

Combat Command "A" S-2 Reports, 1944-1945



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Auth: CG 14th A. D.  
Initials: ACG  
Date: 23 Nov 1944

S-2 PERIODIC REPORT

No 1

Maps: FRANCE 1:100,000 Sheet 15G



FROM: 220001  
TO : 222400  
HQ CCA 14TH A D, ST QUERIN  
231300 Nov 1944

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD

- a. Enemy front lines. Road Blocks at V802992 and J553020.
- b. Units in contact.

Second Company 760 VGR. PW's report this unit committed 20 November to defend road blocks already in position. Unit composed of stragglers.

Weigel Pioneer Group. PW states this unit assigned mission of constructing obstacles on Abreshveiller-Schirmeck Road; states unit used no mines except in tunnel under road vicinity V583925.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

- a. Enemy delayed at successive road blocks along both roads used by this combat command.
- b. Infantry with automatic weapons and mortars defended each road block. No AT mines yet discovered. No AT guns or artillery yet employed although PW states road block defenders have artillery support.

3. ENEMY CASUALTIES

Five killed. One wounded Weigel Pioneer Group. Three PW's Second Company 760 VGR.

- b. Morale. Low. On East road enemy withdrew rapidly when tanks appeared.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES

- a. Enemy may withdraw rapidly to defend pass at LeDenon.
- b. Enemy may delay behind successive road blocks.
- c. The latter capability is favored since terrain and weather prohibit movement of armor off roads, and delay on successive positions will extend the time available for withdrawal from VI Corps sector.

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Auth: CG 14th A. D.  
Initials: GA  
Date: 24 Nov 1944

S-2 PERIODIC REPORT

No 2

FROM: 230001  
TO : 232400  
HQ CCA 14th A D, ST  
QUIRIN  
241000 Nov 1944

Maps: Eastern France 1:50,000 Cirey Sur-Vezouse

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD

- a. Enemy front lines. Only contact patrol V522967.
- b. Numerous undefended road blocks of from 25 to 300 yards in length on both routes.
- c. Units in contact. 13th Compnay 728 VGR. One man killed V504996.
- d. Artillery. FFI reports German battery vicinity LeDonon. PW reports gun position at V56959005.
- e. Reserves. Civilian reports 1,500 German Infantry seen at 4598028 marching southeast at 221130 November 44.

2. Enemy OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

- a. No contact except patrol.
- b. Light artillery fire at St. Quirin and Abreschviller.

3. ENEMY CASUALTIES.

Two killed, two wounded, nine PW's Weigl Pioneer Group.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

No Change.

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:Auth: CG 14 A. D. :  
:Initials: *ACG* :  
:Date: 28 Nov 44 :  
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S-2 REPORT

No. 3

FROM: 270001 Nov 44  
TO : 272400 Nov 44  
HQ CCA 14th A. D.  
OBERNAI, Brance  
280600 Nov 44

Maps: Eastern France, 1:50,000: Molsheim,  
Strasbourg, Selestat, and Benfeld Sheets.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD

a. Nearest elements at GERTWILLER (V8079) and BENFELD (V8974).

b. Units in contact:

Panzervernichtungs Kompanie Pioneer Schule Neubreisach

Kraftfahrkompanie 708

343 Flakabteilung

Nachschubkompanie 1553

Polizeiwachtbattalion Stuttgart

c. Artillery. Enemy gun positions believed vic EICHHOTTEN (V7874), MITTELBERGHEIM (V7877), and BARR (V7878). Numbers and calibers unknown.

d. Reserves. Troop concentration estimated by FFI and civilians to be 1000 men at EPPFIG (V7973).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

a. General Summary. Enemy defended stubbornly at GERTWILLER (V8079), VALFF (V8480), and BENFELD (V8974), after delaying by demolitions and by light resistance at GOXWILLER (V8079).

b. Operations of component elements.

(1) AT. At GERTWILLER and BENFELD enemy AT guns caused casualties, as did bazooka teams at VALFF AND BENFELD.

(2) Artillery. Enemy harassed OBERNAI (V8084) and CR NE of GOXWILLER. Heavy shelling on our columns vic GERTWILLER AND BENFELD.

(3) Engineers. Bridges at GERTWILLER (V805791), (V857793), and dge MEIZSTRATZHEIM (V837843) destroyed. Bridge at VALFF (V84188012) reported by PW's mined.

(4) Tanks. FFI report at 272230 that 2 trains of Tiger tanks were unloading at DAMBACH-LA-WILLE (V7889).

3. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Estimated enemy casualties. 30 PW's.

b. Morale. Low.

c. No men yet reported missing in action in this command. It is believed that identity of this unit is still unknown to enemy.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES

a. Defend on line GERTWILLER - BENFELD.

b. Delay at successive positions to SELESTAT.

c. Counterattack immediately N and NE from EPPFIG to secure debouchment from passes and withdrawal across ILL and RHINE Rivers.

d. Because of the strength of the enemy's defense and his desperate need of all available troops, the last capability is favored.

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:Initials: PCA :  
:Date: 29 Nov 44 :  
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S-2 REPORT

FROM: 280001 Nov 44  
TO : 282400 Nov 44  
HQ CCA 14th A. D.  
OBERNAI, France  
290900 Nov 44

No. 4

Maps: Eastern France, 1:50,000: Molsheim, Strasbourg, Selestat, and Benfeld Sheets.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD

- a. Nearest elements at GERTWILLER (V8079) and BARR (V7878).
- b. Units in contact:  
708 Infantry Division. PW's from 656 Artillery Regiment, 728 Infantry Regiment, and Fusilier Company 708. PW states strength of 728 Regiment now 40 men.  
Other units identified during the period include:  
Kampfgruppe Bittermann  
Gebirgs Battalion 202  
Sturmgeschutz Company 1708  
Fliegerhorst Company Enzheim  
LXIV Corps Staff
- c. Artillery. Enemy DP Gun positions believed on heights north and south of BARR, vicinity (V7879) and (V7878). PW reports two enemy 150mm howitzers at ST. PIERRE (V804758).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

- a. General Summary.  
25th Tank Battalion. Enemy counter-attacked strongly at GERTWILLER twice during the morning supported by mortar and artillery fire and resisted stubbornly our attacks throughout the day.  
48th Tank Battalion. First contact made in HEILIGENSTEIN where resistance was weak. At BARR the enemy resisted with strong anti-tank defenses in the streets.
- b. Operations of component elements.  
(1) Anti-tank. Enemy 88mm AT Guns were emplaced in the streets of BARR and south of GERTWILLER. 50mm AT guns defended a road block in BARR. Enemy infantry with bazookas were especially active in BARR.  
(2) Artillery. Light 105mm fire from the south fell on our column at HEILIGENSTEIN. Enemy artillery fire fell on our troops north of GERTWILLER intermittently throughout the day.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Estimated enemy casualties. 37 PW's.
- b. PW reports ammunition dump vicinity (V800755).

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S-2 Report, 29 Nov 44 (Cont'd)

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES

No change. See S-2 Periodic Report No. 3.

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SUPPLEMENTAL PW REPORT TO S-2 PERIODIC REPORT #5

1. Units in contact:

Divisional

708 Volks Grenadier Division

728 VGR

748 VGR

760 VGR

Divisionskampfschule (Divisional Combat School)

16th Infantry Division

Trains of 221 Infantry Regiment

13th Flak Division (AAA Division)

Flakabteilung 347 (AAA Battalion)

Non-Divisional

Pioneerschule Neubreisach (Engineer School)

Festungs Pakabteilung 10 (Fortress Anti-tank Bn)

Polizeibattalion Strassburg (Police Bn)

Polizeibattalion Stuttgart (Police Bn)

Gebirgsjägerbattalion 202 (Mountain Bn)

Ersatz Regiment 5 (Replacement Regt)

Flakabteilung 875 (AAA Bn)

Gemischteflakabteilung 157 (Mixed AAA Bn)

Motorisierte Flakabteilung 501 (Motorized AAA Bn)

Einheit "Leitner"? (Unit Leitner)

7th Co. Panzer Grenadier Regiment "Feidherrenhalle" (Mtz Inf Regt)

2. Prisoners taken:

2 - from 14th Co 728 Regiment 708 D Co vic GOXWILLER by 48 Tk Bn

1 - from 4th Co 760 Regiment vic BARR by 48 Tk Bn

3 - from 14th Co 728 Regiment vic BARR by 69 AFA

1 - from 728 Regiment Stabs Ko. vic BARR by 69 AFA

1 - from 728 Regiment 6th Co vic BARR by 48 Tk Bn

1 - Sanitater 5th Co 748th Regiment vic GERTWILLER by 25 Tk Bn

2 - Tross 221 Regiment vic GERTWILLER by 25 Tk Bn

11 - TOTAL

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:Auth: CG 14 A. D. :  
:Initials: CCA :  
:Date: 1 Dec 44 :  
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No. 6

FROM: 300001 Nov 44  
TO : 302400 Nov 44  
DATE: 11000 Dec 44

Maps: Eastern France 1:50,000: Molsheim, Strasbourg, Selestat and Benfeld Sheets.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD

a. Nearest elements. Situation indefinite. Enemy in EPPFIG (V7973) and believed in NOTHALTEN (V7672).

b. Units in contact:

DIVISIONAL

21 Panzer Division

Panzerfeldersatz battalion 200 (Field Replacement Bn)

708 Volksgrenadier Division

728 VGR

198 Infantry Division

326 Infantry Regiment

NON-DIVISIONAL

4th Labor Bn 785 Regiment (Turkish Regiment)

Feldgendarmerie Obteilung 19 (Military Police Bn)

Grenadier Ersatz und Ausbildungs Bn 119 (Mot) (Replacement and Training Bn) (Mtz)

Grenadier Ersatz und Ausbildungs Bn 215 (Replacement and Training Bn)

Company commander of 2d Company 200th Replacement Battalion captured vicinity WESTHOUSE. His company armed with light machine guns, AT grenades and sub-machine guns.

c. Artillery. Two 150mm Howitzers in EPPFIG (V7973). SP Guns vicinity (V8175).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD

a. General Summary. Enemy stubbornly resisted our efforts to bridge stream at ANDLAU and ST. PIERRE. At ST. PIERRE heavy but ineffective artillery fire fell throughout the morning. Advance from ANDLAU towards ITTERSWILLER was delayed by small arms, light artillery fire, and a mined road block.

b. Operations of component elements.

(1) AT. Anti-Tank gun at (V795750). 88mm fire from vicinity (V810750) on west column during late afternoon.

(2) Armor. Counter-attack at EICHHOFFEN at 0950 by SP guns. PW reports tanks moved into EICHHOFFEN 29 November.

(3) Artillery. Heavy fire fell vicinity (V807765) throughout morning. Interdiction fire on CR (V803772) sporadically during morning. Fairly heavy artillery fire on ST. PIERRE until about 1200 when our

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S-2 Report 1 Dec 44 (Cont'd)

artillery fired at a probable enemy OP in EPTIG, and the fire ceased. A few rounds fell in OBERNAI and GOXWILLER during the afternoon.

(4) Engineers. Road block at (V774750) with four R mines. Presence of approximately 40 mine boxes in vicinity prolonged the clearing of this area and leads to the belief that some mines are still in the vicinity.

(5) Infantry. Our attack on ST. PIERRE met strong small arms and machine gun resistance from within the town. After our capture of the town, contact by small arms fire was lost. Enemy infantry was emplaced along road from ANDLAU to the road block at (V774750). Approximately one-third were armed with bazookas.

### 3. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Estimated enemy casualties. 160 PW's. Approximately 150 Germans who surrendered to our west column sent to the 103rd Division collecting point.

b. Morale. Enemy met our infantry attack well, but our tank column on the west road frightened several into surrendering.

c. The twenty tanks reported by the 48th at (V810750) at 1550 hours are believed to have been part of the French column from STATZHEIM.

### 4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES

No change. See Periodic Report No. 5 This Headquarters 29 November 44.

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