

PREVIOUSLY GRADUATED FROM SAN FRANCISCO STATE COLLEGE AND HAD SERVED AS A MAJOR IN THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE IN THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR.

AS A SERGEANT IN THE BUNA CAMPAIGN HE HAD OFTEN SAID THAT HE WOULD "GET SOMETHING DONE" IF GIVEN COMMAND OF AN OUTFIT. HE DID.

AT A CRITICAL POINT HE WAS GIVEN COMMAND OF AN INFANTRY COMPANY WHICH SUCCESSFULLY ASSAULTED ENEMY POSITIONS. HE WON THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS AND A CAPTAIN'S COMMISSION.

BECAUSE OF A TECHNICALITY ARISING FROM HIS SPANISH WAR PARTICIPATION, CONGRESS PASSED A SPECIAL ACT TO PROVIDE THE CITIZENSHIP NECESSARY FOR HIS COMMISSION.

LATER DURING BITTER FIGHTING IN THE AITAPE SECTOR OF NEW GUINEA, BOTTCHER'S TROOPS OPERATED MORE THAN SIX WEEKS DEEP IN MOUNTAINS SUPPLIED ONLY BY AIR.

DESPITE HAZARDOUS MISSIONS, BOTTCHER'S UNIT SUFFERED ONLY FOUR WOUNDED UNTIL THE FINAL FATAL FIGHT.

ONE OF HIS MEN CONFIDED TO AN OFFICER RECENTLY ABOUT THE MILD-MANNERED IDOL: "IT'S ACTUALLY FUN WORKING OUT THERE WITH HIM. IT'S LIKE PLAYING COPS AND ROBBERS. I NEVER FEEL SAFER IN THE JUNGLE THAN WHEN I'M WITH BOTTCHER."

BOTTCHER WAS UNMARRIED. NEAREST OF KIN IN THE UNITED STATES IS AN AUNT, MRS. ALICE BOTTCHER, (239 RAMSELL ST.) SAN FRANCISCO.

WOUNDED THREE TIMES PREVIOUSLY, BOTTCHER HELD THE OAKLEAF CLUSTER TO HIS DSC. HE HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR A POSTHUMOUS SILVER STAR.

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