

HEADQUARTERS
774TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
FORT JACKSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

25 August 1942

SUBJECT: Commendation to the Officers and Men of the 774th TD Bn.

TO : All Officers and Men, 774th Tank Destroyer Battalion,
Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

If time would permit, I would like to sit down and write this letter personally, in longhand, but since this is impossible, I am using this means of passing on to you my appreciation for the splendid work that was carried on in the recent Combat Team Exercises of the 30th Division.

It has rightfully been said that an entire unit can be judged by individual members thereof. During the exercises mentioned, only a small part of our Battalion participated. Their actions, their morale, and their execution of orders under weather conditions that were anything but pleasant, have won for the Battalion the following commendation from Major General W. H. Simpson, Commanding General, 30th Division, and signed by him personally.

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HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION
FORT JACKSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

20 August 1942



SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer 774th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Thru C.O.
12th Detachment Special Troops, Second Army, Fort Jackson, S.C.)

1. I wish to express my appreciation, and that of the 30th Division, for your participation in the Regimental Combat Team Exercises held August 17-20 inclusive in which the 774th Tank Destroyer Battalion furnished the hostile forces.

2. From reports of the Control Officers, Division Staff Officers, and my personal observation, the aggressive spirit, high morale, and ability to execute an order under difficult conditions shown by all members of your organization reflects a high state of proficiency in training and excellent leadership qualities in officer and non-commissioned officer personnel. The untiring efforts of all members of your command made the exercises a success.

S/ W. H. Simpson
W. H. SIMPSON
Major General
Commanding

330.13

1st Ind.

DSii/mwm

HQ TWELFTH DETACHMENT SPECIAL TROOPS SECOND ARMY. Ft. Jackson, SC. Aug. 22, 1942. TO: Commanding Officer, 774th Tank Destroyer Bn., Ft. Jackson SC.

Congratulations.

S/ Diller S. Myers
DILLER S. MYERS
Colonel, Inf.
Commanding

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I want to add to this commendation my personal congratulations and assure you that when the time comes to go into combat, I could ask for no greater privilege than to be your leader.

Conrad B. Sturges
CONRAD B. STURGES
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS XX CORPS
APO 310



28 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, 5th Infantry Division, Commanding General, 7th Armored Division, Commanding General, XX Corps Artillery, and Commanding Officers of all Corps Troops.

1. It is with extreme pride that I quote the following letter of commendation which I received from Lieutenant General G. S. PATTON, JR., Commanding General, Third United States Army, on 26 August 1944:

"1. Your Corps has most expeditiously accomplished its mission of attacking east and seizing and holding the bridgeheads east of the SEINE RIVER at MONTEREAU and MEUN.

"2. The aggressive and efficient manner in which this mission has been carried out reflects credit upon the Corps in keeping with the high traditions of the service and upon you as its Commanding General. Your ability to accept calculated risks without becoming involved in unwarranted delays has contributed substantially to the successful accomplishment of the mission.

"3. You and the personnel of your Command are hereby highly commended for your splendid accomplishment of this mission."

2. I wish to express my appreciation to the officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men of my command for their fine fighting spirit, their untiring efforts, their skillful performance of duty and effective teamwork which contributed so greatly towards the accomplishment of this vital mission.

3. I have full confidence that we will continue to carry out all assigned tasks with the same aggressive spirit.

Walton H. Walker
WALTON H. WALKER

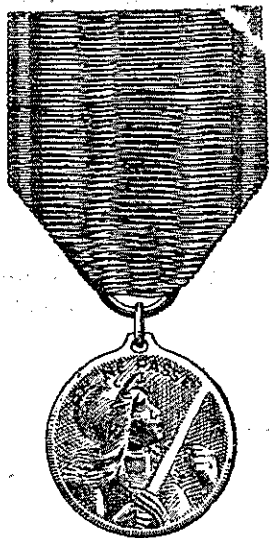
Major General, United States Army
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION "A" "B" & "E"

C O N F I D E N T I A L

« Aux Grands Chefs - Aux Officiers - Aux Soldats - A Tous, Héros connus et anonymes,
« vivants et morts, qui ont triomphé de l'avalanche des barbares et immortalisé son nom à travers le
« monde et pour les siècles futurs, la Ville de Verdun, inviolée et debout sur ses ruines, dédie cette
« médaille en témoignage de sa reconnaissance. »

(Délibération du Conseil Municipal de Verdun du 20 Novembre 1916).



« Tous ceux qui ont dressé ici le mur de leurs poitrines
« afin que l'ennemi ne passe pas, et qui, ayant été à la peine
« méritent d'être à l'honneur, vont pouvoir se retrouver dans
« l'intimité glorieuse de votre " Livre d'Or " ».

André MAGINOT

Député de la Meuse, Ministre de la Guerre, Citain de Verdun.
27 Août 1922

« Les Soldats de Verdun, fiers de l'insigne qui leur a
« été donné et leur est réservé, montreront à leurs enfants sur
« le " Livre d'Or " conservé dans ce monument l'attestation
« de leur valeur et la preuve de la victoire glorieuse qu'ils
« emportèrent ici de haute lutte ».

Victor SCHLEITER
Député-Maire de Verdun
29 Juin 1929

Le nom de **XX^e Corps d'Armée Américain**
Comprenant la **7^{ème} Division blindée** et les **90^{ème} et 5^{ème}**
Divisions d'Infanterie

est inscrit sur le " Livre d'Or des Soldats de Verdun ".

Déposé à Verdun, le **11 Septembre 1944**



Le Président des A. C. de Verdun

" On ne passe pas "

L. Berthemy



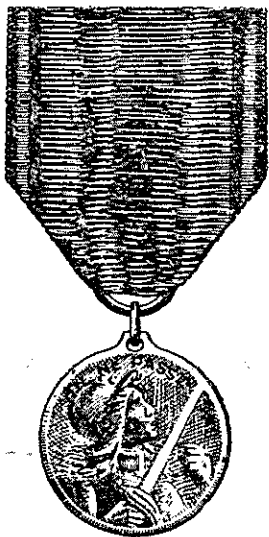
Le Maire de Verdun,

L. Chaize



"In recognition of her gratitude, the City of Verdun, standing unvanquished amid her ruins, dedicates this medal to the generals, to the officers and men, to all those, heroes recognized or anonymous, living or dead, who have triumphed over the barbarian flood and made immortal the name of Verdun."

(Edict of the Municipal Council of Verdun, dated 20 November 1916)



"All those who have erected here a wall of human flesh to stem the hostile tide and who, having suffered, deserve to be honored, shall find their names inscribed among that glorious company in your 'Golden Book'."

André Maginot
Deputy of the Department of the Meuse,
Minister of war, citizen of Verdun.
27 August 1922

"The soldiers of Verdun, proud of the insignia which has been given to them alone, will show their children in the pages of the 'Golden Book', kept here in this monument, the tribute to their valor and the proof of the glorious victory which they won here in a great battle."

Victor Schleiter
Deputy Mayor of Verdun
29 June 1929

The name of the XX U.S. ARMY CORPS, comprising the 7th Armored Division, the 90th Infantry Division and the 5th Infantry Division, has been entered in the "Golden Book of the Soldiers of Verdun"

Delivered at Verdun... 11 September 1944

President of the War Veterans of Verdun

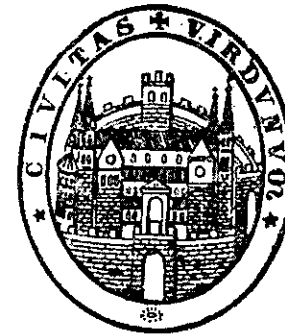
"They shall not pass"

L. Berthemy



The Mayor of Verdun,

L. Chaize



HEADQUARTERS XX CORPS
Office of the Commanding General
APO 340 U. S. Army

FILE

28 November 1944

SUBJECT: Congratulations from Chief of Staff of the Army and Commanding General, Third United States Army

TO : Commanding General, 5th Infantry Division,
Commanding General, 90th Infantry Division,
Commanding General, 95th Infantry Division,
Commanding General, 10th Armored Division,
Commanding Officers of Units Assigned or Attached XX Corps.



1. It is with supreme pride and gratification that I publish to the command the following letter of commendation and congratulations:

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

24 November 1944

SUBJECT: Congratulations from General Marshall.

TO : Commanding General, XX Army Corps, APO 340, U. S. Army.

Radiogram received from General Marshall which is in substance herewith quoted:

"Congratulations on the capture of Metz and the splendid advance your Corps are making in spite of floods and mud and bitter enemy resistance. My very personal congratulations to Eddy and Walker on the grand show their troops are putting on toward bringing this war to a triumphant conclusion."

I personally wish to add my commendation and congratulations for the splendid advance which you and your Corps have made. With such troops, the triumphant conclusion of the war is inevitably near.

/s/ G. S. Patton, Jr.
/t/ G. S. PATTON, JR.,
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

2. Words cannot express my appreciation of the untiring devotion to duty, the fighting spirit, the effective teamwork, the skillful performance and the will to conquer displayed by the officers, warrant officers and enlisted men of the XX Corps.

3. I thank each officer and man of the command for his part in this operation. I have full confidence that each will continue to perform in such manner as to merit the confidence of the Chief of Staff of the Army and our Army Commander indicated in the above cited communication.

/s/ Walton H. Walker
/t/ WALTON H. WALKER
Major General, United States Army
Commanding

1st Ind

/web

Hq 5th Inf Div, 3 December 1944.

TO: See Distribution.

The foregoing communication has been received from Headquarters XX Corps. It is my privilege and pleasure to thank every individual in my command for the splendid part he played in the campaign which has just ended. I add to the Chief of Staff of the Army and army and corps commanders my own sincere thanks for your achievements.

/s/ S. LeRoy Irwin
/t/ S. LEROY IRWIN,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

"C"

A TRUE COPY:

T. R. Wilcoxson
T. R. WILCOXSON,
1st Lt, AGD.

FILE *File*

HEADQUARTERS
774TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION
APO 403 US ARMY

3 February 1945

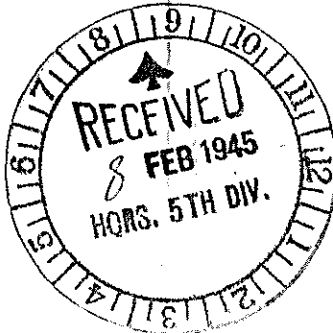
SUBJECT : Letter of Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, 5th Infantry Division, APO 5, US Army.

1. Information has been received that the 5th Infantry Division received a letter of commendation from the Army Commander for its splendid work in the capture of Metz.

2. The 774th Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to the 5th Infantry Division during the period of 16 September 1944 to 22 November 1944.

3. It is desired in order to complete the Battalion History that the Battalion have a copy of this commendation for its file and request that the Battalion be given a copy, if the information that it has been given, is correct.



Conrad B. Sturges
CONRAD B. STURGES
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry
Commanding



File
FILE

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 94TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 94 U.S. Army

AG 201.22 (21Feb45)CG

21 February 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Soldiers of the 94th Inf. Division & Atchd Units.



1. Today marks the victorious end of a series of operations to capture the triangle of German territory between the Saar and the Moselle Rivers.
2. Your courage, endurance, and skill in fighting have made this possible.
3. I congratulate every one of you on a magnificent battlefield performance.
4. The combats in TETTINGEN-BUTZDORF, NEMNIG, WEIS, BERG, and later the captures of KESSLINGEN, FREUDENBURG, WEITEN, ORSCHOLZ, and KOLLESLUKEN all showed your military qualities and these fights will live long in this Division's history.
5. Your successes have had a great effect upon the War. You have practically annihilated two German divisions and have reduced the combat efficiency of a third (Panzer Division) to a small fraction of its original efficiency. You have captured 2851 prisoners and wrested from the enemy more than 65 square miles of wealthy, productive country.
6. Your efforts are understood and appreciated by your commanders and by your country.

Harry J. Malony
HARRY J. MALONY
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
"A" & "EE"

R E S T R I C T E D

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HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

GENERAL ORDERS

23 March 1945

NUMBER 70

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE THIRD ARMY

AND

TO OUR COMRADES OF THE XIX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND

In the period from January 29 to March 22, 1945, you have wrested 6,484 square miles of territory from the enemy. You have taken 3,072 cities, towns, and villages, including among the former: TRIER, KOLLENZ, BINGEN, JORES, MAINZ, KAISERSLAUTERN, and LUDWIGSHAFFEN.



You have captured 140,112 enemy soldiers, and have killed or wounded an additional 99,000, thereby eliminating practically all of the German 7th and 1st Armies. History records no greater achievement in so limited a time.

This great campaign was only made possible by your disciplined valor, unswerving devotion to duty, coupled with the unparalleled audacity and speed of your advance on the ground; while from the air, the peerless fighter-bombers kept up a relentless round-the-clock attack upon the disorganized enemy.

The world rings with your praises: better still, General Marshall, General Eisenhower, and General Bradley have all personally commended you. The highest honor I have ever attained is that of having my name coupled with yours in these great events.

Please accept my heartfelt admiration and thanks for what you have done, and remember that your assault crossing over the Rhine at 2200 hours last night assures you of even greater glory to come.

G. S. Patton, Jr.

G. S. PATTON, JR.,
Lieut. General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

DISTRIBUTION:

- "A" & "C"
- Twelfth Army Group
- XIX TAC

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HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten number 40]

GENERAL ORDERS

9 May 1945.

NUMBER 98



SOLDIERS OF THE THIRD ARMY, PAST AND PRESENT

During the 281 days of incessant and victorious combat, your penetrations have advanced farther in less time than any other army in history. You have fought your way across 24 major rivers and innumerable lesser streams. You have liberated or conquered more than 82,000 square miles of territory, including 1500 cities and towns, and some 12,000 inhabited places. Prior to the termination of active hostilities, you had captured in battle 956,000 enemy soldiers and killed or wounded at least 500,000 others. France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia bear witness to your exploits.

All men and women of the six corps and thirty-nine divisions that have at different times been members of this Army have done their duty. Each deserves credit. The enduring valor of the combat troops has been paralleled and made possible by the often unpublicized activities of the supply, administrative, and medical services of this Army and of the Communications Zone troops supporting it. Nor should we forget our comrades of the other armies and of the Air Force, particularly of the XIX Tactical Air Command, by whose side or under whose wings we have had the honor to fight.

In proudly contemplating our achievements, let us never forget our heroic dead whose graves mark the course of our victorious advances, nor our wounded whose sacrifices aided so much to our success.

I should be both ungrateful and wanting in candor if I failed to acknowledge the debt we owe to our Chiefs of Staff, Generals Gaffey and Gay, and to the officers and men of the General and Special Staff Sections of Army Headquarters. Without their loyalty, intelligence, and unremitting labors, success would have been impossible.

The termination of fighting in Europe does not remove the opportunities for other outstanding and equally difficult achievements in the days which are to come. In some ways the immediate future will demand of you more fortitude than has the past because, without the inspiration of combat, you must maintain--by your dress, deportment, and efficiency--not only the prestige of the Third Army but also the honor of the United States. I have complete confidence that you will not fail.

During the course of this war I have received promotions and decorations far above and beyond my individual merit. You won them; I, as your representative wear them. The one honor which is mine and mine alone is that of having commanded such an incomparable group of Americans, the record of whose fortitude, audacity, and valor will endure as long as history lasts.

[Handwritten signature: G. S. Patton Jr.]
G. S. PATTON, JR.,
General

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HEADQUARTERS 12TH ARMY GROUP
APO 655

335.18 (AG-0)

17 July 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of General Eisenhower.

TO : Commanding General, Third U S Army, APO 403.



General Bradley is pleased to bring to your attention the following letter from the Supreme Commander and desires that its contents be conveyed to all personnel of your command:

"Combined Command terminates at midnight tonight, 13 July 1945, and brings to a close one of the greatest and most successful campaigns ever fought.

"History alone will judge the Allied Expeditionary Force in its true perspective, but we, who have worked and struggled together, can feel nothing but pride in the achievements of the men we have been honored to command, and sadness at having to be parted now. Whatever history may relate about the exploits of this Allied Force, and the memory of man is short and fickle, it is only we, at this time, who can fully appreciate the merit and due worth of the accomplishments of this great Allied team.

"These accomplishments are not limited to the defeat of the Nazi hordes in battle -- a continent has been liberated from all that is an antipathy to the ideal of democracy which is our common heritage. Above all, we have proved to the whole world that the British and American peoples can forever be united in purpose, in deed and in death for the cause of liberty.

"This great experiment of integrated command, whose venture was cavilled at by some and doubted by many, has achieved unqualified success, and this has, only been made possible by the sympathetic, unselfish and unwavering support which you and all other commanders have wholeheartedly given me. Your own brilliant performance is already a matter of history.

"My gratitude to you is a small token for the magnificent service which you have rendered, and my simple expression of thanks sounds totally inadequate. Time and opportunity prohibit the chance I should like to shake you and your men by the hand, and thank each one of you personally for all you have done. I can do nothing more than assure you of my lasting appreciation, which I would ask you to convey to all those under your command for their exemplary devotion to duty and for the most magnificent loyalty which has ever been shown to a commander."

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL BRADLEY:

/s/ J. H. Bloss

/t/ J. H. BLOSS
Lt Col, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

Reproduced HQ Third US Army,
22 July 1945.