

HEADQUARTERS 442D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM
APO #758, U. S. ARMY

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670-1
UNCLASSIFIED

314.7

6 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Historical Report.

TO: Commanding General, 44th AAA Brigade, APO #758, U. S. Army.

1. In compliance with Circular No. 34, Headquarters Seventh Army, 28 November 1944, and AR 345-105, 18 November 1929 with Changes 4, 10 August 1944, transmitted herewith historical report of 442d Infantry for the month of 1 - 31 January 1945.

2. Above history consists of:

Report as per par 13, AR 345-105, with Exhibits A and B (Incl. 1).

Narrative of Events (Incl. 2). (9985) INR6-442-0.3

Unit Journal (Incl. 3).

Unit Journal File - Orders, Maps, Overlays, etc. (Incl. 4).

For the Commanding Officer:

Harry B. Farr
HARRY B. FARR,
Capt, 442d Inf,
Adjutant.

4 Incls - As listed.

DOWNGRADED TO:
CLASSIFICATION REMOVED
BY AUTHORITY OF TAG WDT

28 Feb 46

Date

HSD

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HISTORY OF 442D INFANTRY AS PER AR 345-105, PAR 13
FOR MONTH OF 1 - 31 JANUARY 1945

1. Original Unit.

No change.

2. Changes in Organization.

No change.

3. Strength*.

	O's	WO's	EM
a. At beginning of period 1 Jan 45	151	6	2699
b. At end of period 31 Jan 45	161	6	3068
c. Net increase month 1 - 31 Jan 45	10	-	369

*Figures shown are "present for duty" strength.

4. Stations.

1 - 31 Jan 442d Infantry in combat in Maritime Alps Sector along the French-Italian Border from the Mediterranean coast at Menton to Mount Grosso, Northeast of Sospel. Regimental CP located at LE VIGNAL (near Contes) from beginning of period until 10 Jan 45. From 10 Jan till end of period Regimental CP located in the Hostellerie du Castellino, L'ESCARRENE, France.

5. Marches.

Rescinded by par 12, C3, AR 345-105.

6. Campaign.

Name of: GERMANY. (Sec VI, GO 80, WD, 5 Oct 44)

Duration: 442d Infantry in line at beginning of period (1 Jan 45) to end of period (31 Jan 45).

Purpose: Destruction of German Army; occupation of Germany; defense of Franco-

Authority: Assigned to Seventh Army; attached to 44th AAA Brigade Italian Border for operations.

7. Battles.

a. Name and date: MARITIME ALPS SECTOR (Vic Menton, Sospel).
Regiment in combat during entire month.

b. Campaign of which battles were a part: Germany.

c. Forces engaged: German and Italian Fascist infantry, artillery.
Following units identified:

253d Grenadier Regiment (34th Infantry Division)
1st Sturmbootflotille (coastal patrol)
2d Separate Bersaglieri Bn (Italian)

d. Results:

Protected right flank of Sixth Army Group along French-Italian Border; continued to hold defensive positions with aggressive combat and reconnaissance patrols daily; maintained security of French coast from Cap Martin to border; maintained security against enemy behind-the-lines activity; obtained intelligence on enemy positions and intentions by capture of prisoners.

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8. Commanding Officer.
Colonel C. W. PENCE, O-10283, Infantry.
9. Losses in Action.
See Exhibit "A" attached.
10. Present and Former Members Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Action.
See Exhibit "B" attached.
11. Photographs of Personnel, Important Scenes or Events.
None available.

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442D INFANTRY
BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT
January 1 - 31, 1945

KILLED IN ACTION:

1. Kaneshiro, Seichi	Pfc	30104005	Co H
2. Karatsu, James S.	Sgt	37345369	Co H (DOW)
3. KURATA, MINORU	2D LT	O-1998656	Co G
4. Kondo, Herbert Y.	Pfc	30103667	Co G
5. Mitani, Kazuo	Pfc	39677200	Co F
6. Tanaka, John Y.	Pfc	37708538	Co G

INJURED IN ACTION:

1. Morimune, Shigetsugi	Pfc	36896854	Co F
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WOUNDED IN ACTION:

1. Sakata, Yukio	Pvt	39159384	Co H
2. Yano, Francis K.	Pfc	30105711	Hq Co 2d Bn
3. Mizuno, Herbert K.	Pvt	30104552	AT Co
4. Hikichi, Yoshio	Pvt	30104591	AT Co
5. Ota, Masanori	Pfc	30105791	AT Co
6. Yamagata, Wallace S.	Pfc	30104076	Hq Co 100th Bn
7. Kukita, Shigeo	Pfc	30104124	Hq Co 100th Bn
8. Kawamoto, Yoshimasa	Pfc	30100028	Co G
9. Nakagawa, Richard M.	Pfc	39924326	Co F
10. Iwamasa, Masao	Pfc	30104397	Co F
11. SLOAN, ARTHUR D.	2D LT	O-1309023	Co G
12. Yoshiwa, Yoshimasa	Pfc	30105346	Co G
13. Kawabata, Taketo	Pfc	30104110	Co G
14. Arashiro, Kenneth K.	Pfc	30104746	Co G
15. Higa, Katsumori	Sgt	30105623	Co G
16. Hemano, Kinzo	Pfc	31166680	Co B
17. Watanabe, Tom T.	Pfc	39924192	Co B
18. BLANCO, FRANCIS R.	2D LT	O-1305529	Co F
19. Nakahara, Susumu	Pfc	30104094	Co F
20. Terasaki, Harry J.	Pvt	39084556	Co C
21. Hiraoka, Yoshio	Pfc	39226626	Co C
22. Okamura, Toshio	Pfc	30106011	Co E
23. Nakata, Kozun	Pvt	30105265	Co E
24. Takemoto, Tsuneo	Sgt	30103873	Co E

EXHIBIT "A"

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SUMMARY OF AWARDS AND DECORATIONS - JAN 45

Presidential Unit Citation (Cos F and L)	
Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumous)	1
Distinguished Service Cross	2
Legion of Merit	1
Silver Star (Posthumous)	1
Silver Star	11
Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star	1
Bronze Star	3
Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart	20
Purple Heart	91
Combat Infantryman's Badge	105
Expert Infantryman's Badge	5
Good Conduct Medal	159

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EXHIBIT "B"

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442D INFANTRY
NARRATIVE OF EVENTS
1 - 31 January 1945

MAP REF: Eastern France,
1/50,000 Sheet XXXVII-42 Menton
Italy, 1/50,000 Sheet 102A-1,
Sospel; Italy 1/50,000 Sheet
102-IV, Breil.

MARITIME-ALPS SECTOR

1 Jan The year 1945 began with the regiment maintaining its defenses on a 10 mile front along the French-Italian Border. The 100th Battalion was in position from Menton on the Mediterranean coast to Castillon; the 2d Battalion defended the left of the regimental sector from Castillon to Mount Grosso, Northeast of Sospel.

All battalions conducted reconnaissance preparatory to reorganizing the defense of the sector in greater depth. The 2d Battalion began occupation of Mount Barbonnet (730965) with one platoon of Co E and elements of Co H.

Patrol activity and artillery exchanges continued. A patrol left Co G, entered the town of Bessare (794960) where they found 20 civilians who informed them that the remaining civilians had evacuated the town two months ago. The patrol continued on to Serre Barbarante, finding no signs of enemy activity.

The 522d F. A. Bn (442d RCT) in direct support of the 2d Battalion fired on one mule shed and five harassing missions. The 602d F. A. Bn (75mm Pack) supporting the 100th Battalion, fired on enemy personnel, one mission on an enemy supply train, two on suspected enemy OP's.

One man in the 1st platoon, Co H, was killed and two wounded by shell fragments which penetrated the aperture of their pillbox position. The enemy threw 62 rounds into the area. Co H fired 170 rounds 81mm along the 2d Battalion front.

The 232d Engineer (C) Co (442d RCT) laid mines along the beach and on Mount Grosso in the 2d Battalion area. The 1269th Engineer Battalion, attached to the 442d Infantry for operations, worked on roadblocks in the 100th Battalion sector.

Every two hours between 1800 and 0600 motorized and roving foot patrols from Co H investigated Sospel and vicinity, reporting no incidents.

Weather was below freezing, with ice on the trails.

2 Jan Patrols made no enemy contact. The regiment continued its alert against possible counterattack.

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At 0830 the 3d Battalion left L'Escarene by motor and moved into regimental reserve line positions behind the 100th and 2d Battalions. The platoons were widely separated. Co L occupied the high ground West of Sospel on Col de Braus; Co K took up positions near Castillon; the 1st and 2d platoons of Co I were located in the fort on Mount Agel, and the 3d platoon near Sainte Agnes. The 3d Battalion CP was established in Peille.

The 3d platoon of Co E and elements of Co H closed in on Mount Barionnat.

3 Jan 94 civilian line-crossers (Italian refugees) were apprehended and turned over to the CIC at the police station in Nice for investigation.

Co F patrol investigated the hotel area and pillboxes on Col de Brouis, found no evidence of enemy activity. A patrol from Co A reconnoitered from Hill 1047 to Hill 636, observed the towns of Torri, Peiri and Hill 509, and returned with a negative report.

The 3d Battalion organized its reserve line from Roquebrune to Col de Braus. The 100th and 2d Battalions continued work on alternate defensive positions.

Antitank Co continued to guard roads and installations. The 1st platoon was attached to the 100th Battalion near Menton; 2d platoon acted as bridge guards at Luceram; 3d platoon guarded roads and bridges at L'Escarene and the 4th platoon was attached to the 2d Battalion near Sospel.

New type cold-climate sleeping bags were received and distributed to the companies.

4 Jan The 522d F. A. Bn fired 7 missions in support of the 2d Battalion, then changed over to direct support of the 100th Battalion; at the same time the 602d F. A. Bn (75mm Pack) changed from support of the 100th Battalion to the 2d Battalion.

Work continued on secondary defenses. Strong points were constructed at 775875 and 790880. The 2d Battalion made usual contact with the 65th Infantry at Moulinet.

34 additional line-crossers from Piena were intercepted and turned over to MP Headquarters in Beaulieu.

5 Jan Lt Colonel Virgil R. Miller, O-15847, Inf, Regimental Executive Officer, left on TD to assume command of the 65th Infantry.

Reconnaissance patrols from Co B and Co C encountered snow 5" to 8" deep, reported visibility limited, observed no enemy activity.

53 rounds of enemy artillery was recorded in the regimental area, no damage or casualty resulting.

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One EM in 1st platoon, Co G, was injured and subsequently died from an accidental grenade explosion. The mountainous terrain made necessary a three hour trip by nine litter-bearers, in order to evacuate the injured man.

Former Technical Sergeant Kenneth T. Masamitsu, Hq Co 2d Bn, received a battle-field commission as 2d Lieutenant, effective date of rank 28 December 1944, per Special Orders No. 5, Hq Seventh Army, 5 January 1945.

6 Jan The regiment continued to organize its sector against a possible enemy attack. Work was progressed on secondary defenses and alternate gun positions. All unprotected emplacements were sandbagged and avenues of approach mined, booby-trapped and protected with barbed wire. Bridges were prepared for demolition and mortar and artillery fire plans prepared. A special mobile force for emergency use was organized, consisting of elements of Antitank Co, Service Co, 206th AGF Band, and the 232d Engineer (C) Co.

A patrol from Co A, consisting of one officer and three EM, left 0945 from Hill 1114 (788917) and patrolled to 802916. They observed three enemy digging on Hill 444 (833918). No enemy activity was noted in Calvo and San Antonio. Knee-deep snow was encountered en route.

The daily motorized patrol from Hq Co operated behind the lines, reconnoitering the road net of Le Vignal, Contes, La Trinite Victor, La Turbie, Peille, Grave, L'Escarene and Berre les Alpes. No incidents were reported.

Enemy artillery increased, approximately 150 rounds being recorded, most of which fell in Gospel.

Seventeen Italian civilians coming from Breil were apprehended and turned over to the CIC.

Carbines, Cal .30, in the regiment were modified by the addition of the new type improved carbine sight. A detachment from the Ordnance Dept made the necessary changes. A tire school was held for drivers.

7 Jan A group of enemy was seen in buildings at 83528941, and hits were registered by our artillery. An enemy vehicle was observed and destroyed by artillery fire at 86418748.

A reconnaissance patrol from Co B went to Hill 487 (803892) checked houses at 805885, found both our own and enemy propaganda leaflets on the way, but no other evidence of enemy activity.

The enemy continued to shell Menton and Gospel.

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- 8 Jan For the third consecutive day the volume of artillery fire landing in the sector was large. 170 rounds of 105mm and 155mm were recorded. One man in Hq Co 2d Bn was wounded by shell fragments.

A patrol from Co A left 0930 from Hill 1144 (788921) and proceeded to Hill 636 (804915). They reconnoitered as far as 799918. No enemy activity was observed in San Antonio (823908). Observed two enemy on Ridge 444 (833918).

- 9 Jan 522d F. A. Bn fired 11 missions in support of the 100th Battalion--1 on enemy personnel, 4 on enemy mule trains, 3 on roads and 3 missions on enemy gun positions.

The 602d F.A. Bn in direct support of the 2d Battalion fired 10 missions, 6 on enemy activity, 2 on roads, 1 on an enemy CP and 1 strongpoint. The 68th AAA Gun Battalion and the 937th F. A. Bn (155mm How) were in general support.

During the night a heavy snow fell in the area.

- 10 Jan Regimental Headquarters, Hq Co and Medical Detachment moved from Le Vignal to L'ESCARENE, a distance of 5 miles. RCP was established in the Hostellerie du Castellino.

Defensive measures continued, with no change in front line positions. The 232d Engineer (C) Co assisted Cos E, F and G in laying antipersonnel mines and double apron fence.

Former Staff Sergeant Joseph Y. Kiyonaga, Co M, received a combat commission as 2d Lieutenant, per authority contained in TWX Hq Sixth Army Group, 10 January 1945.

A PX ration of beer and candy was distributed to the companies.

- 11 Jan The enemy continued to shell the area heavily, especially in the vicinity of the 100th Battalion CP in Menton.

- 12 Jan A patrol from Co C started from Hill 1117 (790911) with the intention of going to Hill 485 (805907). The patrol went to Hill 731 (798906) where 15 rounds of enemy artillery were received. Because of the artillery and the open terrain, and the fact that the valley between Hill 731 and Hill 485 was under enemy observation, the patrol remained on Hill 731. No enemy activity was observed. Snow about 4 inches deep lay along the route taken, and the trails were very slippery.

The enemy threw in artillery concentrations in the vicinity of the beach around the 100th Battalion CP and on the roads into Menton. 150 rounds in all fell in the Combat Team sector.

46 Japanese-American reinforcements from the United States arrived and were assigned to companies.

Allied Military Currency notes in denominations of 500 and 1000 francs were recalled and exchanged for Banque de France notes, because of counterfeiting activities.

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13 Jan A reconnaissance patrol from Co A went from Hill 1114 (788921) to Hill 636 (804915), observed Villatella (808921), Seno (819918), Calvo (825920), Hill 509 (810915) and Hill 538 (807915). The road to Calvo was seen to be blocked by a landslide at 825920. Snow from 6" to 24" deep was encountered by the patrol.

A reconnaissance patrol from Co F left Col du Perus, crossed the border at 780010. No enemy was observed. Two of the patrol members were slightly wounded by mines at 775006.

Both friendly and hostile artillery continued very active. Two men in Hq Co 100th Bn were wounded by shell fragments. Because of the incessant shelling, the 100th Battalion changed its CP location in Menton.

After an inspection of French forts in the battalion area, the 3d Battalion made arrangements with French personnel to move some mortars and guns from emplacements facing West to emplacements facing East, thereby making the forts more usable and increasing the fire power of the regimental reserve line.

The Reserve Force (platoons from Hq Co, Sv Co, 232d Engineer Co) continued work on defensive positions near Luceram.

14 Jan All battalions continued improvement of their positions and reorganization of defense in depth. Position of units and tactical situation remained unchanged. Contact was maintained with the 65th Infantry (Puerto Rican) on the left flank.

15 Jan 44th AAA Brigade Headquarters expressed a need for prisoners for intelligence purposes. Accordingly a combat patrol from G Co departed at 1700 15 January, with the intention of remaining in Olivetta for three days, in order to capture prisoners. The patrol reached the outskirts of Olivetta at 2000, and S Sgt Matayoshi went forward in the darkness to reconnoiter. He went to the bridge on the Bevera River (792977) and saw no sign of the enemy. The rest of the patrol came up, to a point within 100 yards of the river bank. At this point a German command was heard, and the enemy opened up with three machine guns, a machine pistol and an estimated seven rifles. Lt Sloane, patrol leader, was hit in the leg on the first burst. The patrol's radio was hit and rendered useless.

The patrol withdrew to reorganize, and S Sgt Matayoshi went for his wounded platoon leader and carried him back for a distance of 300 yards under fire. Thereupon the patrol, under the command of Sgt Matayoshi, attempted to cross the river at a point further south, but the bank on the far end was steep and the rocks and pebbles on the river bed made sound, bringing a burst of automatic fire and potato-masher grenades. The patrol then attempted to move Northwest along the river bank, but discovered a mined and booby-trapped area. Although they did not enter the minefield, several concussion grenades exploded, which led the patrol to believe that the enemy across the river was detonating the grenades by means of wires. After a further unsuccessful attempt to cross the river, the patrol withdrew to a point at 796962 and spent the night there. Four men were dispatched for a litter to carry the wounded patrol leader. One enemy was believed wounded, as the patrol

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heard moaning after a tommy-gun burst.

On the next morning, 16 January, five men who were being sent to evacuate Lt Sloane with a litter, ran into a friendly minefield. Two were killed, 2d Lt Minoru Kurata, a combat-commissioned officer, and Pfc Herbert Kondo. The remaining three EM were wounded. Details indicated that the dead lieutenant preceded the four other men, presumably bent down to disarm the booby traps, and in the interim the explosions of the mines in series took effect.

Evacuation of the wounded was completed at 1615 16 January, after difficulty because of the snow, ice and mountainous terrain. A memorial service was held in Co G for the two men killed.

Another patrol from Co B left Hill 487 (807887) at 1500 16 January, observing no enemy activity. At the base of Mt Bellenda they heard a "bird whistle" followed by seven more at intervals of five seconds. Apparently the whistles were enemy OP signals. On the return trip the patrol hit Schu mines near the town of Ciotti (806880) and three men were wounded, one seriously.

On the 16th, Co I relieved the 100th Battalion bridge guard at 711848, near Beausoleil, and relieved the Co M roadblock near Sainte Agnes.

17 Jan At 0400 a combat patrol from B Co left Mine Cap #1 for the spot where the whistling had been heard the night previous. The patrol searched houses in the vicinity, and found one Italian rifle, bayonet, hand grenades and an officer's swagger stick. The presence of mines and lack of cover made Ciotti unsuitable for an ambush. The patrol remained overnight in Ciotti and returned to our lines at 0700 18 January.

18 Jan During the early hours of the 18th, a 20-man German patrol attacked the outpost positions of the 2d platoon, Co F, on Colla Bensa (778006).

The attack was preceded by an artillery and mortar preparation. Prior to the attack (while the enemy was moving up on our position) our positions on Mount Grosso were smoked, so there was no observation from that point. The route used by the German patrol was a trail leading from Cime du Bose along a gradual descent to Colle Bensa. The trail had good concealment.

Shortly after midnight the attack was launched. The enemy had two machine guns mounted to the rear and flanks of their group, allowing a crossfire pattern into our position. After a 45 minute firefight our outposts repulsed the attack, preventing the enemy from infiltrating and forcing them to withdraw. As they retired, the Germans fired a green flare which brought down more artillery.

Our casualties were one killed and two wounded. The enemy had at least one KIA, as his body was found by our troops on the following day.

Co B 81mm mortars fired 354 rounds between 1130-0230 to support Co F 2d platoon in its firefight, and to interdict approaches into the Co E and Co F positions.

At 1510, Co E OP at 76250210 received small arms fire from Col du Brouis (768030). BAR fire was returned.

3d Battalion in regimental reserve line fired its carbines to zero the new-type

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Lt Colonel Gordon Singles, O-18522, Inf, left the 100th Battalion on transfer. His duties as Commanding Officer of the battalion were assumed by Major Alex E. McKenzie, O-373957, Inf, in accordance with SO #16, Hq 442d RCT, 18 Jan 45. The same Special Orders appointed Capt Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, O-372977, Inf, as Executive Officer of the 100th Battalion.

A combat commission was awarded to former Technical Sergeant Michio Takata, Co F, appointed 2d Lieutenant per Special Orders No. 9, Hq Sixth Army Group, 18 January 1945, effective date of rank 16 January 1945.

A quota of five officers and 35 EM was authorized to visit the Paris Rest Center for two days. The group departed by truck on the morning of the 18th.

19 Jan Co A patrol left 0800 and went to Hill 636 (804915). They observed Villatella (808921), Galvo (825919), Serro (819917), Hill 509 (811914) and Hill 538 (807915). No enemy activity was observed. Between 191030 and 191100 they observed two enemy personnel at trail junction (831922). Later the patrol observed smoke in the same vicinity, believed to be from an enemy OP.

20 Jan On the 20th, in another sharp engagement, a patrol from Co C killed two and captured twelve of a 14-man enemy patrol.

Our patrol, consisting of one officer (Lt Gregory Ikeda) and nine EM, had left at 1545 20 January, with the mission of reconnoitering for a contemplated prisoner-combat patrol. They started from Hill 1117 (790911) and on Hill 791 (Mount Grosso), they stopped to check a house.

Lt Ikeda deployed his patrol around the house, and then, covered by Pfc John Tanaka, 37708538, an automatic rifleman, he advanced and tried the door. The door was locked and enemy voices were heard inside. The Lieutenant and his BAR man fired through the door and charged into the house, simultaneously the enemy threw grenades and opened up with machine pistols. In the fight, two enemy soldiers were killed, three wounded, and the rest surrendered. None of the enemy patrol escaped. Pfc Tanaka was mortally wounded.

The prisoners were Germans and Italians led by a German Lieutenant and a Sergeant. They had been on a combat-reconnaissance mission and were endeavoring to locate our outposts and take prisoners. They had left Varase (842931) at 1400 19 January and slept during the night of the 19-20 en route. Their arms were five machine pistols, six rifles, 3 pistols and hand grenades. The Germans were from the 5th Co, 253d Regiment, 34th Infantry Division. The Italians were from the 5th Co, 2d Separate Bersaglieri Battalion.

The prisoners were evacuated to Headquarters 44th AAA Brigade and a large amount of intelligence data extracted from them.

An ambush patrol left Co F for the town of Piena at 1730, with the intention of remaining overnight and capturing prisoners.

An emergency appeal from the 78th Station Hospital, Cannes, for twelve pints of Type "O" blood was answered by volunteers from the 3d Battalion.

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21 Jan All personnel were put on a gas alert. Gas masks and protective equipment were checked and ordered to be carried at all times. Gas officers and non-commissioned officers were reinstructed in their duties.

Lt Colonel V. R. Miller, O-15847, Inf, returned from TD as Commanding Officer of the 65th Infantry (Puerto Rican) and resumed duties as Regimental Executive Officer.

patrol

Co F spent the night of the 20th-21st in an ambush in the cemetery of Piena, 794603. No enemy was observed and the patrol returned at 1600.

Two German prisoners of war, who had escaped from a Quartermaster work unit in Nice, dressed in American fatigue uniforms, were recaptured by two Co M road guards at 2000 on Col de Braus. The Germans were making their way back across the lines and had passed through Contes and L'Escarene and were near Sospel when retaken. The two guards, Sgt S. Morita and Pfc D. Ishimoto received three-day passes to Nice.

The 522d F. A. Bn (442d RCT) supporting the 100th Battalion, fired nine missions; four on enemy personnel (41 rds), two on enemy gun positions (50 rds), three harassing missions. Co D mortars fired 50 rounds on trails, draws and trail junctions, and one mission on an enemy OP.

The 602d F. A. Bn (75mm Pack How) supporting the 2d Battalion, fired six missions; two on enemy mortar positions (39 rds), one on an enemy supply point (7 rds), three harassing. The 68th AAA Gun Bn and the 937th F. A. Bn (155mm How) fired missions in general support.

The daily contact patrols and road net reconnaissance were made without incident.

22 Jan A reconnaissance patrol from Co C left Hill 1117 (790912) at 0830 and went to the house on Hill 791, which was the scene of the patrol action on the 20th. They searched the bodies of the two dead Germans, collected enemy weapons left in the house, and destroyed enemy hand grenades. The patrol returned at 1145.

Co E reconnaissance patrol went from Mount Grosse to within 150 yards of the hotel at Col de Brouis (763028). They found booby traps and a trip wire, observed an enemy guard behind the house, and one enemy soldier in the doorway.

2d Battalion motorized patrol contacted the 65th Infantry in Meulinet without incident.

Two Frenchmen from Breil and 157 goats came across our lines vic 775989 at 1630. They had little to report. They had been stopped at Piena by a nine-man German patrol and ordered to return to Breil, but had waited until dark and continued to our lines. They reported Breil free of enemy personnel except for patrols. The line crossers were turned over to the CIC.

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23 Jan A heavy snowfall in the mountains reduced visibility.

Work continued on emplacements. A detachment of French engineers repaired mortar positions in Fort Roquebrune and Ste Agnes in the Co I sector.

Two Special Service motion pictures "Holiday Inn" and "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" were shown to the troops, rotating among the companies on different nights.

24 Jan A reconnaissance patrol from Co B started from 797883 and patrolled to 798887. At 797887 they observed three enemy dugouts with fresh footprints leading to the house from these dugouts. There were communication wires leading from the dugouts to the house. The patrol checked the house, finding a German messkit, an Italian hand grenade, wires and cigarettes.

Another reconnaissance patrol from Co G went to Mount Grosse (798950) and observed for 1 hour. The patrol heard small arms fire coming from the vicinity of San Michele (812977), believed to be target practice. No activity was observed in Bessere and the Bevera River Valley (8095).

25 Jan Situation remained unchanged. Weather was cold and cloudy, with intermittent rain and very poor visibility.

An ambush patrol from B Co spent the night of the 24th-25th in a house at 798887. No contact was made with the enemy, and the patrol returned at 0700 25 January.

Twelve civilian refugees (8 women and 4 men) who crossed into our lines from Breil were turned over to the CIC.

Antitank Co continued security of bridges at Luceram and L'Escarene and the road junction at Col de Nice.

26 Jan 200 Japanese-American reinforcements from the U. S. arrived and were assigned to the companies, bringing the regiment up to T/O strength.

Co F left Gospel 0800 by truck and arrived at Mt Barbonnet 0900, where it relieved E Co. E Co moved back near Gospel, closing into the former Co F area at 1700.

Rainy weather and poor visibility limited the effectiveness of patrols. Four line crossers (3 men, 1 woman) from Breil were turned over to MP Headquarters.

Co I personnel familiarized themselves with the machinery in the French forts at Sainte Agnes and Cap Martin.

27 Jan A reconnaissance patrol from Co F left Mount Grosse at 1000 and went toward the hotel on Col de Brouis (763025). They observed smoke rising from the house behind the hotel, and also from the fort in the vicinity. Patrol in at 1300.

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Another patrol from C Co left Hill 1117 (790919) and patrolled to Hill 798907. The patrol booby trapped the interior and area outside of house at 798907. No enemy activity was observed.

20 rounds of 105mm fell in Menton between 1140 and 1200. 7 rounds of 150mm fell on Mount Cressac during the afternoon, and approximately 20 rounds of 81mm mortar landed on Col le Perus (760005). No casualties resulted.

At 0925 four carts and one vehicle observed at 87738717 were dispersed by 13 rounds of our artillery. At 1603 similar results were obtained on a mule train and enemy personnel seen at 82159100.

Co M test-fired the mortars in the French forts at Ste Agnes and Cap Martin.

A PX consignment of six bottles of beer per individual was distributed.

28 Jan Co A reconnaissance patrol started from Hill 1114 (788921) for Hill 636 (804913), observed Hill 509 (810915). The trail on the West side of Hill 509 was seen to be worn, indicating that the trail was frequently used by enemy patrols.

Other reconnaissance patrols made negative reports.

29 Jan Co E reconnaissance patrol followed a route around Colle Bensa. At 774005 three men of the patrol were wounded by uncharted mines, laid by previous friendly troops. Two were walking wounded, one a litter case.

Co I personnel operated a dynamo to illuminate the French forts at Ste Agnes and Cap Martin. Co M fired the French mortars in the forts.

3d Battalion held a dance at Peille, with music furnished by the orchestra section of the 206th Army Ground Forces Band (442d BCT).

Passes to Brigade Rest Centers continued. Five officers from the Combat Team (less 522d P. A. Bn) were sent to the Hotel Carlton, Cannes, every three days; and sixty eight enlisted men to the Hotel Continental, Nice, every two days.

30 Jan A plaque was received from the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment (36th Infantry Division), commemorating the rescue of the "Lost Battalion" by the 442d Infantry. The plaque was blazoned with the coats of arms of the 141st and 442d Infantry Regiments and the shoulder sleeve insignia of the 36th Division, and bore the inscription:

"To the 442d Infantry with deep sincerity and upmost appreciation for the gallant fight to effect our rescue after we had been isolated for seven days.

Biffontaine, France, 24 - 30 October, 1944."

The combat commission of former First Sergeant Robert I. Wakuya, Hq Co, was approved by TWX, Hq Sixth Army Group, 30 January 1945.

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A reconnaissance patrol from Co G went to Bessare (801960) and questioned twenty civilians found living in the town. They received information that there were several Germans in Airole and Collabassa, that Olivetta was clear, and that minefields of the wooden and pull-type existed between Bessare and Olivetta, and on the ridge beyond Bessare at 808964.

Lt Massengale, Information and Education Officer, was attending an eight-day I&E course in Paris.

31 Jan Tactical situation remained unchanged. Patrols made no enemy contact.

A Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to Co F and Co I of the 442d Infantry for outstanding performance of duty in action, near Bruyeres, France. These two companies had comprised a Task Force which on 21 October 1944 turned the flank of a German MLR, assaulted from the rear and disorganized the enemy resistance, killing eighty and capturing fifty six prisoners during the day and advancing the divisional front 2,000 meters. The citation was awarded by Section II, General Orders 13, Headquarters Seventh Army, 21 January 1945.

A company dance was held at La Trinite Victoire by Service Company, with music being furnished by the 206th ACF Band.

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DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

January 1945

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BATTLE HONORS - CITATION OF UNIT (OO 13, Hq 7th Army, 21 Jan 45).

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department, 1943, the following named organizations are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action:

Company F, 442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

Company L, 442d REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

For outstanding performance of duty in action on 21 October 1944, in the vicinity of Belmont, France. Assigned the mission of assaulting the flank and rear of the resistance which had stopped two frontal attacks by the Combat Team, Companies F and L, 442d Regimental Combat Team, designated the O'Connor Task Force, launched an attack down the north slope of the wooded ridge, Forêt de Belmont. Company L, leading the assault, defeated a security group in a short sharp action, capturing several prisoners. Then, by the prompt use of rifle grenades and mortars, the garrisoned houses just outside the woods were quickly reduced. The capture of these houses was an important factor in the success of the mission, as it gave the Task Force observation of the ground to the enemy's rear. To complete its work, the Task Force now had to interdict enemy movement, drive a wedge through the forces resisting the Combat Team, and effect a junction with the main force. Heavy casualties were inflicted by artillery fire directed by the Task Force's forward observer on the enemy positions. Then, assault groups began to clear the defenders from houses to the north of La Broquaine. The capture of these houses not only divided the enemy forces, but made certain that large numbers of the enemy would be trapped between the Task Force and the advancing Combat Team. By mid-afternoon the Task Force and the Combat Team made contact, and what enemy troops were not surrounded were completely routed, thus bringing to a close a plan brilliantly conceived and expertly executed. By the next day the Combat Team had secured the high ridge which dominates Belmont. This ridge was both a protective arc around the recently won communications center of Briegues, and an entering wedge in the drive to the Meurthe River. In destroying the enemy Main Line of Resistance and advancing the Divisional front lines by approximately 2000 meters, the Task Force captured fifty-six prisoners, killed eighty of the enemy, and captured considerable quantities of enemy materiel and equipment. The fearless determination, daring and intrepidity displayed by the officers and enlisted men of the O'Connor Task Force exemplify the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS. (OO 187, Hq 5th Army, 19 Dec 1944)

TED T. TANCY, 39019913, Technical Sergeant, Infantry, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in action on 7 July 1944, near Molino A Ventoabbte, Italy. Technical Sergeant TANCY led his platoon in an attack to capture the crest of a strategically important hill which afforded little cover or concealment. Noticing an enemy machine gun crew placing its gun in position to his left front, Technical Sergeant TANCY crept forward a few yards and opened fire on the position, killing or wounding three and causing two others to disperse. Immediately an enemy machine pistol opened fire on him, but he returned the fire and killed or wounded three more Germans. While advancing forward, Technical Sergeant TANCY was subjected to grenade bursts, and his left arm was rendered useless by a fragment. Sighting an enemy trench, he raked the

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position with fire from his submachine gun and wounded several of the enemy. Running out of ammunition he crawled twenty yards to obtain several clips from a comrade on his left flank. Next, sighting an enemy machine pistol which had pinned down his men, Technical Sergeant TANOUYE crawled forward a few yards and threw a hand grenade into the position, silencing it. He then located another machine gun firing down the slope of the hill, opened fire and silenced this position. Drawing fire from a machine pistol nest located above him, he opened fire and wounded three of its occupants. Finally taking his objective Technical Sergeant TANOUYE organized a defensive position on the reverse slope of the hill before accepting first aid treatment and evacuation. His fighting determination and intrepidity in battle exemplify the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Torrance, California. Next of kin: Mrs. Momoya Tanouye (Mother), McGehee, Arkansas.

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (OO No 10, Hq 7th Army, 16 Jan 1945).

GEORGE S. IIDA, 30105400, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company G, 442d Infantry Regiment. For extraordinary heroism in action on 4 July 1944, near Castellina, Italy. When his platoon was pinned down by fierce bursts of machine gun fire, Sergeant Iida, spotting two of the guns, successfully neutralized one machine gun emplacement with his M-1 rifle and directed the fire of his BAR man in silencing another. Reorganizing his men who had become scattered by the barrage, he advanced forward alone to reconnoiter the area. Encountering an enemy rifleman, he shot him at point blank range. This action caused the enemy to open up with intense machine gun and machine pistol fire. Locating one of these hostile positions, Sergeant Iida crawled to within a few yards of it and throwing two hand grenades, destroyed the machine gun nest. Meanwhile, his platoon leader was seriously wounded and Sergeant Iida was ordered to assume command of the platoon. Observing that the men were still held immobile by the concentrated enemy fire, he again advanced alone, located the hostile positions and heaved four more hand grenades into the emplacements, silencing the enemy weapons. By his fearless determination and outstanding bravery, Sergeant Iida successfully led his platoon in capturing their objective. Entered military service from Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (OO No 134, Hq 7th Army, 26 Dec 44)

MASATO NAKAE, 30102831, Private, Infantry, Company A, 100th Bn, 442d Infantry Regiment. For extraordinary heroism in action on 19 August 1944, near Pisa, Italy. When his sub-machine gun was damaged by a shell fragment during a fierce attack by a superior enemy force, Private Nakae quickly picked up his wounded comrade's M-1 rifle and fired rifle grenades at the steadily advancing enemy. As the hostile force continued to close in on his position, Private Nakae threw six fragmentation grenades into their midst and forced them to withdraw. During a concentrated mortar barrage which preceded the next assault by the enemy force, Private Nakae was seriously wounded by a mortar shell fragment. Despite his injury, however, he refused to surrender his position and continued firing at the advancing enemy. By inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy force he finally succeeded in breaking up the attack and caused the enemy to withdraw. His extraordinary heroism in the face of a greatly superior force is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States. Entered military service from Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii.

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AWARD OF LEGION OF MERIT (OO No 157, Hq MTCUSA, 30 December 1944)

ISRAEL A. S. YOST, 0511005, Captain, Chaplain's Corps, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment, for services in Italy from 15 October 1943 to 8 September 1944. Entered service from Nazareth, Pennsylvania.

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF THE SILVER STAR (OO No 17, Hq 7th Army, 24 Jan 45)

PETER S. MASUOKA, 37344728, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 November 1944, in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France. When his company was subjected to an intense artillery barrage, Sergeant Masuoka volunteered to lead a squad of litter bearers in the evacuation of several casualties. Exposing himself to terrific artillery fire, he skillfully administered first aid and evacuated the wounded. While working on a wounded comrade, Sergeant Masuoka was killed by enemy shell-fire. Inspired by his courageous action, which was performed at the sacrifice of his life, his litter bearers continued administering first aid to the remaining casualties, successfully treating them and evacuating all the wounded men of the company. Next of kin: Mr Harry U. Masuoka (Father), 6-H-8-A, WRA, Amache, Colorado.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (OO No 17, Hq 7th Army, 24 Jan 45)

HAJIME MIYAMOTO, 30106254, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 442d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 October 1944, in the vicinity of Bruyeres, France. Observing two of his comrades severely wounded and exposed to enemy fire, Private First Class Miyamoto, on his own initiative, left his covered position and dashed through a hail of enemy fire to the aid of these men. Under fire, he calmly administered first aid. When intense enemy fire was directed against his position, Private First Class Miyamoto, with complete disregard for his own safety, threw himself over one of the wounded men, shielding him with his own body. Realizing that the wounded man was in need of immediate blood transfusions, Private First Class Miyamoto, displaying outstanding bravery, carried him through intense crossfire to the aid station. Entered military service from Kawaiinui, Pepeekeo, Territory of Hawaii.

AKIRA NAKAGAWA, 30101215, Private First Class, Infantry, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 October 1944, near Biffontaine, France. While at his machine gun post, Private First Class Nakagawa observed an enemy officer running for cover some distance away. Although fully aware that he was under the observation of several hostile riflemen a short distance away, he jumped out of his machine gun dugout and pursued the officer. Hurdling a barbed wire fence, he continued his pursuit of the officer, who was now desperately dashing toward an enemy-held concrete wall, and, with a flying tackle, subdued him. Covering his captive with his pistol, he brought him back to friendly lines in full view of the enemy. By Private First Class Nakagawa's daring and aggressive actions, his unit was able to obtain vital information from the enemy officer regarding enemy dispositions. Entered military service from Honokaa, Territory of Hawaii.

FRED H. YAMASHIGE, 30106044, Sergeant, Infantry, Company D, 100th Bn, 442d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 October 1944, near Biffontaine, France. When the rifle company which his machine gun was supporting entered the town of Biffontaine, France, Sergeant Yamashige fearlessly led his men through intense 20 millimeter gun fire to a building in the town for the purpose of protecting his company's right flank and rear. After supervising the installation

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of the machine gun, Sergeant Yamashige, with complete disregard for his own safety, picked up a rifle from a fallen enemy soldier and pursued the fleeing Germans. Despite intense small arms fire, he shot one enemy soldier and wounded two others. Sergeant Yamashige's courage, initiative and leadership were instrumental in effecting the successful occupation of the town. Entered military service from Pulehu, Kaeahu, Maui, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO 3, Hq Sixth Army Group, 18 January 1945)

TAKASHI KUSUNOKI, 30104561, Private First Class, Inf, Company A, 100th Battalion, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for gallantry in action near Biffontaine, France, on 29 October 1944. In an attempt to establish contact with an entrapped battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment, Company A was suddenly pinned down by direct fire from an enemy tank and several of the men seriously wounded. Private First Class Kusunoki, noticing the helpless condition of his wounded comrades, fearlessly left his covered position and rushed to their aid. Though the enemy continued with his deadly tank fire, Private First Class Kusunoki courageously administered first aid to the wounded and, with the help of a fellow soldier carried them to a place of comparative safety. By his courageous action Private First Class Kusunoki was an inspiration to every member of his unit and reflects credit upon himself and the United States Army. Entered the service from Waipahu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

ALVIN PLANAS, 30105762, Private, Inf, Company A, 100th Bn, 442d Regimental Combat Team, for gallantry in action near Biffontaine, France, on 29 October 1944. In an attempt to establish contact with an entrapped battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment, Company A was suddenly pinned down by direct fire from an enemy tank and several of the men seriously wounded. Private Planas, noticing the helpless condition of his wounded comrades, fearlessly left his covered position and rushed to their aid. Though the enemy continued with his deadly tank fire, Private Planas courageously administered first aid to the wounded and, with the help of a fellow soldier carried them to a place of comparative safety. By his courageous action Private Planas was an inspiration to every member of his unit and reflects credit upon himself and the United States Army. Entered the service from Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO No 187, Hq Fifth Army, 19 Dec 44)

GEORGE IWAMOTO (19060327), Technical Sergeant, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action, on 7 July 1944, near Molino A Ventocabbto, Italy, and on 16 and 17 July 1944, in Luciana, Italy. Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO (then Staff Sergeant) led his weapons platoon in support of an attack to capture the crest of a strategically important hill which afforded little cover or concealment. Seeing a squad of the enemy attempting a flanking movement to his left, he opened fire with his submachine gun, killing four and causing the others to disperse. Next, locating a machine pistol nest, he silenced this position with a burst from his submachine gun, killing at least three of the enemy. With a final rush, a rifle platoon cleared the crest of the hill. As the enemy retreated down the forward slope, Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO opened fire, killed three and wounded six of the fleeing enemy. Again at Luciana, Italy, Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO led his platoon in support of an attacking company. Leading one section of his machine guns into a house which was under intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire, he emplaced one machine gun on the roof. Observing an enemy machine gun nest to the left front, he directed the squad's fire and silenced the position. Immediately a machine pistol located in a house to the right front opened fire. Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO directed the fire of his machine gun and silenced this

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position. Observing an enemy patrol attempting a flanking movement, Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO directed machine gun fire at the patrol, killing two, wounding or dispersing the remainder to dispose of the threat. Technical Sergeant IWAMOTO'S brilliant leadership and heroic actions under fire reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Toppenish, Washington.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO No 137, Hq 7th Army, 27 Dec 44)

JOHN ITO, 39C03716, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 442d Infantry. For gallantry in action on 17 October 1944, near Bruyeres, France. During a fierce enemy attack, the first platoon of Company G was subjected to intense sniper, machine gun and artillery fire which seriously wounded five soldiers. Private First Class Ito, an aid man attached to the first platoon, exposing himself to the terrific hostile fire, left his covered position in a draw and ran one hundred and fifty yards across open terrain to the aid of the injured men. While administering first aid to one of the soldiers, Private First Class Ito was severely wounded in the back. Despite his painful wounds, he remained with the injured men for over five hours, constantly exposing himself to the heavy enemy fire. The complete disregard for personal safety displayed by Private First Class Ito reflects great credit upon himself and contributed materially toward saving his comrades' lives. Entered military service from San Mateo, California.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO No 138, Hq 7th Army, 27 Dec 44)

SAMURO HIGA, 30104534, Private, Infantry, Headquarters Co, 2d Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 3 November 1944, near Biffontaine, France. While engaged in an attack, Company F was pinned down by concentrated mortar and artillery fire which inflicted numerous casualties. Private Higa, volunteering to act as litter bearer and aid man, unhesitatingly left his covered position to render first aid to the wounded soldiers. Despite artillery fire, which fell dangerously close to him, he moved fearlessly toward one of the seriously wounded men. Quickly administering first aid, Private Higa then carried him to shelter. He again returned to the area and, while dashing to the assistance of another comrade, he was seriously wounded. Disregarding his painful injury, Private Higa continued to render first aid and to evacuate the wounded until he collapsed as a result of fatigue and pain. His courageous actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Army of the United States. Entered military service from Ewa, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

MINORU KUNIEDA, 30101708, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 100th Bn, 442d Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 20 August 1944, near Rignione di Pisa, Italy. When an enemy reconnaissance patrol infiltrated to within four yards of a machine gun position manned by Private First Class Kunieda and another soldier, their machine gun failed to function. Private First Class Kunieda, with complete disregard for his own safety and armed only with a .45 caliber pistol, forced the enemy patrol to withdraw. His courage and determination were instrumental in successfully defending an important position in his unit's sector against a superior enemy force. Entered military service from Hilo, Territory of Hawaii.

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AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO No 42, Hq First Airborne Task Force, 21 Nov 44)

MITSUGU NAKAHARA, 30103923, Private, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near Baraquements, France, on 30 August 1944. Private Nakahara was driving a vehicle occupied by four other soldiers, whose mission was to patrol a forward area. While proceeding on the mission, their vehicle was suddenly ambushed by the enemy. The intense fire from enemy machine guns and twenty millimeter guns wounded all occupants of the vehicle. During the action, one of the wounded soldiers succeeded in escaping and crawled to the rear, where he reported the ambush to the occupants of another vehicle. For a moment the enemy ceased firing, and Private Nakahara, who had received a leg wound, got back in the vehicle and turned it around to attempt to evacuate his wounded comrades. Seeing this, the enemy again opened fire, wounding Private Nakahara for the second time, and puncturing the tires of the vehicle. The fire continued for about ten minutes and again ceased. Private Nakahara assisted by another soldier, loaded the wounded and again tried to drive the vehicle to a point of safety. Again the enemy opened fire, hitting Private Nakahara in the back, causing the third wound. During the action the wounded managed to find cover, and when all firing ceased, two soldiers from the rear vehicle crawled forward to aid the wounded. The rescuers reached Private Nakahara, who refused aid and insisted that the other wounded soldiers be cared for first. Realizing the seriousness of Private Nakahara's wounds, the rescue party, despite his protests, succeeded in sliding him on a blanket and removing him to the rear. Private Nakahara's courage under enemy fire, and his consideration for the welfare of his wounded comrades, reflect great credit upon him as a soldier. Entered the military service from Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (CO No 134, Hq 7th Army, 26 Dec 44)

MASAO KOMODA, 19080044, Private, Infantry, Company C, 2d Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action on 20 October 1944, in the vicinity of Bruyeres, France. Ambushed by the enemy, one platoon of Company C was pinned down by enemy fire. From the surrounding woods, two enemy Tiger tanks supported by fifty riflemen, suddenly appeared. When his squad leader seized a bazooka and commenced firing at the tanks, Private Komoda unhesitatingly exposed himself to direct tank and rifle fire in order to load the weapon. He thus enabled his squad leader to fire three rounds at the advancing enemy, disabling the leading tank and causing the enemy force to withdraw. Private Komoda's utter disregard for personal safety in the face of intense tank and rifle fire contributed immeasurably in repulsing a strong enemy force. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (CO No 4, Hq 6th Army Gp, 22 Jan 45)

MASATO W. KUTAKA, 30106230, Private First Class, Co A, 100th Bn, 442d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement on 22 October 1944. Directed to establish contact with elements of their battalion entrapped in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France, Private First Class Kutaka and his comrades started for their objective mounted on five light tanks. Encountering a hail of fire from well dug-in enemy positions on the road, Private First Class Kutaka and the rest of the platoon fearlessly resisted with their individual weapons and the machine guns emplaced on the tanks, neutralized a considerable portion of the concentrated fire and enabled the tanks to reach friendly forces. By his heroic disregard for personal safety, Private First Class Kutaka contributed immeasurably to the subsequent attainment of the objective and reflects honor upon the United States Army. Entered the service from Wainae, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii.

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AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (CO No 8, Hq 7th Army, 14 Jan 45)

TAKAO HEDANI, 30104519, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company H, 442d Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action on 20 October 1944, near Bruyeres, France. During an enemy attack, Sergeant Hedani and his squad of men were ordered to go to the aid of a carrying party who were pinned down by heavy hostile machine gun and machine pistol fire. Leading his men forward, he carefully worked them to within close range of an enemy held ridge where they dug in and held off repeated enemy counterattacks. Then, displaying outstanding leadership, Sergeant Hedani successfully detained the enemy until reinforcements arrived, then led an assault which effectively routed the hostile force. Entered military service from Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (CO No 138, Hq 7th Army, 27 Dec 44)

AKIYOSHI KURIYAMA, 30100333, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Co, 100th Bn, 442d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service from 22 September 1943 to 6 September 1944, in Italy. Entered military service from Waianae, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (CO No 134, Hq 7th Army, 26 Dec 44)

JOSEPH W. STEVENSON, 01302901, Captain, Infantry, Headquarters Co, 442d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 November 1944, near La Croisette, France. While Captain Stevenson and his crew of wiremen were installing communication lines between a new regimental observation post and the command post, they were subjected to an intense mortar barrage as a result of which six of his men were injured. Despite the intermittent shelling in the immediate area, Captain Stevenson, without regard for his own safety, successfully rendered first aid to the injured men and effected their evacuation with a minimum loss of time. Entered military service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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