

HEADQUARTERS 2ND ARMORED DIVISION
Office of the Division Commander

A.P.O. 252
18 April 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Lt. Col. Carlton E. Stuart, Commanding Officer,
Third Battalion, 119th Infantry Regiment.

Thru: Commanding General, 30th Infantry Division.

1. I desire to commend you and your Battalion for your gallant and heroic action during the establishment of a bridgehead across the Elbe River, Germany, by the 2nd Armored Division. Having forced a crossing of the six hundred feet wide river in assault boats on the night of April 13th, you successfully executed the difficult night maneuver of slipping your bridgehead south for several miles through hostile and unfamiliar terrain to a more favorable crossing site. Then, at first light, against a numerically superior enemy supported by tanks and self-propelled guns, you repelled a vicious attack designed to eradicate the bridgehead. Men, cut off from their command during this attack by enemy armor, courageously and ingeniously made their way to the river and swam back to safety.

2. Throughout the action, your esprit de corps, soldierly skill and gallantry under fire were outstanding. The entire Division takes pride in the gallant and heroic stand made by your command.

(S) I. D. White
(T) I. D. White
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

201.22 1st Ind.

(18 Apr 45)

HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION? APO 30, U.S.ARMY? 21 April 45

TO: Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 119th Infantry, APO 30;
THRU: Commanding Officer, 119th Infantry, APO 30.

It is with pride that I forward this letter of commendation, and I desire to add my congratulations for the skill and heroism demonstrated by you and your men during this engagement. Your actions are worthy of the high traditions and reputation of this Division.

Reproduced by 3rd Bn., 119th Infantry (S) L. S. Hobbs
25 April 1945 (T) L. S. Hobbs
Major General- U.S. Army
Commanding

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS COMBAT COMMAND "R"
SECOND ARMORED DIVISION
APO 252

10 April 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Commanding Officer 3rd Battalion, 119th Infantry Regiment,
APO 30.

THRU : Channels.

1. I wish to commend the officers and enlisted personnel of the 3rd Battalion of the 119th Infantry Regiment for their splendid performance of duty in combat against the enemy from 2 April 1945 to 8 April 1945, during the drive of the 2nd Armored Division from the Teutoburger Wald to the Liene River. Owing to the exigency of the tactical situation the 3rd Battalion of the 119th Infantry Regiment was attached to Combat Command "R" without prior notice at approximately 0500, 2 April 1945 in support of operations of the 2nd Armored Division, after executing an all night march. Upon joining, the Battalion was ordered to start marching with the Combat Command at 0830. The Battalion assumed its assigned positions in the task force columns and marched from a point just south of Wiedenbruck, coordinates B379567, Map of Central Europe, 1/100,000 Detmold Sheet P3, to the vicinity of Senzel. Within two hours after closing in temporary bivouac the Battalion was ordered to attack in cooperation with other elements of Combat Command "R" to develop a bridgehead over the Teutoburger Wald in the vicinity of coordinates B 605775, and thus permit the passage of Combat Command "A" and Combat Command "B" of the Second Armored Division through the most difficult terrain feature yet encountered in the drive east of the Rhine River. It is noteworthy that despite the inherent disadvantage of arduous march, the 3rd Battalion of the 119th Infantry Regiment along with other elements of Combat Command "R" skillfully and vigorously fought throughout the night and by 1930 on the following day had completely secured the bridgehead. This operation was carried out in a cold rain through a densely wooded mountainous area without the benefit of Air Support.

2. Prior to the completion of this task, other elements of the Battalion were ordered to attack from Bielfeld, two and one half miles to the southeast, to secure the central road junction northwest of Oerlinghen, vicinity of coordinates C605776 (Hildersheim Sheet). The attack was launched at 1445, 3 April 1945, and owing to careful planning and skillful execution the objective was reached and secured by 1515 on that date.

3. Upon completion of this task, the establishment of the Teutoburger Wald bridgehead, the 3rd Battalion of the 119th Infantry marched into Lemgo, Ostersick, and across the Weser River in support of Combat Command "A" and Combat Command "B" during which operation the necessary roadblocks were established and small pockets of enemy resistance cleared up.

4. At approximately 1615, 6 April 1945, the 3rd Battalion, 119th Infantry pushed out as an important part of Combat Command "R" to spearhead the 2nd Armored Divisions attack from Lauenstein to Burgstemmen in the vicinity of the Ienine River. The attack was executed boldly and vigourously. Resistance by the enemy Infantry in Esbeck was soon overcome and the town taken by 1910. Pushing forward, the striking force entered Else at 2030 and the Infantrymen spent the balance of the night coolly and methodically cleaning out all resistance despite constant danger from snipers and from the extreme physical discomfort of a cold wet rain. Approximately 150 prisoners were taken before the town was cleared. The following morning the mission was completed by the securing of bridges over the Leine River and the towns of BURGSTEMMEN and NORDSTEMMEN.

5. These outstanding combat achievement of the 3rd Battalion, 119th Infantry Regiment are further enhanced by the fact that it was the only Infantry Battalion assigned to Combat Command "R" of the 2nd Armored Division, and that the missions described were primarily Infantry missions which were executed in one continuous drive.

6. The rapid assimilation of the tactical situation and the ease of adaptation to the armored force tactics demonstrated by the officers and men of the 3rd Battalion of the 119th Infantry Regiment in executing difficult and hazardous missions under the most arduous of combat conditions, over a prolonged period of time, is worthy of the highest praise and contributed immeasurably to the speed and strength of the operation, thus paralyzing a heterogeneous group of determined enemy troops composed of members of March Battalions, Quartermaster Depot Troops, Volksturm and Werwolf Organizations and pushed back the bulk of the Wehrkreis VI Troops far to the Southeast.

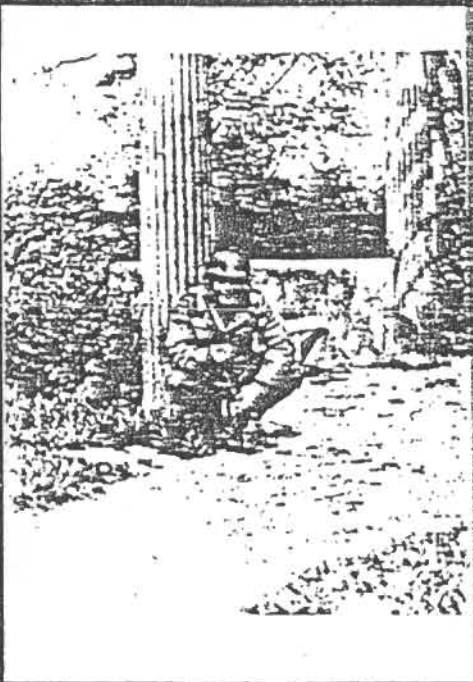
s/ R. W. Jenna
t/ R. W. JENNA
Lt. Col., 41st Armd. Infantry
Commanding

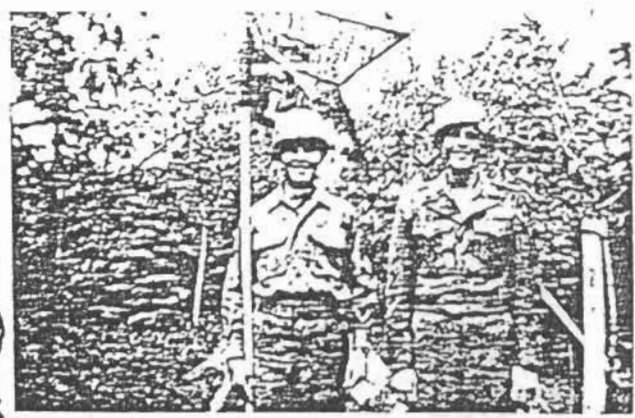


VE Day



Before Rhine Crossing





Sgt WISE, LT KNOX



LT'S
WILLIAMS KNOX PARRANORE



KNOX, STANFORD

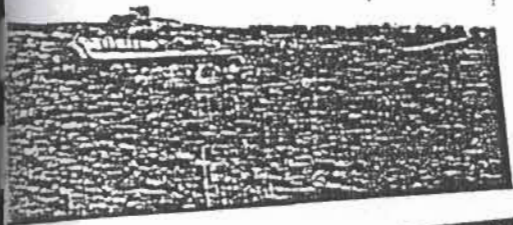


KNOX
& TULLBANE

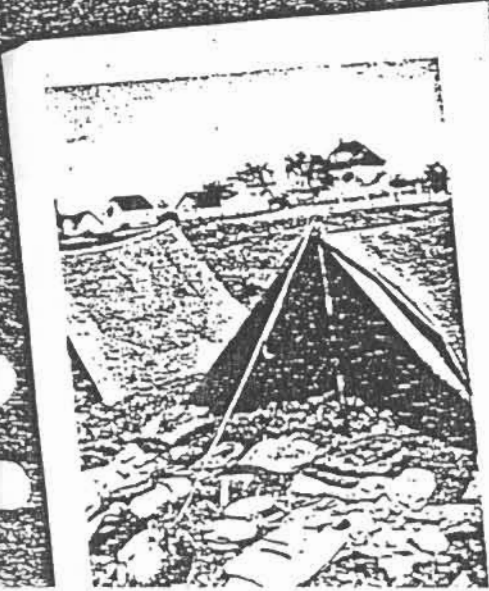


BACK
MOSEB, ? WILLIAMS
WIER & SNELL





LT PARKS (Medic)

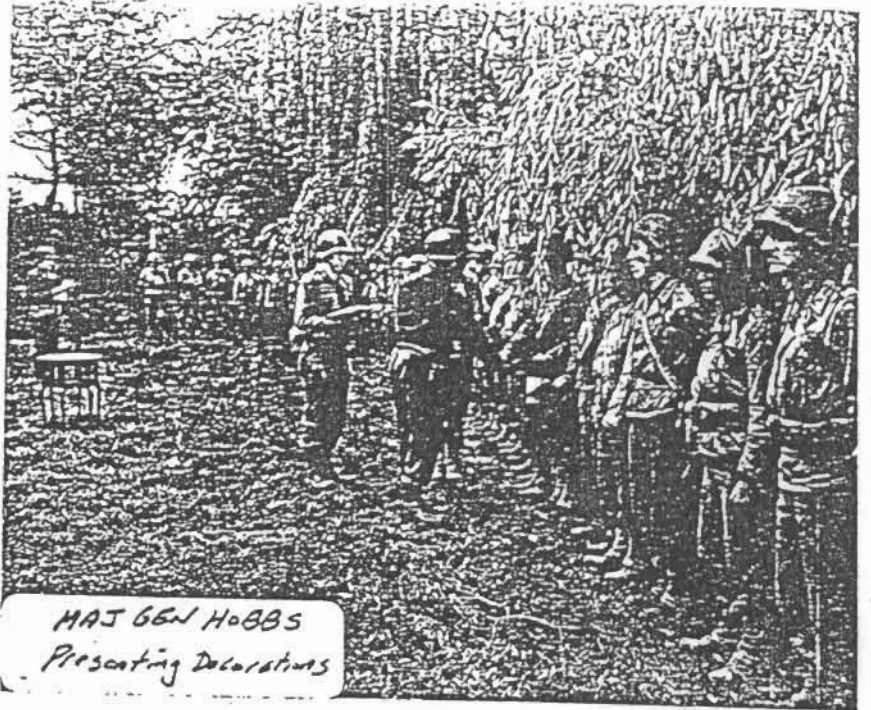


Near
11/14/45





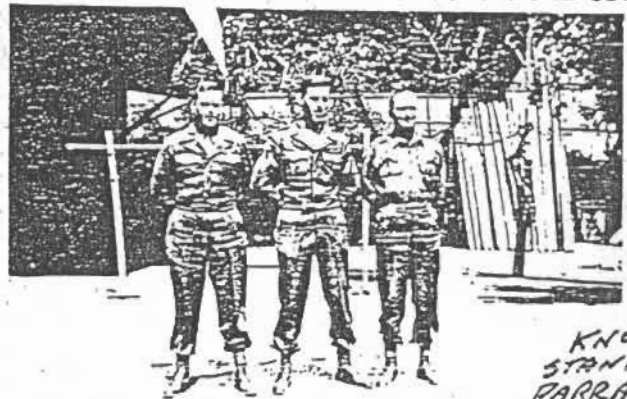
CAPT STANFORD



MAJ GEN HOBBS
Presenting Decorations



LT WILLIAMS
CAPT STANFORD



KNOX
STANFORD
PARRAMORE

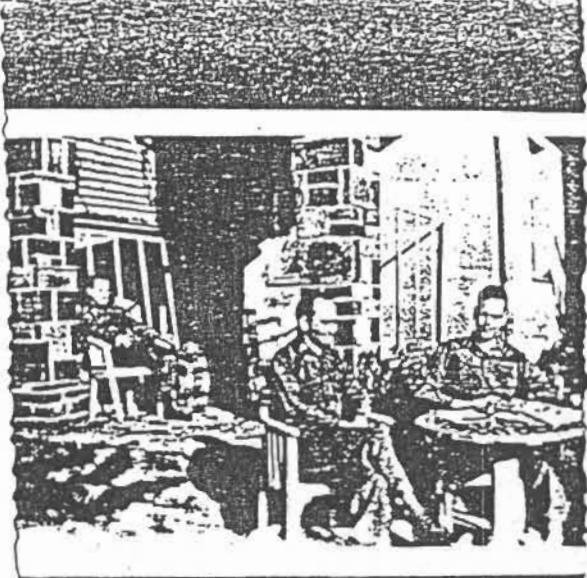


LTS
WILLIAMS, PARKS
PARRAMORE, SNELL KN





JOE RUGGERO



LANCLOIS PARRAMORE KNOX



Capt Wise



JOE RUGGERO ZORENA



Sgt Joe Kirby



KIRBY-BOSOFSKY ZORENA



ZORENA





MAJ GEN
LELAND S HOBBS
15CL#
DAVID F KNOX
O-461106



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