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

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GENERAL ORDERS)

21 January 1945.

NUMBER 21)

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star, Posthumously.
- II - Award of Silver Star.
- III - Award of Bronze Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- IV - Award of Purple Heart (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- V - Award of Purple Heart.

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:

Robert J. Bell, 42072242, Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Sgt Bell, a rifle company squad leader, without hesitation, assumed command of the platoon in which he served when the leader became a casualty in an assault on strongly held enemy positions. Flanking the enemy positions and despite intense machine gun, mortar, and tank fire, Sgt Bell led his men to successfully attain the assigned objective. It was while he was establishing defensive positions that Sgt Bell was mortally wounded by sniper fire. His courage, aggressive leadership, and loyal devotion to duty exemplify the finest 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:

Gerald M. Bishop, 15105081, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the course of an assault on the enemy on 23 December 1944, T Sgt Bishop and the heavy weapons platoon he commanded were isolated from the remainder of the Infantry Rifle Company by enemy action. Despite the heavy enemy fire, he immediately estimated the situation and formed his machine gun and mortar sections into a skirmish line to meet the thrust of the enemy. His actions resulted in the complete demoralization and rout of the enemy. The bravery, aggressive leadership, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by T Sgt Bishop exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky.

Louis A. Buda, 35330190, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France on 16 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 16 September 1944, T Sgt Buda, while leading his 81mm Mortar Platoon through a saddle into a prepared defensive position, discovered three abandoned vehicles loaded with 81mm Mortar

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Ammunition. Although this terrain was under enemy observation who was concentrating artillery fire around the vehicles, T Sgt Buda and two companions protected the movement of the platoon by fire and then drove the trucks to the mortar positions where the ammunition was used effectively in firing previously prepared data for the 81mm Mortars. The courage, resourcefulness, and loyal devotion to duty displayed by T Sgt Buda are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Indiana.

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:

IRA T. MILLER, 01285623, Capt, Inf, Army of the United States. For meritorious service in France on 13 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

IV. 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 Oscar J. Smith, 35409815, FA, for wounds received as a result of enemy action in France on 15 November 1944.

V. 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 France on date indicated:

<u>RANK AND NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>ARM OR SERVICE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1st Sgt Jesse G. Vinson	6376873	FA	15 Nov 44
Pvt Christian F. Bente	13111797	FA	15 Nov 44

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

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

OFFICIAL:

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