

THE ORDER OF THE BAYONET

BY GARY C. KRUG

THE PIECE ILLUSTRATED HERE IS FROM MY OWN COLLECTION, AND WAS FIRST MET WITH A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO IN THE STORE OF A FRIENDLY CHICAGO AREA HOBBY SHOP. THE STORY THAT WENT WITH IT WAS THAT IT WAS A DIVISIONAL AWARD FOR THE FAMOUS U.S. 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S BAYONET CHARGE UP "PORK CHOP HILL" IN KOREA. THE 7TH IS KNOWN AS THE "BAYONET DIVISION", AND SINCE THIS PIECE HAD THE INSIGNIA OF THE 7TH, PLUS A BAYONET, IT SEEMED THAT THIS MIGHT BE TRUE.

WISHING TO FURTHER CORROBORATE THIS STORY FURTHER, I ENLISTED THE AID OF THE MEDAL COLLECTOR'S GOOD FRIEND, MR. RAY WITNIK OF CLEVELAND, OHIO. RAY CONTACTED THE 7TH'S HEADQUARTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO APO. THEIR REPLY, SUMMARIZED, STATED THAT THEY KNOW OF NO SUCH BADGE, BUT THEY DID HAVE AN AWARD CALLED: "ORDER OF THE SILVER BAYONET". THIS IS IN CERTIFICATE FORM, AND IS REPRODUCED ON THE NEXT PAGE CENTERFOLD, THROUGH THE COURTESY OF MAJOR JOSEPH P. D'AMICO, INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE 7TH.

THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO MILITARY PERSONNEL FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS SERVICE DURING A PERIOD OF TIME, WHICH IS TOO SHORT TO QUALIFY FOR THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. THIS IS NORMALLY FOR SUCH THINGS AS FIELD EXERCISES, MANUEVERS, SPECIAL PROJECTS, ETC.

SINCE THIS CERTIFICATE DOES SHOW A DISTINCTIVE RESEMBLANCE TO THE BADGE, IT COULD BE CONJECTURED THAT SOME ENTERPRISING SOULS DREAMED UP THE BADGE TO GO ALONG WITH THE CERTIFICATE, BUT UNOFFICIALLY OF COURSE.

HERE THE MATTER WOULD SEEM TO DROP, BUT UPON MY VISIT WITH PRESIDENT GOODWIN LAST MAY, I STUMBLED UPON ANOTHER REFERENCE. WHILE AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES PETERSON, I WAS GLANCING THROUGH HIS SCRAPBOOKS OF CLIPPINGS. ON ONE PAGE WAS A CLIPPING FROM ONE OF THE FAR EAST'S MILITARY NEWSPAPERS, WHICH JIM TOLD ME WOULD HAVE BEEN ABOUT 1951 OR 1952.

HERE IS THE CLIPPING FROM JIM PETERSON'S FILES, AS I HAVE COPIED IT: "BAYONET DIVISION SETS / MERITORIOUS AWARD, Hq., U.S. 7TH Div., KOREA, Dec. 6.

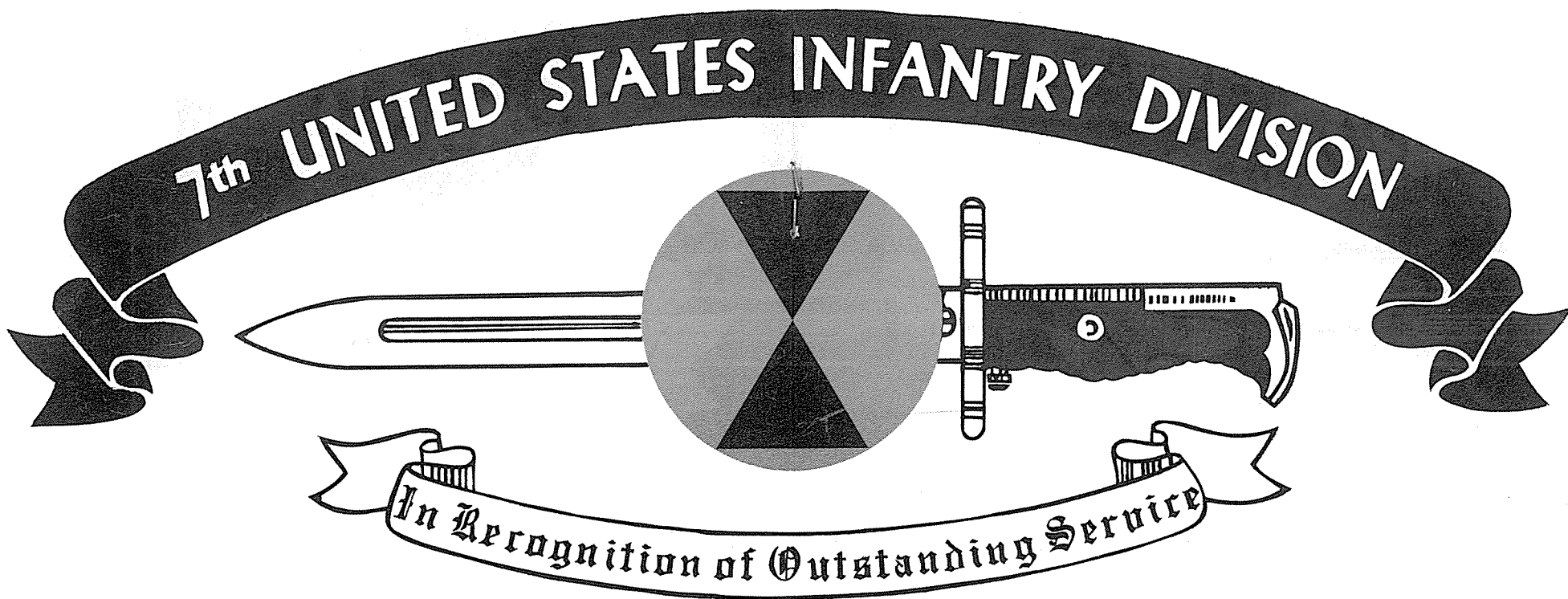
"THE "ORDER OF THE BAYONET" HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS AN AWARD FOR THOSE MEMBERS OF THE 7TH DIV. WHO HAVE SERVED IN A MANNER TO REFLECT CREDIT ON THEMSELVES, THE DIVISION, AND THE SERVICE IN GENERAL.

"THE AWARD WILL BE MADE TO BOTH OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN ROTATEES AT THE TIME THEY PASS THROUGH THE 7TH'S 'BIG R' (REPLACEMENT DEPOT) CENTER.

"MEN WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED VALOROUS CONDUCT ON PATROLS, IN ACTUAL COMBAT, OR BY SUBSEQUENT SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF DUTY, WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THIS HONOR.

"MAJ. GEN. LIONEL C. MCGARR, DIV. COMM., SAID "I FEEL STRONGLY THE PRESENTATION OF THE ORDER OF THE BAYONET REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT TECHNIQUE OF LEADERSHIP WHICH CAN INSURE THAT THE 7TH DIVISION CONTINUES TO LEAD THE WAY FOR THE OTHER DIVISIONS IN KOREA."

SO, THE QUESTION REMAINS, WHAT STATUS DID THIS BADGE HAVE? WAS IT ACTUALLY AWARDED IN KOREA? OR, WAS IT PRODUCED BY SOMEONE WHO FELT THAT



Order of The Silver Bayonet

IS AWARDED TO _____

Citation

GIVEN AT _____

THIS _____

DAY OF _____

19____

THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A BADGE IN ADDITION TO THE CERTIFICATE? PERHAPS SOME OF OUR READERS MAY THROW FURTHER LIGHT UPON MY QUESTIONS.

THE BADGE IS OF A SILVERED METAL, WITH AN ENAMELLED DISC UPON THE BAYONET BLADE. THE BAYONET IS SUPERIMPOSED UPON AN OPEN OAK WREATH. THE OAK IS THE TRADITIONAL SYMBOL OF STRENGTH. THE DISC IS A REPRODUCTION OF THE 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION'S SHOULDER PATCH OR "FLASH". THE FIELD IS RED, WITH THE HOUR GLASS AND OUTER RING IN BLACK. THE REVERSE HAS A PRONG AT EITHER END, FOR ATTACHMENT. THE SIZE ILLUSTRATED IS ABOUT ACTUAL SIZE.

ANALYSIS OF THE TRANSPORT MEDAL ROLL

BY JANE KENWORTHY

THE MEDAL WAS SANCTIONED NOV. 8, 1903 TO MASTERS, OFFICERS (CHIEFS, 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, & 4TH OFFICER), SURGEONS, PURSERS AND ENGINEERS (CHIEFS, 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD ENGINEERS) OF TRANSPORTS CARRYING TROOPS TO THE BOER AND 1900 CHINA WARS. THE NAMES ONLY ARE IMPRESSED ON THE EDGE IN BLOCK LETTERS.

TYPE	ISSUED			
	No. ISSUED	RETURNED TO MINT	AVAILABLE	DUPLICATES
2 BAR MEDALS	191	- 8	= 183	+ 2
BAR S. AFRICA	1249	-49	= 1200	+ 12
" CHINA	<u>357</u>	<u>-32</u>	= <u>325</u>	+ <u>6</u>
TOTALS	1797	-89	= 1708	+ 20

PERSONNEL	2 BAR MEDAL			S. AFRICA ONLY			CHINA ONLY			TOTAL MEDALS	
	No.	RET'D	DUP.	No.	RET'D	DUP.	No.	RET'D	DUP.	ISSUED	DUP.
MASTERS	34	-	-	122	-	-	37	-	-	193	
OFFICERS	74	3	2	526	23	9	163	16	5	721	+ 16
SURGEONS	1	-	-	71	3	-	4	-	-	73	
PURSERS	6	-	-	38	1	-	-	-	-	43	
ENGINEERS	76	5	-	492	22	3	153	16	1	678	+ 4

WHAT WAS IT ISSUED FOR?

Conducted by the Editor

30 - APPEARED IN THE JAN-FEB. 1959 ISSUE AT A POSSIBLE JUGOSLAVIAN NAVAL AVIATORS BADGE. WE HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING COMMENT FROM MR. WM. D. KOONCE OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA: "RECENTLY I BOUGHT THE SAME ITEM FROM A GERMAN DEALER WHO SOLD IT AS A JUGOSLAVIAN CUSTOMS OFFICER BADGE. FROM THE ITEM DEPICTED, NAMELY A WINGED WHEEL, ANCHOR, ETC., THIS SEEMS LOGICAL."

55 - ANSWER - THIS ILLUSTRATION APPEARED IN THE AUGUST 1961 ISSUE. IT IS A BADGE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE FORMER ROYAL PRUSSIAN 4 TH GRENADIER GUARD REGIMENT "QUEEN AUGUSTA" (KÖNIGLICH PREUSSISCHES 4. GARDE-GRENADIER-REGT. KÖNIGIN AUGUSTA), WHO HAD FORMED A TRADITION UNIT.

DR. KLIETMANN

56 - ANSWER - APPEARED IN THE AUGUST 1961 ISSUE. THIS IS A MEDAL TO COMMEMORATE THE 100 TH YEAR JUBILEE OF THE SERBIAN REVOLT UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF KARA-GEORG AGAINST THE TURKS IN 1804. IN 1904, UNDER THE REIGN OF PETER I KARA-GEORGEVITCH, CELEBRATIONS WERE HELD ALL OVER THE LAND. FOR THESE OCCASIONS, MANY SUCH COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS WERE MINTED AT BELGRADE, ZAGREB, VIENNA, BERLIN, AND PARIS BY PRIVATE SOURCES. THIS MEDALS SHOWS THE OBERSE HAVING THE HEADS OF THE FOUNDER OF THE DYNASTY AND OF THE REIGNING KING. ON THE REVERSE IS SHOWN A SYMBOLICAL DEPICTION OF THE WAR OF LIBERATION. THE MEDAL WAS WORN EITHER ON A SMALL CHAIN OR ON A RIBBON IN THE NATIONAL COLORS.

DR. KLIETMANN