

*Taken from B file
by Lt J. J. Kolbin*

RECOMMENDATION FOR UNIT CITATION

Headquarters 1st Bn, 318th Inf
APO 80, 7 PM
New York, N. Y.

14 Jan 1945

In the attack towards the besieged city of BASTOGNE, BELGIUM company "B" 318th Inf was the reserve company of the First Battalion. The mission of this day, 25 Dec 1944 was to attack North and seize the town of TINTANGE, BELGIUM. Company "B" was following close behind the two assaulting companies when late in the afternoon the advance was stopped by fierce and automatic and smallarms fire. Constant fire was falling on company "B" from a large caliber (self propelled gun) artillery piece located somewhere in the town. Casualties from this gun were mounting in the already depleted company whose number was down to fifty eight men. Unwilling to let themselves be subjected to this seemingly unnecessary fire, they sought and were granted permission to assault the town, despite the fact that the two assaulting companies had been stopped.

Two platoons attacked frontally through the leading companies, the other platoon maneuvered around the right flank to attack from the East. The two attacking platoons which were advancing frontally made the enemy disclose his firing positions enabling the flanking platoon to easily observe and destroy them. Company "B" immediately took advantage of their success by pressing on and capturing the artillery piece and its prime mover as it was attempting to escape. The remainder of the company enveloped the town with a viciousness that yielded over one hundred and sixty demoralized prisoners.

Due to the gallantry, fearlessness, and aggressive courage of this well-knit fighting team, company "B's" action of this day has given them a greater confidence in their ability to surmount the the most hazardous of enemy resistance.