

WHEAT FIELD.....CON'T.....

When I told Mr. Moquet about the attempt to take the town of Leachelle on the morning of July 19th 1918, across a dead ripe wheat field, he got into the car with us and we drove to that field. It was located along the main road between Chateau Thierry and Riems, 37 miles away. The field had been in wheat in 1918 and now in 1971 the harvest of wheat had just been taken!

I told him we had lost all but one officer in our company by 11 A.M. I was on a machine gun with six other fellows...and alone by 11 A.M. That we had been dug in along a narrow dirt road across the field. He replied, "It is still there!"

"My brother and I still use that road to travel between our farms!" We got into our car and drove down to the road where I got out and after 53 years walked, retracing the footsteps of Buddles of the 95th Co. USMC, who had paid the Supreme Sacrifice!

FRENCH MORROCAS FAILED TO SHOW!.....

The French Morrocas and the Unit of Foreign Legion had been on our right that morning, but had failed to act due to not receiving their barrage on schedule! That failure had opened our entire right flank to very heavy fire as well as the frontal fire from the Town of Leachelle! So that morning we had had no more chance than a "snowball in Hell of taking our objective!"

When Col. Lee of the 6th Reg't. was asked why we attempted this attack he remarked, "That's War!" "You stay there! In War, life is bargain priced every day of the week!"

AWARDING OF FRO DE GURRNE: MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A LEJEUNE USMC....

Quote: "To be able to say, 'I belonged to the 2nd Division; I fought in the Battle of Mont Blanc Ridge', is the highest honor that can come to any man!"

By JOHN A LEJEUNE, MAJOR GENERAL USMC..

The 5th and 6th Regiment USMC were attached to the French Army on three occasions: Belleau Woods in June, Soissons in July, and October 1st to 10th 1918 on this campaign front. Objectives were Mont Blanc and this town of St. Etienne. For this service, everyone who served and lived thru two of these engagements. Marshall Foch decreed that he be entitled to wear the French Fro De Gurrne.

I was one of the few to hold the proper credentials. This may be pure conceit, but "I'M VERY PROUD TO WEAR IT!" Many fine American Youth tried and lost! Those who died gave all they had--life itself-- and there were many! I'm sure everyone of them have received their reward in Heaven!