HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE
APO 696, U.S. Army,
22 January 1945.

NUMBER.....14)

BATTLE HOURS

1. Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular Number 333, WD, 1943,
the following-named units of the Ninth Air Force are cited for outstanding
performance of duty in action against the enemy. The citation reads as follows:

"The 368th Fighter Group. For outstanding performance of duty in
action against the enemy on 3 September 1944 in the execution of an air-ground
effort in conjunction with units of the ground forces in the vicinity of Mons.
In the face of a withering barrage of antiaircraft and small arms fire, flights
of the 368th Fighter Group bombed and strafed enemy targets. The group de-
stroyed 263 motor transport and damaged 30 more. In addition, 230 horse-drawn
vehicles were destroyed as well as an undetermined number of enemy personnel
in the target areas. The group was further successful in seeking out, strafing

and bombing targets of opportunity that impeded the advance of the ground
forces. To accomplish their assigned task, eighty-three P-47 aircraft were
dispatched on seven missions to strike a devastating blow in disrupting and
battering the German defenses. The victorious exploits of the pilots of the
368th Fighter Group who struck a staggering blow to the enemy's supply of
armored vehicles and motor transport, exemplify that leadership, teamwork and
flying skill which is in keeping with the highest traditions of the service."

By command of Major General VANDENBERG:

OFFICIAL:

C. H. Seebach /s/
Colonel and
Adjutant General

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

HUGH L. RICE,
Major, Air Corps.

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