

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS Hq 119th Inf Rgt 12 Sept 1944 (0800 hours)

1: 1st Bn, atchd 1 Plat, Co C, 743rd Tk Bn, will atk at 0930, 12 Sept 44, to NE, seize PL 12 in its zone, prepared to continue the atk and seize obj "E".

2: 3rd Bn, atch Co C, 743rd Tk Bn (less 1 plat) will atk at 0930, 12 Sept 44, to NE, seize PL 12 in its zone, prepared to continue the atk and seize obj "F".

3: 2nd Bn be prepared to follow in zone of 1st Bn on Regt order.

4: Other units – no change.

5: No wire will be laid forward of objs "A" and "B" unless directed by this Hq. 610 radios will accompany commanders at all times.

S-3 Report 119th Inf Rgt 12 Sept 1944

Brief description of operations during period covered by report: The 1st and 3rd Bn, 119th Inf continued attack at first light moving toward objectives E and F holding up at Phase Line 12 until artillery crossed to give them support. Both Bns pushed on to Phase Line 12 with the consequence that they both came under 20mm and small arms enemy fire on high ground in vicinity of Phase Line 12 between the hour of 1130 to 1230. Cannon Co and one battery of artillery come use and went into position providing support needed for further movement at 1400 hours. 1st and 3rd Bn were then ordered to continue attack towards objective E and F. 3rd Bn managed to overcome receiving resistance and continued on to high ground NE of Phase Line 12. 1st Bn was held up by 20 mm and small arms fire thereby retarding its progress towards Phase Line 12. At 1730 hours tanks were sent to 1st Bn to ad in pushing aide resistance. Rapid progress was made after tanks began support – a number of prisoners were taken and 5 – 20mm guns knocked out. At 1745 hours pushed ahead rapidly despite sporadic small arms fire. At 1800 hours Div sent order to Regt to hold leading Bn on Phase Line 10 and tie up with 117th Inf. By 2030 hours 1st and 3rd Bns had closed in on Phase Line 10 and prepared to dig in for the night

AAR 119th Inf Rgt 12 Sept 1944:

On September 12, at 0645, after being in contact with the enemy all night the 1st Battalion lost contact and resumed movement into Vise. The 3rd Battalion resume the advance and around 0800 reached its objective in the vicinity of Dalhem. At 0756 Division directed that the regiment continue to objective "E" and "F" with a halt on Phase Line 12 until the artillery could catch up.

Shortly after 1000 movement was resumed with 1st Battalion of the left going through Longchamp and the 3rd Battalion on the right moving through Bombaye toward Warsage. The 2nd Battalion picked up "G" Company and moved on behind the 1st battalion. At 1125 the 1st battalion was near Fouron-le-Comte receiving 20mm and rifle fire, and by 1245 they had pushed one company into town. The 3rd Battalion reached Warsage on Phase Line 12 without encountering resistance, but dug in enemy and anti-tank guns were encountered on the ridge to the east.

At 1343 1st battalion sent two companies around to the right to outflank the town and 3rd Battalion was ordered to resume forward movement and keep in contact with the 1st Battalion. At a short distance from Phase Line 8 both units were to hold up and wait for the artillery to cross the river.

After various postponements the vehicular bridge was completed around 1245 but several mishaps slowed

movement and the regimental combat trains and weapon carriers and supporting artillery did not get across until well into the afternoon.

Until 1536 the 1st battalion was held up around Fouron-le-Comte. At 1555 the 3rd battalion advanced to the nose to the east of Warsage and pushed past the right flank of the line established by the 1st battalion. They continued on until 1000 yards inside the Dutch border near Noorbeek when they were ordered to dig in on Phase Line 10 in contact with the 117th Infantry. They were, however, held up 500 yards short of this point, near Terlinden.

Tanks were sent to help the 1st battalion and the 2nd Battalion was instructed to mop up behind them. From 1830 on more or less steady progress was made by the 1st battalion until they dug in in the vicinity of Banholt. The 2nd battalion went into assembly area near Inheer at 2020. The C.P. closed into the chateau at Altembrouck at 2030. During the day 3 were killed, 27 wounded, 1 was missing and 56 prisoners were taken.

Casualties 12 - 13 Sept 1944 (found by A. Lasoe)

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------|-----|---------|-----|----------|----------------------|----------|
| S/Sgt | BOOHER | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 12-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 14-09-44 |
| Pfc | FARIAS | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 12-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 13-09-44 |
| S/Sgt | DE FEDE | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 13-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 15-09-44 |
| Pfc | HORTON | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 13-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 14-09-44 |
| S/Sgt | KRÜGER | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 13-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 14-09-44 |
| Pvt | LAWHORN | 119 | Inf Rgt | KIA | 13-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 14-09-44 |
| Pvt | PEARSON Jr | 119 | Inf Rgt | DOW | 13-09-44 | Date burial at Fosse | 15-09-44 |

AAR 743rd TANK Bn

12 Sept 44 - The forward echelon of the 743rd Tank Battalion moved to a new area across the Albert canal and the Meuse River. Route taken was through Liege. Rcn. Platoon moved at 0330 hours with "C" Company, to lead them to their new area. The assault gun platoon fired 12 rounds toward enemy artillery at 0934 hours. Fired battery 2 rounds at enemy Infantry twice during morning with good results reported, and also very effective tree bursts. At 1225 hours, Assault gun platoon fired battery 2 rounds at chateau with effective results. Fired on enemy horse drawn artillery at 1425, 36 rounds expended, with good effects and one direct hit. The assault platoon continued firing until after 2100 hours at enemy concentrations in woods and loading supplies. Enemy activity stopped. At 2200 hours, "B" Company was attached to 117th Infantry Regiment. "C" Company joined the 119th Infantry regiment at 0730 hours at Argentan (560390). From there they moved North of Vise. 1st Platoon, "C" Company joined the 1st Battalion, 119th Infantry Regiment, in the vicinity of 618420, and at 1700 hours crossed the International boundary into Holland. When the column began to move out of Mheer (630440), the lead tank was fired on by a bazooka gunner, who missed, and the infantry destroyed the bazooka gunner. The infantry moved out to its next objective while the 1st platoon of "C" Company held the roads in the town, being unable to move forward due to shortage of gasoline and darkness. The 2nd platoon "C" Company, was held in reserve and passed the day without incident. The 3rd platoon, "C" Company, pushed on the East of the 1st platoon and gave flank protection. "C" Company bivouacked in the vicinity of 630420. Service Company carried on their usual duties.