

6545
January 8, 1917.

From: The Secretary of the Navy.
To: Corporal Otis F. Marlin, 31st Company, Second Provisional
Brigade, U. S. Marine Corps.
(Via The Major General Commandant)

Subject: Commendation.

1. It affords the Department much pleasure to quote for your information, and that of your comrades of the thirty-first company, the following extract from a report submitted by First Lieutenant Ernest C. Williams, M.C., relative to the military operations incident to the attack upon the capture of the Fortaleza, San Francisco de Macoris, D.R., on December 1, 1916:

"The conduct of the entire command was without exception exemplary and above reproach. The discipline, bravery, control of fire, and clear headedness of all engaged was perfect. = = = The most excellent conduct of the twelve men who accompanied me in the surprise on the Fort, and also of the support which arrived nearly immediately, can not be mentioned too highly. The fact that of these same men, eight were wounded within five minutes, and that when the fort had been captured there was left but four unwounded men of those who had entered, I believe should receive consideration. = = = Drummer Schovan deserves special mention. He was with me when I was fired on from a distance of about four feet. In attempting to return the fire, I found my pistol jammed, and Schovan, with great presence of mind, jumped in front and grabbed the rifle before the man was able to fire again. = = = ."

2. The courage and coolness displayed by you and your comrades while engaged in a hazardous undertaking in the presence of an enemy merits the hearty commendation of the Department.

3. A copy of this letter will be filed with your military record and with the records of Corporal Otis L. Peters, Corporal Norman Rainier, Drummer A. A. Schovan, Privates Claude F. Arnold, Arthur W. Adneron, Joseph Boyle, John T. Boyd, Herman S. Clark, Walter O. Dann, Clifford R. Elkey, Charles R. Giffith, Luther G. Caskins, Otto E. Hagstrom, Lester E. Henshaw, William Lindholm, Paul W. Lehme, John L. Lambert, Robert C. McLeannan, Robert H. Osborne, Sumter Sumner, William Sanderson, William C. Twele, William von Sandt, Fred W. Walker and Charles Williams.

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FOR ACTION SEE CASE.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

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