



The veteran "Keystone" Division had been moved to this quiet sector to recuperate after suffering heavy casualties fighting in the Hurtgen Forest. This exhausted and understrength division was defending a 25 mile front containing the main road to Bastogne when the German assault began. Hammered hard all along the front, the 28th managed to slow the German attack enough to allow the 101st Airborne to reach Bastogne and hold it. The battered Keystone boys were pulled back to Neufchateau on December 22 to reorganize and did not participate in the counteroffensive in January.