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HEADQUARTERS FIRST BATTALION 337TH INFANTRY

> APO #85, U. S. Army. 6 January 1945.

SUBJECT: CITATION OF UNIT.

TO: Commanding General, Fifth Army,
A.P.O. #464, U.S. Army, (Thru Channels)

- 1. Under the provisions of Circular Number 333, War Department, 1943, it is recommended that Company "A", 337th Infantry be cited in War Department General Orders for outstanding accomplishment in combat during the period 23 October 1944 to 27 October 1944, near Hill 421, Mt. MEZZANO, Italy.
- 2. On 23 October 1944, the First Battalion received orders to pass through the Third Battalion, 351st Infantry at Mt. CALDERARO, Italy and attack objective 13, which was Mt. MEZZANO, Italy, a distance of about 2000 yards from the Second Battalion's present position. The First Battalion moved out in a column of Companies, Company "A" leading followed by Companies "B" and "C". The route that the Battalion had to take was under observation and intensive artillery fire from the enemy who held all the commanding ground on both flanks and also to the front. Shortly after Company "A" began its push forward they came under one of the most intense barrages that they had ever experienced. The Company Commander immediately realizing that all approaches were covered and that forward movement by daylight was impossible and would load to complete annihilation, he quickly summed up the situation and reported to the Battalion C.O., who directed the Battalion to withdraw behind the ridge and make plans for a night attack. This was done and the leaders of the Companies went forward to reconnoiter for routes of approach so that the Battalion could reach the objective safely under the gover of darkness.

The hour set for the attack was 2000 hours and the Battalion moved off on the scheduled time. After reaching a point approximately 700 yards short of the objective the Battalion came under intensive small arms fire and mortar fire and the forward movement was halted. Immediately recommaissance patrols were sent out, after an accurate check of all surrounding terrain they brought back valuable information that the road and both its shoulders were mined and that the enemy was dug-in in front and on both flanks and also occupied a small town to the rear. On orders the Battalion withdrew to C. RAVINE and organized an all around defensive position. Then the decision was made, because of daylight approaching, that the Battalion would hold up and make reconnaissance patrols for different approaches for a night attack. These patrols were sent out and found new routes and the plans were made to attack at 2200.

Undaunted by the previous unsuccessful attempt, the men of the Battalion started out at 2200 hours, with grim determination not to be turned back for any reason. Their route took them through draws and defiles covered by heavy mortar

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and artillery fire, but their advance was not stopped. At 0500 the morning of 25 October 1944, Company "A" attacked their portion of the Battalion objective with all the power and aggressivness that characterizes the fighting American Army. They were closely followed by Company "C" who attacked objective 13 from the right. Company "B" had another mission to attack IL POGGIO, Italy to the right rear of objective 13 (Mt. MEZZANO, Italy). In Company "A's" attack they succeeded in driving a determined, ruthless enemy from his well organized position, killing 15 men and capturing 20. The remainder of the Battalion was also successful in their missions. After this highly important objective had been taken an all around defense was organized over an area much too large for a Battalion. Company "A's" position was on the exposed left flank, and therefore was in much danger, because the only unit on their left, was cut off by a large enemy force, which occupied Hill 444, to the left rear of Company "A's" position. Company "B" to the right rear of Company "C" was also cut off by an enemy force at MADENA del LATO. This left Company "A" and "C" practically alone on this important objective. The terrain feature which the Battalion held was the last commanding ground before the PO VALLEY and was very important to the enemy, because from this position he had observation on our lines up to a distance of four (4) miles.

Shortly after Company "A" had completed their defensive position the enemy launched a small counterattack, and after a few minutes of fighting were repelled. Two hours later the enemy again struck back at Company "A", this time with a larger force and only after receiving severe casualties did he withdraw. Immediately following this attack the enemy started placing heavy mortars and artillery fire on Company "A"s" position, inflicting several casualties on the men of Company "A". Again not to be out done the enemy attacked a third time but the gallant men of Company "A" stemmed the foe, causing many casualties and driving the enemy away. Shortly after this, a heavy fog engulfed the positions held by Company "A". It was so dense that the men could not see over ten (10) feet from their positions. The already fatigued men of Company "A" realized their peril and remained on the alert throughout the entire night. The night passed without another counterattack but with intensive artillery and mortar fire, causing more casualties in Company "A". The tempo of the enemy artillery and mortar fire increased with every passing hour.

On the night of 25 October 1944, Company "K" came into a position between Companies "B" and "C", but they were still to the rear of the objective and were ready to move if needed.

The dawn of 26 October 1944 brought only heavier fog and more artillery. The enemy made no attempt at Company "A's" position that morning. At 1415 hours a more intense, more devastating barrage than ever before was laid upon Company "A's" position. After thirty (30) minutes of this the barrage lifted only to fall in all draws and approaches leading up to Company "A's" position so that no one in all draws and approaches leading up to Company "A's" was completely cut off and was from the rear could come to their aid. Company "X" was completely cut off and was forced to remain in position during the entire attack. Company "C" was at this forced to remain in position during the entire attack. Company "C" was at this forced to remain a counterattack by an enemy force so they were unable to come to Company "A's" aid.

Authority 74505

An enemy force estimated to be one Battalion attacked Company "A". The main enemy force attacked from the left flank, which was exposed, and one for Company attacked from the front. Due to the density of the fog it was impossible force. The assault on the first platoen's position, protecting the left flank of the Company ended in fierce hand to hand fighting with knives and bayonets. The first platoen of Company "A" with attachments from Company "D" fought gallantly after inflicting a casualty toll on the enemy they were finally everpowered entire first platoen and its attachments, with the exception of two (2) men were either killed or captured and the enemy drove on to the remainder of the Company. These two (2) men played dead and when the enemy's attention was drawn to another part of the hill they crawled back to the second platoen, which was already alerted by the terrific fighting, and took up positions to meet the onslaught.

The enemy drove on but a determined stand by the remaining members of Company "A" withstood the terrific onslaught by the enemy and killed and wounded more than a Company of the attacking force. The men of Company "A" gathered to make a last stand, determined to break the attack if it took the last man. The impregnable defense held and after the enemy was stopped he was less than thirty feet from the main position. The fight settled down to a battle from fox-hole to fox-hole but the few remaining men of Company "A" held their ground and began slowly to take back some of the valuable ground that was lost. The men although few by now and very fatigued held their valuable objective until help finally arrived.

- 3. Sketches, showing disposition of troops cited, supporting troops, enemy positions, and general terrain features: Inclosed.
 - 4. a. Continuous hills with deep draws was the type of terrain.
 - b. Enemy morale: Excellent.
 - c. Morale of our troops: Excellent.
 - d. Weather: Damp and cold with a dense fog over the area.
 - e. Exact time and date of action: From 0800, 23 October 1944 to 1500, 27 October 1944.
 - 5. a. Number of men assigned and attached to unit cited who took part in action:

165 Enlisted Men, 6 Officers, 4 attached Medics, 17 attached from Company "D", 337th Infantry.

- b. Number of casualties suffered by unit cited:

 40 Enlisted Men, 1 Officer, 1 attached Medic, 15 attached from Company "D", 337th Infantry.
- c. Approximate strength of supporting troops and character of support

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By T NARA Date 4-20-11

Rendered by other units.

Company "C", 337th Infantry. - 102 Enlisted Men, 2 Officers. This unit rendered practically no aid because they too were being counter-attacked by another group of enemy.

Company "K", 337th Infantry, - 110 Enlisted Men, 4 Officers. This unit could not come to Company "A's" aid because they were pinned down by artillery and morter fire.

6. a. Approximate strength of enemy.

One (1) Battalion.

b. Character of enemy fire and observation:

Heavy concentration of mortar and artillery fire, also intensive small arms fire. Enemy observation practically nil, due to heavy fog.

c. Apparent enemy intention and objective:

The enemy's intentions were to retake Mt. MEZZARO (Hill 421), Italy at all cost. This Hill was the last commanding ground between our forces and the PO VALLEY.

d. Losses suffered by enemy:

The enemy lost approximately one (1) and one half (1/2) Companies of men.

- 7. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this recommendation.
- 8. Proposed Citation:

Company "A", 337th Infantry, 85th Division is cited for outstanding accomplishments in combat. During the period 0800, 23 October 1944 to 1500, 27 October 1944 near Mt. MEZZANO (Hill 421), Italy.

Company "A" cut off from all possible aid by enemy artillery and mortar fire was attacked on 27 October 1944 at 1515 hours on Mt. MEZZANO, Italy, by an enemy force of a Battalion's strength. Fighting gallantly the few fatigued men of this much understrength Company repelled this attack and caused many casualties on the enemy forces. These fighting men held their valuable objective, which was the last commanding ground before the much contested PO VALLEY. They held off a superior enemy force fighting hand to hand from fox-hole to fox-hole until finally help arrived to reinforce their position. The courage of these gallant men was a

fine example of the fighting American soldier and set a pattern for others to follow.

A. R. SCHKILT, Lt. Colonel, 337th Infantry

Commanding.

Inclosures:

Incl 1. Unit Roster

Incl 2. List of Casualties

Incl 3. List of men hospitalized

Incl 4. Sketches

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By RI NARA Date 4-20-11

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HEADQUARTERS 337TH INFANTRY, APO #85, U. S. Army, 6 January 1945.

TO: Commanding General, 85th Infantry Division, APO #85, U. S. Army.

Approved.

O. W. HUGHES Colonel, 337th Infantry, Commanding.

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2nd Ind.

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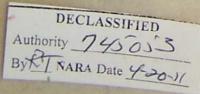
HEADQUARTERS 85TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 85, U.S.Army, 12 Jan 45.

TO: Commanding General, Fifth Army, APO #464, U.S. Army.

Approved.

JOHN B. COULTER, Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

4 Incls.





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AG 201.22-AD 3rd Ind. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY, A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army, JAN 301945

To: Commending General, 85th Inf Div, A. P. O. #85, U. S. Army,

It is not felt that the action described in the basic recommendation fully complies with the high stendards set by the War Department for this award. However, it is suggested that the notable performance of this unit be recognized by commendation or citation in general orders of your Division.

By command of Lieutenant General TRUSCOTT:

M. F. GRANT, Colonel, A. G. D., Adjutant General.



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By TNARA Date 4-20-11

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COMPANY "A" SEVER INFARTSY

The following is a rester of the assigned and attached efficers and calisted men of Company "A", 337th Infantry, during the period from 22 October 1944 inclusive.

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DIMPERIO, JOSEPI	H H.	2 LT	0-155756	Thon
	China.			
	ASSOCION DE	ENLISTED MEN		
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN	nn *			
ACKEPHER, LEGHAL	112 V 4	5/207	52369688	
ADMS, JAKES		PFC	38314248	
AGUINE, VIVIAB	A	2/3	58359919	
HEAD, JOSEPH .		PFO	52525119	
ALEBOOK, IV A ALEBOOK, IV A ALEBOOK, HENVIS AMELIX, JOHNNIE ANTONIELI, LOUIS AVAMPATO, JOHN F. BAILLY, GLORGE A BAKEN, LANGER	7	7/5	34444709	
SIDNESS DE CLYTT		T/SOT	6250574	
ARDRAGU, BURYER	L. JR.		13157650	
ARREST JOHNSON		270	20030300	
ARTOMELI, LOUIS	5	PFC PVT PFC PVT	82615890	
AVAMPATO, JUNES	3.	PVT	33.881.682	
BIND, JOHN F.		PFC	58423818	
BATLEY, GEORGE I	I.	PVY	84202090	
BAKER, LABOURES		PPC	53457245	
BARRALLE, MONO	7 3,	SAL	39404221	
BARRY, TABL J.		PFC	371,22097	
BASTE, HERY R.		SUT	38 84 35 31	
BARTE, HERY R. BELIEGER, REREY	J.	FFG SGT SGT	52192785	
Brighte, Might		PVE	216 5920 2	
BUGLUND, MIRTH	IB.	PVZ	329 50 49 2	
BIRGINGHIM, THE	ELS H.	PVI	32946768	
BINBY, BEMARIE	J.	PPO	23151708	
B W. H. J.		210 P10	5444181	
BANK, H. J. BANK, VILLER		FVE	58303580	
BOSTIBLA PERKI	4	PYC	39117197	
District a Complete of		170	55068164	
BIGGHAD, LDLY		277	38499438	
BUCKLEY, JOHN D.		FVI	12210712	
BUCKLEY, JOHN D.	NY A.		38377704	
Bulling during h na		IVI.	355 49587	
BUIGES, GATEGE	W.	PFU	80092446	
Bush Mr. Shaper	Ma.	PVE	35 508952 35341334	3 4
BUTCEL LEGIS		7/5	35541936	
COMPAGN, BONG	CIR L.	PVE	58296215	
GARYIN, A ROS C.			22944905	
CASTRO, JOE S.		5/302	33 25 20 57	
CHILDRES, AFRICA	DB.	277	7025498 20745508	
CISSEL, BEEC. U.		PAL	88157781	
GEORGE JOHN TO		PFC	31318086	
CHE, MINT J.	of line	5/30T	55781098	
DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF	4	PVZ	55092804	-
DAVIDSON, ALVIN	No.	1/3	50541618	
of Paleota, John		PVK	83690414	1
THE CANDER, EAST	-	PFC	3/8/14/55	
DI MORFO, PAUL	24		58771505	
ngamino, instant	£ 44	PFC.	30677304	
DESTROY OF MENT	44	FFG	36100200	
TO THE PARTY OF		272	37274361	
DATE, LEATER W.	7	SIST	3476 600 5	
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WARE, HEMIS S.

PLIES, HOMER

FORCET, BAVID L.

GALLMENE, GENER R.

GALLMENE, GENER R.

GALLMENE, GENER R.

GALLMENE, JOHNS R.

GODDE, MAR B.

GODDE, MAR B.

GORDE, MAR B.

GREVER, WIR R.

GREVER, WIR R.

GREVER, WIR R.

JAMINER, GENER A.

JAMINER, GENER A.

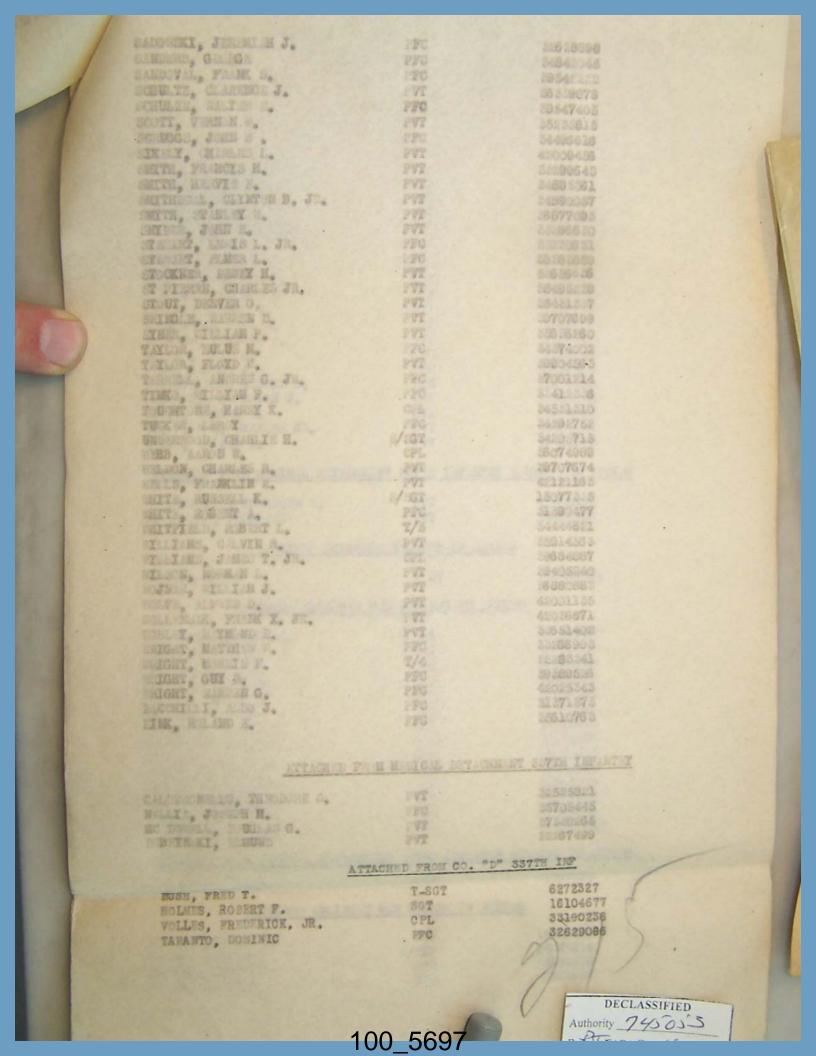
JOHNSON, STAUR G.

JOHNSON, TANN J.

KOCKARLETTA, FRUILF H.

KUCKA, JAME J.

KUCKA, JAME J. 33854B49 1046-0000 EL 3507 32 42027 522 5.776165 362240E 9 55516 525 ByET NARA Date 4-30 SOVECEBE! \$404085 DECLASSIFIED 100 5696



COMPANY "A" BETTH ISPANTEY

The following is a rester of the assigned and attached efficers and emlisted men of Company "A", 327th Infantry who became battle ensualties carring the period from 23 detaber 1966 to 27 Seteber 1964 inclusive.

ASSIGNED SELISTED MEN SOUNDED IN ACTION

MADE DELAMANT, COMMAN	HANK	
		STATISTICS
RINGE, MEMO LANGE		34444793
AND COM, CLYDE C.	T/SOT	6258574
BUSCHAI, SAMUAL M.	PVT	86 3089 52
DIAMOND, HERBERT J.	FFO	35771395
DI FRANCIA, JOHN E.	SAX	32541696
ESTES, GHARLES L. JR.	CPL	5476 508.5
PLINK, HERMER	PVT	41037397
G.CGIN, JOSEPH JR.		17155580
JOHNSON, WILLAND M.	270	36.243726
LEVICKAS, PRIEK P.	SGT	701114734
LIMBO, ARTURO V.	FFC	28383334
MALMITTON, CARL A.	PVT	32857919
MICHARD, REYMOND A.	1.63	73,421780
MILLER, ESSE H.	DAG	58590238
PARR, GEORGE S.	PFC	37462309
MOSERFELDER, GERALD S.	PFO	32951584
SADOWSKI, JEGUNIAH J.	PFC	32628898
SCOTT, YERNOR W.	PVT	55235815
ST. FIRME, CHARLES JR.	SAL	26495239
WOLFE, ALFRED D.	PVT	42001135

ATTACH D FROM MEDICAL DETACHMENT ASTTR INFARTRY & UNDED IN ACTION

CALBURELLO, TH	SODORE S.	PVT	32525821
MC ROWELL, DOUG		TVI	37550285

ACTION OFFICERS MISSING IN ACTION

HELSON, JEMY 2 LT 0-150442		E, JENY		2 17	0-3.80442
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ASSIGNED ENGISTED MEN MISSING IN ACTION

ACKE MAN, LEUNARD J.	S/30T	52869688
AGUIRME, VIVIAR	PVT	26252928
ANTONOLLI, LOUIS	FVT	32615890
	PFC	63058164
BONARD, SAMUEL J.		
FOREST, DAVID L.	SGT	11164169
GORDON, DALE D.	PPC	894600812
LORENGEE, ANDREW J.	PFC	58490860
MINSTRAD, WILLIAM R.	202	88786068
STREET, RATE L.		26.562659
Toylon, FLOXO .	PVT	18904563
		54581810
TOUCHTONS, HARRY K.		
TELLS, PRINKLIN E.	PVI	42121165
BUGRT, BUY D.	PFO	59 589 526
ARCCHILL, ALDO J.	PYC	10.871378
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ATTACHED PROM MEDICAL DETACHMENT SETTH INFANTAX MISSING IN ACTION

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			02101400
THE RESERVE TO CHEEK		EVE	

ASSIGNAD SELICIAD SEN KILLED IN ACTION

	ALCOHOL: NO CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE P		
BROOK, WILLI	H. RT R.	PVT	1650N528
GOMAN, MIGAN		S/SOT	16073918
MARGUM, M.B.		PVT	14591104
MYENE, JAMES		PVT	14591104

ATTACH D FROM COMPANY "D", 337TH INPANTRY MISSING IN ACTION

WATSON, ERNEST F.	PVT	31288253
KALAMASZ, JOHN A.	SGT	35307153
BOYD, DORWIN R.	S-SGT	37276583
MILLS, WILLIAM R.	SGT	31061171
KENT, BILLY R.	FVT	34801333
MEMES, MICHEAL	FVT	39621215
MoCANN, HUGH E. F.	PVT	33794175
PYLE, HALFH C.	PFC	33692060
MORSE, DAYTON C.	PVT	36686347
HOLMES, HERBERT E.	SGT	16104677
CLINE, PRIER L. JR.	PVT	38774450
DOTY, HOWARD D.	PPC .	37529757
WEISINGER, MILLARD L.	PPC	32800488

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COMPANY "A" BUTTH INFANTRY

The following is a rester of the officers and emisted men also were assigned or attached to Company "A", 557th Infantry during the period from 25 October to 27 October 1844 inclusive but are now assigned or attached to other organizations:

ASSIGNED OFFICERS

MANE	RANK	AUN	PRESERT STATUS
PETROGLIA, ANTHONY		0-1808888	and Gen Hosp and Gen Hosp

ASSIGNED RELISTED MEN

Application of the second	The second second	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	
ANDERSON, CINIC C.	T/SGT	6256574	Sath Gen Hoop
AVAMPATO, JAMES J.	FVT	31361512	
BATLEY, GROEDE H.	PVT	54181698	7th Repl Dapot
BUCKLEY, JOHE D.	PVT	12238712	GOLAT CLE Sta
BUSCANI, SAMUEL N.	PYT	36308952	300th Gen Hosp
CLOSNER, JOSE T.	PEC	38157761	64th Gen Hosp
COOPER, SAMUEL E.	PVT	15781086	55d Gen Rosp
DISHOND, HERRIET J.	PFC	25771195	64th Gan Hosp
DI FRANCIA, JOHN L.	FFT	32541698	64th Gen Heap
ISTES, CHARLES L. JR.	CPL	54768065	and Gen Hosp
FLIM, HEIMAN	PVT	40007307	Sid Gen Hosp
GOOGIN, JOHNSH JR.	S/SGT	12155884	64th Gen Hosp
JOHNSON, WILLAND N.	FFU	88267785	64th Gon Hosp
LAMPENT, SAMUEL	NAC	\$3.80Y8E	lith Sta Hosp
LEE, MAX L.	BAL	89922552	AT Go this Bogt
LEVICEAS, FRANK P.	SUT	16224714	14th Gon Hosp
LIEBDO, ARTURO V.	PEC	58359004	14th Gon Hosp
WALMSTROM, CARL A.	PVT	95894010	64th Gon Husp
MYCHAUD, RAYMOND A.	PVI	51431780	BlO Med Bn.
WILLEN, EARL H.	PFG	35690238	55d Gen Hosp
MURAT, HARDLD T.	PVT	42010658	24th Gen Hosp
PARR, ORDEGE 3.	PFG	37462339	and Gen Horp
PETRUSCHAUT, NORMAN M.	PAL	35760935	Soth Gen Hosp
POWTEFF, ARROLD	SAL	31420970	64th Gen Hosp
BAROUSKI, JEREMI HE J.	PFC	32618898	60th Gen Hosp
GOOTT, VERBAN W.	PEC	35255015	57th Gen Hosp
TATLOR, BULUS M.	PEC	84374002	24th Gen Hosp
TERREIL, SECRET G. JR.	220	87001214	84th Cen Hosp geth Gen Hosp
TIMO, WILLIAM F.	PFC	35412236	24th Gen Hosp
MILLIAMS, CALVIS B.	PVT	35914863	So L 557th Inf
MITE, REBERT A.	PVT	51300477	Sed Gen Hosp
SOLFE, MAPRED U.	FAL	42001138	Reth Gen Bosp
WRIGHT, WARD IN G.	FFC	41028848	trame near many

ATTACHED PROPEREDICAL DETACHMENT BETTE HEYARDEL

	THE WAY THE PARTY OF	1997	3252531.1	64th	Gen	Houp
GALLESS BELLOS				64th		
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CONFIDENTIAL HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF A BOARD OF OFFICERS

Proceedings of a Fifth Army, on JAN 1 Orders 353, Headquarter recommendation of:	opard of Officers which convened at Headquarters 7 1945, pursuant to paragraph 4, Special rs Fifth Army, 1944. The board considered the				
NA.E	RAVA ASN				
ORGANIZATION	COMPANY A, 337th INFANTRY REGIMENT				
PROPOSED AVARD UNIT CITATION					
RECOMMENDATIONS: The	board having considered carefully the recommenda-				

tion, certificates and affidavits attached to the recommendation, recom-

1. Approval for Commendation

By	DEC Authority
NARA Date 5	DECLASSIFIED by 14503
	SSIFIEI
11-00-31	10

AARON BRADSHAW, JR Brigadier General, USA, President.

HENRY S. ROWLAND, JR. BYTAG Colonel, CL, member.

LUTHER L. FISH,

lajor, Infantry,

member.

JOHN T. CASEY, Lt Col, FA, ember.

JOHN D. RAINEY,/ 1st Lt, Infantry, Member & Recorder. D C/s Concur in Connerdation

* But believe Commertation should Game from Division Commander - recommend return with Indorsement Agree with DCS 1-MEIDENTIAL