GENERAL		ORDERS
No.	34	

WAR DEPARTMENT Washington 25, D. C., 10 April 1946

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I..GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL .- 1. By direction of the President, the commanding officer, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, was empowered 4 April 1946, pursuant to the eighth article of war, to appoint general courts martial. Letter orders AGAO-C 250.401 (11 Mar 46), 4 April 1946, granting this power, are hereby confirmed.

2. By direction of the President, effective 15 April 1946, the commanding officer of each of the following air forces is empowered, pursuant to the eighth article of war, to appoint general courts martial:

Sixteenth Air Force.

Seventeenth Air Force.

[AG 250.401 (11 Mar 46) (8 Apr 46)]

II. DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE MEDAL .- By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious and services in the performance of duties of great responsibility during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officer and individuals:

Doctor Edward L. Bowles, American civilian. 2 September 1943 to 2 September 1945.

Doctor Edmund P. Learned, American civilian. 2 September 1943 to 2 September 1945.

Brigadier General William C. Menninger, O503932, Army of the United States. December 1943 to November 1945. (So much of sec. II, WD General Orders 15, 1946, as pertains to the award of the Legion of Merit to Brigadier General Menninger, for services from December 1943 to November 1945, is rescinded.)

III...LEGION OF MERIT.—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the periods indicated, was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officers, chief warrant officer, and enlisted men:

Colonel William E. Crist, O12828 (formerly brigadier general), United

States Army. November 1944 to July 1945.
First Sergeant Bliss H. Croft (Army Serial No. 19022405) (then sergeant), Infantry, Army of the United States. October 1943 to April 1945. Colonel William F. DeWitt, O16294, Medical Corps, United States Army.

February 1942 to February 1943.

Chief Warrant Officer Chester C. Gabeler (W2104690), Army of the United States. November 1944 to March 1945.

Colonel Dwight F. Johns, 04417 (then brigadier general), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. June 1944 to June 1945.

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FOR ORIG & FILE AUTH SEE: AG 250.401 (11 Mar 46)

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was awarded by the War Department to the following-named chief warrant

Chief Warrant Officer George Henry Sparling (W2130462), Air Corps, Army of the United States. 25 January 1944 to 2 September 1945.

VII. BATTLE HONORS .- As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following units are cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States The citations read as as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction.

1. The 148th Infantry Regiment is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy at Luzon, Philippine Islands, from 9 January to 4 March 1945. In every phase of the campaign in which it participated, the 148th Infantry Regiment achieved spectacular success, carrying out its missions with By its capture of the critical road junction of courage and speedy efficiency. Plaridel by spearheading the drive into Manila from the north, advancing 137 miles in 24 days, by its liberation of the Americans interned at Bilibid Prison and the patients and refugees at the Philippine General Hospital, by establishing, under fire, the vital bridgehead across the Pasig River and by the major role it played in destroying the fanatical Japanese garrison in Manila, the 148th Infantry Regiment contributed immeasurably to the brilliant success achieved by the United States forces in the Luzon campaign. In every engagement, the regiment exhibited outstanding combat efficiency by uniformly inflicting severe losses on the enemy, while sustaining only moderate casualties. Each unit of the regiment performed its assigned duty with consummate skill and fidelity. Service troops worked unceasingly to supply the combat troops, the medical detachment performed innumerable acts of gallantry in caring for both soldiers and civilians, and the cannon company gave invaluable direct fire support. Over open ground, through city streets, the 148th Infantry Regiment met and decisively defeated the enemy whereever he chose to make a stand. Its brilliant combat record is a tribute to the courage and skill of every man in the regiment and exemplifies the finest traditions of the military service.

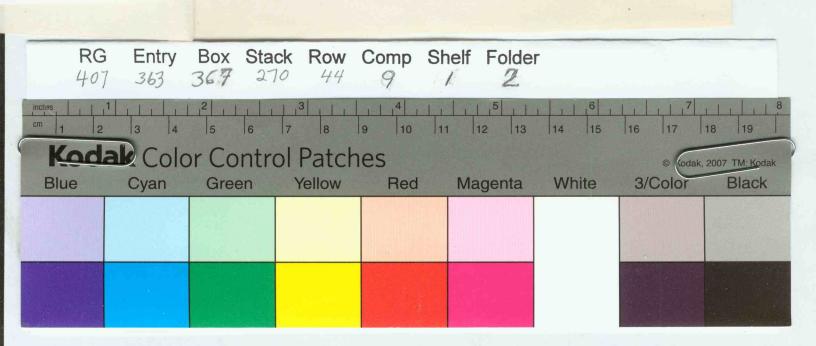
2. The 442d Regimental Combat Team (less the 552d Field Artillery Battalion)

composed of the following elements: 442d Infantry Regiment.

232d Combat Engineer Company.

is cited for outstanding accomplishment in combat for the period 5 to 14 April 1945 in the vicinity of Serravezza, Carrara, and Fosdinovo, Italy. When the 92d Infantry Division with the 442d Regimental Combat Team attached was ordered to open the Fifth Army offensive by executing a diversionary attack on the Ligurian Coast of Italy, the combat team was ordered to make the main effort of the attack. It was done by executing a daring and skillful flanking attack on the positions which formed the western anchor of the formidable Gothic Line. In 4 days, the attack destroyed positions which had withstood the efforts of friendly troops for 5 months. This was accomplished in the face of skilled enemy forces nearly equal in strength to the attacking forces and who had at least 5 months in which to improve their position. The 442d Regimental Combat Team drove forward, despite heavy casualties. Allowing the enemy no time for rest or reorganization, the combat team liberated the city of Carrara, seized the heights beyond, and opened the way for further advances on the way to the key road center and port of La Spezia and to Genoa. It accomplished the mission

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of creating a diversion along the Ligurian Coast, which served as a feint for the subsequent break-through of the Fifth Army forces into Bologna and the Po Valley. The successful accomplishment of this mission turned a diversionary action into a full scale and victorious offensive, which played an important part in the final destruction of the German armies in Italy. The gallantry and esprit de corps displayed by the officers and men of the 442d Regimental Combat Team in bitter action against a formidable enemy exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

VIII. MEDAL OF FREEDOM.—By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9586, 6 July 1945 (sec. II, WD Bul. 12, 1945), the Medal of Freedom for meritorious service which has aided the United States in the prosecution of a war against an enemy during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named individuals:

Doctor Robert F. Rinehart, performed meritorious service as a member of the Antisubmarine Warfare Operations Research Group, Trinidad Sector, The Caribbean Sea Frontier, from November 1942 to July 1943. He contributed many outstanding ideas and plans, some adopted locally, others used universally. Doctor Rinehart's contributions materially increased the effectiveness of the Army Air Forces antisubmarine warfare and were of great value in that phase of our military operations.

James Davidson Taylor, American civilian, performed exceptionally meritorious services as Deputy Chief of Radio, Psychological Warfare Division, in Europe from March 1944 to May 1945. He assisted in writing and producing D-day broadcasts, his voice was that used at the microphone. Throughout the liberation of northwest Europe and the conquering of Germany, Mr. Taylor's writing, producing, and other radio activities played an important part in the psychological warfare's contribution to the Allied successes.

John H. Thompson, American civilian, displayed meritorious conduct in North Africa and Sicily from June to August 1943. Assigned to cover the initial operations by American paratroopers, he accompanied the 82d Airborne Division in the invasion of Sicily and, altho injured in the jump, Mr. Thompson remained with it during the fierce battle of Biazzo Ridge, assisting the wounded.

IX._LIFE-SAVING MEDAL.—Under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 June 1874, as amended by the act of Congress approved 4 May 1882, a silver Life-Saving Medal was awarded by the Treasury Department to the following-named individual:

Walter H. Ahlstrand, civilian employee of the War Department at Fort Winfield Scott, California. In recognition of his services in bravely rescuing one man from drowning on 19 September 1945.

X. BRONZE STAR MEDAL.—So much of section VIII, WD General Orders 8, 1946, as pertains to Staff Sergeant John P. Meyers, Corps of Engineers, is rescinded (see sec. III above).

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL Major General The Adjutant General DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER Chief of Staff

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