

NOVEMBER 22, 2004

SCHAKOWSKY PRESENTS WWII VETERAN AND SKOKIE RESIDENT MELVIN MUEHLEMAN WITH LOST MEDALS

CHICAGO, IL - During a ceremony in her Chicago office, U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today presented Melvin Muehleman with his medals and citations, almost sixty-years after he served in World War II. Muehleman, a U.S. army Staff Sergeant, served in the Asian-Pacific Theater during World War II from Oct 4, 1941 until October 11, 1945. Sergeant Muehleman fought in New Guinea and Southern Philippines and was wounded in action at Luzon on February 25, 1945.

On December 1, 2003, Melvin Muehleman's daughter, Carol, contacted Schakowsky's office to request assistance in securing her father's WWII medals. Mr. Muehleman's file was destroyed in the National Personnel Records Center fire of July 12, 1973, and, as a result, his awards had to be verified from alternative sources. The medals were finally obtained by Schakowsky's office from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive and Armament Command.

"Melvin Muehleman served our nation with distinction and valor. It is my privilege to finally honor him on behalf of all Americans after all those years," Schakowsky said.

The medals and citations are:

- . Purple Heart**
- . Bronze Gold Star**
- . Good Conduct Medal**
- . American Defense Service Medal**
- . Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (with 3 bronze service stars)**
- . World War II Victory Medal**
- . Combat Infantryman Badge 1st Award**
- . Expert Infantryman Badge**
- . Philippine Liberation Ribbon (with 1 bronze service star)**
- . Honorable Service Lapel Button WWII**