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

Hg/2  
#45  
15 August 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 207)

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star Medal, Posthumously.
- II - Award of Silver Star Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- III thru V - Award of Silver Star Medal.
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- VIII - Award of Purple Heart (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- IX - Award of Purple Heart.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL, POSTHUMOUSLY: 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, posthumously, to the following named personnel:

ELWIN M. BLACKSTONE, 0375990, 1st Lt, Infantry, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG on 25 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. At PINTSCH, LUXEMBOURG, when a numerically superior force of enemy threatened his company, he voluntarily led an attack on their positions so as to mislead the enemy in regards to his company's strength. With disregard for personal safety he advanced through intense hostile fire to destroy a machine gun covering the enemy's retreat. His self-sacrifice and leadership enabled his company to advance further and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from PENNSYLVANIA.

CARL G. CARLSON, 39183518, Sgt, Hq Co 2d Bn, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 8 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While leading his demolition squad across the Our River, the boat overturned, but despite the intense fire he reorganized his squad and obtained more demolitions. After successfully crossing the river he made a reconnaissance under hostile fire until mortally wounded, but before being evacuated he instructed his assistant of the mission. His leadership and self-sacrifice are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from WASHINGTON.

DONALD W. CHAMPION, 36980793, Pfc, Co M, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 10 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While attacking FRIENSTADT, GERMANY, Pfc CHAMPION'S company was temporarily delayed by severe hostile fire. With utter disregard for safety he advanced to an exposed position from where he delivered such effective fire that his company was able to resume its advance. Despite the intensity of enemy fire he remained at his gun until killed by a sniper. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from MICHIGAN.

ROBERT E. VEATCH, 32445034, Cpl, 80th Military Police Platoon, United States Army. For gallantry in action in FRANCE on 12 and 13 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. As Traffic Policeman at the Moselle River bridgehead, Cpl VEATCH engaged a hostile

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engineer group attempting to destroy the bridge, and alone forced them to retreat. Later, when an enemy machine gun threatened the bridge, he organized a small squad, led an attack, and personally destroyed the position with hand grenades. His courage and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from NEW YORK.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL (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 Silver Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded the following named personnel:

BYRON L. HOOVER, 02015691, 2d Lt (then T Sgt), Infantry, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 15 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. At JENA, GERMANY, while operating with forward armored elements miles in front of his regiment, Lt HOOVER singlehandedly neutralized a machine gun position guarding a roadblock and later that day advanced through severe hostile fire to kick a demolition charge off a bridge before it exploded. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from ILLINOIS.

III. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL: 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:

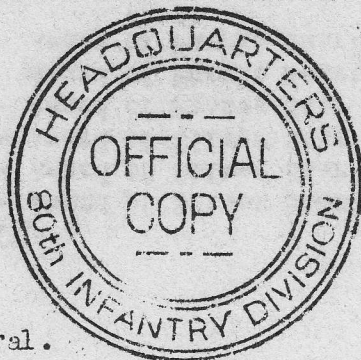
JAMES A. BRAUND, 33936904, Pfc, Co K, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG on 19 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Near NOCHER, LUXEMBOURG, when the weapons platoon and part of company headquarters were ambushed by an enemy pocket, Pfc BRAUND, a wireman, covered his comrades until they could take positions. With disregard for personal safety he exposed himself to severe hostile fire to hold off the enemy force. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty were responsible for the successful rout of the enemy and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from PENNSYLVANIA.

IV. Sections IV through IX published as extracts.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

S. W. ROTH  
Major, AGD,  
Adjutant General.



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

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IV. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL: 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:

JAMES L. JACOB, 35082666, S Sgt, Co L, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 13 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. S Sgt JACOB, while under enemy artillery, mortar, nebelwerfer, anti-aircraft, and small arms fire, inspired his men to attack GREIMERATH, GERMANY. Although surrounded, he succeeded in taking the town and organizing a defense. His courage, leadership, and devotion to duty were responsible for the penetration of an enemy Corps reserve and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from KENTUCKY.

PAUL R. KEISLER, 34386178, S Sgt, Co K, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG on 19 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack on NOCHER, LUXEMBOURG, S Sgt KEISLER, a platoon guide, assumed command of his platoon when the leaders became casualties and gained the objective. After organizing defense positions he exposed himself to severe hostile fire to inspire his men to hold their newly won objective despite fierce enemy counterattacks until he was wounded. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from SOUTH CAROLINA.

FLOYD MADDEN, 34034139, Pfc, Hq Co 2d Bn, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 8 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. After crossing the Our River under severe hostile fire, Pfc MADDEN, an assistant squad leader, with utter disregard for personal safety, advanced through intense enemy fire to place demolition charges in an enemy pillbox. When the emplacement was destroyed the occupants surrendered. This action had such demoralizing effect on the occupants of two more emplacements that they also surrendered. His courage and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from FLORIDA.

DEAN A. PIEROSE, 01052125, 2d Lt, Infantry, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG on 26 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While returning from a patrol near BUCKHOLZ, LUXEMBOURG, Lt PIEROSE found the battalions right flank under attack by enemy paratroopers. At great personal risk he created a diversionary action which helped repulse the attack, even though he was captured. Lt PIEROSE'S courage, self-sacrifice, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from CALIFORNIA.

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CHARLES A. S. RIGG, 0539186, 1st Lt, Infantry, 318th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 10 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. When heavy hostile fire temporarily delayed an attack on SCHMIRA, GERMANY, Lt RIGG reconnoitered a route enabling him to lead his platoon through enemy lines and disrupt their defensive action from the rear. While on reconnaissance he killed one and wounded another enemy to clear the way for his infiltrating movement. His leadership and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from MONTANA.

ROBERT H. SMITH, 01062438, 1st Lt (then 2d Lt), Infantry, 318th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 14 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Although harassed by severe hostile fire Lt SMITH, Regimental Combat Patrol Leader, proceeded to lead his patrol through enemy lines to CRUTCHEN, GERMANY. When the assistant leader was wounded he crawled through intense fire to rescue him. While doing this he observed many enemy positions and destroyed a machine gun emplacement. His courage and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from NEW YORK.

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HENRY R. TAYLOR, 38327170, S Sgt, Co K, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in FRANCE on 10 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack on XOCOURT, FRANCE, S Sgt TAYLOR'S squad was temporarily delayed by two enemy machine guns. Moving forward alone, he destroyed the first position with hand grenades. Through intense fire he charged the second, fired steadily, and, although wounded, persisted in his efforts till the crew was annihilated. His courage and aggressiveness are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from OKLAHOMA.

DUKAS TRAMONTANIS, 31315909, Cpl, Co G, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 28 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While crossing the Rhine River Cpl TRAMONTANIS took charge of an assault boat and inspired the men to keep rowing despite severe hostile fire. Upon reaching shore he organized and deployed the men. Still under enemy fire, he returned to the boat to carry three wounded comrades to safety. His leadership and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from CONNECTICUT.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

S. P. WALKER  
Colonel, GSC,  
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OFFICIAL:

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V. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL: 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:

ZANE L. TURNER, 33213166, S Sgt, Co H, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 28 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Although wounded while crossing the Rhine River near MAINZ, GERMANY, S Sgt TURNER reached the east bank, reorganized his section, and with disregard for his wounds, made a reconnaissance to determine positions for his weapons, before submitting to aid and evacuation. The perseverance and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt TURNER are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from VIRGINIA.

DANIEL R. VEGLIA, 42088451, Sgt, Co K, 318th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY on 12 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Near BOLLENDORF, GERMANY, when his company was attacked from the flank and rear, Sgt VEGLIA alone held off the enemy until his ammunition was expended. Knowing that the enemy constituted a serious threat to his company he exposed himself to the hostile forces and by threatening them, effected their surrender. His courage and devotion to duty allowed his company to complete an important mission and are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from NEW JERSEY.

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

EDWIN I. HELLER, 01052385, 1st Lt, Infantry, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in GERMANY on 28 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the Rhine River crossing when the enemy was entrenched on the opposite shore, Lt HELLER calculated the enemy's position and fired such effective fire that the battalion was able to successfully cross the river and form a bridgehead. His efficiency, courage, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from WASHINGTON.

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WALTER C. HOGAN, JR, 38470824, T Sgt (then S Sgt), Co K, 319th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG, and GERMANY from 23 September 1944, to 16 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During this period T Sgt HOGAN performed his duties as platoon sergeant with competence and outstanding ability. By his tactical ability, proven in many heated encounters, he earned the confidence and respect of his comrades. His courage and outstanding leadership are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from OKLAHOMA.

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EMMETT G. TAYLOR, JR, 0525465, 1st Lt (then 2d Lt), Infantry, 317th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in GERMANY on 3 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. When he observed an enemy force forming for a counterattack on friendly rifle troops, Lt TAYLOR, a forward observer, called for mortar fire on the German troops. Despite the nearness of the enemy he registered such effective fire that the hostile attack was discouraged and the enemy put to rout. His efficiency and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from VIRGINIA.

VII. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States:

WILLIAM F. STEPHEN, 01292083, Capt, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For the period 8 August 1944, to 8 May 1945, in FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG, GERMANY, and AUSTRIA. Entered military service from CALIFORNIA.

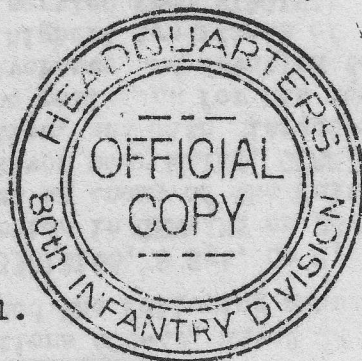
VIII. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (OAK LEAF CLUSTER): By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, in addition to the Purple Heart previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded Sgt George E. Brittain, 33674241, Infantry, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Germany on 14 February 1945.

IX. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded Sgt Weldon C. Hammond, 34129189, Medical Department, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 14 September 1944.

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OFFICIAL:

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