



The "Sante Fe" division had been involved in heavy fighting for Patton's army and it was seriously under strength and resting at Metz to the south when the assault began. An attempt was made to get the division up to strength before it was sent into the bulge, but when it moved north on Dec 23, the handful of green replacements it had received left the 35th still seriously under strength. Its attached tank battalion had also been taken away and not replaced. On December 29, the division found itself square in the path of the German XXXIX Korps counter-attack attempting to close off the Bastogne corridor. Though the division held, it suffered major casualties and was sent back to Metz to recuperate.