



Meyer Levi

Landsturmmann, 7th Company,

Fusilier-Regiment „von Gersdorff“ (Kurhessisches) No. 80



Personal details:

- Born February 8, 1872 in Bornheim-Waldorf (Rhineland)
- Parents: Isaak Levi and Rebeka Levi, née Silberberg, ibid.
- 1880 Move with father (after parents divorce) to Frankfurt a.M., Kantstraße 27
- Occupation: shoemaker/worker
- Marriage to Rosalie Hirsch on March 19, 1902 in Nohfelden-Sötern
- Birth of son Leo Levi on December 31, 1902 ibid.
- Died on December 29, 1917 in Boult-sur-Suippe/France, 7th Fusilier Regiment No. 80, grave at KGS Warmeriville/France No. 1/1140

[illegible]

Birth certificate
Meyer Levi

[illegible]

Marriage certificate
Meyer und Rosalie Levi

Nr. 184.
 Wolfshagen am 21. September 1912.
 Der dem unterzeichneten Standesbeamten ertheilt heute der Reichsgerichtsrath
 nach
 der Hofkammer Major Lohr, beauftragt in
 Lohr,
 als Stellvertreter des Major Lohr, und zugleich als Stellvertreter des
 Regiments Lohr, geboren am 1. März 1875, in
 Wolfshagen, als Stellvertreter des
 nachher als Stellvertreter des
 Lohr in seiner Wohnung,
 am 21. September 1912, bei der
 nachher nachher zum
 am 21. September 1912, bei der
 geboren am 1. März 1875, in
 Lohr
 ertheilt habe.
 Dargestellt, protokolliert und unterzeichnet
 geg. Major Lohr.
 Der Standesbeamte,
 geg. Kähler.
 Die Unterszeichnung mit dem Staatsgerichtsrath beauftragt
 Wolfshagen am 21. September 1912.
 Der Standesbeamte
 Kähler.

Birth certificate
Leo Levi

[illegible]

Death certificate
Meyer Levi



Butchery David Loeb, Brunnenstraße 47, Bornheim, ca. 1916



Königstraße, Bornheim, ca. 1916



„Olligsgass“, today Secundastraße, Bornheim, ca. 1916



Embarkation of Bornheim citizens (Family Cahn), Hamburg, 1938



Stumbling stones for Simon and Ida Levi, Büttgasse 14, Bornheim



Jewish cemetery, Lessingstraße, Bornheim

Military details:

- Landsturmmann, 7th Company, Fusilier Regiment “von Gersdorff” (Kurhessisches) No. 80, 21st Infantry Division
- October 1917 Transfer from the Russian front to the west
- Front section “A” of Gruppe Reims (7th Reserve Corps) on the border with Gruppe Brimont
- Place of accommodation: Boult-sur-Suippe/France
- Died on December 29, 1917, first buried in Isles-sur-Suippe/France, reburied approx. 1928 at KGS Warmeriville/France



Garrison location Wiesbaden, Neue Infanterie-Kaserne, Infantry Regiment "v. Gersdorff" No. 80

Das Königlich Preußische Füsilierr-Regt. von Gersdorff (Kurhessisches) Nr. 80 im Weltkriege 1914–18

II. Teil

Bearbeitet von

Kurt Nickisch von Rosenegk
Oberst a. D.
März 1916 bis Kriegsende Kommandeur des Regiments

Mit 1 Karte, 22 Skizzen und 55 Bildern



Wetzlar 1929

Druck: Scharfes Drucken R. = G.

Excerpt from: Nickisch v. Rosenegk, Füsilierr-Regiment
Nr. 80, 2. Teil, Wetzlar, 1929, pages 79-85

Fightings near Reims 24.10.1917 - 12.1.1918

When the regiment left France in May 1917, the great struggle of the Battle of Aisne-Champagne and the Battle of Arras was coming to an end. The enemy losses were so great that the morale of the French army was flagging. General Nivelle was replaced by Marshal Petain. The French army had to consolidate internally and therefore remained calm. Nevertheless, the Entente did not give up hope of a final victory that year. As early as July 31, they resumed their attempts to break through our lines with a major attack on the Flanders front, which was directed against our submarine base. The burden of the battle was borne by the English army, united with the Belgian army and supported by only a few French divisions. With a rest in September, the attacks continued into November. However, the French also showed with successful attacks near Verdun in August, that their army had overcome the decline in morale and had become capable of attacking again. On October 22, the French attacked the Laffaux corner and forced us to withdraw our lines at the Chemin des Dames. These attacks weighed heavily on the troops of the Western Front and made it necessary to replace the exhausted divisions with those from other fronts. Thus the 21st Inf. Div. returned to well known battlefields and arrived in the Reims area after a four-day journey.

During the night of October 22nd , 3rd Battalion was unloaded in Sault, west of Neuflize, and marched to the Hindenburg camp near Houdilcourt.

On October 23rd the 2nd Battalion and on October 24th the regimental staff and the 1st Battalion were accommodated as follows: staff, 2nd Battalion and the machine gun company in the Hindenburg camp; staff of 1st Battalion, 2nd and 4th Comp. in Poilcourt, 1st and 3rd Comp. in Houdilcourt. On October 25, the 21st Inf. Div. began relieving the 10th Reserve Div. in its positions north of Reims. The regiment began to relieve Inf. Regt. 155 in Section A on the night of October 26 and had completed the relief on October 27.

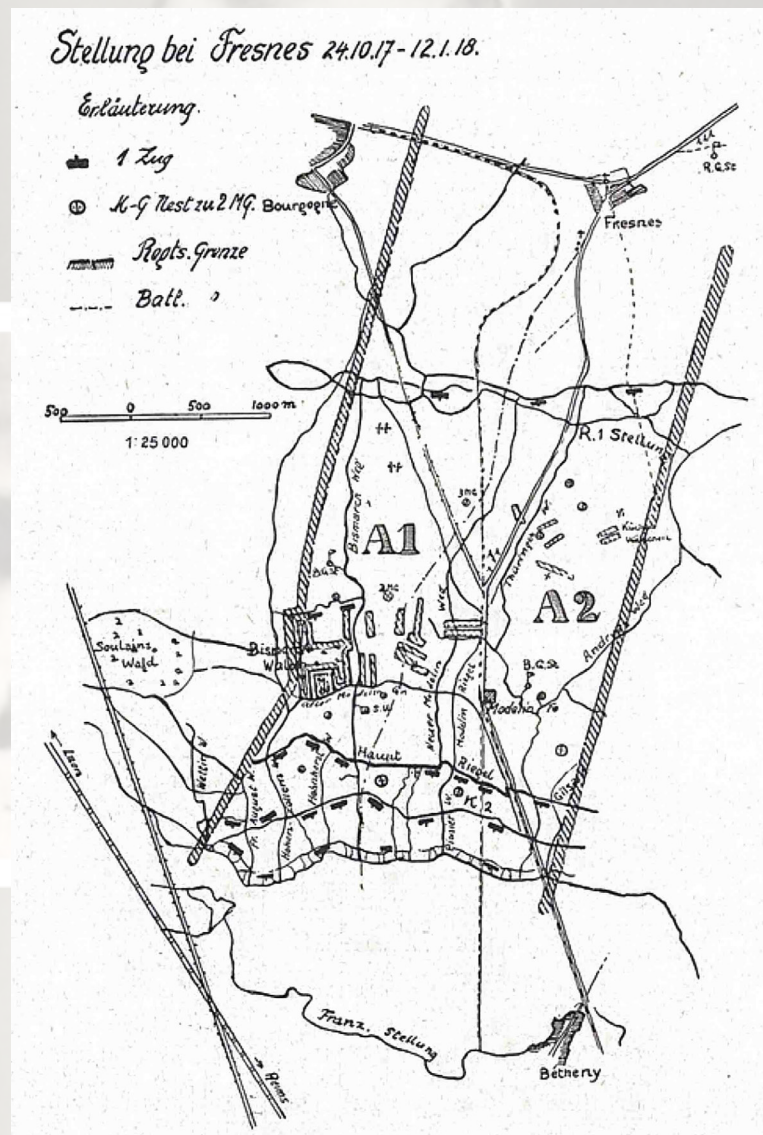
The section of the regiment formed the right wing of Gruppe Reims. On the right existed connection to Inf. Regt. 149 of Gruppe Brimont, on the left to Inf. Regt. 87. The section was divided into the two subsections A 1 and A 2, in each of which a battalion with a machine gun company was deployed. Also deployed in the section was a company of Bavarian machine gun sniper detachment No. 4 in and forward of the R 1 position as well as five French machine guns. One machine gun company always was at rest and housed with the big combat train in Camp Berlin, whose commander was Officer Deputy Gruß.

The trench system was structurally in good condition, even if there was a lack of accommodation in the rear lines. The construction of shelters had therefore begun immediately. Good roads, field- and trench-railways from Fresnes enabled the rapid supply of material to the intermediate pioneer parks behind the 3rd line at Bismarckwald and Reimser Straße. Well usable kitchens in the small copses around and in the Bismarckwald provided for orderly rations, the abundance of which was pleasantly perceived in comparison to the scarce rations in Russia.

The enemy, 700 - 1200 m away from our first line - on the right section boundary his position was only 120 m away - remained quiet. Patrols rarely appeared. Most of the batteries firing on our section were on the northern edge of Reims. Factory chimneys and the twin towers of the cathedral were the only visible signs of the city above the flat horizon, allowing enemy observers to see the whole depth of the sector.

Each battalion spent 16 days in position and 8 days at rest in Boulton, where it also acted as divisional reserve.

Lively wagon and rail traffic on the night of November 1st and twelve observation balloons during the day behind the enemy line were suspicious signs. Was there a violent reconnaissance imminent?



Increased combat readiness, ordered by division, was the reason that the 1st Battalion was moved forward from Boulton to the R 1 position at 7 o'clock in the evening, where it remained until the following evening to relieve the 2nd Battalion in the A 1 section. The expected enemy reconnaissance did not take place. However, the alert and the lively artillery fire during the day showed that the quiet of the time of Russian front was over.

This impression was forced on November 5, which brought lively shelling with light and wing mines for the 4th Comp. on the right wing of the section. There was always "something going on" at this corner. Friedrich-, August- and Hohenzollern-Trench could hardly be described as recommendable walks, as our well-behaved mine throwers in this area were happy to engage in expert discussions with their French colleagues. In addition, our neighbors, Inf. Reg. 149, were engaged in alternate nightly reconnaissance advances with their counterparts, each time triggering barrage fire, which was quite disruptive for Subsection A 2. This was because the enemy artillery fire regularly ended with the shelling of the harmless Küchenwäldchen, where the enemy probably suspected a battery, but which in real only served as accommodation for Lt. de Leuw. Special points were shelled very frequently and vividly, such as the Bismarckwald and the Modelin-Ferme.

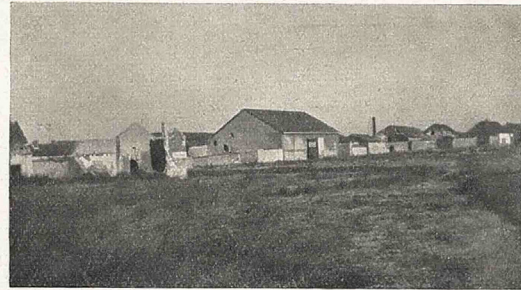
On November 9, Major General v. Davans, after commanding the 42nd Inf. Brig. for three years, was appointed commander of the 39th Inf. Div. His successor was Major General v. Wahlen-Lürgaß.

On November 23, an intelligence company was set up, consisting of four platoons, one regimental platoon and three battalion platoons. The company was directly subordinated to the regiment, its leader was Lt. Frhr. v. Verschuer.

During these days, three brave NCOs returned to the regiment in a suspicious way from French captivity, into which they had fallen on April 16, 1917. They were Corporal Geissler, 5th Comp., and Vice Corporals Arzbacher and Rebbert, 8th Comp. They had escaped from their prison camp and, after overcoming many dangers, made their way through the French lines, which they crossed not far from Reims, strangely enough in the immediate vicinity of the regiment. They were immediately brought to the regiment and of course received with happiness.

On the first clear and cold days of December, artillery activity came to life. On December 4th there was heavy fire on Bismarckwald and Modelin-Ferme, from 7.30 to 8 o'clock in the evening there was heavy gas shelling, which disturbed and delayed the relief that was in progress.

Die Stellung war baulich in gutem Zustande, wenn auch in den hinteren Linien Unterbringungsmöglichkeiten fehlten. Es wurde daher sofort mit dem Bau von Stollen begonnen. Gute Zufahrtsstraßen,



Dorf Fresnes.

Geld- und Förderbahn von Fresnes aus ermöglichten die rasche Zufuhr von Material nach den Pionierzwischenparks hinter der 3. Linie am Bismarckwald und an der Reims-er Straße. Zweckmäßige Küchen in den kleinen Gehölsen und im Bismarckwald sorgten für geordnete



Unteroffiziere der 2. Komp. in der Stellung bei Fresnes:
Sergt. Nieder, Feldw. Wirth, Feldw. Peters.

Verpflegung, deren Reichhaltigkeit im Vergleich zu den knappen Verpflegungsfähigkeiten Rußlands angenehm empfunden wurde.

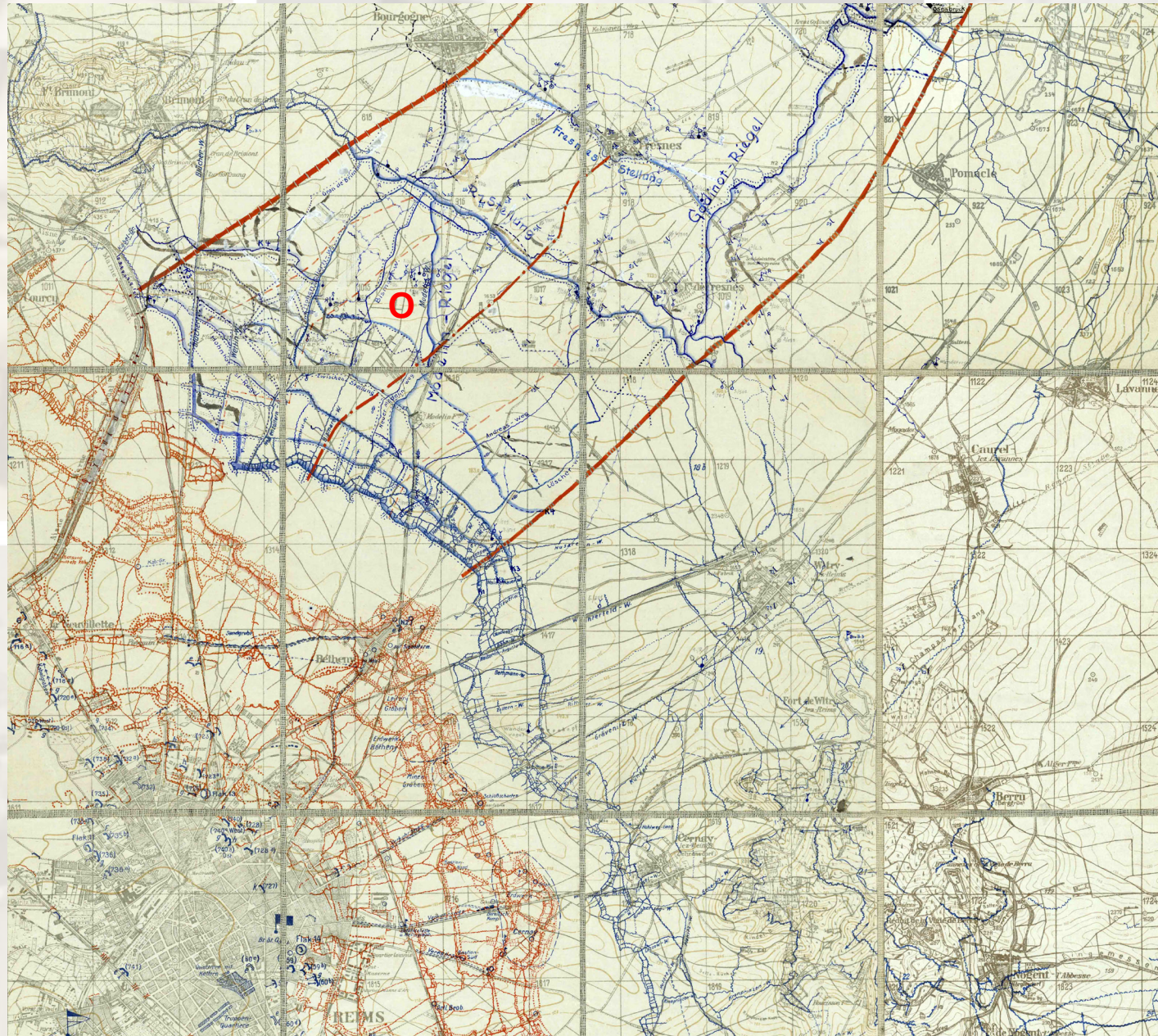
Der Feind, von unserer vordersten Linie 700—1200 m entfernt, — nur an der rechten Abschnittsgrenze sprang seine Stellung auf

Fortunately, there were no serious gas-related illnesses. Flying activity also became more lively during these days, probably helped by the frosty weather.

Christmas, the fourth since the beginning of war, had suddenly arrived, for which homeland had, as always, done its best with gifts of love and presents. It was celebrated by the 2nd Battalion in Boulton. On December 24th there was almost complete silence under an overcast winter sky, and in the afternoon it began to snow. As the night fell, the vast dead land wore a white Christmas dress. The French left us undisturbed, but the battalions in the trenches were forced to postpone the Christmas celebrations until later for reasons of vigilance. However, a small pre-celebration did take place in every shelter.

On January 1, 1918, one of our own fighter-planes crashed between the lines. Patrols of 2nd Battalion succeeded in recovering the remains of the plane during the night.

On January 6, the order was issued that the 21st Inf. Div. was to be relieved for training purposes in the days from January 9-13 by the 242nd Inf. Div., the regiment by Inf. Regt. 127. (...)



Trench map of „Gruppe Reims“, Section A, October 1917



View from observation point „Freiburg“ to Section A of „Gruppe Reims“



Boulton, German field hospital, 1916



Boulton, German service club, 1917



Boulton, destructions, 1918



Boulton, mayor's office, 2025



Isles, former German military cemetery, 1917, first burial of Meyer Levi



Isles, former German military cemetery, 2025, first burial of Meyer Levi



Grave cross of Meyer Levi,
KGS Warmeriville,
Situation until May 2025



Headstone of Meyer Levi (Sample),
KGS Warmeriville

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