

# For World Peace

## Fort Fairfield Man Awarded Bronze Star For Luzon Heroism



Maj. Thomas E. Houghton, Jr., receives the Bronze Star from his commanding officer, Gen. P. W. Clark.

### Maj. T. E. Houghton With 33rd Division

With The 33rd Division On Northern Luzon, Sept. 28—Major Thomas E. Houghton, Jr., of Fort Fairfield, Me., overseas 25 months and now with the occupation forces in Japan, recently received the Bronze Star from his commanding general, Gen. P. W. Clarkson. The citation praised his outstanding personal heroism in the action on Northern Luzon. He served with the 33rd Division through bitter campaigns on New Guinea, the Philippines and the Dutch East Indies. Wounded in the Indies, he rejoined his outfit in time for other campaigns. He entered the service from the Reserve as a first lieutenant in February, 1942. A graduate of the University of Maine, he was in charge of a unit of the Federal Soil Conservation program and later was in business with his father. His wife, Mrs. Antoria R. Houghton, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Houghton, reside at Fort Fairfield.

## 1,490,000 Pacific Veterans To Return

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of its erstwhile military power — by forbidding the reopening of the Japanese stock exchange.

The Supreme Commander also ordered the arrest of 34 Japanese officers and men in the fire massacre of 200 war prisoners, many of them Americans, at Palawan, in the Philippines. Dec. 11, 1944.

HEADQUARTERS 33D INFANTRY DIVISION

A.P.O. 33

24 August 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 240

**EXTRACT**

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SECTION IV

Major (then Captain) THOMAS E. HOUGHTON, JR., O 351 747, Infantry, United States Army. For heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Labayug, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 28 February 1945. Major HOUGHTON, commanding a rifle company, was given the mission of patrolling and clearing the enemy from an area one thousand yards north of Hill 1802. One of the platoon-sized patrols sent out by Major HOUGHTON advanced along the Labayug trail and encountered a well-emplaced enemy strong point. In the fire fight which followed, two serious casualties were sustained. Because of the treacherous terrain and heavy enemy fire, all members of the patrol were employed to move the wounded men. With utter disregard for his own safety, Major HOUGHTON went forward to make a personal reconnaissance of the enemy position, and returned under heavy enemy fire to redeploy his troops. As a result of the redeployment based on this reconnaissance, the enemy's strong point was overrun and six of the enemy were killed. The courage, keen tactical ability, and leadership displayed by Major HOUGHTON reflect the highest credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL CLARKSON:

A. T. MOANSH,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


/s/ Anthony E. Meehl  
/t/ ANTHONY E. MEEHL,  
Captain, A.G.D.,  
Actg. Adj. Gen.

**SUBJECT: Commendation.**

**TO :** Captain Thomas E. Houghton, Jr., O 351 747, Company "E", 136th Infantry. (Thru: Commanding Officer, 136th Infantry, APO 33)

1. I desire to commend you for your exemplary conduct while fighting a fire in an ammunition dump at APO 33 on 3 October 1944. Despite the continual danger of exploding ammunition and bombs, you continued at your task attempting to extinguish the flames, until ordered to withdraw.

2. Your action on this occasion reflects the highest credit on yourself and your organization, and is worthy of emulation.

  
P. W. CLARKSON,  
Major General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding.


201...HOUGHTON, Thomas E., Jr. (O) 1st Ind. /1nt

HEADQUARTERS 136TH INFANTRY, APO 33, 30 November 1944.

**TO:** Captain Thomas E. Houghton, Jr., Company "E", 136th Infantry, APO 33. (Thru: Commanding Officer, 2d Bn, 136th Inf.)

1. I am very pleased to have this opportunity to add my personal congratulations to this fine commendation which you have received for exemplary conduct.

2. Outstanding conduct of personnel performing duty away from their regiment reflects credit upon the parent organization in two respects. First, by the favorable impression made upon personnel and units with which serving on detached duty; secondly, by bringing pride to the personnel of the regiment. In these respects, your actions reflect high credit upon yourself and your organization.

  
RAY E. CAVERNE  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding


201 - HOUGHTON, Thomas E., Jr. (O) 2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 2ND BATTALION, 136TH INFANTRY, APO 33, 7 December 1944.

**TO:** Captain Thomas E. Houghton, Jr., Company E, 136th Infantry.

1. I consider it a privilege to forward this commendation.

2. Your heroic performance in this instance clearly demonstrates that you have a high sense of duty to your country and your fellow men above and beyond that of the average officer. I know the risk you took and I am honored to extend my congratulations.

  
A. T. SAUSER  
Lt. Col., Inf.,  
Commanding