

Personal details:

- Born March 31, 1880 in Langenschwalbach (now Bad Schwalbach)
- Parents: Jacob Metzler and Caroline Metzler, née Rosenthal, ibid.
- Profession: used goods dealer
- Married with Johanna Neu on January 3, 1908 in Dreieichenhain.
- Moved to Wiesbaden
- five children (Mathilde/"Tilly", Paul, Else, Batti, Willy)
- seriously wounded and died on September 29, 1914 at Hill 717 (Schlangenburg, la Pierre Piquée) near Celles-sur-Plaine/France, 8th/LIR 80, grave at GMC in Bertrimoutier/France No. 1/385

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Birth certificate Siegmund Metzler

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Marriage certificate Siegmund und Johanna Metzler, geb. Neu

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Death certificate Siegmund Metzler







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für Cantor, Soli, Gemeindegesang, gemischten & Männerchor
für den Alesbadener Sunagogen-Gesangverein
von verschiedenen Autoren componiert.
Therausgegeben von

Ibr. Russbaum und Otto Aernicke
Oberkantor
an der Hauptsynagoge zu Alesbaden.

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Wiesbadener Synagogen-Gesangverein.







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Meyer Friedr., Tüncher, Biebr. Str. 9.

— Karl, Maurer, Biebr. Str. 9.

— Ph., Tagl., Neugasse 24.

— Wilh. Maurer, Biebr.-Str. 9.

Marie, Ww., Obergasse 34.

— Wilh. Tüncher-Wwe., Steingasse 1.

— Wilhelm, Gerichtsdiener, Rheinstr. 51

Mühlhäuser Konrad, Eisendreher, Wiesbadener Str. 80.

Musleitner Oskar, Polizei-Sergeant, Biebricher Str. 20.

Address book entry, Wiesbaden, 1912



Address book entry, Wiesbaden, 1914, "Metzler Siegm., Wwe." (widow)











Military details

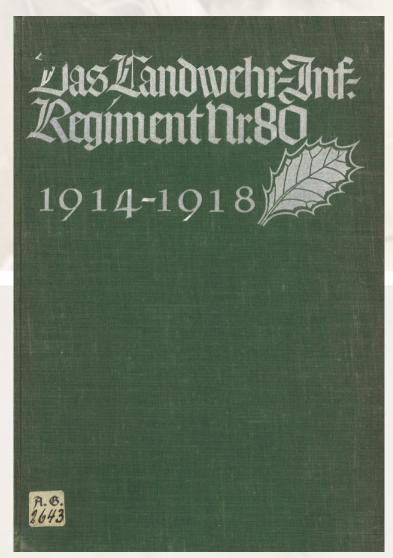
- Wehrmann, 8th Company, Landwehr-Infantry-Regiment No. 80, Division Ferling, Brigade Rekowski, Corps Eberhardt
- Mobilization August 2 7, 1914, Neue Infanteriekaserne (New infantry barracks),
 Wiesbaden
- Rail transport to the fortified area of Strasbourg on August 8, 1914, accommodation of 2nd Battalion in Fort Podbielski (today Fort Ducrot) and in Pfuhlgriesheim
- Fighting in the area of Tête de la Behouille (west of la Croix-aux-Mines) in early September 1914
- Seriously wounded and died on the way to the dressing station on September 29, 1914 at Hill 717 (Schlangenburg, Pierre Piquée), near Celles-sur-Plaine/France
- Buried at GMC Bertrimoutier, grave 1/385



Garrison Wiesbaden, Neue Infanteriekaserne, 2nd Battalion, Infantry-Regiment "v. Gersdorff" No. 80



Soldiers during a stopover on their transport to the front at Strasbourg main-station, fall 1914



Excerpt from: Dr. Spandau, Das Landwehr-Infanterie-Regiment Nr. 80, Wiesbaden, 1937, page 13 ff.

History of Landwehr-Regiment No. 80

The Regiment was formed in the period from August 2 to 7 or 8, 1914, namely the 1st and 2nd Battalion in Wiesbaden, the 3rd in the Elisabethen barracks in Mainz. Mobilization took place without any major difficulties. On the evening of August 8, the 1st and 2nd Battalion were transported by rail to the fortified area of Strasbourg, followed by the 3rd Battalion on the evening of August 9. After arriving in Strasbourg on the afternoon of the next day, the 1st Battalion occupied Fort Roon with one company; the remaining companies were quartered in Lampertheim and Bendenheim. Ittenheim was the alert headquarters. 2nd Battalion occupied Fort Podbielski and the Kirschbaum battery with the 5th company; the remaining companies were sent to Pfulgriesheim. 3rd Battalion took over the guard duty at the Forts Kronprinz and Baden. The battalion was quartered in the villages of Griesheim, Dingsheim, Offenheim and Stützheim.

Together with Landwehr Regiment 81, LIR 80 belonged to the Brigade Rekowski of the Gouvernement of Strasbourg commanded by Lieutenant General von Eberhardt. The days up to August 17 were used for wartime training, entrenchment work and marching exercises; the soldiers also helped the farmers bring in the harvest. On August 22, LIR 80 marched to the Breuschtal (Valley of river Breusch).

Excited reports had been received that 500 scattered Zuaves were approaching from the Donon! The whole area was scoured by strong patrols, of course in vain. At the same time, the area in the direction of Diesbach was searched by order of the General Command for dead and wounded as well as for valuables and equipment. (...)

On August 31, 1st and 3rd were transported by rail to Markirch. (...)

2nd Battalion arrived in Markirch from the Breuschtal on September 1 before 6 a.m. and marched at 10 a.m. with a heavy battery over the mountain pass to Germaingoutte, where it was brought into position; the battalion moved on via Québrux to Laveline, from there the next day via Coinchimont, Fouchisol to the Tête de Behouille. On the way, the 2nd company of LIR 80 joined them.

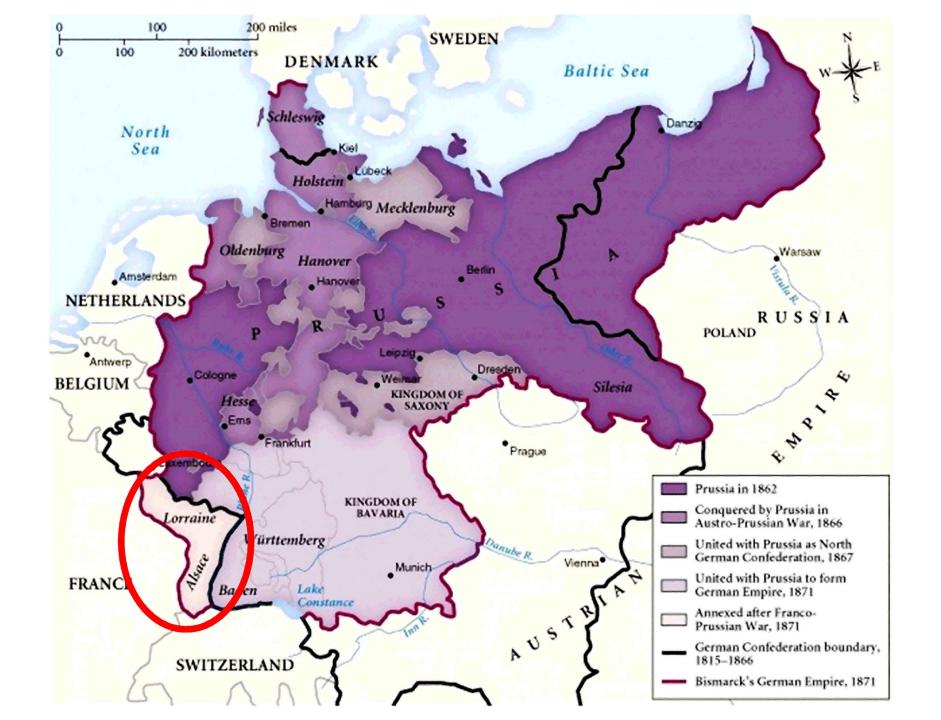
After the connection of LIR 80 and LIR 81 was established, the brigade (Abteilung Rasch) ordered action in line of fire in the direction of Haute Mandray. Due to the mass of enemy opposition, the retreat via Fouchisol to Laveline was started. A counter-order from the Division Knoerzer was only partially carried out due to the confusing forest terrain. The battalion spent the night, weapons in hand, at Height 740, the Tête de Behouille.

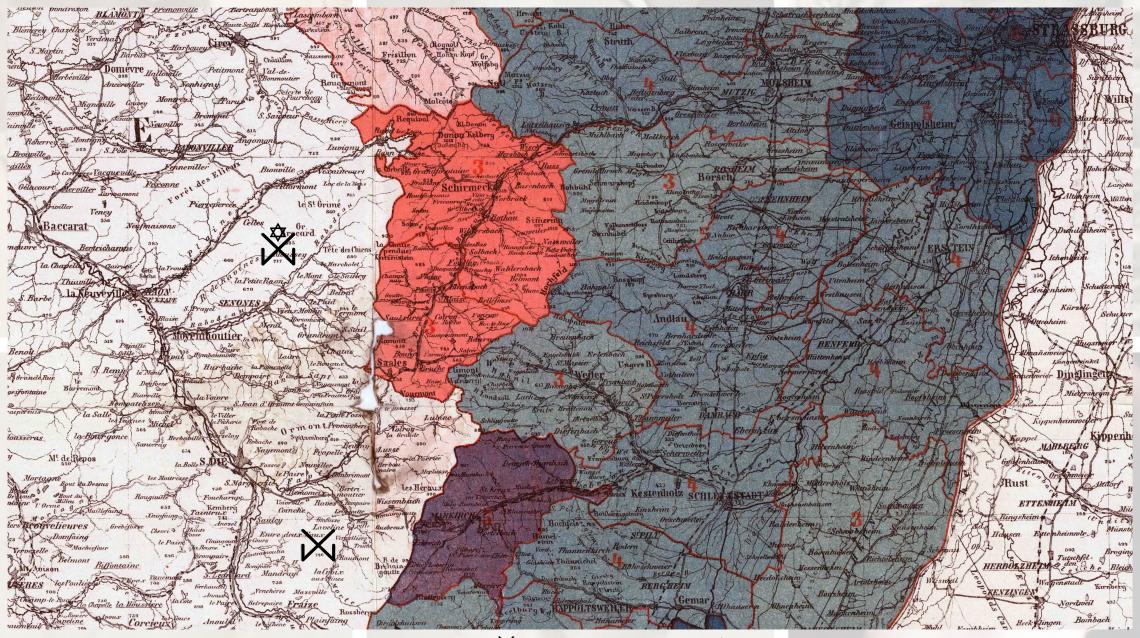
On morning of September 3, French mountain troops, in German called "alpine hunter" launched a new attack, which was extremely costly for the battalion, especially for the officers. Leadership was made difficult by the fact that Bavarians in blue uniforms were mistaken for mountain troops and the other way round. Only the intervention of the 4th Bavarian Ersatz-Regiment succeeded in forcing the French to retreat. When the commander gathered his battalion in the afternoon, he only had 90 men with him, with whom he held the eastern corner of Hill 740; the next day about 500 scattered men arrived. On September 5, 2nd Battalion was ordered to take the enemy positions in the direction of Fraize. In the afternoon, at 5 o'clock, the advance to la Coinche behind Hill 514 was started. The battalion bivouacked along the road from Hill 514 to Entre-deux-Eaux. On September 7, the battalion was alerted and deployed to the right of LIR 81, west of Hill 514, as an attack was imminent. On September 10, the battalion was to take over a pick-up position near Remémont for the parts of the Knoerzer-Division retreating from the "Meurthe-Stellung" during the night. The retreat was not noticed by the enemy; it went via Provenchères to Saales, where 2nd Battallion, 3rd Battalion of LIR 81 and an artillery battery formed the Eberhardt-Corps-Reserve. In the following two days, 2nd Battalion moved via le Puid, la Petite Raon to Senones and Moussey, from there, reinforced by one platoon each of artillery and machine-guns, in a northerly direction to the hills at Haut du Bon Dieu. The order was to clear Vexaincourt of the enemy with a detachment coming from the Donon.



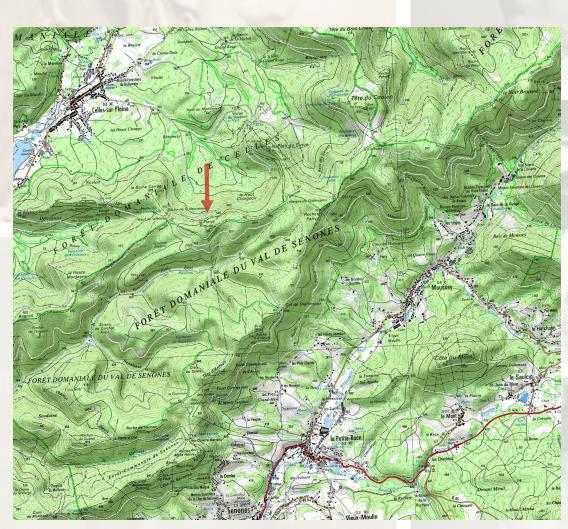
Dogefen-Kriegsfchauplatz

Vexaincourt was found enemy-free. The enemy has retreated. The battalion is bivouacked on the heights of la Maix. The Donondetachement had encountered the enemy near Bionville. Since the support of 2nd Battalion was not necessary, it returned to Moussey. By securing Haut du Bon Dieu up to and including le Noir Brocard to Luvigny, Vexaincourt and Bionville, it established contact with the troops in the Plaine-Valley near Celles. It did not have to intervene in the fighting there despite various alerts. By division 's order, on September 28 2nd Battalion with 2 ½ other companies crossed the Noir Brocard, where it united with 1st Battalion of 70th Reserve-Regiment to advance together against the crossroads west of Hill 835. The Frenchmen were pushed back after a short fight and pursued by 1st Battalion RIR 70. 2nd Battalion of LIR 80 turned against the enemy reported at Hill 747, who had already retreated to Hill 717. The Frenchman was pushed back after a short fight and was pursued by 1st Battalion of RIR 70. 2nd Battalion LIR 80 turned against the enemy reported at Hill 747, who had already retreated to Hill 717. Shortly before returning to Moussey, the division received the order to take Hill 717. After a very bloody fight, the battalion succeeded in doing so the next day with the support of two companies each of 1st Battalion RIR 70 and "Ersatz-Regiment" 82 as well as another engineer company. Despite constant harassment by the enemy, on September 29 Hill 717 was occupied by four platoons and expanded for defense. On the evening of September 30, the battalion marched back to Moussey, where 250 replacements had arrived in meantime. (...)

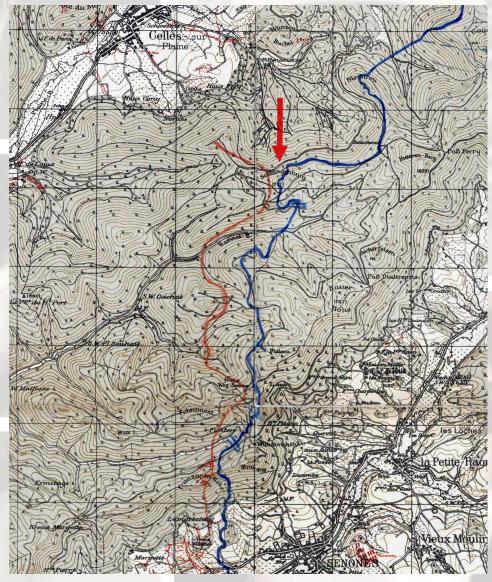




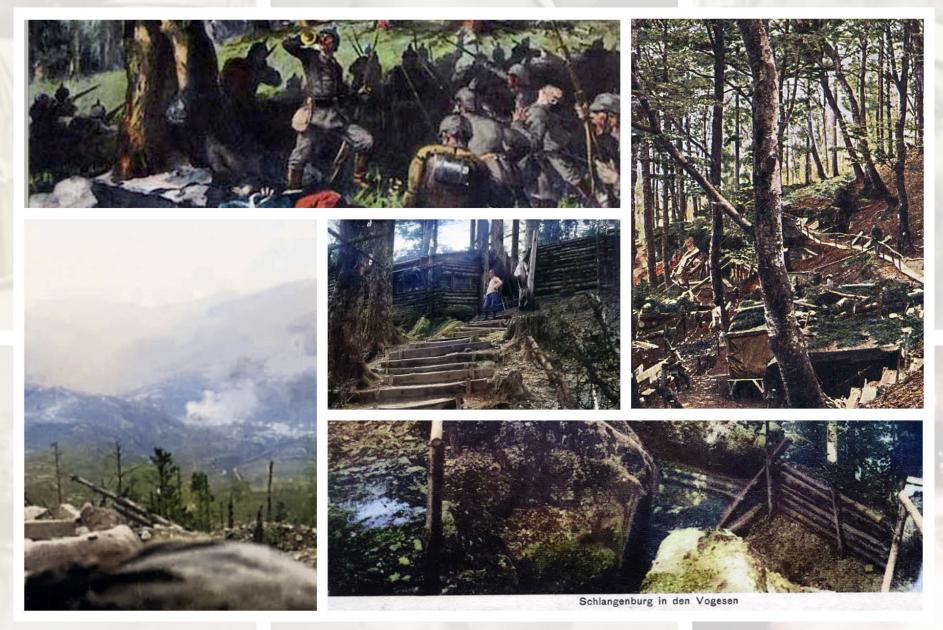
Detail from: Kiepert's special map of Alsace-Lorraine, 1905, \aleph = Main fightings of the 2nd Battalion LIR 80 in August/September 1914



Hill 717, la Pierre Piquée, Carte IGN 1:25.000



Hill 717, la Pierre Piquée, Map of 14th Army-Corps, January 1916



Vosges fightings, German soldier ´s postcards 1914 - 1918



Vosges fightings, contemporary photos of Vexaincourt, Moussey and surroundings

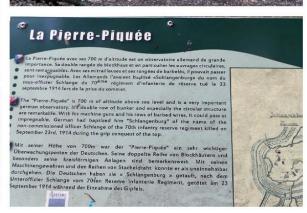














Hill 717, la Pierre Piquet, Situation today



Pierre Piquée, Hill 717, inscription made by a German soldier: "Gefr. N. Ratajczak, 7. Komp., L.I.R. No. 80, 14 / 18"



Grave cross Siegmund Metzler, GMC Bertrimoutier, Grave No. 1/385, Status until May 2025



Headstone Siegmund Metzler (Example), GMC Bertrimoutier

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