

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 9TH ARMORED DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 259, U. S. Army

12 March 1945

GNNVHG

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : All Units and Attached Units of the 9th Armored Division.

The 9th Armored Division has accomplished the first military crossing of the Rhine River since the campaigns of Napoleon. At 1610 hours, 7 March 1945, leading elements of the 27th Armored Infantry Battalion seized and crossed the railroad bridge over the Rhine at Remagen. Combat Command "B", supported by the 1st Battalion of the 310th Infantry Regiment, Company "C" of the 656th Tank Destroyer Battalion, the 482nd Antiaircraft Battalion and the 400th Field Artillery Battalion followed rapidly and established a secure bridgehead.

The initiative, courage and daring of all is deserving of the highest praise. This is a noble achievement which will have a far reaching effect in the successful prosecution of the war.

To all men of this division and the attached units, I express my sincere appreciation and praise for our splendid accomplishments throughout the advance since crossing the Roer River.

I desire that this commendation be brought to the attention of all personnel of the division and those serving with us.

Let us all pray that God will have mercy on the souls of the men who paid the supreme sacrifice during this campaign.

/s/ John W. Leonard  
/t/ JOHN W. LEONARD  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Commanding

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS 656TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 230, U. S. Army, 15 March 1945

TO: All Companies and Medical Detachment, 656th Tank Destroyer Battalion

The above commendation is forwarded with just pride and sincere pleasure to all members of this organization who have performed so valiantly in the advance from the Roer River.

*John C. Meador*  
JOHN C. MEADOR  
Lt Col., Inf (TD)  
Commanding

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