



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

HEADQUARTERS, 28TH INFANTRY DIVISION
HARRISBURG MILITARY POST
14TH & CALDER STREETS
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17103-1297

Exhibit D

TEDCG

2 February 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR President, State Armory Board of Pennsylvania

SUBJECT: Harrisburg Military Post, Building 1 Name Dedication

1. The purpose of this correspondence is to obtain approval from the State Armory Board of Pennsylvania to rename Harrisburg Military Post Building 1 after Technical Sergeant Francis J. Clark. Technical Sergeant Clark is the only Soldier of the 28th Infantry Division to receive the Medal of Honor for his heroism during World War II and I strongly support dedicating Building 1 in his name.
2. Technical Sergeant Francis Clark joined the Army from Salem, New York in March 1942, and served as a squad leader in Company K, 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. On September 12 1944, near Kalborn, Luxembourg, two platoons attempted to cross the Our River under the cover of fog. The fog lifted during the crossing and allowed German Soldiers to decimate one of the platoons. Technical Sergeant Clark crawled across open terrain to reach the platoon engaged by heavy enemy fire. With the platoon leader and platoon sergeant both killed, Technical Sergeant Clark led the platoon to safety and returned to rescue a wounded man. Five days later, near Sevenig, Germany, he single-handedly attacked a German machine gun position and then assumed command of two leaderless platoons. Although wounded, he refused medical evacuation and continued to attack two more German machine gun positions. For these actions, he was awarded the Medal of Honor from President Harry Truman on September 10, 1945. Technical Sergeant Clark died in 1981 and is buried at the Evergreen Cemetery in Salem, New York.
3. Technical Sergeant Francis Clark's Medal of Honor Citation reads: "He fought gallantly in Luxembourg and Germany. On 12 September 1944, Company K began fording the Our River near Kalborn, Luxembourg, to take high ground on the opposite bank. Covered by early morning fog, the 3d Platoon, in which T/Sgt. Clark was squad leader, successfully negotiated the crossing; but when the 2d Platoon reached the shore, withering automatic and small-arms fire ripped into it, eliminating the platoon leader and platoon sergeant and pinning down the troops in the open. From his comparatively safe position, T/Sgt. Clark crawled alone across a field through a hail of bullets to the stricken troops. He led the platoon to safety and then unhesitatingly returned into the fire-swept area to rescue a wounded soldier, carrying him to the American line while hostile gunners tried to cut him down. Later, he led his squad and men of the 2d Platoon in dangerous sorties against strong enemy positions to weaken them by lightning-like jabs. He assaulted an enemy machinegun with hand grenades, killing 2 Germans. He roamed the front and flanks, dashing toward hostile weapons, killing and wounding an undetermined number of the enemy, scattering German patrols and, eventually, forcing the withdrawal of a full company of Germans heavily armed with automatic weapons. On 17 September, near Sevenig, Germany, he advanced

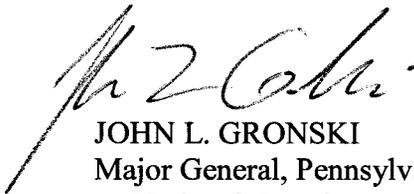
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alone against an enemy machinegun, killed the gunner and forced the assistant to flee. The Germans counterattacked, and heavy casualties were suffered by Company K. Seeing that 2 platoons lacked leadership, T/Sgt. Clark took over their command and moved among the men to give encouragement. Although wounded on the morning of 18 September, he refused to be evacuated and took up a position in a pillbox when night came. Emerging at daybreak, he killed a German soldier setting up a machinegun not more than 5 yards away. When he located another enemy gun, he moved up unobserved and killed 2 Germans with rifle fire. Later that day he voluntarily braved small-arms fire to take food and water to members of an isolated platoon. T/Sgt. Clark's actions in assuming command when leadership was desperately needed, in launching attacks and beating off counterattacks, in aiding his stranded comrades, and in fearlessly facing powerful enemy fire, were strikingly heroic examples and put fighting heart into the hard-pressed men of Company K."

4. It is my intent to honor Technical Sergeant Francis Clark's exemplary leadership and courageousness while assigned to Company K, 109th Infantry Regiment during World War II. Building 1 naming dedication is a fitting tribute for this heroic 28th Infantry Division warrior. I request this building be named the "Technical Sergeant Francis J. Clark Building."

5. The point of contact for this memorandum is CPT Brian R. Marquardt at 717-787-5113 or email at brian.r.marquardt.mil@mail.mil.



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Commanding