

Mr. Rick Beyer
Ghost Army Legacy Project
190 Bridge St. #4409
Salem, MA 01970

Re: S.1256 - Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act

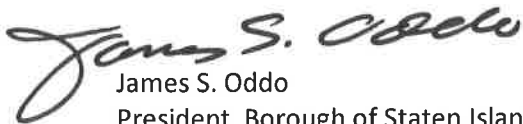
Dear Mr. Beyer:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act, which would direct the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23rd Headquarters, Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company in recognition of their service during World War II.

These little-known heroes – and yes, they were heroes – performed an invaluable service to the Allied armies after D-Day, risking their lives as decoys, knowing they would draw enemy fire – and all the while aware that they were operating in total secrecy and without any public recognition.

I believe that awarding a Congressional Gold Medal to members of the 23rd Headquarters is an honor that is long overdue, and I wholeheartedly support the legislation that would make this happen. And unlike the tanks, trucks and planes that were mere ghosts, these medals will be a real and tangible way for a grateful nation to offer its thanks.

Sincerely,


James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

