

R E S T R I C T E D

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 101)

12 April 1945.

SECTION

- I - Award of Bronze Star.
- II - Unit Citations
- III - Amendment.

I. 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:

William B. Clark, 33213260, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 8 August 1944, to 18 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Virginia.

Herbert J. Riehle, 36252767, Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 6 August 1944, to 6 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

medal Paul E. Simmons, 36748284, Pfc, MD, 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. During an enemy counter-attack near Kehmen, Luxembourg, on 24 December 1944, Pfc Simmons, an aid man attached to an infantry company, repeatedly left the protection of his foxhole to crawl to the aid of soldiers wounded by the intense hostile artillery barrage falling in the area. Despite the danger to himself he crawled to one casualty, carried him to a nearby foxhole, and rendered necessary first aid. Pfc Simmons' courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

Howard E. Stolz, 33349050, Tec 4, FA, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 8 August 1944, to 18 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

II. Published as an extract.

III. Section III, General Orders Number 96, this Headquarters, dated 6 April 1945, as awards the Purple Heart to Pvt Gerard E. Willmarth, 35249771, Inf, Apr 45, is amended to award enlisted man the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

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

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

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E-X-T-R-A-C-T

II. The following units of the Division are cited for their extraordinary heroism, gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in overcoming hazardous and difficult conditions against an enemy of the United States:

3D BATTALION, 318TH INFANTRY: The Third Battalion, 318th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy during the period 14 - 17 September 1944, in France: *Revised*

On 14 September 1944, the Third Battalion, 318th Infantry, assaulted Mousson Hill, a dominant terrain feature commanding the Moselle River Valley and overlooking the Division bridgehead in the vicinity of Diculouard, France. The battalion moved to the attack through heavy rain, deep mud, and fog, moving rapidly up the steep south slope of this strongly defended enemy held position in the face of intermittent artillery fire. Upon reaching and capturing the fort cresting the hill, the enemy immediately launched a series of counterattacks, finally encircling the battalion on the following day, 15 September 1944. Many casualties were incurred during this action and the battalion was completely cut off from contact with friendly troops and supplies. Despite severe casualties and lack of artillery support, rations, ammunition, medical supplies, and the continuous counterattacks, the battalion retained its hold on this important strategic hill until 17 September 1944, when supporting forces arrived to relieve the situation.

The courage, heroic determination, and fighting spirit displayed by every member of this battalion to capture and hold this position at all costs, and in the face of fanatical enemy resistance, reflects the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

2D BATTALION, 318TH INFANTRY: The Second Battalion, 318th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy during the period 8 - 11 November 1944, in France:

On 8 November 1944, the Second Battalion, 318th Infantry began its assault of the Seille River Valley with the ultimate objective of seizing Delme Ridge commanding the eastern approaches to the valley. Crossing the Seille River, flooded by the heavy and continued rains, the battalion gained control of the enemy held bank in fierce hand to hand struggles. Securing their initial bridgehead, the battalion dug in under intense enemy artillery fire as the rain continued unabated. Spending the night in their water-filled foxholes, the battalion pushed forward at daylight, crossing the flooded valley floor into the face of the terrific enemy artillery concentrations. Fighting their way through the day without food and little ammunition, the battalion stormed the strongly held hills bordering the valley, blasting each of the entrenched enemy positions into submission with hand grenades. Seizing the heights that evening, the battalion awaited daylight to continue the assault, as the rain and enemy

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artillery continued. Supply problems were acute and again the battalion attacked without food or dry clothing. Casualties were mounting as the battalion scaled the steep cliffs and ejected the strongly entrenched enemy from the towns of Achatel and Sully. Assaulting the strategic Delme Ridge, the depleted battalion seized the fanatically defended objective only through grim and unrelenting determination. On the fourth day of the attack the Second Battalion secured the approaches to the ridge. Reduced in strength to a complement less than that of a normal rifle company, the battalion attacked over marsh land and into the raking enemy fire, clearing three towns in bitter close-in fighting. In the four days of attack the Second Battalion, during continuous rain, had spearheaded a drive over a distance of fifteen miles, capturing six villages, crossing a formidable water barrier at flood stage, and playing a major part in the destruction of one full enemy division and supporting forces. The determination, aggressiveness, and heroic courage displayed by each officer and enlisted man of the Second Battalion, despite heavy casualties, difficult terrain, and deplorable weather, are commensurate with the finest traditions of the Army of the United States.

3D BATTALION, 318TH INFANTRY: The Third Battalion, 318th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy on 25 November 1944, in France:

On 25 November 1944, at Fort Bambiderstroff, France, the Third Battalion was assigned the mission to assault and seize the village and fort of Bambiderstroff, part of the Maginot Line and continue on to seize the high ground one half mile east of Kleindal, France, which commanded the routes of approach to Longeville and St Avoild, France. At double time, over open terrain and under terrific enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, the battalion seized the town, killed and wounded many enemy soldiers, and captured some forty prisoners. The battalion continued the attack in the face of murderous fire, storming the pill-boxes up a steep hill and over open ground. By frontal and flanking movements they successfully completed the assault of the fort, capturing eighty nine prisoners. The heroic performance by the officers and men of the Third Battalion, 318th Infantry resulted in seizing important terrain features in the enemy's defenses. Their courageous and fighting determination reflects the finest traditions of the Army of the United States.

COMPANY "L", 318TH INFANTRY: Company "L", 318th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy on 25 and 26 November 1944, in France:

On 25 November 1944, Company "L" led a battalion assault against the village and fort of Bambiderstroff, France. The fort formed a strongpoint of the Maginot Line and crested a steep hill protected by many flanking bunkers. Storming the fort over the open terrain after clearing the village, the aggressive infantrymen of Company "L" were subjected to intense raking fire from machine guns, artillery, mortars, small arms, and rockets. Reaching the military crest of the hill, the company advanced over open terrain on a seven hundred yard front, directly assaulting the enemy held bunkers. Despite heavy casualties from murderous crossfire of the bunkers, the company continued its assault until the enemy resistance was broken with the capture of eighty two prisoners. Reorganizing that night, the company then assaulted the high ground overlooking the

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strategic Longeville-St Avoild highway the next day. The successful seizure of the heights immediately resulted in concentrated and prolonged enemy counter-attacks throughout the day. Only by grim determination and aggressive use of grenades and close-in fighting were the enemy forces finally repulsed. The heroic courage displayed by the intrepid infantrymen of Company "L", 318th Infantry, reflects the finest traditions of the Army of the United States.

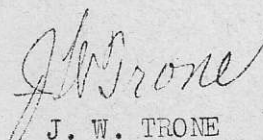
COMPANY "B", 318TH INFANTRY: Company "B", 318th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy on 26 December 1944, in Belgium:

On 26 December 1944, near Tintange, Belgium, in the attack toward the besieged city of Bastogne, Belgium, Company "B", 318th Infantry, a reserve company, was following close behind two assaulting companies. Late in the afternoon the advance was stopped by fierce enemy automatic and small arms fire. Constant fire was falling on the company from a large caliber artillery piece located somewhere in Tintange, inflicting many casualties. Depleted to a strength of fifty eight men, they sought and were granted permission to assault the town, utilizing a two platoon attack with the third platoon flanking the drive. Due to the advancing frontal platoons, the enemy disclosed his firing positions, which were quickly observed and destroyed by the flanking platoon. Taking advantage of their success and by pressing on they successfully captured the enemy artillery piece and its prime mover. Enveloping the town and attacking it with a viciousness that yielded over one hundred and sixty prisoners, the enemy resistance was neutralized completely. The performance by the intrepid infantrymen of Company "B", 318th Infantry, reflects the finest traditions of the Army of the United States.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

S. P. WALKER
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