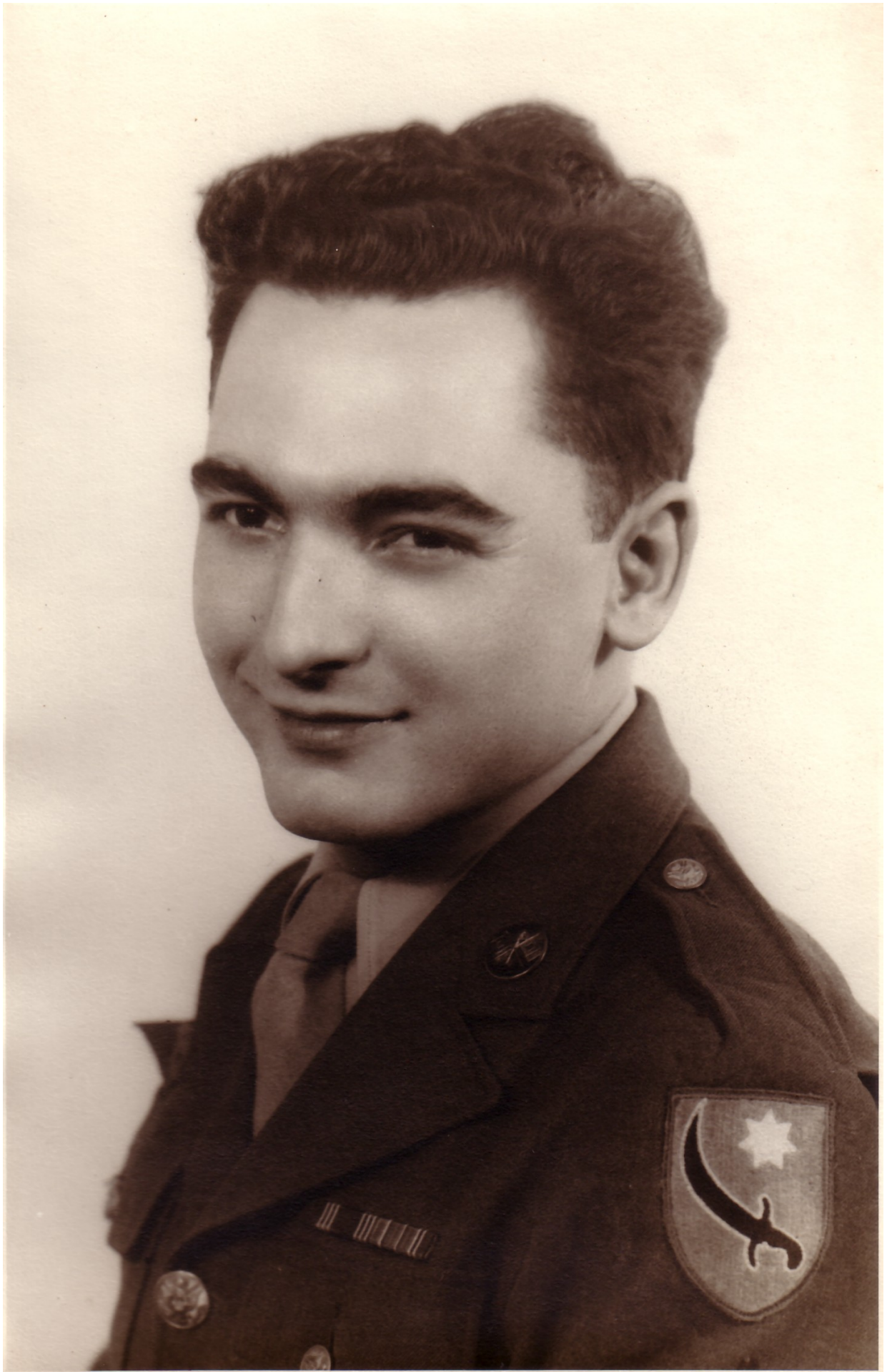


Laurance H. Boyer Teheran, Iran 1943











ПОСОЛ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
В США

AMBASSADOR
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
TO THE USA

Mr. Laurance H. BOYER
515 Grant St.
Chelsea, MI 48118

May 3, 1995

Dear Sir:

On behalf of President Boris Yeltsin and entire Russian people I am pleased and honored to inform you that you have been awarded the Commemorative medal "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War (WW II)".

This award is a token of recognition of your outstanding courage and personal contribution to the Allied support of my country which fought for freedom and humanity against Nazi Germany.

Please, accept my heartfelt congratulations and wishes of good health, well-being and every success.

Most sincerely,

Yuli M. VORONTSOV

Enclosure: commemorative medal, certificate.

L. Boyer Receives Russian Medal for Service in Iran

Laurence Boyer a member of the 231st Signal Service Corps, was among 30,000 Americans sent to Iran across the Gulf from Iraq between 1942 and 1944.

Their job was to make sure American planes, tanks, ammunition, food and medicine got to Russia.

The vital war materials came to Iran on ships and then went by train and truck to Russia over 1,000 miles north.

50 years later the Russians are awarding commemorative medals not only to their own service people but also to Americans who contributed to what the Russians refer to as the "Great Patriotic War."

Boyer remembers a lot of hot work in the burning desert. A temperature chart kept by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. and the hospitals from May-Sept 1944, showed that the mercury in the desert was recorded at 156 - 149 - 151 and 161 and only 11 days in May were recorded as low as 100 degrees. Lows at night ranged into the 60's.

Sandstorms would close the roads, Boyer remembers. "We had to spray water on the tents to keep supplies from burning. We did most of our work at night."

Boyer served in Iran from January 1943 to April 1945. He worked as a teletype operator from 11 p.m. until 6 a.m. receiving important government communications.

His work included traveling to Tehran the capital of Iran, to set up communications for the Tehran conference attended by allied leaders, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin, who led the Soviet Union.

Laurence Boyer of Chelsea worked and sweated in the Persian Gulf Command long before Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein provoked the Persian Gulf War in 1991. Schick and Boyer, members of the 231st Signal Service Corps, were among some 30,000 Americans sent to Iran, just across the gulf from Iraq, between 1942 and 1944. Page C1.



LAURANCE BOYER shows off a Russian government medal he received in May for service in the Persian Gulf during World War II.



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Vets worked in gulf long before Hussein

The letter accompanying the medal, from the ambassador, is reproduced below.

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„СОРОК ЛЕТ ПОБЕДЫ
В ВЕЛИКОЙ ОТЕЧЕСТВЕННОЙ ВОЙНЕ
1941—1945 гг.“



УДОСТОВЕРЕНИЕ

Лауреанс Х.
Бойер

ВРУЧЕНА ЮБИЛЕЙНАЯ МЕДАЛЬ

„СОРОК ЛЕТ ПОБЕДЫ
В ВЕЛИКОЙ ОТЕЧЕСТВЕННОЙ
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25 апреля 1995 года

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Yuli M. Vorontsov
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