Decorated War Hero to Receive Long Deserved Honor for Service in Germany

Portland, OR—Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore) presented the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service to Mr. Gene Thoming, an 84 year old WWII veteran who served in the United States Army in Germany and was an observer for the 78th Division, Cannon Company.

In Germany, Mr. Thoming was stationed at the front lines and guided the fire of cannons behind him. He also fought in the decisive Battle for the Bridge of Remagen.

Mr. Thoming attended Benson High School and now resides in Gresham. After his discharge from the Army in 1946, Mr. Thoming served for 35 years in the Portland Police Force, attaining the rank of Sergeant. Mr. Thoming's medal was not previously awarded because his paperwork was lost when he returned from Germany. His family initiated the medal request and worked with Congressman Blumenauer to obtain the award.

The Bronze Star for meritorious service in WWII is given to soldiers who experienced extreme discomfort, close personal combat with the enemy, suffered the heaviest losses, and endured the greatest hardship.