

HEADQUARTERS
FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
APO 230

9 May 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation of Major General James A. Van Fleet, 03847

TO : Major General James A. Van Fleet, Commanding General, III Corps,
APO 303.

On this day of victory in Europe I want to congratulate you and the fighting III Corps on the contribution you have made to the defeat of the German Army.

From the time your corps joined First Army on 13 February through its relentless drive to the Rhine, the brilliant bridgehead operation at Remagen and the reduction of the Ruhr pocket its record has been an outstanding one. The troops under your command have fought with courage and determination. Your leadership has been forceful and inspiring.

I desire to commend you, your staff and the officers and men of the units who have served under you. Please let them know I am deeply appreciative of their accomplishments and accept my best personal wishes to you and to III Corps for continued success.

/s/ Courtney H. Hodges
/t/ COURTNEY H. HODGES
General, U. S. Army
Commanding

200.6 (9 May 1945) GNNCG

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS III CORPS, APO 303, U. S. Army, 26 May 1945

TO: Colonel Harry C. Larter, Jr., O-16206, FA, 8th TD Gp, APO 403, U. S. Army

1. It is a pleasure to forward this commendation. Your command served as part of the III Corps from 20 February 1945 to 18 April 1945.

2. The repeated, outstanding accomplishments of the 8th Tank Destroyer Group attest to the fine spirit with which its officers and men are imbued and reflect the high qualities of leadership of its commander.

/s/ J. A. Van Fleet
/t/ J. A. VAN FLEET
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

BASIC: Ltr, Hq First US Army, dtd 9 May 1945, Commendation

200.6 (9 May 45)

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 8TH TANK DESTROYER GROUP, APO 403, US ARMY, 2 Jun 1945

TO: Lt. Col. John C. Meador, 656 Tank Destroyer Battalion, APO 403, U. S. Army

1. The above commendations from General Courtney H. Hodges and Major General J. A. Van Fleet are forwarded to you and your officers and men with a deep sense of appreciation of the accomplishments of your unit while under my command.

2. I consider it a distinguishing honor to have been your commander.

3. Please inform your entire command of the contents of this letter.

4. I salute you.

/s/ Harry C. Larter, Jr.
/t/ HARRY C. LARTER, JR.
Colonel - FA
Commanding

3rd Ind

HEADQUARTERS 656TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 403, U. S. Army, 5 June 1945

TO: Officers and Men, 656th Tank Destroyer Battalion, APO 403, U. S. Army

Once again, with pride and pleasure, it is my privilege to forward to you commendations from our higher commanders attesting to the high qualities of leadership and the fighting spirit of the officers and men of this battalion.

To the above tributes, I can only add "well done", knowing that we will continue this high performance of duty.

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