

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMORED DIVISION, APO 258, US Army, 16 May 1945

To: Commanding General, Combat Command "A", 8th Armored Division.

1. I wish to add my commendation to those of the Commanding General of the XX Corps and the 94th Infantry Division. Never have soldiers behaved better in their first contact with the enemy than did those of your Combat Command during their attack on the Siegfried Line Switch Position between Nennig and Berg.

2. It is my desire that this commendation be read to all troops who were under your command during this action.

/s/ John M. Devine  
JOHN M. DEVINE,  
Brigadier General, USA,  
Commanding.

6th Ind.

Hq CCA, 8th Arm Div, APO 258, U.S. Army, 20 May 1945.

To: Commanding Officers: Hq Co, CCA, 7th Armd Inf Bn,  
18th Tn Bn, 398th FA Bn  
Tr A, 38 Rcn, Co A, 590 Engr Bn,  
Co A 75 Med, Co A, 130th Ord Bn,  
Btry D, 467th Amn, M Bn (SP)

1. It is with a great deal of pride that I pass on to you the foregoing commendations of the Commanding Generals of the XX Corps, the 94th Infantry Division, and our own 8th Armored Division. As an attached unit to the 94th Infantry Division, this combat command, comprised of the units listed above, participated in the fight for Nennig and Berg, Germany, and in the initial attack on the strongly held enemy line through Sinz.

2. This action was the first contact with the enemy had by units of the 8th Armored Division, as well as of the combat command. In such circumstances it is usually the practice to start new units off against light enemy resistance; instead the units of this combat command at the outset, met with severe determined resistance from a strong enemy force located in well fortified positions. Instead of the expected open ground fighting, normal to armored divisions, we were called upon to fight in villages, one of which included a heavily fortified Schloss or castle, all completely surrounded by a tank ditch, over which crossings had to be constructed before the tanks could be used effectively. Using the simple tactics of village fighting taught during training periods at Camp Polk, the infantry, capably supported by tanks, tank destroyers and the artillery, with superb courage and the finest leadership of its officers and non-commissioned officers, completed the capture of Nennig, and captured the town of Berg and the Schloss.

3. Following the establishment of the crossing points by the Engineers, the combat command pushed on to drive the enemy back through his fortified line to the town of Sinz, to which the tank elements of the command led the units of the 94th Division. Following this, the combat command was withdrawn.

4. All who participated in this action will remember how hard it was, the extreme cold weather and snow storms through which we fought, and the losses of many of our officers and men. In spite of these adverse conditions the courage and fighting qualities of the men of the combat command stood forth as outstanding factors in the successful climax of their first action against the enemy. For this they should be justly proud.

5. It is desired that this commendation be read to all men of the units comprising Combat Command "A" during this action, and that it be reproduced in sufficient quantity so that each man may be furnished a copy of it for his personal use.

/s/ Charles F. Colson,  
CHARLES F. COLSON,  
Brig. General, U. S. A.  
Commanding.