

Copy

TAC H.Q.,

21 ARMY GROUP.

12 January, 1945.

My dear Brad



✓ Bradley
✓ Hodges
✓ Simpson
✓ Gerow
✓ Collins
✓ Ridgway

It does seem as if the battle of the "salient" will shortly be drawing to a close, and when it is all clean and tidy I imagine that your armies will be returning to your operational command.

I would like to say two things :-

First : what a great honour it has been for me to command such fine troops.
Second : how well they have all done.

2. It has been a great pleasure to work with Hodges and Simpson; both have done very well.

And the Corps Commanders in the First Army (Gerow, Collins, Ridgway) have been quite magnificent; it must be most exceptional to find such a good lot of Corps Commanders gathered together in one Army.

3. All of us in the northern side of the salient would like to say how much we have admired the operations that have been conducted on the southern side; if you had not held on firmly to BASTOGNE the whole situation might have become very awkward.

4. My kind regards to you and to George Patton.

Yrs very sincerely,

B. L. Montgomery

Lt-Gen Omar Bradley,
C.G. 12 Army Group.