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DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

January 1945

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BATTLE HONORS - CITATION OF UNIT (GO 13, Hq 7th Army, 21 Jan 45).

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department, 1943, the following named organizations are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action:

Company F, 442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

Company L, 442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

For outstanding performance of duty in action on 21 October 1944, in the vicinity of Belmont, France. Assigned the mission of assaulting the flank and rear of the resistance which had stopped two frontal attacks by the Combat Team, Companies F and L, 442d Regimental Combat Team, designated the O'Connor Task Force, launched an attack down the north slope of the wooded ridge, Foret de Belmont. Company L, leading the assault, defeated a security group in a short sharp action, capturing several prisoners. Then, by the prompt use of rifle grenades and mortars, the garrisoned houses just outside the woods were quickly reduced. The capture of these houses was an important factor in the success of the mission, as it gave the Task Force observation of the ground to the enemy's rear. To complete its work, the Task Force now had to interdict enemy movement, drive a wedge through the forces resisting the Combat Team, and effect a junction with the main force. Heavy casualties were inflicted by artillery fire directed by the Task Force's forward observer on the enemy positions. Then, assault groups began to clear the defenders from houses to the north of La Broquaine. The capture of these houses not only divided the enemy forces, but made certain that large numbers of the enemy would be trapped between the Task Force and the advancing Combat Team. By mid-afternoon the Task Force and the Combat Team made contact, and what enemy troops were not surrounded were completely routed, thus bringing to a close a plan brilliantly conceived and expertly executed. By the next day the Combat Team had secured the high ridge which dominates Belmont. This ridge was both a protective arc around the recently won communications center of Bruyeres, and an entering wedge in the drive to the Meurthe River. In destroying the enemy Main Line of Resistance and advancing the Divisional front lines by approximately 2000 meters, the Task Force captured fifty-six prisoners, killed eighty of the enemy, and captured considerable quantities of enemy materiel and equipment. The fearless determination, daring and intrepidity displayed by the officers and enlisted men of the O'Connor Task Force exemplify the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS. (GO 187, Hq 5th Army, 19 Dec 1944)

TED T. TANOUYE, 39019913, Technical Sergeant, Infantry, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in action on 7 July 1944, near Molino A Ventoabbto, Italy. Technical Sergeant TANOUYE led his platoon in an attack to capture the crest of a strategically important hill which afforded little cover or concealment. Noticing an enemy machine gun crew placing its gun in position to his left front, Technical Sergeant TANOUYE crept forward a few yards and opened fire on the position, killing or wounding three and causing two others to disperse. Immediately an enemy machine pistol opened fire on him, but he returned the fire and killed or wounded three more Germans. While advancing forward, Technical Sergeant TANOUYE was subjected to grenade bursts, and his left arm was rendered useless by a fragment. Sighting an enemy trench, he raked the

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