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9TH INF REGT
2nd Inf Div

COMMAND REPORT

1-31 AUG 52

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HEADQUARTERS
9th Infantry Regiment
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COMMAND REPORT
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As the month of August, 1952 opened, the 9th Infantry Regt. was occupying previously reported positions on line JAMESTOWN. The regiment, headquarters at CT 351323, continued to be commanded by Colonel Wilbur Wilson. The right sector, held by the 1st Bn vic CT 370370, was commanded by Major Anthony Tencza, the middle sector, vic CT 339356, held by the 2d Bn commanded by Major John Carley, and the left sector held by the 3d Bn commanded by Major Bernard Rogers was at vic CT 336325. The special units remained in previously reported positions as did the reserve Bn, vic CT 337319, which was the Thailand Bn commanded by Lt. Col. Aung Potiganit.
II. Tactical Operations. During the period 1 August to 31 August 1952 the 9th Infantry Regiment occupied positions on line JAMESTOWN with the 1st Bn on the right, 2d Bn in the center sector, and the 3d Bn in the left sector. The mission of the regiment remained to hold the present sector, to occupy and to maintain an active defense of line JAMESTOWN, and to be prepared to repel enemy attacks to include airborne and armored. This was accompanied by maintaining and improving positions, both observed and unobserved firing, and extensive patrolling. The operation was hindered by excess rain, the mountainous terrain, and consequent difficulties in road maintenance, and aided by the absence of civilian population.

The Trail Bn relieved the 3d Bn and Co F in position without incident during the period 2-6 August. Company positions were adjusted in the 2d Bn sector and Co L was placed under regimental control to supply counterreconnaissance and screening patrols while readjustments were being executed.

On 042000I August Co E dispatched a two reinforced squad patrol supported by one squad from Co F to establish ambush vicinity of CT 300384, northwest of the "T-Bone" and north of ORJONG. The patrol was engaged by the enemy utilizing small arms. After a brief fire fight, the enemy withdrew, and the friendly patrol continued on its mission closing into the Bn area without further incident.

On 082000I August a five man reconnaissance patrol from Co C contacted an estimated seven enemy at vicinity objective CT333387, north of CHITOSO. After a short fire fight, the enemy withdrew, and Co C patrol closed into friendly positions without additional enemy contact. At 082053I, an ambush patrol composed of a platoon each from Companies F and G departed for vicinity CT323581, the small hill mass north of AGOK. The patrol was engaged at CT319386 short of the objective by an estimated two platoons of enemy. After a brief fire fight, the enemy was forced to withdraw by intense friendly supporting fires.

An ambush patrol consisting of two squads from Co C departed at 092300I August to establish an ambush point vicinity CT336390, northeast of AGOK. The patrol reached the objective where it was fired on by an estimated fifteen enemy.
After a fifteen minute fire fight, the friendly disengaged.

The first platoon, Tank Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, relieved the company's 2d platoon in the center section on the night of 9-10 August and was attached to the 2d Bn.

On 6 August the regiment was ordered to prepare plans for a company-sized raid to take three or more prisoners. The general plan was to be submitted to the 2d Division Headquarters prior to 091200 August and a detailed plan, 101200 August. The regimental commander's evaluation was that there were two possible terrain features which might lend themselves to this operation, vicinity CT3338 and vicinity CT3339, both east and northeast of AGOK. Vicinity CT334394 was chosen after the regimental commander considered routes of withdrawal, the estimate of the enemy's strength, ease of rendering fire support, and the route of access. This objective was assigned to the 1st Bn as it held ground immediately opposite the objective, and, with its patrolling, had more information of the area.

The mission was further assigned to Company C, commanded by Lt Jack L. Grosvenor, and the operation was entitled OPERATION SAN QUENTIN. The Bn selected a non-illuminated, night attack without preparatory fires, but with a maximum of available fire support on call. Through aggressive patrolling, additional information was gathered regarding the enemy's known and suspected artillery and mortar pieces and positions, so that the supporting artillery commander, Major Vogel of the 15th FA Bn, could submit a supporting fire plan to include designated targets for all available artillery in support of the operation.

On 9 August Co K was attached to the 1st Bn and relieved Co C on positions in order that the company might rehearse and prepare for the coming operation. Company C assembled vicinity CT390330 where briefings and complete rehearsals were accomplished.

At 132130I August 108 officers and enlisted men of Co C began OPERATION SAN QUENTIN. At this time, they departed the MR passing through Co K to raid hill vicinity CT334394, with the mission of capturing prisoners. The raiding
party moved without incident to vicinity CT335394 where at 1402001 it was taken under fire by automatic weapons and machine guns. The raiding party deployed and advanced on trenches and bunkers in the immediate vicinity. Upon moving over revetments into the trenches, the party encountered bangalor torpedoes and antipersonnel mines. A small portion of the party was into the trenches and had physically captured two enemy when intense enemy mortar fire began falling on the objective. The prisoners were killed by the mortar fire. Supporting fires were called in, and the raiding party attempted to execute an alternate plan, only to be taken under more small arms fire and additional mortar fire. After approximately a seventy minute fire fight, the friendly raiding party withdrew under cover of smoke, closing into the HLH at 140801. The operation resulted in eight enemy KIA, estimated six enemy WIA. Friendly suffered five KIA, thirty-nine WIA, and four NIA. Among the estimates of the failure of the raid was that the enemy strength was underestimated. It was at first estimated that two squads held the objective; later after the raid it was thought that a company had engaged the friendly forces.

On 1700301 August Co E's ambush patrol encountered an enemy reinforced squad at CT352404, southeast of Kadan-ni. A twenty minute fire fight ensued with automatic weapons and machine guns. The enemy withdrew, and the friendly closed at 1701101 without further incident. The 3d Bn relieved the 1st Bn in the right sector on Line JANESTOWN at 1724001 when Co K reverted to 3d Bn control. The 1st Bn closed into the reserve area at 1804151.

On 1806301 August Company F's reconnaissance patrol departed the MLR for its objective, vicinity CT323683, ASOK. The patrol reached its objective and was on the way in when enemy mortar and machine gun fire was encountered. The patrol did not engage and closed into the MLR at 1809451. During this period extremely heavy rains fell in the sector and many roads and bridges were temporarily closed. All available personnel were employed in repair and maintenance of the regimental road net. Damage to fortifications was not excessively heavy due to an intense and continuous work program which the regiment had inaugurated upon assumption of sector responsibility.

The regiment began a training program for RANGER-type Platoons to be
organized in each Bn for special patrols requiring soldiers to be schooled to the fullest in the arts of stealth, observation, aggressiveness, and teamwork. Each battalion, while in reserve, will organize such a platoon.

The Tank and Heavy Mortar Companies fired at targets of opportunity and in patrol support during the month. Due to rigid control on certain types of ammunition, Hvy Mort Co was somewhat restricted in its operation. The 15th FA Bn remained in direct support as did Co A, 2d Engr (G) Bn, and Battery B, 82d AAA Bn. Company B, 72d Tank Bn, was also in support and a relief of Tank Company, this regiment, was contemplated. Heavy rains and consequent damage to roads caused this operation to be postponed.

At the close of the period the regiment expected no increase in enemy activity and planned to continue fortifications improvement and the defense of the sector against CCF, NKPA, and the weather.

III. Intelligence. The regiment continued to be opposed by six companies of infantry on line. Local reserves consisted of five companies of infantry, effective strength of these units estimated to be 75% in men and equipment or 2,000 men. These units are supported by two artillery battalions (18 pieces), elements of two anti-tank regiments (8 x 76mm and 75mm guns), by elements of one unidentified tank regiment, and elements of an unidentified rocket-launcher division which is reported to consist of three regiments of 24 x 132mm rocket-launchers each. Morale and combat effectiveness are considered to be good to excellent.

Units in direct contact were the 4th, 5th, and 3d companies of the 2d Bn, 339th Regiment, 113th Division, 38th CCF Army. Total composition of the forces in the area are the 2d, 3d, 5th, 7th, and 8th companies of the 1st Bn, 351st Infantry, 117th Division, 39th CCF Army. Supporting artillery consists of organic division artillery battalions of the 26th and 27th Artillery Regiments, 1st CCF Arty Division. Antitank support is afforded by the elements of the 402d AT Regiment, 31st M12 AT Division (attached to the 38th Army) which possess a total of 24 x 57mm and 24 x 75mm guns. The unidentified tank regiment is believed to be an independent regiment of 40 x T-34/8 tanks, mounting 85mm guns.
The enemy continued an active defense against us and his positions by harassing friendly positions with mortar and artillery fire. There were 3,366 rounds of incoming mortar and artillery received in the sector during the period compared to 2,379 rounds received during the 13 days of the last period. One reason for the drop is the large amount of rainy weather experienced during the period.

The enemy continued to improve and repair his fortifications. The recently committed 38th CCF Army has stressed the improvement of previously constructed trenches, shelters, and emplacements, and the preparation of new ones. Artillery positions have been prepared in forward areas, although most of these are unoccupied at the present time. The enemy continued his espionage activities during the period, with the emphasis on short-range agents for gathering tactical information of friendly installations.

The enemy possesses stocks of all classes of supply that are more than adequate for a continued defensive action. Ammunition has been stockpiled on forward positions in amounts large enough to sustain an offensive of 7 to 10 days. Evidence of this may be seen in the large amounts of secondary explosions recorded during friendly firing on known or suspected weapons positions and communications trenches. Infantry and special units are now at better than 80% in equipment. The enemy's rate of supply is greatly affected during the rain, as the number of incoming rounds drops off considerably during precipitation. Concluded must be that the enemy is having difficulty transporting supplies and ammunition over existing road nets or possibly supply routes are becoming impassable.

On 15 August an enemy surrendered to the Co F outpost. The man was in a dazed condition, and it was assumed that he was a part of the enemy which engaged a friendly patrol shortly before. The prisoner identified the 4th Company, 2d Bn, 339th Inf Regt, 113th Division, 38th CCF Army as his unit.

During the period the regiment accounted for 32 KIA (counted, 67 estimated KIA, and 37 WIA.

The same observation as was made last month continued to be made. In general it is observed that when a friendly patrol makes contact with the
enemy either in enemy positions or during patrolling, the enemy immediately reacts by placing intense artillery and mortar fire on the friendly side.

Normally in days which show no enemy patrol contact, the number of incoming rounds were light; on contact days, incoming fire was heavy. Evidently the enemy hopes to deny friendly forces an opportunity to reinforce units in contact with additional friendly troops from front line positions.

IV. Personnel.


b. This month saw personnel requisitions being filled for specialists. For the past few months, specialists were few, but starting in July, more specialists were arriving, and by this month, the pipeline was filling our requests. Communications, medical, mechanical, and cook personnel were coming through in greater numbers which helped to fill the particular specialist sections. However, a greater amount of cooks were arriving than was usual. The normal amount of light and heavy weapons infantrymen were received and assigned.

c. Discipline. The Special Court-Martial convened during the month to hear four cases. Generally speaking, the court-martial rate is still low, in comparison to the record at the same time last year. Strict disciplinary action is promptly taken against those who violate traffic and other minor regulations. The AWOL rate continued to remain negative during the period. This has been due to the excellent morale maintained by the regiment.

d. Prisoners of War. One prisoner was captured during the period. He was interrogated and returned through IPW channels to Division.

e. Burials and Graves Registration. During this period a total of one officer and eighteen enlisted men were evacuated through the 2d Division.
Quartermaster Corps. Two of these men were enlisted men from the Thai Bn.

f. Morale and Personnel Services. One USO show, Rhythm Parade, and one all GI service show were presented to the personnel of the regiment during the period. The proposed stage site planned in July in the reserve bn area for USO shows was put on paper, and the stage was built, ready to accommodate all shows in the future. The regimental Chaplain made daily religious services available at the Regimental Service Company as well as Sunday services at various Battalions and separate units throughout the regiment. The Manchu Service Center was rearranged at Service Company to handle more men more efficiently. The shower point which has been serving both men from the line companies and from the reserve bn daily was covered by tentage to prepare for the colder weather ahead. Clothing exchange remained good, and all men going through the lines were given the opportunity to obtain clean clothing. The Post Exchange store continued to operate with a good supply of items on sale. Because of the great demand for snack items, these goods were stocked in greater numbers.

g. Civil Affairs and Military Government. During the month the CIC detachment returned 213 civilians to the rear. This month, with the Division drive to eliminate all unhired indigenous personnel in the area, all personnel hired as personal employees were evacuated. All remaining hired personnel were given new ID cards and name tags for their clothing. It is planned that "dog-tags" with the employee's name and identification number will be made and distributed with one going to the man and the other retained by the S-2 section.

h. Procedures. Negative.

i. Personnel Management. Because replacements were arriving with the desired MOS which had been previously requisitioned, there was no trouble in assigning these men in their proper MOS positions. In addition, the personnel management problem of communication between the Personnel Section at Division Rear and the S-1 Section at Regiment Forward was greatly elevated as the Division Rear Personnel Sections moved to a new area less than an hour's ride from Regiment Forward.
Daily courier service was initiated to Division Main where the personnel sections are located.

j. Civilians Employees. The regiment gave employment to 84 civilians during the period to do odd jobs, KP, and road repair.

k. Miscellaneous. There were two recommendations for the Legion of Merit, eleven recommendations for the Silver Star, forty-two Bronze Stars for Valor, sixteen Bronze Stars for meritorious service, and nine Commendation Ribbon recommendations. Of these twelve were approved. Included were several on-the-spot decorations made to men who participated in the Charlie Company raid action early in the month.

V. Logistics.

a. Logistical situation. Service Company remained in the area previously reported. Service Company consolidated all battalion trains into one area, and now all supply rooms and facilities are located in one area. This area makes the supply of units less complicated and more efficient. All items to be requisitioned, drawn, or turned in can be handled at Regimental Supply Office which is centrally located to all battalion trains. Service Company also increased the size of its maintenance section in preparation for a stepped-up program of vehicle rehabilitation. In the past and particularly last Spring, both prior to and during the reserve period, vehicles had been periodically surveyed for rehabilitation, but during the recent poor weather and resulting bad road conditions, vehicles needed immediate care and maintenance which caused the program to be implemented with more facilities. The Thailand Trains continued to be located at the Thai Rear CP area as previously reported.

b. Supply. Supported Strength during the period remained at about 5,000 troops including the Thailand Bn and attached ROKA personnel.

Because of the rain the most critical item at this time was living quarters, including bunkers. For this reason, bunker rehabilitation was initiated on a large scale. Company D of the 2d Engineers was still supplying prefabricated bunkers and delivering them to prearranged unloading sites in each
battalion sector. An increase in the allocation of logs from the Engineers facilitated the building of these bunkers, outposts, and other needed construction jobs. A shortage of sandbags occurred during the month which necessitated rationing of these items to line units only. Tarpaper used to waterproof bunkers was also on the critical list. As the month closed, there was no indication that these critical items would be received in greater quantity during the next month.

Phase I winter clothing, in part, was received during the month. This included 5,758 blankets, 11,985 undershirts winter, and 1,945 pair of socks. Among other items received were 781 pads sleeping, and office expendables.

During the month there were three heavy rainstorms previously mentioned. The second one was most damaging, for it cut off the trains area from the frontline units. Fords were built where bridges were washed out, and rations were delivered on time. During the previous month rain had played havoc with the supply and resupply problem, but the lessons learned then were of advantage now. A helicopter was used the 3d Bn for resupply, while tramways were used by the other battalions and separate units on the line until two 10-ton bridge trucks could get through and furnish them with sufficient supplies. Advance supply points, one in the vicinity of Heavy Mortar Company and the other in the vicinity of Medical Company, were set up, with rations and POL supplies included in these areas. Among other items damaged by the storm was tentage, but units quickly obtained tent repair kits and used them to maximum advantage to preserve the tentage.

A thorough check of all supply records was conducted during the month. Periodic inspections of this nature will be continued to insure further the proper property accountability of units within this organization.

The Engineers supplied us with a small amount of lumber which we put into immediate use in the Service Company area. The lumber was used mostly in Ration Breakdown to improve its area and help sanitation. At present, however, lumber is still not being received in sufficient quantities.

A shortage of parts for all type vehicles developed during the month, and repair of trucks during the vehicle rehabilitation program was disrupted.