

HEADQUARTERS III CORPS
Office of the Commanding General.
APO 303, U. S. Army

200.6 GNNCG

22 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, 9th Armored Division, APO 259, U. S. Army.

Orders have been issued relieving the 9th Armored Division from III Corps. I desire that at this time you inform all officers and men in your division of my appreciation of the superior work done since their jump off at the Roer River.

From the time that the Division crossed the Roer to the time that it crossed the Rhine, its actions were marked by bold and aggressive action and skillful maneuver. Water barriers that according to all known precepts are supposed to delay armor were hurdled rapidly; and stubborn enemy resistance was crushed by courageous actions and ruthless determination.

The speed with which the Division reached and crossed the Erft River demoralized the enemy, and the sweeping advances of 6 and 7 March, in which the Division drove more than twenty (20) miles to the east and southeast, threw him into confusion. The seizure of the Remagen Bridge needs no comment. It was a deed that speaks for itself of valor and daring, and it will continue to do so for years to come.

It is a privilege to offer my congratulations for a difficult task well done.

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

GNWHG

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 9TH ARMORED DIVISION, APO 259, United States Army, 22 March 1945.

TO: Officers and Men, 9th Armored Division and Attached Units, APO 259, United States Army.

1. On many occasions in the past, I have expressed my pride in your achievements and my appreciation of the services you have rendered.

2. The advance from the Roer River and subsequent capture intact of the Ludendorff Bridge across the Rhine River at Remagen constitutes a praiseworthy feat of arms, and in passing on to you the commendation of the Corps Commander, I can only reiterate what I have said before and congratulate you again on your accomplishments.

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

2nd Ind

HEADQUARTERS 656TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, APO 230, U. S. Army, 27 March 1945

TO: Officers and Men, 656th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Once more, with pride and pleasure, I pass on to you the congratulations of the Corps and Division Commanders for your accomplishments since the jump-off at the Roer River.

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