

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 80, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)

5 June 1945.

NUMBER 146)

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star.
- II - Award of Bronze Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- III - Award of Bronze Star.
- IV - Award of Purple Heart (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- V - Award of Purple Heart.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel:

Eugene Elrod, 34710900, Sgt, 80th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 19 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 19 March 1945, the platoon to which Sgt Elrod was attached was moving east from Eisenach, Germany, on the Reichsautobahn. Upon receiving small arms fire from enemy troops a six man patrol was sent forward on foot. While moving forward the patrol was suddenly fired upon from a new position and temporarily delayed by an enemy machine gun. Sgt Elrod, disregarding his own personal safety, drove his vehicle to an exposed position and fired on the enemy with his machine gun. In a fierce exchange of fire Sgt Elrod killed five of the enemy and wounded several others. By this fearless act he enabled his companions to withdraw to a covered position without casualties. The courage, aggressiveness, and zealous devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Elrod are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR (OAK LEAF CLUSTER): By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, in addition to the Bronze Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded the following named personnel:

Robert C. Harris, 14003187, T Sgt, Hq Co 3d Bn, 317th Infantry, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France and Luxembourg on 12 September 1944, and 26 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 12 September 1944, during the crossing of the Moselle River at Dieulouard, France, T Sgt Harris advanced with the leading company, locating and skillfully directing the removal of mines and booby traps. Again on 26 December 1944, in the attack on Kehmen, Luxembourg, T Sgt Harris was called upon to extend the line of one of the rifle companies. With exceptional initiative and courage T Sgt Harris strategically deployed his ammunition and pioneer platoon to provide protection for an adjacent unit. The close personal contact and the encouragement T Sgt Harris maintained during the enemy shelling is in keeping with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

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Thomas W. Leonard, 33320916, Tec 5, Btry B, 905th Field Artillery Battalion, Army of the United States. For heroic service in Luxembourg and Germany during the period 10 February 1945, to 14 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. From 10 to 14 February 1945, during the crossing of the Our River and the attack on the Siegfried Line near Wallendorf, Germany, Tec 5 Leonard meticulously performed his duties as radio operator for a forward observer crew. Despite heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, lack of sleep, and adverse weather conditions, he carried out his work in a superior manner. On many occasions he rendered first aid to wounded comrades while under fire. Frequently, with utter disregard for his own safety, he carried his radio while under sniper fire to positions where it could be better utilized throughout the action. The courage, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Tec 5 Leonard are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

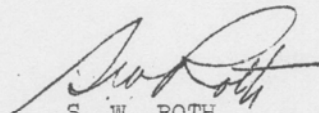
Frank A. Mitros, 32275682, S Sgt, Co I, 811th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 31 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 March 1945, during the course of the assault near Nieder Mollrich, Germany, S Sgt Mitros assumed command of his tank destroyer platoon when his platoon leader was wounded. Leading his platoon on in the assault, his aggressive leadership was responsible for the destruction of an enemy 20mm gun as well as mortar and machine gun positions, which greatly facilitated the advance of the infantry company to which his platoon was attached. The aggressive leadership and untiring devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Mitros are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Jersey.

FRANK M. TOWNSEND, 01176826, 2d Lt, 905th Field Artillery Battalion, Army of the United States. For heroic service in Luxembourg and Germany during the period 1 February 1945, to 1 May 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 1 February 1945, to 1 May 1945, in Luxembourg and Germany, Lt Townsend performed his duties as artillery forward observer in a superior manner. Working consistently with the infantry assault companies, he successfully directed artillery fire upon many enemy targets. On numerous occasions when given very difficult assignments involving personal risk, he successfully accomplished each task. The courage, leadership, and devotion to duty displayed by Lt Townsend have been a great inspiration to the troops with whom he has worked and are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

III. Sections III through V published as an extract.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:


S. W. ROTH
Major, AGD,
Asst Adj Gen.

S. P. WALKER
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.