

RESTRICTED

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

5 May 1945.

NUMBER 120)

SECTION

- I - Award of Bronze Star, Posthumously.
- II and III - Award of Bronze Star.
- IV - Award of Purple Heart.

I. 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 named personnel:

William F. Tassara, 39053595, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, S Sgt Tassara, acting as platoon leader, so skillfully led his men against the heavily fortified woods protecting Weiskirchen, Germany, that the enemy lines were broken and he and his men entered the town to engage the enemy in a bitter house to house struggle. Continuously exposing himself to enemy fire, he hurled hand grenades and fired all available weapons at the enemy until he was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his men. S Sgt Tassara's courage, aggressive leadership, and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California. MAN

Samuel C. Winton, 20468120, Tec 5, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 31 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 March 1945, Tec 5 Winton, radio operator for a Regimental Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, took part in a mounted reconnaissance into the outskirts of Crambach, Germany, where the vehicle in which he was riding drew intense fire from a road block. After the driver, two other soldiers, and Tec 5 Winton had taken shelter in a ditch to escape the initial fire from small arms, rocket, and anti-aircraft weapons directed at them, Tec 5 Winton left his relatively safe position, ran to the vehicle, and while attempting to drive it away to safety was killed by the enemy fire. His courage, aggressiveness, and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama. MAN

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:

Anthony F. Ares, 36304942, Pfc (then Pvt), MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, during the fierce house to house fighting in Weiskirchen, Germany, Pvt Ares, on MAN

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aid man, observed a wounded soldier lying in the street subjected to enemy fire. Despite the danger to himself, Pvt Ares rushed to the injured man and, with the help of another soldier, carried him to the safety of a building where he administered first aid. The courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Ares are commensurate with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

Bryson S. Bowers, 34360896, Sgt, CE, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 13 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack on Ober Zorf, Germany, on 13 March 1945, Sgt Bowers, leader of a squad of combat engineers, was assigned the mission of removing a heavily mined road block which hindered the advance of friendly armor. As the enemy had the obstacle well covered by small arms fire, Sgt Bowers voluntarily crawled to it, where he discovered that the enemy had employed a new type of mine with which he was not familiar. Disregarding the proximity of enemy troops and the danger of detonating these mines, Sgt Bowers worked swiftly and silently to remove thirteen mines and clear the obstacle. Sgt Bowers' courage, bravery, skill, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Georgia. MAR

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FIRMAN L. CUNNINGHAM, 01054090, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the fight for Weiskirchen, Germany, on 16 March 1945, Lt Cunningham established his machine gun platoon at the edge of town, completed a reconnaissance of the area, and had just returned to his position when enemy machine gun fire forced his men to withdraw temporarily. Disregarding the intense fire directed at the emplacements, Lt Cunningham crawled back to the abandoned gun and by accurately returning the enemy fire destroyed the enemy gun. The courage and untiring devotion to duty displayed by Lt Cunningham are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee. MAR

Glen R. Gee, 36984596, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, during the fierce house to house fighting in Weiskirchen, Germany, S Sgt Gee, a rifle squad leader, observed a wounded soldier lying in the street subjected to enemy fire. Despite the danger to himself, S Sgt Gee rushed to the injured man and, with the help of another soldier, carried him to the safety of a building where he administered first aid. The courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Gee are commensurate with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan. MAR

Albert E. Johnson, 36972040, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 21 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 21 March 1945, during the mopping up operation in Neustadt, Germany, platoon runners were unable to contact their platoon leaders. Pfc Johnson, a runner, voluntarily dashed from house to house through sniper and mortar fire until he had located the officers and delivered the messages. Although at the point of exhaustion from his exertion, Pfc Johnson continued to maintain contact with the forward element MAR

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throughout the engagement and contributed immeasurably in controlling the battalion. His courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

Lloyd E. Klinger, 35082433, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 28 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 28 March 1945, during the course of the assault near Rambach, Germany, S Sgt Klinger, a squad leader, at great personal risk helped locate and direct artillery fire on three enemy anti-aircraft guns delaying the company's advance. Suspecting a nearby building to contain enemy soldiers, he led two squads and encircled the building. Firing one shot, he surprised and captured sixty five enemy soldiers and several vehicles. The leadership and untiring devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Klinger are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky. MAX

James J. Meade, 33359323, Sgt (then Pfc), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 14 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During an attack near Weiskirchen, Germany, on 14 March 1945, Sgt Meade, a platoon runner, heard a call for help from a wooded area seventy five yards to his front. Investigating, he found six wounded comrades. Realizing that qualified medical aid was necessary to save their lives, he crossed four hundred yards of exposed terrain under heavy enemy fire to lead litter bearers to the injured men. By firing on the enemy, he drew their attention, permitting the litter bearers to evacuate the wounded men without further casualties. Pfc Meade's courage, aggressiveness, and sincere devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania. MAX

AT Herbert F. Meder, 37677636, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 13 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 13 March 1945, after completing the mission of clearing mines from the road between Ober Zerf and Irsch, Germany, Pfc Meder and a companion were instructed to seek shelter in a cellar to escape the severe enemy artillery and nebelwerfer fire which was falling in the area. During the bombardment a direct hit ignited a nearby barn in which one hundred seventy five rounds of artillery ammunition was stored. Pfc Meder and his comrade, disregarding the danger of artillery fire and the possibility of the fire detonating the stored ammunition, removed it from the fiercely burning barn, when they found that the fire could not be extinguished. Pfc Meder's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Iowa. MAX

AT Benjamin L. Michalak, 35330988, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 13 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 13 March 1945, after completing the mission of clearing mines from the road between Ober Zerf and Irsch, Germany, Pfc Michalak and a companion were instructed to seek shelter in a cellar to escape the severe enemy artillery and nebelwerfer fire which was MAX

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falling in the area. During the bombardment a direct hit ignited a nearby barn in which one hundred seventy five rounds of artillery ammunition was stored. Pfc Michalak and his comrade, disregarding the danger of artillery fire, and the possibility of the fire detonating the stored ammunition, removed it from the fiercely burning barn, when they found that the fire could not be extinguished. Pfc Michalak's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

James E. O'Daniel, 6236583, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the assault in Kassel, Germany, on 2 April 1945, twelve enemy tanks supported by one hundred infantrymen counterattacked and threatened to overrun the battalion command post. Pfc O'Daniel took up an exposed position at an 81mm mortar and when the enemy was within seven hundred yards of his position fired such an effective concentration that the attack was diverted and the command post saved. The courage, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Pfc O'Daniel are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas. APR

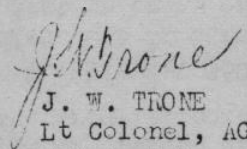
Richard C. Sickau, 42140117, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 15 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 15 March 1945, during the fierce house to house fighting in Weiskirchen, Germany, Pfc Sickau was placed in a house with twenty wounded comrades. Observing that the enemy was about to recapture the building, Pfc Sickau took a position at a window and repulsed seven enemy attempts to recapture it. Although enemy fire was directed at him he remained at his post for ten hours while the wounded men were evacuated. The courage and untiring devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Sickau are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York. MAR

III. Sections III and IV published as an extract.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

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


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

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

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III. 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:

✓ Joseph Terreri, 33313148, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, S Sgt Terreri, serving as a squad leader, led his rifle squad in an attack through a wooded area near Weiskirchen, Germany. During the initial stage of the attack one of his men was seriously wounded in the head. As the tactical situation demanded a withdrawal, S Sgt Terreri organized his squad in its new position and through the intense enemy fire returned to his wounded comrade and carried him to safety. S Sgt Terreri's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania. MAR

✓ Reuben D. Walters, 35239166, Pfc, 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. While engaged in a flanking move on enemy positions near Weiskirchen, Germany, on 15 March 1945, the platoon in which Pfc Walters served as a rifleman was delayed by friendly machine guns firing across the route of advance at an enemy vehicle. Pfc Walters volunteered to cross an open stretch of field under enemy fire to contact the friendly machine gun. While crossing on his mission he was wounded by the enemy, but, despite his injuries, continued on to contact the machine gun crew and halt their fire. Pfc Walters' courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio. MAR

✓ William G. Welsh, 33320580, Pvt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 2 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the assault in Kassel, Germany, on 2 April 1945, twelve enemy tanks supported by one hundred infantrymen counterattacked and threatened to overrun the battalion command post. Pvt Welsh, an ammunition bearer, arming himself with a rocket launcher, took up an exposed position to protect the flank of an anti-tank gun. Despite the machine gun and direct artillery fire from the approaching tanks, he held his position until they were within range and then delivered effective fire against the enemy until the anti-tank gun was destroyed by enemy fire, forcing his withdrawal. The bravery, initiative, and courageous devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Welsh are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania. MAR

✓ John H. Wolfarth, 15377481, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, during the MAR

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fierce house to house fighting in Weiskirchen, Germany, Pfc Wolfarth, an acting rifle squad leader, accompanied by five of his men, was ordered to capture a church one hundred yards in front of the leading elements of his company. While advancing on this mission, all members of the group were wounded by direct artillery fire. Even though painfully wounded, Pfc Wolfarth carried all of his men to the shelter of a building and only after finding litter bearers and seeing that all men were evacuated did he disclose his own wounds. Pfc Wolfarth's courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

✓ Ned A. York, 39345916, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 16 March 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 March 1945, during the fierce house to house fighting in Weiskirchen, Germany, Pfc York observed that his platoon sergeant was lying in the street seriously wounded. With utter disregard for his own personal safety, he left his covered position and dashed into the street in the face of the enemy fire. Picking up his wounded comrade, he carried him to the safety of a nearby building. The courage and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Pfc York are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oregon. MAR

IV. 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>
S Sgt Michael Mehalic	33294542	Inf	10 Feb 45
Pfc Thomas E. Murawski	42097575	Inf	12 Feb 45
Pfc Robert M. Kifer	33877656	Inf	19 Feb 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

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

OFFICIAL:

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