

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 84 }

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 29 December 1948

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I. GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL.—By direction of the President, the commanding officer, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, is empowered, pursuant to the eighth article of war, to appoint general courts martial, *effective as of 24 December 1948.*
[AG 250.401 (6 Dec 48)]

II. ROTC UNIT.—*Effective as of 1 September 1948,* the Infantry ROTC unit at Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was withdrawn.
[AG 000.8 (29 Jul 48)]

III. BATTLE HONORS.—As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, Bul. 22, WD, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, Bul. 11, WD, 1942), the following units are cited under the provisions of AR 200-15 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citations read as follows:

1. The *2d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment*, is cited for exceptionally outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy from 6 to 9 December 1944 in the vicinity of Mount De Sigolsheim and Fme Boux, France. On 6 December, the battalion attacked across 2,000 meters of open terrain and captured the key terrain features of Mount De Sigolsheim and Hill 351, securing strong positions from which fire could be directed on vital enemy targets. Determined to regain these important heights, the enemy launched five strong, heavily supported counterattacks. The battalion successfully repulsed all of these assaults, fighting the enemy to a standstill and holding its positions. The exceptionally outstanding achievement and extraordinary heroism displayed by the *2d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment*, during 4 days and 3 nights of unremitting and successful combat against skillful, determined, and vicious enemy forces reflect great credit on itself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States.

2. The *3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment*, and the following attached units:
Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment;
Company C, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion;

are cited for exceptionally outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy from 2 to 6 December 1944 in the vicinity of Ribeauville, France. Passing through other elements of the regiment, the battalion launched a sustained attack which forced a passage through the mountainous country between Walbourg and Ribeauville, expanding the division's area and permitting access to the Colmar Plain at Ribeauville, France. The enemy in this sector being steadily reinforced employed aggressive and fanatical efforts to halt the rapid advance of the battalion. Continuing the attack eastward, the unit destroyed the enemy bridgeheads across the Fecht River at Guemar and Ostheim, against increasingly large enemy forces fighting with a skill and determination seldom encountered. During this attack, the *3d Battalion* was gallantly supported by the *Cannon Company* armed with light tanks and acting as armor and the engineers who performed the hazardous tasks of removing several kilometers of booby trapped and cleverly mined road blocks. The indomitable fighting spirit and outstanding achievement of the *3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment*, and attached units, were major contributions to the success of the 36th Infantry Division in the

Colmar region and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General

OMAR N. BRADLEY
Chief of Staff, United States Army