencies. This order naturally almost completely curtailed the fires of the artillery. A total for the day's firing 1732, a figure never reached the rest of the month.

15 Oct 44.

There was no change in the organization for combat and with the new allotments of ammunition very little firing. One TOT of 6 battalions was placed on the town of Amelicourt, following reports by PWs of a column of infantry moving into that town. Interdiction and harassing fires were held to an absolute minimum and a total of only 54 rounds were fired.

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16 Oct 44

With the relief of the 134th Inf by the 137th Inf a change in the organization of the artillery was ordered as follows; the 802nd FA reinforcing the 219th FA Bn in direct support of the 137th Inf; the 161st FA Bn reinforcing the 216th FA Bn in direct support of the 320th Inf. The 134th Inf at this time passed to division reserve. This rotation of the infantry placed the 137th Inf on the left or Northwest and the 320th Inf on the right or Southeast of the division area. This change in the infantry actually would have called for a change of the direct support artillery on the ground but this was easily solved by command liaison between units, with the result that no units had to displace. A total of 28 rounds were fired during the period.

17 Oct 44

With the drastic cut in the artillery ammunition all harassing and interdiction fires were completely stopped. The use of the tanks and the tank destroyers were at this time committed to their secondary mission. Two platoons of the 654th TD Bn were attached to the 127th FA Bn for their secondary mission to reinforce the fires of the division artillery. Requests for the fire of the TD's to be directed to the 127th FA Bn direct. Also two platoons of the 737th Tank Bn were ordered to reinforce the fires of the 216th FA Bn and one platoon to reinforce the 219th FA Bn. Survey and firing data were the responsibility of the 127th FA Bn and the direct support battalions. The Tanks and TD's during the rest of the month absorbed the majority of the harassing and interdiction fires during the day and the night. Survey was instituted for roving gun positions for the TD. The TD's fired 213 rounds of harassing and interdiction at request of direct support battalions, while the organic artillery fired 128 rounds.

18 Oct 44

One TOT mission was fired on the woods NE of Chambrey in conjunction with elements of XII Corps Arty. Tanks and TD's continued harassing and interdiction

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mission. Becoming very popular during this rather quiet period were the frequent movies held each day by Headquarters Battery accomodating two or three hundred soldiers each day from Headquarters Battery and Headquarters Company of Division. The food continued to remain excellent; tire patches were becoming very rare throughout the division artillery and several vehicles were deadlined because of this shortage which was to grow more acute near the end of the month. Issues of winter clothing and more blankets were warmly received by the enlisted personnel of division artillery as days became shorter and colder and wetter. A total of only 45 rounds were fired by the organic artillery while the TD's fired 226 rounds.

19 Oct 44

No change in organization for combat. Interdiction and harassing missions continued by 654th TD Bn and 737th Tk Bn consisting of 5 neutralization missions and 29 interdiction and harassing. A total of 199 rounds were expended by the TD's and organic artillery did not fire.

20 Oct 44

Units were alerted that Army planned to destroy the dam in vic of Dieuze effecting therefore the Seille River running through the division sector. Units on the Northeast of the river were ordered to have three days ammunition and ration supply on hand immediately. Meanwhile there was no change in the organization for combat. Organic and reinforcing battalions fired the equivalent of one battalion volley on targets including infantry dug in, Fresnes, and interdiction fire on points on roads in the Chateau Salins area. This was in addition to the normal harassing and interdiction fires of the tanks and TD's. The TD's fired 206 rounds during the period and organic artillery fired 96 rounds.

21 Oct 44

With the dam at Dieuze blown, the AOP reported that flood waters were spreading over the lowlands as far W as Marsal. There was quiet throughout the division front and no change in the organization for combat. The TD's

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and tanks continued their fire, firing 27 neutralization, 17 harassing, and 3 interdiction missions; the TD's firing a total of 207 rounds. Three organic battalions participated in TOT missions requested by 183rd Group Headquarters on enemy AAA installations and ground troops, firing a total of 181 rounds.

22 Oct 44

The flood waters continued to rise, however, with most of the effect still to the E of Chambrey on the Seille River. Engineers reported the progress to be 25 mile per hour. There was no change in the organization for combat and the tanks and TD's continued to fire harassing and interdiction missions with the TD's firing a total of 190 rounds. This continual fire by the tanks and TD's not only aided immeasurably in harassing the enemy but also gave tank and TD gun crews valuable practice with their weapons. The 216th, 161st and 127th FA Bns fired the equivalent of 1 battalion volley during the period on the Bois d'Aulnois Foret, Bois Juree Foret, the city of Fresnes, and the road runners on roads running to Fresnes, firing a total of 41 rounds.

23 Oct 44

The flood waters now began to effect the Seille in the division sector, with the water at Brin between 100 and 150 yards wide, however the road across the Brin bridge and leading into Bioncourt was still open for traffic. The 737th Tk Bn and the 654th TD Bn fired 7 interdiction, 6 neutralization and 36 harassing missions, including five platoon volleys during the night 23-24 by the TD's on the towns of Delme and Puzleux. The primary mission of the TD's at this time was as follows: A Co in direct support of the 137th Inf with B and C Co's in direct support of the 320th Inf. The TD's fired a total of 115 rounds on their secondary missions for division artillery. The use of these tanks and TD's proved to be a lifesaver to satisfy the requests of the infantry during this period of ammunition rationing. Organic artillery expended only 41 rounds.

24 Oct 44

The waters of the Seille continued to rise but caused no tactical or

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administrative problems for the division artillery. By this time the days activities were becoming highly repetitious; however, this time was needed by the division artillery for maintenance and administrative matters. On the division right flank the 4th Armored Division was relieved by the 26th Infantry Division; the 80th Division continued operating on the Division left flank. The TD's continued their secondary mission and fired a total of 218 rounds while the organic artillery expended 30 rounds.

25 Oct 44

The 134th Infantry in Division reserve was alerted to relieve the 320th Infantry and once again only command liaison was exchanged between units of the Division Artillery and no unit had to displace. The artillery was organized as follows; 802d FA Bn reinforcing 219th FA in direct support of 137th Infantry; 216th FA Bn reinforcing fires of 161st FA in direct support of 134th Infantry. The 752d FA (medium artillery with 182d Group) was given secondary mission of reinforcing fires of 219th FA, while the 945th FA (medium artillery with 182d Group) was given secondary mission of reinforcing fires of 161st FA Bn. The 161st FA and 802d FA fired a total of three missions during the period on enemy vehicles, tanks, and infantry. The tanks and TD's continued to fire and TD's expended a total of 296 rounds. Organic artillery fired a total of 19 rounds. During this lull in artillery activity, inspections between units were started by this headquarters, and likewise by Corps Artillery of our units. For Army information, units were requested to complete question and answer forms furnished by Army Artillery covering every phase of artillery information. During the latter part of the month Division Artillery Special Service Officer organized a small show with the Division band and special attractions including a Red Cross girl and a French damsel, and a plan was made to tour the Division area presenting

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the show during the last of October and first part of November.

26 Oct 44

With the increase in the rain and damp weather, units found that despite their preparations for wet weather, that they were still bogging down, and with the help of the 60th Engineers the 216th FA started construction on a corduroy road into the firing battery positions of the 216th FA to enable that unit to displace if and when necessary. The TD's and tanks continued their firing throughout the period, and the TD's fired a total of 310 rounds, while organic artillery fired 72 rounds firing two TOT's, one in each sector during the period at Bois Duree and Bois Grassy Woods.

27 Oct 44

During the early morning the firing of the tanks and TD's was curtailed due to a "Cease Firing" received from Corps, so as to enable Corps Sound units to try and locate the German 288 mm weapon, now considered to be a railroad gun. During the period the 161st FA fired one harassing mission and the 216th FA fired one neutralization. The 654th TD and 737th Tk Bn fired a total of 180 rounds and 1409 rounds respectively for a total of 23 harassing, 48 interdiction and 4 neutralization missions. Once again during the night of 27-28 Arty received "Cease Firing" from Corps to facilitate location of enemy 288 mm which was proving to be annoying to Corps and Army sectors. The 610th TD (with 90 mm) was alerted to move into a position vic of Mazierulles from which they would perform secondary mission for 35th Div Arty, fire missions to go to 182d Group. Organic artillery expended 25 rounds.

28 Oct 44

The 945th FA Bn was relieved of mission with 182d Group; however, remained in present location. Organic artillery remained the same organization for combat, and fired 7 neutralization and 2 harassing missions.

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The 654th TD Bn and 737th Tk Bn fired 22 Neutralization, 10 harassing and 34 interdiction missions firing 242 rounds and 952 rounds respectively. In addition to the above the 610th TD fired 25 harassing and interdiction missions for a total of 320 rounds. Instruction was begun on captured enemy weapons including the bazooka. Organic artillery expended 144 rounds.

29 Oct 44

The 752nd FA was relieved from mission with 182nd Group and the 738th FA (8" How) took the medium battalions place in the 182nd Group, on secondary mission with 35th Div Arty. Organic artillery expended 106 rounds firing 3 neutralization and 4 harassing missions. The 737th Tk Bn and 654th TD Bn fired 21 neutralization 32 interdiction and 24 harassing missions, firing 1956 and 286 rounds respectively. The 610th TD meanwhile fired 300 rounds on H and I missions on the front.

30 Oct 44

During the period there was relative quiet throughout the division sector, with organic artillery firing only 2 harassing mission, and 35 propaganda rounds, for a total of 12 rounds. The 654th TD Bn expended 272 rounds, the 737th Tk Bn expended 1704 rounds and the 610th TD Bn fired 18 missions for a total of 190 rounds.

31 Oct 44

During the day organic artillery fired 105 rounds bringing the total fired for the month to 19,134 and a total for operations in France since July 10th to 143,489. TD's and Tks continued to fire on harassing and interdiction missions, closing one of the quietest and least active months of this unit's operation in combat.

GENERAL: Officers and men of this headquarters and division artillery continued to perform their duties in an exemplary form and showed great enthusiasm in continuing the war to the finish. Many compliments were received during this period from the infantry who the division artillery had served during several months combat. Despite approaching winter and present wet weather, morale continued at an excellent level.

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Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
1 Oct	2	1:45			2	2:45
2 Oct	2	2:50	2	2:10	2	2:55
3 Oct			2	2:40	1	1:45
4 Oct			3	3:55	1	1:35
5 Oct			2	1:40		
6 Oct			4	4:55		
7 Oct			3	4:20	1	1:10
8 Oct			1	1:30	2	2:55
9 Oct	1	:30	2	2:25		
10 Oct					2	3:45
11 Oct			4	4:25		
12 Oct			4	4:50	3	5:15
13 Oct						
14 Oct	2	2:00	3	3:25		
15 Oct			3	3:55		
16 Oct						
17 Oct			2	2:30		
18 Oct			1	1:15		
19 Oct						
20 Oct			1	1:00	2	3:00
21 Oct	1	:40	3	3:00		
22 Oct	1	:45	3	:45		
23 Oct						
24 Oct			1	1:00		
25 Oct			1	1:00		
26 Oct			2	1:00		
27 Oct						
28 Oct	1	:45	4	3:30	1	1:30
29 Oct					2	2:25
30 Oct						
31 Oct	1	:40			1	1:15
TOTALS	11	9:55	51	54:10	20	30:15

127TH FA BN

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
1 Oct			2	1:45	1	1:35
2 Oct			3	3:15	3	3:42
3 Oct			4	4:55		
4 Oct			4	4:35	1	1:30
5 Oct			1	1:10		
6 Oct			4	4:45	1	1:15
7 Oct			3	3:45	1	1:30
8 Oct			5	6:55		
9 Oct			1	1:45	2	3:30
10 Oct					1	2:00
11 Oct			1	1:00	2	3:00
12 Oct			1	1:00	2	3:00
13 Oct			2	2:15	1	1:30
14 Oct			1	2:00	1	1:00

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Air Liaison Section

127TH FA BN (Contd)

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
15 Oct 44			2	2:30	1	1:00
16 Oct 44			1	1:00	1	1:00
17 Oct 44			1	1:20		
18 Oct 44			1	1:00	1	1:00
19 Oct 44						
20 Oct 44			3	3:45		
21 Oct 44			2	2:10		
22 Oct 44						
23 Oct 44	2	1:45				
24 Oct 44	2	1:10				
25 Oct 44	1	1:00	1	1:00		
26 Oct 44	1	1:00	1	1:15		
27 Oct 44	1	1:30				
28 Oct 44			4	4:00		
29 Oct 44			2	2:15	1	1:15
30 Oct 44						
31 Oct 44	1	:30	1	1:05	1	1:15
TOTALS	8	6:55	54	60:10	21	29:05

161ST FA BN

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
1 Oct 44			1	:45	1	1:20
2 Oct 44			1	1:15	3	3:55
3 Oct 44			2	2:50	4	5:05
4 Oct 44						
5 Oct 44					1	1:35
6 Oct 44			3	3:10	1	1:05
7 Oct 44			1	1:05	3	4:35
8 Oct 44	1	:25	2	2:05	3	4:55
9 Oct 44					2	2:15
10 Oct 44					2	1:55
11 Oct 44			3	3:50	1	1:55
12 Oct 44			1	1:15	2	2:25
13 Oct 44			1	1:15	4	5:10
14 Oct 44			3	3:40	1	1:10
15 Oct 44					3	3:35
16 Oct 44			1	1:10		
17 Oct 44					1	1:15
18 Oct 44			1	1:15		
19 Oct 44						
20 Oct 44			3	3:20		
21 Oct 44			1	1:10	1	1:30
22 Oct 44	1	:45				
23 Oct 44						
24 Oct 44			2	2:25		
25 Oct 44			1	1:05		
26 Oct 44			1	:45	1	1:25
27 Oct 44						
28 Oct 44			4	3:05	1	1:20
29 Oct 44	1	:20			1	:20
30 Oct 44						
31 Oct 44					1	1:15
TOTALS	3	1:30	34	36:40	34	46:25

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NARA Date

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RESTRICTED**Air Liaison Section (Contd)****216TH FA BN**

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
1 Oct			2	2:15	1	1:45
2 Oct			1	1:05	3	3:55
3 Oct			2	2:10	2	3:20
4 Oct			3	3:20	2	2:35
5 Oct						
6 Oct			4	4:35	2	3:55
7 Oct			4	4:30	1	1:30
8 Oct			3	3:45	1	1:50
9 Oct			2	2:30		
10 Oct			1	1:05		
11 Oct	1	2:00	2	2:15	2	2:55
12 Oct			2	2:15	2	2:45
13 Oct			4	4:35	1	1:05
14 Oct					1	1:35
15 Oct	2	2:20	1	1:05	1	1:15
16 Oct			2	2:15		
17 Oct	2	2:15	1	1:10	1	2:00
18 Oct			1	:40	1	1:00
19 Oct	2	2:40			1	1:30
20 Oct			1	:35	2	2:55
21 Oct			2	1:35	1	1:10
22 Oct	2	2:40			1	1:00
23 Oct						
24 Oct					1	1:30
25 Oct			2	1:40	1	1:05
26 Oct			2	2:10		
27 Oct						
28 Oct			3	3:05		
29 Oct	3	1:40				
30 Oct					1	1:45
31 Oct	1	:30	1	1:15	1	1:55
TOTALS	13	14:05	46	49:50	30	44:15

219TH FA BN

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
1 Oct			3	2:25	1	1:10
2 Oct			1	1:15	4	5:40
3 Oct			3	3:35	1	1:30
4 Oct			4	4:35		
5 Oct			2	2:05		
6 Oct			2	2:15	2	2:45
7 Oct			4	4:10	2	2:45
8 Oct			2	3:20	3	3:25
9 Oct			2	2:35		
10 Oct					2	3:00
11 Oct			3	3:35	1	1:15

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RESTRICTED**Air Liaison Section (Contd)****219TH FA BN (Contd)**

Date	CA	Time	CR	Time	CF	Time
12 Oct 44	1	:45	4	4:50		
13 Oct 44			4	4:25	1	1:15
14 Oct 44			1	1:15	1	2:00
15 Oct 44			4	4:25		
16 Oct 44			2	1:40		
17 Oct 44			2	2:00		
18 Oct 44			1	:40		
19 Oct 44			1	:35		
20 Oct 44			3	4:05		
21 Oct 44	1	:45	2	2:35		
22 Oct 44						
23 Oct 44			1	1:30		
24 Oct 44					1	1:00
25 Oct 44			1	1:00		
26 Oct 44			3	2:50	1	1:30
27 Oct 44	1	1:20				
28 Oct 44			4	3:20		
29 Oct 44			4	5:35		
30 Oct 44						
31 Oct 44			1	1:20	1	2:00
TOTALS	3	2:50	64	72:00	21	29:15

1. Missions flown by Air Sections during October 1944:

Administration	38	35:15
Reconnaissance	249	272:50
Fire Missions	126	179:15
Night Flying	0	0
Photo Missions	0	0
TOTALS	413	488:00

2. Aircraft and hours flown during October 1944:

Div Arty	43-30337	43:00
	43-30414	51:20
127th FA Bn	43-30296	44:00
	43-30406	52:15
161st FA Bn	43-30444	40:45
	43-29739	33:50
216th FA Bn	43-30195	45:15
	43-30261	62:55
219th FA Bn	43-29393	42:30
	43-30236	58:10

3. Aircraft Damage: 43-29739, Aircraft nosed over on takeoff, both wings torn and other damage, rudder broken, elevators and stabilizers bent and torn, wing struts bent. Cause of accident: Heavy ground fog and darkness causing pilot to become lost. Made forced landing to find directions, possible carburetor icing on takeoff.

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RESTRICTED**Air Liaison Section (Contd)****4. Pilot and Observer Losses:**

Hugh T Barber Jr, 1st Lt, O-551951, Pilot, and Charles H Birkett, 1st Lt, O-1164477, Observer, shot down by small arms fire while on reconnaissance patrol in vicinity of Fossieux on October 10, 1944.

5. Awards and Decorations, Air Section, during month:**Air Medal**

Maj James N Davidson	Pilot	Div Arty
Capt William F Hesselbach	Pilot	Div Arty
Capt Franklin J Downing	Observer	Div Arty
1st Lt Henry A Roseberry	Pilot	Div Arty
1st Lt John P Yates	Pilot	127th FA Bn
1st Lt Russell H Willer	Observer	127th FA Bn
2nd Lt Raymond P Johnson	Pilot	161st FA Bn
1st Lt Donald W Foe	Observer	161st FA Bn
1st Lt John L Cecil	Pilot	216th FA Bn
S/Sgt Billie J Pemberton	Pilot	216th FA Bn
1st Lt James E Dempsey	Pilot	219th FA Bn
1st Lt Mark J Stoeger	Pilot	219th FA Bn
1st Lt Harverd L Nevenzel	Observer	219th FA Bn

Oak-Leaf Clusters

Capt William F Hesselbach	Pilot	Div Arty
Capt Franklin J Downing	Observer	Div Arty
2nd Lt Raymond P Johnson	Pilot	161st FA Bn
1st Lt Donald W Foe	Observer	161st FA Bn
1st Lt John L Cecil	Pilot	216th FA Bn
S/Sgt Billie J Pemberton	Pilot	216th FA Bn
1st Lt Mark J Stoeger	Pilot	219th FA Bn
1st Lt Harverd L Nevenzel	Observer	219th FA Bn

Bronze Star Medal

T/3 Manual P Dias	Mechanic	216th FA Bn
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Purple Heart

1st Lt Hugh T Barber Jr.	Pilot	127th FA Bn
1st Lt Charles H Birkett	Observer	127th FA Bn
Pfc Lawrence A Greager	Driver	127th FA Bn

6. General: Constant air surveillance was maintained during the month, weather permitting, and on some important missions weather not permitting. Planes continued to be the most valuable means of observation and prompt dissemination of enemy and friendly information. The air field remained vic Laneuvelotte during entire month. Personnel at the airfield varied around fifty during the month including pilots, observers, and ground crews. Not previously mentioned in other reports was the need for a kitchen detachment and equipment for these men to facilitate smooth operation. A kitchen has been organized for the air liaison personnel and is operating smoothly, drawing rations through Hq Btry 35th Div Arty.

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