80th Division General Orders
Searchable Document – "Read Me First"
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Mission:
The main goal of this multi-year project is to provide the researcher or family member a method for locating the General Order (GO) that lists their veteran. This is a searchable document.

Caveats:
1. The information in this document was transcribed (i.e., typed by hand) from the online 80th Division WWII General Orders into an Excel spreadsheet. After the data was transcribed, it was normalized: corrected typos, standardized Unit(s) format, standardized Rank(s) format, etc.

2. There are a few GOs missing from this collection (these were digitized at the National Archives in College Park, MD). If NARA didn't have the GO, we don't have it. Most of the missing GOs are AFTER the end of May 1945.

3. There will be errors, both in data entry as well as typos. There are more than 17,800 entries in this spreadsheet. While I've attempted to correct them by multiple, random checks, human errors will exist. If you find an error or typo, please let me know and I'll make the correction as soon as possible.

4. While the data is searchable (CTRL-F), it is organized chronologically by year, by GO#, by Soldier last name.

Instructions:
1. Click on the "**80th_Awards_1944-45**" PDF document. Depending on your Internet browser, it may download to your computer or it may open in a new browser.

2. You can either scroll through the list of General Orders [they are organized chronologically by year, by GO#, by Soldier last name], or you can search with CTRL-F.
   a. Note that if the Soldier's name is an unusual spelling, try variations; as mentioned above, we did our best to transcribe the name from the GO.

3. Once you find the Soldier's name, note the GO Year (1944 or 1945) and the GO#. You'll need this to download the actual General Order.
   a. Note that GOs start with "1" at the beginning of the year. That's why there may be two GO#92 (e.g., 1944, GO#92 is 02DEC44; 1945, GO#92 is 02APR45).

4. Note that different clerks in each regiment may have entered the data differently in the General Orders. But, they typically organize the GO awards by "Section." Section titles will be at the top of each GO.

5. Some units have included the Regiment and Company, others may only have the Regiment or the Company, or FA ("Field Artillery"). While this may not tell you the exact unit the Soldier is in, it will help narrow down your search through the General Orders.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **Q - Why do some Soldier names have unit assignments while others are blank?**
    At the beginning of the war, the clerks typing in the information may not have known the Soldier's unit, or it may not have been "standard practice." In many GOs, there is a handwritten letter in the left margin. If it was there, we entered that as the Unit. Later, in 1945, some clerks began entering the Regiment and the Company in the actual text. We transcribed that as well.

2. **Q – Why are some Soldiers listed as receiving a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, but it doesn't show the "first" Purple Heart?**
    We do not have all the General Orders for the 80th Division. Therefore, one assumes that the Soldier may have either received the first Purple Heart while in the hospital or it may be listed on one of the "missing" General Orders.

3. **Q – What is the difference between "Rescinded" and "Amended?"**
    These references are usually found toward the end of the General Order. Many times a Soldier was awarded a Purple Heart or a Bronze Star while recovering in the hospital. But, the company clerk may enter the award on the General Order for a specific day without realizing that award was already presented to the Soldier. In some cases, that fact is noted in the "Rescinded" paragraph; other times, it is not.

    An "Amended" General Order typically is a correction to a previous GO. It may be the Soldier's rank, the date of the event, or the state from where the Soldier enlisted.

4. **Q – Do General Orders exist for those Purple Hearts issued while the Soldier was in the hospital?**
    Yes, but unfortunately, the only ones that we have are from the 106th Evacuation Hospital, courtesy of Roberta Russo, historian for the 35th Infantry Division.

5. **Q – Are the missing General Orders located elsewhere? How can I access them?**
    The "official" location of General Orders is the National Archives in College Park, MD. However, there are other "collections" that may exist in other areas. Carlisle Barracks, PA also contains a large number of historical documents for the 80th Division.