

S W P A



V

FIGHTER
COMMAND

It is with GREAT PERSONAL PLEASURE THAT I PRESENT THIS COMPILATION OF COMMENTATIONS TO YOUR ORGANIZATION FROM OUR MILITARY LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR UNTIRING DEVOTION TO DUTY THROUGHOUT YOUR TOUR OF SERVICE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.

Paul B. WurtSmith
PAUL B. WURTSMITH
BRIGADIER GENERAL, USA

Staff Sergeant MATTHEW E. KOZNIAK 32100562
Headquarters 8th Fighter Group



★

General Orders,)
No. 21)

E X T R A C T

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 6, 1943.

IV CITATION OF UNITS IN THE UNITED STATES FORCES IN SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.—As authorized by Executive Order No. 9075 (sec III, Bull. 11, W.D., 1942), citation in the name of the President of the United States, as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction, was awarded to the following named forces. The citation is as follows:

The Papuan Forces, United States Army, Southwest Pacific Area, are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action during the period July 23, 1942, to January 23, 1943. When a bold and aggressive enemy invaded Papua in strength, the combined action of ground and air units of those forces, in association with Allied units, checked the hostile advance, drove the enemy back to the seacoast and in a series of actions against a highly organized defensive zone, utterly destroyed him. Ground combat forces, operating over roadless jungle-covered mountains and swamps, demonstrated their courage and resourcefulness in closing with an enemy who took every advantage of the nearly impassable terrain. Air Forces, by repeatedly attacking the enemy ground forces and installations, by destroying his convoys attempting reinforcement and supply, and by transporting ground forces and supplies to areas for which land routes were nonexistent and sea routes slow and hazardous, made possible the success of the ground operations. Service units, operating far forward of their normal positions and at times in advance of ground combat elements, built landing fields in the jungle, established and operated supply points, and provided for the hospitalization and evacuation of the wounded and sick. The courage, spirit, and devotion to duty of all elements of the command made possible the complete victory attained.

By order of the Secretary of War:

G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

J. A. ULIO,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

"A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT"

Carl E. Yoder
CARL E. YODER,
1st Lt., Air Corps.

HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE ECHELON
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 929

ECW/res

7 November, 1942.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, Fifth Fighter Command (Prov), APO 929.

1. The message quoted below has been received from the Commander-in-Chief, SWPA:

"TO : COMMANDER ALLIED AIR FORCES NOVEMBER 3RD, 1942.
FROM : GHQ, SWPA
NR : NONE THIRD

PLEASE EXPRESS TO ALL RANKS OF THE AIR CORPS CONCERNED MY ADMIRATION FOR THE SIGNIFICANT PART THEY HAVE PLAYED IN THE CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS RESULTED IN THE CAPTURE OF KOKODA.

MacARTHUR"

2. The splendid work by all ranks is a tremendous source of pride to me, and I desire to congratulate and thank all for their whole-hearted effort in consummating a job which merits the commendation of the Commander-in-Chief.

/s/ Dennis C. Whitehead
/t/ DENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Brigadier General, AUS.,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

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HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE ECHELON
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 929

6 December, 1942.

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : The Commanding Officers, Fifth Bomber Command,
Fifth Fighter Command, Air Transport Command.

1. From the 32nd Division:

"EXTRA PLEASED ACCURATE AND WELL TIMED CLOSE

SUPPORT MISSIONS FIVE DECEMBER STOP PLEASE

CONVEY MESSAGE TO FIFTH AIR FORCE

2200L/5/12

LICHELBERGER"

2. To the above message, I add my heartiest commendation to all units of the Fifth Air Force.

/s/ Dennis C. Whithead
/t/ DENNIS C. WHITHEAD,
Brigadier General, AUSA,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

(330.13

1st Ind.

RD/lwh

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH FIGHTER COMMAND, APO 929, 8 December, 1942.

TO: Commanding Officers, 8th Fighter Group, 35th Fighter Group,
49th Fighter Group, 4th Fighter Sector, 5th Fighter Sector.

1. I am happy to add my heartfelt felicitations to those of General Lichelberger and General Whithead for the splendid cooperation and coordination being rendered our striking forces both on land and in the air.

/s/ Paul B. Wurtzsmith
/t/ PAUL B. WURTZSMITH,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS V FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 929

201.22

11 January, 1943

Subject: Commendation.

To : All Officers and Enlisted Men of the Fifth Fighter Command.

1. It is with a deep sense of appreciation for your untiring service, gallant conduct and extreme devotion to duty that I take this opportunity to officially commend the entire personnel of the Fighter Command upon the successful completion of the Papuan Campaign.

2. No Commanding Officer could have expected or received greater cooperation, or more arduous service than that rendered by each and every member of the organizations of this command, under circumstances far more trying and conditions far more difficult, than normally encountered in combat.

3. To the flying personnel who strafed, bombed, out-flew and out-fought our adversaries on every occasion, who unfailingly supported our ground forces, provided invaluable reconnaissance, and without question performed the thousand and one tasks demanded of them, no words of mine can ever reward.

4. To the enlisted personnel who kept our ships in the air, who toiled through endless hours to provide for the efficiency, comfort and security of the flying personnel, a special commendation is due; for without them the record of achievement of the V Fighter Command could not have been attained.

5. To the attached units that provided adequate warning, complete supplies, efficient transportation and all the myriad services that round out a successful campaign, my congratulations and commendation are expressed.

6. To all personnel of the V Fighter Command, "Lets continue to show all how it's done--keep them burning."

7. To be read to all personnel of the command.

/s/ Paul B. Wurtsmith
/t/ PAUL B. WURTSMITH,
Brigadier General, AUS,
Commanding.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

AG 330.13 (2-23-43)

A.P.O. 500
February 23, 1943.

General Orders)
No.....20)

Secret.....Section I
Message of the President of the United States.....Section II

II. With great pride the Commander-in-Chief publishes to the Command the following message of the President of the United States:

"The efficient bombardments launched by your air forces during the past few weeks and especially in the last few days in support of the situation in the Solomons and in furtherance of your own operations command our admiration. The arduous land campaign along the Papuan Coast which has decimated the enemy and now threatens him at Salamaua has made a great impression on our people and must have a demoralizing effect on Japanese confidence in the fighting efficiency of their ground troops.

My thanks go to you and your leaders and to the officers and men of the Australian and United States Forces who carried the fight to the enemy on all levels and over great distances and even greater difficulties."

By command of General MacARTHUR:

R. K. SUTHERLAND
Major General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ B. M. FITCH
/t/ B. M. FITCH
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department.
Adjutant General.

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED AIR FORCES, APO 925, 27 February, 1943.
TO: R.A.A.F. Command Units
Fifth Air Force Units

1. It gives me great pleasure to add my personal commendation to the personnel of the R.A.A.F. Command and Fifth Air Force for their splendid accomplishments which are so highly praised by the President of the United States.

/s/ George C. Kenney
/t/ GEORGE C. KENNEY,
Lieutenant General, A.U.S.,
Commander.

ORDER OF THE DAY

By His Excellency

GENERAL LORD GOVRIE, VC, PC, GCMG, CB, DSO,
Governor-General Of Commonwealth Of Australia

On the occasion of my first visit to NEW GUINEA since the Island became a theatre of war I take this opportunity of paying tribute to, and personally thanking all ranks of the Australian and U S A Forces for the magnificent efforts put forth in the campaign against the Japanese aggressors.

On the Mainland we have heard with admiration and pride of the dogged resistance offered to enemy attacks and the determined onslaughts which have produced victories over a ruthless foe. Now I am in a position to see the actual conditions under which you are waging this war, and I shall return to Australia with a very sincere appreciation of your difficulties and the cheerful and resolute manner in which you are facing them.

The comradeship and co-operation with which the two nations have fought to a single purpose have contributed largely to the successes of this campaign.

The end is not yet. There are still gigantic tasks to be undertaken and accomplished. That they will be accomplished I have no doubt.

The outlook of the United Nations is brighter today, though the final defeat of the Axis hopes will not be achieved without further heavy fighting. In the Pacific we have bitter debts to pay and lost ground to regain.

But by the continued courage, endurance and co-operation you have already shown the defeat and unconditional surrender of our enemies will be assured.

I thank you for all you have done in the past and I wish you all the best of luck in the days that lie ahead.

GOVRIE,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

In the Field
NEW GUINEA
30 May 43

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED AIR FORCES
APO 925

9 August 1943.

General Orders)
:)
No..... 20)

Message of Commendation from Lieutenant General Krueger.... I Section

I. MESSAGE OF COMMENDATION FROM LIEUTENANT GENERAL KRUEGER.

The Commander Allied Air Forces takes Great pride and pleasure in publishing to the Command the following message of commendation from the Commanding General SIXTH ARMY:

"THE WHOLEHEARTED AND EFFECTIVE COOPERATION OF YOURSELF AND FORCES UNDER YOUR COMMAND IN SUPPORT OF THE OPERATION JUST COMPLETED IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED. PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE THANKS THEREFORE.

KRUEGER"

By command of Lieutenant General KENNEY:

/s/ Donald Wilson
/t/ DONALD WILSON,
Brigadier General,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS
V FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 929

18 August, 1943.

MEMORANDUM

TO : All Units, this Command.

The following message received 17 August, 1943, from General
Whithead is passed on for you information:

"General Blaney and General Herring extend their heartiest
congratulations on the magnificent victory achieved last night and today.
Without the many weeks of troop carrier haul to a forward airbase and the
intensive training and fine spirit of your organizations, the success of
this decisive operation would not have been possible. I want to add my
personal sincere congratulations to all three commands.

MAJOR GENERAL JAMES C. WHITEHEAD."

/s/ Paul D. Wurtsmith
/t/ PAUL D. WURTSMITH,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Commanding.

TO : COMNAVON FIVE CMA COMFITERCOM FIVE

FROM: COMMLF

CITE: XRLY ABLE THREE FOUR FIVE EIGHT

FOLLOWING SIGNAL FROM COMDESTRON FIVE PARAPHRASED FOR YOUR INFO
QUOTE TO FITERCOM FIVE SQUADRON FIVE ON LEAVING AREA EXPRESSES
APPRECIATION FOR WONDERFUL COOPERATION AND DEVOTION TO DUTY
OVER EIGHT MONTH PERIOD OF COMBINED OPERATIONS UNQUOTE CONGRATS PD

TOO: 181806/L

TOR: 182024/L

RS/CJ/DDH/RLH

XR 0311

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HEADQUARTERS V FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 929

21 August, 1943

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Officers and Enlisted Men of the V Fighter Command.

1. The recent spectacular action against the Japanese Air Force and Ground Installations in the Nowak and Marilinan areas was a direct result of the combined efforts of all officers and enlisted men of the V Fighter Command.

2. The superior maintenance performed by the ground crews under most trying conditions reflects the highest credit upon them. Without their skillful support such an undertaking would be entirely impossible.

3. The highly successful air operations which enabled the establishment of a staging area at Marilinan, in which all organizations of the V Fighter Command participated, cannot be given adequate emphasis.

4. It is my desire to express appreciation for the superior work performed by all units of this command which enabled the combat crews to successfully and permanently disable the Japanese Air Force in the Southwest Pacific Area. This spirit of cooperation insures continued successes of the same caliber against the enemy.

/s/ Paul B. Wurtsmith
/t/ PAUL B. WURTSMITH,
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

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ADVANCE ECHELON, APO 500

18 September 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO.....37)

Section

Congratulatory Message from Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia.....I

I The Commander-in-Chief takes great pride and pleasure in publishing to the command the following congratulatory message from Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia conveying the thanks and admiration of the Government and People of Australia on the occasion of the capture of Lae on 16 September:

"This splendid feat of arms following so closely the successes at Salamaua and the Solomons Islands marks another notable stage of the Pacific War. I convey to you, to your commanders and to all officers and men of the land, naval and air forces the thanks and admiration of the Government and People of Australia. They have demonstrated superiority over a tenacious foe. The invincible comradeship in arms and the achievements of the forces of our two countries constitute a happy portent of greater things to come".

By command of General MacARTHUR:

R. K. SUTHERLAND,
Major General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ B. M. Fitch
/t/ B. M. FITCH,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

AG 201.22

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED AIR FORCE, APO 925, 23 September 1943.

TO: Air Officer Commanding, R.A.A.F. Command and all Units Fifth Air Force.

It gives me great pleasure to add my personal commendation to the personnel of the R.A.A.F. Command and Fifth Air Force for their splendid accomplishments which are so highly praised by Prime Minister John Curtin.

By command of Lieutenant General KENNEY:

/s/ Donald Wilson
/t/ DONALD WILSON,
Brigadier General,
Chief of Staff.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

by

Lieutenant-General SIR EDMUND HERRING

K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D.

GOC 1st AUSTRALIAN CORPS

Headquarters 1st Australian Corps
13 September 1943.

The capture of SALAMUA marks the end of a campaign of 7 months duration. It has been a campaign of very great importance to the Allied Cause in the South West Pacific, and I desire to take this opportunity of extending to all of you, Australian and American alike, who have taken part, my heartfelt congratulations. You have all done a magnificent job, have outfought the Jap and have triumphed in spite of the difficult terrain and trying conditions in which you have been called on to fight.

This message is addressed primarily to all of you who have borne the heat and burden of the fighting, to the infantry first and foremost, to the gunners who have so worthily supported them, to the sappers for their grand work in this undeveloped country, to the signallers who have maintained the vital communications and the medical services who have cared for the sick and wounded in most difficult circumstances.

It is also addressed to all those who have not actually taken part in the fighting, but have made the victory possible by their unceasing and unselfish devotion to duty on the lines of communication by sea and land, to those who have prepared supplies, to those who have loaded them into planes and on to ships, to those who have carried them through the air and over the water, to those who have handled them in all stages of their movement forward and finally those, including the natives, who have carried them to the forward troops.

I would also thank the Air Force for their generous co-operation at all times, and for their magnificent contribution to the victory won.

/s/ Sir Edmund Herring
Lieutenant-General,
General Officer Commanding,
1st Australian Corps.

SPECIAL ORDER

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By
General Sir Thomas Blamey
G.C.B., K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

COMMANDER, ALLIED LAND FORCES IN S.W. PACIFIC AREA
AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

Headquarters,

New Guinea Force,

19th September, 1943.

The capture of LAE is a signal step along the road to victory.

It was due to the intensive bombing of the Air Force and its constant protection of the Navy and the Army from the enemy in the air--To the strong support of the Navy in transporting and protecting the land forces to vital points--To the valour and endurance of all those troops who fought over the severe mountain regions through MUBO, KOKILATU and TIBU and SALIMUA--To those who moved many miles by sea and by air and marched and fought the enemy to a finish at LAE itself. It was due to the skilful planning of the staff and the bold and able leadership of the Commanders of all grades.

Members of the services of all grades gave their full strength to meet the demands of the fighting troops--To them is due their need of honour.

The enemy remnant fled and few will escape the hardship of the mountain tracks.

Again the superiority of the combined Allied forces has been overwhelmingly demonstrated.

We will move steadily forward to the end and victory.

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 925

22 September 1943.

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Units, Fifth Air Force, New Guinea.

The following commendation was received from the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, in regards to the recent capture of LAE, and is published for the information of all concerned:

TO : GENERAL MACARTHUR FOR GENERAL KENNEY

FROM : GENERAL ARNOLD

8173 20TH

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND TO EVERY OFFICER AND MAN IN THE FIFTH AIR FORCE FOR YOUR DECISIVE PART IN THE BRILLIANTLY EXECUTED AND SWIFT CAMPAIGN CLIMAXED BY THE CAPTURE OF LAE. THE SLEDGE HAMMER BLOWS OF AIR POWER WERE IMPRESSIVE EXAMPLES OF HOW QUICK BASES CAN BE PULVERIZED AND TARGET BREAK REDUCED TO SHAMBLES CUTTING SHARPLY THE COST OF VICTORY IN LIVES AND TIME. PLEASE COMMUNICATE TO EVERY RANK OF YOUR COMMAND MY PERSONAL FELICITATIONS.

SIGNED ARNOLD.

/s/ George C. Kenney
/t/ GEORGE C. KENNEY
Lieutenant General, U.S.A.,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE ECHELON
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 929

AG 201.22

11 October 1943.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Fifth Air Force Units.

1. It gives me great pleasure to quote the following telegram:

FROM: 1 AUST CORPS

COMMANDER AND TROOPS 9TH DIVISION DESIRE TO CONVEY THANKS AND APPRECIATION
OF WORK AND COOPERATION OF 5TH AF IN RECENT OPS"

2. I also wish to add my personal congratulations to all concerned in
the recent operation for the remarkably fine job performed.

/s/ Ennis C. Whitehead
/t/ ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, USA,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE ECHELON
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 929

1 January 1944.

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Air Force Units, New Guinea Area.

1. The following message from the Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, is quoted for the information of all concerned:

"MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND THE AIR FORCES UNDER YOUR COMMAND FOR THE BRILLIANT PART TAKEN IN THE CAPTURE OF CAPE GLOUCESTER. THE COOL EFFICIENCY, THE RESOURCEFUL DETERMINATION AND THE SPLENDID COURAGE DISPLAYED BY ALL RANKS FULLY MAINTAINED THE NOBLEST STANDARDS OF THE AIR SERVICE. NOTHING COULD HAVE BEEN FINER.

SIGNED MACARTHUR".

/s/ Ennis C. Whitehead
/t/ ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, USA,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

TO : COMAFADVON FIVE FOR GENERAL WURTSMITH

FROM: KENNEY

CITE: XRAY ABLE THREE FIVE TWO ONE

FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR QUOTE PLEASE
ACCEPT FOR YOURSELF AND CONVEY TO ALL OFFICERS AND MEN ENGAGED
MY SATISFACTION AT THEIR SPLENDID EFFICIENCY IN DESTROYING THE
ENEMY CONVOY OFF WEWAK PD IT MAINTAINS THE HIGH TRADITION OF THE
FIFTH AIR FORCE UNQUOTE PD

TOO: 201550/L

TOR: 201847/L

WHM/JAU/PM

XR 0932

HEADQUARTERS
 ADVANCE ECHELON
 FIFTH AIR FORCE
 APO 929

6 January 1944.

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendations.

TO : All Units, Fifth Air Force, New Guinea.

1. The following commendations received from the Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, the Commanding General, 6th Army, and other Commanders concerned, in regards to the current operations, are published for the information of all concerned, and is to be posted on all Command, Group and Squadron Bulletin boards:

FROM: MACARTHUR

TO: COMAFADVON FIVE (FOR GENERAL WHITEHEAD)

"HEARTIEST COMMENDATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL RANKS (CY*32) FOR FINE PERFORMANCE AT SAIDOR."

TO: COMDN GENERAL ADVON FIVE

FROM: SIXTH ARMY HQ

"FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL WOOTEN QUOTE HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS FROM COM AND ALL RANKS OF NINE MUST DIV ON YOUR VERY SUCCESSFUL OPERATION PD KINDLY CONVEY OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO COMMANDER AND ALL RANKS AND FORCES CONCERNED UNQUOTE

SGD KRUEGER"

TO: COMDG GUP ADVON FIVE

FROM: SIXTH ARMY (ALAMO FORCES)

"FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM CINC QUOTE HEARTIEST COMMENDATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL RANKS FOR FINE PERFORMANCE AT SAIDOR UNQUOTE MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO YOU AND ALL MEMBERS YOUR FORCE FOR EXCELLENT EXECUTION OF THE OPERATION

/s/ KRUEGER"

Ltr, Subj: Command Bldgs, file AG 201.22, Hq, Advon, 5th AF, 6 Jan 1944. (contd)

TO: CG ADVON FIVE CMA CO TASK FORCE SEVEN SIX

FROM: ALMO ADV CHARLIE PETER

"CAPE GLOUCESTER AIRDROMES WERE OCCUPIED BY THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION AT NOON TODAY PD YOUR SKILLFUL AND HIGHLY EFFECTIVE SUPPORT IN THE WHOLE OPERATION LEADING UP TO THIS SUCCESS WAS A BLE VITAL FACTOR IN THE RESULT ACHIEVED PD MY SINCERE THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS ARE EXTENDED TO YOU AND THE PERSONNEL OF ALL PARTICIPATING UNITS OF YOUR COMMAND ON A BLE SPLENDID PERFORMANCE OF WHICH YOU MAY BE JUSTLY PROUD

SGD KRUEGER"

TO: CINC SWPA APO NINE TWO NINE CMA CHARLIE TARE FOX SEVEN SIX
 INFORMATION CMA CG LMO FORCE APO SEVEN ONE TWO INFORMATION
 CMA CG ADVON FIVE APO NINE TWO NINE INFORMATION

FROM: 6TH ARMY

"THE COMPLETE AIRDROME OF CAPE GLOUCESTER IS OURS AND PRESENTED TO YOU AS A NEW YEARS PRESENT WITH THE HELP OF GOD BY THE SKILL AND GALLANTRY OF THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION BRILLIANTLY SUPPORTED BY OUR AIR AND NAVAL FORCES PD SITUATION IS WELL IN HAND CMA BOTH STRIPS BEING OCCUPIED AT NOON AND PERIMETER DEFENSE AROUND DROME BEING CONSOLIDATED

SGD KRUEGER"

TO: COMAFADVON 5 ATTN GEN SMITH

FROM: FIRST ALP

"DEEP AND THANKFUL APPRECIATION FOR OUTSTANDING AIR SUPPORT IN OPERATIONS WHICH PERMITTED FIRST MARINES DIV TO SECURE GLOUCESTER AIRDROME AT NOON TODAY PD COME IN TO DINNER SOON PD

SGD RUPUERTUS"

Ltr, Subj: Commendations, file AG 201.22, Hq, Advon, 5th AF, 6 Jan 1944. (contd)

TO: FOX ABLE TARE FOX ADVON FIVE EASY TARE ONE

FROM: SEVENTH ABLE LOVE PETER GEORGE HOW SIX

"AIR STRIKE GREEN HUNCH SUPERIOR CMA JAPS RAN OFF LEAVING RIFLES AND

PACKS PD PERSONAL MESSAGE TO STAFF AND FLIERS FROM CHARLIE OBOE

LANDING TEAM TWENTY ONE QUOTE COMMA WELL DONE COMMA UNQUOTE"

2. In addition to the above, the undersigned desires to convey his heartiest congratulations to all ranks for these aggressive attacks against the enemy.

the

/s/ Ennis C. Whitehead
/t/ ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

HEADQUARTERS
ADVANCE ECHELON
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 715 UNIT #1

AG 201.22

2 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Fifth Air Force Units, New Guinea Area.

1. The following commendation received from the Commanding General, 6th Army, in regards to the recent operations, is published for the information of all concerned, and is to be posted on all command, wing, group and squadron bulletin boards.

"TO : CG ADVON FIVE

FROM : ADV CP 6TH ARMY

CITE : WF 124

MY HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO YOU AND THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF YOUR COMMAND FOR A SUPERB PERFORMANCE IN SUPPORT OF THE OPERATIONS AGAINST MOOTE COMIN LORINGAU AND THE SEADLER HARBOR PD THE GALLANTRY AND INDOMITABLE SPIRIT DISPLAYED BY ALL RANKS MERIT THE HIGHEST PRAISE PD THE CONDUCT OF ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IS IN KEEPING WITH THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF OUR ARMY PD
SGD KRUGER"

2. The undersigned desires to convey to all concerned his heartiest congratulations for their part in these aggressive attacks against the enemy.

/s/ Ennis C. Whithead
/t/ ENNIS C. WHITHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

HEADQUARTERS BREWER TASK FORCE
Office of the Commanding General
A. P. O. 324

21 March 1944

Subject: Commendation

To : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force.
(Thru Commanding General Aiano Forces.)

1. During the recent operation of the Brewer Task Force in the Admiralty Islands, the cooperation and support of the Fifth Air Force contributed materially to its success. The close support rendered by your units, at the initial landing at Hyano Harbor and during the heavy fighting, to hold Monote Airstrip, proved a most important factor in our success. Again at the landing and subsequent action at Lorongau, the Fifth Air Force repeated its splendid performance.

2. I regret that I do not know the designation of the squadron and groups of heavy and medium bombers that supported us, and the fighter units that covered us.

3. The planning, cooperation and advice of Brigadier General Paul B.urtsmith and Lieutenant Colonel H. C. B. Clagett, Fifth Air Force added much to the success of the operation, and to welding together the Air-ground Team.

* * * * *

5. The fine men of the Air Corps who supported and served with us reflect great credit on themselves, the Air Force and their country.

6. I have spoken to hundreds of men; all of whom spoke of the inspiring effect upon them of the support from the air.

7. What we accomplished, we could not have accomplished without your support and cooperation.

/s/ Innis I. Swift
/t/ INNIS I. SWIFT,
Major General, U. S. Army
Deputy Commander.

BASIC: Ltr, Hq Brewer Task Force, Subject: "Commendation", dated 21 March 1944.

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AG 330.15 A-7
(21 Mar 44)

1st Ind.

~~HEADQUARTERS ADVANCE FORCE, APO 712, 3 April 1944.~~

TO: Commanding General, 5th Air Force, APO 925.

The Commanding General is pleased to forward this letter of commendation on the splendid cooperation and support extended by the officers and men of the 5th Air Force to the Brewer Task Force in the Admiralty Islands operations.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ EDWIN D. PATRICK,
/t/ EDWIN D. PATRICK,
Brig. Gen., General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH AIR FORCE, APO 925, 11 April 1944.

TO: Deputy Commander, Fifth Air Force, APO 713 Unit #1.

1. The Commanding General wishes to express his pride in the receipt of Major General Swift's letter of commendation.

2. It is desired that the letter of commendation be brought to the notice of all combat crew members participating in the Brewer operation.

By command of Lieutenant General BEN EY:

/s/ R.E. DEEBE,
/t/ R.E. DEEBE,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

AG 201.22 (21 March, 1944)

3rd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS ADVANCE ECHELON, FIFTH AIR FORCE, APO 713, UNIT 1, 14 April 1944.

TO: All Air Force units, New Guinea Area.

The Deputy Commander notes this commendation with great pleasure and desires that it be called to the attention of all personnel participating in the aggressive attack against the enemy.

/s/ Emnis C. Whitehead
/t/ EMNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Deputy Air Force Commander.

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 710

4 July 1944.

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Fifth Air Force Unit Commanders.

1. The following radiogram is published for the information of all concerned and is to be posted on all command, wing, group and squadron bulletin boards:

TO : GEN WHITEHEAD

FROM: ADM FECHTELER

QUOTE THE AIR SUPPORT FURNISHED BY FIFTH AIR FORCE ON NOEMFOOR ISLAND

DOG DAY COMMANDED BOTH THE ADMIRATION AND APPRECIATION OF NAVAL FORCES

PRESENT X THANK YOU X ADMIRAL FECHTELER UNQUOTE

2. In addition to the above, the undersigned desires to convey his heartiest congratulations to all ranks for our continued success in destroying the enemy.

/s/ Ennis C. Whitehead,
/t/ ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 710

26 August 1944.

AG 201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Air Force Units.

1. The following radiogram received from COMAIR SEVENTH FLEET, is published for the information of all concerned and is to be posted on all command, wing, group and squadron bulletin boards:

QUOTE ENTHUSIASTIC CONGRATULATIONS REGARDING LEMBEH STRAITS CMA THAT WAS A WALLOP THAT HURT PD WAGNER UNQUOTE.

2. In addition to the above, the undersigned wishes to convey his admiration for this devastating strike, and the splendid way in which it was carried out by those units concerned.

Ennis C. Whitehead
ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 710

27

AG 201.22

4 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Fifth Air Force Unit Commanders.

1. The following radiogram received from the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces is published for the information of all concerned and is to be posted on all command, wing, group and squadron bulletin boards:

"THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE JUST RECEIVED FROM CHARLIE GEORGE ARMY
AIR FORCES BEGIN PARAPHRASE FOR WHITEHEAD PD ON THE THIRD
ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIFTH AIR FORCE CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND
YOUR MEN PD OF THE IMPORTANT PART YOU AND YOUR COMMAND ARE
PLAYING IN HELPING TO DRIVE THE JAPS NORTH WE ARE PROUD PD
TO ALL OF YOU BEST OF LUCK AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK SIGNED
ARNOLD END PARAPHRASE AND I ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS TO GENERAL
ARNOLDS PD I KNOW YOU WILL KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK PD KENNEY"

2. In addition to the above, I wish to express my thanks to all ranks for the excellent manner in which you have performed your duties in the past. I am assured that in the future, as in the past, continued smashing blows will be dealt the enemy by the Fifth Air Force.

Ennis C. Whitehead

ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD,
Major General, United States Army,
Commanding.