

RESTRICTED

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

File
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None ours

28 January 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 28)

SECTION

- I - Award of Bronze Star (Missing in Action).
- II - Award of Bronze Star.
- III - Award of Bronze Star, Posthumously.
- IV - Award of Bronze Star (Missing in Action).
- V and VI - Award of Bronze Star.

I. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR (MISSING IN ACTION): 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 (Missing in action):

Thomas H. Paden, 42050823, Tec 5 (then Pvt), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 25 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 25 November 1944, Tec 5 Paden, an aid man with a rifle company during an intense enemy barrage of mortar and artillery fire, with complete disregard for his own safety, administered first aid to the wounded man and assisted in their evacuation to a safe area in the rear. The bravery, fortitude, and loyal devotion to duty displayed by Tec 5 Paden exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

William L. Rowden, 38567650, Pvt, Inf (Armd), Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 December 1944, Pvt Rowden was a member of a tank crew engaged in halting a concentrated enemy attack. An enemy shell hit the 75mm gun of the tank forcing the gun over the hatch cover of the driver cutting off his only means of escape. Realizing the helpless condition of the driver, Pvt Rowden, with total disregard for his personal safety, climbed out of the tank, exposed himself to heavy enemy fire, and, while 88mm shells were exploding nearby, assisted in removing the damaged gun from the hatch enabling the driver to escape from the tank. The bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Rowden are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR: 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:

Leon D. Haskins, 33272385, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 28 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 28 November 1944, Pfc Haskins was on duty as a loader at a 57mm anti-tank gun. He remained at his post in the face of enemy mortar, 20mm AA, and machine gun fire and when, as an enemy tank approached his post, the breech of his gun failed to eject, with utter disregard for the danger involved, Pfc Haskins removed the red hot shell

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casing with his bare hands to facilitate reloading. The courage, initiative, and loyal devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Huskins are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

NICHOLAS J. G. McINERNEY, O1546287, 1st Lt, MAC, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Lt McInerney, serving as an Infantry Assistant Battalion Surgeon, personally led litter bearers forward under enemy artillery and direct small arms fire and supervised the evacuation of the wounded for long distances over difficult terrain. With complete disregard for his own safety, he continually exposed himself to fierce enemy fire and did not leave his forward position until all the wounded had been carried to safe positions in the rear. Lt McInerney's outstanding bravery, determination, and zealous devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oregon.

Walter Mickiewicz, 33322671, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 22 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 December 1944, Pvt Mickiewicz was serving as a driver with an Artillery Forward Observer Team working with forward elements of the infantry. During an intense enemy mortar and artillery barrage, Pvt Mickiewicz was wounded by shell fragments in the leg, and the officer in command of the team was so seriously wounded that he could not walk. Despite the pain of his own wounds, Pvt Mickiewicz and a fellow soldier went in search of a litter for the wounded officer. The route he was forced to use was under the direct observation and fire of the enemy. He secured the litter and with the aid of his companion, carried the officer to an aid station thus saving the officer's life. The bravery, fortitude, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Mickiewicz exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

DAVID C. MORGAN, O1302505, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 28 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 28 November 1944, while the battalion's position was being consolidated, Lt Morgan was dispatched to deliver a withdrawal order to two leading rifle companies, but upon arriving in their area, he discovered an enemy attack in progress. In spite of the difficult situation, Lt Morgan made contact, delivered the message, and then successfully guided the companies through enemy held territory to the newly established defensive position. Lt Morgan's courage, resourcefulness, and loyal devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

Eric Reilinger, 32417447, Tec 4, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 9 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 9 November 1944, Tec 4 Reilinger, a radio operator and repairman, was advancing with his unit when he encountered intense enemy machine gun and sniper fire and he fell wounded. Some of the men nearest him started to his assistance, but he warned them to stay

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back because he lay directly in the line of enemy fire. Despite his painful condition, Tec 4 Reilinger remained where he fell and directed other men moving up away from the line of fire. His courage, determination, and steadfast devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

Frank X. Rivas, Jr, 39041317, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 December 1944, Pfc Rivas, a rifleman serving with an assaulting infantry company, observed a seriously wounded soldier lying on top of a small hill to his direct front. Pfc Rivas, with utter disregard for his own safety, crawled some one hundred yards under heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire and upon reaching the wounded man, administered necessary medical aid. He then picked up the soldier and carried him to a covered position. The bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Rivas are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

Gordon J. Rupert, 36252732, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 9 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 9 November 1944, T Sgt Rupert, as squad leader of an Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, had the mission of crossing an important river with attacking rifle companies and aiding in the evacuation of casualties and prisoners. The assault boat in charge of T Sgt Rupert, carrying back the first group of casualties, became entangled in weeds along the bank. Without regard for his own safety, T Sgt Rupert immediately went over the side to free the boat. While in the water pushing the boat, he was wounded by shrapnel but succeeded in accomplishing his mission. The leadership, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Louis Stallings, 39289487, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 22 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 December 1944, Pvt Stallings was serving as a lineman with an Artillery Forward Observer Team working with forward elements of the infantry. During an intense enemy mortar and artillery barrage, the Forward Observer was seriously wounded and Pvt Stallings was wounded by shell fragments in the arm and chest. Despite the pain of his own wounds he went in search of a litter for the wounded officer and was forced to use a route that was under the direct observation and fire of the enemy. He secured the litter and with the help of a companion carried the wounded officer to an aid station and procured vitally needed medical aid. The courage, resourcefulness, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Stallings are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

Edward A. Steffe, 13074030, Sgt, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Sgt Steffe, an assistant section leader, was supervising the evacuation of the

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wounded. In attempting to get a litter squad to a wounded man in an open area, he and his squad were subjected to intense small arms and machine gun fire. Realizing that he could not get a full litter squad to the man, with utter disregard for his own safety, Sgt Steffe slowly crawled forward and reached the wounded man. After administering first aid, he reconnoitered a return route and personally led the evacuation party back through enemy fire. The bravery, determination, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Steffe exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Maryland.

Richard C. Wesemeyer, Jr; 35047379, Pfc, CAC, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 29 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 29 December 1944, a two and one half ton truck loaded with ammunition was set afire during an enemy artillery barrage. The blazing truck was endangering the ammunition, another truck, and an occupied building nearby. Pfc Wesemeyer, with total disregard for his own safety and under heavy enemy artillery fire removed the ammunition. Despite his being wounded, he continued combatting the blaze until it was extinguished. The courage, determination, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Wesemeyer are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

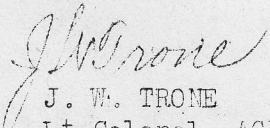
George J. Williams, 32408069, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 14 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 14 November 1944, while digging in on high ground that was subject to artillery and sniper fire, S Sgt Williams volunteered to go forward from his position and reorganize a leaderless platoon. With utter disregard for his personal safety and in the face of intense enemy fire, S Sgt Williams successfully accomplished his mission and led the platoon back to the assembly area. His outstanding leadership, courage, and devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

III. Sections III through VI published as extracts.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

S. P. WALKER
Colonel, Cavalry,
Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


J. W. TRONE
Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

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III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR, POSTHUMOUSLY: 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, posthumously, to the following *Reamer* named personnel:

Ng K. Chong, 32790773, Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Belgium on 20 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 20 December 1944, the infantry company to which Sgt Chong was assigned, occupied a stretch of thick woods. Toward evening the company executive officer and a non-commissioned officer were wounded by sniper fire from the area. Sgt Chong, on his own initiative, immediately organized a patrol to search the woods. While the search was in progress, he noticed some riderless horses crossing a road in the forest. Suspecting an enemy ruse, Sgt Chong immediately ordered his patrol to encircle the horses. His alert and decisive action resulted in the capture of thirteen enemy soldiers who were attempting to infiltrate under cover of the riderless horses. The leadership, initiative, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Chong are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR (MISSING IN ACTION): 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 (Missing in Action):

Reuben W. Anderson, 39183636, Pfc, Cav, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, Pfc Anderson, while on mounted reconnaissance, noticed that the lead section of the platoon was unavoidably ambushed by enemy tanks and infantrymen. The crews of the two lead vehicles had dismounted and taken up positions, but were being subjected to heavy enemy fire. Pfc Anderson, driver of the third vehicle, and two companions, disregarding orders to withdraw to safety, dismounted, worked their way under direct enemy fire to the trapped men and engaged the enemy despite the overwhelming odds. The support given by Pfc Anderson and his companions enabled the trapped men to put down a base of fire and permitted the rest of the platoon to withdraw safely. The aggressiveness, dauntless courage, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Anderson are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Washington. *Reamer*

James J. Gerrity, 33348155, Pfc, Cav, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, while on mounted reconnaissance, Pfc Gerrity, a machine gunner of the point vehicle, noticed that his advance section had unavoidably been ambushed by enemy tanks *Reamer*

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and infantrymen. He and a companion, disregarding an opportunity to escape, opened fire thereby permitting other members of the section to seek cover. Then, dismounting their machine guns under direct enemy fire, Pfc Gerrity and his comrade resumed firing, despite the overwhelming odds, giving the section time to reorganize. As a result, the section successfully stalled the enemy trap and enabled two other sections of the reconnaissance platoon to withdraw. The courage, determination, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Gerrity are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania. *Revised*

✓ Charles L. Hershberger, 33278097, Pfc, Cav, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, while on mounted reconnaissance, Pfc Hershberger, driver of the point vehicle, noticed that his advance section had unavoidably been ambushed by enemy tanks and infantrymen. He and a companion, disregarding an opportunity to escape, opened fire thereby permitting other members of the section to seek cover. Then, dismounting their machine guns under direct enemy fire, Pfc Hershberger and his comrade resumed firing, despite the overwhelming odds, giving the section time to reorganize. As a result, the section successfully stalled the enemy trap and enabled two other sections of the reconnaissance platoon to withdraw. The courage, determination, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Hershberger are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

V. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR: 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:

Lohman M. Bailey, 37553742, Cpl, Cav, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 24 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 September 1944, a reconnaissance platoon approaching a hill was fired on from a position which they believed to be held by friendly troops. Cpl Bailey and another enlisted man volunteered to investigate the source of the fire and proceeded on foot toward the gun position, immediately drawing intense small arms fire. Quickly signaling the platoon leader of the presence of enemy troops, Cpl Bailey and his fellow soldier advanced to attack the position. Although exposed to hostile fire, they succeeded in forcing one enemy soldier to surrender, in killing another, and routed the rest. The courage, initiative, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Cpl Bailey are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from North Dakota. *Revised*

Edward Gagnon, 31124831, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Pfc Gagnon, serving as truck driver in an infantry rifle company, learned that three men from his company had been seriously wounded and were lying some six hundred yards to the front of the company command post in a draw under direct and close observation of enemy tanks and infantry. All previous attempts to get medical aid up to the draw had been futile due to the intensity of the enemy

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fire. Pfc Gagnon, with two other soldiers, volunteered to attempt the evacuation. Under continuous machine gun and artillery fire, Pfc Gagnon drove over the open field into the draw and successfully evacuated the wounded soldiers. The bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Gagnon are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Connecticut.

Lawrence Gular, 13097974, S Sgt, Co, Army of the United States. ^{Recorded} For heroic achievement in France on 22 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 November 1944, S Sgt Gular, serving as a platoon sergeant, volunteered with several companions to scout an enemy pillbox. Making their way across open terrain, they observed an enemy patrol in strength, armed with mortars and rocket launchers, moving in their direction. Although greatly outnumbered, S Sgt Gular and his men immediately went into position and waited until the enemy patrol was within twenty five yards before opening fire. Despite the odds against them, S Sgt Gular and his comrades succeeded in wounding, killing, or capturing the entire patrol. The outstanding leadership, resourcefulness, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Gular exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Ernest H. Gumm, 33213090, Pfc, Co, Army of the United States. ^{Record} For heroic achievement in France on 24 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 September 1944, a reconnaissance platoon approaching a hill was fired on from a position which they believed to be held by friendly troops. Pfc Gumm and another enlisted man volunteered to investigate the source of the fire and proceeded on foot toward the gun position, immediately drawing intense small arms fire. Quickly signaling the platoon leader of the presence of enemy troops, Pfc Gumm and his fellow soldier advanced to attack the position. Although exposed to hostile fire, they succeeded in forcing one enemy soldier to surrender, killing another, and routing the rest. The courage, initiative, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Gumm are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Virginia.

Otto W. Hechler, 36733258, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Pfc Hechler, serving as assistant truck driver in an infantry rifle company, learned that three men from his company had been seriously wounded and were lying some six hundred yards to the front of the company command post in a draw under direct and close observation of enemy tanks and infantry. All previous attempts to get medical aid up to the draw had been futile due to the intensity of the enemy fire. Pfc Hechler, with two other soldiers, volunteered to attempt the evacuation. Under continuous machine gun and artillery fire, they drove over the open field into the draw and successfully evacuated the wounded soldiers. The bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Hechler are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

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Leo Hintz, 35330955, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Belgium on 26 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 December 1944, S Sgt Hintz, while under intense enemy mortar fire and with utter disregard for his personal safety, moved three wounded men to a sheltered position. While doing so, he himself was severely wounded in the leg by a shell fragment. Despite his painful condition, S Sgt Hintz remained on duty giving first aid to the injured men and then, reorganizing his own squad, led them back to the company. The courage, exemplary leadership, and loyal devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Hintz are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Indiana.

Richard S. Hornung, 42067995, Sgt (then Pvt), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 23 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 November 1944, Sgt Hornung was serving as a runner for an infantry company which was the leading element of an attacking force. During the fierce fighting that ensued, all the company officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, were either killed or wounded. Without regard for his personal safety and under heavy enemy machine gun fire, Sgt Hornung assumed command, quickly regrouped the platoons, and made it possible for the company to continue the attack. The leadership, initiative, and zealous devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Hornung exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

✓ James A. Martin, 12004073, 1st Sgt Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, 1st Sgt Martin's company began a tactical withdrawal under intense enemy fire. Realizing that the assigned litter bearers could not evacuate all the wounded, 1st Sgt Martin, acting on his own initiative, organized additional litter squads, led them forward and personally directed the evacuation. With utter disregard for his own safety, he then searched the area forward of the withdrawing troops to assure himself that none of the wounded was overlooked. His leadership, courage, and unselfish devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

S. P. WALKER
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Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

J. W. Trone
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Lt Colonel, AGD,
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VI. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR: 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:


Curtis T. Sprouse, 34539215, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, S Sgt Sprouse was serving as a squad leader of a rifle company attacking over open ground. The company was temporarily delayed by heavy enemy automatic and small arms fire. S Sgt Sprouse, observing a seriously wounded soldier to his front, with utter disregard for his own safety, left his sheltered position, crawled under raking enemy fire to the wounded man and administered vitally needed first aid. While crawling back to his own position, he himself was wounded in the arm by enemy fire. The bravery, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Sprouse exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama.

John J. Sucholet, 31316524, Tec 4 (then Tec 5), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 28 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 28 November 1944, Tec 4 Sucholet was serving as aid man with an assaulting infantry company. During an enemy attack, with complete disregard for his own safety, Tec 4 Sucholet subjected himself to tank, artillery, and small arms fire to give medical treatment and evacuate casualties to the rear. His prompt and courageous actions were responsible for the saving of many lives. The courage, skill, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Tec 4 Sucholet are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Connecticut.

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