GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 69
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63 ARMY

17 July 1945

EXTRACT

I CITATION OF UNITS:

Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular Number 333, War Department, 1943, the following-named organisations are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action, and are awarded citation streamers therefor. Individuals assigned or attached to these units are entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge to identify such citation:

THE 2D BATTALION, 442D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action on 19 October 1944 near Bruyeres, France, on 28 and 29 October 1944 near Biffontaine, France, and from 6 to 10 April 1945, near Massa, Italy. The 2D BATTALION executed a brilliant tactical operation in capturing Hill 503, to expedite the forward movement beyond Bruyeres, France and to erase the German threat from the rear. While two companies pressed forward against a formidable enemy main line of resistance, other elements of the battalion struck the enemy paralyzing blows from all directions, practically eliminating an entire German company and destroying numerous enemy automatic weapons. Attacking the strategic heights of Hill 617 near Biffontaine, France, on 28 October 1944, the 2D BATTALION secured its objective in a two-day operation which eliminated a threat to the flanks of two American divisions. In the face of intense enemy barrages and numerous counterattacks, the infantrymen of this battalion fought their way through difficult jungle-like terrain in freezing weather and completely encircled the enemy. Methodically, the members of the 2D BATTALION hammered the enemy, inflicting heavy casualties upon the defenders and wresting this vital feature from the surviving Germans. Maintaining its admirable record of achievement in the vicinity of Massa, Italy, the 2D BATTALION smashed through and exploited the strong Green Line on the Ligurian Coast. Surging over formidable heights through strong resistance, the 2D BATTALION in five days of continuous heavy fighting captured a series of objectives to pave the way for the entry into the important communications centers of Massa and Carrara, Italy, without opposition. In this operation the 2D BATTALION accounted for more than 200 Germans and captured or destroyed large quantities of enemy matériel. The courage, determination and esprit de corps evidenced by the officers and men of the 2D BATTALION, 442D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM exemplify the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ M. F. Grant
/l/ M. F. GRANT
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL TRUSCOTT:

DON E. CARLETON
Brigadier General, GSC
Chief of Staff

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

[Signature]

T. M. KOBAYASHI
2d Lt, Infantry
Adjutant

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