

RESTRICTED

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

26 May 1945.

NUMBER 137)

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star, Posthumously.
- II and III - Award of Silver Star.
- IV - Award of Bronze Star, Posthumously.
- V - Award of Bronze Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- VI - Amendment.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR, POSTHUMOUSLY: 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, posthumously, to the following named personnel:

Claude E. Evans, 34985205, Pfc, Co G, 318th Infantry, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 10 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 10 April 1945, while the squad in which he served as an automatic rifleman was making an encircling movement on well emplaced enemy machine guns near Schmira, Germany, Pfc Evans, although in an open field exposed to the enemy, engaged the enemy guns in a fire fight. By drawing the fire and attention of the enemy Pfc Evans made it possible for his squad to reach and destroy its objective. Pfc Evans was mortally wounded while gallantly performing this act of heroism. His courage and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

George Scharff, 32987381, Sgt, Co G, 318th Infantry, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 10 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack on Schmira, Germany, on 10 April 1945, the assaulting rifle companies were delayed by well emplaced and mutually supporting enemy machine guns. Sgt Scharff, a squad leader, assuming command of his platoon when the platoon sergeant was killed, led his men forward toward a ridge from which to fire on the German emplacements. Sgt Scharff alone reached the ridge where he immediately opened fire on the enemy, killing two gunners, and, by drawing enemy fire, enabled the rest of the platoon to advance and eventually overrun the enemy. Sgt Scharff was mortally wounded in this engagement. His courage, aggressive leadership, and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

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:

Michael W. Barkley, 20212771, Sgt (then Pfc), Co G, 318th Infantry, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 11 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 11 April 1945, Sgt Barkley and three companions were ordered to search out a house along their rifle company's route of attack into Erfurt,

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MMO 735017
By CH NARA Date 8-17-0

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec II GO #137 26 May 45 contd

Germany. As the patrol approached the house it encountered automatic rifle fire. Sgt Barkley, covered by the fire of his two remaining companions, raced toward the house disregarding the danger to himself. Reaching the building he hurled a grenade through the window and on following it up he found three dead and several wounded enemy soldiers from whom he learned that there were more soldiers upstairs. With his comrades he captured thirty more of the foe who were hiding in the attic. Sgt Barkley's 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 New York.

Richard W. Boyd, 35240217, Pfc, Co F, 318th Infantry, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 12 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the bitter house to house fighting in Erfurt, Germany, on 12 April 1945, Pfc Boyd and three other riflemen were reconnoitering a street when they were fired on from a large building. Pfc Boyd, covered by the fire of his companions, rushed toward the building and after firing at and killing an enemy machine gunner he hurled a grenade through the window, killing three and wounding several more of the enemy. Entering the building with his three companions he captured forty German soldiers. Pfc Boyd's courage, aggressiveness, and sincere devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

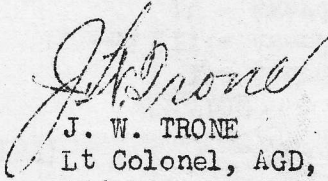
Byron K. Brooks, 33275389, Sgt, Co F, 318th Infantry, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 12 April 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 12 April 1945, the rifle company in which Sgt Brooks served as a squad leader was digging in prior to an attack on Erfurt, Germany, when the enemy launched a smoke barrage followed by an infantry attack. The surprise and strength of the attack forced all of the platoon to withdraw temporarily with the exception of Sgt Brooks who threw two grenades, killing four of the enemy, fired his rifle, wounding three more, and, on seeing the enemy falter, signalled his men to follow him in an assault during which he killed two more of the enemy and captured seven others. The gallant courage, aggressive leadership, and untiring devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Brooks exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

III. Sections III through VI published as an extract.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

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


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

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MMO 735017
By SP NARA Date 8-17-0