

1. It is with great pride that I convey to you these commendations from the commanding Officer, 5th Field Artillery Group and the Commanding General, XX Corps Artillery. Once again you have proven your worth on the battlefield.

2. The operations which you carried out from the positions at Hamm will rank with the most glorious in the history of the battalion. For three days and two nights, under direct observation from the bluff across the Saar River and under almost continuous mortar and artillery fire, you supported the gallant Ranger Battalion. The superior accuracy of your fire under those conditions is attested by the fact that our forward observers were able to adjust defensive fires to within twenty-five yards of our front lines. The value of the fires which you laid down was expressed by the commanding officer of the 5th Ranger Battalion when he stated that if it had not been for the splendid support rendered by the 28th Field Artillery Battalion, the Ranger Battalion would probably have been entirely wiped out.

3. The accomplishment of that mission was not without cost to the Battalion. Every unit of the battalion lists men wounded in that engagement. A recount of our losses runs the gamut from slight wounds to the supreme sacrifice. The fact that despite these injuries you carried out your missions makes your achievement the more splendid.

4. Please accept my most sincere congratulations on a task well done. You have again proven yourselves to be tried, seasoned veterans who carry out to the fullest the highest traditions of the field artillery. It is a distinct honor and a pleasure to serve with you.

*Horace L. Sanders*

HORACE L. SANDERS  
Lt. Colonel, Field Artillery  
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS  
5th FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP  
APO 403

7 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, XX Corps Artillery, APO 340, U S Army.

On 25 February 1945, the 28th Field Artillery Battalion occupied position in the vicinity of Hamm (L181079) in order to support the 5th Ranger Battalion. The high river bank opposite this position was known to contain some enemy riflemen, but had been reported cleared of enemy except for these. However an enemy force, later reported to be 300, occupied this ground in such a commanding position that they looked down over the entire battalion position. Knowing this and despite consistent enemy mortar and artillery fire, the Battalion performed their task splendidly. As you know the Rangers credit the artillery with maintaining their position, and in great measure this was the outstanding work of the 28th Field Artillery Battalion while under fire.

S/ J. E. THEILER  
T/ J. E. THEILER  
Col., F.A.  
Commanding.

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS XX CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 340, U S Army, 11 March 1945.

TO: Commanding Officer, 28th Field Artillery Battalion, APO 403, US Army.

The commanding General XX Corps Artillery is aware of the outstanding performance of duty of your battalion in the subject operations.

It is his desire to add his commendation, in addition to that of Colonel Theiler, for the outstanding work done by officers and enlisted men of the 28th Field Artillery Battalion while in support of the 5th Ranger Battalion.

For the Commanding General:

S/ JOSEPH D. PEET, JR.  
T/ JOSEPH D. PEET, JR.  
Lt. Col., F.A.  
Adjutant.