

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

By gac Date 12 Dec 45

COMPANY "I"

(Company)

442D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

APO #464, U. S. ARMY

Date 27 May 1945

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Award.

TO : Commanding Officer, 442d Regimental Combat Team.

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, it is recommended that (Name) R. Asahi Chino (Rank) Pfc. (ASN) 37582340, (Orgn) Company "I", 442d Regimental Combat Team, Infantry, be awarded the (Name of Medal) Bronze Star for Heroic Achievement in Action.

2. Detailed description of action. (Be specific. Do not use general statements. Use reverse side for continuation of description. Use ink or type.)

On 5 April 1945, the first squad of the second platoon of "I" Company, of which Pfc., then Pvt. Chino, is a member was the leading element of the attack upon the ridges about Mt. Folgorito. The squad participated in the surprise and the capture of the first enemy outpost of seven men. Moving forward along the right slope of the ridge, the squad was halted by the fire of entrenched enemy riflemen some 400 yards to the front. Because the slope was bare of any concealment, it was impossible to assault the enemy positions from the front, consequently, the first squad sought covered positions along the slope and engaged the enemy positions, while the remainder of the Company detoured to the left slope of the ridge in an attempt to flank the positions.

As he found a position of cover, Pfc. Chino observed an enemy group of three men emplacing a light machine gun on a higher ridge to the left flank, which if allowed to fire would have invalidated the positions of cover which the squad had already obtained. Conveying this information to his platoon leader, Pfc. Chino, crawled up and forward some forty yards to a position which although conspicuous by reason of its lack of cover, would enable him to open fire upon the crew of the machine gun. Because of the extreme range, which forced him to utilize field glasses to follow the enemy, he was able to wound only one member of the crew, but he did force the M.G. crew to displace. At the same time he became a target for the enemy riflemen. He began to crawl back to his previous position, which offered cover, when he thought that he saw the M.G. setting up again behind the concealment of a bush on the same ridge. Halting, despite the fire, he brought his

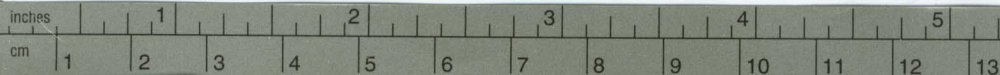
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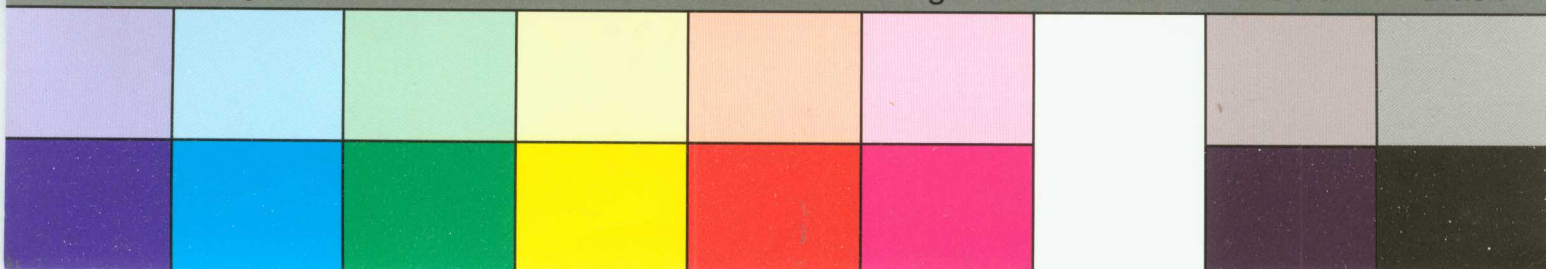
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field glasses into use and discovered that the two remaining machine gunners had the gun in position. Opening fire, he wounded or killed one of the men, but at the same time he called down fire upon himself, one of the bullets ricocheting off a nearby rock and destroying his field glasses.

In the meantime, firing from the reverse slope indicated that the rest of the company was meeting opposition and that perhaps the projected maneuver was to be abandoned for another. The platoon leader called for covering fire so that he could crawl over the ridge and assess the situation. Pfc. Chino, instead of crawling down into his covered position, remained where he was so that he could aid in the laying down of fire without delaying the platoon leader.

The M.G., however, from a new position opened fire, their bullets cutting through his previous position, which was about five yards above him. Pfc. Chino, remaining where he was despite the danger from the dispersion of the M.G. fire, sought again to locate the gun. But before he could, he was struck in the side by a bullet. As he recoiled from the shock, he lost his rifle. Sliding down into cover, he found that his shirt was smouldering. The bullet had struck his cartridge belt, setting off the powder. Before he could cut off the burning part of his clothing, the skin around the wound was severely burned. However the bullet had expended a good deal of its energy and had only penetrated his body about an inch. Giving himself first aid, he recovered his rifle under the fire of the M.G. which had lowered its fire.

In the meantime, the enemy had called in mortar support and the position of the squad became untenable. Pfc. Chino, on his own initiative crawled up through the fire to contact his platoon leader for orders, and then, refusing to remain in the comparative cover of the reverse slope crawled back to transmit the orders for evacuation to the squad.

On the afternoon of 5 April 1945, Pfc. Chino volunteered to accompany the platoon leader of another platoon to silence a sniper whose action had already killed one man and wounded four others. In the ensuing action, two more men were wounded.

On the afternoon of 6 April 1945, the wound which he had received on the first morning had become badly infected and he was ordered to return to the hospital by his platoon sergeant. He volunteered to take seventeen prisoners which he assisted in capturing on Mt. Ceratta back to the CP, although the only weapon he had at the time was a captured pistol. When an enemy sniper opened fire on him, he refused to take cover because he felt that were he to relax vigilance some of the prisoners might attempt to escape.

Upon arriving at the CP, he heard that his platoon had met additional opposition. He returned to his platoon ~~immediately~~ immediately.

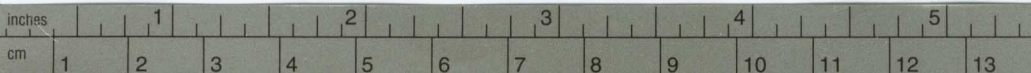
On the morning of the 8th, Pfc. Chino had to be evacuated to the hospital because of the growing infection of his wound.

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19 Oct 45

3. a. Character of terrain: Mountainous
 b. Hostile observation: Good
 c. Visibility: Good Time of day: Morning and afternoon
 d. Morale of our troops: Excellent Of the enemy: Good
 e. Casualties sustained: 1 KIA, 6 WIA
 f. Character of enemy fire: Machine Gun, Mortars, Sniper
 g. Effects or results of deed in question: Successful evacuation of squad, silencing of sniper

4. I (have)(have not) personal knowledge of the action described.
 (Cross out inapplicable word or words.) If initiating officer has no personal knowledge of action, inclose at least two statements of enlisted men sworn to in the presence of an officer or certificates of officers.

5. a. Rank and organization at time of incident: Pvt
Company L, 442nd Infantry RCT
 b. Rank and organization at present time: Pfc
Company L, 442nd Infantry RCT

6. The entire subsequent service of the individual recommended has been honorable.

7. Previous awards: None

8. Proposed Citation: (Name) Pfc Asahi R. Chino (Rank) Pfc
 (ASN) 37582310, Infantry, (Company) L 442d Regimental
 Combat Team, for Bronze Star for Heroic Achievement in action
 (To be filled out by Regtl Hqs)
 On (Date) 5 April 1945 (Location) Vicinity of Mt. Folgorito, Italy
 Brief summary of incident:

On 5 April 1945, Pfc Asahi R. Chino, in the vicinity of Mt. Folgorito, although wounded in the side by a bullet, continued to attempt to silence the machine gun which had wounded him. When the position of the squad became untenable, on his own initiative and under mortar and machine gun fire, sought plans for evacuating the squad, returning to convey them to the squad. On 5 April 1945, despite his wound, he volunteered to silence a sniper who had already killed one man and wounded four others. On 6 April 1945, in charge of a detail escorting prisoners to the Company C.P. he refused to take cover when fired upon, because to do so might enable some of the prisoners to escape. His action are entered military service from (City) Pine City (State) Minnesota
 Home town: (City) Chicago (State) Illinois
 Next of kin: Mrs. F.H. Chino, (Relationship) Mother, 1443 E. 65 PL (Street)
Chicago, Illinois (City) (State)

an indication a high degree of devotion to the finest traditions of the U.S. Army and are deserving of recognition

Name Reginald P. Harrison
 (Initiating Officer)

Rank Capt. chf
 Commanding

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per authority TAG.

By fac Date 19 Oct 45 Cmdg or Official Designation

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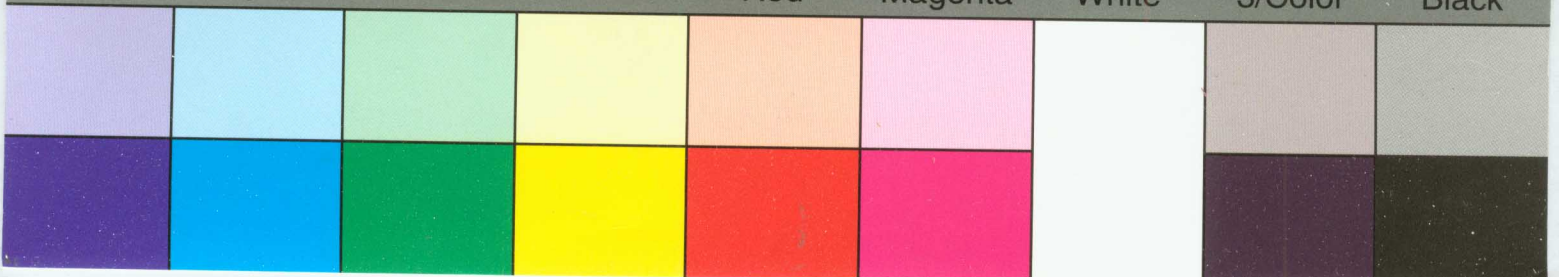
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by pac Date 12 Oct 45
COMPANY

Ind.
BN, 442d RCT, APO #464, U.S. ARMY,

(Date)

TO: Commanding Officer,

Battalion, 442d Regimental Combat Team,

Approved.

HEADQUARTERS 3rd BATTALION, 1st Ind. 24 August 1945
442D RCT, APO #464, U.S. ARMY, (Date)

TO: Commanding Officer, 442d Regimental Combat Team.

Approved.

William Dull

Capt. Infantry
Commanding (acting)

HEADQUARTERS 442D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, Ind. APO #464, U.S. ARMY

(Date)

TO: Commanding General, 5th Army, APO #464, U.S. ARMY.

Approved.

V. R. MILLER
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

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by pac Date 19 Oct 45 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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