

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT
IPW TEAM 60-B, 134th INFANTRY

27 July 44.

Report: 87, 88, 89.

Leo Lutomski, Pfc, 5th Co, 897th Regt, FPN 59084B.
Wladislaus Kliszenski, Pvt, " " "
Anton Hoffman, Cpl. " " "

All PW are Polish and are from 2nd Bn of 897th Regt. Combat Group KENTNER consists of the 1st and 2nd Bn of the 897th Regt. The 3rd Bn is still in Brittany.

Combat Group Kentner began to withdraw from its position inside the river bend at 1700 yesterday. The 5th, 6th, and 8th Co moved first and the 7th Co followed at about 0200 today as a security detail. While in line on the previous front the 2nd Bn had been on the right(east) and the 1st Bn on the left(west). The 1st Bn followed the 2nd Bn in the withdrawal.

The 1st Bn dug in just to the west of the river on a small road which runs right along the river at approx. 471619. The 2nd Bn has probably withdrawn further to the rear. The Bn which has dug in is in a spot which has many trees and good concealment from the air. The position had not been previously prepared. The artillery supporting them has also withdrawn.

The strength of the 5th Co is 40-45 men; the strength of the 8th Co is 30 men and is the weakest in the Bn. The 5th Co is short of ammunition because they discarded their surplus in the two previous withdrawals and again in this one threw much MG ammunition into the river.

PW had been told that their unit would be relieved by SS some time ago. They now hear, however, that the SS will not be committed until they can be given air and armor support.

PW have little idea of internal trouble in Germany. Hitler has given soldiers permission to shoot anyone who wants to take part in the revolution.

PW deserted their company together at darkness last night, hid in a barn, made their way back to St-Lo and gave themselves up to our 3d BN. Their Co. has had several losses during the last few days, all due to mortar and artillery fire. The 2nd Bn CO was killed a few days ago and has been replaced. The CO of the 5th Co was also killed and replaced by a Lt Vogt.

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Report: 90 -100,102-104. 110-112.

PW belong to the 6th Co, 985th Regt, FPN 16413. This Co was in position in the houses of the southern part of St-Lo. It was the last Co to withdraw from that sector. They left small security parties behind, most of which were captured.

The Co had been in line here for eight days and had a strength of about 60 men. The company commander is 1st Lt Lemke, and 2nd Lt Rau who was captured in the withdrawal was a platoon leader. The Bn commander is Capt Karvath.

One PW, Polish, states that his 1st Plat left no booby traps after leaving the houses and was supposed to retreat one km along the main road till they reached a large estate some 150 m left of the road.

All PW have heard something about the bomb attack on Hitler either thru rumors or thru leaflets, but few know about a far reaching revolt of the military. Many are reasonably well informed about the news from the other fronts and the Nazis believe firmly that the Russians will be stopped at the German border. The captured Lt did not want to state openly that Germany had lost the war, but confined himself to saying that he had to execute his orders of a platoon leader and was concerned only with the small sector in front of him.

A German litter bearer does not carry a Red Cross armband, but a band in black letters saying "Hilfskrankentrager". He is armed with a rifle.