

HEADQUARTERS
EASTERN BASE SECTION
Office of the Engineer

17 July 1943

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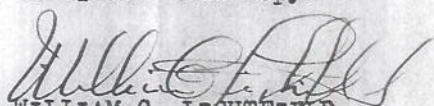
Subject: Commendation.

To : Commanding Officer, 343d Engineer Regiment (GS).

1. On the event of your passing from under my command, I wish to extend to you and all personnel of your Regiment my appreciation of the services rendered by the members of your Regiment. This expression of appreciation goes with my best wishes for even a more successful career in the future than you have had in the past.
2. This expression of appreciation is prompted by the fact that at all times while under my command this Regiment has performed in excellent fashion all its assignments.
3. The officers and enlisted personnel have invariably rendered whole-hearted cooperation in addition to always doing a very intelligent job and doing it with dispatch.
4. I rate the 343d Engineer Regiment (GS) as being one of the best Engineer Regiments it has been my fortune to be connected with.

DONALD B. ADAMS,
Colonel, C. E.,
Engineer.

Certified True Copy:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE, 343rd Engineers (GS)
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND: 73807
By EM NARA, Date 4/18

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the Engineer

7 October 1943.

Colonel Richard B. Dunbar,
Commanding Officer,
343d Engineer Regt. (GS).

Dear Colonel Dunbar:

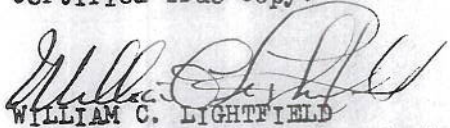
I want to again express to you and to your fine regiment my personal appreciation, as well as that of my staff, for the splendid cooperation you gave us and for the fine performance that you and your regiment turned in.

We feel that your work in and around Palermo and the repairing of bridges on the North side of the island was outstanding. It has been a distinct pleasure to all of us to have worked with you, and we sincerely hope that we will have the pleasure of serving together again in the not too distant future.

Sincerely yours,

GARRISON H. DAVIDSON,
Colonel, C. E.,
Engineer.

Certified True Copy:



WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE, 343rd Engineers (GS)
Adjutant

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

10 November 1943

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Colonel Richard B. Dunbar, Commanding Officer, 343rd Engineer
General Service Regiment, A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army.


1. The 343rd Engineer General Service Regiment under your energetic command has demonstrated great resourcefulness, skill and devotion to duty in the accomplishment of engineering operations vital to the advance of the Fifth Army. The two major bridges constructed across the VOLTURNO at PTE ANNIBALE AND CAPUA are particularly worthy of commendation.

2. It gives me real pleasure to commend you personally and your regiment for past services, and to express my complete confidence that the 343rd Engineers will continue to reflect honor upon itself, the Corps of Engineers, and the Fifth Army.

3. I desire that this letter be brought to the attention of all members of your command.

MARK W. CLARK,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND: 73007
By IM NAVA, Date 4/02

US RESTRICTED Equals British RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 534

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 139)

19 November 1943

* * * EXTRACT * * *

IV - AWARD OF LEGION OF MERIT

Under authority contained in Section IV, War Department Circular Number 15 dated 3 June 1943, a Legion of Merit medal is awarded in the name of the President to the following named individuals:

RICHARD B. DUNBAR, 0192667, Colonel, CE, Headquarters, ** Engineers (GS), for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the period 6 December 1942 to 26 September 1943. In North Africa, he distinguished himself by the superior manner in which he directed his command in the construction of vital hospitals, encampments, port facilities, railroads and warehouses as well as the clearing of mine-fields. In Sicily, he personally directed and rushed to rapid completion the clearing of the port of Palermo which involved the emergency repair of dock facilities, reestablishment of utilities within the city, reopening lines of communication, and the construction of vital roads and bridges. Entered service from Fort Worth, Texas.


By command of General EISENHOWER:

E. L. FORD,
Brigadier General, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ H. V. Roberts,
/t/ H. V. ROBERTS,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

Certified true copy.


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant

US RESTRICTED Equals British RESTRICTED

FOB/cjk
10 June 1944

Subject: Commendation on Outstanding Work in Bridge Construction.

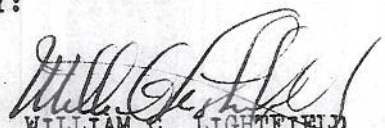
To: The Commanding Officer, 343rd Engineer General Service Regiment, A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army.

1. I wish to express to you and your officers and men the appreciation of the Fifth Army for the outstanding work which the Regiment has done in the construction of bridges. The CAPUA bridge has been the life-line of the Fifth Army for the past six months. During this time it has passed well over a million vehicles, many of them 40 tons and over. It should rate as one of the great military bridges.

2. The construction of the bridge across the GARIGLIANO in five days surpasses in technical achievement, if not in tactical importance, the construction of the CAPUA bridge. It has shown what can be done through sound planning and superior engineer organization.

FRANK O. BOWMAN
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant

FOB/cjk
10 June 1944


Subject: Commendation on Outstanding Work in Bridge Construction.

To: The Commanding Officer, 343rd Engineer General Service Regiment, A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army.

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FRANK O. BOWMAN
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
A. P. O. #464, U.S. Army

11 July 1944

Subject: Letter of Farewell.

To : Commanding Officer, 343rd Engineer General Service Regiment, A. P. O. #782, U. S. Army.

1. It is with deep regret that I see the 343rd General Service Regiment leave the fold of Fifth Army after the fine record of achievement which it has established for itself.

2. Your regiment justly earned within Fifth Army the enviable nickname of "The Bridge Builders"; you earned this title under the most difficult conditions beginning shortly after the first landing at Salerno, continuing thereafter in the midst of an unusually severe and bitter winter campaign in which the particular lot of the engineer was among the hardest.

3. I also wish to congratulate you for the extremely effective support which you gave to the II Corps during the recent offensive which started on 11 May from the Garigliano to Rome and from there nearly to Leghorn; your work made it possible for the II Corps to maintain its rate of advance over difficult and accidented terrain.


4. At this time when you are bound for new undertakings I wish to add my personal thanks to my congratulations in wishing you every success in the task which lies ahead of you. I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) Mark W. Clark
(t) MARK W. CLARK
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

Copy to: Engineer Hq., Fifth Army

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
APO #758 U.S. Army

25 September 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 343d Engineer Regiment (G.S.).

1. Upon the capacity of our lines of communication depends the limit to which our army can advance and the size of the force with which we can oppose the enemy. Our extended lines place an unusual premium on the rapidity with which we can repair the railroad.


2. To date, your regiment has borne the burden of this repair. On 3 September 1944, you were assigned the repair of four key bridges to insure rail communication between Marseille and Lyons by the target date of October 1st desired by the Commanding General, Sixth Army Group. Although handicapped by lack of transportation taken from you to haul essential combat supplies and compelled to improvise from materials you were able to scavenge along the line of advance, you completed all four bridges before the end of the third week in September, thereby insuring our supply by rail considerably earlier than had been hoped for.

3. The record speaks for itself. It reflects great credit on your regiment for its ability, energy, and morale and on you for your qualities as its commander.

4. Please convey my congratulations and thanks to the officers and men of your command for this major contribution to our campaign and accept my personal congratulations on a job well done.

A. M. PATRH
Lieutenant General, U. S. A.,
Commanding

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


WILLIAM C. LIGHTFIELD
Captain, CE,
Adjutant