

Colonel Bonjour C.O., 3rd Regiment de
Spahis Algerien de Reconnaissance
to
Cpl Cronk, C.O. 2nd Armored Group
thru
C.G. 3rd DIA

As the 755th Tank Battalion leaves my Troupement, I am happy to express my great satisfaction for the manner in which the different companies fulfilled the missions which were given to them.

Fifteen days of combat have retightened our bonds of good comradeship which already existed between the cadres and men of the 755th Tank Battalion and the officers and men of the 3rd Regiment de Spahis Algeriens de Reconnaissance at the end of the battles in the valley of Saint Elia, Belmonte and the Terelle road.

For the period of our victorious offensive which has just terminated, I wish to report the excellent training and effective shooting of the Assault Gun platoon of the 755th Tank Battalion.

On the afternoon of 24 May, our infantry attacked the wooded hill, 271, and the wooded heights to the East which proved to be great barriers against the destruction of enemy pill boxes and for stopping counter-attacks.

Two squadrons of my Regiment were sent afoot to cover our North-East flank with the help of a Medium tank platoon, a platoon of light tanks, supported by Tank Destroyers of the 7th RCA.

Starting at 1600 hrs the enemy began a strong action against this flank. Artillery fire from tanks was coming from between Colle Grande and Colle Arduino, pinning the defenders to the ground, while enemy infantry, advancing down the valley covered by very high wheat and vines, were not stopped by our fire under less than 50 yards.

Meanwhile, the Battalion was no longer under my orders, the Assault Gun platoon continued supporting us. Alerted, it fired its first salvo on the tanks and set two on fire on the crest south east of Colle Grande. Continuing its observed firing, it crushed the enemy infantry by its barrages in the valley, its fire advancing progressively in front of our positions and responded precisely to our requirements for almost three hours.

We can definitely say at the end of the afternoon that, without the help of the Assault Gun platoon, 755th Tank Battalion, my squadron would not have been able to hold their position and fulfill this very important Division mission.

I ask you to please express my thanks and convey my congratulations to -

Lieutenant Branan, platoon leader,
Lieutenant Stratford, Artillery officer,
Lieutenant Hudson, his assistant

who were the artisans of this beautiful action.

signed
A. Bonjour

With this award goes the Citation the Croix de Guerre with
1 Vermillion Star