

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO. 34

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington 25, D. C., 10 April 1946

BATTLE HONORS—Citations of units.....VII

VII..BATTLE HONORS.—As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following units are cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation read as follows:

2. The 442d Regimental Combat Team (less the 522d Field Artillery Battalion) composed of the following elements:

- 442d Infantry Regiment,
- 232d Combat Engineer Company.

is cited for outstanding accomplishment in combat for the period 5 to 14 April 1945 in the vicinity of Scerravezza, Carrara, and Fosdinovo, Italy. When the 92d Infantry Division with the 442d Regimental Combat Team attached was ordered to open the Fifth Army offensive by executing a diversionary attack on the Ligurian Coast of Italy, the combat team was ordered to make the main effort of the attack. It was done by executing a daring and skillful flanking attack on the positions which formed the western anchor of the formidable Gothic Line. In 4 days, the attack destroyed positions which had withstood the efforts of friendly troops for 5 months. This was accomplished in the face of skilled enemy forces nearly equal in strength to the attacking forces and who had at least 5 months in which to improve their position. The 442d Regimental Combat Team drove forward, despite heavy casualties. Allowing the enemy no time for rest or reorganization, the combat team liberated the city of Carrara, seized the heights beyond, and opened the way for further advances on the way to the key road center and port of La Spezia and to Genoa. It accomplished the mission of creating a diversion along the Ligurian Coast, which served as a feint for the subsequent break-through of the Fifth Army forces into Bologna and the Po Valley. The successful accomplishment of this mission turned a diversionary action into a full scale and victorious offensive, which played an important part in the final destruction of the German armies in Italy. The gallantry and esprit de corps displayed by the officers and men of the 442d Regimental Combat Team in bitter action against a formidable enemy exemplify the finest tradition of the armed forces of the United States.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

22 JUL 1946

OFFICIAL:
EDWARD F. WITSELL
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The Adjutant General

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
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A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

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