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42^d
DIVISION
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
IN THE
WORLD WAR



PREPARED BY THE
AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS
COMMISSION

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Foreword

THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION was created by Congress in 1923 for the purpose of commemorating the services of American forces in Europe during the World War. In the accomplishment of this mission, the Commission has erected suitable memorials in Europe and improved and beautified the eight American cemeteries there. It has also published a book entitled "American Armies and Battlefields in Europe" which gives a concise account of the vital part played by American forces in the World War and detailed information regarding the memorials and cemeteries.

In order that the actions of American troops might be accurately set forth, detailed studies were made of the operations of each division which had front-line battle service. In certain cases studies of sector service were also prepared. It is felt that the results of this research should now be made available to the public. Therefore, these studies are being published in a series of twenty-eight booklets, each booklet devoted to the operations of one division.

In these booklets only the active service of the divisions is treated in detail. The accounts, however, are comprehensive enough to be of general interest and establish a great body of fact concerning the operations. For the military student, they provide an excellent background for tactical studies and present an extensive list of sources upon which further study can be based.

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John J. Pershing". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

CHAIRMAN

PREFACE

IN READING the booklets of this series it should be borne in mind that they are based on historical studies which were prepared by the American Battle Monuments Commission primarily for the purpose of determining the front line of each American division for each day of its active operations. Consequently, they were essentially front-line infantry studies. The operations of other arms, movements of reserves and other phases of the operations were covered only in sufficient detail to afford a complete understanding of the infantry action.

The preparation of these studies was begun soon after the Commission was created, and every precaution was taken to insure that the research would be conducted with the utmost accuracy and thoroughness. A number of officers from the Regular Army as well as from the Marine Corps were selected and detailed to the Commission from time to time to carry on the work. All records of the War Department pertaining to the subject were exhaustively examined, as were the French, British and German documents which had been collected by the Army War College. From these sources, the daily front lines of each division were determined and plotted on large-scale maps, and brief accounts of the operations were prepared. The maps and accounts of operations were then referred to officers of the divisions concerned for comment and additional information. They were normally sent to officers of all ranks down to and including company commanders. In cases of doubtful or controversial points, the reference was carried further. The replies received were carefully studied, evaluated and used to correct and amplify the original studies. In this way, the Commission was able to secure and preserve valuable data which otherwise would have been lost.

In these booklets, it has not been the purpose to go far beyond the scope of the original studies. However, casualty and strength tables have been added and enough other material

has been included to present connected histories of the divisions from their organization until the conclusion of their service in Europe, and to portray their actions in proper relationship to the operations of the corps and armies with which they served.

In order to indicate to the reader the areas in which the divisions served, a general map of France and Belgium has been included in each booklet. This map shows the principal cities and the battle lines of July 17 and November 11. In addition, it shows, by special symbol, certain localities of particular interest to the division concerned.

All dates are 1918 unless otherwise indicated and are inclusive; for example, October 9 - 11 includes the three days, October 9, 10 and 11. Dates in the headings of chapters dealing with operations, and in the titles of accompanying maps, are in general the dates between which one or more infantry regiments of the division have been awarded battle honors by the War Department. In certain cases infantry regiments, as well as other elements of the division, have been awarded battle honors for dates other than those indicated. The dates on the battle lines of the maps include the period during which the division held command. The lines are as of midnight unless otherwise indicated; for example, October 9 indicates the line held at midnight, October 9.

The operation maps are reproductions of maps commonly used by American forces during the World War. In a great number of cases it was necessary to use parts of two or more sheets of the wartime maps to make one operation map, which accounts for the different treatments of topographical detail often found on the same operation map. Names which appear on the maps in the abbreviated form are spelled in full in the text. A table of abbreviations with the French equivalent and English translation appears in the front of each booklet. Names of certain topographical features which are well known, and are frequently referred to, appear in the text in the Anglicized form; for example, Argonne Forest rather than Forêt d'Argonne, Marne River rather than Marne Rivière.

The casualty figures are based on the official casualty records of The Adjutant General. Tables of casualties have been prepared, however, only for the periods of active operations. The

purpose is to show the casualties which occurred under the division command during specific actions. Therefore, casualties of elements which were detached during the actions are not included, while casualties of elements of other divisions which were attached have been included. It will be noted that, in the majority of cases, the dates in the casualty tables cover longer periods than those in the chapter headings or on the maps. This was found necessary in order to include all casualties incident to entering or leaving the line.

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¹*Erratum.*—On Operation Map “St. Mihiel Offensive, September 12-16, 1918, Essey-Pannes Sector September 17-October 1, 1918”, the caption on the French battle line north of Etang Comé should read “Fr. 39th Div. Sept. 15-30.”

ABBREVIATIONS

A. E. F.—American Expeditionary Forces
Ancne. (Ancienne)—ancient
B. (Bois)—wood
B. and Boy. (Boyau)—communicating trench
C. A. P. (Chasseurs à Pied)—Light Infantry
Carrel (Carrière)—quarry
Chau. (Château)—chateau
Chée. (Chaussée)—highway
Capt. (Capitaine)—captain
D. C. P. (Division de Cavalerie à Pied)—Dismounted Cavalry Division
Devt. (devant)—in front of
Etg. (Etang)—pond
excl.—exclusive
Fonte. (Fontaine)—spring
Fme. (Ferme)—farm
Gdes. (Grandes)—large
Hte. (Haute)—high
Hts. (Hauts)—high
incl.—inclusive
Min. (Moulin)—mill
Ouv. (Ouvrage)—works
Par. (Parallèle)—parallel trench
Rau., Rû (Ruisseau)—brook
Rav. (Ravin)—ravine
Riv. (Rivière)—river

Organization, and Service from Arrival in the A. E. F. until July 4

THE 42D DIVISION was organized in August 1917 from National Guard units of the States of Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia. Concentration of the division was begun at Camp Mills, New York, on August 20, and completed by September 13. [1]¹

The principal units of the division were:

83d Infantry Brigade

165th Infantry Regiment
166th Infantry Regiment
150th Machine-Gun Battalion

84th Infantry Brigade

167th Infantry Regiment
168th Infantry Regiment
151st Machine-Gun Battalion

67th Field Artillery Brigade

149th Field Artillery Regiment (75-mm guns)	151st Field Artillery Regiment (75-mm guns)
150th Field Artillery Regiment (155-mm howitzers)	117th Trench-Mortar Battery

Divisional Troops

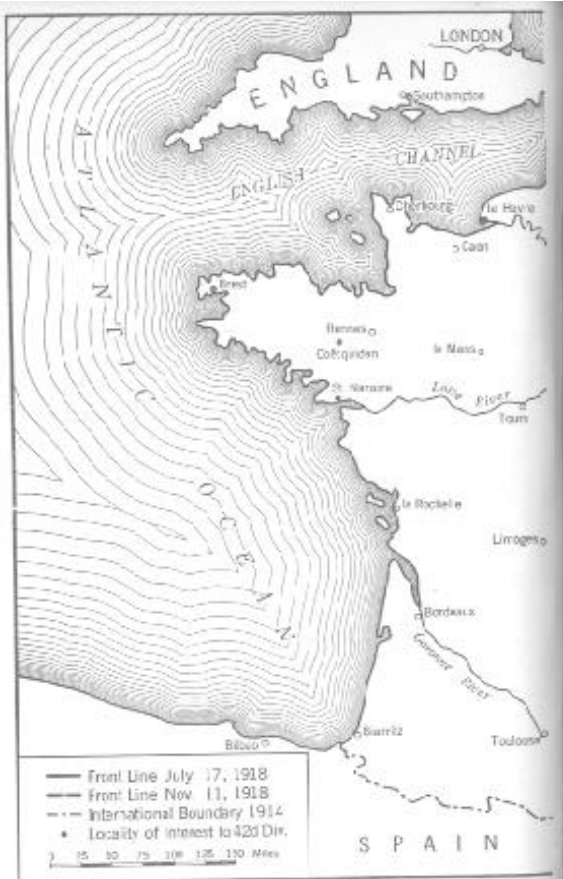
149th Machine-Gun Battalion	117th Engineer Regiment
117th Field-Signal Battalion	Headquarters Troop

Trains

[1]

The details of organization of the American infantry division were changed from time to time during the World War. Under

¹ The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to the sources on which the statements in the paragraphs are based. All sources are listed in the appendix (p. 95).



2



3

the tables of organization which were in use in the American Expeditionary Forces on November 11, 1918, and which, in general, were in force during 1918, the maximum authorized strength of the division was 991 officers and 27,114 men. Its principal armament was 24 155-mm howitzers, 48 75-mm guns, 12 6-inch trench mortars, 260 machine guns and 16,193 rifles. Further details concerning the composition of the American infantry division appear in the table on page 93. The divisions of the American Expeditionary Forces seldom attained the maximum authorized strength shown above. The actual strength of the 42d Division on certain dates is shown in the table on page 94. The approximate strength of the division for other dates may be obtained by applying to these figures the battle losses which appear in the casualty tables following the accounts of battle operations. [426]

On October 18, 1917, the division moved to the ports of embarkation of Hoboken, Montreal and New York. From October 18 to 31 the troops in Hoboken embarked for France, arriving at St. Nazaire November 1-14. The troops in Montreal embarked October 27 and landed at Liverpool November 11. Those in New York embarked from November 3 to 23 and landed at Liverpool, November 20—December 1. After a short period in rest camps, the troops in England proceeded to France, landing at Le Havre. [1]

Following its arrival in France, the greater part of the 42d Division, less artillery, the 168th Infantry, and the division machine-gun battalion, proceeded to the 5th (Vaucouleurs) Training Area. The artillery brigade upon its arrival on November 9, 1917, proceeded to Camp Coëtquidan for training. The engineer regiment moved on December 9 to the 7th (Rolampont) Training Area for duty with the Services of Supply. On December 12 the division, less detached units, moved to the 4th (Rimaucourt) Training Area, where the 168th Infantry and the division machine-gun battalion rejoined. On December 26 the division, less artillery, 168th Infantry and Engineers, proceeded to the Rolampont Training Area. In the latter part of January 1918, the 168th Infantry rejoined. [1]

On February 16 the division moved to the vicinity of Luné-

ville and St. Clément, where it was assigned to the French VII Corps. Two days later the artillery brigade rejoined. From February 21 to March 23 the division, affiliated with the French 128th, 14th and 164th Divisions, participated in the occupation of the Lunéville Sector. The portion of the line usually referred to as the Lunéville Sector was a corps front composed of the divisional Sectors of Baccarat, St. Clément and Lunéville, which extended from the western slopes of the Vosges Mountains toward the northwest for approximately 35 kilometers. These divisional sectors were under the command of the French 128th, 14th and 164th Divisions, respectively. At the end of this period the division assembled near Gerbéviller, in the rear area of the French VII Corps, and on March 31 relieved the French 128th Division in the Baccarat Sector. [1]

The 42d Division occupied this sector under its own command until June 21, when it was relieved by the French 61st Division, with which the American 77th Division was affiliated. After being relieved, the 42d Division moved to the Champagne region east of Reims, where it was assigned to the French Fourth Army. [1]

Espérance-Souain Sector and Champagne-Marne Defensive

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR, JULY 5—14

CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE, JULY 15—18

ON MARCH 21 the Germans launched the first of their great offensives by which they hoped to win the war before the American army could take the field in force. This attack drove a deep salient into the Allied lines at the junction of the British and French armies and seriously threatened the important railroad center of Amiens. The lines in the vicinity of Amiens had scarcely stabilized when, on April 9, the Germans launched a second offensive farther north. This attack drove a salient into the British lines along the Lys River in the vicinity of Armentières. [2]

Another of these blows was directed against the French when, on May 27, the Germans attacked between Berry-au-Bac, approximately 17 kilometers northwest of Reims, and the Oise River. Advancing rapidly south and west they reached the Marne River in the vicinity of Château-Thierry before they were checked. At the conclusion of this offensive the Germans had driven a salient into the Allied lines bounded roughly by Reims, Château-Thierry and Soissons. On June 9 they launched a strong, though unsuccessful, attack on the Montdidier—Noyon front to widen the Marne salient to the west and bring their lines closer to Paris. When this offensive failed, the Germans made plans to attack the angle at Reims. [3, 4, 216]

While these German offensives failed to accomplish their purpose, they strained the Allies to the limit of their reserves, and made it necessary to send American divisions to different parts of the front for immediate service with the British and French armies. [2, 4]

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE 7

The following paragraphs, in *italic*, are a synopsis of the service of the 42d Division in the Espérance-Souain Sector and the Champagne-Marne Defensive. This synopsis is designed to make the principal facts concerning this service available to the reader in compact form.

On July 5 the 42d Division, as part of the French XXI Corps, French Fourth Army, assumed command of the second position in the Espérance-Souain Sector east of Reims. The forward positions were occupied by the French 13th and 170th Divisions. The division placed one brigade in each divisional sector. During the night of July 5-6 the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, moved to the intermediate position north of Souain, and by daylight July 6 elements of the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, had arrived in the intermediate position northwest of St. Hilaire. On the following day the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, moved to the intermediate position northeast of St. Hilaire.

The last German offensive was launched on July 15. The action against this attack is known as the Champagne-Marne Defensive. On the front of the French Fourth Army, the attack was stopped with heavy losses on the first day. In the sectors where the 42d Division was employed, the enemy penetrated only that part of the intermediate position near Souain. Here they were promptly thrown back by a counterattack in which troops of the 167th Infantry participated. Elements of the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, and the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, were moved forward on July 15 as reinforcements for the intermediate position. An enemy attack on the 16th was unsuccessful.

There was no German attack in the area of the French Fourth Army on July 17. A successful raid was executed by the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, on July 18. The 42d Division was withdrawn on July 19 and assembled near Châlons-sur-Marne in reserve of French General Headquarters.

The German troops in the Marne salient were in an unfavorable situation. Their only rail communication was the railroad through Soissons, which lay close to the west face of the salient, and would be cut by an Allied penetration in this area. To

improve this situation plans were prepared to widen the salient to the east. One attack was to be launched east of Reims in the direction of Châlons-sur-Marne, another against the east face of the Marne salient in the direction of Epernay, on the Marne River west of Châlons. These converging attacks, if successful, would turn the Allied positions about Reims on both flanks. Thus the Germans would gain dominating positions south of Reims and the important railroad communications through the city itself. It was also anticipated that the French troops defending Paris might be separated from those in the vicinity of Verdun. [2, 11, 216]

Upon being relieved in the Baccarat Sector, the 42d Division moved to the Champagne region. On July 3 it was in the vicinity of Châlons-sur-Marne in reserve of the French XXI Corps, French Fourth Army. At this time the front line elements of the corps from right to left were; French 43d Division, French 13th Division and French 170th Division. The mission of the corps was to defeat all attempts by the enemy to penetrate its lines. For this purpose the sector was divided into three defensive zones from front to rear; the first position, or outpost zone; the intermediate position, or main line of resistance; and the second position. [5, 6]

The outpost line, held by the French 13th and 170th Divisions, extended generally from Cote 193 westward to a point south of Vaudesincourt. The main line of resistance was about 2 ½ kilometers to the rear, and followed the general line, Bois 207—Souain—St. Hilaire-le-Grand—Bois des Territoriaux—Centre Dufour. The second position was about 3 ½ kilometers farther to the rear along the line, southern edge of Bois de la Cote 200—northern edge of Bois de la Cote 170—south of Jonchery sur-Suippes—Ft. St. Hilaire. [7]

The 42d Division was ordered to occupy the second position of both the Souain and Espérance Sectors. The mission of the division was to defend the second position at all costs and to be prepared to counterattack and eject the enemy in case he penetrated the lines in front of the position. The division was to begin the movement during the night of July 3-4 and the occupation of the position was to be completed by nightfall of July 5.

*July
5-14*

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE 9

The division was to place its four infantry regiments abreast, with five battalions of each brigade in line. Machine-gun companies were to be attached to each battalion. The 67th Field Artillery Brigade was to reinforce the French artillery already in the sectors. Command of the second position was to pass to the 42d Division at 6 a. m., July 5. In case of an enemy penetration to the second position, command of both the Souain and Espérance Sectors was to pass to the 42d Division. [6, 8, 9]

The movement into the second position was completed and command assumed by the 42d Division as directed. The 84th Infantry Brigade was attached to the French 13th Division and the 83d Infantry Brigade to the French 170th Division. [9]

The sectors were organized as follows:

ESPÉRANCE SECTOR

First and Intermediate Positions

French 170th Division

SOUAIN SECTOR

French 13th Division

The 42d Division occupied the second position with brigades abreast, the 84th and 83d from right to left. Brigades were in the following formation:

84TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

167th Infantry

3d Battalion 1st Battalion

168th Infantry

3d Battalion 1st Battalion

83D INFANTRY BRIGADE

165th Infantry

3d Battalion 2d Battalion

166th Infantry

3d Bn 2d Bn 1st Bn

The interbrigade boundary was a north-south line through Suippes. The French 43d Division, French XXI Corps, was to the right of the 42d Division and the French 132d Division, French IV Corps, to the left. [10, 11, 12, 13]

On July 5 the French XXI Corps ordered the 42d Division to attach a battalion of the 84th Infantry Brigade to the French 13th Division as a reinforcement for the intermediate position.

The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, moved to the intermediate position during the night of July 5-6, where it was attached to the French 109th Infantry, placing Companies E and F in the front-line trenches north of Souain and Companies G and H in support positions east of the town. [12, 18, 19, 20, 21 , 22]

On July 4 the French XXI Corps had ordered the 42d Division to place one battalion of the 83d Infantry Brigade under the tactical control of the 170th Division as a reinforcement for the intermediate position. In compliance with these orders, the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, was attached to the French 116th Infantry Regiment and moved forward from the second position to the intermediate position. By daylight, July 6, elements of the battalion were on the main line of resistance and in support. Company E joined the French 10th Battalion, Chasseurs à Pied, occupying a support position until July 12, when it moved into front-line trenches on the main line of resistance. The 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, was moved forward from brigade reserve to the second position to take the place of the 2d Battalion. [14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 29]

On July 6 the division was ordered to place another battalion of the 83d Infantry Brigade at the disposal of the 170th Division, to strengthen the intermediate position. The 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, was detailed for this purpose. It moved forward on July 7 to the intermediate position near St. Hilaire-le-Grand, and was attached to the French 17th Infantry Regiment. The battalion occupied support positions until July 12, when Companies I and L moved into the front-line trenches on the main line of resistance just north of Parallèle de l'Ontario with Company M occupying the latter position in close support. Company I placed half of a platoon as a covering force with a French antitank detachment in the two small parallel strips of woods about 1 kilometer north of the main line of resistance. Company K was detached with the 3d Battalion, Chasseurs à Pied, and occupied a support position east of St. Hilaire until July 12, when they took over a section of the main line of resistance southeast of Bois des Territoriaux. [17, 18, 23, 24, 25]

Several minor adjustments of the positions of these three battalions were made between the dates of their arrival in the

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE 11

intermediate position and July 14, without changing their original attachment to units of the two French divisions. [12, 13, 18, 26]

On the night of July 14-15 Companies E and F, 167th Infantry, occupied trenches about 600 meters north of Souain on either side of the road running north from the town. Elements of the French 170th Infantry were to either flank with a platoon in the center just east of the road. Companies G and H, 167th Infantry, were in close support of the French 21st and 109th Infantry Regiments in Bois de Spandau and Bois Sabot. [18, 22, 27]

Companies L and I, 166th Infantry, occupied the section of trench north of Ouvrage du Capitaine Solacroup and Ouvrage du Capitaine Mailly, northeast of St. Hilaire, with Company M in Parallèle de l'Ontario in close support. Elements of the French 17th Infantry were to either flank. Company K, 166th Infantry, occupied a section of Parallèle de l'Amazone between the two roads leading north from St. Hilaire, with troops of the French 17th Infantry and 10th Battalion, Chasseurs à Pied, to the right and left respectively. [25, 28]

The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, was northwest of St. Hilaire. Company E occupied a trench northeast of the point where the Suippes River crosses Ancienne Chaussée Romaine, with elements of the 10th Battalion, Chasseurs à Pied, to either flank. Companies F and G were in trenches north of Ancienne Chaussée Romaine and south of the Suippes River between Boyau Condé I and a point 100 meters west of Boyau Condé A. Company H, less one platoon in the front line in Bois A, was in close support. These two companies were flanked by elements of the French 116th Infantry. [29, 30]

By July 7 the French had definitely learned the extent of the impending German attack, which would involve the French Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Armies, and on July 11 were able to predict July 14 as the probable date of the beginning of the operation. [31, 32, 33]

In the sector of the French XXI Corps the German first objective was the line, Perthes-lez-Hurlus—Suippes—St. Etienne-au-Temple, 20 kilometers southwest of Souain. The attack was

to open with a heavy bombardment beginning at 12:10 a. m., July 15. The infantry advance was to commence at 3 :50 a. m. behind a rolling barrage. [34, 35]

Information furnished by prisoners taken in a raid at 8 p. m., July 14, on the front of the French IV Corps indicated that the enemy artillery preparatory fire would begin about midnight, July 14, and that the infantry attack would begin against the front of the French Fourth Army between 4:15 a. m. and 5:30 a. m., July 15. Therefore, pursuant to plans already prepared, advance posts in the first position were withdrawn during the night of July 14-15 to the intermediate position. Only small detachments were left in the first position to give warning of the impending attack and to delay the German advance, thus causing it to fall behind the barrage. Preparations were made to receive the attack on the intermediate position, orders having been issued by the French Fourth Army on July 7 that this position was the one on which the troops were to make their determined stand and from which no retirements would be made. About 11:45 p.m. the artillery of the French Fourth Army began the counteroffensive preparatory fire. [11, 36, 37, 38]

The enemy preparatory fire opened at 12:10 a. m., July 15 falling with especial severity on the first position. The infantry attack began at 3:50 a. m. Three enemy divisions were sent against the French 13th Division and one against the French 170th Division. French elements in the first position engaged the enemy as they retired to the intermediate position. [36, 39]

July 15

In the sector of the French 13th Division, the enemy penetrated the intermediate position near Souain at 7:50 a. m. after vigorous efforts. At 8:30 a. m. this force was driven out of the position in a hand-to-hand counterattack made by French troops and elements of the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry. [18, 39, 40, 41]

In the sector of the French 170th Division, the French and American units had by 10 a. m. beaten off seven attacks against the intermediate position. By 11 a. m. the offensive had lost its impetus, and the enemy forces withdrew to reorganize for a

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE 13

fresh effort. The intermediate position was intact. [17, 18, 39, 42, 43, 44]

At 11:50 a. m. the French XXI Corps telephoned orders to the 42d Division to reinforce the intermediate position by placing two companies of the 84th Infantry Brigade, then in brigade reserve, at the disposal of the French 13th Division, and by attaching another battalion of the 83d Infantry Brigade to the French 170th Division. In case of necessity the 42d Division was to employ engineer units in occupying its portion of the second position. [41, 45]

The 84th Infantry Brigade ordered Companies E and F, 168th Infantry, to occupy the intermediate position. These companies were placed about 3 kilometers east of Souain in the trench system just south of Grand Bois des Bouleaux and Petit Bois des Sapines in support of the French 21st Infantry. The 83d Infantry Brigade, to which was attached the 117th Engineers, attached the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, to the French 170th Division. This battalion was relieved in the second position at 11 p. m. by the 1st Battalion, 117th Engineers. The latter passed to the tactical control of the 165th Infantry. The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, moved forward at midnight, July 15, occupying a position in close support just south of Ancienne Chaussée Romaine and west of Bois Forcinal. [18, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50]

Further enemy attacks during the afternoon and early evening were unsuccessful. Patrols sent out by French and American units operated during the night in front of the intermediate position. [39, 41, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54]

The 150th and 151st Machine-Gun Battalions and the 67th Field Artillery Brigade participated in the defensive action during the day. [18, 55, 56, 57]

Elsewhere on the 40-kilometer front of attack in Champagne the enemy met with no better success. On the other hand, on the 40-kilometer front of the French Fifth and Sixth Armies southwest of Reims, the Germans pushed back the French and Italian divisions for 8 kilometers, advancing except where opposed by American troops. [11, 58]

The enemy ordered the attack resumed on the western portion

of the Champagne front at 10 a. m., July 16, following an artillery preparation. Between Reims and Château-Thierry the attack was to continue without delay. [58]

July 16

In the sector of the French 13th Division, the hostile troops did not attack on July 16. French and American patrols pushed forward to regain contact with the enemy. [59, 60]

After a heavy artillery preparation the Germans attacked about 10:30 a. m. on both sides of the Suippes River against that part of the front of the French 170th Division north and northwest of St. Hilaire. The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, together with the French troops repulsed repeated attacks in fighting that continued until 2 p. m. [53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64]

At noon the French XXI Corps ordered each division to establish an outpost zone as soon as possible by recapturing the terrain from 1,200 to 1,500 meters in front of the intermediate position by the infiltration of small parties. No large scale attack was to be undertaken. [65]

Elsewhere on the front of the French Fourth Army, the German attack was again repulsed. Southwest of Reims, the enemy increased his gains, although progress was more difficult. [11, 66]

*July
17—18*

By July 17 the great German offensive had lost its impetus. On the Champagne front no attack was made on this day, and southwest of Reims the Germans made only small gains. [67]

The units of the 42d Division continued to hold their places in the line on July 18 with minor adjustments of position on the extreme right. The 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, and the regimental machine-gun company with Company C, 151st Machine-Gun Battalion attached, had relieved two battalions of the French 43rd Division in the second position, assuming command of the subsector to include Cote 204 at 11 p.m., July 17. Attempts made by patrols to advance the front line from the intermediate position toward the old first position, now occupied by the enemy, met with partial success. [18, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80]

In compliance with orders of the French Fourth Army and the French XXI Corps, the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, ex-

ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE 15

ecuted a raid at 6 a. m., July 18, against the enemy's positions northwest of St. Hilaire for the purpose of securing information and prisoners. The operation was successful. [81, 82, 83]

Advance information was received by front-line units on the night of July 18—19 indicating that a withdrawal of the division was to be effected. Movement of the battalions to the rear was begun in the early hours of July 19 and completed the same morning. The 42d Division assembled near Châlons-sur-Marne, in reserve of French General Headquarters. From here the division moved west to the Aisne-Marne region preparatory to participating in the Aisne-Marne Offensive. [1, 18, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90]

CASUALTIES, ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE

		July 3-14	July 15-18	July 19-20	Total
	W	7	212	-----	219
165th Inf -----	DW	1	10	-----	11
	K	-----	47	-----	47
	W	5	273	1	279
166th Inf -----	DW	-----	11	1	12
	K	-----	37	7	44
	W	5	357	-----	362
167th Inf -----	DW	1	13	-----	14
	K	-----	69	-----	69
	W	7	205	-----	212
168th Inf -----	DW	-----	24	-----	24
	K	-----	58	1	59
	W	-----	9	-----	9
149th FA -----	DW	-----	1	-----	1
	K	-----	2	-----	2
	W	-----	20	1	21
150th FA -----	DW	-----	1	-----	1
	K	-----	3	-----	3
	W	1	47	-----	48
151st FA -----	DW	-----	3	-----	3
	K	-----	4	-----	4
	W	1	1	-----	2
149th MG Bn -----	DW	-----	1	-----	1
	K	-----	-----	-----	-----
	W	-----	28	1	29
150th MG Bn -----	DW	-----	1	-----	1
	K	-----	13	-----	13

**CASUALTIES, ESPÉRANCE-SOUAIN SECTOR AND
CHAMPAGNE-MARNE DEFENSIVE—Continued**

		July 3-14	July 15-18	July 19-20	Total
151st MG Bn -----	W	4	49	-----	53
	DW	-----	2	-----	2
	K	-----	12	-----	12
117th Engrs -----	W	3	44	-----	47
	DW	-----	4	-----	4
	K	-----	8	-----	8
Others -----	W	1	16	-----	17
	DW	-----	-----	-----	-----
	K	-----	5	-----	5
Total		36	1,590	12	1,638

W = wounds not mortal; DW = died of wounds; K = killed in action.

Aisne-Marne Offensive

AIISNE-MARNE OFFENSIVE, JULY 25—AUGUST 6

EVEN BEFORE THE LAUNCHING of the German offensive of July 15, it had been decided to reduce the Marne salient. The plan as finally adopted provided that the French Tenth Army would attack the west face of the salient and cut the enemy communications through Soissons. In conjunction with this operation, the French Fifth Army was to attack the east face of the salient, while the French Sixth Army applied pressure at the tip, and supported with its left the attack of the French Tenth Army. A number of American divisions were to participate in the attack. On July 18, as soon as it became evident that the German offensive had spent itself, the counteroffensive, which is known as the Aisne-Marne Offensive, was launched. [2, 11]

The Allied and American attack was successful, and the penetration made on the west face of the salient on July 18 and seriously threatened the hostile communications. As a result, the Germans decided to evacuate the salient. Successive defensive lines were laid out in the salient which were to be strengthened as much as time permitted. In the area south of Soissons, where it was vital that the Germans protect their communications during their withdrawal, these lines were close together. On the rest of the front, where there was to be a progressive withdrawal, they were farther apart. [66]

During the night of July 19—20, the Germans abandoned all ground that they still held south of the Marne. The first phase of their withdrawal from the salient proper took place during the night of July 20—21, the second during the night of July 23—24. [66]

In the center of the Allied attack was the French Sixth Army, with the French III, French XXXVIII, American I and French

II Corps in line from right to left. By the evening of July 24 the American I Corps, with the American 26th and French 167th Divisions in line from right to left, had reached a position in Forêt de Fère east of Beuvarde. [11, 91]



The following paragraphs, in *italic*, are a synopsis of the service of the 42d Division in the Aisne-Marne Offensive. This synopsis is designed to make the principal facts concerning this service available to the reader in compact form.

The 42d Division relieved the 26th Division, I Corps, in the front line southeast of Beuvarde on July 25. On July 26 the zone of advance was shifted to the left, and elements of the 42d Division relieved the French 167th Division east of Beuvarde during the night of July 26—27. The zone of advance was again extended to the left on July 27, when, following a German withdrawal, the 42d Division relieved the French 164th Division and advanced to the line, La Cense—Favière Ferme—Villers-sur-Fère—Bois de Villemoyenne.

On July 28 the division attacked and crossed the Ourcq. On July 29 Serpy and Serpynges et Nesles were captured. The attack was continued on July 30 and 31, with slight gains.

Upon discovery of the German withdrawal to the Vesle River during the night of August 1—2, the 42d Division took up the pursuit and reached a line along the northeastern and northwestern edges of Forêt de Nesles, and the northern edge of Bois de Voizelle. It was relieved about 4 a. m., August 3, by the 4th Division, except Companies A and B, 117th Engineers, which had advanced to La Grande Pièce, southeast of Chartreuse Ferme, where they were relieved about 8 a. m.

Upon being relieved, the 42d Division remained in corps reserve until the close of the Aisne-Marne Offensive on August 6.

July 25

After the close of the Champagne-Marne Defensive, the 42d Division was relieved from the French Fourth Army and assigned to the French Sixth Army. It moved to the area of the French Sixth Army, southwest of Reims, and was assigned to

the American I Corps. On July 24 the 42d Division began to move from La Ferté-sous-Jouarre, 35 kilometers southwest of Beuvarde, to the front. On this day the I Corps placed the 84th Infantry Brigade at the disposal of the 26th Division for the purpose of relieving front-line units of the latter and of the attached 56th Infantry Brigade, 28th Division, the 111th and 112th Infantry Regiments, by a passage of lines at daybreak, July 25. Upon passage of the lines, the 42d Division was to take command of the zone of action of the 26th Division. Before this order could be executed, the I Corps directed the 26th Division to continue to advance during the night and capture Sergy not later than 2 a. m., July 25. However, owing to the relief in progress, no advance was made in the zone of action of the 26th Division. [91, 92, 93, 94, 98]

On July 25 the 84th Infantry Brigade moved forward from the vicinity of Epieds, 5 kilometers southwest of Beuvarde, with the 168th Infantry on the right and the 167th Infantry on the left. The 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, relieved mixed detachments of the 101st, 102d and 111th Infantry Regiments and of the 2d Battalion, 112th Infantry, in the eastern edge of Forêt de Fère. The 1st and 3d Battalions, 167th Infantry, relieved elements of the 2d and 3d Battalions, 111th Infantry, in the center of the wood. The 51st Field Artillery Brigade, 26th Division, remained in the sector, supporting the 42d Division until August 3. Command of the zone of action passed to the 42d Division about 9 p. m., July 25. The limits of this zone were as follows:

Right boundary: Fary Ferme (excl.)—point 1 kilometer southeast of La Croix Rouge Ferme.

Left boundary: point 201—point 1 kilometer north of La Croix Rouge Ferme.

[18, 95, 96, 97, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103]

The French 39th Division, French XXXVIII Corps, was to the right of the 42d Division, and the French 167th Division, American I Corps, to the left. Contact was established with both of these units, which advanced their lines slightly on July 25. [104, 105]

At 7 p. m. the French Sixth Army issued instructions for attacks on July 26 by the French XXXVIII and VII Corps, to the right and left respectively of the I Corps. The latter was to join in the attack and advance to the woods southwest of Fresnes if the reliefs in progress would permit. [106]

The I Corps ordered the 42d Division to occupy the entire corps front by relieving the French 167th Division. The mission of the 42d Division was to push forward steadily, maintain contact with the enemy and facilitate the advance of the French 39th Division to the right. [107]

July 26

After the relief of the 26th Division, the 168th Infantry discovered that its front was not completely covered. During the morning of July 26 the 2d Battalion was placed in the front line to the left of the 1st Battalion in Forêt de Fère, west of La Croix Rouge Ferme. [18]

Orders were issued by the 84th Infantry Brigade at 3:40 p. m. for the 167th and 168th Infantry Regiments to attack at 4:50 p. m. in conjunction with the French 39th Division. The first objective was La Croix Rouge Ferme and the final objective the northern and eastern edges of La Ventelette wood. [108]

The attack was made by the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, on the right, and the 1st and 3d Battalions, 167th Infantry, on the left. The farm buildings were captured and a line established for the night extending along the road southeast of La Croix Rouge Ferme, through the farm to the eastern edge of Bois de Beuvarde. The French 39th Division advanced its left in contact with the 42d Division. [18, 100, 109, 110, 111]

The 165th Infantry moved forward from the vicinity of Epieds during the day, and after midnight, July 26, relieved the French 167th Division, placing the 1st Battalion in the front line along the brook east of Beuvarde. The new left boundary of the division was a line, Beuvarde (incl.)—northern edge of Forêt de Fère, 1,500 meters north of Cote 206. The French 164th Division, VII Corps, was to the left of the new zone of action. [102, 112]

During the night of July 26-27 the enemy opposing the French Sixth Army withdrew to the north bank of the Ourcq

River, leaving delaying detachments equipped with machine-guns in the abandoned positions. [66]

In accordance with orders of the French Sixth Army for a general attack, the I Corps issued orders at 1:10 a. m., July 27, directing an attack by the 42d Division at 9:40 p. m. with the mission of crossing the Ourcq River and capturing the heights to the north. For this attack, the corps zones of action were rearranged. The I Corps was to extend to the left and pinch out the French 164th Division on the front of the French VII Corps. The limits of the new zone of action of the 42d Division were as follows:

July 27

Right boundary: La Croix Rouge Ferme (incl.)—Fresnes (excl.)—la Motte

Ferme (excl.)—Cote 212 (excl.)—Cote 200—Ferme de Camp (incl.).

Left boundary: Villemoyenne—Ruisseau de la Sablonnière (excl.)—Seringes et Nesles (excl.)—western edge of Forêt de Nesles. [113, 114]

The 42d Division was to attack in two columns to the east and west of Forêt de Fère and Château de la Forêt. The right column was to advance in the direction of La Croix Blanche Ferme and Sergy, while the left column was to pass through the French 164th Division near Château de Préaux Ferme and advance via La Folie, Villers-sur-Fère to Meurcy Ferme. Cavalry was moved into position to exploit any breach in the hostile line north of the Ourcq River. There was to be a 10-minute artillery preparation prior to the attack, and a rolling barrage was to cover the advance. The attacking troops were forbidden to use any weapon except the bayonet during darkness. [114]

At 9:30 a. m. the 42d Division issued orders for the attack. The formation of the division was to be as follows:

83D INFANTRY BRIGADE

166th Infantry 165th Infantry
150th Machine-Gun Battalion
67th Field Artillery Brigade

84TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

167th Infantry 168th Infantry
151st Machine-Gun Battalion
51st Field Artillery Brigade
(26th Division)

Brigade Reserve
149th Machine-Gun Battalion

With the exception of the 166th Infantry, the attacking regiments were already in the front line. The 166th Infantry was to enter the line at H-hour by passing through the front of the French 164th Division. The 164th Division would then stand relieved. [115, 116]

At 9:40 a. m. the French Sixth Army announced that the attack would be delayed until a later date because the French XXXVIII and II Corps were adjusting their boundaries and had not yet obtained suitable lines of departure. [117, 118]

When the enemy retirement was discovered, the 42d Division directed that the pursuit be taken up by all units then in line. The pursuit was begun early in the afternoon. [116, 119]

On the extreme right, the 1st and 3d Battalions, 168th Infantry, in line from right to left, reached the Ourcq River, where they came under heavy artillery and machine-gun fire. The two battalions fell back to a line north of La Cense and Favière Ferme. [18, 120]

The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, passed through the 1st and 3d Battalions and advanced to the east of Villers-sur-Fère. During the night it held a line across Ruisseau de la Taverne, southeast of Villers-sur-Fère. [18, 100]

The 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, less Company D, moved across the zone of advance of the 167th Infantry and reached the Ourcq near Grande Maison Ferme. Coming under machine-gun fire, the battalion fell back to a front-line position in the vicinity of the crossroads 700 meters northwest of Favière Ferme. The 3d Battalion, plus Company D, occupied Villers-sur-Fère and sent patrols to the river. The 2d Battalion moved forward to Villers-sur-Fère, but later withdrew to a front-line position in Bois de Villemoyenne. [112, 121]

At 1 p. m. the 42d Division announced the postponement of the attack planned for the night of July 27—28. At the same time the 83d Infantry Brigade was ordered to relieve the French 52d Division as well as the French 164th Division. [116, 122]

The French 164th Division advanced to Cote 228, north of

Beuvarde, before the German withdrawal was discovered. It was relieved here by the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, late in the afternoon; other elements of the 42d Division held positions in front of this battalion. The latter bivouacked in the northwestern edge of Forêt de Fère. The 2d and 3d Battalions, 166th Infantry, were detailed to relieve the French 52d Division, had moved forward during the night of July 27—28 to make the relief. The French 52d Division, however, had advanced in pursuit of the enemy and the relief was not effected. The two battalions bivouacked in Forêt de Fère in rear of the 1st Battalion. [123, 124]

At 3 p. m. the French Sixth Army warned its troops to be ready to execute the night attack previously planned. The line to be reached by the main body was, Hill 230, 3 kilometers east of Sergy—Seringes et Nesles—Fère-en-Tardenois. Later in the day the army ordered the attack to be launched at 11 p. m. At 11:45 p. m. the French Sixth Army announced that, in the event that the enemy did not defend the north bank of the Ourcq, the army was to continue its progress until the advance guards reached the Vesle River, 14 kilometers north of the Ourcq. [125, 126, 127]

In accordance with the 3 p. m. order of the French Sixth army, the I Corps issued orders at 10:10 p. m. for the 42d division to attack at an hour to be announced later, with the object of crossing the Ourcq and consolidating the heights beyond. [128]

By midnight, July 27, the 42d Division had received the order to attack that night. The 84th Infantry Brigade reported that it could not advance without artillery support, but would make an attempt to do so at 4 a. m. The 83d Infantry Brigade issued orders for the 165th Infantry to attack at 3:40 a. m. and advance to the line, Bois Brulé—Seringes et Nesles. [116]

At 2 a. m. the I Corps ordered the advance continued to the Vesle in accordance with the orders of the French Sixth Army of 11:45 p. m., July 27. [129]

July 28

Changes in the zones of action as ordered by the French Sixth Army had been completed at this time. To the right, the

French XXXVIII Corps occupied a position through Courmont, with the American 3d and 28th Divisions in line from right to left. The latter had relieved the French 39th Division shortly after midnight July 27. In the center, the front of the American I Corps was held by the 42d Division as already described. To the left, in the French II Corps, the French 52d Division at Villemoyenne was in process of being relieved by the French 62d Division. Owing to the shortening of the front, the French VII Corps was withdrawn from the front line. [130, 131, 132, 133]

None of the divisions carried out the night attack as planned, and the fighting on July 28 was not coordinated. [131, 134]

In the zone of action of the 42d Division, the 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, on the right, attacked at 4:50 a. m., forced a crossing of the Ourcq and reached the crest of Cote 212. Here an outpost line was established with exposed flanks. The remainder of the battalion took cover in the sunken road at the foot of the hill. The 1st Battalion advanced at 8 a. m. to protect the right flank of the 3d Battalion. It crossed the Ourcq and took up a position along the unimproved road east of Moulin Caranda, in the zone of action of the 28th Division. The 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, followed the 1st Battalion across the Ourcq during the morning and took up a position on the southwestern slope of Cote 212, protecting the left flank of the 3d Battalion. The front of the 168th Infantry faced east and north. [18, 135, 136]

The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, advanced down Ruisseau de la Taverne at 9 a. m., forced a crossing of the Ourcq and established a line along the sunken road northwest of Sergy, with outposts to the north. The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, advancing in support of the 2d Battalion, sent Company C into the front line to maintain contact with the 165th Infantry to the left. At 5 p. m. Companies K and M, 166th Infantry, were attached to the 167th Infantry and moved from Forêt de Fère to the gap south and west of Sergy between the 168th and 167th Infantry Regiments. At 6 p. m. one platoon of Company A, 167th Infantry, was ordered into this gap. Sergy was entered by patrols from Companies K and M, 166th Infantry,

and Company E, 168th Infantry. The town was strongly held by the Germans, who continued to occupy it throughout the day. [18, 116, 137, 138]

The attack of the 83d Infantry Brigade began at 3:45 a. m. in the following formation:

<i>165th Infantry</i>	
2d Battalion	3d Battalion
1st Battalion, 166th Infantry	1st Battalion
<i>166th Infantry, less 1st Battalion</i>	

[112, 124]

The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, closely followed by the 1st Battalion, advanced from Villers-sur-Fère, crossed the Ourcq and reached the ridge east of Meurcy Ferme. Enfilade machine-gun fire forced the 3d Battalion to fall back through the 1st Battalion at 11 a. m. The latter was also unable to hold the ridge and fell back to the Sergy—Fère-en-Tardenois road. [18, 112, 116, 139]

The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, advanced west of Villers-sur-Fère, crossed the Ourcq and reached the hill east of La Fontaine sous Pierre. About noon the battalion fell back to a line along the Sergy—Fère-en-Tardonis road north of Moulin Vert. [18, 116, 140]

The 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, in support on the left, passed to the left of the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, about 10:30 a. m., crossed the Ourcq and reached La Fontaine sous Pierre. At 11 p. m. these troops were also withdrawn to the Sergy—Fère-en-Tardenois road. [116, 141]

To the right of the 42d Division, there was no liaison with the 28th Division, which had crossed the Ourcq during the day. To the left, the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, was in contact with the French 62d Division east of Fère-en-Tardenois. [18, 142]

At 11:30 a. m. the 42d Division ordered the consolidation of the general line, Nesles—Seringes et Nesles, by pushing forward small patrols. At the same time preparations were made for a renewal of the general forward movement at daybreak on the

29th. The advance was to be made in four regimental columns, each regiment in column of battalions. [143]

Orders of the French Sixth Army issued at 7 p. m. and followed by those of the I Corps at 10:55 p. m., were based on the belief that the enemy was giving way when pressed and provided for a resumption of the attack at 3:40 a. m., July 29. Cavalry and infantry advance guards were to reach the line, Mont-St. Martin—Mont-Notre-Dame, 12 kilometers north of the Ourcq, while the main body of the army advanced to the line, Chéry-Chartreuve—Bruys. [144, 145]

The 1st and 3d Battalions, 47th Infantry, and Companies B and D, 11th Machine-Gun Battalion, all of the 4th Division, were attached to the 42d Division. [145, 146, 147]

The enemy was occupying the heights north of the Ourcq River as a bridgehead position, which was to be held until the night of August 1—2 in order to permit the evacuation of matériel and the preparation of a position on the north bank of the Vesle River. [148]

The 42d Division changed the time of attack to 8 a. m., July 29. [116]

July 29

On the extreme right, the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, was to lead the advance with the 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, in support. It attacked about 8:30 a. m. from south of Sergy, met stubborn resistance and made no gain. The 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, moved forward from the vicinity of La Cense with Companies I and L from right to left, leading, and Companies K and M in support. Company I was stopped in front of Sergy and fell back into the woods along the Ourcq River north of La Motte Ferme. Company L drove the Germans from Sergy, passed through the town and reached the ridge to the north. About 5 p. m. it withdrew to the western edge of the town. The 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, placed an outpost along the creek north of Sergy, and organized a line east and south of the town. The 1st and 3d Battalions, 168th Infantry, remained in the position reached on the previous day. [18, 136, 149, 150, 151, 152]

In the right center, the 167th Infantry did not attack. Companies K and M, 166th Infantry, were withdrawn from the

front line during the morning and returned to the 166th Infantry. During the night of July 29—30 the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, holding the front line along the sunken road north of the river, was relieved by the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry. [116, 149, 152]

In the zone of action of the 165th Infantry, the 1st Battalion moved to the west about 9:30 a. m. to cover Meurcy Ferme ravine and lead the attack, supported by the 2d Battalion. Meurcy Ferme and Bois Colas were captured, but the farm buildings were left unoccupied. The 2d Battalion was echeloned to the right rear to connect with the 167th Infantry at Moulin Vert. [18, 116, 153]

On the extreme left, the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, advanced about 8 a. m. and reached the road north of La Fontaine sous Pierre. Stopped by artillery and machine-gun fire, the battalion fell back to La Fontaine sous Pierre. About 4 p. m. the 2d Battalion passed through the 1st Battalion and captured Seringes et Nesles and the eastern portion of Cote 184. The left of the 165th Infantry conformed to this advance, Company C taking a position on the slope between Seringes and Bois Colas. [116, 154, 155]

To the right of the 42d Division, the 28th Division advanced to a line south of Moulin Caranda where contact was established. To the left, the French 62d Division captured Fère-en-Tardenois and advanced to the road south of Cote 184, where contact was established with the 42d Division. [18, 156]

In compliance with instructions from the French Sixth Army, the I Corps issued orders at 11 p. m. for the continuation of the attack on July 30 without change in mission. [157, 158]

The 4th Field Artillery Brigade, 4th Division, was to be attached to the 42d Division. [466]

The 84th Infantry Brigade received verbal orders to attack at 9 a. m., July 30, following a 1 ½ hour artillery preparation, with the 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, leading the 168th Infantry and the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, leading the 167th Infantry, with the line, La Tuilerie Ferme—Nesles—Château de Nesles, as the objective. The 165th Infantry was ordered to conform to the advance by moving forward to the line,

Château de Nesles—Seringes et Nesles, after an artillery concentration on Bois Brulé. [116, 136]

July 30

At 9 a. m. the 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, supported by the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, attacked from Sergy. The attack was stopped in the fields north of the town, only a few men crossing the creek. During the afternoon the troops retired to Sergy and the positions of the previous night. During the night of July 30—31 the 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, was withdrawn. The creek north of the town was outposted by the 168th Infantry. [18, 136, 149, 152, 159]

In the zone of action of the 167th Infantry, the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, reached a line just south of the Nesles—Seringes et Nesles road. Late in the evening the battalion retired to a line southeast of Meurcy Ferme, which it organized for the night. [149, 152]

In the 83d Infantry Brigade, the attack of the 165th Infantry was unsuccessful. A German counterattack at Meurcy Ferme was repulsed. During the night of July 30—31 the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, was withdrawn from Seringes et Nesles due to heavy fire, but later reoccupied the town. [18, 112, 124]

During the day the 28th Division captured Bois des Grimpettes and Cote 188, and established contact with the 168th Infantry. To the left, contact was established with the French 62d Division on the slopes of Cote 184. [18, 160, 161]

July 31

In compliance with orders of the French Sixth Army, the I Corps issued orders at 12:30 a. m., July 31, directing the 42d Division to attack and capture as a minimum objective the line, high ground north of Bois Pelger—high ground marked by point 177, 1 kilometer east of Meurcy Ferme. The American 32d Division, which had taken over the front of the French XXXVIII Corps during the night of July 30—31 by relieving the 28th Division, was to attack simultaneously to the right. H-hour was set for 4:30 p. m. The French II Corps was ordered to attack to the left on the plateau of Cote 184. The American 7th Infantry Brigade, 4th Division, was attached to the 42d Division as division reserve and continued as such until August 3. [162, 163, 164, 165, 166]

For this attack the boundary between the 42d and 32d Divi-

sions was modified so as to extend from a point 200 meters northwest of Cote 212, thence northeast to Bois du Pelger, thence generally north. The outposts of the 168th Infantry on Cote 212 were withdrawn to permit the passage of troops of the 32d Division. [166, 167]

Orders of the 84th Infantry Brigade issued at 2 p. m. directed the 168th and 167th Infantry Regiments to attack when the left of the 32d Division passed the line of the 84th Infantry Brigade north of Sergy. [168]

During the afternoon the left of the 32d Division was stopped south of Les Jomblets wood, and dug in along the Cierges—Sergy road, maintaining contact with the 42d Division on Cote 212. Consequently, the 84th Infantry Brigade did not advance. [18, 136, 149, 152, 169]

In the zone of action of the 83d Infantry Brigade, the American 30th Engineers conducted a smoke and thermite attack on Bois Brulé, which caused the enemy to abandon this position. Later in the day this wood was occupied by Company D, 165th Infantry. [116]

Acting on indications of another German withdrawal, the French Sixth Army issued orders for all units to maintain close contact with the enemy. In case there was no retreat, the enemy position north of the Ourcq was to be broken by maneuvering on the hills north of Cierges in the direction of Chéry-Chartreuve. The French XXXVIII and American I Corps were charged with this attack. [170]

The main attack was to be made by the 32d Division at 3:30 a. m., August 1. The I Corps directed the right of the 42d Division to conform. [171, 172, 173]

At 1 a. m., August 1, the 84th Infantry Brigade ordered its troops to cooperate in the attack by executing the operation planned for July 31. [174]

The left of the 32d Division advanced through Bois de la Planchette and Bois Pelger, but a counterattack forced it back into Les Jomblets wood. Contact was established with the 42d Division at the east edge of Sergy. [18, 175]

The 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, participated in this attack and advanced to the high ground north of Sergy, but

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owing to its exposed right flank, withdrew to Sergy, leaving outposts covering the approaches to the village. [18, 136, 175]

The 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, leading the 167th Infantry, was unable to advance. It was relieved by the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, during the night of August 1—2. [100, 149, 152] .

At 2:30 p. m. the I Corps issued orders for the relief of the 42d Division, less artillery, by the 4th Division during the night of August 2—3. [176]

Orders of the French Sixth Army directed that the attack be continued on August 2 without change in mission. New boundaries of the 42d Division, effective at 10 a. m., August 2, were to be as follows:

Right boundary: Sergy (incl.)—Ferme de Camp (incl.)— Evry Ferme (excl.).

Left boundary: Seringes et Nesles (incl.)—eastern edge of Bois de la Porte d'Arcy.

[177, 178]

The I Corps ordered the 42d Division to conform to the attack of the 32d Division, which was set for 4:15 a. m. The 117th Engineers was ordered to pass through the 168th Infantry, make the attack and maintain contact with the 32d Division. [177, 179, 180]

During the night of August 1—2 the Germans executed the first phase of their withdrawal to the Vesle River. Opposite the 42d Division, the enemy outpost line extended from the southern edge of Bois du Faux to Mareuil-en-Dôle. [181, 182]

When the enemy withdrawal was discovered, the advance was taken up on the entire divisional front. Companies A and B, 117th Engineers, on the right, advancing without contact with the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, to the left, but maintaining contact with the 32d Division, reached the northern edge of Bois de Voizelle. The 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, reached the northeastern edge of Forêt de Nesles, and its scouts advanced beyond Les Bons Hommes Ferme after having overcome machine-gun resistance at that point. The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, advanced through Forêt de Nesles in contact with the 168th Infantry. [100, 136, 183, 184]

The 165th Infantry advanced with the 3d Battalion in the

lead and reached the northwestern edge of Forêt de Nesles. The 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, overcame the resistance at Mareuil-en-Dôle and entered the town. Learning of the pending relief by the 4th Division, the troops in the town were withdrawn to the high ground southwest of Bayon. [185, 186]

On the right of the 42d Division, Companies A and B, 117th Engineers, were in contact with the 32d Division in Le Bois Chenet. The 42d Division was in contact with the French 62d Division, to the left, in Bois de la Porte d'Arcy. [18, 187, 188]

Orders of the I Corps directed the 4th Division to follow the 42d Division and relieve it by a passage of lines when the pursuit halted. The 4th Division was advanced in two columns, the 8th Infantry Brigade prepared to relieve the 84th Infantry Brigade, and the 7th Infantry Brigade, the 83d Infantry Brigade. The relief was completed about 4 a. m., August 3. Companies A and B, 117th Engineers, advanced ahead of the 4th Division as far as La Grande Pièce, southeast of Chartreuve Ferme, where they were relieved about 8 a. m. [18, 180, 189, 190]

The 42d Division, less artillery, assembled in Forêt de Fère, where it remained in reserve of the I Corps until the end of the Aisne-Marne Offensive on August 6. From here the division moved by stages to the St. Mihiel region to participate in the St. Mihiel Offensive. [1, 191]

CASUALTIES, AISNE-MARNE OFFENSIVE

<i>42d Division</i>		July 21—24	July 25 — Aug. 3	Aug. 4—6	Total
165 th Inf -----	W	3	1,026	7	1,036
	DW	1	64	----	65
	K	----	256	1	257
166 th Inf -----	W	----	643	4	647
	DW	1	54	----	55
	K	----	117	----	117
167 th Inf -----	W	1	1,020	2	1,023
	DW	2	59	----	61
	K	----	261	----	261
168 th Inf -----	W	----	1,103	4	1,107
	DW	----	63	----	63
	K	----	183	----	183
149 th FA ----- (DS Aug. 3-6)	W	----	20	----	20
	DW	----	----	----	----
	K	----	----	----	----
150 th FA ----- (DS Aug. 3-6)	W	----	18	----	18
	DW	----	5	----	5
	K	----	5	----	5
151 st FA ----- (DS Aug. 3-6)	W	----	22	----	22
	DW	----	1	----	1
	K	----	1	----	1
149 th MG Bn -----	W	----	114	----	114
	DW	----	3	----	3
	K	----	9	----	9
150 th MG Bn -----	W	8	110	----	118
	DW	----	6	----	6
	K	1	27	----	28
151 st MG Bn -----	W	----	154	1	155
	DW	----	5	----	5
	K	----	28	----	28
117 th Engrs -----	W	----	42	----	42
	DW	----	2	----	2
	K	----	5	----	5
Others -----	W	4	39	1	44
	DW	----	----	----	----
	K	1	11	----	12
Total-----		22	5,476	20	5,518

CASUALTIES, AISNE-MARNE OFFENSIVE—Continued

		Jul 21—24	Jul 25— Aug. 3	Aug. 4—6	Total
<i>Attached Units</i>					
101 st FA (26 th Div) -----	W ----- DW	----- -----	21	2	21
(July 25—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	9 16 1	----- ----- -----	9 16 1
102 ^d FA (26 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	8 27 2	----- ----- -----	8 27 2
(July 25—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	5 87 10	----- ----- -----	5 87 10
103 ^d FA (26 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	36 453 20	----- ----- -----	36 453 20
(July 25—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	121 3 -----	----- ----- -----	121 3 -----
11 th MG Bn (4 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
(July 30—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	130 10 21	----- ----- -----	130 10 21
1 st & 3 ^d Bns. 47 th Inf & Cos. W	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	1 ----- -----	----- ----- -----	1 ----- -----
B & D 11 th MG Bn (4 th Div) DW	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
(July 28-29)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
13 th FA (4 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
(July 30—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
16 th FA (4 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
(July 30—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
77 th FA (4 th Div) -----	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
(July 30—Aug. 2)	K ----- W ----- DW	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
Total-----	-----	-----	983	-----	983
Aggregate total----	22	6,459	20	6,501	

W = wounds not mortal; DW = died of wounds; K = killed in action; DS = detached service.

St. Mihiel Offensive and Essey-Pannes Sector

ST. MIHIEL OFFENSIVE, SEPTEMBER 12—16

ESSEY-PANNES SECTOR, SEPTEMBER 17—OCTOBER 1

FROM THE TIME that the American Commander-in-Chief arrived in France, he bent every effort toward organizing an American army under American command at the earliest possible moment. To accomplish this would normally consume considerable time because it would first be necessary to transport a large number of troops to Europe, provide for their supply and complete their training. The organization of this army was further deferred by the critical situation created by the German offensives launched in the spring and early summer of 1918. These offensives so depleted the Allied reserves that the Allies faced almost certain defeat unless they received immediate support. In this crisis the American Commander-in-Chief postponed for the time being the concentration of American divisions for the formation of an American army, and made all American combatant forces available for service with the British and French armies. With this assistance, the Allies were able not only to stop the German offensives before they gained a decisive victory but, on July 18, to launch the Aisne-Marne Offensive against the Germans in the Marne salient. On July 24, while this offensive was still in progress, a strategic offensive plan was agreed upon by the Commanders-in-Chief and the Allied Commander-in-Chief which included a mission for an American army. The immediate purpose of this plan was to reduce the salients which interfered with railroad communications which were essential to further offensive operations. One of these was the St. Mihiel salient. [2, 4]

The American First Army was organized on August 10, and directed to reduce this salient. [4]

The St. Mihiel salient was roughly triangular in shape, with its angles near Pont-à-Mousson, St. Mihiel and Verdun. It was approximately 35 kilometers across the base, extended about 25 kilometers into the Allied lines, and was important in that it cut the Verdun—Toul railroad and allowed the Germans to interrupt traffic on the Paris—Nancy railroad with artillery fire. It also covered the permanent fortifications of Metz, protected the Briey iron basin, and would seriously threaten the flank of any Allied operations which might be undertaken in the Meuse-Argonne region. [2, 4]

The St. Mihiel salient had been formed during the operations of 1914 and, although the French had launched strong attacks against it at various times, the lines had not been materially changed. From the heights of the Moselle north of Pont-à-Mousson, the German front line extended westward across the Woëvre plain to the heights of the Meuse, ascended these heights, included the town of St. Mihiel and again descended to the plain southeast of Verdun. Within the salient proper, there were two principal defensive zones or positions. The first included the outpost positions, except in the area north of Les Eparges. In this area it was withdrawn some distance into the plain because the Allies held the dominating heights of the Meuse. The second position lay from 4 to 8 kilometers in rear of the first, and generally parallel to it. Across the base of the salient was the third position. This position, known to the Germans as the Michel Stellung, formed a part of their great defensive system, popularly called the Hindenburg Line, which ran from the vicinity of Metz to the North Sea. The outposts of this position extended along the general line, Prény—Bois de Grand Fontaine—Rembercourt—Dampvitoux—Jonville—Harville—Etain. The first position was well organized with a dense network of wire, deep well-constructed trenches and numerous concrete dugouts and machine-gun emplacements. The second position was also well protected by wire but had few trenches. The third had not been entire-

ly completed but had a good system of wire entanglements and numerous concrete strongpoints. [4]

It was originally planned that the attack on the St. Mihiel salient would penetrate the hostile third position, and be exploited to the fullest extent. On September 2, however, it was decided that the First Army would launch the Meuse-Argonne Offensive later in the month. The St. Mihiel Offensive, therefore, was limited to clearing the salient only so far as was necessary to insure the safety of the later operation. The army plan, as finally approved, provided only for the penetration of the first and second positions and the establishment of a defensive line across the base of the salient in front of the hostile third position. This was to be accomplished by three coordinated attacks; a principal attack, by the I and IV Corps from right to left, against the south face, a secondary attack against the west face by the V Corps and a holding attack against the tip of the salient by the French II Colonial Corps. In preparation for the offensive, the First Army assumed command of the front from Port-sur-Seille, east of the Moselle River, to Watronville, 11 kilometers southeast of Verdun, on August 30. The operation was to begin at 1 a. m., September 12, with an artillery preparation. The main attack was to be launched at 5 a. m.; the secondary attack at 8 a. m. [4]



The following paragraphs, in *italic*, are a synopsis of the service of the 42d Division in the St. Mihiel Offensive and the Essey-Pannes Sector. This synopsis is designed to make the principal facts concerning this service available to the reader in compact form.

The 42d Division relieved elements of the 89th Division between Flierey and Seicheprey during the night of September 10—11, assuming command of the sector at 9 a. m., September 11. As center division of the IV Corps, the division attacked on September 12 and advanced to the first-day objective just south of Bois de Thiaucourt. To its right and left were the 89th and 1st Divisions,

respectively. Renewing the advance at 6 a. m., September 13, the division gained the army objective without serious opposition and pushed outposts and patrols beyond, organizing the army objective as its main line of resistance.

Vigorous patrolling on the 14th developed new enemy positions. On the 15th and 16th the division continued the work of organization for defense. Owing to progress made by the French II Colonial Corps on the 14th and 15th, the left brigade of the 42d Division was no longer in front line.

Between September 16 and 30 the division engaged in active patrolling and in reorganizing its units and sectors. By local demonstrations it assisted the opening of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive on September 26.

The 42d Division was relieved by the 89th Division on October 1.

As part of the concentration of the First Army for the St. Mihiel Offensive, the 42d Division was brought from the Aisne-Marne region and took position in Forêt de la Reine, 7 kilometers south of Seicheprey. During the night of September 10—11 the division moved forward for the purpose of relieving elements of the 89th Division on the south face of the St. Mihiel salient. The line taken over from the 89th Division extended from a point 300 meters west of the Flirey—Essey railroad to a point 1 kilometer north of Seicheprey. To prevent the enemy from identifying the 42d Division, a thin screen of 89th Division troops remained in the outpost line. The 84th Infantry Brigade was on the right and the 83d Infantry Brigade on the left. The entire front line of the division was taken over by two companies of the 166th Infantry. Command of the sector passed to the 42d Division at 9 a. m., September 11. Thus the division became the center division of the IV Corps. The 89th Division was to the right, the 1st Division to the left. During the night of September 11—12 each brigade sent forward one company to relieve the elements of the 89th Division in the outpost line. [192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198]

The First Army had issued its field orders for the St. Mihiel

Offensive on September 7. These orders established the following principal objectives:

For the I and IV Corps.

First-phase line: Forêt du Bois le Prêtre—Viéville-en-Haye—Essey—Bois Raté.

First-day line: Forêt du Bois le Prêtre—Bois Gérard—Jaulny—Nonsard—Bois Raté.

First-phase, second day: Forêt du Bois le Prêtre—Bois Gérard—Jaulny—St. Benoît—Bois de Vigneulles.

For the V Corps.

First-day line: crossroads 2 kilometers south of Dommartin-la-Montagne—Herbeuville—Trésauvaux.

For all corps.

Army objective: Forêt du Bois le Prêtre—Bois Gérard—Jaulny—St. Benoît—Hattonville—Thillot—Trésauvaux.

Exploitation line: Norroy—Bois de Grand Fontaine—Rembercourt—Dampvitoux—Woël—Trésauvaux.

The I Corps, with the 82d, 90th, 5th and 2d Divisions in line from right to left, was to pivot on the 90th Division and advance its left to the first-phase, second-day line, and penetrate the hostile second position in the vicinity of Thiaucourt. The IV Corps, with the 89th, 42d and 1st Divisions in line from right to left, was to drive hard toward St. Benoît and Vigneulles. It was to penetrate the hostile second position on its entire front, and push on to the first-phase, second-day line without further orders. Upon receipt of orders from the army commander, it was to drive on to the army objective. The V Corps, with the American 26th Division, the French 15th Colonial Infantry Division and one brigade of the American 4th Division, in line from right to left, was to push forward aggressively to the first-day line. Upon orders of the army commander, it was to pivot on the French 15th Colonial Infantry Division, swing to the northeast and advance to the army objective, with its right at Thillot. The French II Colonial Corps was to conduct deep raids at the hour of attack and carry out local operations during the opening phase of the attack to cover the exposed flanks of the IV and V Corps. It was to protect the

right of the V Corps in its advance to the army objective. Lastly, the French II Colonial Corps was to advance in the direction, St. Mihiel—Hattonville, and occupy the army objective between the IV and V Corps. All corps upon reaching the army objective were to organize it for defense and push strong reconnaissance detachments to the exploitation line. The attack was to be strongly supported by artillery and aviation. Tanks were assigned to the I and IV Corps. [199]

The IV Corps issued its field orders on September 8. During the first phase of the attack the corps was to pierce the enemy's outpost position, break through his line of resistance and seize the heights south of Le Rupt de Mad Ruisseau and southeast of Bouillonville. The second phase of the attack was to begin from the objective of the first phase at H plus 6 hours. The attack was to be carried forward to the line, Thiaucourt—Nonsard, the first day's objective. This line, in the zone of action of the 42d Division, was defined as extending from the crossroads 700 meters southeast of Bénay, thence along the south edge of Bois de Thiaucourt to Lamarche-en-Woëvre, exclusive. Strong reconnaissance to the front was to be made from this objective. [200]

On the second day the corps axis of effort was to be toward St. Benoit-en-Woëvre and Vigneulles-les Hattonchâtel. However, the corps was authorized to order this advance on the first day if the attack made satisfactory progress. Upon reaching the army objective, Xammes—Hattonville, the corps was to push strong detachments toward the exploitation line, Dommartin-la-Chaussée (1 kilometer east of Dampvitoux) and northwest thereof. [199, 200]

The 42d Division was to deliver the main attack of the corps in the direction of the heights overlooking La Madine Ruisseau, exerting its main effort east of Maizerais and Essey. It was ordered to seize the first-phase line without regard to the progress of neighboring divisions. This line extended from the crossing of the Bouillonville—Essey railroad and the Euvezin—Pannes road, along the northern edge of Bois Raté, thence to the southern end of Etang de Lambépinot. [200]

The following zone of action was assigned to the 42d Division:

Right boundary: point 400 meters east of the northeast corner of Bois du

Jury—point 1 kilometer southwest of church in Euvezin—Béney (excl.)—
northwest corner of Bois de Dampvitoux.

Left boundary: Seicheprey (incl.)—St. Baussant (incl.)—roadfork 1,700

meters east of Etang de Pannes—Lamarche-en-Woëvre (incl.)—west tip of
Etang de Vigneulles.

[200]

The following units were attached to the 42d Division for the attack: one regiment French field artillery; the 10th and 18th Field Artillery Regiments and the 3d Trench-Mortar Battery, 3d Division; the 90th Observation Squadron; the 3d Balloon Company; the 327th Tank Battalion and two groups of medium French tanks; two platoons, Company A, 1st Gas Regiment; and one battalion, 51st Pioneer Infantry, less two companies. [200]

To carry out the mission assigned by the IV Corps the 42d Division, on September 9, ordered an attack in the following formation:

<i>83D INFANTRY BRIGADE</i>		<i>84TH INFANTRY BRIGADE</i>	
<i>166th Infantry</i>	<i>165th Infantry</i>	<i>167th Infantry</i>	<i>168th Infantry</i>
3d Battalion	1st Battalion	1st Battalion	3d Battalion
1st Battalion	2d Battalion	2d Battalion	2d Battalion
 <i>Brigade Reserve</i>		 <i>Brigade Reserve</i>	
3d Battalion, 165th Infantry		3d Battalion, 167th Infantry	

DIVISION RESERVE
1st Battalion, 168th Infantry
2d Battalion, 166th Infantry

[201, 202, 203, 208]

To each brigade was attached one battery of 75-mm guns; one battalion, less one company, of the 117th Engineers; one platoon of the 1st Gas Regiment; and a trench-mortar and 37-mm gun detachment. The two groups of French tanks were attached to the right brigade and the American tanks to the left brigade. [201]

Following the 4-hour artillery preparation, the division attacked at 5 a. m., September 12, behind a rolling barrage. [204]

Sept. 12

The leading battalion of the 168th Infantry encountered stubborn resistance for a short time at the outset, but continued to advance toward the first-phase line. The 2d Battalion advanced through Bois de la Sonnard, and finding no elements of the 3d Battalion to its front, deployed and advanced toward Essey, where it halted. The 3d Battalion reorganized in rear of the 2d Battalion near Ferme la Maitresse, southeast of Essey, and passed into reserve. The 2d Battalion resumed the advance at 11 a. m., and about 2 p. m. gained the first day's objective without difficulty. The 1st Battalion moved up from division reserve and, relieving the 3d Battalion, went into close support, covering the right flank of the 2d Battalion along Le Fond de Marmez. A gap existed between the right of the 42d Division and the left of the 89th Division during the night of September 12—13. [18, 205]

The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, met severe frontal and flanking fire from machine guns in Bois de la Sonnard and south of the wood. These machine-gun positions were reduced by a flanking movement to the right, assisted by fire from the attached trench-mortar section, and the advance continued to the first-phase line. This line was passed about noon and the battalion, continuing in the assault echelon, reached the first day's objective about 4:30 p. m. Here it organized a defensive position and sent patrols into Bois de Thiaucourt. The 2d Battalion remained in close support throughout the day and about nightfall reached Pannes where it bivouacked for the night. [18, 206]

The 165th Infantry advanced to the first day's objective which it reached about 2 p. m. The 1st Battalion constituted the outpost of the regiment and patrolled as far as the northern edge of Bois de Bénay. The 2d and 3d Battalions maintained their original positions, in support and reserve, respectively. [18]

The 166th Infantry assisted the 1st Division in the capture of Lahayville and advanced to the first day's objective against slight resistance. Outposts were established north of the wire southeast of Lamarche-en-Woëvre. That village lay within the

divisional zone of action, but just beyond the first day's objective. A patrol from Company K, 166th Infantry, entered Lamarche during the afternoon, but returned to its lines within an hour. Infantry elements of the 1st Division and machine-gun elements of the 3d Division, attached to the 1st Division, moved toward the town about dusk and the infantry units occupied it during the night. [18, 207, 208]

At 4:30 p. m. the IV Corps issued orders directing the divisions of the corps to assure the defense of the first day's objective and to advance at once in conjunction with one another to the first-phase, second-day line. This line coincided with the army objective in the eastern portion of the zone of action of the 42d Division. Near the chateau north of St. Benoit-en-Woëvre, it diverged from the army objective and extended to the southwest, while the army objective extended west to the northern edge of Bois le Chaufour. The east limit of the zone of action of the division was defined by the new corps order as Béney—Bois de Dampvitoux (both excl.), involving no material change. The west limit was changed to extend from Lamarche (incl.) to the road junction 1 kilometer west of Etang de Vigneulles (excl.). This west limit never became operative, as subsequent orders reaffirmed the old boundary of September 11. [200, 209, 210]

Pursuant to the foregoing order, the division directed the resumption of the attack to the new objective. [211]

The movement was begun after dark by the flank divisions of the IV Corps and continued during the night. The 42d Division, however, remained on the first day's objective until 6 a. m., September 13, organizing its position for defense. [18, 212, 213, 214]

The attack of the First Army on September 12 was highly successful. At the close of the day, it had reached the first objective of the second day on most of its front. Reports from aviators and ground troops indicated that the enemy was withdrawing from the salient. The army commander, therefore, directed the IV and V Corps to push strong detachments forward to Vigneulles during the night of September 12—13. Ele-

ments of the 1st Division, IV Corps, and elements of the 26th Division, V Corps, were selected for the mission. [4]

At 11:55 p. m. the First Army issued orders directing that the attack would be pushed vigorously on September 13. The assignment of corps to the army objective, which they were to organize for defense, remained the same as in its field orders of September 7. The IV Corps, less the detachment designated to move on Vigneulles, was to hold the first-phase, second-day line, in close liaison with the left of the I Corps, and push strong reconnaissance detachments beyond the army objective. The left of the IV Corps was to advance to a position from which it could control the exit from the salient. [199, 213, 215]

The detachments of the 1st and 26th Divisions, which had been designated to close the salient, advanced across the front of the French II Colonial Corps, and effected a junction in the vicinity of Vigneulles early on the morning of September 13. [4]

Sept. 13

The advance of the 42d Division was resumed at 6 a. m., September 13. [212]

On the right, the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, encountered no resistance other than machine-gun fire from the direction of Marimbois Ferme. The battalion halted with Companies E and F on the general line, northwestern edge of Bois de Charey—Etang d’Afrique. The 1st Battalion, in close support, was reordered, upon reaching Louiseville Ferme, to organize and improve positions then held. A battalion of the left regiment of the 89th Division had advanced to the northeastern edge of Bois de Charey before noon and was preparing to attack Bois de Dommartin and Marimbois Ferme when it received orders to retire to the army objective in Bois de Dampvitoux. The battalion of the 89th Division retired as ordered. When this became known, the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, made a slight redistribution of its forces, and about dusk placed its support companies, G and H, in the northern edge of Bois de Charey. A line of combat groups was organized along the northern edge of Bois de Charey, from the narrow-gauge railroad to Etang d’Afrique, with an outpost at Ferme de Champ-Fontaine. Patrols of the battalion were unable to establish contact with the 89th Division. [18, 205, 217, 218]

The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, passed through the lines of the 1st Battalion at 6 a. m. and advanced through Bois de Thiaucourt to St. Benoit. A patrol in the northeastern corner of Bois de la Grande Souche came under fire. When the patrol continued to advance the enemy withdrew northeast through Haumont-les-Lachaussée. The patrol entered the town, but later withdrew to its own lines. The battalion organized a defensive position for the night southwest of Etang d'Afrique, between Bois de la Grande Souche and Ruisseau d'Yron, with outposts in the southern edge of the wood. The 3d Battalion took position in support near St. Benoit. [18, 219]

In the 83d Infantry Brigade, the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, and 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, were attached to the 1st Division as a reserve during a portion of the day. [1, 220, 221]

The 165th Infantry renewed the advance at 6 a. m., with its 1st and 2d Battalions in order from head to rear. Moving through Bois de Thiaucourt to St. Benoit, the 1st Battalion sent Company C northeast to cover its right flank. The remainder of the battalion continued north along the St. Benoit—Hassavant Ferme road. Small enemy parties in the woods on either side of the road were easily driven out. The battalion placed outposts near Hassavant Ferme, east and west of the road, and sent patrols north toward Woël and through Bois des Haudronvilles Bas close to Hadonville-les-Lachaussée and Lachaussée. Company C, sent out to cover the battalion right flank, advanced to Hill 220.8 and outposted the eastern tip of Bois de la Grande Souche. It was in front of the right elements of the outpost battalion of the 167th Infantry. The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, occupied support positions near St. Benoit during the night. [18, 220]

On the extreme left, the 166th Infantry advanced at 6 a. m. with its 3d Battalion leading. The front line of this battalion, which was established on the army objective, lay somewhat to the left rear of the advance positions of the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, in order to protect the left flank of the division and secure contact with the 1st Division. [207, 221]

The 1st Division had advanced during the day until the

leading elements of its right brigade rested on the army objective near Vigneulles and Hattonville, where they came into close contact with the 26th Division attacking from the northwest. At 4:25 p. m. the 1st Division was ordered by the IV Corps to retire from this line to the first-phase line of the second day, extending southwest from Etang de Vigneulles. The movement, started at 7 p. m., was completed by the right brigade by midnight, September 13. The 1st Division was directed to hold on this line until the French 39th Division, to its left, should reach the army objective, when the 1st Division was to be withdrawn. [210, 214, 222]

The French 39th Division, which had attacked on September 12 to the left of the American 1st Division as the right division of the French II Colonial Corps, advanced north on September 13, and by noon had reached Vigneulles, where it came in contact with elements of the 26th Division. During the evening of the 13th the French 39th Division occupied the heights of Hattonchâtel and the approaches to Hattonville. The enemy having retired to his new positions on the Michel Stellung, there were no troops, friendly or hostile, in Bois le Chaufour, at midnight, September 13, between the left of the 166th Infantry and the outposts of the French 153d Infantry, French 39th Division. The elements of the 1st Division on the northern slope of Bois de Vigneulles were still occupying positions in the front line. [214, 223]

Having advanced its outpost elements beyond the general line of the army objective, the 42d Division proceeded with the work of organization of the army objective as its main line of resistance, at the same time patrolling actively to its front. [224, 225]

At 4:25 p. m. the IV Corps restored the left boundary of the 42d Division to that in force at the opening of the operation. The right boundary of the division was extended by the same order as follows: northwest tip of Bois de Dampvitoux—Bois Bonseil (incl.). Notification of the change in boundaries was published by the 42d Division late on September 14. [210, 226]

Sept. 14

On September 14 the division continued to organize the newly won positions. [227]

Company C, 165th Infantry, was withdrawn from its position in the zone of action of the right brigade and rejoined its battalion. Its positions were taken over by elements of the 84th Infantry Brigade. [18]

Patrols that had operated toward Hadonville-les-Lachaussée and Lachaussée during the night of September 13—14, were withdrawn into the northern portion of Bois des Haudronvilles Bas during the morning of the 14th. [227]

Strong patrols were sent forward during the afternoon to determine the occupation of the Michel Stellung. A patrol of the 168th Infantry working toward Haumont drew heavy machine-gun fire from the village and retired to the main line of resistance after dark. A patrol of the 165th Infantry advanced during the afternoon from Hassavant Ferme along the Woël road to Le Rebois wood, where it met a group of American tanks attached to the 1st Division and participated in an encounter with the enemy near Jonville, about 3 kilometers northwest of Hadonville. [18, 228, 229]

During the day the French II Colonial Corps ordered its divisions to push strong outposts, preceded by patrols, beyond the line of resistance, the patrols to move to the exploitation line, which was described in the order of the corps as, Etang de Lachaussée—northern edge of Bois Tagnière—Woël. Pursuant to this order the French 39th Division ordered the reconnaissance of the Michel Stellung, and the occupation of Bois Tagnière, to cover the occupation of the outpost and resistance positions. French troops moved into the sector of the left brigade and by nightfall had outposts in the vicinity of Hassavant Ferme and Etang Boutonneau. A battalion of French 164th Infantry took up a position on the western edge of Bois des Haudronvilles Hauts and by noon was in liaison with the 165th Infantry at Etang de Beugné. [18, 230, 231, 232]

Pursuant to orders of the French II Colonial Corps, the French 39th Division advanced during the day northeast of Hattonville in the direction of Woël. In consequence of this

movement, the 166th Infantry ceased to hold front-line positions. [18, 323]

On September 15—16 the division continued the work of organizing its positions and patrolled as far as the northern edge of Bois des Haudronvilles Bas, and toward Haumont and Marimbois Ferme. [227, 234, 235]

A new boundary between the IV Corps and the French II Colonial Corps was designated on September 15, as follows: westernmost point of Etang de Vigneulles—west edge of Etang des Anceyiennes—eastern and northern limits of Bois de la Grande Souche—southernmost point of Etang de Lachaussée—Lachaussée (incl.). [236]

At 11:30 a. m., September 15, French troops were reported as occupying the northwestern portion of Bois des Haravillers, Bois Tagnière and the crossroads 600 meters east of Les Longues Peines wood. Elements of the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, established liaison with them during the day in Bois des Haudronvilles Bas and near Ferme des Hauts Journau, in the north tip of Bois des Haravillers. Front-line troops of the 165th Infantry, west of the new boundary, were masked by the right-flank elements of the French 39th Division and ceased to be in the front line. They continued to hold their positions in the vicinity of Hassavant Ferme and patrolled into the woods to the northeast until the withdrawal of the 83d Infantry Brigade. The 1st Division was withdrawn from the first-phase, second-day objective, on September 15 and reorganized in the vicinity of Bois de la Belle Ozière, west of Nonsard. [18, 234, 237]

On September 15 the IV Corps fixed the boundary between the zones of the 42d and 89th Divisions as a line from Marimbois Ferme to the road junction at the northern edge of Bois de Dampvitoux, and thence along the road through that wood to the north tip of the clearing south of the wood (all to 42d Division). The IV Corps changed this boundary on the following day to a line from the center of Bois de Dampvitoux to the northwest tip of Bois de Dommartin. This boundary, which was actually in force on September 13 when the 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, took position in the northern portion of Bois de Charey, was thus confirmed by corps orders. [236, 238]

Sept. 15—16

A patrol of the 167th Infantry went into the northeast corner of Bois de la Grande Souche at 10:30 p. m., September 16, and remained there throughout the night. The 168th Infantry placed a patrol in observation in front of Haumont about the same time. [239]

At noon, September 16, the French II Colonial Corps assumed command of the front as far east as the southern branch of Etang de Lachaussée. The left limit of the 42d Division then became; west edge of Bois de Vigneulles—west point of Etang de Vigneulles—west edge of Etang des Anceyiennes—south point of Etang de Lachaussée—Lachaussée (incl.). [236]

Sept. 17—25 Following the close of the St. Mihiel Offensive on September 16, the division entered upon a period of sector occupation, marked by normal patrolling, raids and reliefs. The sector became known as the Essey-Pannes Sector. [240]

Pursuant to the original plan for the organization of the army objective, the density of troops in the outpost position was reduced during the first days of this period. [18, 240, 241]

The 83d Infantry Brigade was withdrawn to reserve on September 17 and slight redispositions of the 84th Infantry Brigade were made. The 168th and 167th Infantry Regiments from right to left, continued to hold the front line. The work of organization of the sector was carried on and a plan of defense issued by the 84th Infantry Brigade on September 19. On this date the 167th Infantry advanced its forward elements to the north arm of Bois de la Grande Souche. The 1st Battalion 150th Field Artillery, and the 151st Field Artillery supported the 89th Division in the Euvezin Sector from September 18—23. [1, 18, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246]

At 5 a. m., September 20, an enemy raid against the outposts in Ferme de Champ Fontaine was repulsed. At 4:30 a. m., September 22, Company M, 167th Infantry, retaliated with a successful raid into Haumont, while a mixed detachment of the 168th Infantry successfully raided Marimbois Ferme. [240]

On September 20 the First Army ordered troops east of the Meuse River, including the IV Corps, to make a demonstration on the day on which the Meuse-Argonne Offensive was to begin. They were to support the attack of the First Army west of the

Meuse by joining in the artillery bombardment and by making deep raids at the hour of attack. [247]

Orders to this effect were issued by the IV Corps on September 24. The 42d Division and the other divisions of the corps were directed to raid simultaneously, to penetrate the enemy's outpost zone to his main line of resistance and to hold themselves in readiness for possible combined offensive action on the day that the general attack was to begin. [248]

In compliance, the division executed an artillery demonstration from 9:30 p. m., September 25, to 6:30 a. m., September 26. Patrols were sent against the enemy positions at Haumont and Marimbois Ferme early in the morning, and met with strong resistance. No change in the front line resulted from this demonstration. The remainder of the division was held in readiness for any necessary action. [18, 240, 249]

*Sept. 26—
Oct. 1*

The 83d Infantry Brigade relieved the 84th Infantry Brigade in the front line during the night of September 27—28. The brigade placed the 165th and 166th Infantry Regiments in line from right to left. Each regiment occupied the outpost position with one battalion. Normal sector activities marked the remainder of the period the division was in this sector. [18, 250, 251, 252, 253]

The division was relieved by the 89th Division and withdrawn from the line during the day of September 30 and the night of September 30—October 1. Command passed to the 89th Division on the morning of October 1. [254, 255, 256, 257]

The division moved to the vicinity of Souilly preparatory to entering the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. [258]

CASUALTIES, ST. MIHIEL OFFENSIVE AND ESSEY-PANNES SECTOR

		Sept. 4—11	Sept 12—16	Sept. 17 Oct. 1	Oct. 2—4	Total
<i>42d Division</i>						
	W	2	125	39	1	167
165 th Inf -----	DW	----	12	4	----	16
3 ^d Bn (DS Sept. 13)	K	----	35	5	----	40
	W	1	93	25	----	119
166 th Inf -----	DW	----	8	9	----	17
2 ^d Bn (DS Sept. 13)	K	----	23	3	----	26
	W	----	153	58	----	211
167 th Inf -----	DW	----	16	3	----	19
	K	----	44	7	----	51
	W	2	206	81	----	289
168 th Inf -----	DW	1	22	7	----	30
	K	----	52	9	----	61
	W	----	7	2	----	9
149 th FA -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----
	K	----	----	----	----	----
	W	----	3	2	----	5
150 th FA -----	DW	----	1	2	----	3
1 st Bn (DS Sept. 18—23)	K	----	----	3	----	3
	W	----	1	1	----	2
151 st FA -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----
(DS Sept. 18-23)	K	----	----	----	----	----
	W	----	----	1	----	1
149 th MG Bn -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----
	K	----	1	----	----	1
	W	----	17	2	----	19
150 th MG Bn -----	DW	----	2	----	----	2
	K	----	2	1	----	3
	W	----	29	11	----	40
151 st MG Bn -----	DW	----	2	----	----	2
	K	----	4	1	----	5
	W	----	15	3	----	18
117 th Engrs -----	DW	----	1	----	----	1
	K	2	7	----	----	9
	W	----	10	23	----	33
Others -----	DW	1	----	----	----	1
	K	----	2	2	----	4
Total -----		9	893	304	1	1,207
<i>Attached Units</i>						
	W	----	2	----	----	2
10 th FA (3 ^d Div) -----	DW	----	1	----	----	1
(Sept. 9—16)	K	----	----	----	----	----
	W	----	4	----	----	4
18 th FA (3 ^d Div) -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----
(Sept. 9—16)	K	----	----	----	----	----
Total -----		----	7	----	----	7
Aggregate Total -----		9	900	304	1	1,214

W = wounds not mortal; DW = died of wounds; K = killed in action; DS = detached service.

Meuse-Argonne Offensive and Subsequent Service

**MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE, OCTOBER 5—
NOVEMBER 10**

SUBSEQUENT SERVICE, NOVEMBER 11, 1918—MAY 1919

WITH THE REDUCTION of the St. Mihiel and other salients the immediate purpose of the strategic offensive plan of July 24 had been accomplished, and it became possible to undertake the great converging offensives which had been agreed upon by the Commanders-in-Chief and the Allied Commander-in-Chief early in September. These offensives included an American attack to be launched on September 26 between the Meuse River and the Argonne Forest, supported on the left by the French Fourth Army between the Argonne and the Suippes River; a renewal on September 27 of the British-French attack between the Oise and Scarpe Rivers; and a combined Allied attack east of Ypres on September 28. Between these principal offensives, secondary operations were to be undertaken. [4, 259, 260, 469]

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive of the American First Army was to be directed against the principal German lateral line of supply, the Carignan—Sedan—Mézières railroad, which, at Sedan, lay 53 kilometers from the front. The severing of this artery would render the German positions to the west and northwest of Sedan untenable. [4]

Protecting this vital supply line, the Germans had, during the previous four years, constructed a strong system of field fortifications. On the Meuse-Argonne front, there were four distinct defensive positions. The first lay close behind the front line. The second included Montfaucon and traversed the

Argonne south of Apremont. The third, which was known to the Germans as the Kriemhild Stellung, formed a part of the Hindenburg Line. This position extended from Bois de Forêt, across the heights of Cunel and Romagne, to include the high ground north of Grandpré. The fourth position included the heights of Barricourt, and extended westward to Buzancy and Thénorgues. The first three positions had been thoroughly organized, and numerous intermediate positions constructed between them. These defenses, together with the natural military strength of the terrain, presented a formidable obstacle to an attacking army. The importance of the communications protected by this front made it certain that the Germans would resist here to the last extremity. [4]

The plan of the First Army contemplated an initial advance of 16 kilometers and a penetration of the hostile third position. This penetration would force the enemy to evacuate the Argonne Forest, and insure the junction of the First Army with the French Fourth Army at Grandpré. A further advance of 16 kilometers was then to be made to the line, Stenay—le Chesne. Such an advance would outflank the enemy's position along the Aisne River, in front of the French Fourth Army, and clear the way for an advance on Mézières or Sedan. These operations were to be supplemented by an attack to clear the heights east of the Meuse River as far as Bois de la Grande Montagne. [4]

In preparation for the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, the front of the First Army was extended from Watronville to the west edge of the Argonne Forest on September 22. It attacked at 5:30 a. m., September 26, with the III, V and I Corps in line from right to left. West of the Argonne Forest, the French Fourth Army attacked in conjunction with the American forces. Elements of the First Army east of the Meuse did not attack during the opening days of the offensive. [4]

By October 11, the First Army west of the Meuse had reached the line, Bois de la Côte Léumont—Bois de Briulles—Bois de Forêt—south of Cunel—south of Romagne-sous-Montfaucon—south of Côte Dame Marie—Sommerance—Aire River to Grandpré, exclusive. By this advance it had penetrated the hostile second position and gained a foothold in the third south

of Cunel. The front of attack had been extended to the east bank of the Meuse River when, on October 8, the French XVII Corps had launched an attack to clear the heights east of the river. This corps had reached the southern edge of Bois de la Grande Montagne. [2, 4]



The following paragraphs, in *italic*, are a synopsis of the service of the 42d Division in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. This synopsis is designed to make the principal facts concerning this service available to the reader in compact form.

On October 5 the 42d Division was in reserve of the V Corps. During the night of October 11—12 it relieved the 1st Division on the line, northern edge of Bois de Romagne—Côte de Maldah. To the right, the 181st Infantry Brigade, 91st Division, which was attached to the 32d Division, was relieved by troops of that division during the same night. To the left of the 42d Division was the 82d Division, I Corps.

On October 12 the division relieved troops of the 82d Division in the vicinity of Sommerance. On the same day the right boundary of the 42d Division was moved to the right about 1,500 meters to include about 1 kilometer of Bois de Gesnes. Troops of the 84th Infantry Brigade, the right brigade of the 42d Division, relieved troops of the 32d Division as far as the new right boundary on October 13. The left center of the division moved forward from Côte de Maldah to Ravin du Gras Faux on this date.

The division attacked on October 14, reaching the crest of Hill 288 and the lower slopes of Côte de Châtillon. There was a gain of about 1 kilometer on the left.

The attack was continued on October 15. During the day the right brigade reached positions just south of La Tuilerie Ferme and La Musarde Ferme. The left brigade reached the enemy wire south and east of St. Georges, but the positions gained could not be held, and except for slight adjustments in the center, the front line was the same as that occupied during the night of October 14—15.

On October 16 the right brigade attacked Côte de Châtillon, and

in a combined attack of both regiments reached and held the crest of that hill.

During the period October 17—31, the ground was organized for defense. No advances were made.

Preparations were made for a continuation of the attack, but on October 28 it was decided that the 2d Division would pass through the 42d Division and deliver the contemplated attack. The rear positions in the divisional sector were taken over by the 2d Division during the night of October 30—31 and the 2d Division assumed command of the sector at noon, October 31, although the front lines were still held by troops of the 42d Division. The 2d Division passed through the lines of the 42d Division and attacked early on the morning of November 1. The 42d Division assembled near Sommerance in reserve of the I Corps.

During the afternoon of November 5, the 42d Division relieved the 78th Division by a passage of lines in the vicinity of the towns of Sy and Tannay, and by night had established a front line along the Grandes Armoises—Stonne road and along the northern edge of Bois du Mont Dieu. The division was the left element of the I Corps and of the First Army.

The pursuit continued on November 6 and the division reached the general line, Le Chesne Ferme—Beau Menil Ferme—Hill 314—Fontaine de Bulson—Ferme St. Quentin—hill northeast of Connage.

On November 7 the division endeavored to pierce the Sedan bridgehead position and capture Sedan. To the right, the Corps had ordered the 1st Division, then in front line near Mouzon, to lead the advance on Sedan, while to the left the French 40th Division had a similar mission.

By early morning, November 7, the 1st Division had entered the zone of action of the 42d Division and was moving across this area in five columns. Confusion resulted, and the advance of the 42d Division was held up on the hills south of and overlooking Sedan. By night elements of both divisions held the general line, Pont-Maugis—Hill 252—southern slopes of Hill 307. During the afternoon of November 7 and the following night, the 1st Division was withdrawn from the zone of the 42d Division, and the left portion of the latter's zone turned over to the French.

No attack was made on November 8, and on the 9th the 77th Division extended to the left and occupied the zone of the 42d Division.

Upon being relieved in the Essey-Pannes Sector, the 42d Division moved to the Meuse-Argonne region and, on October 5, was in reserve of the V Corps, First Army, in Bois de Montfaucon, 14 kilometers southeast of Sommerance. On October 10 it moved to positions in the woods south and southeast of Exermont. The 67th Field Artillery Brigade supported the 32d Division in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive from October 7 to 12. [1, 261, 262]

Oct. 5—12

In compliance with orders of the V Corps, the 42d Division issued field orders on October 10 for the relief of the 1st Division, less the 1st Field Artillery Brigade, on the line then held by that division. All relieving elements were directed to be in their new positions by midnight, October 11. The 1st Field Artillery Brigade, 1st Division, was directed to remain in support of the 42d Division. The 181st Infantry Brigade, 91st Division, to the right, which was at that time attached to the 32d Division, was to be relieved by the 32d Division during the same night, and revert to the control of its own division. The 58th Field Artillery Brigade, 33d Division, which had been supporting the 181st Infantry Brigade, was to be relieved by the 67th Field Artillery Brigade. The 82d Division, I Corps, was to remain to the left of the 42d Division. [263, 264, 265, 266]

The relief was made as scheduled, command passing to the 42d Division at 8 a. m., October 12. The front line was held as shown below:

2d Battalion,	3d Battalion,	3d Battalion,	1st Battalion,
166th Infantry	165th Infantry	167th Infantry	168th Infantry

Divisional boundaries were as follows:

Right boundary: Cote 269—la Musarde Ferme (excl.).

Left boundary: Sommerance (incl.)—Imécourt (excl.).

The 42d Division secured contact with the 32d Division in the

northern edge of Bois de Romagne about dawn, October 12. It established liaison with the 82d Division, in Sommerance. [18, 264, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271]

A gap of about 800 meters, covered by fire and patrols, existed between the 167th Infantry, in the northern edge of Bois de Romagne, and the 165th Infantry on Côte de Maldah. [18]

Before midnight, October 12, four platoons of the 166th Infantry relieved troops of the 2d Battalion, 325th Infantry, 82d Division, in Sommerance and north of the town as far as the divisional left boundary. [18, 272]

In compliance with instructions of the V Corps issued on October 12, the right boundary of the 42d Division was moved eastward to a general line, Hill 255 (incl.)—la Tuilerie Ferme (incl.). The 84th Infantry Brigade was ordered to relieve elements of the 32d Division then occupying this extension of the division's front by 3 p. m., October 13. [273, 274]

Oct. 13

A reconnaissance made during the morning of October 13 by the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, located enemy positions in the vicinity of Hill 288. To cover these positions the battalion established itself across Les Ailleux ravine, relieving units of the 32d Division as far east as the new right boundary, the relief being completed that night. The right of the battalion was in contact with the left of the 32d Division at a point about 600 meters southwest of Hill 286, but its left was not in touch with the right of the 167th Infantry, which remained in the northern edge of Bois de Romagne. The gap between the two regiments was, however, covered by patrols. [18, 275]

When companies of the 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, attempted to extend to the right and gain contact with the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, they encountered enemy detachments and did not occupy that portion of the line during the night of October 13—14. [18]

At 8 p. m., October 13, Companies I and M, 165th Infantry, from right to left, moved from their positions on Côte de Maldah to Ravin du Gras Faux, and Companies K and L moved from their positions in Le Petit Bois to Côte de Maldah. [18, 276, 277, 278]

The enemy made a weak attack on the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, at 3:45 p. m. This attack was easily repulsed. During the night of October 13—14 Companies G and H, 166th Infantry, moved to a line of departure about 200 meters north of Sommerance, in preparation for an attack which was to be made on October 14. The left of the battalion was in contact with the right of the 82d Division. [18, 279, 280, 281]

At this time, the center of the First Army west of the Meuse as confronted by strong hostile positions in Bois de Romagne and Bois de Bantheville, which commanded and flanked the terrain to the east and west. It was necessary to reduce these positions before further progress could be made. It was planned that two fresh divisions, the 5th, as the left division of the III Corps, and the 42d, as the left division of the V Corps, would drive salients through the hostile third position on both flanks of Bois de Romagne and Bois de Bantheville to a general east-west line through La Bergerie Ferme. Advancing between these main attacks, the 32d Division was to mop up Bois de Bantheville and connect up the salients created by the 5th and 42d Divisions. The I Corps was to hold on its left flank and advance its right in conjunction with the left of the V Corps. West of the Argonne Forest the French Fourth Army was to attack in conjunction with the First Army. The French XVIII Corps was to continue its attack east of the Meuse. [4, 282, 283]

The right brigade of the 42d Division was ordered to reduce the portion of Bois de Romagne in its front, including Hills 288 and 242, as far as the first objective, a line extending southwest along the edge of Bois de Romagne from Hill 242 to the line of departure. The right of the 42d Division and the left of the 32d Division were to attack in liaison at 8 a. m., October 14. The elements on the left were to remain in place during this phase of the attack. The attack on the second objective, a line extending along the northern edge of the wood on Côte de Châtillon west to point 206, was to be made in two phases, the first by the right brigade, the second by the left brigade. In each phase, the greater part of the artillery was to support the attacking brigade. The advance to the second

objective was to commence at 11 a. m. by the 84th Infantry Brigade, and at 1 p. m. by the 83d Infantry Brigade. The advance to the third objective, an east-west line 200 meters north of Landres et St. Georges, was likewise to be made in two phases, commencing on the left. The fourth objective, the line, northern edge of Bois des Hazois—Cote 253, was to be attained by vigorous exploitation from the third objective. The 42d Division was to continue to its objectives, regardless of the progress to its right or left. [282, 283, 284]

The field orders of the 42d Division prescribed that the attack of October 14 would be preceded by an intense artillery preparation, with heavy concentrations on known enemy positions particularly on the edges of woods where machine guns had been located. A rolling barrage was provided. Two field guns were assigned to each assault battalion as accompanying weapons. A machine-gun company was attached to each front-line battalion and to each support battalion. [284]

During the evening of the 13th a modification of orders of the V Corps was published. This provided that both brigades of the 42d Division would advance to the second objective at 11 a. m. The plan of advance to the third objective was not changed, but the times of advance were changed, the 83d Infantry Brigade being ordered to advance from the second objective at 12:30 p. m. and the 84th Infantry Brigade at 2 p. m. The time of the barrage was altered to agree with these changes. [285]

The following formation was prescribed for the attack:

<i>83D INFANTRY BRIGADE</i>		<i>84TH INFANTRY BRIGADE</i>	
<i>166th Infantry</i>	<i>165th Infantry</i>	<i>167th Infantry</i>	<i>168th Infantry</i>
2d Battalion	3d Battalion	3d Battalion	1st Battalion
3d Battalion	1st Battalion	2d Battalion	2d Battalion
1st Battalion		1st Battalion	3d Battalion

BRIGADE RESERVE

2d Battalion, 165th Infantry

[286, 287, 288, 289, 290]

Oct. 14

On the extreme right, the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, following the rolling barrage, advanced toward the first objective at 8 a. m. The left of the 32d Division did not advance in liaison with this battalion as planned. Heavy machine-gun fire rendered the advance difficult, but by 1 p. m. the troops had reached a line on the southern slope of Hill 288, near the summit. About 4 p. m., contact having been secured with the 32d Division, the support companies passed through the assault companies in an attempt to secure the trenches on the northern slope of Hill 288. This attack did not succeed. The front line for the night was consolidated near the crest of Hill 288. The left company advanced past the north edge of the wood into the open field southeast of La Musarde Ferme but withdrew under fire to a gully, rejoining the battalion during the morning of October 15. Just after dark orders were received to attack Côte de Châtillon in conjunction with the 167th Infantry, but these orders were canceled. Company H was put into the line on the right, maintaining contact with the 32d Division. Neither contact nor liaison was secured with the 167th Infantry. The line for the night ran from its junction with the 32d Division near the divisional boundary, along the crest of Hill 288, to the vicinity of the junction of the Hill 288—Sommerance road and the trenches on the western nose of Hill 288. [18, 291, 292]

The 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, attacked about 8:30 a. m. from the northern edge of Bois de Romagne. The right company was stopped by wire entanglements after an advance of about 200 meters. The left company was able to advance about 300 meters farther. By 9:30 a. m. elements of the right company had reached the narrow wood west of La Musarde Ferme, and had patrols in the two small woods to the north. About this time fire was received from Bois de Romagne to the right rear. One of the support companies entered the line between the two assault companies to fill a gap caused by the diverging attacks of the latter. About 8 p. m. the patrols of the right assault company and the elements of that company in the narrow wood west of La Musarde Ferme were withdrawn to the edge of Bois de Romagne, to permit artillery fire on the

enemy positions. Because of this artillery fire, a projected attack with the bayonet by Companies K and F, 167th Infantry supported by Company M, was canceled. Company H, 167, Infantry, was placed in line on the left, to gain contact with the 165th Infantry, and did so. An advance in the darkness was made across the open space on the western slope of Côte de Châtillon. The front line for the night extended along the northern edge of Bois de Romagne, thence north parallel to the German trenches on Côte de Châtillon about 500 meters to the east, thence up the draw immediately north of the two small patches of woods on the southwest slopes of Côte de Châtillon, thence generally west to its junction with the line of the 165th Infantry about 500 meters northeast of wood 199. There was no contact to the right with the 168th Infantry. [18]

The advance of the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, commenced at 8:30 a. m. By 9:30 a. m. elements of its companies had reached the second objective. Attacking from the second objective about 11:20 a. m., the right assault company met heavy flanking fire and took shelter in wood 199, where it was joined by its support company. By this time the left assault company had reached the wood 400 meters east of point 206. A platoon of this company, having no contact to the right, and observing troops of the 82d Division advancing on this wood from the southwest, joined the latter and advanced with them until about 5 p. m. The other two companies of the battalion remained in the vicinity of wood 199 until about 3:30 p. m. At this hour a standing barrage was put down on their front to prepare for an attack at 5 p. m. The battalion attacked again at this hour, reinforced by Companies D and C, 165th Infantry. No great advance was made. When the attack was stopped, the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, relieved the 3d Battalion in the front line. The 1st Battalion consolidated a position at right angles to the Landres et St. Georges—Sommerance road about 400 meters north of wood 199, in contact with the 167th Infantry to the right, and after 10 p. m. in contact with the 166th Infantry to the left. [18, 287, 293, 294, 295, 296]

At 8:30 a. m. the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, advanced

from its position about 200 meters north of Sommerance. The assault companies flanked the wood about 700 meters north of the town, and advanced in liaison with the 82d Division, forcing the enemy to evacuate this wood. Resistance was encountered on the eastern slope of Hill 230 about 10 a. m. and the battalion was held up, pending the advance of the 82d Division on the hill. By 10:50 a. m. elements of the two leading companies had reached the wood in the vicinity of point 206, on the second objective. About noon patrols were sent forward from this wood and succeeded in reaching the enemy wire south of St. Georges, but could not hold the position. In accordance with brigade orders, an artillery preparation was fired from 3:30 to 5 p. m. prior to a renewal of the attack. This attack was launched about 5:30 p. m., but was unsuccessful. The line held for the night extended along the ridge south and southeast of point 206, in contact with the 165th Infantry to the right, and with the 82d Division to the left, in the small wood about 100 meters southwest of point 206. [18, 281, 297, 298]

The V Corps issued held orders during the evening of the 14th directing that the attack be continued on October 15 at 7:30 a. m. in the same zones of action as prescribed for October 14. The 42d Division was ordered to reach the objectives not attained on October 14, advancing its brigades alternately. Upon arrival of the division at the fourth objective, it was to exploit vigorously to a general east and west line about 2 ½ kilometers north of Imécourt. [299]

Pursuant to the orders of the V Corps, the 42d Division directed that the division artillery would commence its bombardment of the enemy wire at 7:15 a. m. in the zone of action of the 83d Infantry Brigade. At 7:30 a. m. the barrage was to lift 300 meters and stand for 10 minutes to permit the infantry to pass the enemy wire. At 7:40 a. m. the infantry was to follow the barrage until the third objective was reached, when the barrage would cease. Special units were to be designated to mop up the towns of St. Georges and Landres et St. Georges. While the 83d Infantry Brigade was advancing, the 84th Infantry Brigade, to its right, was to exploit Côte de Châtillon

and the wood near La Tuilerie Ferme. When the third objective was captured, instructions were to be issued for the advance to the fourth objective and exploitation past that line. [300]

The 83d Infantry Brigade issued orders directing a reorganization of the brigade's front line, and ordering the relief of the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, by the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, during the night of October 14—15. The line at the conclusion of the relief was to extend through the small wood farm just southwest of point 206, thence east for 500 meters. The brigade announced that 16 tanks would support its attack. [298, 301, 302]

Oct. 15

The relief of the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, by the 3d Battalion was effected at 5:30 a. m., October 15. [18, 303]

The attack of the 83d Infantry Brigade was launched at 7:30 a. m. The supporting tanks were withdrawn by 9 a. m. to the vicinity of Sommerance, because of mechanical troubles and casualties. [304, 305]

On the extreme right, the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, attacked Hill 242 during the morning, with Companies A, B and D from right to left in the assault echelon, and Company C in support. As the attack progressed, the battalion worked around both sides of Hill 242. Company A, after passing the hill, swung to the left and attacked La Tuilerie Ferme, capturing machine guns there, but before noon was forced by heavy fire to return to the northern edge of Bois de Romagne. Here it joined Companies B, D and C, which had also been forced to retire, and Company H, which had been sent forward during the night to fill a gap between the 168th Infantry and the 32d Division. After a 45-minute artillery preparation these companies again attacked at 3 p. m. Company H attacked to the east of Hill 242, and the other companies to the west of the hill. Company H flanked La Tuilerie Ferme from the east and captured all of the farm buildings except the barn. The company remained at the farm until after dark, when it withdrew to positions on the northern slope of Hill 242. The left of the battalion could not pass the enemy wire south of the farm. Forward movement had stopped by dark, and the line was consolidated with all four companies of the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, plus

Company H, in line. Company F, which had been sent forward from the 2d Battalion, was in support. The line for the night extended from its junction with the 32d Division about 400 meters southeast of La Tuilerie Ferme, around the forward slope of Hill 242, thence generally along the northern edge of Bois de Romagne, thence southwest across the clearing south of La Musarde Ferme to a point 400 meters southwest of the farm, where it joined the right of the 167th Infantry. [18, 306, 307]

To the left of the 168th Infantry, patrols from the 167th Infantry reconnoitered the enemy wire on the western slopes of Côte de Châtillon, but found it undamaged by the artillery. The regiment did not make any changes in its lines on October 15. [18, 308, 309]

On the right of the zone of action of the 83d Infantry Brigade, the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, attacked at 7:30 a. m. Almost immediately the advancing troops came under heavy artillery and machine-gun fire and were stopped by the time the battalion had moved forward about 200 meters. Protected by a very heavy barrage, an enemy detachment attempted about 9 a. m. to get around the left flank of the battalion. From 10:15 a. m. to noon, at the request of the 83d Infantry Brigade, the battalion was protected by an artillery barrage. At noon the advance was resumed and at 12:40 p. m. the battalion reached the enemy wire about 500 meters north of the line of departure. About 2:45 p. m. the 2d Battalion was moved from support to relieve the 1st Battalion. It consolidated an east and west line about 400 meters north of wood 199. Contact had been maintained to the right, but contact to the left was not gained until after dark. There was no material gain on the right, but the line was advanced about 200 meters on the left. [18, 305, 310]

About 7 a. m. the enemy launched a counterattack against the front of the 82d Division and the 166th Infantry, advancing to the patches of woods which lay just south of point 206 before being stopped. After repulsing this attack, the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, attempted to advance about 7:50 a. m. The right assault company was held up about 150 meters south of

the enemy trenches by machine-gun fire. The left assault company was held up in the small wood just south of point 206. A strongpoint of automatic riflemen and riflemen was established on the slopes about 300 meters west of wood 199 to prevent enemy infiltration up the draw between the 165th and 166th Infantry Regiments. Artillery assistance was requested and a standing barrage was delivered on the front of the 166th Infantry from about 11:15 a. m. until noon. About noon the support companies relieved the assault companies of the 3d Battalion in the front line. Four attempts to advance were made during the afternoon. Company I reached the creek running from wood 199 to St. Georges, and held its position. After dark, contact was secured to the right with the 165th Infantry in the vicinity of the creek, where the right of the 166th Infantry had made a slight gain. No change in the line occurred on the left. The 166th Infantry remained in contact with the 82d Division near the divisional boundary. [18, 304, 311]

At 10 a. m., October 15, the First Army directed the organization of a line of resistance from the heights east of the Meuse to the northern portion of the Argonne Forest, which was to be held in the event of a heavy hostile counterattack. In the zone of action of the 42d Division, this line was, northern edge of Bois de Romagne (south of La Musarde Ferme)—Côte de Maldah. [69, 467]

At 5 p. m. the First Army issued field orders directing the III and V Corps to hold the line of resistance, and any ground in advance of it in their possession, and make preparations to resume the attack. The I Corps was directed to continue its attack, begun on the previous day, for the purpose of driving the enemy from the wooded heights north of Grandpré. The V Corps ordered the 42d Division to be prepared to advance its left in conformity with any advance of the I Corps. [70, 467]

The 42d Division had issued orders prior to the receipt of the V Corps orders directing a continuation of the exploitation of Côte de Châtillon and the woods about La Tuilerie Ferme by the 84th Infantry Brigade, and an attack to gain the Landres et St. Georges—St. Georges road by the 83d Infantry Brigade

On receipt of the orders of the V Corps, however, the 42d Division suspended its field orders and directed compliance with the orders of the V Corps. [312, 313]

On the extreme right, the 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, with Companies F and H, attached, reorganized during the early morning of the 16th. The reorganized battalion attacked at 10 a. m. and the center company succeeded in piercing the enemy machine-gun defense. The remainder of the battalion reached the crest of Côte de Châtillon, but was unable to hold its gains, and was forced to withdraw to the foot of the hill. Meanwhile, to the left of the 168th Infantry, the 167th Infantry, after repulsing a local counterattack during the morning, formed a provisional battalion consisting of Companies E and M and portions of Companies K and I. These troops moved to the right into the zone of action of the 168th Infantry until their left was opposite La Musarde Ferme, and in the early afternoon attacked in conjunction with the 168th Infantry. [18, 314, 315]

Oct. 16

About 1 p. m. the 168th Infantry broke up a local counterattack, and about 2 p. m. the 84th Infantry Brigade advanced. Company H, 168th Infantry, was held up on the edge of the wood to the west of La Tuilerie Ferme and dug in. About 3 p. m. Companies E and G, 168th Infantry, reinforced the assault companies to check a counterattack which was forcing the withdrawal of the line. The counterattack having been repulsed, the regiment advanced and seized the crest of Côte de Châtillon, where the front line dug in, in contact with the 167th Infantry to the left. [18, 314, 316, 317]

After getting into position to the southeast of La Musarde Ferme, the assault battalion of the 167th Infantry advanced north in one skirmish line and rushed the German lines. A gap was discovered in the wire in the regiment's zone of action and the battalion advanced during the afternoon to the crest of Côte de Châtillon, where it formed a line to the left of the 168th Infantry. [18]

The front line of the 84th Infantry Brigade for the night extended generally west from its junction with the 32d Division about 400 meters northeast of La Tuilerie Ferme, included the

woods on Côte de Châtillon and joined the line of the 165th Infantry about 400 meters northeast of wood 199. [18, 314]

About 7 p. m. the 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, relieved the 1st and 2d Battalions of that regiment in the front line. The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, began the relief of front-line troops of that regiment during the evening, completing the relief about 2 a. m., October 17. [18, 308, 315]

The left brigade did not attack on the 16th. No changes in line were made in the zone of action of the 165th Infantry, but reorganization in depth was continued throughout the day. On the front of the 166th Infantry reorganization and strengthening of the line continued, particularly in the small strip of woods to the southwest of point 206 and in the right portion of the regimental zone of action. The advance of the 82d Division to a point about 800 meters southwest of St. Georges, necessitated the placing of two companies of a support battalion of the 82d Division on its right flank. These companies established contact with the 166th Infantry on the divisional boundary at the same point as on the night of October 15-16. No material changes in the front line were made during the day in the zone of action of the 166th Infantry. [18, 318, 319, 320]

Pursuant to field orders of the V Corps issued during the evening, the 42d Division directed the mopping up of Côte de Châtillon and Bois de Romagne, organization of the line of resistance prescribed on October 14 and vigorous exploitation from Côte de Châtillon toward Landres et St. Georges. [321, 322]

Oct. 17—20 No changes in the front line occurred on October 17. Early in the afternoon, patrols of the 84th Infantry Brigade reported that the enemy was withdrawing in the brigade zone of action, but about 1 :45 p. m., when the 165th and 166th Infantry Regiments sent out patrols to their fronts to verify this fact, they received heavy machine-gun and artillery fire. [18, 323, 324, 325]

In orders issued at 8:30 p. m. the V Corps directed its divisions to continue their preparations to advance, and ordered the 42d Division to continue to exploit vigorously to its front [326]

Patrolling was active on October 18, but no changes in the front line occurred during the day. [18, 327]

During the morning the V Corps issued orders for further organization for defense on its front, designating the forward trace of the line of resistance in the sector of the 42d Division as the line, road and trail at the base of Hill 288—northern edge of western portion of Bois de Romagne—Côte de Maldah— Hill 174, about 1 kilometer north of Fléville. [328]

At 8:30 p. m. the V Corps issued orders again directing its divisions to continue their preparations to advance, to exploit their fronts vigorously with strong patrols, to follow up any withdrawal of the enemy and to drive in enemy outposts and develop the hostile fourth position. [329]

No changes in the front line were made on October 19. During the night of October 19—20 the 89th Division relieved the 32d Division, completing the relief at 8 a. m., October 20. Contact was maintained with the 89th Division on the divisional right boundary. [330, 331, 332]

Routine reliefs were made in the 168th and 166th Infantry Regiments during the evening of October 20 but the front line was not changed. [18, 333, 334, 335, 336]

Early in the afternoon the V Corps issued orders directing its front-line divisions to attack and seize the line, Bois des Hazois—Cote 253. The 42d Division was assigned the mission of capturing the enemy position from Landres et St. Georges to St. Georges, both inclusive, and of occupying the line of woods on Cote 253 from the Landres et St. Georges—Landreville road, inclusive, to the west boundary of the division. The first objective was the enemy position from Landres et St. Georges to St. Georges, both inclusive, and the second objective, the woods on Cote 253. [337]

Later in the afternoon the V Corps issued orders directing the continuation on October 21 of preparations to advance and ordering the 42d Division to maintain contact with the enemy, develop his line of resistance, and make every effort to seize and hold ground from which he might withdraw or be driven. [338]

Pursuant to the orders of the V Corps, the 42d Division directed a reorganization of its troops, specifying that the 83d Infantry Brigade would hold the front line with two regiments in line, each regiment having one battalion in line, one in support and one in reserve. This order prescribed the relief of the support and reserve troops of the 84th Infantry Brigade by daylight, October 21, and of the first-line battalion of the 167th Infantry immediately after dusk on October 21, or during the day if weather conditions permitted. The first-line battalion of the 168th Infantry was to be relieved during the night of October 21-22, by mutual arrangement between the 84th Infantry Brigade and the 177th Infantry Brigade, 89th Division. Command of the new zone was to pass to the 83d Infantry Brigade as soon as the relief of the 167th Infantry was completed. Command of the portion of the divisional zone to be taken over by the 89th Division was to pass to the 177th Infantry Brigade when the relief of the first-line battalion of the 168th Infantry was completed. [339]

Oct. 21—26 On October 21 the 42d Division assigned as its new right boundary the line, Hill 242 (excl.)—la Tuilerie Ferme (excl.)—road junction 1 kilometer north of Landres et St. George. [340]

The relief of the 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, was completed by troops of the 89th Division about 8:30 p. m., October 21. The remainder of the 84th Infantry Brigade had already been relieved by this time and had passed to division reserve. [341, 342, 343]

In the new zone of the 83d Infantry Brigade, the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, took over the line formerly held by the 167th Infantry. On the left, the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, extended to the right and took over the former zone of the 165th Infantry. The resulting gap of about 600 meters between the 165th Infantry and the 166th Infantry was covered by patrols, but was not reoccupied during the remainder of the occupation of the zone. The left of the 166th Infantry remained unchanged and in contact with the 82d Division. [344, 345, 346, 347]

On October 21 the 42d Division designated the 83d Infantry Brigade to make the attack which had been ordered by the V Corps on October 20. This order did not state the day or hour at which the attack was to be delivered. [348]

No changes in front lines occurred on October 22 and 23 and no material changes of orders or dispositions were made. On October 23 the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, relieved the 1st Battalion. [349, 350, 351]

On the morning of October 24 the V Corps issued orders, which it later revoked, announcing that, for the attack which had been ordered on October 20, the 2d Division would pass through the 42d Division. These orders annulled those of the V Corps issued on October 20. [352]

Later in the morning the V Corps issued orders making the following dispositions effective at noon, October 26: the left boundary of the V Corps, and also of the 42d Division, was specified as that formerly designated for the 42d Division; details of the placing of the leading brigade of the 2d Division in suitable positions to carry out the mission of that division for the attack, as outlined in the earlier field orders of the V Corps, were to be arranged between the 42d Division and the 2d Division; until the hour of attack the command of the zone of action was to remain with the 42d Division. [353]

The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, relieved the 2d Battalion on October 25 but no changes were made in the front line. [354, 355]

Orders of the 42d Division, issued during the morning of October 26, provided for the relief of support and reserve battalions of the 42d Division by the 2d Division, but these orders were canceled during the afternoon. No changes were made in the front line on this day. [356, 357, 468]

On October 27 the V Corps issued orders assigning boundaries in case of an enemy withdrawal, and prescribing that strong advance guards were to pursue at once and maintain close contact. The advance was to be made in several columns. [358]

*Oct. 27—
Nov. 1*

By the end of October, the First Army had accomplished the first part of its plan for the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. It had seized the hostile third position in Bois de Forêt, on the heights

of Cunel and Romagne and on Côte de Châtillon, southeast of Landres et St. Georges. The enemy had been driven from the Argonne Forest, and the left of the First Army was firmly established, in contact with the right of the French Fourth Army, at Grandpré. East of the Meuse, the heights had been cleared as far as the southern portion of Bois de la Grande Montagne. The First Army was now in a position to undertake the second operation, i. e., cut the Carignan—Sedan—Mézières railroad, and drive the enemy beyond the Meuse. On October 12, the front of the First Army east of Fresnes-en-Woëvre, 18 kilometers southeast of Verdun, had been placed under the command of the newly organized Second Army. [4]

East of the Meuse, the front of the First Army, which was now held by the French XXXIII and French XVII Corps from right to left, was approximately 5 kilometers south of the line west of the river. West of the Meuse, the front line of the First Army, which was held by the III, V and I Corps from right to left, included Bois de Forêt, Bois des Rappes, Bois de Bantheville and Côte de Châtillon. From this point it extended generally west to Grandpré. To the west, the French Fourth Army lay behind the Aisne River with a bridgehead north of Vouziers. Thus the hostile lines, opposite the left of the First Army and the right of the French Fourth Army, formed a salient, dominated by the wooded heights of Bois de Bourgogne. [4]

At first it was planned to launch the attack on October 28 but, owing to the fact that the French Fourth Army was not, yet ready, the date was postponed to November 1. The main attack was to be delivered in the center by the V Corps. This corps was to drive north and penetrate the hostile fourth position by seizing the heights of Barricourt. The I Corps was to protect the left of the V Corps and extend the penetration westward through Thénorgues. It was then to drive on to the northwest and effect a junction, in the vicinity of Boult-aux-Bois, with the French Fourth Army, which was to advance west of Bois de Bourgogne. The III Corps was to assist and protect the right of the V Corps, and extend the penetration eastward to the heights west of the Meuse River. With the hostile

fourth position securely in American hands, the enemy positions west of the Meuse would be untenable. The V and I Corps were to pursue vigorously toward Sedan, in conjunction with the French Fourth Army. The left of the III Corps was to pursue toward Stenay, while its right forced a crossing of the Meuse south of Dun and drove on Louppy-sur-Loison. The French XVII Corps was to support this crossing by exerting pressure on the enemy and, in case of a withdrawal, was to advance on Damvillers. [4, 470]

During the morning of October 28 the V Corps issued orders which changed its field orders of October 24. The new order gave the details of the impending attack of the First Army which concerned the 42d Division only insofar as it confirmed the former instructions that the 2d Division would pass through the 42d Division and attack. The 42d Division, less the 67th Field Artillery Brigade and the machine-gun battalions, was to stand relieved as soon as the 2d Division was on the line of departure. The machine-gun battalions were to rejoin the 42d Division after the capture of the first objective by the 2d Division. The 67th Field Artillery Brigade was to support the attack. [359]

No changes in lines or dispositions were made on October 29. On October 30 the V Corps announced that the attack would be executed at 5:30 a. m., November 1. During the afternoon the 42d Division issued field orders prescribing the details of the relief of the support and reserve battalions of the 83d Infantry Brigade during the night of October 30—31 by units of the 2d Division. The relief order also prescribed that in the event of an enemy attack, the battalions of the 2d Division which relieved battalions of the 83d Infantry Brigade in support and reserve, would function under the command of the 83d Infantry Brigade. [360, 361, 362]

The prescribed reliefs of the support and reserve battalions of the 83d Infantry Brigade were completed prior to midnight, October 30. [363]

The front line continued to be held by the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, on the right and the 2d Battalion, 166th In-

fantry, on the left. The right of the 82d Division was relieved by the 80th Division at 6 a. m. on the 31st. [68, 364, 365]

The 42d Division issued orders during the morning of October 31 which provided that command of the divisional zone would pass to the 2d Division at noon that day. The command of the advance zone was ordered to pass from the 83d Infantry Brigade to the 4th Marine Brigade, 2d Division. [366]

Command of the divisional zone passed at 3:45 p. m. The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, and the 2d Battalion, 166 Infantry, continued to hold the front-line positions. The 149th, 150th and 151st Machine-Gun Battalions remained in place and passed to the command of the 2d Division. The 67th Field Artillery Brigade and the 1st Field Artillery Brigade 1st Division, remained in the sector in support of the 2d Division. The 67th Field Artillery Brigade reverted to the 42d Division on November 2. [1, 268, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371]

Under orders of the divisional machine-gun officer, 2d Division, and with machine guns of that division, the 150th and 151st Machine-Gun Battalions fired harassing fire from 3:30 to 5:25 a. m., November 1, followed by barrage fire until 5:55 a. m. They were relieved about 6:30 a. m., together with the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, and the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, after the 2d Division had passed through their lines. The 149th Machine-Gun Battalion, stationed in Exermont, did not take part in this barrage, but was relieved from the 2d Division at the same time. [268, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377]

Upon its relief by the 2d Division, the 42d Division assembled near Sommerance, where it passed to the reserve of the I Corps. [268]

Nov. 2—4

The attack of the First Army was immediately successful. On the first day, the main attack broke through the German defenses and artillery positions on the heights of Barricourt. Owing to strong hostile positions near Champigneulle and in Bois des Loges, the left of the I Corps made little progress on November 1. On November 2 and 3, however, it extended the penetration of the hostile fourth position westward through Thénorgues, preceded the French to Boulton-aux-Bois and pursued the hostile rear guards north along the east bank of the

Bar River. By November 4 the enemy was in full retreat before the First Army. The depth of the American penetration made a forward displacement of reserves necessary. On November 2 the 42d Division moved to the vicinity of St. Juvin and, on the 3d, to Buzancy, about 10 kilometers to the north. [4, 378, 379]

At 5 p. m., November 4, the I Corps ordered the 42d Division to relieve the 78th Division, which was the left division of the corps. The relief was to be accomplished by a passage of lines. The 153d Field Artillery Brigade, 78th Division, was to remain in line in support of the 42d Division. The zone of action assigned to the 42d Division was as follows:

Right boundary: Oches (excl.)—les Huttes d'Ogny Ferme (excl.)—Raucourt (incl.)—Petit Remilly (incl.).

Left boundary: Les Petites Armoises—Tannay—Chémery—Thelonne—Bazeilles (all incl.).

The order of battle of the I Corps was then to be: 80th, 77th and 42d Divisions, from right to left. [380, 381]

Not knowing the exact location of the front of the 78th Division, the leading infantry elements of the 42d Division were ordered to take up a position in readiness along the line, St. Pierremont—Verrières—les Petites Armoises. The advance was to start from this line at noon, November 5. The formation of the division was to be as follows:

83D INFANTRY BRIGADE

<i>166th Infantry</i>	<i>165th Infantry</i>
1st Battalion	1st Battalion
3d Battalion	2d Battalion
2d Battalion	3d Battalion
150th Machine-Gun Battalion	
One company 117th Engineers	

84TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

<i>167th Infantry</i>	<i>168th Infantry</i>
1st Battalion	3d Battalion
2d Battalion	2d Battalion
3d Battalion	1st Battalion
149th Machine-Gun Battalion	
151st Machine-Gun Battalion	
One company 117th Engineers	

DIVISION RESERVE

117th Engineers, less two companies

[380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385]

The pursuit was to be made with vigor, and hostile resistance broken up without permitting the enemy to delay the

advance by rear-guard actions. When the leading battalions were worn out, they were to be passed through by other battalions, which were to continue the advance. Division artillery was to follow the infantry closely. The French 40th Division, French Fourth Army, was to the left of the I Corps. [382]

Nov. 5

The 42d Division moved into position as planned and at noon, November 5, advanced from the designated line to pass through the 78th Division and take up the pursuit. [378]

On the extreme right, the 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, advancing from a position west of St. Pierremont, practically followed in the path of the left regiment of the 77th Division, and met no elements of the 78th Division. Upon reaching the high ground southwest of Stonne in the late afternoon, contact was established with the support line of the 77th Division. The 3d Battalion halted for the night along the Stonne—Grandes Armoises road, about 1,500 meters northeast of Grandes Armoises. The 2d Battalion went into bivouac on the hillside 1 kilometer northwest of La Berlière, while the 1st Battalion was on the hill west of Oches. The left flank of the front line of the 77th Division was on the high ground northwest of Stone. [18, 378, 383, 385, 386, 387, 388]

In the right center, the 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, advanced between Verrières and Ferme du Fond Barre. Patrols of the 78th Division were passed along the road east of Sy. The advance continued to Bois du Mont Dieu. At 4:50 p. m. this battalion organized an outpost on the ridge northwest La Grange du Mont. The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, coming up to the right, took up a front-line position on the ridge just north of La Grange du Mont, and established liaison with the front line of the 168th Infantry by patrols. The 3d Battalion bivouacked in the wood 1 kilometer north of Grandes Armoises. [18, 384, 387, 389]

In the left center, the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, relieved elements of the 78th Division along the northern edge of Bois de Sy and in Sy. The advance continued unopposed through Sy, Nocièves Ferme and La Forge Ferme, additional elements of the 78th Division being relieved at the latter place. Enemy machine guns located in the chateau north of the farm caused a

brief delay, but at 4 p. m. the leading elements of the battalion entered Le Vivier. At 4:30 p. m. La Raillère Ferme was reached and, pursuant to brigade orders, a line was organized along the northern edge of Bois du Mont Dieu, from the chateau west to the vicinity of La Raillère Ferme. Patrols operated in front of this line. [18, 390, 391, 392]

The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, in support during the advance, bivouacked southwest of Le Vivier, the gap between that town and the high ground being covered by the 167th Infantry northwest of La Grange du Mont. The battalion did not hold a position in the front line. The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, was in reserve. [18, 393, 394]

On the extreme left, the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, advanced from the line of departure near Les Petites Armoises and halted until about 2 p. m. in the valley 700 meters southeast of Tannay, while arrangements were made to complete the relief of elements of the 78th Division that were still moving forward. About 3 p. m. the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, passed through the outpost line of the 78th Division, 1 kilometer north of Tannay, and continued north through Bois du Mont Dieu. No resistance was encountered in the wood, but patrols that passed beyond the northern edge were fired on. The advance was halted at 4:45 p. m. A line was organized along the northern edge of Bois du Mont Dieu, extending from the Tannay—Chémery road to the left boundary of the division. Liaison was established by patrols with the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, to the right, but there was no front-line liaison with the French Fourth Army, over 3 kilometers to the west, near Sauville. [18, 395, 396, 397, 398]

The 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, held a position in support along the southern edge of Bois du Mont Dieu, and the 2d Battalion was south of Tannay in reserve. [399, 400]

The enemy continued to withdraw beyond the Meuse River in the face of the American advance. His main line of resistance was to be moved back to the Sedan bridgehead position during the night of November 5—6. [401]

Instructions were given to the First and Second Armies for operations designed to destroy the enemy's organization and

drive him beyond the frontier in the region of Briey and Longwy. As a preliminary to this new direction of attack to the east, the First Army was to complete the occupation of the region between the Meuse and the Bar Rivers. [4]

Field orders of the First Army issued at 11 a. m. directed the pursuit continued with rapidity and vigor. The I Corps was to drive the enemy from the heights of Stonne and push forward rapidly beyond Raucourt, advancing in conjunction with the V Corps to the right. Night operations were to be conducted where the enemy had a preponderance of artillery. At 5:30 p. m. the I Corps repeated the army instructions and ordered its troops to be prepared to extend the pursuit across the Meuse, defeating the hostile rear guard and destroying or capturing the enemy troops and transport before they could cross the Meuse. The 153d Field Artillery Brigade was ordered to rejoin the 78th Division. [402, 403]

Between 6:30 and 7 p. m., November 5, the First Army telephoned a memorandum to the I and V Corps to the effect that the Commander-in-Chief was desirous that the honor of entering Sedan should fall to the American army. Troops of the I Corps, assisted on their right by the V Corps, were to take Sedan, utilizing the favorable conditions for night operations. Boundaries were not to be considered binding. The I Corps, by telephone, ordered the 42d Division to advance and capture Sedan. The new zone of action was to be as follows:

Right boundary: Raucourt—Haraucourt—Angecourt—Remilly-sur-Meuse
(all excl.).

Left boundary: Chémery—Chehéry—the Sedan road (all incl.).

The 42d Division issued orders at 10 p. m. embodying the corps instructions and directing that the pursuit be continued at 5:30 a. m., November 6. The Meuse River was to be reached and a bridgehead secured at Sedan. There was to be no change in the formation of the division. The 83d Infantry Brigade on the left received the special mission of providing strong flank protection to the left, particularly if the division outstripped the French in the advance. [404, 405, 406]

Nov. 6

On the extreme right, the 168th Infantry attacked at 7 a. m., November 6, with the 3d Battalion leading. After passing through the woods northwest of Stonne, it came under fire from machine guns located along the general line of Ruisseau de Terron. These were overcome, and the advance was continued to the narrow-gauge railroad south of Villers-devant Raucourt where further resistance caused a halt. Shortly after noon the advance was resumed, and a position established for the night on the heights northwest of Haraucourt. The right of the outpost line was on the Haraucourt—Angecourt road near Le Chesne Ferme in contact with rear elements of the 77th Division. The line then extended generally northwest to the ridge northwest of Beau Ménil Ferme. Liaison was established with the 167th Infantry by patrols. The 1st and 2d Battalions, 168th Infantry, spent the night in Haraucourt. [18, 407, 408]

Early in the afternoon, elements of the 151st Machine-Gun Battalion entered Haraucourt about the same time that the leading elements of the 77th Division moved into the town. [18, 409]

In the right center, the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, attacked at 6:30 a. m., with the 3d and 1st Battalions in support and reserve, respectively. Meeting little opposition, the 2d Battalion reached a position about 1 kilometer north of Bulson, where it halted for the night. The 3d Battalion bivouacked in the ravine northeast of the town. [18, 410, 411]

The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, advanced at 7 a. m. and caught up with the 165th Infantry to the left. It became engaged in a rear-guard action south of Artaise-le Vivier, and drove off enemy machine guns in position east of the town. The battalion then continued the advance. About 5 p. m. it crossed the ridge 1,500 meters northeast of Bulson where it encountered machine-gun fire. Elements of the battalion continued on down the slope to the quarry near Fontaine de Bulson, where they organized a front-line position for the night. The remainder of the battalion withdrew to the reverse slope of the hill, placing outposts on the crest, in the front line. [18, 412]

In the left center, the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, passed

through the 1st Battalion at 7:30 a. m. and immediately gained contact with the enemy rear guards south of Artaise-le Vivier. Overcoming this resistance, the battalion advanced in a northerly direction through Maisoncelle. Patrols of the 1st Battalion, which had remained with the 2d Battalion after the passage of lines, cleaned out Bulson and continued on to the north, drawing fire near Ferme St. Quentin. At noon the Battalion organized a position about the farm, where it was joined at 4:30 p. m. by elements of the 3d Battalion. [18, 413, 414, 415, 416]

The 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, in addition to supplying patrols to the assault battalion, furnished a detachment for left flank protection. This force advanced through Le Therme Ferme and Historia Ferme, reached the hill west of Bulson at 3:45 p. m., and sent patrols to the north to mop up the woods and continue the mission of protecting the left flank. The 1st Battalion organized a front-line position for the night along the northern edge of the wood about 500 meters southwest of Hill 299. A line was also organized along the eastern edge of Bois de Haye extending as far south as Historia Ferme, but it was not a front-line position. [18, 415]

On the extreme left, the 166th Infantry, attacking with the 1st, 3d and 2d Battalions in column in that order, passed through La Neuville-à Maire and came under fire from Hill 214, south of Chémery. About 8:45 a. m. this opposition was overcome by machine guns, but further delay resulted from the necessity of improving bridges over Ruisseau de Terron. Patrols of the 1st Battalion entered Chémery at 11 a. m., crossing Ruisseau de Dionne south of the town and moving into the valley to the south and east. The place was cleared by the assault battalion at 1 p. m., and the march continued northward on the main Chémery—Chehéry—Sedan road, against weak opposition from the southern edge of Bois de Haye. [18, 415, 416, 417, 418]

In the middle of the afternoon, when the enemy artillery had begun to enter the action, the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, halted south of the Bulson—Connage road. Patrols sent forward at 4:30 p. m. to Chehéry and the bend in the

Connage—Chehéry road north of Connage, developed heavy machine-gun fire from the wooded slopes northwest of Chehéry. The battalion halted for the night and established a line of outguards on the ridge 500 meters north of the Bulson—Connage road. A patrol succeeded in getting north of Chehéry after midnight. There was no front-line liaison with the 165th Infantry, which was about 3 kilometers to the right front. To the left, there had been liaison since 2 p. m. with the French, whose right flank rested at Omicourt. The 2d and 3d Battalions, 166th Infantry, moved up to Chémery during the day. [18, 417, 418, 419]

The German withdrawal on November 6 uncovered the Sedan bridgehead position, which was to be held in force on November 7. This position extended from the Meuse River at Pont-Maugis westward through Noyers-Pont-Maugis and Bois de la Marfée to the hills facing the Bar River. [420]

Meanwhile, about 10 kilometers to the east in the zone of action of the V Corps, the 1st Division had relieved the 80th Division at 6:30 a. m., and advanced to the Meuse River between Villemonty and Autrecourt with three regiments in line. About 2:30 p. m. the V Corps ordered the 1st Division to move forward during the night of November 6—7 and assist in the capture of Sedan on the morning of November 7. The division issued orders for the assembly of its regiments, evacuation of its zone of action without relief and a march in five columns to the heights southwest of Sedan, from which position an attack was to be made at daylight, November 7. The zone of action assigned for this attack was:

Right boundary: Thelonne—Bazeilles—thence northeast.

Left boundary: Sapogne Feuchères—Hannogne St. Martin—Donchery (all incl.)—thence northeast.

The attack was to be made with regiments abreast, the 16th, 18th, 28th and 26th Infantry Regiments from right to left. The assembly was completed and all columns were on the march by midnight, November 6. [421, 422]

To the left of the 42d Division, the French IX Corps issued orders at 9:15 p.m., November 6, directing the continuation of

the pursuit on the morning of November 7. The right boundary of its zone of action was to be the line, Chémery (western part, incl.)—Bulson (excl.)—Chaumont (incl.)—Noyers (incl.)—Pont-Maugis (incl.). This zone included the left portion of the zone in which the 42d Division was operating. The zone of action announced by the 1st Division included the left half of the zone of the 42d Division and the right of the French zone. [423]

The First Army and the I Corps made no changes in mission, boundaries or dispositions for the continuation of the pursuit on November 7. The I Corps, at 8 p. m., when it was apprised of the movement of the 1st Division, issued instructions to the 42d Division by radio and telephone for the immediate resumption of the pursuit and the capture of Sedan on the night of November 6—7, regardless of boundaries. In compliance, the 42d Division issued orders at 9 p.m., November 6, for the attack to start at once within the zone of action previously prescribed. [405, 424, 425, 427, 428]

Nov. 7

Before the 168th, 167th and 165th Infantry Regiments renewed the attack, three columns of the 1st Division moved into their areas. [18]

Column No. 1 of the 1st Division, consisting of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, moved down the left bank of the Meuse and was leaving Remilly-sur-Meuse at midnight, November 6. It continued on through Aillicourt to Pont-Maugis, where it encountered the German bridgehead position. The town was partially mopped up in hand-to-hand fighting and just before dawn the column moved out of Pont-Maugis for Thelonne where it was to join the remainder of the regiment. Before the column cleared Pont-Maugis, it was stopped by fire from the south. While it was thus delayed, day dawned, and fire was received from the hills to the west and from across the Meuse. Several small groups sought what cover existed in the ravine south of Pont-Maugis; others filtered back into the zone of action of the 77th Division; while the remainder of the force fought its way to Thelonne, turned off to the southeast, and joined a detachment of Column No. 2. The Germans reoccupied Pont-Maugis. [18, 429]

Column No. 2 moved in several detachments. The 3d Battalion 16th Infantry, marched via Raucourt, Haraucourt and Beau M  nil Ferme, and at 2:30 a. m. passed through the outposts of the 168th Infantry, to the woods south of Thelonne, where it arrived at 5 :15 a. m. and remained throughout the day. The 2d Battalion, 16th Infantry, marched through Bois d'Autrecourt to Angecourt; 16th Infantry Regimental Headquarters and Company A, 1st Engineers, followed a route, La Besace—Raucourt—Haraucourt—Angecourt. These joined the remnants of Column No. 1 in the ravine southeast of Thelonne about 7 a. m., November 7, where they remained until noon. [18]

Column No. 3, the 18th Infantry, less one battalion, followed the road, Raucourt—Maisoncelle—Bulson, arriving at the latter place shortly after daybreak. [18, 429]

The advance of the 168th Infantry, on the extreme right, across the high ground between Angecourt and Thelonne started at 6:30 a. m. from the vicinity of Haraucourt, with the 3d Battalion leading. Little resistance was encountered until the assault waves started down the slopes of the Meuse valley 2 kilometers west of Remilly-sur-Meuse, where they came under direct observation from across the river, as well as from the German bridgehead south of Sedan. Machine-gun and artillery fire prevented further advance, and at 8 a. m. the troops dug in on the ridge west of Remilly with the line facing north and northwest. A liaison patrol sent to Thelonne to establish contact with the 167th Infantry could not locate that unit and found the town unoccupied. [18, 430]

In the right center, the 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, passed through the 1st Battalion at 6:30 a. m., and advanced down the Bulson—Thelonne road in column until opposite the hill due west of Thelonne. Here it formed for attack and moved up the steep hill. Crossing the ridge, the battalion moved northeast in the direction of Noyers-Pont-Maugis. When the assault wave advanced from the narrow wood about 1 kilometer southwest of Noyers it was met by heavy machine-gun fire. The support wave, at this time on the crest of the hill about 300 meters in rear of the assault wave, came under this

fire as the fog lifted, and was forced back to the protection the reverse slope. The assault wave approached Noyers before being forced back to the wood, where it remained until afternoon. The 3d Battalion advanced in support to the road embankment near Fontaine de Bulson. [18, 431, 432, 433]

In the left center, the 165th Infantry attacked in a northeasterly direction at 7:30 a. m. in column of battalions with the 2d Battalion in the assault echelon, the 3d Battalion in support and 1st Battalion in reserve. Immediately upon leaving the vicinity of Ferme St. Quentin, the assault wave came under fire from the north and east. After mopping up the western edge of Chaumont, the leading elements were held up along the unimproved road running northeast from that town. By noon the southern spur of Hill 346 was occupied and at 1 p. m. the 2d Battalion completed the capture of the hill. [18, 432, 434, 435, 436]

That part of the 16th Infantry in the ravine southeast of Thelonne spent the morning in unsuccessful attempts to overcome machine-gun resistance from southeast of Noyers. About 1 p. m. this detachment advanced and entered the valley of Ruisseau de Thelonne, where it came under heavy fire. Company A, 1st Engineers, acting as a right-flank covering detachment, captured and held Pont-Maugis until dusk, when it withdrew to the southwest. At 10:30 p. m. it started toward Stonne to rejoin its regiment. Two platoons of Company F, 16th Infantry, were sent to Hill 346 to protect the left flank. The main attack continued in a northwesterly direction to the right of Thelonne and Noyers. [18, 437]

About 1:30 p. m. the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, passed through the 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, on the northern slope of Hill 346 and renewed the attack down the slope in a northerly direction. [18, 434, 436]

The converging independent attacks of the 165th and 16th Infantry Regiments resulted in the capture of Hill 252 about 4 p. m. Upon receipt of orders, these troops halted and organized a position on the northern slope of the ridge facing Wadelincourt and Sedan. The 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, sent

forward two patrols, which were driven back by fire when about 100 meters from Wadelincourt. [18, 436]

The 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, acted in support of the battalion during the afternoon. While advancing west of the crest of Hill 346, it received machine-gun fire from Bois de la Marfée. The leading elements mopped up the eastern edge of the wood and a patrol reached the northern edge, but all withdrew to the southern slope of Hill 346 because of artillery fire. In the late afternoon the 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, extended the line of the 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, to the left on Hill 252 and unsuccessfully endeavored to establish contact with the 166th Infantry, to the west. The 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, took up a position on the southern slope of Hill 346 in reserve, after it had been passed through by the 3d Battalion. [18, 434, 438]

At noon the 167th Infantry ordered the 3d Battalion to move from its support position to Thelonne. Just after the attacking troops of the 16th Infantry crossed Ruisseau de Thelonne, the leading elements of the 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, fought their way into Thelonne and established an outpost line 500 meters to the east and north of the town. This was not a front line however. A detachment of two platoons was sent to Pont-Maugis, but could not enter the town because of machine-gun fire, and took up a position at 2:16 p. m. on the steep hill 500 meters to the southeast, in the front line. The rest of the battalion remained under cover on the Thelonne—Bulson road. [18, 433]

The 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, moved from the morning position southwest of Noyers to a position in the ravine due west of the town about 3:30 p. m. It was not in the front line. The 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, remained in reserve in the vicinity of Bulson. The 151st Machine-Gun Battalion entered Thelonne during the afternoon and placed its guns to cover the valley of Ruisseau de Thelonne. [18, 433, 439]

The 168th Infantry made no attempt to advance its line during the afternoon. A patrol sent to Pont-Maugis was unable to enter the town. Liaison was established with the 77th

Division in Remilly-sur-Meuse. The 2d and 1st Battalions 168th Infantry, in support at Beau M  nil Ferme and reserve near Le Lavoir Ferme, respectively, were not in contact with the enemy on this day. [18, 430, 440]

In the extreme left of the zone of action of the 42d Division, just after midnight, November 6, the 166th Infantry ordered the 3d Battalion to pass through the 1st Battalion, attack at once, and reach Sedan by daybreak, November 7. This order was received by the 3d Battalion, in support at Ch  mery, at 12:30 a. m., November 7. The troops were awakened and fed, and the march started at 1:45 a. m. The battalion moved north on the main road to Sedan, Company K acting as advance guard. Patrols of the 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, were passed about 300 meters north of Cheh  ry shortly after 3 a. m. As the battalion progressed, it drew frequent bursts of machine-gun and rifle fire from both sides of the road. This fire was kept down by aggressive patrolling. At 6:10 a. m. the advance guard was held up at the curve northeast of Chevenges, where the main road turns to the northwest, by machine-gun fire from Bois de la Marf  e, Hill 307 and Hill 334. At this time the main body, Companies I, L and M, 166th Infantry, was in column on the Sedan road in the order named, Company I being abreast of Coulan Ferme. [18, 441, 442]

The platoon of Company K acting as advance party deployed and attacked Hill 307. It reached a position about half way to the crest where machine-gun fire forced it to remain throughout the day, unable to move. The point of the advance guard was sent out as a reconnoitering patrol and was pinned down as it approached the clump of trees just south of the crest of Hill 307. Report of these occurrences was made to the battalion commander at 7:45 a. m., and the remainder of the advance guard dug in along the Sedan road. [18, 441, 442]

Meanwhile Company I sent a combat patrol to the right flank. This patrol drove off a flanking machine gun and took up a position along the dirt road 500 meters north of Coulan Ferme, between Bois de la Marf  e and the Sedan highway. The remainder of the company was placed under cover in the vicinity of Coulan Ferme. [18, 441, 442]

Company M sent one platoon down the Bar River to protect the left flank. This force entered Chevenges from the west, mopped it up and dug in along the road east of the town. [18]

As visibility improved, enemy fire increased. The supporting 1-pounder and machine-gun platoons were sent to the assistance of Company K. They took up positions about 400 meters north of Coulan Ferme. At 8:30 a. m. artillery support was promised. While this was being arranged, Company L was ordered to clean out Bois de la Marfée. Before it could move, troops were observed in the rear advancing in small columns. They were soon identified as the 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Division. At their appearance, German fire again increased. Movement by the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, was stopped, and the 28th Infantry was notified of the situation by runner. [18]

The 28th Infantry formed Column No. 4 of the 1st Division. Coming from Stonne and points east, it first met troops of the 166th Infantry at Chémery at 3:45 a. m. Continuing north on the Sedan highway, the 28th Infantry, with its 3d Battalion in the lead, caught up with the rear of the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, which was supporting the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry. These two battalions marched side by side for a time, but at a rest halt of the 28th Infantry, the 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, passed the 28th Infantry and preceded it along the Sedan road. [18, 442, 443, 444]

The 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, was following the advance guard battalion (the 3d) at a distance of 1 kilometer. About the time that the latter was held up northeast of Chevenges, Company E passed through Chehéry and, receiving fire from the right, halted about 300 meters north of the town. It organized a position facing east and north. Companies F and G were concealed in the buildings of Chehéry, and Company H was placed under cover south of the town. [18, 443]

The 3d Battalion, 28th Infantry, passed through Chehéry at 7:40 a. m., deployed in an approach formation with an assault company on either side of the Sedan road and continued on to the north. [18]

At 9:20 a. m. the 166th Infantry ordered the 1st Battalion,

166th Infantry, to enter the line to the right of the 3d Battalion and directed the 2d Battalion to enter the line to the left. In compliance, the 1st Battalion, which was following the 2d Battalion at 1 kilometer, moved at 1 p. m. to Rocan Château about 700 meters southwest of Chehéry. In the 2d Battalion, Company F crossed the Bar River and took a position in the woods southwest of Chevenges. Further execution of the order was countermanded because the 28th Infantry already occupied the ground. [18, 442, 443, 445]

Upon receipt of information of the situation from the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, the leading elements of the 28th Infantry halted south of Coulan Ferme. The pause was of short duration, however, and, forming a skirmish line, the troops resumed the advance. The company to the right of the Sedan highway passed Coulan Ferme, crossed the road leading from Chevenges to the southern tip of Bois de la Marfée, along which the combat patrol of Company I, 166th Infantry, was seen, and dug in about 200 meters north of the above mentioned road. This company was not in the front line, being about 400 meters in rear of the advanced troops of the 166th Infantry. The company of the 28th Infantry west of the Sedan highway passed through the platoon of Company M, 166th Infantry, on the Chevenges road and halted at a cemetery east of Chevenges (cemetery not shown on map). After a short delay this company attacked Hill 334, from which it was receiving heavy fire. The leading platoons reached a position 500 meters east and slightly north of Chevenges, with small patrols covering the flank toward Hill 334. Support companies moved up to the cemetery and Chevenges. The attack came to a standstill at noon. [18]

The advance guard of the French 40th Division reached Chehéry at 10 a. m. and Chevenges at 2 p. m. [446]

When the attack of the 28th Infantry stopped, Company L, 166th Infantry, complied with the order to clean up Bois de la Marfée received earlier in the day by sending out one platoon which dug in on the road along the southern edge of the wood and patrolled to the crest of Hill 340. Shortly after noon the 1-pounder platoon, 166th Infantry, moved from Che-

venges along the unimproved road running to the northeast to the crossroads 200 meters southeast of the highest point on Hill 307. This platoon did not hold front-line positions for the night. [18, 446]

The 28th Infantry also sent a platoon to mop up Bois de la Marfée where it was later joined by a company and another platoon. They organized a line in the northwestern part of the wood. [18]

These latter movements were possible because, under pressure of the day's fighting and exhausted ammunition supply, the Germans withdrew shortly after 3 p. m. to the line, Hill 252—point 183—Hill 255—southern edge of Frénois. [432]

Front-line positions held in the vicinity of Chevenges included the detachment of the 28th Infantry in Bois de la Marfée, elements of the 166th Infantry between Bois de la Marfée and the Chehéry—Sedan road and elements of the 28th Infantry about 500 meters north of Chevenges. Other positions held were in support. [18]

Meanwhile, Column No. 5 of the 1st Division, consisting of the 26th Infantry, which had followed Column No. 4 from Stonne to Chémery, crossed the Bar River west of Chémery and passed through Malmy to Omicourt, where it met the French. While efforts were being made to arrange for a coordinated attack, the leading battalion established a line in the northern edge of the woods south of St. Aignan. The French refused to allow the troops of the 1st Division to advance in their zone of action. [18]

The movement of troops of the 1st Division into the zone of advance of the 42d Division resulted in a great deal of confusion and seriously hampered the latter's efforts to carry out its mission. The state of affairs between the 1st and 42d Divisions was promptly reported to the I Corps, which directed the 42d Division to halt the movement of all 1st Division transportation and take command of all troops in its zone regardless of division. The 1st Division continued to carry out the instructions received from the V Corps. At 9:28 a. m. the I Corps informed the First Army of the situation and asked that the V Corps be directed to recall the 1st Division. About 11 a. m. this order

was given by telephone to the V Corps, and at 11:15 a. m. the latter issued orders for the 1st Division to withdraw to a line, La Besace—Autrecourt. [18, 447, 448, 449]

The V Corps had been out of communication with the 1st Division since the movement started on November 6, and there was some delay in transmitting the order. It was delivered verbally about 2 p. m. Before it could be executed, the First Army issued radio instructions for the immediate withdrawal of the 1st Division from the vicinity of Sedan and its assembly in the area south of La Besace. [450]

Compliance with the last instructions commenced at once. The 16th Infantry was relieved by the French about 2 a. m., November 8. In the 28th and 26th Infantry Regiments, the was no actual relief, the troops withdrawing about dusk, November 7. [18]

About 10 a. m., November 7, the French had notified the 42d Division that they had orders to open fire on any troops obstructing their passage toward Sedan. This report was sent to the I Corps, which ordered the 42d Division to move into a zone of action the west boundary of which was the line, Chémery (incl.)—Bulson (incl.)—Thelonne (incl.)—Pont-Maugis (excl.)—Bazeilles (incl.). The I Corps forwarded the report to the First Army, which notified the French that the left of the American I Corps was in front of the French IX Corps, and that orders had been issued for the I Corps to withdraw to its own zone of action. [447, 449, 451]

At 1 p. m. the 42d Division issued a memorandum ordering dispositions in accordance with the instructions received from the I Corps. The 42d Division assumed command of all troops in the assigned zone of action. Elements of the 83d Infantry Brigade west of the new left boundary were to be withdrawn to the east as soon as the French 40th Division passed through them. The 84th Infantry Brigade was to extend gradually to the east to the right boundary. Brigade commanders were ordered to halt or turn back any elements of other divisions attempting to move into the zone of the 42d Division, if such movements were detrimental to the operations of the 42d Division. [452]

Later in the day the First Army and the I Corps ordered the 42d Division to organize its zone in depth, and to send strong reconnaissance patrols across the Meuse River. The ridge south of Thelonne and Bulson was to be organized for defense. At 5 p. m. the 42d Division ordered its troops to destroy such enemy forces as still remained in the divisional zone, in addition to the missions assigned by the army and corps. The 84th Infantry Brigade was to take over the forward portion of the divisional zone. After it had been passed through by the French, the 83d Infantry Brigade was to assemble between Maisoncelle and Bois du Mont Dieu. [453, 454, 455]

The relief of the 83d Infantry Brigade was made progressively. The 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, turned over its position in the vicinity of Chéhéry at 6:30 p. m. and bivouacked 1,500 meters southwest of Chémery. The 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, withdrew from the vicinity of Rocan Château at 8 p. m. and went into bivouac along Ruisseau de Dionne southeast of Chémery. Relief of the 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, took place about 1 a. m., November 8, it having remained in place when the 1st Division troops withdrew. The 165th Infantry, on Hills 252 and 346, was relieved by the French about 2 a. m., November 8, and moved back to Artaise-le Vivier. [18, 441, 443, 445, 456, 457]

The zone of the 84th Infantry Brigade was organized with the 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, in the front line and the 1st and 2d Battalions in support at Bulson. The 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, and the detachment of the 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, southeast of Pont-Maugis, were relieved about 5 p. m. and an outpost line established on the ridge northeast of Thelonne. There was no front-line contact with the 77th Division at Remilly-sur-Meuse or with the French at Pont-Maugis. [18, 458, 459, 460, 461]

Nov. 8

Company D, 165th Infantry, and Company D, 166th Infantry, were ordered to report to the French 40th Division for duty. Through some misunderstanding, the 165th Infantry's company remained at Bulson. Company D, 166th Infantry, left Chémery at 7:30 a. m. and moved north on the Sedan road to Frénois. That night the company sent out two patrols, of

one platoon each, accompanied by French patrols, with orders to enter Sedan. One patrol left the chateau near Frénois at 5:30 p. m., moving along the Sedan highway. It entered Torcy and was stopped by enemy fire, returning to Frénois at 2:30 a. m., November 9. The other patrol left Frénois at 8:30 p. m., likewise reached Torcy and was turned back by fire and returned to the chateau at 4 a. m., November 9. The company was relieved from further duty with the French at 10:30 a. m. November 9. [18, 456, 462]

At 11 a. m., November 8, the east boundary of November 5 was reaffirmed. No change in troop dispositions resulted. [463]

At 5 p. m. the I Corps ordered the 77th Division to extend to the left, relieve the 42d Division and take over the entire corps front. Command was to pass to the 77th Division at 6 a. m., November 10. [464]

Nov. 9—10

The 1st and 2d Battalions, 167th Infantry, withdrew from Bulson to Artaise-le Vivier about noon, November 9. The 3d Battalion, in the front line, withdrew about 7 p. m. that day. No actual relief by elements of the 77th Division took place. The 42d Division assembled in the area, La Besace—St. Pierremont—Artaise-le Vivier—Tannay. On November 10 it moved to the vicinity of Buzancy and was attached to the V Corps. [18, 378, 465]

*Nov. 11,
1918—
May 1919*

On November 14 the division was assembled near Landres et St. Georges and on November 16—17 moved to the Brandeville, Stenay and Baalon areas, east of the Meuse River, in preparation for the march into Germany. On November 20 it moved as a reserve division to Ahrweiler, northwest of Coblenz, part of the Army of Occupation. On April 5, 1919, the division moved to Brest for return to the United States. The various units sailed from Brest and St. Nazaire during the month of April, the last arriving at Newport News on May 1. [1]

MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE, SUBSEQUENT SERVICE 91

CASUALTIES, MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE

		Oct. 5-11	Oct. 12-19	Oct. 20— Nov. 1	Nov. 2-4	Nov. 5-7	Nov. 8-11	Total
<i>42d Division</i>								
	W	24	819	96	4	50	36	1,029
165th Inf -----	DW	4	57	9	1	4	3	78
	K	5	180	15	1	13	----	214
	W	12	393	64	8	47	15	539
166th Inf -----	DW	----	34	7	----	3	1	45
	K	----	44	8	----	17	----	69
	W	7	554	27	3	43	9	643
167th Inf -----	DW	----	36	----	----	5	3	44
	K	----	81	8	2	12	1	104
	W	62	566	48	1	2	2	681
168th Inf -----	DW	2	53	----	----	----	2	57
	K	4	90	6	1	----	----	101
149th FA	W	----	21	18	1	10	20	70
(DS Oct. 7-12 and Nov. 1-2)	DW	----	----	1	----	----	----	1
	K	----	3	2	----	----	7	12
150th FA	W	----	7	41	1	4	4	57
(DS Oct. 7-12 and Nov. 1-2)	DW	----	----	1	----	----	----	1
	K	----	----	1	----	----	1	2
151st FA	W	----	21	110	1	5	1	138
(DS Oct. 7-12 and Nov. 1-2)	DW	----	1	4	----	----	----	5
	K	----	1	1	----	----	----	2
	W	----	2	3	----	----	1	6
149th MG Bn -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
	K	----	----	1	----	----	----	1
	W	3	90	22	----	7	5	127
150th MG Bn -----	DW	----	6	3	----	----	----	9
	K	----	10	4	----	3	----	17
	W	5	22	11	----	6	7	51
151st MG Bn -----	DW	----	1	2	----	1	----	4
	K	----	----	----	----	1	1	2
	W	3	44	4	2	2	2	57
117th Engrs -----	DW	----	2	----	----	----	----	2
	K	----	6	1	----	----	----	7
	W	5	29	30	3	1	4	72
Others -----	DW	----	1	1	----	----	----	2
	K	2	1	2	----	----	----	5
Total-----		138	3,175	551	29	236	125	4,254
<i>Attached Units</i>								
	W	----	6	19	----	----	----	25
5th FA (1st Div) -----	DW	----	----	5	----	----	----	5
(Oct. 13-31)	K	----	1	1	----	----	----	2

92 MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE, SUBSEQUENT SERVICE

CASUALTIES, MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE—Continued

		Oct 5-11	Oct 12-19	Oct 20— Nov. 1	Nov 2-4	Nov 5-7	Nov 8-11	Total
<i>Attached Units—Continued</i>								
	W	----	10	8	----	----	----	18
6th FA (1st Div) -----	DW	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
(Oct. 13-31)	K	----	2	2	----	----	----	4
	W	----	19	14	----	----	----	33
7th FA (1st Div) -----	DW	----	1	----	----	----	----	1
(Oct. 13-31)	K	----	1	2	----	----	----	3
	W	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
307th FA (78th Div) ----	DW	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
(Nov. 5)	K	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
	W	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
308th FA (78th Div) ----	DW	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
(Nov. 5)	K	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
	W	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
309th FA (78th Div) ----	DW	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
(Nov. 5)	K	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Total -----		----	40	51	----	----	----	91
Aggregate total -----		138	3,215	602	29	236	125	4,345

W = wounds not mortal; DW = died of wounds; K = killed in action; DS = detached service.

Appendix

INFANTRY DIVISION (COMBAT) ORGANIZATION IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 11, 1918

Units	Number of units	Strength
Division Headquarters	1	304
Infantry Brigades	2	-----
Brigade Headquarters*	1	25
	(2)	(50)
Infantry Regiment*	2	-----
	(4)	-----
Regimental Headquarters**	1	6
	(4)	(24)
Headquarters Company**	1	343
	(4)	(1,372)
Machine-Gun Company**	1	178
	(4)	(712)
Supply Company**	1	162
	(4)	(648)
Infantry Battalions**	1	-----
	(12)	-----
Battalion Headquarters***	1	3
	(12)	(36)
Rifle Companies***	4	3,072
	(48)	(12,288)
Machine-Gun Battalions*	1	759
	(2)	(1,518)
Medical Department and Chaplains*	-----	127
	-----	(254)
Ordnance Department*	-----	20
	-----	(40)
Veterinary Field Units*	1	4
	(2)	(8)
Field Artillery Brigade	1	-----
Brigade Headquarters	1	79
Regiments, 75-mm Gun	2	3,036
Regiment, 155-mm Howitzer	1	1,616
Trench-Mortar Battery	1	177
Medical Department and Chaplains	-----	96
Ordnance Department	-----	49
Veterinary Field Units	4	16
Machine-Gun Battalion	1	-----
Battalion Headquarters	1	30
Machine-Gun Companies	2	356
Medical Department	-----	7
Ordnance Department	-----	2
Engineer Regiment	1	1,712
Medical Department and Chaplains	-----	31
Ordnance Department	-----	6
Field Signal Battalion	1	488
Trains	-----	3,150
Total	-----	28, 105

- * Upper figures indicate number per brigade. Figures in parentheses indicate number per division.
 ** Upper figure indicates number per regiment. Figures in parentheses indicate number per division.
 *** Upper figure indicates number per battalion. Figures in parentheses indicate number per division.

STRENGTH OF 42D DIVISION¹

Units	June 30	July 31	Aug. 31	Sept. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 30
165th Inf -----	3,223	2,073	3,143	3,564	1,908	2,315
166th Inf -----	3,288	2,461	3,501	3,392	2,905	2,657
167th Inf -----	3,518	1,934	3,356	3,551	2,267	2,926
168th Inf -----	3,328	1,974	2,429	2,920	2,317	2,993
149th MG Bn -----	347	269	397	387	381	370
150th MG Bn -----	710	545	531	708	529	564
151st MG Bn -----	721	495	741	735	608	612
Total Inf and MG ²	15,185	9,795	14,143	15,301	10,953	12,481
149th FA -----	1,330	1,385	1,445	1,449	1,323	1,224
150th FA -----	1,710	1,847	1,767	1,728	1,621	1,751
151st FA -----	1,265	1,433	1,385	1,439	1,209	1,179
Total FA ³ -----	4,517	4,875	4,807	4,822	4,348	4,352
117th Engrs -----	1,437	1,417	1,484	1,456	1,387	1,308
Others -----	5,688	5,895	6,747	5,213	3,431	4,806
Total -----	26,827	21,982	27,181	26,792	20,119	22,947

¹ Present with the units of the division; does not include absentees.

² Includes both infantry brigade headquarters.

³ Includes field artillery brigade headquarters and the 117th Trench-Mortar Battery.

GENERAL TABLE OF CASUALTIES

	42d Div.	Attached Units	Total
Espérance-Souain Sector and Champagne-Marne Defensive	1,638	-----	1,638
Aisne-Marne Offensive -----	5,518	983	6,501
St. Mihiel Offensive and Essey-Pannes Sector -----	1,207	7	1,214
Meuse-Argonne Offensive -----	4,254	91	4,345

Sources

The following is a list of the sources on which the statements made in the preceding narrative are based. The numbers refer to the corresponding numbers in brackets at the ends of paragraphs.

- 1 Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War, American Expeditionary Forces—Divisions. Prepared in the Historical Section, Army War College.
- 2 Final Report of General John J. Pershing, Sept. 1, 1919.
- 3 “My Experiences in the World War”, Pershing.
- 4 Report of the First Army, A. E. F.
- 5 Orders No. 2289/3, French XXI Corps, July 2.
- 6 Orders No. 2505/3, French XXI Corps, July 3.
- 7 Carte Situation No. 4, Rapport du Maréchal Commandant-en-Chef des Armées du Nord et du Nordeste en 1918.
- 8 General Orders No. 47, 42d Division, July 4.
- 9 Report of Operations, 42d Division, July 4—25.
- 10 Map of Scheme of Defense, 42d Division, July 14.
- 11 Rapport du Maréchal Commandant-en-Chef des Armées Françaises du Nord et du Nordeste sur les Opérations en 1918.
- 12 Journal, French 13th Division, July 5—14.
- 13 Journal, French 170th Division, July 5—14.
- 14 Orders No. 2337/3, French XXI Corps, July 4, and 2d Indorsement, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 6.
- 15 Orders No. 159, French 170th Division, July 5.
- 16 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 5.
- 17 Summary of Events, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 5—16.
- 18 Special Correspondence, American Battle Monuments Commission. This pertains to information in the files of the Commission which was obtained in the manner indicated in the preface.
- 19 Orders No. 2343/3, French XXI Corps, July 5.
- 20 Orders No. 4996/3, French 13th Division, July 5.
- 21 Daily Operations Report, French 13th Division, July 6.
- 22 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, July 5—14.
- 23 Orders No. 2381/3, French XXI Corps, July 6, and 1st Indorsement, 42d Division to 83d Infantry Brigade, July 6.
- 24 Daily Operations Report, 166th Infantry, July 8.
- 25 War Dairy, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 5—14.
- 26 Memorandum, 83d Infantry Brigade to 165th Infantry, July 7.
- 27 War Diary, 167th Infantry, July 5—14.
- 28 War Diary, 166th Infantry, July 5—14.
- 29 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, July 5—14.
- 30 War Diary, 165th Infantry, July 5—14.

- 31 Telegram No. 444-446/M, 3d Bureau, French Armies of the North and Northeast, July 7.
- 32 Memorandum No. 9076/2, French Armies of the North and Northeast, July 11.
- 33 Letter No. 1439, Commander-in-Chief, Allied Armies, June 14.
- 34 Order No. 2622, Ia, German Group of Armies, Crown Prince, June 21.
- 35 Order No. 12968, Ia/Arty., German Group of Armies, Crown Prince June 26.
- 36 Report of Operations No. 7076/3, French Fourth Army, July 15.
- 37 Note No. 6637-3, French Fourth Army, July 7.
- 38 Orders No. 6638/3, French Fourth Army, July 7.
- 39 Kriegstagebuch, German XII Corps, July 15.
- 40 Field Messages, 84th Infantry Brigade to 42d Division, 8:15 a. m. and 9:20 a. m., July 15.
- 41 Journal, French XXI Corps, July 15.
- 42 Daily Operations Report, 166th Infantry, July 16.
- 43 Journal, French 170th Division, July 15.
- 44 Daily Operations Report, French 170th Division, July 16.
- 45 Orders No. 2526/3, French XXI Corps, July 15, and 1st and 2d Indorsements, 42d Division, and 83d Infantry Brigade, July 15.
- 46 Field Message, 84th Infantry Brigade to 42d Division, 12:10 p. m., July 15.
- 47 War Diary, 168th Infantry, July 15.
- 48 Orders No. 2532/3, XXI Corps, July 15, and 1st Indorsement, 42d Division, July 15, to 83d and 84th Infantry Brigades and 117th Engineers.
- 49 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 117th Engineers, July 15.
- 50 War Diaries, 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry and 165th Infantry, July 15.
- 51 Summary of Events, 42d Division, July 15.
- 52 Report of Operations, No. 2422/13.R., French 13th Division, July 16.
- 53 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 16.
- 54 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, July 16.
- 55 War Diary, 67th Field Artillery Brigade, July 15.
- 56 Record of Events, 150th Machine-Gun Battalion.
- 57 Station Lists, 151st Machine-Gun Battalion.
- 58 Kriegstagebuch, German Crown Prince Group of Armies, July 15.
- 59 Journal, French XXI Corps, July 16.
- 60 Daily Operations Report, French XXI Corps, July 17.
- 61 Daily Operations Report, French 170th Division, July 17.
- 62 Kriegstagebuch, German XII Corps, July 16.
- 63 Daily Operations Report, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 17.
- 64 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 16.
- 65 Orders No. 2539/3, French XXI Corps, July 16.
- 66 Kriegstagebuch, German Group of Armies, Crown Prince, July 15—27.
- 67 Kriegstagebuch, German Group of Armies, Crown Prince, July 17.
- 68 Report of Operations, 80th Division, Sept 26—Oct. 31.

- 69 Field Orders No. 66, First Army, Oct. 15.
- 70 Field Orders No. 67, First Army, Oct. 15.
- 71 Orders No. 2552/3, French XXI Corps, July 17.
- 72 Journal, French 43d Division, July 18.
- 73 Orders No. 2528/3, French XXI Corps, July 15.
- 74 Report on Reconnaissances, French 13th Division, July 17.
- 75 Daily Operations Report, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 18.
- 76 War Diary, 168th Infantry, July 18.
- 77 War Diary, 165th Infantry, July 18.
- 78 Daily Operations Report, French 13th Division, July 18.
- 79 Journal, French XXI Corps, July 17.
- 80 Journal, French 13th Division, July 17.
- 81 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, July 18.
- 82 Order No. 6993/3, French Fourth Army, July 17.
- 83 Order No. 2566/3, French XXI Corps, July 18.
- 84 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 18.
- 85 Journal, French 170th Division, July 18.
- 86 Daily Operations Report, French 13th Division, July 19.
- 87 Journal, French 13th Division, July 18.
- 88 Telegram, French Group of Armies of the Centre, July 18.
- 89 Orders No. 2583/3, French XXI Corps, July 18.
- 90 Report of Operations, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 19—Aug. 4.
- 91 Report of Operations, I Corps, July 4—Aug. 14.
- 92 Field Orders No. 23, I Corps, July 24.
- 93 Report of Operations, 42d Division, July 25—Aug. 3.
- 94 Report of Operations, 26th Division, July 15—18.
- 95 Field Message, 168th Infantry to 42d Division, 9 p. m., July 25.
- 96 Reports of Operations, 101st Infantry and 102d Infantry Regiments, July 18—25.
- 97 Report of Operations, 56th Infantry Brigade, July 24—Aug. 5.
- 98 Field Orders No. 24, I Corps, July 24.
- 99 Field Orders No. 33, I Corps, Aug. 1.
- 100 Report of Operations, 167th Infantry, July 24—Aug. 5.
- 101 War Diary, 26th Division, July 25.
- 102 Field Orders No. 18, I Corps, July 20.
- 103 Field Orders No. 108, 52d Infantry Brigade, July 24.
- 104 Daily Operations Report, I Corps, July 25.
- 105 Journal, French XXXVIII Corps, July 25.
- 106 General Operations Order No. 3599, French Sixth Army, July 25.
- 107 Field Orders No. 25, I Corps, July 25.
- 108 Field Orders No. 11, 84th Infantry Brigade, July 26.
- 109 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, July 26.
- 110 War Diaries, 1st and 3d Battalions, 167th Infantry, July 26.
- 111 Journal, French XXXVIII Corps, July 26.
- 112 Report of Operations, 165th Infantry, July 24—Aug. 3.

- 113 General Operations Orders No. 3605 and No. 3609, French Sixth Army, July 26.
- 114 Field Orders No. 26, I Corps, July 27, with accompanying map.
- 115 General Orders No. 51, 42d Division, July 27.
- 116 Report of Operations, 83d Infantry Brigade, July 25—Aug. 4.
- 117 Note for the I Corps, No. 2295/3, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 118 Journal of Operations, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 119 Study of Operations, 42d Division, July 25—Aug. 3.
- 120 War Diaries, 1st and 3d Battalions, 168th Infantry, July 27.
- 121 War Diaries, 1st, 2d and 3d Battalions, 165th Infantry, and 165th Infantry, July 27.
- 122 Memorandum to accompany General Order No. 51, 42d Division, July 7.
- 123 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 27.
- 124 Report of Operations, 166th Infantry, July 25—Aug. 4.
- 125 General Operations Order No. 3613, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 126 Order No. 3617, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 127 General Operations Order No. 3619, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 128 Field Orders No. 27, I Corps, July 27.
- 129 Field Orders No. 28, I Corps, July 28.
- 130 Summary of Intelligence, French XXXVIII Corps, July 27.
- 131 Journal of Operations, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 132 Daily Operations Report, French Sixth Army, July 27.
- 133 General Operations Order No. 166, French XXXVIII Corps, July 27.
- 134 Journal of Operations, French Sixth Army, July 28.
- 135 War Diaries, 1st, 2d and 3d Battalions, 168th Infantry, July 28.
- 136 Report of Operations, 168th Infantry, July 24—Aug. 5.
- 137 War Diaries, 1st, 2d and 3d Battalions, 167th Infantry, July 28.
- 138 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 28.
- 139 War Diaries, 1st and 3d Battalions, 165th Infantry, July 28.
- 140 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, July 28.
- 141 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 166th Infantry, July 28.
- 142 Daily Operations Report, I Corps, July 28.
- 143 Memorandum, unnumbered, 42d Division, July 28.
- 144 General Operations Order No. 3627, French Sixth Army, July 28.
- 145 Field Orders No. 29, I Corps, July 28.
- 146 War Diary, 47th Infantry, July 28.
- 147 War Diary, 11th Machine-Gun Battalion, July 28.
- 148 Orders No. 9472, Ia, July 26, and No. 9536, Ia, July 27, Chief of Staff of the German Field Armies to German Group of Armies, Crown Prince.
- 149 Report of Operations, 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, July 29—Aug. 2.
- 150 Report of Operations, 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, July 27—31.
- 151 Report of Operations, Company L, 47th Infantry, July 28—31.
- 152 Report of Operations, 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, July 29—Aug. 2.
- 153 War Diaries, 1st and 2d Battalions, 165th Infantry, July 29.
- 154 War Diary, 166th Infantry, July 29.

- 155 War Diaries, 1st and 2d Battalions, 166th Infantry, July 29.
- 156 Journal of Operations, French Sixth Army, July 29.
- 157 General Operations Order No. 3635, French Sixth Army, July 29.
- 158 Field Orders No. 30, I Corps, July 29.
- 159 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, July 30.
- 160 Journal of Operations, French Sixth Army, July 30.
- 161 War Diary, 55th Infantry Brigade, July 30.
- 162 Preparatory Order No. 3644, French Sixth Army, July 30.
- 163 General Operations Order No. 3647, French Sixth Army, July 30.
- 164 Field Orders No. 35, I Corps, Aug. 2.
- 165 Memorandum, no number, I Corps, July 31.
- 166 Field Orders No. 31, I Corps, July 31.
- 167 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 168th Infantry, July 31.
- 168 Field Orders No. 13, 8th Infantry Brigade, July 31.
- 169 Daily Operations Report, 32d Division, Aug. 1.
- 170 General Operations Order No. 3663, French Sixth Army, July 31.
- 171 General Operations Order No. 174, French XXXVIII Corps, July 31.
- 172 Letter, 63d Infantry Brigade to 64th and 84th Infantry Brigades, July 31.
- 173 Field Orders No. 32, I Corps, July 31.
- 174 Field Orders No. 14, 8th Infantry Brigade, Aug. 1.
- 175 Report of Operations, 32d Division, July 29—Aug. 7.
- 176 Field Orders No. 33, I Corps, Aug. 1.
- 177 General Operations Order No. 3665, French Sixth Army, Aug. 1.
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- 179 Field Orders No. 34, I Corps, Aug. 1.
- 180 Report of Operations, 117th Engineers, August.
- 181 Kriegstagebuch, German Seventh Army, Aug. 2.
- 182 Sketch Accompanying Order No. 1519, Ia, German VIII Reserve Corps, July 31.
- 183 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Aug. 2.
- 184 Field Message, 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, to 168th Infantry 3 p. m., Aug. 2.
- 185 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, Aug. 2.
- 186 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Aug. 2.
- 187 Report of Operations, 63d Infantry Brigade, July 27—Aug. 10.
- 188 Journal of Operations, French II Corps, July 3—Sept. 21.
- 189 Field Orders No. 35, I Corps, Aug. 2.
- 190 General Orders No. 53, 42d Division, Aug. 1.
- 191 Daily Operations Reports, 42d Division, Aug. 3—7.
- 192 War Diary, 42d Division, Sept. 10.
- 193 Field Orders No. 17, 42d Division, Sept. 9.
- 194 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 10—11.
- 195 War Diary, 42d Division, Sept. 11.
- 196 Report of Operations, 89th Division, Dec. 5.
- 197 Map, Location of Troops, 42d Division, Sept. 11.

- 198 Field Orders No. 8, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept 11.
- 199 Field Orders No. 9, First Army, Sept. 7.
- 200 Field Orders No. 14, IV Corps, Sept. 8.
- 201 Field Orders No. 17, 42d Division, Sept. 9.
- 202 War Diaries, 165th, 167th and 168th Infantry Regiments, Sept. 12.
- 203 Report of Operations, 42d Division, Nov. 28.
- 204 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 11—15.
- 205 Report of Operations, 2d Battalion, 168th Infantry, Sept. 22.
- 206 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, Sept. 12.
- 207 Daily Operations Report, 166th Infantry, Sept. 12—13.
- 208 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Sept. 12.
- 209 Field Orders No. 21, IV Corps, Sept. 12.
- 210 Field Orders No. 26, IV Corps, Sept. 13.
- 211 Field Orders No. 22, 42d Division, Sept. 12.
- 212 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 12—13.
- 213 Report of Operations, 89th Division, Sept. 30.
- 214 Report of Operations, 1st Division, Sept. 21.
- 215 Field Orders No. 10, First Army, Sept. 12.
- 216 “Out of My Life”, Hindenburg.
- 217 War Diary, 168th Infantry, Sept. 13.
- 218 War Diary, 356th Infantry, Sept. 13.
- 219 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, Sept. 13.
- 220 War Diaries, 1st and 2d Battalions, 165th Infantry, and 165th Infantry, Sept. 13.
- 221 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Sept. 13.
- 222 Addendum to Field Orders No. 26, IV Corps, Sept. 13.
- 223 Report of Colonel Moisson on Operations of 153d Infantry Regiment, Sept. 18.
- 224 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 13—14.
- 225 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept. 13.
- 226 Field Orders No. 24, 42d Division, Sept. 14.
- 227 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 14—15.
- 228 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept. 14.
- 229 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, Sept. 14.
- 230 Ordre Particulier No. 810, French II Colonial Corps, Sept. 14.
- 231 Ordre Général No. 238 G, French 39th Division, Sept. 14.
- 232 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, Sept. 14.
- 233 Report of Operations, 42d Division, Sept. 26.
- 234 Daily Operations Report, 42d Division, Sept. 15—16.
- 235 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept. 15.
- 236 G-3 Memorandum, No. 83, IV Corps, Sept. 15.
- 237 War Diaries, 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, and 165th Infantry, Sept. 15.
- 238 G-3 Memorandum No. 92, IV Corps, Sept. 16.
- 239 Summary of Intelligence No. 124, 42d Division, Sept. 15—16.
- 240 Daily Operations Reports, 42d Division, Sept. 17—25.

- 241 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, Sept. 17.
- 242 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept. 17.
- 243 War Diary, 84th Infantry Brigade, Sept. 17—25.
- 244 War Diary, 167th Infantry, Sept. 17—25.
- 245 War Diary, 168th Infantry, Sept. 17—25.
- 246 Plan of Defense of the St. Benoit Sector, 84th Infantry Brigade, Sept. 19.
- 247 Field Orders No. 20, First Army, Sept. 20.
- 248 Field Orders No. 31, IV Corps, Sept. 24.
- 249 War Diaries, 165th and 166th Infantry Regiments, Sept. 26.
- 250 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, Sept. 27.
- 251 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, Sept. 28.
- 252 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Sept. 27—28.
- 253 Daily Operations Reports, 42d Division, Sept. 28—30.
- 254 Field Orders No. 27, 42d Division, Sept. 30.
- 255 Field Orders No. 26, 89th Division, Sept. 30.
- 256 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 1.
- 257 Daily Operations Report, 89th Division, Sept. 30—Oct. 1.
- 258 War Diary, 42d Division, Oct. 1.
- 259 Directive, Allied Commander-in-Chief, Sept. 3.
- 260 Letter, Allied Commander-in-Chief to American Commander-in-Chief, Sept. 23.
- 261 Field Orders No. 37, First Army, Oct. 4.
- 262 War Diary, 42d Division, Oct. 4—10.
- 263 Field Orders No. 68, V Corps, Oct. 10.
- 264 Field Orders No. 69, V Corps, Oct. 10.
- 265 Field Orders No. 70, V Corps, Oct. 11.
- 266 Field Orders No. 35, 42d Division, Oct. 10.
- 267 Field Orders No. 79, 32d Division, Oct. 11.
- 268 Report of Operations, 42d Division, Nov. 22.
- 269 War Diary, 168th Infantry, Oct. 12.
- 270 War Diary, 167th Infantry, Oct. 11.
- 271 Report of Operations, 2d Battalion, 325th Infantry, Dec. 23.
- 272 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Oct. 13.
- 273 Field Orders No. 71, V Corps, Oct. 12.
- 274 G-3 Memorandum No. 33, 42d Division, Oct. 12.
- 275 Daily Operations Report, 64th Infantry Brigade, Oct. 14.
- 276 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, Oct. 13.
- 277 Daily Operations Report, 165th Infantry, Oct. 13.
- 278 War Diary, 165th Infantry, Oct. 13.
- 279 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Oct. 13.
- 280 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 13.
- 281 Daily Operations Report, 166th Infantry, Oct. 13—14.
- 282 Field Orders No. 59, First Army, Oct. 12.
- 283 Field Orders No. 73, V Corps, Oct. 12.
- 284 Field Orders No. 36, 42d Division, Oct. 13, and accompanying map.

- 285 G-3 Memorandum No. 26.53, V Corps, Oct. 13.
- 286 Field Orders No. 16, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 13.
- 287 War Diary, 165th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 288 War Diary, 168th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 289 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 167th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 290 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 165th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 291 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 292 Telegram, 42d Division to V Corps, 9 a. m., Oct. 14.
- 293 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 165th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 294 Summary of Operations, 165th Infantry, Oct. 28.
- 295 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 14.
- 296 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 165th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 297 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 298 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Oct. 14.
- 299 Field Orders No. 75, V Corps, Oct. 14.
- 300 Field Orders No. 37, 42d Division, Oct. 14.
- 301 Field Orders No. 17, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 15.
- 302 Field Orders No. 18, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 15.
- 303 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 166th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 304 War Diary, 166th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 305 War Diary, 83d Infantry Brigade, Oct. 15.
- 306 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 307 Daily Operations Report, V Corps, Oct. 14—15.
- 308 War Diary, 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 309 War Diary, 2d Battalion, 167th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 310 War Diary, 165th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 311 War Diary, 3d Battalion, 166th Infantry, Oct. 15.
- 312 Field Orders No. 38, 42d Division, Oct. 15.
- 313 G-3 Memorandum No. 36, 42d Division, Oct. 15.
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