

17 Warren Street  
Florence, MA 01062-1332  
November 5, 1999

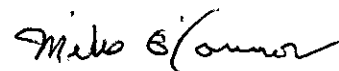
Dear Kind Sir;

On the 17th of December, 1944, the 591 Field Artillery Battalion, relocated to a more favorable firing position near Grufflange, Belguim where they provided excellent support to the 424 Regiment. The 424 was having a desperate struggle in keeping the German Spearheads contained and prevented them from not only attacking the 591 but also our Battalion 965 (155 MM Howitzers).

On the 18th we moved to a town called Braunlauf about 3 miles North-West of your position. Our A and B Batteries were assigned to provide support for the 7th and 9th Combat Commands at St Vith, our C Battery was sent to Beho to provide support for the 440 AAA AW at Gouvy until the 22nd whn we moved to Commaster.

On the 20th, Sgt. Arata of A went to Grufflange along with a crew and retrieved a lone 155 MM Howitzer, which was in excellent condition. This gun was still up on its jacks with the spades dug in ready for firing, they placed this gun in service making A a 5 piece Battery, you probably heard the extra shells flying overhead?? A Battery kept this gun in operation during the rest of the Bulge and out onto the Cologne plain. While firing across the Rhine River at the town of Bonn, Ordinance finally caught up to him, and took the Howitzer away much to the dismay of the Sgt. and his crew.

We would like to contact the members of this lone Howitzer to try and find out what happened. With the 591 being in Grufflange until the 22nd, maybe someone could shed some light on yhis incident.

  
Mike O'Connor  
965th F.A. Hdq.

