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HONORS & AWARDS
JULY - OCT. 1943

8/22

J. Warren MacLay

9
AMCOT/258/HQ

Asst. Field Director
American Red Cross H.Q. Algiers,
Information and Communications Service.

October 15, 3

1. Enclosed is letter from J. Warren MacLay Field Director which is passed on to your office as properly pertaining to your activities.

4
H. B. W. Capt.
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer

4104

PIA
15/10

HEADQUARTERS, SECOND ARMORED DIVISION
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS
APO 252, U.S. ARMY

October 11, 1943.

TO: L.H. Van Dusen, Capt., AMGOT.
FROM: J. Warren MacLay, American Red Cross.



1. Received your inquiry this date.
2. The inquiry that I had received from NATOUSA was not filed, as came sometime ago. As I recall, it came from our Red Cross Headquarters there, the Asst. Field Director of our Information and Communications Service. The inquiry evidently came from the AMGOT or other military agency.
3. As stated in former letter, it is rather embarrassing to be personally involved, but I do wish to have recognition of aggressive service that the Red Cross is eager and ready to give.



Respectfully yours,

J. Warren MacLay
J. Warren MacLay,
Field Director.

File + P/A

4103

Honors.

J. Warren MacLay,
American Red Cross.

ANGOT/256/HK.

8 Oct. 3.

1. Col. Charles Poletti has passed on your letter of Oct. 5, 1943.
2. Would you please send us a copy of the inquiry from Natouss, so that we can reply to it for you.

h. h. V.D. Capt.
CHARLES M. SPENCER,
Colonel, U. S. A.
Chief Staff Officer.

Copy to Col. Poletti

Pa. B.D.V.D.
4102

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Province of Palermo

CP/ev

7 October 1943.



MEMORANDUM:

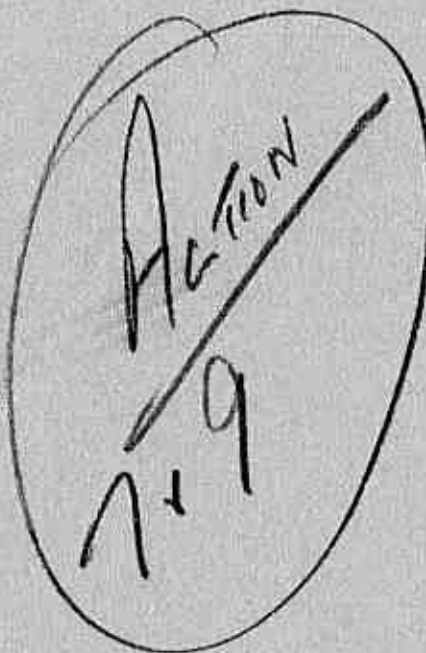
TO : Chief Staff Officer - AMGOT HEADQUARTERS.

I have no authority. Will you kindly give your consideration to the letter which incidentally has not been answered by me.

Charles Poletti

CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel,
Senior Civil Affairs Officer.

Encl.
1



4101

C O P Y

AMERICAN RED CROSS
HEADQUARTERS, SECOND ARMORED DIVISION
APO 252, c/o POSTMASTER, NEW YORK

October 5, 1943

Charles Polletti, Lt. Col.,
AMGOT,
Apo 758, U.S. Army.

Dear Sir:

This confidential letter is for your respectful attention, not so much for any personal recognition as a person, but as a representative of our great organization, The American Red Cross.

About two weeks ago, an unsigned inquiry from Natoussa came to this office asking for the name of the Red Cross representative who remained under shell fire from the Enemy tanks/ tried vaily to break through the bridge head at Gela on July 11th. Here is the story, for I happened to be that representative.

About 5:30 A, I came ashore in a lighter that had all of the baggage of the Division officers that were on our boat including all of our SECRET documents of AMGOT. Major Fiore and Capt. Sutton were with me and three other Division officers. As soon as the baggage was put on shore, we were strafed by the enemy. One of the officers commandeered a truck to remove the baggage to further inland. Another officer and myself got on the truck, leaving the Amgot officials and other officers at the beach to await the return of the truck. Just as we unloaded the baggage, the counter attack of the enemy was started. A detachment of troops and the officer who accompanied me made a long dash for cover up over a hill toward the beach. I had some equipment and wished to keep it in sight. Although machine gun fire sprayed the top of the hill, I kept all of the baggage in sight including the files of AMGOT. I can vouch for the fact that nothing was disturbed, although some of the bags had bullets through them. In fact, my typewriter saved a bullet that was coming in my direction.

I have been rather curious why the request was made, and since the other Red Cross representatives in other divisions that took part in the landing operations have received letters of commendation and other citations, it has occurred to me that the above incident would afford a chance to bring some sort of recognition thru me to the work of the Second Armored Division. The two AMGOT officials have left my acquaintance or I would have contacted them with this matter. I'm somewhat hesitant to do this, but I happen to be the person and I shall be content with whatever disposal you may make in the way of recommendation to the military or other authorities.

With every good wish, I am

Respectfully yours,

J. Warren MacLay,
Field Director.

SECRET

CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

FOLIO 00229
6 AUG 43.

FROM : HQ EAST AFRICA COMD
TO : 15 ARMY GROUP (AFHQ PASS)
ORIG NO : 21811
REF YOUR 801/23/MS 20/7.

T00.1050/6
THI.NIL.
TOR.17028/10.

LORD RENNELL CB ADEANE CHILDS THORNE THORNE OBE. SIR P MITCHELL
HONE WILLIAM TURNER BABINGTON SMITH ADSHRAD SOUPHAM MUNDY STEWART
LEASK SMITH BELCHER MENTIONS.

LIS 1 ACTION

M.C. BRANCH
FILE NO. 2801/23

ACTION

500.10248/11.
1.11408/11.SSB.

4099

14/8

258/110
3

Major Pines
Honour's File

AMGOT H.Q.
15 ARMY GROUP.

756
2

File

18 Aug. 43.

I have now had from Nairobi a full list of the East African Honours from which I noted with great pleasure that Thorne-Thorne, Adeane and Childs had all got the O.B.E; I have also heard of the Mentions in Despatches which several other officers have had.

With the exception of Turner I see no recognition of the services rendered by the Evacuation Branch in connection with which both my predecessor Mitchell and I made certain recommendations. I agree that these were at that time possibly premature, since the evacuation of Italians from Ethiopia was not complete. It is, however, now complete and I have been offered services of some of the surviving officers from Nairobi. I wonder if you would now consider it appropriate to take the question of awards for some of these officers in view of the very good and efficient service which they rendered in evacuating in one form or another, some 40,000 to 50,000 persons.

The whole of the evacuation of Italians from Ethiopia and Eritrea has earned the warm commendation not only with the War Office, but of other authorities in London as well as in the press in other countries. I feel sure that M.S. in London would consider with sympathy any recommendations which you saw fit to send.

[Signature]

Lieut-General Sir Wm. Platt,
East African Command.

4098

785015

HEADQUARTERS
258/H
AUG 143

AMGOT

Dear Lord Rennell,

Civil Affairs Branch,
HQ East Africa Command
NAIROBI.

EAC/1706/P.
27 Jul 43.

In Colonel Jameson's absence on tour I have opened your letter dated 18th July. I am glad we were the first to congratulate you on your C.B. but sorry we were not more explicit in our signal. As regards the other recommendations for awards the position is that we know that some awards have been made but that the official confirmation which was sent by "fast" air mail some 3 weeks ago has not yet arrived. We understand that Robert Adeane has got something but do not know what. As soon as the Military Secretary has received the letter which is on its way we will let you know by signal what awards have been given to B.M.A. personnel.

With best wishes for the success of the Sicilian campaign, and best regards to Richard and Grafftey.

Yours

simonds

Simonds

Maj-Gen. Lord Rennell of Rodd, C.B.
Amgot,
15th Army Group.

P/14097

10/8 L

CMD/DH

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