

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 119)

4 May 1945.

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- II - Award of Silver Star.
- III - Award of Bronze Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- IV and V - Award of Bronze Star.
- VI and VII - Award of Purple Heart (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- VIII and IX - Award of Purple Heart.
- X and XI - Amendment and Rescission.

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

MELVIN F. SCHNELLER, 02046814, 1st Lt, MAC, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, during the pitched battle for Weiskirchen, Germany, Lt Schneller, an ambulance officer, disregarding his own personal safety, led his ambulances into the town over roads which were under heavy enemy fire. Despite the fierce street fighting, he moved from house to house locating and giving aid to the casualties, and after selecting the more seriously wounded cases he removed them from the fire fight over a circuitous route to the ambulances by which they were evacuated to an aid station. By courageously working throughout the day, Lt Schneller evacuated eighty four critically wounded men who otherwise would have died. His bravery, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

II. 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:

7027x Harold A. Gratopp, 36130167, S Sgt, Armd, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France and Luxembourg on 18 September 1944, and 26 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Throughout the campaign in France and Luxembourg, S Sgt Gratopp ably commanded his tank platoon when the platoon leader was evacuated with wounds. At Bezaumont, France, although his tank was hit and his gunner wounded, S Sgt Gratopp continued to attack and destroy two enemy tanks. Again at Kehmen, Luxembourg, on 26 December 1944, he took command of the platoon and led it through intense artillery fire to destroy three enemy pillboxes and to capture the enemy manning them. S Sgt Gratopp's courage, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

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III. 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:

K Wiley F. Duke, 38651186, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 February 1945, after having advanced into the Siegfried Line on the Luxembourg-German border, the company in which S Sgt Duke served as a squad leader, took up a defensive position to reorganize. During a heavy mortar and artillery barrage which the enemy fired into the defensive zone, two men were seriously wounded. With utter disregard for his own personal safety, S Sgt Duke and another soldier ran to the wounded men and carried them to the safety of a foxhole from which they were later evacuated. The courage, bravery, and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Duke are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Louisiana. Feb

IV. 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:

Juan Acuna, 38217070, Pfc (then Pvt), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 26 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. In an attack on Bockholz, Luxembourg, on 26 January 1945, a seriously wounded soldier in the forward elements needed medical aid and immediate evacuation. Pfc Acuna, a company aid man, crawled forward under intense enemy fire to administer aid to the wounded man and then aided in moving him to a protected position from which he could be safely evacuated. Pfc Acuna's courage, skill, and devotion to duty saved the wounded soldier's life and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas. JAN

ALFRED R. BORDEN, 0441059, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 15 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 15 March 1945, near Scheiden, Germany, Lt Borden, an infantry company executive officer, was assigned the command of a platoon during the fierce fight with the enemy. Assuming command under fire, Lt Borden reorganized the platoon and by leading a well coordinated attack captured an enemy machine gun emplacement inflicting numerous casualties on the enemy. Lt Borden's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York. MAR

K Ollon Gray, 34796005, S Sgt (then Pfc), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 February 1945, after having advanced into the Siegfried Line on the Luxembourg-German border, the company in which S Sgt Gray served as a squad leader, took up a defensive position to reorganize. During a heavy mortar and artillery barrage which the enemy fired into the defensive zone, two men were seriously wounded. With utter disregard for his own personal safety, S Sgt Gray and another soldier ran to the Feb

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Joseph P. Hancock, 32592225, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While on a motorized patrol near Wilwerviltz, Luxembourg, on 24 January 1945, S Sgt Hancock, a squad leader, dismounted and preceded the vehicles along a road which he believed contained mines. After advancing a short distance he accidentally detonated a well concealed mine, which broke his leg and severely lacerated his foot. Despite these painful wounds, S Sgt Hancock insisted on returning to make a report of the reconnaissance before being evacuated. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Jersey. JAN

Paul D. Poston, 34128724, Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 11 and 12 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 11 and 12 November 1944, while his regiment was expanding a bridgehead over the Neid River near Hans-sur-Neid, France, Sgt Poston, Regimental Communications Sergeant, established and, without relief, maintained radio communication from the Regimental S-2 to the Division G-2. As the enemy realized the importance of the bridge, they fired intense artillery and mortar fire into the area in an attempt to destroy it. Sgt Poston remained throughout the merciless barrage and by keeping the communication flowing rendered invaluable aid to the division. His courage, bravery, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Carolina. NOV

Conard L. Reaves, 38629449, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 26 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. In an attack near Scheidel, Luxembourg, on 26 December 1944, the platoon in which S Sgt Reaves served as guide was temporarily halted by intense enemy machine gun fire which inflicted several casualties in the platoon. Disregarding his own personal safety, S Sgt Reaves, acting fearlessly while exposed to enemy fire, supervised and aided in the evacuation of the wounded men. His courage, bravery, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas. DEC

James H. Ripley, 37466623, Tec 5 (then Pfc), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 6 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 6 March 1945, during a heavy enemy artillery concentration upon their position in a forest in Germany, two members of a tank crew were seriously injured by shell fragments. Pfc Ripley and an assistant drove a litter equipped truck to the side of the disabled tank without regard to the intense barrage and evacuated the wounded men to an aid station. Pfc Ripley's courage, disregard for personal safety, and sincere devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Nebraska. 702 NOV

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Steven Sanchez, 37350737, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 4 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Near Welscheid, Luxembourg, at early evening on 4 January 1945, a numerically superior force of enemy troops attacked the platoon in which T Sgt Sanchez served as Platoon Sergeant. As heavy snows hid the attacking enemy from the artillery forward observers, T Sgt Sanchez, despite the intense artillery fire which accompanied the attack, climbed to the roof of a building from which he relayed fire orders to the observation posts. In this exposed position he adjusted artillery and mortar fire, materially aiding in repelling the enemy attack. T Sgt Sanchez's courage, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Colorado. Jan

John F. Shaffer, 33321131, Tec 3 (then Tec 4), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 20 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 20 August 1944, Tec 3 Shaffer, an aid man with a rifle company, personally freed three wounded men from a fiercely burning tank near Argentan, France. Disregarding the lack of ammunition which might have exploded at any moment he worked swiftly and efficiently to render first aid and to evacuate the men to safety. Tec 3 Shaffer's courage, bravery, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania. AUG

Frederick W. Shaw, 31230327, Sgt (then Cpl), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 25 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack on Kehlen, Luxembourg, on 25 December 1944, Sgt Shaw was in command of a light machine gun section which had the mission of supporting a leading rifle platoon. When the tactical situation necessitated a withdrawal to a better position, Sgt Shaw observed that one of his men had been wounded and was unable to move. Disregarding the intense enemy fire and his own personal safety, Sgt Shaw carried the wounded man to safety. His courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts. Dec

V. Sections V through XI published as an extract.

BY: COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

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

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

R E S T R I C T E D

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

4 May 1945.

NUMBER 119)

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

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:

I Lowell P. Walls, 38691517, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 25 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 25 January 1945, when the company in which he served as squad leader was temporarily delayed by enemy machine gun fire which covered a road block near Buckholtz, Luxembourg, S Sgt Walls led his squad on a flanking movement which disrupted the enemy communications and removed a threat to the company's exposed flank enabling the attack to progress. S Sgt Walls' leadership and tactical skill are commensurate with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

Sidney Weinberg, 32979278, Pfc, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 6 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 6 March 1945, during a heavy enemy artillery concentration upon their position in a forest in Germany, two members of a tank crew were seriously injured by shell fragments. Pfc Weinberg and an assistant drove a litter equipped truck to the side of the disabled tank without regard to the intense barrage and evacuated the wounded men to an aid station. Pfc Weinberg's courage, disregard for personal safety, and sincere devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

H Gordon H. Whitwell, 35925329, Cpl, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 14 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. After the platoon in which he served as squad leader had driven off five enemy counterattacks near St Genevieve, France, on 14 September 1944, Cpl Whitwell rallied the men and by hastily organizing a mortar and a rocket team, repulsed the sixth attack. Later, on observing eighteen enemy soldiers approaching his outpost position, he sent for additional aid and by firing on the enemy killed two and repulsed the rest. Cpl Whitwell's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

F Basil N. Wolfe, 34982973, Sgt (then Pvt), Inf, 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, near Gueniviller, France, Sgt Wolfe was serving as a member of a mortar squad which was displacing forward in order to fire a new mission. Enroute they were subjected to a heavy enemy mortar and artillery barrage which wounded Sgt Wolfe's three companions. In the absence of an aid man, he dressed their wounds and carried them to safety. Thereafter, he secured the mortar and

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equipment and, locating the firing position, continued with the fire mission. Sgt Wolfe's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

VI. 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 Pvt Howard J. Moffatt, 31346160, Inf, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Luxembourg on 27 January 1945.

VII. 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 Pfc William T. Galloway, 38670623, Inf, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Germany on 30 April 1945.

VIII. 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 Pfc Joseph A. Slowinski, 36648765, Inf, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 9 November 1944.

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 the following named personnel for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Germany on dates indicated:

<u>RANK AND NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>ARM OR SERVICE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Pfc Ernest E. Caballero	42073424	Armd	6 Mar 45
Pvt Russell C. Smalley	33254038	FA	26 Apr 45
1ST LT WILLIAM HIBBERT	01299747	Inf	28 Apr 45
Pfc Stanley P. Andricks	36346990	Inf	30 Apr 45
Cpl Merle M. Duvall	37453467	CE	30 Apr 45

X. Section V, General Orders Number 105, this Headquarters, dated 17 April 1945, as awards the Purple Heart to Sgt Samuel J. Corden, 33254021, Inf, 25 Mar 45, is amended to award enlisted man the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart.

XI. Section VI, General Orders Number 54, this Headquarters, dated 12 October 1944, is amended to delete the name of "Tec 5 Hilbert J. Henry, 33127268, Inf 9 Oct 44 Virginia". Enlisted Man was awarded the Purple Heart per GO #4, Hq 79th Gen Hosp, 11 Jan 45.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

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Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

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

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