

Reg. 1st Bn 337th Inf.
Report of Operations

Period 1 Sept - 12 Sept, 1944

Bn. carried on regular training schedule in vicinity of San Martino, Italy. On 12 Sept. the Bn moved from San Martino to a bivouac area northeast of Bivigliano.

Period 13 Sept - 30 Sept.

On the evening of 13 September the ~~bn~~ battalion moved to near assembly area near Fabrona (or Petrona). The following day with the regiment in Division reserve was spent in preparation for combat and on 16 Sept. the battalion was moved to forward assembly area in the vicinity of P. Gio Prete. On the morning of 17 Sept. the Bn. passed through the 3rd Bn. of this Regt. & swung to the right of the Div sector to outflank the forces being engaged by the rest of the Division. The Regt. Objective was Mt. Petrone & the Bn's mission was to take & hold Hill 1019 to the southeast of the objective. Shortly before dawn while in the approach march to the Bn. Obj. M.G. fire split the column into two parts, Cos C. & A. proceeded forward & Co B was forced to bypass the resistance. The mortar platoon of Co D and the entire Bn march Co. with the exception of the Commanding Officer & S 2 were trapped & ~~occupying~~ seeking refuge in a house, were forced to remain there throughout the day until darkness fell. The entire area around the house was covered by four enemy machine guns & was constantly harassed by mortar & artillery fire. Reorganization was effected on 17th Sept with Co. B assigned and the Bn continued forward with little resistance. The attack on Hill 1019 took place on the morning

Of 19 Sept. with Co. B assigned the task of seizing the high Point. As the 2nd platoon of that company worked its way up the rocky sides of the hill, the enemy entrenched on the top, threw hand grenades and placed well prepared machine gun fire in their paths & they were forced to withdraw with heavy casualties. However, the 3rd platoon of the company was able to outflank the enemy and forced him to vacate his position, withdrawing to the right rear slope of the hill. The Regimental obj. was secured shortly afterwards by the 3rd Bn. 337th Inf.

The move was to Mount Acuto, 3,800 ft. which was occupied by the 2nd Bn without resistance. During the night of 19 Sept., the Bn. dug in defensively on Mt. Acuto as the 2nd Bn. continued its attack to the north. On the morning of 20 September the Bn. was alerted to attack & secure Mt. Bastia. The troops marched all day and at night fall secured their objective without resistance. On 21 September at dawn a counterattacking force of 40 men attacked a conspicuous position & were routed without difficulty. It is believed that this force was attempting to fortify the mountain, but arrived too late. On 21 Sept. the 2nd Bn of the 350th Inf. passed through our lines. The Bn. was withdrawn & placed in Div. reserve. The Bn. moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of Collinaccia, where the men rested until 22 Sept.

On that afternoon the Bn. was alerted to move to an assembly area in vicinity of Frena. On 24 Sept. the Bn. moved to Visignoro where Co. B was attached to the 2nd Bn. of this Regt. and the remainder of the Bn. relieved the 3rd Bn 348th Inf. on Mt. La Fina. The enemy counterattacked this position seeking to regain the mountain, which was a dominant feature well over 3,000 ft in height. Acting on information that

The enemy had vacated the town of Piarcalboli and the neighboring town of Racco the previous night, a recon-naissance Party of Rangers & Intelligence personnel from the Bn. entered the town & confirmed the report. The remainder of the Bn. occupied the town on 1 October 1944.