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### 1919-03-05, Wesley to Family

Wesley F. Diedrich

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## 1919-03-05, Wesley to Family

### Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, infantry, artillery, France, Western Front, military occupation, racial stereotyping, comradery, Picardy, Molliens-au-Bois, Bois de Forge, Hamel, Croix de Guerre, Somme, Meuse, Moselle, Chateau-Thierry, Verdun, Bois de Forges, death, King George V, Colonel Henry A. Allen, General J. Franklin Bell, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, John J. Pershing, Paul A. Wolf, Henry D. Todd, Edward L. King, Floyd F. Putman, awards, Illinois, Australian soldiers, British soldiers, soldier slang, German soldiers, Germany, patriotism, government, Luxembourg, Diekirch, wounded, injury, telegraph, trenches, gas warfare, self-determination, airship, engineering, bombardment, artillery, shelling, front line

### Identifier

2014.160.w.r\_ Diedrich \_worldwarone\_1919-03-05\_064

**33<sup>RD</sup> DIVISION**

**A. E. F.**





**33rd Division**

**A. E. F.**

**FROM ITS ARRIVAL IN FRANCE**

**UNTIL THE ARMISTICE WITH GERMANY**

**NOVEMBER 11, 1918**



HEADQUARTERS 33RD DIVISION.  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

Diekirch, Luxembourg,  
March 5, 1919.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE 33RD DIVISION:

This small pamphlet summarizes the principal events in the operations of this division from its arrival in France until the armistice with Germany, November 11, 1918. It is published for your convenience and so that others may know of your achievements.

What you have accomplished is now a matter of history. The organizations, the officers and men throughout this command have done their duty magnificently. The efficiency you have attained, the gallantry you have invariably shown, the devotion to duty, your steadfast resolution and cheerfulness under the most trying circumstances, and the superb *esprit de corps* throughout this division are beyond all praise. I am proud to have had the honor and the privilege of commanding such men as you.

Gw. Bell Jr.

Major General, U. S. A.

ACTIVITIES OF THE 33RD DIVISION.

The 33rd Division, Major General George Bell, Jr., had for its nucleus the former National Guard of the State of Illinois. It was trained at Camp Logan, Houston, Texas, from September, 1917, until May, 1918.

The first organization to start for France was the 108th Engineers (Colonel Henry A. Allen), which left Camp Logan April 23, 1918, for Camp Merritt, sailing from Hoboken. The rest of the division followed from Camp Logan, beginning May 1. Most of the units passed through Camp Upton, Yaphank, Long Island, and sailed at various dates in May, 1918, disembarking at Brest.

The 58th Field Artillery Brigade (Brigadier General Henry D. Todd, Jr.) proceeded overseas by way of Liverpool, England, as did the 108th Ammunition Train, the 108th Field Signal Battalion and the 108th Sanitary Train.

Upon arrival in France, the 33rd Division was first sent to the Huppy area, near Abbeville, and on June 9th proceeded to the Eu Training Area.

On June 13th the 108th Engineers were sent forward to work on the defenses near Amiens, where a great German drive was expected, and on June 20th and 21st the 33rd Division moved into the Amiens Sector. In this region it was trained under the British, occupied portions of the British trenches and participated in a number of operations.

On July 4th, four companies — namely: Companies C and E, 131st Infantry, and A and G, 132nd Infantry — took part in the attack on Hamel. This was the first time that American troops had ever fought alongside of the Australians and the first time that Americans had fought with the British in an action of any magnitude. The Americans charged to the shouts of "Lusitania". After this battle a story was widely circulated throughout the British Army and in England that the Australians remarked to some American soldiers: "You'll do me, Yank, but you chaps are a bit rough!" When the four American companies were returned to their commands the day after the engagement, they were met by an Australian colonel who started to address them in a very formal fashion but ended by blurting out, "Yanks, you're fighting fools; but I'm for you!"



Although of minor importance from a purely military point of view, *Hamel* exercised an incalculable influence. *Amiens* at that time was considered the danger spot on the British front and a great German drive was expected there. The British knew that American Regulars would fight, but up to that time they had had no proof of the efficiency of the other American troops. *Hamel* demonstrated conclusively that, in all the American troops, they possessed allies upon whom thorough dependence could be placed in any military operations, no matter how difficult.

In token of his appreciation, on August 12th *King George* visited the headquarters of the 33rd Division at *Molliens-au-Bois* and personally bestowed upon four officers and fifteen men of the 33rd Division various British decorations — such as the Military Cross, Distinguished Conduct Medal, and Military Medal — pinning the decorations upon the breast of each recipient and congratulating him for his gallantry.

On August 8th, 1918, began the great British offensive, which never failed to effect a gain every day until it reached *Mons* and was terminated by the armistice on November 11th. The first operation which was productive of notable results was the attack of the 131st Infantry (Colonel Joseph B. Sanborn), which broke the German line at *Chipilly Ridge* and *Gressaire Wood*.

On August 23rd the 33rd Division was transferred by rail from the British front to the area of the First American Army in the *Toul* Sector, and on August 26th it was concentrated in the region of *Tronville-en-Barrois*.

On September 5th it started for *Verdun*, where it relieved the 120th French Division and the right regiment of the 157th French Division on the nights of September 7th, 8th and 9th. The 33rd Division was, therefore, the first American division to hold a portion of the front line on that historic battle field.

In the great attack of September 26, 1918, which marked the beginning of the desperate *Meuse-Argonne* battle, the 33rd Division formed the right of the IIIrd American Corps (Major General Robert L. Bullard). The two most powerful enemy positions between the *Meuse* and the *Argonne* were *Montfaucon* and the *Bois de Forges*. Both were deemed by the Germans impregnable, and yet 3 hours and 33 minutes after jumping off, the 66th Infantry Brigade (Brigadier General Paul A. Wolf), composed of the 131st Infantry (Colonel Joseph B. Sanborn), the 132nd Infantry (Colonel Abel Davis) and the

124th Machine Gun Battalion (Major Floyd F. Putman), had turned the position and captured with very small loss this formidable wood, a veritable fortress of machine gun nests.

In that initial attack the 33rd was the only American division which reached its objective on scheduled time.

The next eleven days the 33rd Division formed the pivot of the American Corps, which attacked the German positions between the *Meuse* and the *Argonne*.

On October 6th the 33rd Division was transferred to the French 17th Army Corps (General Henri Claudel), and two days later the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 132nd Infantry (Captain B. J. Dodd and Major Paul C. Gale, respectively), the 2nd Battalion of the 131st Infantry (Major Hamlet C. Ridgeway), and Companies A and D, 124th Machine Gun Battalion, the whole under the command of Colonel Abel Davis, participated in the attack of the French 17th Corps east of the *Meuse*. This delicate and difficult operation necessitated the building by the 108th Engineers, under direct observation and constant enemy artillery fire, of two bridges, one at *Brabant* 120 feet long in 12 feet of water and another of 156 feet in length at *Consenvoye* in 16 feet of water, but this difficult task was accomplished before the time set for the infantry to cross.

The troops under Colonel Davis formed the left of the French 17th Corps and reached the Normal Objective assigned to them south of the *Bois du Chaume* that night, October 8th. On the following day they pushed forward to the 2nd Exploitation Objective — the road from *Sicry-sur-Meuse* to *Ville-neuve Farm* — but their right was exposed through the inability of the 58th Infantry Brigade (29th Division) to keep pace with them, and at dusk a powerful attack by picked German shock troops drove their right back to the *Tranchée du Cable* immediately south of the *Bois du Chaume*.

The moment the report of this enforced withdrawal reached General Bell, he acted with characteristic vigour, hurried to their support re-enforcements from across the river and placed all the troops on the east bank under command of Brigadier General Wolf. The 3rd Battalion and Machine Gun Company, 129th Infantry (Major William F. Hemenway) had already reached the east bank, followed by Company B, 122nd Machine Gun Battalion. The other re-enforcements were composed of the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 131st Infantry (Major J. H. Coady and Major Francis M. Allen, respectively); Com-



pany B, 124th Machine Gun Battalion; the 1st and 2d Battalions, 129th Infantry (Captain J. H. Burgheim and Major Arthur H. Goodison, respectively); 3rd Battalion, 130th Infantry (Major Edward Bittel), and Company A, 122nd Machine Gun Battalion.

At 6.05 a. m. on October 10th these troops made a brilliant attack and retook every inch of the ground lost, even picked German storm troops being unable to withstand their irresistible onslaught.

In the next four days the forces under General Wolf held this position under an overwhelming deluge of artillery and machine gun fire of every sort, gas and aeroplane attacks. On October 15th the 66th Infantry Brigade took over the sector on the west bank of the *Meuse* comprising the *Bois de la Côte Lemont*, *Bois de Dannevoux*, *Bois la Ville* and *Bois de Forges*, while the sector on the east bank was occupied by the 65th Infantry Brigade (Brigadier General Edward L. King), composed of the 129th Infantry (Colonel Edgar A. Myer), 130th Infantry (Colonel John V. Clinnin) and 123rd Machine Gun Battalion (Major Albert L. Culbertson). For the twenty days preceding, this Brigade had executed its equally important, if less conspicuous, task of holding the sector composing the *Bois de Dannevoux* and the *Bois de la Côte Lemont* west of the *Meuse* with like efficiency and under circumstances requiring great resoluteness on the part of its officers and men.

Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion and Machine Gun Company, 132nd Infantry (Major John J. Bullington), had been attached to the 4th Division and operated with the 59th Infantry (Colonel Frederik W. Wise, U. S. Marines). On the night of October 6th to 7th, it relieved the 58th Infantry and one battalion of the 59th Infantry in the *Bois de Fays*. On October 10th and 11th it advanced through the *Bois de Malaumont* and the *Bois de Foret*. This position was retained until the night of October 13th, when the Battalion was relieved and rejoined the 132nd Infantry next day near *Hill 281*.

The 65th Brigade held the right sector of the division east of the *Meuse* and the 66th Brigade the left sector west of that River from October 15th until the night of the 20th to 21st, when the entire 33rd Division was relieved by the 15th French Colonial Division. The last element of the 33rd Division was not relieved until the night of October 21st to 22nd, so that 44 days elapsed from the time the first unit of the 33rd Di-

vision entered the trenches at *Verdun* until the last troops had left. From October 8th until October 21st, the 33rd Division, astride of the River *Meuse* and subjected to incessant fire day and night from the enemy on the dominating heights, held a frontage 10 kilometers in length and formed the right of the American attacks west of the *Meuse* and the left of the 17th French Army Corps operating east of that river.

Upon being relieved the 33rd Division then marched to the *Troyon-sur-Meuse* Sector on the *St. Mihiel* front, where it replaced the 79th American Division on the night of October 23rd, 24th and 25th. This region, a so-called "quiet sector", included the celebrated position of *Les Eparges*, the scene of such desperate fighting in 1915 and 1916. It soon developed into a very lively area, particularly after the Austrians were succeeded by picked German troops who had orders to hold at all costs this position, which was considered the key to *Metz*. The operations of the 33rd Division, beginning with daily and nightly patrols — one from the 132nd Infantry capturing one officer and 17 men — developed a number of important raids, among which were those of the 130th Infantry on November 7th against the *Château et Fme d'Aulnois*; the raid of the 131st Infantry against *St. Hilaire* on November 8th; and a second raid on November 9th. On November 10th the 130th Infantry attacked and captured the German stronghold of *Marcheville*, and on the same day the 131st Infantry and Companies A and B, 124th Machine Gun Battalion, drove the enemy out of the *Bois les Hautes Epines*, the *Bois de Warville* and by a brilliant attack captured the southern portion of the formidable *Bois d'Harville* and crossed the *Kriemhild Stellung*. The capture of *Marcheville* and the *Bois d'Harville* wrested from the enemy two of the most important elements of the *Hindenburg System* which were vital to him in the retention of the *Troyon* Sector.

On November 11th the 65th Infantry Brigade, headed by the 129th Infantry, had attacked and were in possession of the *Château d'Aulnois*, *Riaville* and *Marcheville*, when the order to cease hostilities put an end to its advance. That same morning part of the 66th Brigade was held up in their attack against *Butgneville* and was about to resume its attack on the unconquered portions of the *Bois d'Harville* and on *Jonville* when hostilities ceased. Such progress had then been made by the 33rd Division that every indication pointed to the likelihood that by the close of day it would have completely broken



through the *Hindenburg Line* in that sector — the last German system of defense between the 33rd Division and *Metz*.

During the operations on the British front the 33rd Division was supplied with British artillery. During the operations in the *Verdun* Sector the 52nd Field Artillery Brigade (Brigadier General G. Albert Wingate), belonging to the 27th Division, was attached and did excellent work. Similarly the 212th French Field Artillery and the 1st Battalion, 308th French Heavy Artillery, gave invaluable support during the attack of September 26th and for several days subsequently. This Brigade accompanied the Division to the *Troyon* Sector, but, upon arriving a few miles from the position which it was to occupy, was detached, sent back to *Verdun* and was succeeded by the 55th Field Artillery Brigade (Brigadier General J. A. Kilbreth), belonging to the 30th Division, but temporarily serving with the 79th Division, which likewise did excellent work.

It was not until January 10, 1919, that the 33rd Division was rejoined in *Luxembourg* by the 58th Field Artillery Brigade, to the delight of both commands. This Brigade returned to its own with an enviable reputation for efficiency, gallantry, initiative and *esprit de corps*, acquired under peculiarly difficult circumstances.

The 58th Field Artillery Brigade is composed of the 122nd Field Artillery (Colonel Milton J. Foreman), 123rd Field Artillery (Colonel Charles G. Davis), 124th Field Artillery (Colonel Horatio B. Hackett), 108th Ammunition Train (Lieut. Colonel Walter J. Fisher), 108th Trench Mortar Battery (Captain Charles J. Kraft), and 108th Mobile Ordnance Repair Shop (Captain George H. Lawrence). This Brigade forms part of the 33rd Division, was organized and trained with it at *Camp Logan*, but separated from the Division at *Houston*, and did not rejoin it until nearly two months after the armistice.

Upon arriving in France, about the middle of June, the Brigade went into the training areas at *Ornans* and *Valdehon*, where it remained until August 20, 1918. It proceeded to the *Toul* Sector and became the artillery support of the 89th Division. Upon the relief of the 89th Division by the 1st Division on August 28th, the 58th Field Artillery Brigade, reinforced by the 1st Field Artillery Brigade and the 76th Regiment of Field Artillery, became the Divisional Artillery of the 1st Division, and supported that command in its attack on September 12th, in the reduction of the *St. Mihiel* Salient. In this engagement the Divisional Artillery, in addition to pre-

paring the advance for the infantry by a rolling barrage, had the mission of neutralizing the powerful German position on *Mont Sec*.

Although this was its first battle, the work of the Brigade was considered so excellent by the Division Commander (Major General Charles P. Summerall), that he cited in orders not only the Brigade as a unit, but each regiment.

In spite of most severe conditions, due to bad weather and the terrain, the morning of the 13th found the Brigade in a position eleven kilometers in advance of its original line, near the town of *Nonsard*. On September 14th, when limbered up to accompany the 1st Division into a rest area, it received orders to march westward to go into position east of the *Argonne* for a new offensive. After marching six nights it reported to the 91st Division, in the sector north of *Parois*, its men and animals in condition to go through in an efficient manner the long and severe *Meuse-Argonne* offensive.

On the 26th of September the Brigade covered the advance of the 91st Division towards *Very*. On the afternoon of that day and owing to the energy of the regimental officers and men concerned, one entire regiment, the 122nd Field Artillery and one-half of the 124th Field Artillery, were in a position just south of *Very*, having advanced at the end of the barrage about 9 kilometers. The Brigade stayed in this sector until October 11th, having joined the 32nd Division when it relieved the 91st on October 7th, and took part in all severe fighting during this period, advancing 6 kilometers.

On October 11th the Brigade began a march to an area just in rear of the lines for rest and re-equipment. On October 24th it returned to the front in the same sector, without the 123rd Field Artillery, which was sent to the rear to be motorized, but, re-enforced by the 11th Field Artillery (Colonel W. G. Peace), it was again assigned to the 89th Division and supported that command in the severe fighting and rapid advance beginning at *Gesnes*, November, 1st and ending at *Pouilly* and *Stenay*, November 11th.

Owing to excellent staff work and to the skill, energy and gallantry of the Regimental Commanders, the 58th Field Artillery Brigade functioned smoothly and efficiently fulfilled all its missions and gave its infantry the most complete support at all times, even during the absence, for a few days, of the Brigade Commander, who had been wounded. Colonel Horatio B. Hackett, while organizing and directing the rapid



advance of his regiment, was severely wounded September 29th. The next in command, Major Frank L. Reardon, assumed command until relieved by Lieut. Colonel J. A. Rogers, who commanded the regiment ably and energetically until after the armistice.

From November 1st until November 5th the Brigade advanced 32 kilometers by continuous fighting.

Although limited in action by its type of weapon, the 108th Trench Mortar Battery performed in a most excellent manner all tasks assigned to it. Its conduct on October 31st and November 1st was most gallant; although continually exposed to hostile fire which destroyed in the day time the emplacements repaired at night, it maintained its position until after the infantry advance and in spite of the fact that its captain, Charles J. Kraft, and two of his lieutenants were wounded.

The Brigade remained in the vicinity of *Stenay* from November 11, 1918, until January 4, 1919, when it began its march to rejoin the 33rd Division.

The 33rd Division is the only division in the A. E. F. — and, therefore, in American History — which has fought with the British, the Americans and the French. It is the only American Division, the officers and men of which have been decorated by a King of England in person. From June 22nd until November 11, 1918, a period of nearly five months, there were only 18 days when the Division as a whole, or in part, was not actually holding a portion of the Allied line.

It has served with 5 Armies and 12 Army Corps, namely:

- IVth British Army,
- First American Army,
- IInd French Army,
- Second American Army,
- Third American Army,

- IInd American Army Corps,
- XIXth British Corps,
- IIIrd British Corps,
- Australian Corps,
- Vth American Army Corps,
- 17th French Army Corp,
- IIIrd American Army Corps,
- IInd French Colonial Army Corps,
- IVth American Army Corps,
- IXth American Army Corps,

#### VIIth American Army Corps, VIth American Army Corps.

It has marched through *Lorraine*, been in Germany for a brief period as part of the Army of Occupation and is now wintering in *Luxembourg*, its headquarters being at *Diekirch*, a well known summer resort.

When the French took official possession of *Metz* on December 8, 1918, the procession, which was reviewed by President Poincaré, Marshals Joffre, Foch, Pétain, Sir Douglas Haig and other important personages, was headed by a battalion of the 131st Infantry, the only troops selected from the entire A. E. F. to represent the United States. It was this regiment which had effected a penetration of the German line on the *Somme* by its brilliant attack at *Chipilly Ridge* and *Gressaire Wood* on August 9, 1918.

In no Division in the A. E. F. is the *esprit de corps* superior to that of the 33rd, nor is there any in which its discipline is excelled. From the time it left Texas until the armistice no enlisted man was tried by a General Court Martial and only two officers were so tried. Never once in all the desperate fighting in which it was engaged did the 33rd Division appeal for help or re-enforcements. It is the boast of the men of the Division that they have never been given an order in battle which they have not carried out and they have never been assigned an objective which they have not taken on schedule time. Their claim is justified by the facts.

Perfection is unattainable in war, but in the 33rd Division the machinery functioned and was at all times able to meet the situation, no matter how difficult. Throughout the operations there were very few occasions on which the men were not fed hot meals. The supply of artillery and small arms ammunition never ran short; and rations were always furnished in abundance even under the most difficult conditions.

The death rate in the 33rd Division at Camp Logan, *Houston, Texas*, was the lowest in the American Army. In Europe the health rate has scarcely been equalled by any other Division in the A. E. F. The management of the sick and wounded during active operations was conspicuous for its splendid efficiency.

#### ADVANCES MADE BY THE 33rd DIVISION:

The following are the advances made by the 33rd Division in its various attacks:



July 4, 1918, at Hamel, Cos. C and E, 131st Infantry, and Cos. A and G, 132nd Infantry — 2100 meters.  
 Aug. 9, 1918, at *Gressaire Wood* and *Chippilly Ridge*, Somme Offensive, 131st Infantry — 4000 meters.

#### MEUSE - ARGONNE BATTLE

Sector between the *Bois de Forges* and the *Laiterie de Belhame*.  
 Sept. 26, 1918, 131st Infantry, Cos. B and C, 124th Machine Gun Bn., and Co. D, 108th Engineers — 7000 meters.

#### BOIS DE FORGES:

Sept. 26, 1918, 132nd Infantry; Cos. A and D, 124th Machine Gun Bn., and Co. E, 108th Engineers — 5000 meters.  
 Sept. 29th to Oct. 14, 1918, 65th Infantry Brigade *Bois de Dannevoux* and *Bois de la Côte Lemont* — 2000 meters.  
 Oct. 8, 1918, near *Consenvoye*, 132nd Infantry (less 3rd Bn.); 2nd Bn., 131st Infantry and Cos. A and D, 124th Machine Gun Bn. — 4000 meters.  
 Oct. 9, 1918, *Bois de Chaume*, 132nd Infantry (less 3rd Bn.); 2nd Bn. and Machine Gun Co. 131st Infantry; and Cos. A and D, 124th Machine Gun Battalion — 3000 meters.  
 Oct. 10, 1918, *Bois de Chaume* and *Bois du Plat Chêne*, 131st Infantry (less 2nd Bn.); Co. B, 122nd Machine Gun Bn., and Co. B, 124th Machine Gun Battalion — 2000 meters.  
 Oct. 10, 1918, *Bois de Chaume*, 3rd Bn., 130th Infantry — 2000 meters.  
 Oct. 10, 1918, *Bois du Plat Chêne*, 3rd Bn., 129th Infantry — 2000 meters.  
 Oct. 10, 1918, *Bois de Chaume* and *Bois du Plat Chêne*, 1st Bn., 129th Infantry and Co. A, 122nd Machine Gun Battalion — 3200 meters.  
 Oct. 15, 1918, *Bois du Plat Chêne*, 2nd Bn., 129th Infantry — 1000 meters.  
 Nov. 10, 1918, *Marchéville*, 2nd Bn., 130th Infantry and Co. D, 123rd Machine Gun Battalion — 3000 meters.

Nov. 10, 1918; *Bois d'Harville*, and *St. Hilaire*, 131st Infantry, and Cos. A and B, 124th Machine Gun Battalion — 4000 meters.

#### CHATEAU D'AULNOIS, RIAVILLE and MARCHEVILLE

Nov. 11, 1918, 129th Infantry, 130th Infantry, 123rd Machine Gun Battalion and Co. F, 108th Engineers — 3000 meters.

#### Prisoners:

	Officers	Other Ranks
July 5, 1918 . . . . .	—	500 (estimated)
August 9, 1918 . . . . .	—	700
September 26, 1918 . . . . .	36	1400
September 27, 1918 . . . . .	—	104
October 2, 1918 . . . . .	—	4
October 8, 1918 . . . . .	2	145
October 9, 1918 . . . . .	18	615
October 10, 1918 . . . . .	4	149
October 11, 1918 . . . . .	—	43
October 12, 1918 . . . . .	—	2
October 13, 1918 . . . . .	—	48
October 20, 1918 . . . . .	—	5
October 27 — November 9, 1918 (both inclusive)	1	57
November 10, 1918 . . . . .	7	146
November 11, 1918 . . . . .	—	6
TOTAL . . . . .	68	3,924



## Material Captured by the 33rd Division:

	Heavy Artillery	Light Artillery	Trench Mortars	Machine Guns	Rifles
<i>Gressaire Wood</i> , 131st Infantry, August 9, 1918 . . . . .	2	28	2	100	59
Near <i>Bois de Forges</i> , 131st Infantry, September 26, 1918 . . . . .	3	13	—	52	59
<i>Bois de Forges</i> , 132nd Infantry, September 26, 1918. . . . .	4	12	10	109	—
Sector of <i>Bois de Dannevoix</i> and <i>Bois de la Côte Lemont</i> , 65th Infantry Brigade, Sept. 29 to Oct. 15, 1918, . . . . .	1	7	2	37	80
<i>Brabant — Consenvoye — Bois de Chaume</i> , 132nd Infantry, Oct. 8 to 14, 1918 . . . . .	2	11	3	113	—
<i>Bois de Chaume</i> and <i>Bois du Plat Chêne</i> , 131st Infantry, Oct. 10 to 14, 1918 . . . . .	—	16	1	24	207
<i>Bois de Chaume</i> , 130th Infantry, October 10 to 20, 1918 . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—
<i>Bois du Plat Chêne</i> , 129th Infantry, October 10 to 20, 1918 . . . . .	—	—	2	3	25
<i>Chateau d'Aulnois</i> , 130th Infantry, November 7, 1918 . . . . .	—	—	—	6	—
<i>Bois de Warville</i> , 131st Infantry, November 8, 1918 . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—
<i>Marcheville</i> , 130th Infantry, November 10, 1918 . . . . .	1	—	—	12	—
<i>Bois d'Harville</i> , 131st Infantry, November 10, 1918 . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS . . . . .	13	87	20	460	430

## The losses of the 33rd Division during active operations were as follows:

	KILLED		WOUNDED		MISSING		CAPTURED	
	Off.	Men	Off.	Men	Off.	Men	Off.	Men
British Front . . . . .	12	206	34	1372		4		
Verdun . . . . .	10	333	93	4521		137		6
St. Mihiel . . . . .	1	44	22	798		3	1	6
Scattering . . . . .	6	118	4	153		4		5
TOTAL . . . . .	29	701	153	6844		148	1	17

## Recapitulation of the Casualties of the 33rd Division.

	KILLED		WOUNDED		MISSING		CAPTURED		TOTAL	
	Off.	Men	Off.	Men	Off.	Men	Off.	Men	Off.	Men
33rd Division, less 58th Field Artillery Brigade and Attached Units . . . . .	29	701	153	6,844	—	148	1	17	183	7,710
58th Field Artillery Brigade . . . . .	4	51	36	295	—	—	—	—	40	346
Total of 33rd Division . . . . .	33	752	189	7,139	—	148	1	17	223	8,056
Attached Units . . . . .	—	13	5	194	—	—	—	—	5	207
Total of 33rd Division and Attached Units . . . . .	33	765	194	7,333	—	148	1	17	228	8,263

## Grand Totals.

33rd Division, less 58th Field Artillery Brigade and Attached Units . . . . .	7,893
58th Field Artillery Brigade . . . . .	386
Total of 33rd Division . . . . .	8,279
Attached Units . . . . .	212
Total of 33rd Division and Attached Units . . . . .	8,491

Since the compilation of the above casualty list all of the missing have been accounted for with the exception of four, to-wit:

131st Infantry:	VILLARDI, ANTHONY Co. F, Action Nov. 11th
	KUKLOWSKI, ALIK Co. I, Action Nov. 10th
132nd Infantry:	KRANZMEYER, HENRY Co. G, Action July 4th
	GIRADI, SIRO Co. E, Action Oct. 8th



The officers and men of the Machine Gun units in the 33rd Division were conspicuous for their energy, initiative, resourcefulness and originality. These units were the first in this war to use a machine gun barrage to neutralize the enemy nests in a wood while the infantry turned the position. This was done by the 122nd Machine Gun Battalion and part of the 124th Machine Gun Battalion on the attack on the *Bois de Forges*, September 26, 1918. The manner in which the machine guns were kept in the very front of the infantry in the various advances was extraordinary. In no two attacks did the Machine Gun units employ the same methods, with the result that the enemy was constantly at a loss how to meet them, a fact abundantly attested to by the enemy prisoners. To their daring and originality the remarkable successes achieved by the Machine Gunners were in a large way due.

By their work the 108th Engineers proved themselves one of the most efficient organizations of that arm of the service in the A. E. F. Indefatigably resourceful and extraordinarily cheerful, they performed their difficult tasks with remarkable efficiency, and the Division Commander's encomium was that "the work of the 108th Engineers has been magnificent". Not less equally efficient, in its own way, was the 108th Field Signal Battalion, the 108th Military Police and the Liaison and Signal Detachment from the Headquarters Troop.

To the officers and men, and especially to the truck drivers of the 108th Supply Train, the 108th Engineer Train, the Ammunition Trains serving with the 33rd Division, as well as all drivers of the 108th Sanitary Train, the highest possible credit is due. In the blackness of the night, amid rain and storm, without lights to guide their way, often under shell fire of the heaviest sort and subjected to hardships untold, these men performed their difficult tasks — which possessed none of the excitement or glamour that attends the fighting men in their career — with a fidelity, zeal and courage for which no praise is too high. Without their splendid devotion and the effective service which they rendered the efforts of the fighting troops would have been in vain.

No less meritorious were the duties performed by the officers and men of the 108th Sanitary Train, the Field Hospitals and Ambulance Companies, particularly those at the dressing stations and in the ambulances. Many a life was saved and invaluable assistance given to the unfortunate wounded by

their self-sacrifice and steadfast adherence to duty under the most trying circumstances. The stretcher-bearers, too, many of them bandmen who were used or who volunteered for this dangerous service, showed a self-sacrifice and gallantry often unrewarded.

The various Staff Corps have all functioned most efficiently and performed admirable service.

On February 14, 1919, Medals of Honor had been awarded during the present war to 47 men, of whom 16 are dead. Of the 31 remaining, 6 belong to the 33rd Division, and since that time two more Medals of Honor have been awarded to soldiers of the 33rd. The following are a list of the decorations conferred up to this date, a small number of those who have been recommended or whose cases are now under consideration at G. H. Q.:

#### *American*

Congressional Medal of Honor	8
Distinguished Service Cross	110

#### *British*

Distinguished Service Order	1
Military Cross	5
Distinguished Conduct Medal	5
Military Medal	41

#### *French*

Croix de Guerre	47
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#### *Belgian*

Officer of the Order of Leopold	1
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For gallantry, efficiency, resourcefulness and originality, the 33rd Division will stand comparison with any in the A. E. F.

### **Telegrams and Letters.**

The following telegrams and letters speak for themselves:

#### *"TELEGRAM.*

July 4, 1918.

33rd American Division.

I have much pleasure in forwarding the follow-



ing message just received from the Commander-in-Chief, Begins: "Will you please convey to Lt. Gen. Sir J. MONASH and all ranks under his command including the tanks and detachments of the 33rd American Division my warm congratulations on the success which attended the operation carried out this morning and on the skill and gallantry with which it was conducted.

DOUGLAS HAIG",

From General Rawlinson."

"General Bell, 33rd Illinois Division.

July 5, 1918.

Am anxious to express to you, General Bell, and to all ranks of the 33rd (Illinois) Division, my warm thanks for the gallant part taken by portions of your division in the attack at *Hamel* and *Vaire Wood* on Independence Day. I hear nothing but praise of the manner in which your units fought the enemy and my only regret is that I was not permitted to employ a larger portion of your fine division. Perhaps later on there may be another opportunity.

General RAWLINSON."

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

"Corps Headquarters,  
5th July, 1918.

My dear General.

I desire to take the opportunity of tendering to you as their immediate commander, my earnest thanks for the assistance and services of the four Companies of Infantry who participated in yesterday's brilliant operations.

The dash, gallantry and efficiency of these American Troops left nothing to be desired and my Australian Soldiers speak in the very highest terms in praise of them. That Soldiers of the *United States* and of *Australia* should have thus been associated for the first time in such close co-operation on the

battlefield, is an historic event of such significance that it will live for ever in the annals of our respective Nations.

Yours very sincerely,

JOHN MONASH,

Lieut.-General,

Commanding Australian Corps.

Major-General BELL,

Commanding, 33rd American Division."

"Hdqrs., 4th Aust. Divn.

7th July, 1918.

My dear General:

I am writing to thank you and the troops of yours who were attached to my Division for the operations of the 4th July for their excellent work.

Our Brigadiers and Regimental Officers speak of your troops action in the highest terms, and we are most grateful for their help.

I enclose a letter from my Asst. Director Medical Services about the valuable assistance given by 108th Coy U. S. Engineers, which shows the excellent spirit of comradeship displayed by them and which is typical of all the U. S. troops attached to us.

I much regret the losses suffered, but we consider our casualties to be light. I hope those taking part in the operation learned a good deal.

With sincerest wishes of good fortune to you and your command and again tendering our sincere thanks, I am

Yours sincerely,

E. G. SINCLAIR MAC LAGAN,

Major-General."

Comdg. 4th Aust. Divn.

"To G. O. C.

IVth Aust. Divn.

I should like to particularly draw your attention to help given us at our Adv. Dressing Station N 4 c9. 2. by the 108th Coy United States Engineers.



The Officer Commanding this unit sent a party of 14 men to the A. D. S. for duty on the night of 4th inst.: these men did all the S. B. work at the A. D. S. for that night and came over and did similar work on the night of the 5th inst. Also a good number of Americans worked during the 4th inst. at the A. D. S. as S. Bs.

This assistance was proffered without being asked for and was of the greatest use as on the 4th inst. and night 4/5th inst. all our men were very busy or tired from previous heavy exertions.

ROY S. MCGREGOR, Lt. Col.  
10. 59 a. m. 10th August, 1918."

To G. O. C. 33rd Amer. Div.  
G 709.

Hearty congratulations on successful attack carried out by 131st Infantry Regiment yesterday. Addsd 33rd American Division, 66th American Brigade; 131st Infantry Regiment.

Corps Commander,  
III Corps. 10. 20 a. m."

"HEADQUARTERS  
58th Division.  
x.viii.xviii

Dear General Bell:

I wish to express to you my appreciation of the great assistance afforded to my Division by your 131 Regiment in the attack on Gressaire Wood yesterday afternoon, and my admiration for the way in which it carried out a very difficult manœuvre to get into the Battle line and for the stout way in which it overcame all resistance.

I enclose a letter of thanks which I would be glad if you would forward to the Officer Commanding the regiment.

Yours sincerely,  
FRANK RAMSAY."

"HEADQUARTERS  
58th Division.  
x.viii.xviii

Dear Colonel Sanborn:

I have to thank you for the very great assistance which

your Regiment afforded my Division in its attack on Gressaire Wood yesterday afternoon.

You had a very difficult task to perform and the way in which your Battalions manœuvred and took the objectives allotted to them reflects the greatest credit on all ranks.

I have to thank you personally in the way in which you led your Regiment on to its battle alignment, and which very materially assisted in the success of the operation.

Yours sincerely,  
FRANK RAMSAY."

"104 Camberley.

BEVERELEY,  
CAMBERLEY.  
Aug. 13th.

Dear General Bell:

It was, and is, a great disappointment to me that I was unable to visit either you, Wolf, or Sanborn before I left. I hadn't recovered from that bad dose of "Flu" and they wouldn't let me stick it out any longer.

I want to take this opportunity of adding my congratulation to the many over the fine performance of the Regiment North of the Somme, more especially as it came at the end of a somewhat forced and arduous march under new conditions.

I need hardly add how proud I am and how much I appreciate the honor of being in command the first time the American troops went into battle with the III Corps.

As I understand the situation at the moment, it seems that the whole of the 66th Bde is likely to be now engaged as a Bde under the Australian Corps, in fact I tried to arrange this before I left, so I am not bothering either Wolfe or Sanborn with letters but I should be grateful if you would at a convenient moment show them both this letter and convey to them and all the officers and men engaged my congratulations and personal thanks.

I hope to be back quite fit in about a fortnight, in the meantime I wish you the best of luck.

Sincerely,  
R. H. K. BUTLER."



"General Staff, 3rd Cavalry Div.  
G. B. 100/138, 15/8/18.

Fourth Army.

I desire to bring to the notice of the Army Commander the excellent work accomplished by "D" and "F" Companies of 108th Battalion U. S. A. Engineers during and prior to the recent operations.

They were employed on the construction of the Cavalry track from TRONVILLE Wood via CACMY to our original front line. This work was carried out and completed between the hours of 9.00 p. m. on August 7th and 4.00 a. m. on August 8th.

After our infantry advanced the track was continued over the enemy's line.

I consider the rapidity and efficiency with which the task was carried out, often under shell fire, reflects great credit on the U. S. A. Engineers. It was largely due to the energy shown by them that the Cavalry were able to advance without any interruption.

I propose to submit certain names as soon as possible for immediate recognition.

(Sgd.) A. E. W. HARMAN,  
Major-General,

Commanding 3rd Cavalry Division.

18th August, 1918."

2.

"33rd American Division.

The Army Commander has much pleasure in directing me to forward the above letter from the G. O. C. 3rd Cavalry Division, and to thank "D" and "F" Cos. of the 108th Bn. U. S. A. Engineers for the great assistance they gave to the success of the recent operations.

Major-General,  
General Staff, Fourth Army.

H. Q., Fourth Army,  
17th August, 1918

"FOURTH ARMY NO. G. S. 2/13.

33RD ILLINOIS DIVISION.

On the departure of the 33rd Division from the Fourth Army I desire officially to record my admiration of the energy, keenness and soldierly qualities exhibited by all ranks during their period of training under my orders. The marked advance which has been made and the satisfactory standard of fighting efficiency that has been reached reflect high credit on all concerned, and guarantee that the Division will render brilliant service to the Allied cause wherever it may be employed as a fighting Division in face of the enemy.

My regret is that it will not have further opportunity for offensive action whilst in the Fourth British Army, but portions of the Division have already acquitted themselves most gallantly, and I desire to tender my warm thanks to those units engaged for their brilliant successes in the *Hamel* offensive and at *Gressaire Wood*.

I greatly regret the departure of the Division and offer to General Bell and all ranks under his command the best of good fortune in the strenuous times which lie before them.

H. RAWLINSON.

H. Q. Fourth Army  
21st August 1918"

"III Corps G. O. 1565.  
20th August, 1918

Major General GEORGE BELL, Jr.,  
Commanding 33rd American Division

On the departure of your Division from this Corps, I write to ask you to convey to all ranks under your command our thanks and appreciation of the excellent work that the Division has done during its period of attachment to the III Corps.

The 131st Regiment, of the 66th Brigade, carried out the attack on the 9th August in a manner which reflected great credit, not only on its gallantry, but on its previous training; and the work done by the whole of your Division during its periods of attachment and of holding the line has been of a high order.

All ranks of the III British Corps wish the 33rd American Division the best of luck in the future, and in watching its



future victorious career will always remember with great pleasure the time which they have spent together with their American comrades in arms.

ALEX GODLEY

Lieutenant-General

Commanding III Corps.

III Corps HQ

20. 8. 18."

"France, 11th September, 1918.

To The General Officer Commanding

33rd American Division

Will you kindly convey to the Officer Commanding and all ranks of the 2nd Bn. 108th U. S. Engineers the thanks and high appreciation of all ranks of the 12th Divn. for their valuable assistance during the recent operations. The work carried out by this Bn very materially assisted in strengthening the sector then held by the Divn. under my command. I much regret that as we were engaged in action operations against the enemy I was unable to personally thank the officers and men for their loyal cooperation and valuable work and also that I have been unable to write before, as the 12th Divn. has been continuously engaged with the enemy since August 8th. I desire also to express to you my personal thanks for having placed your fine Bn. at my disposal. It has been a great source of pleasure to all ranks of the Divn. under my command to have had the opportunity of serving alongside their comrades of the American Army in our struggle with the common enemy.

H. W. HIGGINSON

Major General,

Comdg. 12th Division

British Army in France."

"France, 17th October 1918.

From Commanding General, 4th Division, American E. F.

I attach hereto letters from the Commanding General of the 7th Brigade and the 8th Brigade expressing their high esteem of the qualities and conduct of the 3rd Battalion, 132nd Infantry.

To these letters of appreciation I desire to attach my own

and to congratulate you upon having in your Division such splendid officers and men.

GEORGE H. CAMERON

Major General, U. S. A."

"From Commanding General, 7th Infantry Brigade.

1. I wish to record the services rendered by Major Bullington and his Third Battalion, 132nd Infantry, during the recent operations of the 7th Infantry Brigade, to which the battalion was attached.

2. Companies "L" and "M" were actively engaged with the 29th Infantry in the attacks on and capture of the *Bois de Malamont*, *Bois de Peut de Faux* and *Bois de Forêt*, from October 10th to 12th inclusive. The casualty reports of these companies will indicate that their task was no light one, nor accomplished without great sacrifice.

3. The loyal co-operation of the Battalion Commander and his staff, and of Companies "I" and "K" in pushing up supplies of food and ammunition to the elements of the 7th Infantry Brigade was most praiseworthy; and I gratefully acknowledge my entire satisfaction with the conduct of this battalion while it formed a part of my command.

B. A. POORE,

Brigadier General, U. S. A.

Commanding."

"From Commanding General, 8th Infantry Brigade: —

1. The following message has been received from the Commanding Officer, 59th Infantry:

From C. O. 59th Infantry To C. O., 8th Brigade.

Date 12th October, 1918, 8.30 p. m.

I wish to call attention to the splendid services rendered by the officers and men of the 3rd Battalion, 132nd Infantry, under command of Major Bullington, 132nd Infantry, while attached to this regiment from October 6th to October 10th, 1918. This Battalion was assigned to duty on the then front line of the Brigade, Division and Corps along the Northern edge of the *Bois de Fays*.

The service of this Battalion was performed under the most trying conditions. The personnel were subjected to heavy hostile artillery fire from the North (front) and the East (right flank) without the satisfaction of being able to counteract it in any way. They were also subjected to fire from Machine



Gun nests from the front and both flanks. They held the line turned over to them including No Man's Land to the *Cunel-Briculles* road to which line they patrolled daily.

F. W. WISE  
Colonel, Marines  
Commanding."

1st Ind.

"Hq. 8th Inf. Brigade, American E. F., France, October 13th, 1918 — to The Commanding General, 4th Division: Forwarded.

1. I fully concur in the above remarks of the C. O., 59th Infantry. This Battalion rendered excellent service and showed the splendid material of which it is composed by performing its work without a murmur under a grilling artillery and machine gun fire, to which it was subjected for several days.

2. I understand that the Commanding General, 7th Brigade, also feels that this battalion rendered excellent service for the day or two it was attached to his command after October 10th.

E. E. BOOTH  
Brigadier General, U. S. A."

"AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY

October 19, 1918

From: Colonel J. K. Parsons, Infantry

To: Commanding General, 33rd Division.

Subject: Conduct of Battalion of the 132nd Infantry.

1. On the night of October 9th, while in command of the 39th Infantry, a Battalion of the 132nd Infantry under a Major who I think was named Bullington, was ordered to report to me for duty in the Bois de Foret.

2. I am writing this to tell you of the excellent conduct of this Battalion and the great assistance rendered me by the Battalion Commander and the officers and men under him. Due to the gassing of my staff, the work, and assistance given me by Major Bullington, Captain Wise, and the Lieutenants in charge of the Relays, made possible the attack of October 10th, which, otherwise could not have been made.

3. This Battalion also had a splendid system of Relay Posts, without which communication between my headquarters and the

Brigade Commander would have been next to impossible.

J. K. PARSONS  
Colonel — Infantry  
Commanding 39th Infantry."

"HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY

American E. F.,

France, 12 December, 1918.

FROM: Commanding General, Second Army.

TO: Commanding General, 33rd Division, American E. F.

SUBJECT: Activity of the 33rd Division prior to the Armistice.

1. Upon the transfer of the 33rd Division, from the Second to the Third American Army, I desire to express to you my gratification at the vigorous and successful activities of your division during the period of active operations preceding the Armistice.

2. The 33rd Division, although occupying a broad front, was called upon to advance towards *Conflans*, and was engaged in the performance of this mission at the time that hostilities ceased.

3. On November 6 to 7, when accurate information of the enemy's intention was greatly desired, raiding parties from your Division penetrated to *Château d'Aulnois* and captured 21 prisoners, including one officer. On November 7 to 8, your reconnaissance patrols entered *Bois d'Harville* and *St. Hilaire* and brought back 8 prisoners. On November 9 to 10, you drove the enemy from the towns of *St. Hilaire* and *Marcheville* and, at the time of cessation of hostilities, your division had occupied these towns, as well as the towns of *Butgneville* and *Riaville*.

4. The conduct of the 33rd Division exemplified its ability to execute promptly and thoroughly the tasks which were given to it. There was shown on the part of both officers and men, an efficiency and fighting spirit which are highly commendable.

(signed) R. L. BULLARD,  
Lieutenant General, U. S. A.

"HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
OFFICE OF COMMANDING GENERAL

18th February, 1919.

From: Lieutenant General R. L. Bullard.



To: Major General George Bell, Jr., Commanding 33rd Division (Through Commanding General, VI Corps)  
Subject: Commendation of the Commanding General, 33rd Division, and of his Division.

1. I desire to make of record the fact that as Commanding General of the III Corps in the battle of the Meuse-Argonne I repeatedly took occasion between September 26, and October 7, to commend in high terms your own command of the 33rd Division and the valiant and efficient conduct of that Division in the great battle in which you were taking part at that time. Every duty, every mission assigned to you and to your Division was executed with zeal, skill, smoothness and valor that deserved the highest commendation. I so stated to you at that time, as you will remember, but you and your Division on October 7 were unexpectedly to me detached from the III Corps. I then expected and hoped that in a few days you would be returned to my Command and that I would have opportunity then to commend the conduct of your Division in this battle; but I myself was separated from this Command unexpectedly a few days later and this opportunity thus never came. I take it now.

I would appreciate it, if you will communicate this to your Division.

R. L. BULLARD,  
Lieut. General, U. S. A.  
Commanding 2nd Army."

RLB:s

"201. 1 — Commendations. 1st Ind.

Hdqs. VI Army Corps, APO 783, American E. F., 20 February 1919. —

To the Commanding General, 33rd Division, American E. F.

1. It gives me great pleasure to forward this acknowledgment of the service rendered by your division, knowing that the commendation has been justly earned.

The esprit which enabled the accomplishment of such marked success in active service, still maintains the division, in time of peace, at a standard of efficiency excelled by none.

A. CRONKHITE,  
Major General, U. S. A.,  
Commanding."

-GENERAL HEADQUARTERS G—5  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES HRR  
France, February 17th, 1919.

From: The Adjutant General, American E. F.  
To: The Commanding General, 2nd Army,  
Subject: Condition of animals and transport of 33rd Division.

1. In connection with a general inspection and supervision of the instruction of the divisions of the A. E. F. in matters pertaining to the care of animals and the upkeep of leather equipment and the transport, the Staff officer at these Headquarters charged with this duty, reports as follows:

"The 33rd Division was inspected December fifth. There was a well organized system of supervision of the care of animals, a sympathetic attention to their every need in such matters as grooming, feeding, watering, shelter, shoeing and standings, which began with the Division Commander and extended through all the grades down to the riders and drivers. The Division Commander was familiar with every detail of this important phase of instruction and administration in his command, very especially with the efforts of all concerned to ameliorate conditions and the difficulties encountered by them. Great credit is due him personally for the splendid state of affairs in his division on that date (December 5th, 1918) — which stood as a perfect model of the standards that ought to exist in these matters throughout the army."

2. The regiment inspected was the 130th Infantry, Colonel John V. Clinkin, Commanding.

By Command of General Pershing:  
J. M. WOOLFOLK,  
Adjutant General."

jhc

"AG 454 33rd Div. 1st Ind. CHM.u  
Headquarters Second Army, American E. F., February 21, 1919 — To Commanding General, 33rd Division (thru Commanding General, VI Corps)

1. For his information.

By command of Lieutenant General BULLARD:  
ALLEN SMITH, JR.,  
Adjutant General."

"484 2nd Ind.  
Headquarters, 6th Army Corps, APO 783, American E. F.  
23 February, 1919.  
To Commanding General, 33rd Division.



1. Forwarded.  
By Command of Major General CRONKHITE:  
E. A. ROBBINS, JR.,  
Adjutant General."

ear/clw  
F.

"Headquarters, 1st Division,  
American Expeditionary Forces,  
France, September 14, 1918.

From: Chief of Staff,  
To: Brigadier General Henry D. Todd, Commanding 58th  
Field Artillery Brigade, American E. F.  
Subject: Conduct of 58th Field Artillery Brigade in recent  
operations.

1. The Division Commander desires me to express to you and all of the officers and men of the 58th Field Artillery Brigade his commendation of your gallant conduct in the recent operations against the St. Mihiel salient. The loyalty and devotion exhibited in moving forward your batteries over the most difficult country under the worst weather conditions are worthy of the best traditions of the field artillery. The skill and efficiency with which the guns were served are evidences of the high standard that obtains in the Brigade.

CK : T

CAMPBELL KING."

"P. C. 64th Infantry Brigade,  
10 October, 1918.

From: Commanding General, 64th Infantry Brigade.  
To: General H. D. Todd, Commanding General, 58th  
Artillery Brigade.  
Subject: Expression of appreciation.

1. I desire to express my utmost satisfaction with the artillery support rendered by your 58th Artillery Brigade in connection with the successful attack and capture by the 64th Infantry Brigade of the *Bois de la Morine*, the *Bois du Chêne Sec*, and the town of *Gesnes*.

2. In this operation the barrage was precise and exactly timed, the destructive and counter-battery fire effective, and the fire on fleeting targets prompt and accurate. The efficient liaison established by your Liaison Officers, Lieutenants Shields and Hunter is deserving of high commendation.

3. It will no doubt gratify you to know that not a single report of friendly "shorts" was received during this operation.

EDWIN B. WINANS,  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army."

HEADQUARTERS, 63RD INFANTRY BRIGADE  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

25 October, 1918.

General H. D. Todd,  
Comdg. 58th F. A. Brigade,  
American E. F.  
Dear General: —

During the first two days of the operations of my Brigade against *Kriemhilde Stellung* in front of *Romagne*, I had the very effective support of your Brigade of Field Artillery, and I wish to express my appreciation to both yourself and your Colonels. I was keenly conscious of this support not only when asked, but of the quick and fine initiative of yourself and staff which made it a pleasure and satisfaction to work together.

Very sincerely,

FRANK McCOY,  
Brigadier General, U. S. A."

"HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS  
American Expeditionary Forces.

France, 2 November, 1918.

From: Commanding General, V Army Corps.  
To: Brigadier General D. E. Aultman, Chief of Artillery,  
V Army Corps.  
Subject: Commendation.

I desire to convey to you and to the Officers and Soldiers of all Artillery serving in this corps, my profound appreciation and my high admiration of the brilliant manner in which the Artillery of all classes has performed the difficult tasks allotted to it, especially during the advance on November first.

Although the Artillery has been constantly in action day and night, sustaining the battle since the beginning of the present offensive, it has responded with a self-sacrificing devotion to duty and a superb efficiency that is beyond all praise. While our dauntless infantry have advanced against the enemy's prepared positions with a courage that elicits our greatest admiration, it must be recognized that without the powerful and skillful co-operation of the Artillery, it would have been im-



possible to accomplish the results which they have so brilliantly achieved.

The tremendous volume of fire, the skillful arrangements of all objectives, and the perfect coordination with the Infantry and machine guns, have made the action of November first a model of completeness, and it must stand as a tribute to the able administrative officers who conceived the plans, and to the technical ability and the fidelity to duty of those who executed them.

I beg that you will convey to the officers and soldiers of all units of Artillery, the foregoing sentiments, and will assure them of my abiding wishes for their continued success in the campaigns that lie before them.

(Signed) C. P. SUMMERALL,  
Major General, Commanding".

"HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS  
American Expeditionary Forces.

5th November, 1918.

From: The Chief of Artillery, 5th Army Corps.  
To: The Commanding General, 58th F. A. Brigade.  
Subject: Commendation.

I transmit herewith, letter of commendation from the Corps Commander regarding the action of the Artillery in the operation of November 1st.

In transmitting this letter I desire to add my own thanks and appreciation to you and to the officers and men of your brigade for the hearty cooperation that has resulted in such a brilliant success.

To have enabled our Infantry to advance in one day over a distance of 9 kilometers with small loss, capturing over 100 guns, 200 machine guns, and more than 2,000 prisoners, is an achievement of which the Artillery may well be proud, and I congratulate your entire command on having so well performed its share in the operation.

I desire that the contents of the letter of the Corps Commander be made known to the officers and men of your command, as well as my own appreciation of their splendid conduct.

DWIGHT E. AULTMAN,  
Brig. General,  
Chief of Artillery, 5th A. C."



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