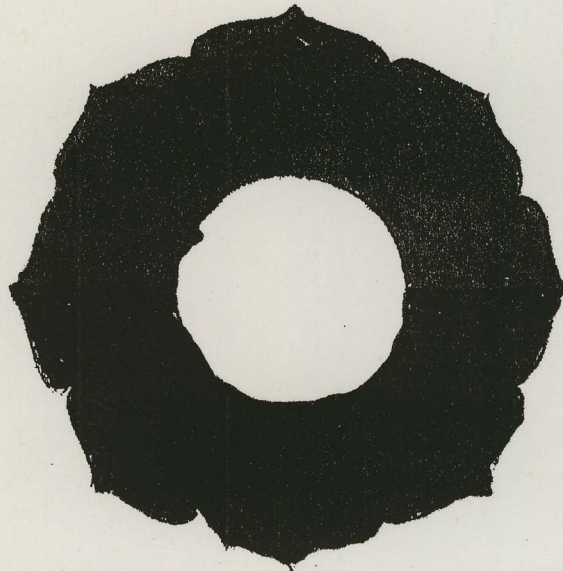


SECRET

RECORD OF OPERATIONS



809-03

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 9

1-31 DECEMBER 1944

CLASSIFICATION  
**CANCELLED**  
 BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
*Henry J. Guffin* *in Capt H. L. D.*  
 DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 27 May 1946

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SECRET  
CG 9th Inf Div  
Date: 5 January 1945

HEADQUARTERS NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION  
A. P. O. 9

5 January 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Operations  
TO : The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.  
THROUGH: Commanding General, V Corps, APO #305.

- SECTION I - Authority
- SECTION II - Introduction
- SECTION III - Report of Operations
- SECTION IV - Supply and Evacuation
- SECTION V - Personnel
- SECTION VI - Annexes - #1 - Field Orders  
#2 - G-2 Report  
#3 - Lessons Learned

SECTION I - AUTHORITY

In compliance with Paragraph 1C (C-4), AR 345-105, this report of operations of the 9th Infantry Division for the period 1-31 December 1944 is submitted.

SECTION II - INTRODUCTION

1. Command. During the operations covered by this report the 9th Infantry Division was part of V Corps from 1-6 December 1944, part of VII Corps from 7-18 December, and again part of V Corps from 19-31 December 1944, both of the First U. S. Army. The commanders were:

- a. First Army - Lieutenant General COURTNEY B. HODGES.
- b. V Corps - Major General LEONARD T. GEROW.
- c. VII Corps - Major General JOSEPH L. COLLINS.
- d. 9th Infantry Division - Major General LOUIS A. CRAIG.

2. Composition of the 9th Infantry Division. During this period the Division was composed of the following units:

- a. Organic
  - 39th Infantry
  - 47th Infantry
  - 60th Infantry
  - Hq and Hq Battery 9th Infantry Division Artillery
  - 26th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 34th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm How)
  - 60th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 84th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How)
  - 9th Reconnaissance Troop
  - 9th Signal Company
  - 9th Medical Battalion
  - 709th Ordnance Company
  - 9th Quartermaster Company
  - Hq and Hq Company 9th Infantry Division

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- b. Attached
  - 376th AAA AW Battalion (M)
  - 746th Tank Battalion (M)
  - 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion
  - 4th Cavalry Squadron (7-13 December)
    - 1 Platoon Company C 297th Engineer Battalion
    - 1 Platoon Company C 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion
  - 957th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm How) (7-18 Dec)
  - 1 Platoon Battery A 207th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm Gun SP) (7-10 December)
  - Company C 57th Chemical Battalion (10-18 December)
  - 413th AAA Battalion (20-24 December)
  - 2 Batteries 413th AAA Battalion (24 Dec - )
  - 186th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm How) (20 Dec - )
  - 196th Field Artillery Battalion (105mm How) (20 Dec - )
  - 38th Cavalry Squadron (less Troop A) ( 20 Dec - )
    - Company A 10th Tank Battalion (20-25 Dec)
    - Company C 893rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (20-27 Dec)
    - Company A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion
  - 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry (20 Dec - )
    - Company A 612th Tank Destroyer Battalion (20 - 29 Dec)
    - 99th Reconnaissance Troop
    - Company A 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion (29 Dec - )

3. Maps. The following maps were used: GERMANY 1/25,000; Sheets 5103, 5104, 5105, 5203, 5204, 5303, 5403, 5404, 5503, 5504.

SECTION LII - REPORT OF OPERATIONS

1. 1 December 1944

a. Division CP: K896084, CAMP EISENBORN, BELGIUM.

b. In accordance with V Corps directive dated 30 November 1944 the 60th Combat Team, reinforced with tanks and tank destroyers, moved to the LAMMERSDORF (K9626) - MUTZENICH (K9219) area to deepen the defense of the Corps sector. The combat team consisted of the 60th Infantry, Company C 15th Engineer Battalion, Company B 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company C 9th Medical Battalion, the 60th Field Artillery Battalion, and 34th Field Artillery Battalion. The combat team closed in the area at 1645A and by darkness completed the occupation of defensive positions. The 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry relieved the 15th Armored Infantry Battalion in the vicinity of the "Y" at K940264. Its mission was to defend the position, to attack towards LAMMERSDORF or KONZEN, to reinforce the 102nd Cavalry Group, or to restore positions penetrated by the enemy. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry occupied defensive positions in the MUTZENICH area with the mission of defending in place or counterattacking to restore positions and reinforce troops in the MONSCHAU (K9418) area. The 1st Battalion 60th Infantry, upon arrival in the LAMMERSDORF area, was attached to the 102nd Cavalry Group and occupied positions in the vicinity of K982274. Its mission was to reinforce the 102nd Cavalry Group by holding its position or restoring positions in any area penetrated by the enemy in the sector. The 60th Field Artillery Battalion was placed in support of the battalion in the MUTZENICH area, while the 34th Field Artillery Battalion was positioned in the vicinity of ROETGEN to support the battalions near LAMMERSDORF and the "Y".

c. As of 1200A on 1 December 1944, the 47th Combat Team returned to Division control, and during the day units continued to arrive in the CAMP EISENBORN area. Headquarters, Cannon, and Service Companies, and Companies G, H, and one platoon Company E 47th Infantry, Company C 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company B 15th Engineer Battalion, Company B 9th Medical Battalion, and the

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84th Field Artillery Battalion closed into assembly areas.

d. The 39th Infantry and other Division units remained in assembly areas in the vicinity of CAMP EISENBORN.

2. 2 December 1944

a. Division CP: K896084, CAMP EISENBORN, BELGIUM

b. The 60th Combat Team commenced work on its defensive installations. Individual shelters were dug, guns sited, mortars and artillery registered, and telephone lines laid. The 1st Battalion remained attached to the 102nd Cavalry Group.

c. Units of the 47th Combat Team continued to arrive at CAMP EISENBORN, Headquarters 1st Battalion, and Companies B, C, and K closing in at 1530A.

3. 3 December 1944

a. Division CP: K896000, CAMP EISENBORN, BELGIUM

b. The 60th Combat Team continued the defense of its sector in the LAMMERSDORF - MUTZENICH area. Field fortifications were improved, adjustments were made in the position of automatic weapons and antitank guns, and work was begun on wire entanglements. The only enemy contact during the day was with 12 enemy aircraft which at 1255A approached our lines from the east, flying low, and strafed the 3rd Battalion position with machine guns and rockets. At 1330A the aircraft returned and strafed the position again. Four of the planes were shot down by antiaircraft units.

c. Final elements of the 47th Infantry closed in assembly areas at CAMP EISENBORN, Antitank Company at 1100A, Company E and one platoon Company F at 1230A and Companies A and D at 1500A. Other Division units remained in assembly areas.

4. 4 December 1944

a. Division CP: K896084, CAMP EISENBORN, BELGIUM

b. The situation and location of units remained unchanged. Meanwhile, orders were issued for the movement of the Division to the north to the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K9647) to relieve the 1st Infantry Division and continue the attack to the east. (See Field Order No. 44)

5. 5 December 1944

a. Division CP: until 1800A, K896084, CAMP EISENBORN, BELGIUM; after 1800A, K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. Movement of Division units to the north was begun at 0800A. The 39th Infantry, with Company A 15th Engineer Battalion, Company A 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company C 746th Tk Battalion, Company A 9th Medical Battalion, and 26th Field Artillery Battalion attached, moved by way of SOURBRODT (K8509), EUPEN, HYNATTEN (K8333), KORNELIMUNSTER (K9073), BREINIG (K9338), GRESSENICH K9842) to a previously reconnoitered assembly area in rear of the 26th Combat Team. Effective at 1500A the 39th Combat Team was attached to the 1st Infantry Division, and at 1600A the 1st and 3rd Battalions completed the relief of the 26th Infantry. At approximately 2200A the 2nd Battalion completed the relief of the 1st Battalion 18th Infantry (attached to 26th Infantry). These positions extended from FO40470 to FO40445. The 60th Infantry, with Company C 15th Engineer Battalion, Company B 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company B 746th Tank Battalion, Company C 9th Medical Battalion, the 60th Field Artillery Battalion, and the 34th Field Artillery Battalion attached, was relieved from its defensive positions in the LAMMERSDORF - MUTZENICH area by the 16th Combat Team and assembled in the vicinity of ROETGEN (K9128). The 47th Infantry, with Company B 15th Engineer Battalion, Company C

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899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company A ~~746th Tank Battalion, Company B~~ 9th Medical Battalion, and 84th Field Artillery Battalion attached, remained in assembly areas in the vicinity of CAMP ELSENBORN and awaited orders to move to the new Division sector.

6. 6 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY

b. Beginning at 0730A the 60th Combat Team moved from the vicinity of ROETGEN to previously reconnoitered assembly areas in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (FO347) in rear of the 18th Combat Team. All units except the 34th Field Artillery Battalion closed in the new area by 1300A, the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry in the vicinity of K998460, the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of F000466, the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of K997454. Unit commanders made a reconnaissance of defensive positions in preparation for the relief of the 18th Combat Team on the night of 7 - 8 December.

c. An advance party from the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K997450 in the new sector and prepared for the arrival of the battalion for attachment to the 60th Infantry. The 39th Combat Team remained attached to the 1st Infantry Division and continued the defense of its sector. Other units completed the move to the north, the 9th Reconnaissance Troop (Company D 746th Tank Battalion attached) to K983467, the 746th Tank Battalion (less detachments) to K967477, and the 15th Engineer Battalion (less detachments) to K993488.

d. Effective at 2400A the Division came under control of VII Corps.

7. 7 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. The 39th Combat Team remained in defensive positions. The 4th Cavalry Squadron, on the right flank of the Division sector, was attached to the 39th Infantry at 2400A, at which time the regiment and attachments reverted to Division control.

c. The 47th Combat Team moved from the vicinity of CAMP ELSENBORN to assembly areas in the vicinity of VOLKENRATH (K9745), WERTH (K9743), and HAMICH (FO043), final elements closing in the area at 2100A. Effective at 1500A the 1st Battalion plus one platoon 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion and one platoon 746th Tank Battalion was attached to the 60th Infantry. The 84th Field Artillery Battalion, on arrival in the new area, reverted to Division Artillery control.

d. The 60th Combat Team relieved the 18th Combat Team and occupied defensive positions in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (FO347) and LUCHEM (FO349), the 3rd Battalion relieving the 2nd Battalion 18th Infantry, the 1st Battalion relieving the 36th Armored Battalion in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE, and the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry (attached) relieving the 3rd Battalion 18th Infantry in the vicinity of LUCHEM. The 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry remained at FO10473 in reserve. The relief was begun at daylight and completed by 2400A. At 1530A some mortar fire fell on the positions and after 1830A there was sporadic enemy machine gun and small arms fire in the right (south) sector.

e. The relief of the 18th Combat Team completed the relief of the 1st Infantry Division, and with the arrival of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion at 1630A all Division units were established in the new sector. Effective at 1600A one platoon Company C 297th Engineer Combat Battalion was attached to the Division, and effective at 2400A the 957th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm How) and one platoon Battery A 987th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm Gun SP) were attached to the Division Artillery. At 2400A the 9th Infantry Division assumed control of the sector.

8. 8 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY

b. The mission of the Division was to attack to the east in conjunction with 3rd Armored Division, to seize and hold initially the towns of KONZENDORF (FO746), ECHTZ (FO748), SCHLICH (FO645), and MERODE (FO545). It was estimated that the enemy's resistance to our advance would be strong. His defense consisted of centers of resistance formed by the built-up communities in the sector and dug-in positions between these communities. The enemy line, which at some points was only 75 yards from our own, was held by the Fifth Parachute Regiment in the southern sector, with two battalions in line and one in reserve, and the 8th Parachute Regiment in the northern sector, with two battalions in line and one in reserve. The 9th Parachute Regiment was in a reserve position in the MERKEN (FO750) - ECHTZ (FO748) area. Enemy artillery was expected to be heavy and for the most part observed.

c. In accordance with Field Order #45 issued on 8 December 1944: The 60th Combat Team was to seize and hold the bank of the lake in the vicinity of FO53499 and occupy the area in the vicinity of FO56495 to protect the Division left flank, attack east in conjunction with CCR 3rd Armored Division to seize the towns of OBERGEICH (FO547), GEICH (FO547), and ROTHHAUS (FO546), seize and hold the town of KONZENDORF (FO746), and, after the seizure of ECHTZ (FO748) by CCR 3rd Armored Division, relieve CCR 3rd Armored Division in ECHTZ and prepare to meet enemy counterattacks from any direction. The time of attack was to be coordinated with CCR 3rd Armored Division. The 39th Combat Team was to protect the Division right flank, attack east along the railroad from the vicinity of JUNGERSDORF (FO446) to seize D'HORN (FO546), and, after the seizure of D'HORN, be prepared to attack and seize on order the towns of SCHLICH and MERODE. The time of attack was to be on order (when CCR 3rd Armored Division entered GEICH (FO547)). The 47th Combat Team was to remain in position in Division Reserve, prepared to move on order to the positions of the 4th Cavalry Squadron (vicinity FO443) or to the town of LANGERWEHE (FO347) to repulse any enemy counterattack.

d. Pending the execution of the attack order, the Division maintained its defensive positions.

9. 9 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. The Division held its defensive positions and carried on extensive reconnaissance in the zone of action in preparation for the attack to the east. During the day enemy harassing fire from heavy mortars and long range artillery was received on forward positions.

10. 10 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. On 10 December the attack toward the ROER was begun. The 60th Combat Team, consisting of the 60th Infantry, 1st Battalion 47th Infantry, Company B and one platoon Company C 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company B and one platoon Company A 746th Tank Battalion, Company C 15th Engineer Battalion, and Company C 87th Chemical Battalion, attacked at 0730A with the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry to seize the edge of the lake in the vicinity of FO53499. Meeting only light resistance initially from artillery fire and supported by the 415th Infantry on the left and a tank platoon on the right the battalion advanced rapidly and by 1000A had reached the southern portion of its objective. At 1255A a counterattack by enemy infantry was received and repulsed with artillery and tank fire. Strong resistance persisted on the left flank, however, and further progress was denied

until after dark when the left flank was extended northwest to the edge of the lake. At 1515A, on order, the combat team delivered an attack with the 2nd Battalion 60th Infantry to take the towns of GEICH and ROTHHAUS in conjunction with elements of the 3rd Armored Division. Following Task Force "HOGAN" 3rd Armored Division which by-passed OBERGEICH and proceeded to GEICH, the battalion succeeded in entering the town and placing Company E on a roadblock to the south at ROTHHAUS. At 1530A the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry was ordered to follow another armored force, Task Force "KANE", to the town of ECHTZ. Marching across country against scattered resistance, the battalion, in conjunction with the armor, occupied the northwest corner of the town with two companies in the town proper and one company on the high ground to the west in reserve. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry was not committed.

c. The 39th Combat Team, consisting of the 39th Infantry, Company A 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company C, Assault Gun Platoon and 81mm Mortar Platoon 746th Tank Battalion, and one platoon Company A 15th Engineer Battalion, attacked on order at 1515A to seize the town of D'HORN (FO546). The attack employed the 2nd Battalion moving east along the railroad from the vicinity of JUNGERSDORF (FO446) with the cover of smoke and the support of machine gun and mortar fire from the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Advancing rapidly, the battalion entered its objective with Company E at 1630A and consolidated its defense with two companies, Company E advancing beyond the town and blocking the main roads at FO56463 and FO60462 and Company G taking up a position on the left (north) flank of Company E. Company F was assembled in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (FO347). The 1st and 3rd Battalions did not advance.

d. The 47th Combat Team, consisting of the 47th Infantry (less 1st Battalion), Company A 746th Tank Battalion (less one platoon), and one platoon Company B 15th Engineer Battalion, remained in position in division reserve.

e. The 4th Cavalry Squadron, with one platoon Company C 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion and one platoon Company C 297th Engineer Battalion attached, remained in place on the right flank, maintaining contact between the 39th Infantry and the 83rd Infantry Division.

f. Artillery units were disposed as follows: The 26th and 60th Field Artillery Battalions in direct support of the 39th and 60th Infantry respectively, the 84th and 34th Field Artillery Battalions in direct support, and the 957th Field Artillery Battalion in direct support of the 26th Field Artillery Battalion. One platoon Company C 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to the 84th Field Artillery Battalion. One platoon Battery A 987th Field Artillery Battalion, attached and given the mission of general support, was released from attachment at 0800A.

11. 11 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. The 60th Combat Team continued the attack to complete the occupation of ECHTZ (FO748) and to seize KONZENDORF (FO746). Mopping-up operations in ECHTZ were begun by the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry at first light and by 1200A the town was considered clear of enemy. Heavy artillery fire, however, was received throughout the latter part of the day. Effective at 2400A the 1st Battalion was attached to Task Force "KANE" 3rd Armored Division. The 3rd Battalion, crossing a line of departure at ROTHHAUS at 0800A, attacked to seize the KONZENDORF area. Advancing against stiff opposition, the battalion reached the western edge of its objective at 0915A and until 1500A was heavily engaged with enemy forces in MARLAWEILER (FO947) and DERICHSWEILER (FO745). The 2nd Battalion, with the assistance of Task Force "HOGAN", moved on GEICH (FO547) and after heavy fighting reduced the town. Defensive positions were organized with Company E in GEICH, Company F in OBERGEICH, and Company G in ROTHHAUS. At the end of the day harassing fire from self-propelled and heavy artillery fell on 1st and 2nd Battalion positions. In all, 231 prisoners were taken. At 1700A the 1st Battalion 47th Infantry (reinforced) reverted to control of the 47th Infantry.

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c. The 39th Combat Team resumed the attack at 0800A, the 1st Battalion on the right attacking southeast from its previous positions to seize the town of MERODE (FO545) and the 2nd Battalion on the left attacking south from the vicinity of D'HORN to seize the town of SCHLICH (FO645). The 1st Battalion was hit heavily with artillery fire at the jump off and as it advanced met stiff resistance from bunkers and dug-in positions. However, at 0835A Company A had reached the edge of MERODE, the bunkers were eventually reduced, and after dark the battalion consolidated positions on its objective. Meanwhile, Company K, making a limited objective attack to the edge of the woods in the vicinity of FO46447 to maintain contact with the 1st Battalion, became engaged in a heavy fire fight in which it knocked out four enemy machine gun positions. The 2nd Battalion attacked SCHLICH with Companies E and G and after heavy house-to-house fighting succeeded in cleaning out the town by 1630A. During the day's fighting the combat team took 190 prisoners.

d. The 47th Combat Team, resuming control of its 1st Battalion, held defensive positions at LUCHEM (FO349) and along the line FO52497 - FO55483. The 2nd Battalion at 0900A moved to a new assembly area at LANGERWEHE (FO743), closing in the area at 1130A. The 1st Battalion continued to maintain contact with the 415th Infantry on the left and established an outpost at FO61494 from which patrols maintained contact with the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry in ECHTZ (FO748).

e. On the Division right flank, the 4th Cavalry Squadron made a limited attack to the east in conjunction with the attack of the 39th Infantry. Two platoons Troop C attacked an enemy force of estimated platoon strength dug in at FO48443 while two platoons Troop A attacked entrenched enemy at FO53437 with fire. At 1330A receiving a strong attack from the north, Troop C was forced to withdraw 50 yards, but by 1600A it had regained its former positions. In a diversionary attack Troop A outflanked and knocked out an enemy machine gun at FO51438. All these thrusts were met with intense small arms fire, and both troops received moderate artillery and mortar fire throughout the day's action.

## 12. 12 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY

b. The attack to the east continued. The 60th Combat Team launched an attack with the 2nd Battalion against MARIWEILER (FO947) while the 1st Battalion, attached to Task Force "KANE" 3rd Armored Division, attacked HOFEN (FO848). The 2nd Battalion, marching from GEICH (FO547) at 0500A, crossed a line of departure east of ECHTZ (FO748) at 0730A and advanced south and then east to MARIWEILER. Heavy resistance was met upon reaching the edge of town and after heavy fighting it was occupied by 1300A. Shortly afterwards the enemy made a vigorous counter-attack with infantry and two self-propelled guns from the southeast corner of the town. The attack was repulsed, with the destruction of one self-propelled gun, but Company G was divided and some enemy remained within the position after dark. The battalion held the town with Company E on the north, Company F in the center, and Company G on the south. The 1st Battalion had the mission of capturing the southern portion of HOFEN while Task Force "KANE" captured the northern portion. This mission was successfully carried out against strong enemy resistance and by 1445A positions were prepared for the defense of the town. At 2100A the battalion reverted to Division control. The 3rd Battalion supported the attack of the 2nd Battalion against MARIWEILER with fire and later in the day pushed its own lines forward to include a group of buildings in KONZENDORF (FO746). At 1530A Company L moved further east and established a roadblock at the crossroad at FO81458. From this point patrols maintained contact with the 2nd Battalion. During the day 82 prisoners were taken.

c. In the southern part of the Division zone of action, the 1st Battalion and Company F 39th Infantry attacked at 0800A from the vicinity of MERODE (FO545) and SCHLICH (FO645) toward ROTTFELD (FO643). Encountering mines and small arms and mortar fire from the woods to its front, this force advanced to positions in the wooded area astride the road in the vicinity of FO58442. Company C remained at MERODE in reserve. Patrols were sent out to locate elements of the 83rd Infantry Division on the right but they were unable to make contact at reported locations.



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3rd Battalion attacked at 1245A from the line DUHORN - SCHLICH and under cover of smoke advanced against artillery, mortar, and small arms fire to the southern edge of its objective at DERICHSWEILER (F0745). With supporting tanks held up by mines, the battalion continued the advance into the town, Company I entering about 1430A, followed closely by Company L. At 1515A Company L was well into the town and the battalion continued to clear out the enemy, seizing about half the town and approximately 142 prisoners by the close of the day. At 2035A Company I met a column of enemy troops marching down one of the streets and dispersed them after an exchange of intense small arms fire. Defensive positions were consolidated for the night and patrols sent to contact the road block held by Company L 60th Infantry at F081458.

d. In conjunction with the attack of the 39th Infantry, the 4th Cavalry Squadron attacked to the east and maintained contact between the 39th Infantry and the 83rd Infantry Division on the right. Troop C attacked at 0815A against enemy positions in the vicinity of F049442 while Troop A made a diversionary attack against enemy positions along the line F053436 - F052438. Troop C took 11 prisoners and proceeded northeast to contact Company A 39th Infantry. Troop A, after a light engagement west of the enemy line, had a skirmish with an estimated company of enemy and maintained contact until the arrival of Company E 329th Infantry (83rd Infantry Division), after which the troop returned to its former positions.

e. On the Division left (north) flank, the 47th Infantry held defensive positions and maintained contact with the 415th Infantry on the left. A reinforced platoon of Company C established an outpost in the vicinity of F071494 and maintained contact with patrols with the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry on the right.

13. 13 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. The 47th Infantry continued to protect the Division left flank and maintain contact with the 415th Infantry on the left and the 60th Infantry on the right. At 0730A Company C moved to the vicinity of F071494, joining the reinforced platoon Company C which initially outposted the position. After the displacement of Company C, Company B withdrew all but one reinforced platoon from the line F052497 - F055488 and assembled near Company A in the vicinity of LUCHEM (F0349). The 2nd Battalion remained in reserve in an assembly area at LANGERWEHE (F0347); the 3rd Battalion remained in reserve in an assembly area at HAMICH (F0043).

c. The 60th Infantry continued the attack to complete the seizure of Mariaweiler (F0947). The 2nd Battalion, from positions within the town, commenced operations at 0730A and after stiff fighting in the southern portion succeeded in driving all remaining enemy toward the southeast end. Elements of the battalion then advanced as far as the factory area in the vicinity of F098467 southeast of town, but by darkness this was still in enemy hands. The 1st Battalion in HOVEN (F0848) assisted the 2nd Battalion, Company A attacking at 0730A and overcoming enemy resistance as far as the northern edge of MARIAWEILER, where at 0900A contact was made with the 2nd Battalion. At 1400A Company A returned by infiltration to HOVEN. The 3rd Battalion, with the mission of extending its front lines and also assisting the 2nd Battalion, attacked at 0730A with Company K which advanced north and then east on MARIAWEILER. Heavy resistance was met as the company approached the town, but by 100A it was overcome and contact was made with Company G. From the crossroad at F081458 Company L extended its left flank to the northeast and closed in with Company K south of the town. In HOVEN, the 1st Battalion relieved Task Force "KANE", which cleared the town by 2000A. In all sectors very heavy mortar and artillery fire was received, generally harassing in effect but concentrated at points of attack.

d. In the 39th Infantry, the 1st Battalion shortly after midnight took 7 more prisoners. The 3rd Battalion, during the early morning hours consolidated positions in DERICHSWEILER (F0745) and maintained close contact with patrols, one of which, penetrating 400 yards into the town, drew a heavy volume of fire from the north side. Another patrol encountered an enemy patrol of 16 men near the position

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of Company L 60th Infantry. Of these 14 were killed and two captured. At 0800A the 3rd Battalion continued the attack to complete the seizure of DERICHSWEILER. Supported by two tanks and two tank destroyers, the battalion made slow progress against stiff resistance from the enemy within the town as well as intense fire from GURZENICH (FO844) on the right flank. By 1150A the northwest section of the town was cleaned up, by 1250A all but five houses in the northeast section, and by 1535A the battalion had complete control of the town. Enemy artillery fire continued to be heavy. Engineers reconnoitered the underpasses on the railroad north of town and commenced the clearance of rubble to make routes passable for heavy vehicles. The 1st and 2nd Battalions held previous positions in the vicinity of MERODE (FO545), SCHLICH (FO645), and ROTTFELD (FO643).

e. The 4th Cavalry Squadron maintained contact between the 39th Infantry and the 329th Infantry and reconnoitered in the pocket created by the attack on 12 December. No enemy were encountered. At 1300A the squadron (plus one platoon Company C 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion and one platoon Company C 297th Engineer Combat Battalion) was released from attachment to the Division.

14. 14 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. During the morning the 47th Infantry vacated the positions held by the reinforced platoon Company B along the line of trenches running south from the lake east of LUCHEM (FO349). At 1800A Company B relieved Company C of outpost positions extending across the AUTOBAHN south to the vicinity of ECHTZ (FO748), Company C falling back to an assembly area at LUCHEM. During the hours of darkness patrols operated between Company A (vicinity of LUCHEM) and Company C. The 2nd Battalion conducted limited training in the vicinity of its assembly area at LANGERWEHE (FO347). The 3rd Battalion, in the vicinity of HAMICH (FO043), conducted training in squad tactics, bayonet, and night attacks. Scattered artillery fire was received within the sector.

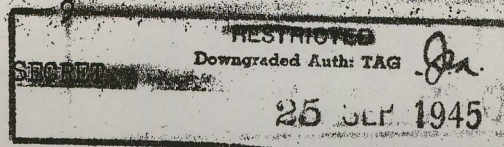
c. The 60th Infantry during the morning conducted reconnaissance in preparation for an attack by the 3rd Battalion against the factory area southeast of MARIWEILER (FO947). This attack jumped off at 1300A with Company I in the assault. The company made good progress against heavy opposition, capturing 36 prisoners by 1430A, and at 1610A reported the objective taken. In this action strong tank and tank destroyer support enabled the infantry to advance without heavy loss. The 2nd Battalion and Company K also supported the attack by fire. Shortly after noon, receiving the report that elements of the 83rd Infantry Division had reached GURZENICH (FO844), one platoon Company L was sent to clean out the area between our lines and GURZENICH and establish contact with the 83rd Infantry Division. Just short of the town, however, the platoon was stopped by heavy small arms and artillery fire and was unable to make contact. Throughout the day enemy artillery fire was extremely heavy. Positions of the 1st and 2nd Battalions remained unchanged.

d. The 39th Infantry held its positions of the previous day and maintained contact with adjacent units with patrols. During the day it received very heavy harassing and interdiction fire, the heaviest concentrations falling on the 3rd Battalion in DERICHSWEILER (FO745).

e. At 2130A the Division was given a new boundary with the 83rd Infantry Division on the right, the boundary to follow the railroad from the point where the previous boundary cut the railroad at FO89454 to the ROER RIVER, the railroad being inclusive to the 9th Infantry Division.

15. 15 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.



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b. The Division had the mission of securing the west bank of the ROER RIVER within its zone. Accordingly, the 39th and 60th Infantry were ordered to complete the seizure of all ground west of the river within their zones of action. (See Field Order #48).

c. The 47th Infantry remained in place. Within the 1st Battalion, Company A operated patrols between its area and the outpost of Company B periodically during the night. A reconnaissance patrol from the 1st Battalion, with the mission of inspecting the bridge over the river at F090495, reached the bridge without drawing fire or encountering enemy mines or booby traps and, crawling out to the first pier, found the bridge destroyed beyond this point. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions carried on a limited amount of training. Throughout the regimental area a few rounds of light and medium artillery fell without inflicting casualties.

d. The 60th Infantry patrolled to its front to the west bank of the ROER with the mission of securing the river line against enemy raids, infiltration, and mine-laying. No enemy were encountered. At 1700A heavy fire from self-propelled artillery was received in the Company I sector and all units were alerted to prepare for an enemy attack. An attack failed to develop and enemy activity was limited to long-range harassing fire which fell in all sectors. Roadblocks were strengthened and other defensive installations improved.

e. The 39th Infantry, conforming to the modified Division right boundary, prepared to clean out the remainder of its zone to the west bank of the river. Pending the advance of the 329th Infantry on the right, however, the attack was postponed and finally cancelled for the day. Patrolling was carried on over the contemplated route of advance to determine its condition and suitability for the passage of armored vehicles.

f. Elements of the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion were released from attachment to the infantry regiments and returned to unit control, Company A in direct support of the 39th Infantry, two platoons Company B in direct support of the 60th Infantry, one platoon Company B with indirect fire mission in direct support of the 60th Field Artillery Battalion, two platoons Company C in direct support of the 47th Infantry, and one platoon Company C with indirect fire mission in direct support of the 84th Field Artillery Battalion. Company C 87th Chemical Battalion was placed in general support.

16. 16 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. On the Division left flank, Company B 47th Infantry was relieved of positions in the vicinity of F071490 by the 9th Reconnaissance Troop, the relief being completed at 1650A, and Company B assembled in the vicinity of F013480 southeast of WEISWELLER. At 1700A the 1st and 2nd Battalions and two platoons Company A 746th Tank Battalion were alerted for possible movement on short notice. Meanwhile, the 2nd Battalion continued to conduct training in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE and the 3rd Battalion conducted an exercise involving the assault and seizure of a hill in the vicinity of Hill 232 (K9944).

c. The 60th Infantry remained in position, patrolling along its front to the ROER RIVER and maintaining contact with adjacent units. At 0600A the enemy launched an attack in the sector between Companies I and K with an infantry force estimated to number 130 with strong mortar and artillery support. The attack was repulsed and by 0900A the sector was reported clear of enemy. During the day, enemy harassing and interdiction fire was moderate in all areas.

d. The 39th Infantry held previous positions and carried on routine patrolling.

17. 17 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

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b. During the night and throughout the day enemy aircraft were active over the Division sector. In view of this activity and reported airborne landings at widely scattered points in V Corps and VII Corps sectors, at 0425A all units were alerted against a possible airborne attack and at 0615A the 47th Infantry was ordered to relieve the 9th Reconnaissance Troop of the outpost between ECHTZ and the Division north boundary. The relief was made by Company A 47th Infantry and completed at 0750A. At daylight all units were ordered to initiate patrolling to determine the presence of enemy parachutists in the area, and anti-airborne defensive measures, including a system of patrols, check points, and roadblocks were set up and maintained throughout the period. On order of the Commanding General VII Corps, at 1000A the 47th Combat Team was placed on a 3-hour alert status and at 1145A attached to V Corps and ordered to proceed immediately to EUPEN. The combat team was entrucked and moved out at 1400A and at 2355A was reported assembled in the vicinity of EUPEN.

c. In the 60th Infantry sector, during the early morning hours patrols returned from reconnaissance across the ROER RIVER with information on crossing sites and the condition of the river and opposite bank. Other patrols maintained lateral contact and operated to the front without contacting the enemy.

d. The 39th Infantry, in conjunction with the 329th Infantry on its right, delivered an attack with Company K to clear out its sector to the river line. The attack was opposed by intense small arms, mortar, and artillery fire; but under cover of smoke the company succeeded in advancing slightly and cleared out several enemy pockets. At 1140A, still engaged in heavy fighting, the company came under fire from enemy forces to the rear south of the railroad. Eventually, with the assistance of the 329th Infantry, enemy resistance was overcome, and by dark defensive positions were organized and contact established with neighboring units on both flanks. In this action, Company K was supported by fire from the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry which maintained close liaison during the day and operated contact patrols after dark. The 1st Battalion 39th Infantry was moved to the vicinity of LANGERWEHE in division reserve, closing in the area at 1925A. It had the mission of supporting forward units and protecting the Division left flank, one platoon Company C going into position in the vicinity of FO71490 between ECHTZ and the north boundary to outpost the sector and maintain contact between the 60th Infantry and the 104th Infantry Division.

18. 18 December 1944

a. Division CP: K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY.

b. Company K 39th Infantry resumed the attack at 0900A to clear remaining pockets of resistance from the west bank of the ROER RIVER. Attacking in conjunction with the 329th Infantry and screening its movement with smoke, Company K advanced rapidly against moderate resistance and by 1215A had eliminated all enemy resistance in the sector. Outposts were set up and patrols dispatched to contact adjacent units. At 1820A the relief of Company K by Company E 329th Infantry was begun and completed at 2225A, Company K returning to an assembly area in SCHLICH (FO545). Effective at 2400A, the 1st Battalion 39th Infantry reverted from division reserve to regimental control.

c. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry supported the attack of the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry with fire and maintained contact with Company K 39th Infantry. At 1600A a half-squad of riflemen and one machine gun squad relieved elements of the 39th Infantry at an underpass 500 yards north of ECHTZ. Commencing at 1645A relief of the 2nd Battalion by the 3rd Battalion was begun and completed at 1850A following which the 2nd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of ECHTZ in regimental reserve. During the day enemy aircraft bombed and strafed troops and installations in the sector.

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d. In view of the enemy breakthrough in V Corps sector, the Division was ordered to move to the south, and at 2100A the 60th Combat Team was attached to the 104th Infantry Division and the 9th Infantry Division was relieved of responsibility in the sector. The 60th Combat Team, in addition to the 60th Infantry, consisted of Company B 746th Tank Battalion, Company B 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, the 60th Field Artillery Battalion, one platoon Company C 15th Engineer Battalion, Company C 87th Chemical Battalion, and Company C 9th Medical Battalion.

e. The 47th Combat Team, attached to V Corps, was at this time already committed in the MONSCHAU area.

19. 19 December 1944

a. Division CP: Until 1235A, K977467, vicinity BERGRATH, GERMANY; after 1235A, K850103, vicinity SOURBRODT, BELGIUM.

b. On 19 December the Division (less the 47th and 60th Combat Teams) moved to V Corps sector and relieved elements of the 2nd and 99th Infantry Division. The 39th Combat Team (39th Infantry, Company C, Assault Gun Platoon, and 81mm Mortar Platoon, 746th Tank Battalion, one platoon Company A 15th Engineer Battalion, and the 26th Field Artillery Battalion) moved at 0830A via GRESSENICH, road junction at K957400, STOLBERG, BRAND, AACHEN, and EUPEN, and occupied defensive positions in the KALTERHERBERG - EISENBORN area. The 2nd Battalion 39th Infantry, upon arrival at EUPEN, was attached to the 47th Infantry and committed on the right flank of the 47th Combat Team, closing on its position at 1530A. The 1st Battalion detrucking at SOURBRODT, moved into position on the Division's right flank and organized a defensive position in depth. It closed in at 1500A. The 3rd Battalion (less Company I) detrucked and remained in the vicinity of SOURBRODT in division reserve, closing in its assembly area at 1430A. Company I occupied a position on the MLR between the 1st and 2nd Battalions. The 9th Reconnaissance Troop, of which one platoon provided protection at the head of the Division motor column and one platoon protected the Forward Division Command Post during the move to SOURBRODT, assembled near SOURBRODT and at 1700A occupied the high ground in the vicinity of K947116 in front of the 2nd Battalion 39th Infantry. Other Division units (less detachments) assembled as follows: The 746th Tank Battalion in the vicinity of OVIFAT (K8408), the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion in the vicinity of SOURBRODT, and the 15th Engineer Battalion in the vicinity of KALTERHERBERG. The sector occupied by the Division remained under control of the 2nd Infantry Division.

c. On the left (north) flank of the 39th Infantry, the 47th Infantry (attached to V Corps) held positions along the line KONZEN - MONSCHAU - HOFEN - KALTERHERBERG. Its attachments included the 38th Cavalry Squadron (less Troop A; plus Company A 10th Tank Battalion, Company C 893rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (less one platoon), Company A 47th Armored Infantry Battalion, and one platoon Company A 112 Engineer Battalion), the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry (plus Company A 612th Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 99th Reconnaissance Troop), Company A 746th Tank Battalion, Company C 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and the 84th and 196th Field Artillery Battalions.

d. The 60th Combat Team, attached to the 104th Infantry Division, continued to hold defensive positions along the ROER west of DUREN.

20. 20 December 1944

a. Division CP: K850103, vicinity SOURBRODT, BELGIUM.

b. At 0730A the Division assumed control of its new sector and the units

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which occupied it. On the north, the 38th Cavalry Squadron, 1st Battalion 47th Infantry, 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry, and 99th Reconnaissance Troop in order from north to south. The 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry occupied secondary positions on the high ground northeast of KALTERHERBERG (K9214), blocking roads leading east out of town and prepared to counter-attack in event of a penetration through the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry held secondary positions in the vicinity of K955212 in rear of the 38th Cavalry Squadron and was prepared to counterattack in the event of a penetration in that area. On the south, the 39th Combat Team held a narrow sector organized in great depth with the 2nd Battalion, which at 0810A reverted to regimental control from attachment to the 47th Infantry, on the left and the 1st Battalion on the right. At 1300A elements of the 2nd Battalion relieved the 9th Reconnaissance Troop on the high ground in the vicinity of K947116. All units improved defensive installations and patrolled to the flanks and front.

c. The 84th and 26th Field Artillery Battalions, effective at 0730A, reverted to Division Artillery control. At 0800A the 413th AAA Battalion, and the 196th and 186th Field Artillery Battalions were attached to the Division.

21. 21 December 1944

a. Division CP: until 1430A, K850103, vicinity SOURBRODT, BELGIUM; after 1430A, K837242, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued the defense of its sector, improving communications and defensive positions. Company I 47th Infantry searched the town of MONSCHAU for traces of the enemy, and along the entire front of the 47th Combat Team small groups of enemy (mostly parachutists) were rounded up totaling 80 prisoners. In the 39th Combat Team sector, at 1515A, one platoon Company G 39th Infantry attacked a small enemy group in the vicinity of K951107 and after a short fight forced them to withdraw.

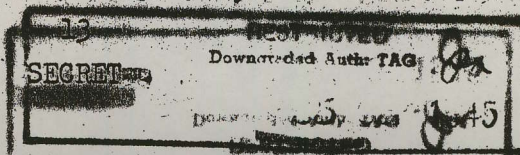
c. There were few changes in other Division units. The 746th Tank Battalion (less detachments) moved to K822251 and the Division Command Post to K837242, both in the vicinity of EUPEN. The 413th AAA Battalion was attached to the 47th Infantry, and the 863rd AAA Battalion (less one battery) was attached to the Division effective at 1500A. The 60th Combat Team remained attached to the 104th Infantry Division.

22. 22 December 1944

a. Division CP: K837242, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The 47th Combat Team strengthened its defenses with roadblocks, minefields, wire obstacles, and trip flares. During the afternoon the 99th Reconnaissance Troop received an attack against its position on the high ground east of KALTERHERBERG which overran one platoon and surrounded another. Elements of Company E 47th Infantry were brought down to reinforce the Reconnaissance Troop, and eventually both its platoons were able to withdraw. Company E covered the position with patrols and an outpost. Shortly before midnight heavy artillery fire was received by the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry, and infiltrations occurred on both flanks of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry. Of the enemy which infiltrated into our positions, about 11 were captured and 8 or 10 killed. There were no further developments from the enemy's aggressive action, although considerable armored movement was heard in the ROHREN area.

c. In the 39th Infantry sector, there were signs of enemy infiltrations along the front beginning at 1300A, and enemy artillery fire was heavy throughout the afternoon. After dark, beginning at 1735A the enemy made an attack in strength. Its main force was received by Company E, while heavy pressure was felt



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in the I and G Company sectors. Supported by a heavy artillery barrage, the enemy succeeded in penetrating the center of E Company's position some 500 yards before the gap was closed by the support platoons of Companies F and G which moved in on either flank of Company E. No further losses were experienced and 14 of the enemy were taken prisoners.

23. 23 December 1944

a. Division CP: K837242, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued in a defensive role and with the arrival of the 60th Combat Team commenced a regrouping of its units. The 60th Combat Team at the beginning of the period was enroute to OUFFET for attachment to the 2nd Armored Division. Heavy traffic delayed the movement, and at 0330A orders were received to move to EUPEN for return to Division control. Moving out at 0630A, leading elements arrived in EUPEN at 1230A and at 1240A the combat team reverted to the Division. The 1st Battalion was attached to the 39th Infantry and moved to SOURBRODT to join this unit; the 3rd Battalion was attached to the 47th Infantry and moved to an assembly area in the 47th Infantry sector; the 2nd Battalion and special troops remained in assembly areas near EUPEN.

c. Units of the 47th Combat Team remained in place. During the early morning hours enemy pressure continued against both north and south flanks of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry and considerable artillery fire was received along the entire front, the heaviest concentrations falling on the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry. All units were alerted to expect a strong attack, which failed to materialize. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry, arriving in the area at 1500A, was assembled in the vicinity of K925172.

d. At 0750A the 39th Infantry delivered an attack with the 3rd Battalion in column of companies, Company L leading, which, against light opposition, recovered the ground lost the previous night. Company L took over the former positions of Company E, while Company E took up a reserve position at K923125, and one platoon of Company K moved into line on the right of Company F. At 1707A a light counterattack against Company L was broken up by artillery fire. Artillery fire was also placed with good effect on 5 enemy tanks, 4 half-tracks, and approximately 100 infantry in the vicinity of K967098.

e. Among artillery units, the 863rd AAA Battalion, with the exception of one provisional battery of M51's and one provisional battery of M16's, was detached from the Division.

24. 24 December 1944

a. Division CP: K837242, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. In accordance with the regrouping of Division units, the 60th Infantry at 1200A assumed control of the sector from the road center north of MONSCHAU to the Division left boundary in the vicinity of K950230. (See Field Order #50). In this sector, and attached to the 60th Infantry (less 1st and 3rd Battalions), was the 38th Cavalry Squadron and attachments, the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry, Company B 746th Tank Battalion, one platoon Company C 15th Engineer Battalion, and Battery D 413th AAA Battalion. The 1st and 3rd Battalions 60th Infantry remained attached to 39th and 47th Infantry respectively. At 0930A the 2nd Battalion moved from EUPEN and assembled in the 60th Infantry sector in the vicinity of K850230, with Company G at K870227 near the regimental command post. One platoon Company G and one platoon Antitank Company set up a roadblock at K927225. The sector was defended without enemy contact.

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c. Attachments to the 47th Infantry (less 3rd Battalion) now consisted of the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry, 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry (plus Company A 612th Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 99th Reconnaissance Troop), Company A 746th Tank Battalion, and one platoon Company B 15th Engineer Battalion. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry organized defensive positions on the high ground north of KALTERHERBERG in rear of positions occupied by the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry. At 1700A the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry moved from positions on the high ground northeast of KALTERHERBERG to previously reconnoitered positions on the high ground just east and southeast of the town.

d. The 39th Infantry was reinforced with the 2nd Battalion 395th Infantry which at 1900A closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of K930130. Otherwise, the situation of the 39th Combat Team remained unchanged. The usual patrolling was carried on and obstacles were strengthened with the addition of wire and mines. During the period six prisoners were taken.

e. Other units, other than as attached to infantry regiments, supported the Division as follows: The 26th, 60th and 84th Field Artillery Battalions supported combat teams in accordance with Standing Operating Procedure; the 34th Field Artillery Battalion was in general support and reinforced the 26th Field Artillery Battalion; the 196th Field Artillery Battalion was in direct support of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions 395th Infantry. The 376th AAA AW Battalion fulfilled its normal mission of anti-aircraft defense. The 413th AAA Battalion (less one battery attached to the 60th Infantry) supported the Division with one battery in the vicinity of EUPEN in an AA-AT role. Two batteries occupying AA positions in the vicinity of EUPEN were released from attachment. Elements of the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion were disposed as follows: Company A in direct support of the 39th Infantry, two platoons Company B in direct support of the 60th Field Artillery Battalion, and one platoon in direct support of the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry, and Company C in direct support of the 47th Infantry. Company D 746th Tank Battalion was attached to the 9th Reconnaissance Troop, and two provisional batteries of the 863rd AAA Battalion provided close-in machine gun support of front line units. The 15th Engineer Battalion performed its usual supporting missions.

25. 25 December 1944

a. Division CP: K837242, vicinity of EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. There was little activity in the Division sector on Christmas Day. The 39th Infantry executed demolitions on a bridge at K950106. Commencing at 0800A the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry and 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry made a mutual relief, by company, thus restoring each battalion to its own regimental sector. At 1930A Company A 10th Tank Battalion was released from attachment to the 38th Cavalry Squadron and reverted to control of 5th Armored Division. Our patrols were active along the front, and units continued to improve defensive installations.

26. 26 December 1944

a. Division CP: K825245, vicinity of EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The sector continued quiet. The 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry occupied and consolidated defensive positions north of KALTERHERBERG in rear of the 3rd Battalion 395th Infantry. Company I 47th Infantry moved from the vicinity of K900210 to the vicinity of K929167. The 3rd Battalion prepared plans for movement to defensive positions in the vicinity of K900180 in the event of an enemy penetration in the direction of this locality. The 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry prepared defensive positions in the area east of MUTZENICH into which it moved on the 25th. At 1730A a platoon of Company I which previously occupied a position in the line with the 38th Cavalry Squadron was moved to the right flank of the company. Enemy Artillery fire fell at scattered points and enemy aircraft dropped a few bombs in the 60th Infantry sector without causing any damage.



27. 27 December 1944

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a. Division CP: K825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. In all sectors enemy harassing and interdictory fire increased, becoming particularly heavy in the 47th and 60th Infantry sectors during the afternoon. Units continued the defence of their positions and patrolled against the enemy line. There was some readjustment in the positions of Company K 47th Infantry. In the 60th Infantry sector, in order to meet a threatened enemy penetration from the north, Company G was moved by motor from the vicinity of K880210 to the vicinity of K913220 in rear of the company's roadblock, while Company E was moved by motor to the position formerly occupied by Company G. Transportation to move the remainder of the battalion was held in the battalion area on alert status. At 1200A Company C 893rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (less one platoon) was relieved from attachment. One platoon moved to the rear from the vicinity of MUTZENICH and at 2000A, under cover of a heavy artillery screen, the remaining vehicles of the company were withdrawn from front line positions. The only other change in Division units was the movement of the 9th Reconnaissance Troop to the vicinity of K815275 at 1500A.

28. 28 December 1944

a. Division CP: K825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. On the left, the 60th Combat Team improved positions and strengthened obstacles. After dark a patrol sent out by the 3rd Battalion with the mission of locating enemy positions and capturing a prisoner encountered an enemy outpost, killed one of the enemy, wounded two, and captured one. Throughout the period routine patrolling was carried on for security and contact, with additional patrolling in rear areas as a measure against possible enemy infiltrations. Enemy artillery fire during the period was moderate.

c. In the center, the 47th Combat Team defended its sector without direct enemy contact. Moderate harassing and interdictory fire fell here also in both forward and rear areas.

d. On the right, the 39th Combat Team repulsed a small scale attack. Beginning at 0530A heavy artillery, mortar, machine gun, and small arms fire was received in the 2nd and 3rd Battalion areas, following which enemy infantry attacked Company L. This action was quickly broken up by artillery fire, but enemy shelling of our positions continued heavy during the morning.

29. 29 December 1944

a. Division CP: K825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Other than patrolling by front line units and the firing of harassing, interdictory, and counterbattery missions by the artillery, the front was inactive throughout the period. Forward positions and antitank defenses in depth continued to be strengthened.

30. 30 December 1944

a. Division CP: K825245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. The Division continued to defend in its sector and took action to clean up enemy groups which had been located close to our positions and push the outpost line further to the front. At 1330A a combat patrol from the 2nd Battalion 39th Infantry, reinforced with tanks, was sent to clean up an enemy pocket in front of Company F. Opposed by machine gun and small arms fire, the patrol eliminated the pocket and established an outpost at K947115. In the central sector, at 1910A the 47th Infantry attempted to occupy a house at K948194 which during the day it

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used as an outpost. Discovering the position occupied by approximately 20 enemy, artillery fire was placed on the house, and in the face of intense small arms fire two attempts were made to drive the enemy off but without success. Activity elsewhere was limited to patrol action. During the afternoon a combat patrol from the 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry encountered a strong enemy outpost at K942138, a position formerly held by the 99th Reconnaissance Troop, and plans were made to take the position the next day. About 2030A a 3-man patrol from the 1st Battalion ambushed an enemy patrol at K952176, killing three and wounding three.

c. There were some changes in troop locations. The relief of the 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry by the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry (attached to 39th Infantry) was begun, Company A 60th Infantry relieving Company I 39th Infantry before daylight. During the day Company A 39th Infantry relieved Company B and one platoon Company E relieved the right platoon Company F. After dark Company E took over the sector of Company K. The 60th Infantry moved some tank destroyers forward to better engage targets to the east and northeast.

d. In the 60th Infantry sector, engineers made a reconnaissance for the installation of a mine field across the front of the 38th Cavalry Squadron, and after dark the laying of mines was begun and continued the rest of the night.

31. 31 December 1944

a. Division CP: K325245, vicinity EUPEN, BELGIUM.

b. Measures toward pushing out the outpost line continued. At 1530A a combat patrol from Company C 60th Infantry moved out to establish an outpost at K940129, and after contacting the enemy a short distance from the main line and drawing heavy mortar and artillery fire, it accomplished its mission. This outpost was occupied jointly by the 39th and 47th Infantry.

c. The relief of front line units by troops in second line position continued. Prior to daylight Companies B and C 60th Infantry completed the relief of Companies G and L 39th Infantry respectively, Company G moving to the vicinity of the 2nd Battalion CP in reserve. The 3rd Battalion 39th Infantry was assigned the counterattack mission for which the 1st Battalion 60th Infantry was previously responsible. In the 47th Infantry, the reserve platoon Company G moved from K928139 to K932131, and one platoon Company E at K928143 relieved one platoon Company F at K 941148.

d. In the northern sector, mine-laying teams from Company C 15th Engineer Battalion and the 60th Infantry continued work on the mine field across the front of the 38th Cavalry Squadron, 988 mines being laid prior to daylight.

e. All sectors received scattered enemy artillery and mortar fire, a heavy concentration falling after dark in the vicinity of the 60th Infantry CP and nearby artillery positions.

SECTION IV - SUPPLY AND EVACUATION

1. SUPPLY

a. During the month of December the supply of some items of clothing and Ordnance parts to the Division was poor at times. Contact with Army Depots was difficult to maintain due to their movement and the movement of the Division from one Corps sector to another.

b. Rations were consumed on the following basis:

Type	B	76.4%
	C	11.8%
	D	2.1%
	K	2.1%
	U	0.0%
	10-in-1	7.6%
	Hosp Sup	0.0%
	Vitamin Pills	47,430

c. Gasoline consumption averaged 4.2 gallons per gas-consuming vehicle per day.

d. Ammunition expenditure for the month was 2360 tons which amounted to the following units of fire for the principal weapons:

Small Arms

Carbine	1.1
M1903	0.07
M1	4.9
MG cal .30	11.1
MG cal .50	9.3
Thompson Sub MG	14.3
Rocket, AT M6A1 HE	.96

Mortar

60mm	3.0
81mm	3.4

105, M3

7.2

Artillery

105mm How	8.3
155mm How	11.1

2. ORDNANCE. Supply of Ordnance items became critical during the month of December. Serious shortages existed in GMC brake drums and rear brake lining, GMC engines, Ford engines, tires and tubes and various engine assemblies. The supply of armament parts was not good. However, normal weapon maintenance was carried on by using parts from salvaged weapons. The Division was issued only 75% of its required prestone.

3. ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE. Work in the Division Ordnance Maintenance Shops continued at maximum capacity during the month. Accumulated mileage together with winter weather conditions increased the required maintenance considerably. Excellent shop facilities were available. The figures below give a numerical comparison between the work done in November and December.

	<u>MAJOR JOBS</u>	<u>MINOR JOBS</u>
November	150 (incl 101 Major Assemblies)	535
December	147 (incl 116 Major Assemblies)	512

4. EVACUATION. Total casualties treated during the month of December 1944:

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Injured</u>	<u>Exhaustion</u>
Division Total	198	1016	1663	432	73
Evacuated		740	1030	287	54
Returned to Duty		276	633	145	19
*Other Units		319	286	91	44
Evacuated		319	286	91	44
Returned to Duty					
Grand Total	198	1335	1949	523	117

\*Includes Prisoners of War and Civilians.

5. BURIAL. Ninth Division dead were buried in the 9th Infantry Division plot in the First Army Cemetery at HENRI-CHAPPEL, BELGIUM (K705352).

6. CAPTURED MATERIEL. Captured enemy materiel included:

a. Tanks

Mark IV 3

b. Vehicles

Sedan 1

c. Guns (20mm or larger)

75mm Gun 4

Antitank Gun 1

d. Miscellaneous

81mm Mortar 4

Rocket Launcher 1

Light Machine Gun 1

Rifle 5

Range Finder 1

AT Grenades, Hand Grenades and small arms ammo 5 tons

Panzer Faust Ammo 2 tons

8cm Mortar Ammo 1 ton

7. TRAFFIC

a. During the month of December two potential traffic bottlenecks were encountered. The first which involved only units of the 9th Infantry Division was in the town of LANGERWEHE where all roads to the front focussed before fanning out to the infantry battalions. Plans to eliminate this bottleneck included by-passes on the North and South edges of the town and restricting certain units to a given by-pass and billeting area in the town. Plans were also made to construct outlets from the AUTOBAHN which ran along the North (left) flank of the division to supply units in that area.

b. The second bottleneck was encountered in the SOURBRODT-EUPEN area, where a heavy concentration of Divisions and Corps troops all depended on a common road for supply and evacuation. It was evident from the great amount of traffic during normal periods that traffic during an emergency might cause serious difficulties. In preparation for such an emergency, V Corps set up a radio controlled traffic system on Highways N27 and N28 between EUPEN - MALMEDY - WAIMES - SOURBRODT and CAMP ELSENBORN (See attached diagram). All radio messages were sent in Slidex Code. The critical part of the bottleneck was between TCP #2 (V Corps) and TRP #7 (99th Div). The radio net was only partially successful and whether or not it would have satisfied the demands of an emergency was never proved. After three (3)

19  
25 SEP 1945

days trial the radio net was discontinued except for TCP #1 and TCP #2. A direct wire line was then installed between TCP #2 and TRP #7.

### 8. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

a. From an engineer point of view the month of December can be divided into three (3) phases; namely, (1) A training and winterization phase at the beginning of the month (CAMP EISENBORN); followed by (2) a road maintenance and mine clearance phase in the middle of the month during the attack toward the ROER RIVER (LANGFWEHE Area); and (3) in the latter days of December the defensive phase in which all emphasis was placed on the laying of mines and preparation of road blocks throughout the division sector (MONSCHAU Area).

b. A study of possible ROER RIVER floods was made and submitted to the Commanding General 9th Infantry Division. A ROER RIVER crossing study was also made and four different plans submitted to the Commanding General, 9th Division.

c. During the period 19-31 December, the main problem from a planning standpoint was the coordination of all divisional units and the establishment of liaison with all adjacent units who were laying or who had in the past laid mines in the division sector. This was necessary in order to permit the drawing up of an accurate barrier map, the accuracy of which was necessary for the safety of our own troops.

d. The following is a tabulation of the work performed by the 15th Engineer Battalion (C) during the month of December:

Anti-Personnel mines removed (Friendly)	13
Abatis prepared for demolition	3
Antitank mines laid	7981
Antitank mines lifted (enemy)	132
Antitank mines destroyed in place	24
Anti-personnel mines laid	25
Antitank mine road blocks w/abatis prepared for demolition	29
Bridges built and maintained	2
Bridges prepared for demolition	10
Bridges demolished	1
Bridge demolition charges removed	3
Corduroy road construction	400 yards
Craters prepared for demolition	3
Craters filled	2
Culverts installed	4
Enemy minefields marked	4
Gun emplacements prepared	6
Minefields gapped (friendly)	1
Road swept for mines	16 miles
Road repair and maintenance	31 miles
Road widened	1 mile
Rock quarries operated	2
Sommerfeld track laid	600 yards
Sand hauled for icy roads	56 cu yds
Timber road blocks removed	1
Timber shelters constructed	4
Trip warning flares installed	138
Walls demolished to aid fields of fire	2
Wire, double apron, laid	1675 yards
Wire, concertina, laid	1950 yards
Water point set-ups	8
Water distributed to troops	653015 gallons

e. In addition to the work noted, streets were cleared of rubble and roads widened through the towns of ECHTZ, DEICH, OBERGELICH, LANGENHANS, MERODE, SALTCH, JUNGERDORF, MARYANDEXLER, and DERICKSWITTEL.

SECTION V - PERSONNEL

UNIT	KILLED		DIED		MISSING		WOUNDED		TOTALS						
	IN ACTION	OFF	EM	TOT	IN ACTION	OFF	EM	TOT	IN ACTION	OFF					
Hq. Co.															
9th Sig. Co.															
9th Recn Twp.															
9th QM Co.															
709th Ord Co.															
15 Engr. Br.															
9th Med. Br.															
39th Inf.															
47th Inf.															
60th Inf.															
Div. Arty.															
26th FA Bn.															
34th FA Bn.															
60th FA Bn.															
84th FA Bn.															
Spec. Trps.															
MP Plat.															
DIVISION	7	169	176	3	19	22	2	50	52	29	675	704	41	913	954
TOTALS															

NOTE: In addition to above figures, 4 Officers and 97 Enlisted Men were dropped as Injured in Action

PRISONERS OF WAR

Date	Off	NCO's	Pvts	Totals
Dec 6			1	1
7			1	1
8			1	1
9			2	2
10	1	4	8	13
11	12	65	337	414
12		28	235	263
15	2	17	122	141
14		5	72	77
15		2	29	31
16			11	11
18			8	8
21		16	62	78
22	2	11	40	53
23	1	9	27	37
24			5	5
25		1	3	4
27		1	1	2
28			2	2
29			2	2
30			2	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>1148</b>

In addition to above figures, 182 PW's were evacuated through medical channels

REPLACEMENTS RECEIVED AND CASUALS RETURNED TO DUTY

DATE	REPLACEMENTS			RETURNED FROM HOSPITAL		
	OFF	EM	TOTAL	OFF	EM	TOTAL
Dec 1				3		3
2		1	1	5	246	251
3		6	6	1	1	2
4				1	1	2
6				1	26	27
7	1	1	2		102	102
12		10	10	5	179	184
14		11	11	8	68	76
15	1	29	30	2	15	17
16		4	4	2	47	49
18		5	5	2	4	6
20		19	19	4	110	114
21		4	4	4	85	89
22		200	200		1	1
23				1	103	104
24	8		8		9	9
25				1	3	4
26				2	69	71
27		400	400		15	15
28		153	153		13	13
29		6	6	4	66	70
30				1	43	44
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1206</b>	<b>1253</b>

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*Louis A. Craig*  
 LOUIS A. CRAIG,  
 Major General, U. S. Army,  
 Commanding.

INCLOSURES:

Maps: GERMANY 1/25,000; Sheets 5103, 5104, 5105, 5203, 5204, 5303, 5403,  
 5404, 5503, 5504.  
 G-2 Journals 1-31 December 1944  
 G-3 Journals 1-31 December 1944

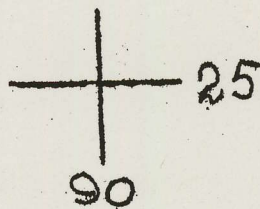
DISTRIBUTION:

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- Copy 5 Commanding General First U. S. Army
- 6 Commanding General V Corps
- 7 Commanding General 9th Infantry Division
- 8 Assistant to the Division Commander
- 9 Chief of Staff
- 10 Adjutant General 9th Infantry Division

- 23 -  
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EUPEN  
TCP #1  
V CORPS



TCP #8  
9th DIV

TCP #7  
9th DIV

TCP #2  
V CORPS

TCP #3  
2nd DIV

TCP #6  
3rd DIV

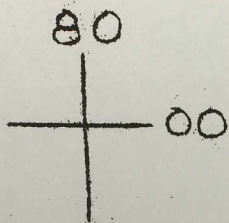
TCP #4  
1st DIV

TCP #5  
1st DIV

MALMEDY

WAIMES

V CORPS  
TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN  
ANNEX "A"



Map GSGS 4416 Sheet S-1  
Scale 1/100,000