

HEADQUARTERS 232D INFANTRY  
APO 411, c/o Postmaster  
New York City, New York

6 August 1945

Mrs. Louise Schkade  
Box 152  
Albany, Texas

Dear Mrs. Schkade:


I regret to inform you that your son, Private Bernhard W. Schkade, 38 080 030, Company A, 232d Infantry, was killed in action at Sessenheim, France, during an engagement between Allied and German troops on 19 January 1945.

Your son became a member of this organization in the Summer of 1944. He was trained as an automatic rifleman, left for overseas duty with his Company in November, and was serving with his unit at his assigned duty at the time of his death. This organization was called upon in the last weeks of December and throughout the remaining Winter months to defend the French province of Alsace against the German offensive which was launched in Belgium, spread as far south as Strasbourg, and ended in the smashing defeat of the German army.

It was heroism such as your son's which saved the Allies on the Western Front. He remained at his post without faltering, contributing his time and energy until the very end. His exemplary performance of his duty, his efficiency in his task, his courage in the face of hardship and danger alone made possible the victory of our cause.

I well know that praise of your son's accomplishments is little enough comfort to you in the sorrow we have suffered. This Regiment, particularly those members who have known your son intimately as a comrade and friend, extend to you our deep sympathy. We hope that the pride that we feel in his accomplishments may in some measure temper the pain of his loss.

Sincerely yours,

  
A. A. McChallee  
Colonel, 232d Infantry  
Commanding