

BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

Battle of Northern France, Part I **November 1, 1944 - November 30, 1944**

The 442nd Regimental Combat Team was transferred from control of NATOUSA TO ETOUSA per secret letter Headquarters Seventh Army, October 29, 1944.

November 1 – The month began with the 3rd Battalion digging in on the high wooded ground it had won the previous day, Hills 698 and 701 overlooking La Houssiere. The 100th Battalion was echeloned to the right rear, protecting the right flank and covering the draws coming up southwest from the Biffontaine-La Houssiere Valley. Company I held its roadblock on the trail. The 3rd Battalion, temporarily attached to the 141st Infantry, was deployed on and around Hill 617.

The Germans continued to shell the 3rd Bn., putting exceptionally heavy concentrations of the road block and on the road running along the top of the ridge to third Bn. Positions. Because of the tactical value of the hills and the reduced strength of the 3rd Bn., plans were made to meet an expected counterattack. One company of the 3rd Bn., 141st Infantry, was to reinforce the 3rd in case of an enemy assault, and the 100th Bn. was held in readiness to move up abreast. Patrols from the 3rd Bn. engaged in fire fights in the thick pine woods around the hill and reported an estimated 200 enemy in front of the battalion. A liaison plane kept observation on the area. Shell reports were sent back to Division and both Division and Corps artillery fired counter battery missions.

Companies F and G moved southeast from Hill 617 and reached Hill 609, securing it against sniper and small arms resistance.

Antitank Co. 1st Platoon acted as litter bearers; 3rd Platoon guarded the supply route coming down the valley from Maillefaing, and the 4th Platoon was attached to the 100th Bn. as riflemen to cover the battalion's rear.

The regimental CP moved to Crebefosse. 13 prisoners were taken, their units being identified as 1,2,3 Companies 305th Grenadier Regiment, 336 Division, 2 Co. 308 Grenadier Regiment, 338th Division, 4 Co. 602nd Mobile Battalion.

Our KIA loss for 1 November, 1944

442 I	1st Lt. Boodry, James	Unknown
442 L	Cpl Narimatsu, John T	Reedley, CA
442 I	Pfc Oshiro, Sam Y	Paia, HI
442 E	Pvt Sato, Shin	Beaverton, OR
100 B	Sgt. Takara, Ronald K	Onomea, HI

November 2 – The regiment remained in defensive position, under continuing artillery fire. The expected counterattack did not develop, and patrols were sent out south and east to the edge of the hill mass overlooking La Houssiere. The patrols reaching the railroad track curving around the base of the hill and engaged in several skirmishes with German outposts. Contact was maintained between the 100th and 3rd Bn.

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Company I roadblock was relieved when the 3rd Bn. 141st Infantry passed through the intersection and advanced up the trail. The 3rd Bn. continued to patrol the trail as a protection to the flank of the 3rd Bn. 141st Infantry.

Company G moved south approximately 2 miles, to a point behind the 100th Battalion. Co. F moving in the same direction came under heavy fire from SP guns which killed 3 and wounded 15 men in the company. Of three German prisoners who had been captured by Co. F two were killed and one wounded by their own SP's

A German mortar shell made a hit on the 100th Bn. CP, killing two of our men. Two German prisoners who were being interrogated at the CP were killed and two more wounded by the same shell.

The weather continued cold and a steady rain impeded operations and filled the slit trenches.

Our KIA loss for 2 November, 1944

442 M	Pvt Abe, Chester K	Sacramento, CA
442 K	Pfc Endo, Robert T	Seattle, WA
442 F	Pfc Izumizaki, Henry S	Watsonville, CA
442 L	Pfc Kawahara, Richard H	Makawao, HI
442 F	Sgt Kitsuse, Paul T	Los Angeles, CA
442 F	Tech 5 Kondow, Howard N	New York, NY
100 Hq	Pfc Kubokawa, James K	Honolulu, HI
100 Hq	T/Sgt Minami, Yoshio T	Kapaa, HI
442 I	Pvt Okura, Susumu	Wilmington, CA
442 H	Pfc Yoshigai, Mitsuichi	Waimanalo, HI

November 3 – The regiment remained in its defensive position, on the height overlooking La Houssiere. The enemy continued to shell the area heavily and harassed our positions with sniper fire.

Patrols from the 3rd Bn. engaged in fire fight in the forest at several points throughout the day they met a strong enemy group on the way and engaged in a particularly stiff fight. The two friendly patrols made contact and jointly forced the enemy to withdraw. One Co. I man was killed, 3 wounded...

The enemy maintained a continual probing of the 3rd Bn. Defenses throughout the day.

At 1700, under cover of a mortar barrage, they attempted to penetrate in the I Co. sector, but were repulsed. Because of their thin line, the 3rd Bn. was re-enforced by a platoon from Co. E., which acted as a mobile reserve.

Both the 100th Bn. and the 3rd Bn. maintained road blocks on the road running E and W through La Houssiere, and kept an outpost line near the base of the hill mass. The regimental OP kept observation on the Corcieux Valley, and our artillery covered the valley with protective fire.

The 2nd Bn. reverted to the control of the regiment. Co. E moved South from Hill 621 to Hill 673 at 1630, and Co. I, 141st Inf. took over the garrisoning of Hill 621.

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The weather continued cold and wet. Two hot meals were brought up to the front lines during the day.

Our KIA loss for 3 November, 1944

232 Eng Pfc Asato, Shotaro, H	Hamakuapoko, HI
100 D Tech 4 Iseri, Mitsuo M	Kent, WA
2 Hq S/Sgt Masuoka, Peter S	Sabastopol, CA
442 I Sgt Tanimoto, Larry T	Honomu, HI

November 4 – Patrol activity continued on the 4th, as the battalions remained in position. Enemy barrages fell sporadically in the area. G Co. was attached to the 3rd Bn., and engaged in a fire fight in the forest, meeting an estimated 40 enemy riflemen. Darkness put an end to the fighting, with the troops remaining in position. C Co. plus the 2nd and 3rd Platoons of the antitank Co., maintained roadblocks on the trail leading into the 3rd Bn. Positions.

23 New officers joined the regiment and were assigned to the line companies.

Winter clothing was issued to all troops, consisting of the new-type field jacket, wool sweater, shoe packs and heavy shoes

Our KIA loss for 28 October, 1944

442 I Sgt Matsumoto, Goro	Honolulu, HI
442 I Pfc Tabuchi, Shigeo	Los Angeles, CA
442 I Pvt Taketa, Shigeto	Papikou, HI

November 5 – The regiment attacked at 0800 to clear the zone of enemy and secure positions along the rail road track running around the base of the hill. As the attack began, the companies were formed in a semicircle on the hill, curving from northwest to southwest. Co. F was at the northern end of the arc, with the 3rd Bn. Rifle Companies L, K and I forming a bow facing east. Co. C, attached to the 3rd Bn., faced South and the 100th Bn. remained in position looking Southwest from the high ground.

Companies G and I pushed off, meeting strong resistance. German riflemen and machine gun nests fought stubbornly from the cover of the thick wood, and progress was slow. Going downhill, Co. C ran into a mine field. I Co. came under severe mortar fire which caused ten casualties and reduced the company's fighting strength to 34 men. I Co. made 300 yards and dug in. K and L Cos. Likewise were engaged in heavy fighting against machine guns and enemy bazooka teams. Co. F attacked northeast and cleared the nose of Hill 645 and with 1 KIA and 4 WIA. E Co. remained in reserve on top of Hill 673.

One Platoon of Co. C, followed up G Co's advance. Co. A sent reconnaissance patrols along the Biffontaine-La Houssiere road: one patrol went to the crossroad and another group to the group of houses. Neither patrol made enemy contact. Co. B had patrol contact with the 143rd Infantry on the regimental right flank.

Enemy heavy mortars were very active during the day, and the Co. M CP suffered direct hit. The regimental OP spotted mortar flashed across the valley and brought observed artillery fire on them at 1840.

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Air support strafed the Rouges Eaux Valley northeast of the regimental sector at 1640 hours. of the reduced strength of the regiment, the 232nd Engineer © Co., of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, was alerted to act as an Infantry force on the following day.

During the night of 5th-6th November, combat reconnaissance patrol from Co. A reconnoitered the Biffontaine-La Houssiere road and the flat land Northwest of La Houssiere. The patrol, consisting of 1 officer and 6 men, located a German mortar position, but as the enemy was too numerous for the patrol to engage, they returned and brought artillery fire on the target. The 3rd Bn. Patrols ran into the enemy facing the battalion and withdrew. Co., E left its position in regimental reserve on Hill 673 at daybreak. With the 2nd Platoon of Co. F, attached, the company moved around the left rear of the 3rd Bn., passed through I Co. on the left flank of the 3rd Bn., and attacked on Hill 688. They were immediately engaged by the enemy, who threw heavy artillery and mortar concentration on the company as it endeavored to move down the slope of the Hill The Company engaged the enemy Infantry, who fought fanatically, employed 6 machine guns, rifle grenades and bazookas against our attack. Co. E advanced 150 yards during the day... 1 Officer and 1 EM was killed and 14 wounded in the bitter fighting.

The 3rd Bn. Attack was held up until E Co. passed through and beyond L Co. The battalion then attacked at 1400 with G on the right, L center and K Co., on the left. I Co. was in reserve, and formed a base of fire for the attack. The battalion pushed south, but was met with a heavy shelling and unrelenting ground resistance which limited gains to 100 yards. The enemy counterattacked late in the afternoon between the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, but were repulsed and driven back into their positions.

Co. F less the 2nd Platoon attached to Co. E, remained in position. Throughout the day, the enemy continued to pound the 2nd and 3rd Bn., within a terrific mortar and artillery concentrations.

Our KIA loss for 5 November, 1944

442 AT	Sgt. Fujino, Yoshimi	Hilo, HI
442 F	Pfc Hayama, Makoto	Honolulu, HI
442 I	Pfc Tahara, Cooper T	Sacramento, CA
442 I	Pfc Yamasaki, Harry S	Honolulu, HI

November 6 – The 1st and 2nd Platoon of Antitank Co. were attached to the 2nd Bn. as riflemen to protect the left flank of the battalion and held a roadblock on the trail coming along the ridge from the North. Both platoons were under mortar fire during the day, which killed one and wounded one EM... The 4th Platoon of the Antitank Co. carried the wounded for the 3rd Bn.

The 232nd Engineer (C) Co. relieved the 100th Bn. On the right of the regimental sector. The 100th reverted to regimental reserve, leaving a platoon of C Co. with G Co. to hold the ground after the G Co. attacked.

Because of the thick heavily wooded area, which was a scene of the fighting, the attached 4.2 chemical mortars were unable to locate a firing space. 5 EM from Hq. Co. were sent out to the 4.2 units, to assist in clearing a place in the woods so that the mortars could fire.

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The cold rain fell steadily and turned the supply trail into a quagmire. At one spot between 2nd and 3rd Bns large mud-hole was formed. In order to evacuate the wounded, the medics stationed a jeep on both sides of the bog, and trans-shipped the casualties.

The forward CP moved up during the day to a reinforced cave in the forest.

Our KIA loss for 6 November, 1944

232 Eng Pfc Choriki, Danny K	Makaweli, HI
442 AT Pfc Fujioka, Ted T	Los Angeles, CA
442 E Pfc Kawano, Cike C	Powell, WY
442 F Pfc Masaoka, Kay K	Lodi, CA
442 F Pvt Masuda, Eso	Artesia, CA
442 E Cpl Nagata, Taichi	Hilo, HI
442 F Sgt Okida, Katsunoshin	Los Angeles, CA
100 B Pfc Sato, Saburo	Waiakea Mill, HI
100 B Pfc Tomita, Nobuaki	Honolulu, HI

November 7 – On the night of 6-7 November, strong German patrols attempted to infiltrate to the right of L Co., but were repulsed. Our own patrols were likewise active. A 4- men reconnaissance patrol from F Co. went up the forest trail, for a distance of 300 yards, at which point the enemy threw grenades at them, and the patrol returned. Another patrol from Co., B again reconnoitered the flats NW of La Houssiere and the stream paralleling the Biffontaine- La Houssiere road junction, north of La Houssiere, searched all the houses there, finding old and unmanned German mortar positions. The 3rd Bn. Patrol again ran into German outposts, drew automatic fire, and returned.

The attack was resumed at 0930, with the position of the companies remaining the same. Co. G. with the platoon of C Co. attached, advanced 800yards against machine guns and mortars and cleared the enemy off of the slope. The company took three prisoners and moved for the night into houses near the Maison Forestiere. I Co. moved down the hill, keeping contact between G Co. and L Co. The enemy continued his unrelenting barrage of the 2nd and 3rd Bns, with artillery, 88mm and heavy mortars.

While the 3rd Bn. was clearing the Southern slope of Hill mass, Co. F (less 2nd Platoon attached to Co. E) and the 1st and 2nd Platoons of AT Co., attacked northeast to make contact with the 2nd Bn., 142nd Inf. The two companies cleared the northern slope off the hill mass and reach the Rouges Eaux river valley, and accomplished their contact mission. They encountered heavy enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, and took six prisoners during the day, from the 7th Co., 2nd Bn. 308 Grenadier Regiment. Co. F occupies houses for the night.

B Company was relieved by elements of the 142nd Infantry, and rode back to Bruyeres in trucks during the afternoon.

The rain continued to fall steadily, and late in the evening changed to snow. The cold, wet weather was a great hardship on the wounded especially, and likewise was responsible for numerous cases of trench-foot among the front line troops.

During the night of the 7th Nov. a 6-man patrol from the 232nd Engineers reconnoitered the road at the base of the Hill, between the Engineer and G Co. sector. Contact was made with G Co., at

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0120, but on the way back, the patrol ran into a mine field at around the bridge on both sides of the stream. Five men were wounded by the Schu mines. Another 6-man reconnaissance patrol made a circuit of the flatland in front of the company sector and returned with negative report. A patrol from E Co. ran into machine gun fire and trip wire and returned.

Our KIA loss for 7 November, 1944

442 L	Pfc Gushiken, George	Los Angeles, CA
442 K	Sgt Kanazawa, John S	Seattle, WA
442 L	T/Sgt Okazaki, Takaaki	Seattle, WA
442 K	Pfc Tsumaki, Kenichi	Idaho Fall, ID

November 8 – On the morning of the 8th, a platoon of Co. H relieved the 232nd Engineer (C) Co. from their duty as Infantry. The Engineers were badly needed for minesweeping the road maintenance to keep open the supply routes.

The 3rd Bn., with Co. C still attached, continued to work down the slope of the hill mass overlooking La Houssiere clearing out the last remnants of enemy opposition. A machine gun opened up in front of K Co., and patrols from L and K were sent to silence it. G Co. on the right of the battalion zone cleared out two additional houses at the base of the hill. One kilometer north of La Houssiere 2 prisoners were taken, from the 5th and 7th Cos. 305th Regt. The 326th Regiment was also identified in the regimental sector.

The heavy fighting that the regiment had been through was reflected by the fighting strength of the line companies. I Co. had no officers; Col. Pursall had given T/5 Clarence Taba, a field promotion to 1st Sgt. and commanding. For the forward CP he had Pfc Bill Teragawa, and Pfc Shuji Taketomo, both 300 radiomen and a few runners. He lost all the rifle platoons, and had a few riflemen and a machine-gun section from the 4th Platoon. He also had litter-bearers from the Engineers and a member of the Medical Detachment. K Co. had 17 riflemen's and. was without officers and was under the command of a Sergeant.

The regimental OP maintained observation on enemy activities and sent in shell reports on the enemy OP's and effective counter-battery work was obtained...

During the day, relief of the 442nd Infantry by the 142nd Infantry was begun. The 100th Bn returned to Bruyeres during the morning. The 2nd Bn. (less Co. G attached to the 3rd Bn., and 1 platoon at Co. K) displaced rearward to Fays in the afternoon. A short and much need rest was in prospect, and arrangements were made for hot showers and a change of clothing.

The 100th Bn. was detached from the 442nd Inf. And from the 36th Division: its movement to the Army Rest Center at les Bains and attachment to the 45th Inf. Division was directed by secret letter Headquarters VI Corps, 8 November 44.

Our KIA loss for 8 November, 1944

442 E	Pfc Kaneichi, Takeo	Fresno, CA
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November 9 – The relief continued on the morning of the 9th, when the 1st Bn., 142nd Infantry took over the sector held by the 3rd Bn. The 3rd Bn. moved back to Lepanges

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Antitank Co., the remaining platoon of Co. H, and Cannon Co. were also relieved. Cannon Co. left its guns in place, with a guard, inasmuch as the regiment was expecting orders to return to the line after two days of rest...

November 10 – The 100th Bn, detached from the regiment on the preceding day, left the BRUYERES area on the morning of the 10th. Its history for the period of its detachment will be appended as a separate enclosure

November 11 – The period from 9th to 12th November was spent in rest. The troops enjoyed a hot bath and a change of clothing, and were billeted in buildings. Memorial services were held for those who had died in battle and the companies under took to quickly refurnished and reorganize themselves. Losses for battles just finished in the VOSGES MOUNTAINS sector were 140 killed and 1800 other casualties, including wounded, non-battle casualties and trench-foot cases.

The 2nd Bn. was billeted in FAYS, 3rd Bn. in LEPANGES, Regimental CP, HQ Co. and Medical Detachment at FIMENIL. Service and Antitank Co. remained at the French Barracks in BRUYERES. All companies were paid for October and enjoyed Special Service motion pictures and a ration of beer. A delegate from American Red Cross was permanently attached to the Combat Team for soldiers-welfare. During the rest period, special attention was given to instruction in the prevention of trench-foot.

November 12 – On November 12th a regimental formation was held, and Major General DALHQUIST, Commanding General of the 36th Inf. Div, presented citation to the members of the 442nd.

November 13 – On the morning of the 13th, the 2nd Bn. moved back into the line. The trucks left Fays at 1000 and moved by infiltration to the forward assembly area, where the troops dismounted and relieved the 2nd Bn., 142nd Infantry in defensive positions.

The 3rd Bn followed in the afternoon, and took up positions behind the 2nd Bn. In regimental reserve.

The mission of the regiment was to maintain defensive position in the forest it had cleared in the previous fighting, in the Foret Dominiale Du Champ, overlooking the Taintrux Valley which leads to St. Die. The regimental sector extended from Chevry to La Houssiere, in the left of the 36th Div. sector, with the 103rd Infantry Div. the left and the 142nd Inf. 36th Div. on the right.

During the afternoon, the enemy in front of the F Co. Sector threw mortars and 200mm fire on the company. Our own 4.2 mortars answered. All companies of the 2nd Bn. sent out security patrols. Defensive positions were set up in the snow covered forest, and because of the freezing weather, work was begun on the construction of platoon huts. Dry straw was brought up from the rear for the purpose.

During the night of the 13th-14th, 5 rounds of heavy mortars fell in the Co. M area, hitting the building in which the company CP was located. Two men were killed and four wounded by the barrage.

Our KIA loss for 13 November, 1944

442 M S/Sgt Mizokami, Timothy I	Berkeley, CA
442 Med Pfc Tamanaha, Douglas K	Kahaluu, HI

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442 M Pfc Yasuhira, Arata

Wailuku, HI

November 14 – The 2nd Bn. remained in their defensive positions, sending out vigorous patrols to determine the enemy positions strength and intentions. A 6-man reconnaissance patrol from E Co. went to the town of La Cote, where they were informed by the Frenchman that there were Germans in the town. The patrol began a search of the houses, and drew fire. Another patrol went north along the railroad track, swung east to the hill and spotted an SP gun.

A Combat Patrol left L Co. CP at 1300 by vehicle to Chestel, dismounted and moved up to clear the houses near Le Petit Paris. At this point, enemy resistance was encountered, estimated at 15 Germans, barricaded in the houses and dug in around them. The Germans opened up with machine guns, rifles and mortars. The L Co. patrol was engaged in a severe fire fight, suffering seven wounded, two of whom were captured by the enemy. Upon return of the patrol, our artillery leveled the houses with observed fire.

The enemy maintained artillery and mortar fire all day on the forward positions, and probed our lines with reconnaissance patrols. The Germans threw 120 rounds on Co. E in Vanemont and shelled Antitank Co. with self-propelled guns.

Co. E was on the right of the battalion sector, around Vanemont, Co. F to the left. Co. C defended the line west of Le Petit Paris and Antitank Co. acting as rifle troops, anchored the left flank of the battalion vic. Chevy. The battalion defensive line stretched approximately six kilometers.

The 3rd Bn. remained in reserve, in pyramidal tents. A platoon from the 232nd Eng. was attached to the 2nd Bn. to assist in the construction of dugouts.

Our KIA loss for 14 November, 1944

442 L Sgt Hashimoto, John T Fresno, CA

442 G Pfc Nishimoto, Joe M Fresno, CA

442 AT 1st Lt Rogers Jr., Ben W Arkansas

November 15 – During the night, the 522nd Field Artillery Bn. and the Cannon Co. fired harassing missions on enemy positions and road junctions. The regiment remained in its defensive positions on the 15th, and sent out vigorous patrols.

Co. C patrol left at 1100 and started on the trail and encountered sniper and machine gun fire from houses. The patrol returned and artillery was put on the houses, scoring several direct hits. A French civilian reported to the patrol that there were 100 Germans in La Cote.

A patrol from I Co. consisting of 8 men left 1400 and they were fired on by machine guns. The patrol swung north to where L Co. patrol had encountered fire on the preceding day. At this point the patrol was hit by mortar fire and had two wounded.

A reconnaissance patrol from E Co. worked and scouted along the railroad northeast and entered the woods. They observed a group of 8 Germans but as it were a reconnaissance patrol, did not engage in any action. Another patrol from K Co. spotted a German OP.

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An E Co. patrol of 6-men left 1200 proceeded down the road south in direction of the open ground before Corcieux. They exchanged fire with some Germans in a group of houses. A Frenchman reported 30 Germans and 2 machine guns in the houses. The patrol returned and an artillery mission was fired.

Enemy artillery continued to shell the front line positions. A direct hit on the CP of the 3rd Platoon, Antitank Co., killed 1 officer and wounded three men.

Co. H silenced two machine gun nests and fired harassing mission all day with its 81mm mortars. Co. F encountered mines in its area, having one man wounded by "Bouncing Betty" antipersonnel mine.

Effective observation was maintained by two CP's (command posts) one by the I & R platoon of Hq. Co. while their own CP's were being subjected to a shelling by the enemy artillery.

Cannon Co's "A" and "B" platoons in direct support of the 2nd Bn. placed effective observed fire on enemy machine gun and mortar positions, SP and flak guns 592 rounds were expended during the day.

The Germans started large fires in the nearby cities of St. Die and Corcieux, as they applied the "scorched earth" policy in the Vosges sector. The fires lit the sky at night and were visible for many miles.

Our KIA loss for 15 November, 1944

442 L Pfc Ikeda, Masao Seattle, WA

November 16 – The 103rd Infantry Division on the left began a push southeast, with the 442nd protecting its right flank. Cos F, G, and Antitank Co. maintained contact with the right flank elements of the 103rd Div., the 409th Inf.

Two patrols were sent out during the day on Div. order. A patrol from Co. E started from Vannomont, followed the road to the intersection at 56-37, finding the road mined. The patrol was fired on from a house, made a circular by-pass and reached the town of Le Cote. Here they again drew small arms fire. While returning they captured a prisoner, a German corporal who spoke English and had been used as an interpreter. His unit 163rd Reserve Grenadier Bn., 198th Inf. Division, and the 1st and 2nd Bn. Geopengieser Regt. were also identified in the regimental sector. Another patrol, working along the railroad, met no resistance.

Fire from the 442nd F. A. Bn. knocked out a machine gun. The 232nd Engineers remove 6 enemy mortar duds which were blocking the road into Vanemont. 2nd Bn. Mortars also fired targets at three houses which held machine gun nests, and also another

The cities of St. Die (2 miles distant), Corcieux (1 miles distance) and surrounding towns continued to burn fiercely.

November 17 – Upon closing in at assembly area at Docelles, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was relieved from attachment to the 36th Infantry Division and reverted to VI Corps, 18 November 44.

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The regiment remained in billet around Docelles and Deyeimont. All personnel had hot showers and the American Red Cross distributed doughnuts to the companies. 382 new Japanese-American replacements recently arrived from the U. S. Joined the regiment, as well as 62 RTUs returned to their units from the hospital.

Effective 1700 18 November 44, the 442nd RCT (100th Bn.) was relieved from all attachment to VI Corps and reverted to control of 7th Army. The same letter directed the movement of the 442nd RCT from its present location to NICE, FRANCE, upon arrival they are to be attached to the 44th Antiaircraft Artillery brigade for administration, supply and operations.

The move was to be made by organic transportation, plus 60 trucks (40 to be furnished by VI Corps., 20 by Seventh Army). The Combat Team prepared to leave the VOSGES MOUNTAINS SECTOR and proceed to MARITIME ALPS.

November 19 – The 442nd Combat Team left the Vosges Mt. area in motor convoy, leading elements crossing the IP at Docelles at 0730. The convoy passed through Darney and Langres and bivouacked for night in the Bois le Pare, DIJON, 30% of the personnel were authorized 4-hour passes to visit the town.

November 20 – The trip was resumed on the following day, through the cities of Chagny-sur-Soane and Villefranche, and reached VALENCE by nightfall, where the troops bivouacked in the open field.

November 21 – On the third day, the Combat Team completed its movement, passing through Montelimar, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, Brignolee, Cannes, closing in at ST. JEANNET near NICE at 2100.

The trip was made in good weather over the main roads. Distance covered – 540 miles. A 10 minute stop was made every two hours, with noon break of 20 minutes for dinner of C rations. The kitchens prepared hot meals for breakfast and supper during the three day.

November 22 – The regiment unloaded equipment and set up bivouac near St. Jeannet. MARITIME-ALPS SECTOR. **Colonel PENCE** rejoined the regiment from the hospital and resumed command. Forward CP opened in Nice.

The 3rd Battalion moved up into the lines north and east of Sospel, France, and relieved the 19th Armored Inf. Bn. in defensive positions. The 3rd Bn. CP was established near Sospel. While completing the relief, L Co. was shelled and one man was killed. The relief was completed at 1800 23 Nov. 44. The 3rd platoon of Antitank C. and 2nd Platoon of Cannon Co. were attached to support the 3rd Bn.

The new sector in which the regiment was engaged was the extremely mountainous Maritime Alps, on the French-Italian Border. As a part of the 44th AAA Brigade, the mission of the regiment was to hold positions in the mountains facing Italy, and protect the extreme right flank of the Sixth Army Group.

The Infantry had considerable difficulty in climbing the rugged peaks to get into position, and the steep trails with torturous hairpin turns made it necessary to use mule pack trains for supply of rations and ammunition.

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The 2nd Bn. remained in reserve Vic St. Jeannet. Thanksgiving Day services were held, and the traditional turkey dinner was enjoyed.

November 27 – The 3rd Bn. remained in place, improving its positions and sending out reconnaissance patrols and contact patrols between adjacent units. The rifle company platoons were spread out covering a wide front of approximately 7 km. between Sospel and Moulinet. Co. I was on the left, with Co. K in the center of Mt. Grosso and Co. L on the right on Mt. Garzian, Mt. Diarus and Mt. Le Perus

The battalion operated under a defensive setup, with mines, booby-traps, trip flares and trip wires in front of the CPL.

German activity was limited to occasional patrols and sporadic shelling of the Battalion area and Sospel

The 3rd Bn. had direct artillery support from the 522nd F. A. Bn., with two batteries in position, whose fire was reinforced by the 937th F. A. Bn. (155mm); Cannon Co. and Co. M mortars also fired harassing fire on the enemy positions.

The battalion maintained contact with the 68th Airborne Infantry Battalion on the left flank, and the 1st Special Service Force on the right flank.

1st platoon of Antitank Co. protected roadblocks around Sospel and provided a squad to contact the mule trains over the mountain paths. Antitank Co. of the 442nd Infantry (-1 platoon) was also attached to the 3rd Battalion.

The 2nd Battalion remained in bivouac at St. Jeannet, and continued a daily training program to maintain the combat efficiency of the experienced troops, and integrated the replacements. The battalion maintained contact with the 68th airborne Infantry Bn. on the left flank, and the 1st Special Service Force on the right flank.

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November 28 – Co. G plus a platoon heavy weapons from Co. H, moved into the line on the right of the 3rd Bn. sector, relieving the left elements of the 1st Special Service Force.

The 100th Bn. was returned to the regiment and entered the line on the outskirts of Menton, relieving the 1st Special Force. The return of the 100th Bn. to the 442nd Infantry was affected by Field Order No. 3, Hq 44th AAA Brigade, and 24 Nov 44. 1 platoon of the Antitank Co. 1 platoon of Cannon Co. and a platoon of Engineers was attached to the 100th Bn. for operations.

With the 100th on the right of the 3rd Bn., the regimental front reached from the Mediterranean coast at Menton to Moulinet, a distance of 19 kilometers.

BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

Antitank Co. 442nd Inf. Was detached from the 442nd as of 1000 28 Nov 44. At the same time 2nd platoon Co. C. 40th Engr. Was attached.

The 2nd Bn. left St. Jeannet during the day, and moved up to an assembly area vic L'Escarene, a distance of 18 miles.

Weather was cold, but clear and sunny. Sleeping bags were issued to troops.

November 30 – Enemy artillery increased in intensity. Two shells hitting in the K Co. area killed 1 man and wounded. Our artillery replied with counter battery missions.

Our KIA loss for 30 November, 1944

442 K Tech 5 Miura, Larry N	Ewa, HI
442 K S/Sgt Sugawara, Kenji S	Wainea, HI

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