HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General
APO 83, U. S. Army

9 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 331st Infantry Regiment.

With the secrecy surrounding the 83d Division lifted on 2 March 1945, the attention of the Allied World was directed at us. As at St Malo, Beaugency and in the Ardennes, we were assigned a mission of historic significance. By rapidly accomplishing its mission, this Division has hastened the defeat of the entire German position west of the Rhine River. Spearheading the last phase of the attack of the XIX Corps, the 83d itself has struck a severe blow at the very industrial heart of the Third Reich. The enemy will never recover from this blow.

It is an honor for me to commend you, your officers and men for the performance of the 331st Infantry during the period 27 February to 4 March. During the last two days of February, when your regiment was attached to the 2d Armored Division, your operations in the bridgehead over the Roer River were notable for the speed and smoothness with which they were accomplished. Then on the 1st of March the entire Division was committed, your troops continued to operate in a superior manner. Company E had the signal honor of being the first Ninth Army troops to reach the Rhine River. This action in itself not only characterized the success of your mission but brought the Division's operations to the attention of the entire world. The attention to duty by your officers and men during this historic period contributed in large measure to the Division's successful accomplishment of its mission.

Please accept and convey to all your officers and men my congratulations for their superior actions during this period. It is a privilege to command such troops.

S/ROBT C. MACON
ROBT C. MACON
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

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