

Hq VII Corps
APO 09107
New York, N. Y.

December 15, 1965

Colonel Edward Chalgren, Jr.,
Chief, Army Section
Joint United States Military Aid Group Greece
APO New York 09223

Dear Colonel Chalgren:

I am this date in receipt of your letter mailed 3 December 1965 enclosing copies of Official Correspondence concerning Brigadier General George E. Koumanakos (then Lieutenant Colonel George E. Koumanakos).

It gives me great pleasure to corroborate the complete validity of your inclosures. Specifically, I mention the following:

My letter of 24 July 1953 in which I forwarded to the Greek General Staff, Athens, Greece a special efficiency report on Lt. Col. Koumanakos together with a recommendation that he be promoted to the grade of Colonel. This efficiency report was indorsed by Major General E. W. Ridings, C. G., 3rd US Infantry Division and the basic letter together with the efficiency report was forwarded through channels (Indorsement 1-6) to the Commander-in-Chief, U. N. Command.

I forwarded under my signature the Letter of Commendation from Maj. Gen. George Smythe, C. G. 3rd Div.

I was aware of the citation for the award of The Legion of Merit and of the Letter of Commendation written by Maj. Gen. E. W. Ridings, C. G., 3rd Inf. Division and forwarded through Brigadier Gen. Vlassis.

Again, I would like to state that I have never known a more capable or fearless combat commander or an officer more dedicated to the service of his country.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Akers, Jr.,
Colonel, U. S. Army (Ret)
0-19243