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AUTHORITY OF TAG TJOS

**AFTER BATTLE REPORT  
HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
G-3 SECTION**

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Date Initials PERIOD 1 JULY 1944 - 31 JULY 1944

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1. 1 July - 6 July, inclusive.

From 1 to 6 July, inclusive, the Division as part of XIX Corps continued vigorous patrolling and active defense of its line VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL - AIREL - LE MEAUFFE. Plans for the proposed river crossing operation were laid and where practicable were practiced.

The 119th Infantry in vicinity LES ESSARTS continued vigorous patrolling and active defense of its sector East of the VIRE RIVER. On 2 July, reserve units of the regiment conducted river crossing practice in preparation for pending operation. At 040300B July, 2d Battalion, 119th Infantry was relieved by 2d Battalion, 175th Infantry and moved into area vicinity of 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry.

The 120th Infantry in vicinity MONTMARTIN EN GRAIGNES continued active defense and vigorous patrolling of its sector North of the VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL. During the above period, reserve units of the regiment conducted joint infantry-tank training with elements of the 743d Tank Battalion, which remained in rendezvous in vicinity LE BOIS prepared to assist 120th Infantry in defense of area.

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The 117th Infantry, less 3d Battalion, remained in XIX Corps Reserve in vicinity LISON, the 1st Battalion relieving the 3d Battalion 3 July, and the regiment itself reverting to division control at 062200B. During the above period, the 3d Battalion and 1st Battalion, after it had relieved the 3d Battalion, conducted vigorous patrolling and active defense of regiment's sector East of the VIRE RIVER. The elements of the regiment in Corps Reserve continued to patrol sector East of the VIRE RIVER. On 2 July, the 2d Battalion rehearsed plans for proposed operation.

At 021120B July, the 743d Tank Battalion, less one Platoon, Company C, and two Platoons Company D, was relieved from attachment to 120th Infantry and was regrouped in vicinity of its battalion CP, closing into area at 022130 July, prepared to support division in the defense or attack. The 823d T.D. Battalion was attached to division at 031920 July and was further attached to 30th Division Artillery for indirect fire missions, closing into positions 3 & 4 July. Battalion assisted Division Artillery in its support of the division's defense of its sector. The 30th Division Artillery, reinforced by 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached, and 58th Armored Field Artillery Battalion and 963d Field Artillery Battalion in general support, continued to support the division defense of its sector.

Company "D", 81st Chemical Battalion, vicinity 119th Infantry, was relieved from attachment to 30th Division Artillery at 011800B July and at 031200B July the 92d Chemical Battalion, less Company B, was attached to Division Artillery and placed in direct support of 117th Infantry. All guns, organic and attached, of the Division Artillery participated in the 4th of July salute. On 6 July, the 391st Armored Field Artillery Battalion gave added general support to Division Artillery, and the 118th Field Artillery Battalion, 197th Field Artillery Battalion, and 230th Field Artillery Battalion fired propaganda leaflets in the vicinity of GRAIGNES, VENERON, ST JEAN de

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DAYE, ST FROMONDS, CAVIGNY, PONT HEBERT, 1a DESERT.

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The 531st AAA AW Bn gave antiaircraft protection to the batteries of the Division Artillery in forward positions. At 031400B Battery D was relieved from mission of furnishing protection to 58th Field Artillery Battalion and rejoined the battalion.

The 30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, continued to reconnoiter roads and to out-post area between 117th Infantry and 120th Infantry in vicinity NEUILLY laFORET until relieved by elements of 125th Cavalry at 011000B July, at which time it moved into assembly area in vicinity 119th Infantry and prepared to assist Division in proposed operation.

The 105th Engineer C Battalion gave normal engineer support to division in its defense of sector and continued road and river reconnaissance. On 1 July, 1st and 2d Platoons, Company A, attached 2d Platoon, Company B, held a practice stream crossing with assault boats on VIRE RIVER in vicinity (473847) and assisted 117th Infantry in booby trap training. A detail from Company B assisted 119th Infantry in crossing 2 patrols over VIRE RIVER in vicinity (505735) at 011130B July. Remainder of company was organized and oriented in construction of foot bridges. Company C prepared satchel charges to be used in gapping hedge rows. During entire period of 1-6 July, the Battalion engaged in operations and prepared plans for proposed stream crossing operation.

2. 7 July.

At 070430B July 44, the 30th Division launched attack to cross VIRE RIVER and VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL. The 117th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, (-), crossed the VIRE RIVER in column of battalions by assault boats and foot bridge between its junction with VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL and ST FROMONDS. Bridge head was established by 2d Battalion and attack was made with two battalions, 2d and 3d, abreast, each supported by one company of 743d Tank Battalion and with reserve (1st) battalion supporting left flank, the attack continuing to the W and SW. Company A, 117th Infantry, followed 2d Battalion across river to assist in clearing town of ST FROMOND. The 119th Infantry, less 2d Battalion, initially supported the crossing of the 117th Infantry by fires of all heavy weapons from positions on E bank of the VIRE RIVER. Blanketing fires were lifted at 070755 and at 071040 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry, was ordered by regiment to assemble vicinity les ESSARTS, prepared to cross river on division order. 1st Battalion positions were extended to cover sector formerly held by 3d Battalion. The 2d Battalion, in Division Reserve, crossed the VIRE on concrete bridge W of AIREL at 071010B and at end of period was in contact with enemy on left of 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry (745485). 120th Infantry, less 2d Battalion, attached 1st and 2d Tank Platoons, Company D, and 3d Tank Platoon Company C, 743d Tank Battalion, and Company C, 105th Engineer C Battalion, forced crossing of VIRE et TAUTE CANAL at 071345B July on road N of ST JEAN de DAYE (468779) in conjunction with renewal of attack by 117th Infantry. The 2d Battalion in Corps Reserve supported the crossing of the regiment by fires of all weapons from positions on N bank of canal W of bridge. Bridge on highway was completed at 1758 and majority of supporting tanks were across canal by 1846. Advance continued with 1st Battalion on left, 3d Battalion on right. The 2d Battalion remained in position in Corps Reserve. Slow progress was made until approximately 1815 when the advance became more rapid and 3d Battalion reached objective at 2230. The day's operation ended with the regiment prepared to continue the attack to the S.

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823d Tank Destroyer Battalion was initially attached to Division Artillery for secondary mission and supported the attack from indirect fire positions in vicinity GOVIN with Company A in 120th Infantry area. On release from Division Artillery at 070630B, Company B followed 117th Infantry across VIRE and Company A prepared to follow 120th Infantry across canal. Company "C" moved from indirect fire positions and at end of period was in position of readiness prepared to cross VIRE on call to take up direct fire positions.

The 30th Division Artillery, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 92d Chemical Battalion, (-), and 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion attached, supported Division in forcing crossing of the VIRE RIVER and VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL. The 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion was relieved from attachment at 070630B and the 92d Chemical Battalion was released from attachment 30th Infantry Division 071200B.

The 531st Antiaircraft Artillery, Automatic Weapons, Battalion, (-), continued protection of Division Artillery in forward position. Six fire units Battery D assumed ground mission of delivering harassing fire from positions in vicinity (435800). Two fire units Battery D assumed protection of bridge at (468779) and were in position ready to fire at 071730B. Battery D assumed antiaircraft protection of bridge site at (504748) at 071730B.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, was relieved from Division Reserve and assigned mission of patrolling area between 1st and 3d Battalions, 119th Infantry.

The 105th Engineer Combat Battalion, less Company "C", supported the 117th Infantry in the crossing of the VIRE RIVER and the clearing of mine fields and demolitions. Company C, attached to the 120th Infantry assisted that regiment in crossing VIRE ET TAUTE CANAL and cleared mine fields on roads to South. Feet bridge was thrown across VIRE RIVER at ST FROMOND twice and was knocked out immediately each time by direct hits. The third bridge across remained.

The 30th Signal Company established communication post at (515742) to assist in crossing of VIRE RIVER.

The day's operation ended with the Division in position (120th Infantry Southeast ST JOHN DE DAYE, 117th Infantry high ground (485785), 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry in position to cross VIRE RIVER, and prepared to continue attack to South, 2d Battalion across river in position on left flank of 117th Infantry, and 1st Battalion continuing defense of area AMY - LE MEAUFFE).

### 3. 8 July.

The division continued the attack to South at 0539B with 117th Infantry and 120th Infantry Regiments in contact with enemy. The 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry, was pinched out by 3d Battalion and reverted to Division Reserve in vicinity LE MESNIL VENERON. The 2d Battalion, 120th Infantry, was relieved from XIX Corps Reserve at 1400B and passed through the 1st Battalion at 1920B. By 2200B it had advanced to position in vicinity LA HEROURIE. The 119th Infantry, (-), crossed VIRE at AIREL and closed into assembly area at 1315B in vicinity BORDIGNY. Its 2d Battalion was released from Division Reserve at 1030B and the Regiment attacked at 1545B to the South with the 2d Battalion on the right, 3d Battalion on left, and advanced to positions on line with 117th Infantry.

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The 743d Tank Battalion, (-), attached to 117th Infantry, and one Platoon Company C, and 2 platoons Company D attached to 120th Infantry, continued to support the division in its attack to the South.

The 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, less Company B, continued to push reconnaissance forward and occupied positions to counter enemy tank attack from the South and West. Company B remained in positions of readiness East of AIREL, prepared to cross river and take up direct fire positions on order.

The 30th Division Artillery, attached 203d Field Artillery Battalion and 92d Chemical Battalion (-), continued to support the division's advance. 230th Field Artillery Battalion crossed to positions South VIRE RIVER at 081745B.

120th Infantry at end of period had established a line 6,500 yards South of Canal with 117th Infantry on left and 113th Cavalry Group on right.

The 531st Antiaircraft Artillery, Automatic Weapons, Battalion continued to give protection to forward elements of the Division Artillery and to crossing sites in 30th Division sector. Battery D moved in conjunction with the 230th Field Artillery Battalion and occupied position prepared to fire at 082000B.

The 30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, continued to patrol and outpost sector AIREL - LE MEAUFFE.

The 105th Engineer C Battalion continued normal support of the Division in its attack to South. Company C was released from attachment to 120th Infantry at 081030B.

#### 4. 9 July.

117th Infantry continued the attack to South with 1st and 3d Battalions at 090700B and advanced to its initial objective, encountering slight enemy resistance. Enemy counterattacked 091540B supported by tanks. Front line battalions remained in position and engaged enemy, repulsing counterattack, and Regiment continued attack to the South at approximately 091900B, occupying positions at end of period in vicinity LA PORTE VERTE.

119th Infantry attacked to South in its zone with 2d and 3d Battalions. The advance was slow because of presence of friendly armored units in its zone. At 091330B 3d Battalion seized CAVIGNY and continued attack to the South. At 2250B both Battalions reached objective, vicinity LA COCQUERIE and prepared to continue attack at 100700B.

120th Infantry continued attack to the South with 2d Battalion reinforced with Company B, 743d Tank Battalion, passing through 1st Battalion making slow progress. A counterattack from Southeast was repulsed. 3d Battalion holding crest of hill North of LE DESERT received continuous pressure from enemy during day, was relieved by one Battalion of the 9th Infantry Division and moved to support 1st and 2d Battalions now in position at (450720).

30th Division Artillery, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 391st and 58th Field Artillery Battalions and 92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached, supported Division's attack to South from ST JEAN DE DAYE - AIREL. From 1530B to 1930B the Division Artillery

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assisted in replusing a counterattack on South front with fire from 18 battalions including, besides the Divisions' Organic Battalions, the 391st, 58th and 67th Armored Field Artillery Battalions and Corps Artillery. The 113th and 118th Field Artillery Battalions displaced to position South and West of VIRE RIVER during the day. 92d Chemical Battalion (-) continued in attachment to Division Artillery.

531st Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion continued to give protection to forward elements of Division Artillery and prepared to relinquish protection of the bridge over the VIRE when relieved by Corps Antiaircraft units. Battery A moved with 113th and 203d Field Artillery Battalions.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, was given mission of patrolling roads West of highway between (471747) and (470723).

105th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to aid advance of Division with a company in support of each regiment. Reconnaissance was made of VIRE RIVER, Southwest of ST FROMOND in preparation to assist 1st Battalion, 119th Infantry, in its crossing. Battalion continued to clear roads and shoulders of mines and destroyed small amounts of enemy ammunition at sites located. Cased lots of ammunition found were delivered to Ordnance.

743d Tank Battalion was attached to 120th Infantry and continued to support Division in its attack to the South.

Combat Command B, 3d Armored Division was attached to Division and aided in attack. At end of period was in position between 119th Infantry and 117th Infantry.

Company B, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, crossed VIRE RIVER and was in position in vicinity of 470746 by 0530B. Main weight of power was concentrated within area (470720) - (460740) - (470746). Because of enemy situation, unit was unable to push as far south as planned and after reorganization of forces occupied positions to protect Division from tank attack from South and Southwest. Battalion was subjected to small arms, mortar and artillery fire during entire period.

#### 5. 10 July.

119th Infantry continued the attack to South at 100700B. Enemy resistance was encountered upon launching the attack with very stubborn resistance encountered along present line in vicinity PONT HEBERT. 1st Battalion was relieved by elements of 35th Infantry Division at 100100B, and crossed VIRE RIVER 100630B to occupy position South of LA COCQUERIE in Regimental Reserve. 100625B 1st Battalion crossed VIRE RIVER on bridge prepared by Engineers. 0700B 2d and 3d Battalions crossed line of departure as scheduled. 3d Battalion encountered strong dug-in defense positions, reaching them at 0910B, and continued to advance. 1st Battalion cleared into its assembly area North of CAVIGNY at 1005B.

120th Infantry, 743d Tank Battalion, attached, continued the attack to South at 101055B, 1st and 3d Battalions in column, against stubborn enemy resistance, and at close of period occupied positions as follows: 1st Battalion (450710), 2d Battalion (450720), 3d Battalion (450700), prepared to continue attack to South.

- 5 -

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117th Infantry, when pinched out by the 120th Infantry and Combat Command B, was placed in Division Reserve vicinity RAULINE. All Battalions reorganized and dug-in for all-round defense. Continuous patrolling and contact was maintained by all Battalions between themselves and adjacent units.

Combat Command B continued its attack to South at 100700B and at close of period occupied defensive positions on high ground in vicinity VENTS.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, A Company made slight adjustments of its position to cover tank threat from Southwest and B and C Companies made extensive readjustments and continued close support of 120th and 119th Infantry Regiments. Positions immediately in rear 120th Infantry were reconnoitered by "B" Company. Reconnaissance Platoons were used to provide close-in support for gun positions. Period ended with Battalion in position to stop armored thrust from South and Southwest.

30th Division Artillery, attached 203d Field Artillery, 391st Groupment (391st Armored Field Artillery Battalion and 58th Field Artillery Battalion) and 92d Chemical Battalion (-), with 3d Armored Division Artillery (67th and 87th Field Artillery Battalions and 258th Field Artillery Battalion) in general support continued support of division in attack to South. Artillery assisted in repelling counterattack on South front and delivered counterbattery, interdiction and harassing fire, and fired concentrations on targets of opportunity on call.

531st AAA AW Bn continued protection of Division Artillery in forward positions.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, held road blocks at (457727) - (454732). 3d Platoon reconnoitered points (451722), (452721) and (455716).

105th Engineer Combat Battalion continued normal support of the Division in its attack to South and maintained extensive mine reconnaissance and road repair in Division area. Company B assisted 1st Battalion 119th Infantry in crossing VIRE RIVER.

6. 11 July - 119th Infantry at 110600 received counterattack by enemy tanks and foot troops that had infiltrated during night. Attack was repulsed and rear areas were cleared up. During action four Mark IV Tanks were destroyed in the regimental sector. Regiment continued attack to South. At 111530B 1st Battalion passed through 3d Battalion and was counterattacked by infantry at 111810B. This attack was repulsed and positions consolidated, and at end of period regiment was in position along line PONT HERBERT Southeast to bridge prepared to continue attack to South.

120th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, was counterattacked on its right flank by tanks. On the evening of 10 July, the 3d Battalion, 120th Infantry, moved into position at LA ROCHE and dug-in, establishing road blocks and all around security. Unit had been informed that friendly tanks were in front of their position and during darkness on the evening of 11 July, a German tank and infantry column neared Battalion's road block. The guards let them through because they believed the column was friendly. A few minutes later orders were heard in German and the Battalion Command Post was notified at once. The Battalion was alerted and proceeded to knock out and mop up everything that got through, and sent antitank riflemen and bazooka squads down the main column knocking out everything it could find. A count

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the next morning revealed that five tanks and 4 armored scout cars, two of which carried mounted flame throwers and the others mounting light field pieces, had been completely knocked out. The weapons used in the fight were in the main the bazooka and anti-tank rifle grenade, but .50 caliber, .30 caliber light machine gun, hand grenades and rifle fire was used effectively at various times during the fight. S-3 reports later revealed that the battalion had completely annihilated the point of an armored column and an undetermined number of tanks heard retreating in the distance must have been the leading elements of their main body. At 111100B the attack to South was continued against strong enemy opposition and at close of period unit was in contact with enemy in position with 2d Battalion vicinity (455700), 3d Battalion vicinity (461705) and 1st Battalion (458713), prepared to continue attack to Southeast of LA PLATRIERE.

117th Infantry remained in Division Reserve and continued to organize defensive positions with 1st Battalion in vicinity RAULINE and 3d Battalion in vicinity (468728). At 111400B 2d Battalion on Division order moved to new location in vicinity (463739) to protect right flank of 120th Infantry, closing into location 111930B. Regiment prepared to pass through 120th Infantry 12 July and continue attack to South.

Combat Command "B" continued its attack to south at 110800B against strong enemy opposition and at close of period was in defensive positions 1,000 yards South of VENTS. During the period Task Force "Y" was ordered to 119th Infantry sector to assist in repelling tank counterattack received on regiments left flank.

Companies B and C, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion remained in previous position while Company A made extensive readjustment. The battalion continued close support of division front in positions to stop tank thrust from South and Southwest, with organic reconnaissance platoons providing close-in support for gun positions.

30th Division Artillery, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 391st Field Artillery Group, and 92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached, continued to support Division's attack to South and to assist in repulsing counterattack.

531st Antiaircraft Artillery continued protection of Division Artillery. Battery C relocated in conjunction with displacement of 197th Field Artillery Battalion.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, held road block at (457727) with 1st Platoon. The 2d and 3d Platoons supported 3d Battalion 120th Infantry and reconnoitered in vicinity (457704), capturing 14 prisoners at (460704).

105th Engineer Combat Battalion continued normal engineer reconnaissance and road repair with companies in direct support of infantry regiments.

7. 12 July.

117th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, was released from Division Reserve and passed through 120th Infantry, continuing its attack to South and Southwest at 120900B, formation column of battalions echeloned to right rear to cover open flank, and at the close of the period was in position along line VENTS - le ROCHER.

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119th Infantry continued its attack to the South at 120900B against stubborn enemy resistance from the Southeast and at the close of the period was in contact with the enemy along stream East from LA FOUTELAIE. At 121230B July, 1st Battalion reported counterattack on its left flank supported by automatic weapons. The attack was broken up by heavy weapons and artillery concentrations. Companies A and B attacked SE from PONT HEBERT to pinch out enemy in vicinity of bridge and to protect left flank of 2d Battalion.

120th Infantry in Division Reserve continued to occupy road blocks on Division W flank from LE DESERT to VENTS.

743d Tank Battalion was released from attachment to 120th Infantry and attached to 117th Infantry, continuing support of Division in its attack to the South.

Combat Command B, less Task Force Y, assisted 119th Infantry in attack to South and to take bridge at (475686). Positions at VENTS were strafed by friendly air with loss of one (1) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck with four (4) men injured. Air mission was requested on enemy vehicles at (445668). 1st Platoon, 23d Armored Engineer Battalion, reduced flak tower in vicinity VENTS, and constructed road blocks East, West, and South of VENTS. 391st Field Artillery Group was in direct support of Combat Command B.

Within 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, between 0800 and 1000 hours, there was a general shifting of platoons to create a solid line of defense and close support of infantry battalions. Extensive reconnaissance was maintained to determine front line locations of infantry units and continuous attempts were made to get positions at HTS VENTS - BELLE LANDE and river crossing South and East of BELLE LANDE. This was prevented by small arms and artillery fire.

Division Artillery, 92d Chemical Battalion (-), 203d Field Artillery Battalion, and 391st Field Artillery Group attached, continued to support division in its attack to South and assisted in repulsing counter attack. Division Artillery fired ten preparations in support of attack of 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry at 121115 and a similar preparation in support of attack of 2d Battalion, 119th Infantry, at 122210. Fires were placed on enemy batteries, infantry strong points and local counter attacks.

531st Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion continued protection of Division Artillery forward elements. Battery B was relieved of protection of bridge at (468779) by Corps Antiaircraft Artillery at 121200B.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, began support of 117th Infantry 121000B July, 1st Platoon was relieved from road block at (457727) and moved to bivouac at (463722) at 1200. 3d Platoon maintained contact with 39th Infantry and 47th Infantry.

105th Engineer Combat Battalion; Company A, in support 117th Infantry, prepared demolition charges for 743d Tank Battalion to be used in gapping hedgerows. Also cleared roads from LA PLATRIERE to HTS VENTS of mines, and marked roads found to be clear. Company B in support 119th Infantry removed mine field in vicinity VIRE CANAL at (509721). Reconnaissance was made for two other mine fields at (502732) (493738). The second field had not been cleared but was plainly marked at close of period. Maintenance of roads was continued in 119th zone of operations. Company C was withdrawn from support of 120th Infantry at 1100 and continued mine and road reconnaissance in sector of Combat Command B.



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8. 13 July.

117th Infantry continued to occupy positions against heavy artillery fire and strong counterattacks. 2d Battalion attacked against strong enemy positions W la PLATRIERE and at close of period occupied organized defensive positions, prepared to continue attack on Division order. 3d Battalion, (-), occupied positions in vicinity (455710) prepared to repel counterattack or to attack on Division Order.

119th Infantry: 1st Battalion continued to attack against strongly defended enemy positions. Slight gains were made by the right flank companies. 2d Battalion continued to occupy and consolidate position (470695). 3d Battalion was in regimental reserve in vicinity 2d Battalion.

120th Infantry remained in division reserve and occupied road blocks.

743d Tank Battalion remained in support of 117th Infantry.

CC B continued to support the 30th Infantry Division and to occupy positions of previous day with exception of E Company, 33d Armored Regiment, which moved to vicinity RJ (461713) to support 2d Battalion, 120th Infantry, in repelling enemy counterattack. Company was not committed. Period ended with CC B in contact with 119th Infantry on left and 117th Infantry on right and with their MLRs to its front.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued with minor changes in positions to give normal defense of Division against tank attack. Reconnaissance for new positions was continued and reconnaissance platoons continued liaison with all infantry battalions in an endeavor to keep infantry fronts located at all times.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced with 203d Field Artillery Battalion, and 92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached, and 3d Armored Division Artillery in general support, fired 10 minute preparation at 130750 in support of Division's continued attack to the S. Also assisted Division in repelling enemy counterattack with prepared defensive fires.

At 2330, Battery B, 531st AAA AW Bn, engaged one DO 217 with three M-16B fire units at (504748) and Battery C engaged 1 ME 109 with 4 50 caliber fire units vicinity (485723). One .50 caliber w/c lost in action was replaced and in action at Battery C at 1630.

30th Reconnaissance Troop continued to maintain contact between 30th Division and 39th Infantry.

105th Engineer C Battalion continued road maintenance and mine field clearing with Companies A and B in direct support 117th Infantry and 119th Infantry respectively and Company C operating in zone of CC B.

Results of operations for division: Counter attack in front of the 119th Infantry and the right flank of 117th Infantry was repelled. Slight advance by 1st Battalion, 119th Infantry, and 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry. Division at close of period was actively defending its sector, making readjustments of front line elements and cleaning up small portions of enemy resistance on SE and SW flanks.

9. 14 July.

117th Infantry continued to organize defensive positions and to clean up enemy pockets on right flank in vicinity (442706).

119th Infantry: 1st Battalion launched a limited attack at 141000 to straighten its line and to seize bridge across VIRE RIVER at (474686). Lines were straightened at 141410B and 2d and 3d Battalions continued to organize and actively defend their sector.

120th Infantry remained in Division Reserve. The 1st Battalion closed into its reserve area at approximately 1730. During the day the men of the following units were given a bath in the vicinity of AIREL: 3d Battalion, Cannon Company, Headquarters Company, Antitank Company, and 1st Battalion. Road blocks continued to be manned at present time.

743d Tank Battalion, reinforced, remained in support of 117th Infantry. Two Mark Vs were knocked out by C Company. B and D Companies moved to (456691) at 1600 hours. Vehicles were in need of maintenance.

Combat Command B continued to support 30th Division and to actively defend positions vicinity VENTS. Only change in troops: A Company, 83d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, relieved D Company, 83d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion. One (1) Platoon mortars supported 119th Infantry attack on bridge at (475684) and town on BELLE LANDE. Companies E and G were attached to 743d Tank Battalion which was supporting 117th Infantry in attack to South 15 July.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued normal defense of Division against Tank attack. With passing of threat to NW flank it became possible to deepen antitank defenses further to S and to provide mobile reserves. A position in vicinity of VENTS was established and hedgerows were blown in preparation for night occupation. Antitank warning outposts were established in vicinity (474688).

30th Division Artillery, reinforced, continued interdiction, counterbattery, and harassing fire. Fires were placed on enemy strongpoints, vehicles, outposts, infantry and mortars.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, continued to maintain contact between 30th Infantry Division and 47th Infantry at (453753).

105th Engineer C Battalion continued its support of 117th Infantry, 119th Infantry, and Combat Command B. The battalion discovered several ammunition dumps, destroyed loose rounds and turned in cased lots to Ordnance.

531st AAA AW Battalion continued to protect Division Artillery in forward areas and all batteries fired on undetermined number of enemy planes between 2120-2125B.

Results of Operations: 30th Infantry Division continued active defense of its sector and continued limited attack to SW and S flanks to straighten lines and to clean up small pockets of enemy resistance.

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10. 15 July.

117th Infantry, less 2d Battalion, with 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry, and 743d Tank Battalion, reinforced, attached, attacked to S at 150530B against stubborn enemy resistance. Formation, 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry, on left, 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry on right, 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry, in reserve, and with one medium tank company attached to each assault battalion. At approximately 1400 Company C, 117th Infantry, moved to front line to fill gap between attacking battalions. At approximately 1600 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry reverted to regimental control and was moved to protect right flank of 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry. Artillery fired continuous support of entire operation, including a 15 minute preparation and successive rolling barrages. At end of period regiment was in position along line (447682)-Road Junction 85 - (460673).

119th Infantry, (-), 3d Battalion, plus 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry, attached, continued to occupy former position and to clean up small enemy pockets of resistance within its area. The 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry, attached to 119th Infantry, was shelled heavily during early morning hours. At 1610, 1st Battalion moved S from its positions with mission of protecting left flank and establishing patrol contact with 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry. 1st Battalion mopped up area of quarry in zone of 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry, and sent out strong patrols to cover bridge east of quarry. 2d Battalion, with platoon from E Company controlling VIRE RIVER BRIDGE at PONT HEBERT was relieved at 2200 by B Company.

120th Infantry remained in division reserve with 1st Battalion in vicinity (455708), 2d Battalion in vicinity (455715), 3d Battalion in vicinity (465730). 2d Battalion completed bathing men by 1700 today.

743d Tank Battalion, reinforced by Companies E and G, 33d Armored Regiment, Combat Command B, attached, supported 117th Infantry in its attack to the south.

Combat Command B continued to support 30th Infantry Division and to defend positions. D Company, 33d Armored Regiment relieved G Co, 33d Armored Regiment. D and E Companies now attached to 743d Tank Battalion. No other troop movements. 30th Division on right and left flank and to front of Combat Command B positions.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued normal defense of the division against tank attack. Reconnaissance for gun positions, routes, and front lines were continuous throughout period.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced, supported Division's attack to S with a fifteen minute preparation on a limited area beginning 150515 followed thereafter by a light rolling barrage and successive concentrations with emphasis on observed counterbattery missions. 197th Field Artillery Battalion Staff Sergeant Observer adjusted on two (2) platoons enemy infantry in vicinity (445683) (35th Infantry Division Sector). Observer in conjunction with Division Artillery advised friendly troops when to move into area. 203d Field Artillery Battalion was relieved from attachment to 30th Division Artillery and reverted to XIX Corps control effective 151600 July. Results of Operations - Artillery supported Division's advance South to LE MESNIL DURAND. Interdiction and harassing fire kept enemy efficiency and ground activity to a minimum.

531st AAA AW Battalion continued protection of division artillery in forward positions.

- 11 -  
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189

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30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained liaison between 47th Infantry and 60th Infantry by 3d Platoon and by 2d Platoon between 47th and 117th Infantry as of 150500. Patrol from 1st Platoon left to investigate ESPLANDES (441695) at 1800. Patrol reached (444699) at 1900 and suffered two (2) casualties from machine gun and Automatic Weapons fire at (446698).

105th Engineer Combat Battalion continued maintenance of roads and search for mine fields in division zone with Companies A and B still in direct support 117th Infantry and 119th Infantry and Company C operating in zone of Combat Command B.

Result of Operation: 30th Infantry Division continued attack to S against stubborn enemy resistance, heavy mortar fire, artillery fire, and cleaned up pockets of enemy resistance within its sector. Effective 152400B July 44 the 30th Infantry Division was released from XIX Corps and attached to VII Corps.

16 Jul -  
120th Infantry continued the attack of the division at 161000B. Attacking echelons passed through 117th Infantry and attacked with Battalions abreast, 1st Battalion on right, 2d Battalion on left, 3d Battalion behind 2d Battalion, 119th Infantry. Regiment encountered stiff enemy resistance but advanced slowly. Period ended with 2d Battalion S & SW of Le MESNIL DURAND and 1st continuing line NW to le VIGUERIE.

119th Infantry in division reserve continued protection of bridge at PONT HEBERT. 3d Battalion after being passed through by 2d Battalion, 120th Infantry, reverted to regimental control and moved to assembly area vicinity la CHENEE. Regiment's positions along 685 grid line S of BELLE LANDE.

743d Tank Battalion, reinforced, by Companies E and D, CC B attached, supported 120th Infantry in its attack to the S.

CC B, less 2 Medium Tank Companies (attached to 743d Tank Battalion) was released from Division control and reverted to control 3d Armored Division.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued normal defense of the division against tank attacks. Reconnaissance for fire positions, routes, and front lines were continuous throughout the period. Reconnaissance platoon No 3 was formed from battalion overhead for purpose of liaison with 119th Infantry Regiment.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced with 92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached, and 3d Armored Division Artillery in Corps general support, supported division in its advance to the S and destroyed 8 enemy tanks. Continuous interdictory and harassing fires were delivered to keep enemy efficiency to minimum, and artillery aided in repelling enemy counterattacks at 161715 in vicinity (450670) and at 162020 vicinity (445668) (448663) (441664) (452665).

531st AAA AW Battalion, no change.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, continued to maintain liaison with the 9th Infantry Division on right.

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105th Engineer C Battalion continued to assist division in its advance to S with Companies in direct support of infantry regiments, and conducted extensive reconnaissance and engineer maintenance in regimental zones.

Result of Operations: 30th Infantry Division continued to advance against stubborn enemy resistance to clean up pockets of enemy resistance in its sector.

11. 17 July.

117th Infantry continued protection of right and left flanks of the division's advance. Company B, plus 2 Platoons Company A, actively defended high ground E of le MESNIL DURAND and established road blocks NE of town. The 2d Battalion was given mission of capturing bridges at (43906790) and (439684) and at the close of the period 2200 were 400 yards from objective, prepared to move in following artillery barrage. 3d Battalion was reorganizing in position. Regiment continued protection of division flanks in zone of attack.

120th Infantry continued attack to S at 170800 and reached its objective high ground W of la HOUCARDERIE at 171151B. Consolidation of position was harassed by infiltrating enemy from the front and bypassed enemy from the rear. Counterattack on right flank at 171300B was repelled by 1st Battalion, and one on left flank at 171930B by 3d Battalion. At close of period positions were being consolidated and preparations being made to actively defend sector.

119th Infantry in Division Reserve continued protection of bridge at PONT HEBERT.

743d Tank Battalion, reinforced, by Companies E and D of CC B attached, supported 120th Infantry in its attack to S and upon reaching division objective was released from attachment to 120th Infantry. At close of period battalion was moving to an assembly area to undergo maintenance and repairs.

Companies E and D, 33d Armored Regiment, CC B, released from attachment to 30th Infantry Division and reverted to control 33d Armored Regiment.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued normal defense of division against tank attack. Reconnaissance for gun positions, routes, and front lines were continued throughout period. Bazooka tank-hunting teams were organized and used to run down reported tanks. None found.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced with 92d Chemical Battalion (-), attached, and 3d Armored Division Artillery in general support, assisted Division's advance S to one mile S le MESNIL DURAND, continuing interdiction and harassing fires to keep enemy efficiency to minimum. Assisted in repelling counterattacks at 171155B in vicinity (44186645) and 171810B in vicinity (44066687).

531st AAA AW Bn continued normal support of artillery in forward positions. Battery B was relieved of defense of bridge at (504748) at 2100.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained liaison with 39th Infantry by 2d Platoon and with 47th Infantry and 60th Infantry by 3d Platoon.

191

105th Engineer C Battalion: Company A in direct support 117th Infantry conducted reconnaissance in vicinity (456690) for supply route. Company B with 119th Infantry continued sweeping mine fields in regimental area. One teller field was located at (483705) and removed. 3d Platoon assisted in traffic control on road running SW from (489718). Company C with 120th Infantry continued mine field searching and road maintaining.

Results of operation: 30th Infantry Division pressed attack S against stubborn enemy resistance and continued to clean up pockets of enemy resistance in its sector. Division objective was reached at 171151B. At close of period positions were being consolidated and preparations were being made to actively defend sector.

12. 18 July.

117th Infantry continued to protect the right and left flanks of division. Company B, reinforced by two platoons Company A, held road blocks and high ground E and SE of la MESNIL DURAND. 2d Battalion with Company C, attached, launched a coordinated attack at 180600B against enemy held bridges on division right flank at (439685) and (438679). At 0930 both bridges had been taken and all enemy resistance mopped up. Bridges were outposted by 2d Battalion until relieved by 120th Infantry at 1630. At 182200, regiment was in division reserve in assembly area in vicinity VENTS with 1st battalion in vicinity (460680). One platoon, Company C, reinforced, and one platoon Company B, reinforced, were manning road blocks at ESQLANDES and BELLE LANDE Bridge respectively. Regiment prepared for counterattack.

119th Infantry was relieved from division reserve and ordered to occupy positions S of la HOUCARDERIE. Occupation was completed at 181600B July. 1st and 2d Battalions occupied MIR with 3d Battalion organizing RRL and garrisoning it with one rifle company, reinforced. 1st Battalion actively patrolled to river to prevent enemy infiltration. At 1600 road block at PONT HEBERT BRIDGE was relieved by 117th Infantry.

120th Infantry continued to defend division sector with road blocks and hasty mine fields until 181600B when it was relieved by 119th Infantry on Division Order, and at close of period was in position vicinity L'EPINE du VERDIER, prepared to defend its sector or to continue attack to S. The left flank of its zone of action was relieved by the 119th Infantry.

743d Tank Battalion remained in division reserve undergoing maintenance and repairs.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, minus Companies A and C, remained in positions of readiness reconnoitering for and preparing indirect fire positions to counter possible tank attack, with special attention to the S and SW. Company A in vicinity (475698) and Company C in vicinity (473693) were attached to Division Artillery for secondary mission.

30th Division Artillery, 18th Field Artillery Battalion, Companies A and C, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, and 92d Chemical Battalion (-), attached, continued normal support of division's active defenses of La VIRE and TERETTE Rivers along grid line 66.5 and assisted Division in repelling small local counterattacks at 182045 in vicinity (4478) (6591).

192

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between 35th Division on E flank and 9th Infantry Division on W flank.

105th Engineer C Bn: Company A, withdrawn from support 117th Infantry to battalion control, continued search for mines in 117th area, and assisted 119th Infantry and 531st AAA AW Battalion to prepare positions. Company B remained with 119th Infantry and conducted maintenance of roads and mine search in regimental area. Companies also prepared positions for 18th Field Artillery Battalion. Company C remained in direct support of 120th Infantry and continued search for mines and road maintenance in regimental sector. Placed hasty mine fields during early morning.

Result of operations: Division continued to actively defend its zone of action and cleaned out small pockets of enemy resistance to secure its right and left flank.

13. 19 July.

119th Infantry launched an attack to S at 191100B July with 1st Battalion on left, 2d Battalion on right and advanced rapidly against very light enemy opposition to line HTS DENIER - la GODARDERIE - VIRE RIVER E of la HOUCARDERIE. Objective was reached at 191150 and at close of period position had been consolidated. At 1150 1st Battalion sent out a combat patrol (reinforced platoon) to seize high ground to its front. Contact was established between 137th Infantry and 1st Battalion.

120th Infantry at 191100B launched an attack to S to seize that portion of MLR in its zone of action. Progress was slow due to dug-in tanks and well emplaced infantry. Regiment flanked resistance and at close of period part of the MLR was occupied by Company L, the line extending NW from HTS DENIER.

117th Infantry in division reserve remained in position and continued active reconnaissance in preparation of counterattack plans within the division throughout the period.

743d Tank Battalion in division reserve continued repair and maintenance of tanks, and the training of personnel.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, (-) Companies A and C, continued to remain in position of readiness to counter possible tank attack. Companies A and C and 92d Chemical Battalion (-) remained with division artillery which continued to support division's advance to S.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between 35th Division on E and 9th Division on W.

Result of Operations: 30th Infantry Division at 191100B launched an attack to the S to secure better terrain on which to establish its MLR and OPLR. The attack on the E flank progressed rapidly against very light opposition, and very slowly on right flank against strong opposition of dug-in tanks and well emplaced infantry. At close of period the division was in position as outlined above.

14 - 20 July.

119th Infantry continued to occupy positions on MLR and to actively defend its portion of division sector. Bridge in 2d Battalion sector at la NOUILLERIE was seized and OPLR was established S of Craek.

193

120th Infantry continued to occupy and actively defend positions as previously shown. The 3d Battalion in an attempt to gain better ground in which to establish its MLR gained 200 yards in a limited attack against stubborn enemy resistance consisting of dug-in tanks and well emplaced infantry. Line now extended W from HTS DENIER to 440 grid line.

117th Infantry remained in position in division reserve. Training in hedgerow tactics was conducted throughout the period.

743d Tank Battalion (-) continued maintenance and repair with one platoon Company A attached to 3d Battalion, 120th Infantry, at 202000B to assist in clearing out enemy pockets of resistance on SW flank in vicinity (438665).

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, less Companies A and C, continued to remain in position of readiness to counter possible tank attacks. Companies A and C remained attached to division artillery for secondary mission.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced by 18th Field Artillery Battalion, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 92d Chemical Battalion (-) and 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion (-) attached, 188th Field Artillery Group general support, supported the division in the active defense of its sector.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between the 35th Infantry Division on the E flank and the 9th Division on W flank.

Company A, 105th Engineer C Battalion, under battalion control, reconnoitered for mines and conducted road maintenance in 117th Infantry area. Company B with 119th Infantry, made preparation for construction of treadway bridges at (448657) under cover of darkness. Enemy fire prevented complete reconnaissance. Company C remained with 120th Infantry and reconnoitered and cleared all roads in vicinity HTS VENTS and to SW. Cleared mine fields vicinity (446676) - (446673) - (442672).

15. 21 July.

119th Infantry continued active defense of its sector and maintained reconnaissance patrols to determine enemy positions. (Reconnaissance showed bridge in 2d Battalion area was intact).

120th Infantry continued to improve its positions and to maintain active defense of its sector.

117th Infantry continued in division reserve in vicinity VENTS and conducted reconnaissance for pending operation.

One Platoon, Company A, 743d Tank Battalion, was relieved from attachment to 3d Battalion, 120th Infantry at 211715B and returned to battalion control. During this period the battalion readjusted its positions in preparation for pending operation.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, no change.



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30th Division Artillery, reinforced by 18th Field Artillery Battalion, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 92d Chemical Battalion (-), Companies A and C, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached, and 188th Field Artillery Group in general support, assisted in defense of division's sector and fired interdiction and harassing fires to keep enemy efficiency to a minimum.

531st AAA AW Bn, no change.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, remained in assembly area preparing for pending operation. 3d Platoon maintained liaison with 60th Infantry and 39th Infantry Regiments until relieved at 210700B.

92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached to Division Artillery for operation.

105th Engineer C Battalion continued engineer reconnaissance in division sector.

16. 22 July.

119th Infantry continued to improve its positions and to maintain active defense of its sector. Patrols were active and forward OP's were set up.

120th Infantry continued to improve its positions and to maintain active defense of its sector. 3d Battalion was relieved by 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry 221800B and cleared into assembly area 221930B.

117th Infantry (-), continued in Division Reserve. 3d Battalion was attached to 120th Infantry for relief of 3d Battalion 120th Infantry effective 221800B.

743d Tank Battalion remained in assembly area prepared to support proposed operation. Assault platoon moved to battery positions at (442692) and placed offensive fire on enemy CP at 221845B.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, 30th Division Artillery, and 531st AAA AW Bn, continued with no change in operations.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanized, remained in assembly area prepared to support coming operation.

105th Engineer C Battalion remained in assembly areas with Company A in vicinity (461700), Company B in vicinity (471712), and Company C in vicinity (469701), prepared to support forthcoming operation.

The division continued active defense of its sector and continued preparation of plans for operation "Cobra".

17. 23 July.

119th Infantry continued active defense and patrolling of its sector and sent patrol from 1st Battalion to cross river in 137th Infantry sector.

120th Infantry, reinforced with 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry, continued active defense of its sector.

195

42

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117th Infantry, less 3d Battalion, continued in Division Reserve and effected reconnaissance and reorganization. 3d Battalion remained in attachment to 120th Infantry.

743d Tank Battalion remained in assembly area prepared to support proposed operation.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, no change.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced, supported Division's active defense of sector and continued interdiction and harassing fire to reduce enemy efficiency.

531st AAA AW Battalion continued protection of Division Artillery. From 2058B to 2120B a flight of from 3 to 5 enemy FW 190's and ME 109's was engaged by all units of all batteries. One plane was shot down, credit to be decided by FUSA.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, remained in assembly area vicinity (458702) prepared to support forthcoming operation.

Division maintained active defense of sector and continued preparation for operation "Cobra". Three enemy planes were brought down over Division area at approximately 232120B.

18. 24 July.

119th Infantry withdrew 1st and 2d Battalions to position behind front lines in accordance with plans for operation "Cobra". At 241146B 2 P-47 planes dropped 3 bombs in vicinity 3d Battalion (455674) with resulting casualties: 4 killed, 33 wounded. At 241300B, 1st and 2d Battalions moved on Division order to reoccupy MLR, closing in positions 241415B. Contact patrol was sent out by 2d Battalion to ascertain extent of bombing.

120th Infantry, plus 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry attached, completed withdrawal of all troops to position behind bomb line at 241136B. At approximately 241145B elements of the regiment received bombing by friendly planes in vicinity (451679) with resulting casualties: 18 killed, 76 wounded. At 241155B Div order to reoccupy and straighten MIR was received, effective H-hour, and remainder of period was employed in accomplishing this mission. 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry, partially cleared area formerly occupied by enemy strong point vicinity (440665) and sent out platoon to contact left flank of 39th Infantry. Platoon was unable to establish physical contact.

117th Infantry (-), continued in Division Reserve, prepared to support pending operation. Suffered 8 casualties (wounded) as result of friendly bombing.

743d Tank Battalion remained in assembly area prepared to assist Division in pending operation. One casualty, wounded, resulted from bombing by friendly aviation.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, (-), remained in direct fire positions prepared to counter tank attacks from S and W. Companies A and C continued in attachment to

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196

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Division Artillery. Reconnaissance elements were withdrawn behind bomb line in preparation for operation "Cobra". Elements of the battalion were subjected to bombing by friendly planes, however, no casualties resulted.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced with 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion (-), 92d Chemical Battalion (-), attached, and 188th Field Artillery Group in general support, covered withdrawal by division to positions behind bomb line. Battalions delivered scheduled fires between 1140B and 1234B, and counter-battery, interdiction and harassing fires during period. 197th Field Artillery Battalion had one killed, 3 wounded as result of bombing by friendly aviation.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, remained in assembly area prepared to support Division in pending operation.

105th Engineer C Battalion continued preparation of plans for pending operation with Companies A, B, and C prepared to support 117th, 119th, and 120th Infantry Regiments respectively. The battalion suffered 7 casualties (wounded) as a result of bombing by P-47s in vicinity (460680).

At 240710B, operation "Cobra" was put into effect by Division. Troops were notified at 240730B and began withdrawal behind bomb line (436673) (462663). At 241146B elements of Division received bombing attack by P-47s and squadron of heavy bombers with casualties resulting as shown above. Total casualties were 24 killed, 128 wounded. Operation "Cobra" was cancelled and division reoccupied MLR and straightened lines on right flank.

19. 25 July.

At 251100B the 30th Infantry Division operation "Cobra" was put into effect. Announcement of D-day and H-hour had been received from VII Corps by TWX at 250030B. All units had been notified of time, date of attack, and had withdrawn all their elements well behind bomb safety line prior to H-hour. The action of the various units of the division are outlined below.

119th Infantry, attached Company C and one platoon Company D, 743d Tank Battalion, attacked 251100B to South encountering stiff resistance from heavy artillery, mortars, and dug-in tanks. Regiment continued moving forward slowly in the attack throughout period and occupied positions along East-West line through HEBECREVON with 1st Battalion astride road North of town and 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry (attached on division order at approximately 2000B) in line HEBECREVON - LA CREVONNIERE. Casualties were suffered during period by friendly bombing.

120th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, less Company C and one Platoon Company D, was delayed in moving forward in attack at H hour due to friendly bombing of troops. 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry was attached, regiment reorganized and attacked at H plus 30, encountered heavy resistance consisting of dug-in tanks, infantry, artillery and mortar fire, but advanced and occupied positions along line TERETTE R at (433660) to (439653)

117th Infantry (-), remained in division reserve prepared to move at H hour following CT 119, but slowness of advance prevented movement into selected assembly

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areas. 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry, was attached to CT 120 at H hour relieving 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry previously attached to 120th Infantry. 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry, was attached to CT 119 on division order at approximately 2000. 3d Battalion, 117th Infantry, remained in former location reorganizing after suffering casualties resulting of friendly bombing.

Companies A, B, and Company D, less 1 platoon, 743d Tank Battalion assisted 120th Infantry in the advance to the south. Company C and one platoon of Company D was attached to 119th Infantry and assisted regiment in its advance.

The 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, less Company B, was attached to 30th Division Artillery for secondary mission. The battalion maintained constant reconnaissance, and B Company acted in direct support of division's attack. C Company was relieved from attachment to Division Artillery at 251340B.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced by 203d Field Artillery Battalion, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion (-), 92d Chemical Battalion (-) attached, and 188th Field Artillery Group, general support, assisted attack of the division at 251100B on Hill 80 (4664) and ST GILLES (4362). The attack was preceded by 80 minutes air bombardment prior to which time it covered with scheduled fires the withdrawal of infantry behind bomb safety line. A six minute preparation was commenced at 251054B. During remainder of period the attack was supported by prearranged fires on call.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, remained in assembly area vicinity (458702) prepared to move forward in division zone and mop up enemy resistance bypassed by assault echelons, and to move to south flank of division and maintain contact between 117th Infantry and 2d Armored Division.

105th Engineer C Battalion remained in close support of infantry regiments in attack, performing normal engineer functions with particular attention to clearing of roads and mine fields in division zone of action.

Division suffered 662 casualties which included 64 killed, 374 wounded, 60 missing, and 164 cases of combat exhaustion as a result of bombing by friendly planes during period. Division attacked to the South at 251100. Enemy resistance and heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire was encountered throughout period. Division moved steadily forward and occupied positions as shown on overlay. Division artillery reported 9 enemy tanks destroyed in vicinity (433645). 120th Infantry reported 2 enemy tanks destroyed.

20. 26 July.

117th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, less Company C and one platoon Company B, advanced from division reserve and attacked to south to seize objective P (vicinity (470635)) at 260900B. Initially the advance was very slow due to heavy artillery fire and enemy small arms fire from well dug-in positions. At 262200B, 1st battalion seized objective P and strong patrols from Company A were pushed forward to seize objective S (vicinity (485635)). At the end of the period regiment was in position prepared to continue attack on division order. Tanks were unable to join operation due to 88 fire.

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119th Infantry, attached Company C and one platoon Company D, 743d Tank Battalion, and Companies A and C, 92d Chemical Battalion, continued attack to South and Southeast to seize objective Q (vicinity (455614)) at 260900B. At 262030 objective was reached and positions were consolidated. On division order the regiment continued to advance to the South to cut the main highway leading Southwest to CASINY.

120th Infantry remained in division reserve in same location prepared to move to south on division order. Small pockets of enemy resistance were neutralized during the period.

743d Tank Battalion (-) was relieved from attachment to 120th Infantry and attached to 117th Infantry, assisting regiment in its advance to Southeast. Company C and one platoon Company D attached to 119th Infantry continued to assist regiment in its attack to south.

30th Division Artillery reinforced with 18th Field Artillery Battalion, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, 203d Field Artillery Battalion, general support, assisted Division's advance to south.

531st AAA AW Battalion remained in protection of Division Artillery. Engaged one FW 190 and one ME 109.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, remained in assembly area (459702) prepared to move forward in division zone and mop up enemy resistance bypassed during division attack to the south.

92d Chemical Battalion (-) at 252400 was relieved from attachment to division artillery and attached to 119th Infantry.

105th Engineer C Battalion remained in close support of infantry regiments in attack, performing normal engineer functions with particular attention to clearing of roads and mine fields in division zone of action.

21. 27 July.

At 262300 the 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry, attacked from objective P (vicinity (470635)) to secure objective S vicinity (485635) and to protect left flank of the division, leaving 2d Battalion, 117th Infantry occupying area at P. Objective was taken, secured and resistance mopped up 270600B. Regiment remained on objectives P and S in division reserve until objective Y vicinity (515560) was secured by 120th Infantry. At close of period regiment was enroute to objective V vicinity (485555).

119th Infantry, attached Company C, one platoon Company D, 743d Tank Battalion, and Company A 92d Chemical Battalion, continued attack to the south against slight enemy resistance, occupied, organized, and consolidated defensive positions on objective T vicinity (475600) and U vicinity (495590) with 3d Battalion in vicinity (470605) 2d Battalion in vicinity (480600) and 1st Battalion in vicinity (490595).

120th Infantry, attached Company B, 743d Tank Battalion, Company C, 92d Chemical Battalion, and 30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, attacked to S at 270600B to seize objective W vicinity (510560) and objective X vicinity TROISGOTS to establish road blocks and prevent enemy crossing VIRE. Advance to south was very rapid against slight enemy resistance. At the close of the period 1st and 3d Battalions occupied defensive positions in vicinity (515560). 2d Battalion was attacking Southeast in vicinity (505555) to seize and secure objective X.

743d Tank Battalion, (-), remained in division reserve reorganizing, servicing and repairing tanks.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, (-), furnished direct support to division against enemy tank threats in its attack to South. Company A was attached to division artillery for secondary mission until 272200.

Division Artillery supported division advance to south and assisted in securing objective.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, was attached to 120th Infantry.

Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion remained attached to 119th Infantry, Company C attached 120th Infantry.

105th Engineer C Battalion continued normal support of division with companies in direct support of infantry regiments.

22. 28 July.

117th Infantry with 743d Tank Battalion (-) attacked at 281400 to S to seize objective Z vicinity (510470) and prevent enemy from crossing VIRE River. It advanced approximately 1000 yards against strong enemy opposition consisting of 88s, dug-in tanks, and riflemen. 2d Battalion was committed on left flank to counterattack, infiltrating troops. At close of period regiment was in vicinity LES MESNIL OPAC.

120th Infantry, attached Company B, 743d Tank Battalion, and Company C, 92d Chemical Battalion. The 2d Battalion continued to attack to SE at 280700 to objective X (vicinity TROISGOTS) against strong enemy opposition consisting of artillery, mortars, and automatic weapons fire and at close of period were in position in process of neutralizing light counterattacks. 1st Battalion attacked in a southerly direction toward le MESNIL RAOULT. At 281800 leading elements had entered the town, but were forced to withdraw because of heavy artillery fire.

119th Infantry, attached Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion: The 3d Battalion remained in defensive positions along E flank of division until covered by advance of 35th Infantry Division E of VIRE RIVER. 1st and 2d Battalions were in division reserve in vicinity (490560).

743d Tank Battalion, (-), was attached to 117th Infantry. Company B was attached to 120th Infantry.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion furnished direct support to Division against enemy tank threat to south and southeast.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between 117th Infantry and 2d Armored Division.

Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion was attached to 119th Infantry and Company C to 120th Infantry.

Division reverted from VII Corps control to XIX Corps at 1200 hours.

23. 29 July.

117th Infantry with 743d Tank Battalion (-) and Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion,

200

97

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attached, continued its attack to south, but failed to advance against strong enemy opposition consisting of dug-in tanks, 88's and automatic weapons. Company G was committed on left flank to frustrate enemy attempt to infiltrate between 117th and 119th Infantry in vicinity LES MESNIL OPAC.

119th Infantry, attached Company B, 743d Tank Battalion, passed through 120th Infantry at 290800B and attacked to southeast to seize objective X, in vicinity TROISGOTS. At 291655 leading elements of regiment were on Objective X. After overcoming strong enemy resistance at the close of period, regiment was in position in vicinity ROUGE PLATE prepared to continue the attack to south.

120th Infantry, less 3d Battalion, attached Company C, 92d Chemical Battalion, employed 1st and 2d Battalions in active defense of area. 3d Battalion in division reserve remained in position and prepared to protect left (east) flank of division and prevent enemy from crossing VIRE RIVER in vicinity of bridge at (525555).

743d Tank Battalion (-) was attached to 117th Infantry, and Company B attached to 119th Infantry.

823d Tank Battalion furnished direct support to division against enemy tank threat to south and southeast.

531st AAA AW Battalion maintained protection division artillery and engaged enemy aircraft.

30th Division Artillery, reinforced, continued support of division's advance to the south.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between 117th Infantry and 2d Armored Division.

Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion, was relieved from attachment to 119th Infantry and attached to 117th Infantry. Company C remained attached to 120th Infantry.

105th Engineer C Battalion: Companies operated in support of infantry regiments and continued engineer support, road, mine, and river crossing reconnaissance.

24. 30 July.

117th Infantry, attached 743d Tank Battalion, less one Company, and Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion, continued the attack to South at 0700B but were unable to move forward due to strong enemy resistance. At 1530 a second coordinated attack was launched and a slight advance was made. At close of period regiment occupied positions along line LES HAIES Northeast LE MESNIL OPAC.

119th Infantry continued its attack at 300700B and immediately met with strong resistance and was unable to advance. At 1530B a second coordinated attack was made and a slight advance was made. At close of the period regiment occupied position with 1st battalion in vicinity (510520), 2d Battalion in vicinity (510530) and 3d Battalion in vicinity (500520).

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120th Infantry, attached Company B, 743d Tank Battalion, and Company C, 92d Chemical Battalion continued attack to South with 2d and 3d Battalions at 300700B, but were unable to move forward due to strong enemy resistance. At 301530B a second coordinated attack was made and a slight advance was made. At the close of the period Regt occupied positions between 117th and 119th Infantry. 1st Battalion in division reserve continued to occupy and consolidate areas.

743d Tank Battalion, (-), remained attached to 117th Infantry and Company B was attached to 120th Infantry.

823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued direct support division to south and southeast.

Division artillery continued support of division's advance to south.

531st AAA AW Battalion between 2300B and 2330B engaged unknown number of enemy planes that were dropping flares, bombing and strafing. Battery A claimed one destroyed, Battery C, one damaged, neither confirmed.

30th Reconnaissance Troop, Mecz, maintained contact between 117th Infantry and 116th Infantry.

Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion remained attached to 117th Infantry and Company C remained attached 120th Infantry.

Division continued its attack to south and southeast at 0700B against strong enemy opposition which included artillery, mortar, machine gun, and well emplaced infantry and at close of period was in positions as outlined above.

25. 31 July.

117th Infantry with Company A, 92d Chemical Battalion, attached, continued its attack at 310800B and immediately met with heavy enemy resistance consisting of fire from 88mm guns, dug-in tanks, and infantry. A slight advance of 200 - 300 yards was made and at end of period the regiment remained in position prepared to continue advance to south on division order.

119th Infantry, 743d Tank Battalion, attached, continued attack at 310700B. At 0925B light tanks blocked area at LA FOSSE which 2d Battalion had evacuated. At 1025B 2d Battalion entered TROISGOTS with tanks. Progress was slow until town of TROISGOTS was taken. At close of period the regiment objective had been seized and troops were in process of consolidating and establishing active defensive positions along line (504510), (512520), (510527).

120th Infantry with Company C, 92d Chemical Battalion attached, continued the attack at 310800B in column of battalions (3d - 2d) and immediately met enemy resistance consisting of fire from 88's, dug-in tanks, and riflemen. 1st Battalion continued to remain in division reserve until relieved by 2d Battalion at 311600B. 2d Battalion was in division reserve in position, prepared to actively defend that sector or repel counter-attack. At close of period the 1st battalion was in position vicinity (510530), 3d Bn in line LES MESNIL OPAC to stream junction (497507) and 2d Battalion on line (510530) (520537) prepared to continue attack on division order.

743d Tank Battalion was attached to 119th Infantry.

202



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823d Tank Destroyer Battalion continued direct support of division against enemy tank threat in the attack to the south and southeast.

30th Division Artillery supported 119th Infantry attack at 0700B with preparation and successive concentration, and attack of 120th Infantry and 117th Infantry at 0800B with successive concentrations.

Division continued its attack to south and southeast at 310700B against strong enemy opposition which included heavy artillery, dug-in tanks and well emplaced infantry. At close of period occupied position as outlined above.