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

GENERAL ORDERS)

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20 February 1945.  
*Adj ARD*

NUMBER

51)

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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:

Ted J. Howard, 37634286, Pvt, FA, 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. On the morning of 24 December 1944, near Neiderfeulen, Luxembourg, Pvt Howard was charged with the task of supplying ammunition to a tank destroyer under artillery fire. Ignoring the obvious danger, he and his crew had nearly completed loading the tank destroyer with ammunition when a direct hit killed Pvt Howard and his driver and wounded another of the crew. However, his courage and utter disregard for his own safety made it possible for the tank destroyer to support the infantry in a successful attack and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Missouri.

Bernard O. Hutcherson, 38682083, Cpl, 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. During the attack on Kehmen, Luxembourg, on 26 December 1944, Cpl Hutcherson, serving as a rifle squad leader, was delayed in his forward movement by intense small arms fire supplemented by artillery and mortar shelling. After giving aid to one of Cpl Hutcherson's men, an aid man called for assistance in evacuating the wounded man. Disregarding his own personal safety, Cpl Hutcherson, without hesitation, attempted to help his wounded comrade but in so doing received wounds from which he later died. His bravery, leadership, and unselfish devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

II. 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:

Lawrence P. Kelley, 31303213, Cpl, Armd, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 8 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During an enemy counterattack early in the morning of 8 January 1945, in Dahl, Luxembourg, Cpl



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Kelley, while in his tank as gunner, observed that an explosion in a nearby tank had set fire to the tank and not only threatened to explode the ammunition store but offered an excellent target for the enemy. Disregarding the danger from the artillery and small arms fire accompanying the counterattack, Cpl Kelley left the protection of his tank and with a fire extinguisher succeeded in quenching the fire, thus saving a valuable tank and removing a tactical hazard. His courage, 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 Massachusetts.

Robert J. Oostdyk, 15105056, Tec 5, Cav, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 22 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 November 1944, Tec 5 Oostdyk, serving as radio operator, volunteered, with several companions, to scout an enemy pillbox. Making their way across open terrain, they observed an enemy patrol in strength, armed with mortars and rocket launchers, moving in their direction. Although greatly outnumbered, Tec 5 Oostdyk and his comrades immediately went into position and waited until the enemy patrol was within twenty five yards before engaging them. Despite the odds against them Tec 5 Oostdyk and his companions succeeded in wounding, killing, or capturing the entire patrol. His courage, determination, and constant devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

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:

*Ind*  
George L. Harvey, 37680267, Pvt, Inf, 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. On 24 December 1944, Pvt Harvey, a member of a five man battalion wire crew, was dispatched in a one quarter ton truck to establish a communication line through heavy enemy fire. During the operation the enemy artillery and small arms fire became so intense that they could not continue. Dismounting, they set up a temporary observation post and telephoned information of the battle to the Regimental Command Post. Later, although the vehicle was destroyed by shell fire, Pvt Harvey and his companions courageously completed laying wire despite the hazards involved. His bravery, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Iowa.

FRANK L. HAYS, 0533443, 2d Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 27 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 27 January 1945, during the attack on Hosingen, Luxembourg, a heavy enemy mortar barrage inflicted many casualties upon the assaulting infantry. Lt Hays, a heavy weapons company platoon leader, who was serving as a forward observer, instructed his radio operator to aid the wounded men and, taking the radio, he continued advancing with the forward elements, his accurate mortar fire on enemy positions giving the only support to the infantry attack. The courage, aggressiveness, and untiring devotion to duty displayed by Lt Hays are in keeping with the



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highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

John L. Hutchinson, 34287509, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 18 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Near Ettlebruck, Luxembourg; on 18 January 1945, an infantry battalion headquarters was subjected to continual artillery shelling. Pfc Hutchinson, a lineman working in the area, observed that a supply truck was on fire and was endangering nearby vehicles loaded with ammunition and gasoline. With utter disregard for his own safety, Pfc Hutchinson ran through artillery fire to the burning truck and with an extinguisher brought the fire under control. His courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

John E. Koors, 35461943, T Sgt (then S Sgt), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 2 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 2 October 1944, near Sivry, France, T Sgt Koors, by keeping his 81mm mortar in action in spite of intense artillery fire, maintained the maximum support for the infantry troops in the attack. T Sgt Koors' inspiring example and excellent control of his men exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky.

Bernard L. Lowenbach, 36813998, Pfc, MD, 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. On 26 December 1944, near Scheidel, Luxembourg, while the advancing riflemen were temporarily delayed by intense machine gun fire, Pfc Lowenbach, an aid man, crawled forward to administer aid to a lead scout, who, seriously wounded, was lying in an exposed position. During the action Pfc Lowenbach succeeded in evacuating many other casualties from exposed positions. His courage, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

3rd Robert J. McDonald, 38194471, Tec 5, Inf, 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. On 24 December 1944, Tec 5 McDonald, a member of a five man battalion wire crew, was dispatched in a one quarter ton truck to establish a communication line through heavy enemy fire. During the operation the enemy artillery and small arms fire became so intense that they could not continue. Dismounting, they set up a temporary observation post and telephoned information of the battle to the Regimental Command Post. Later, although the vehicle was destroyed by shell fire, Tec 5 McDonald and his companions courageously completed laying wire despite the hazards involved. His bravery, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Louisiana.

3rd Frank O. Murdock, 38446062, Pfc, Inf, 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. On 24 December 1944, Pfc Murdock, a member of a five man battalion wire crew, was dispatched

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one quarter ton truck to establish a communication line through heavy enemy fire. During the operation the enemy artillery and small arms fire became so intense that they could not continue. Dismounting, they set up a temporary observation post and telephoned information of the battle to the Regimental Command Post. Later, although the vehicle was destroyed by shell fire, Pfc Murdock and his companions courageously completed laying wire despite the hazards involved. His bravery, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Arkansas.

James F. Nichter, 7025014, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 21 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 21 January 1945, Pfc Nichter was serving as a member of a wire crew assigned to track a break in wire communications with battalion rear elements. In a wooded area where the cut had been located, Pfc Nichter and his comrades discovered a group of German soldiers. Crawling toward them unobserved, the wire crew charged, and using hand grenades, killed three, wounded two, and captured ten of the enemy. The bravery, aggressiveness, and loyal devotion to duty displayed by Pfc Nichter exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

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>
Pvt Reese E. Timmons	42145942	Inf	15 Feb 45
Pfc Frederick T. Knight	39209192	Inf	16 Feb 45

V. Section VI, General Orders Number 44, this Headquarters, dated 13 February 1945, pertaining to the Award of the Purple Heart, as reads "Cpl Charles Bengar 35264994 FA 8 Feb 45" is amended to read "Pfc Charles Benear 35264994 FA 8 Feb 45".

VI. Sections VI through IX published as an extract.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

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

OFFICIAL:

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



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HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION

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VI. 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:

Kenneth C. Beck, 37450115, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 1 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 1 September 1944, near Apremont, France, S Sgt Beck, while in command of a battalion motorized patrol, encountered a Mark IV tank and infantry. Aggressively attacking the numerically superior force, S Sgt Beck and his squad drove the tank from Apremont and liberated the town capturing fourteen prisoners and much equipment without losing a man. The leadership, courage, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Beck are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Clayton W. Leavitt, 31218277, Tec 5, FA, 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. On the morning of 24 December 1944, near Neiderfeulen, Luxembourg, Tec 5 Leavitt, an ammunition driver, was charged with the task of supplying a tank destroyer under artillery fire. Ignoring the obvious danger, he and his crew had nearly completed loading the tank destroyer with ammunition when a direct hit killed Tec 5 Leavitt and another man and seriously wounded a third. However, his courage and utter disregard for his own safety made it possible for the tank destroyer to support the infantry in a successful attack and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Maine.

VII. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR (MISSING IN ACTION): 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 (Missing in Action):

Marion B. Miller, 35409879, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France during the period 25 November 1944, to 6 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 25 November 1944, to 6 December 1944, T Sgt Miller distinguished himself in performing his duties as platoon sergeant in a superior manner. In the absence of the platoon leader of the ammunition and pioneer platoon, T Sgt Miller assumed command and demonstrated outstanding ability as a leader. Overcoming the difficulties presented by adverse combat and weather conditions, he kept supply routes open and delivered ammunition to attacking line companies, thereby contributing to the success of the operation. His initiative, resourcefulness, and constant devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

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VIII. 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:

Guy D. Shaw, 6287031, S Sgt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 17 January 1945, in the town of Dahl, Luxembourg, S Sgt Shaw was serving as forward observer with an infantry company. During an enemy artillery barrage the communication wire was severed by shell fragments, seriously hindering the effective use of the protective artillery fire for the infantry troops defending Dahl. S Sgt Shaw and a companion voluntarily crawled in the snow to repair the wire in spite of enemy artillery fire. His bravery, determination, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

IX. 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:

John W. Armstrong, 33272945, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France and Luxembourg during the period 7 August 1944, to 3 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 7 August 1944, to 3 January 1945, S Sgt Armstrong has distinguished himself in performing his duties in a superior manner. Serving as a mortar section leader, he has demonstrated leadership, courage, and resourcefulness under combat conditions. On one occasion, disregarding his own safety, he remained at his observation post despite intense enemy artillery concentrations, directing the fire of his mortar section, thereby greatly aiding the battalion's advance. The bravery, initiative, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Armstrong exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

FRANK J. CAPUTO, 01307504, Capt (then 1st Lt), Inf, 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. On 24 December 1944, Capt Caputo led his rifle company in an attack supported by tanks. On reaching the enemy lines he found that, due to difficult terrain, the tanks could not proceed. Disregarding his own safety and intense hostile fire, he successfully directed the movement of the tanks, led his men to new positions, and repelled several enemy attacks. The outstanding leadership, courage, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Capt Caputo exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Robert F. Domask, 36252983, Pfc, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 17 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 17 January 1945, in the town of Dahl, Luxembourg, Pfc Domask was serving as a member of an artillery observation team. During an enemy artillery barrage, the communication wire was severed by shell fragments, seriously hindering the effective use of protective artillery fire for the infantry troops defending Dahl. Pfc I

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voluntarily joined his sergeant in crawling in the snow to repair the wire, in spite of enemy artillery fire. His bravery, determination, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Philip P. Falkingham, 31455528, S Sgt (then Pfc), 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. When his platoon was temporarily delayed by machine gun and sniper fire near Scheidel, Luxembourg, on 26 December 1944, S Sgt Falkingham and a companion, armed with a grenade launcher, crawled two hundred yards to assault an enemy observation post and to rout fifteen of the enemy. Of the twelve captured, one was an artillery observer who had been adjusting fire on American troops. The courage, aggressiveness, and constant devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Falkingham are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

*Ind* GEORGE E. GODERSKY, 0449704, Capt, MC, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 9 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 9 November 1944, Capt Godersky was serving as surgeon with an infantry battalion engaged in an attack on an enemy stronghold. Under adverse combat conditions, Capt Godersky ably supervised the treatment and evacuation of over ninety wounded in a two hour period. When he and his aid men were cut off, he successfully led them back to the battalion and resumed his treatment of the wounded. His courage, outstanding skill, and untiring devotion to duty are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Indiana.

*E* Jose Ortegon, 38675055, Pvt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 23 December 1944, Pvt Ortegon, serving as a rifleman, volunteered with two comrades to spearhead his platoon in a night attack on an enemy held town. Armed with two rocket launchers and a carbine, the team evaded an enemy outpost, knocked out a tank with two direct hits, and proceeded into town to mop up snipers and pave the way for the platoon's advance. The bravery, aggressiveness, and sincere devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Ortegon are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

Wilfred A. Pelletier, 31375953, Pvt, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic service in Luxembourg during the period 22 December 1944, to 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the period 22 - 24 December 1944, Pvt Pelletier distinguished himself in performing his duties as an infantry company aid man in a courageous manner. The company suffered many casualties during an assault on a strongly held enemy town and was temporarily surrounded. Unable to evacuate the wounded, Pvt Pelletier established an aid station and administered needed treatment. Though wounded twice, he worked continuously for thirty six hours, refusing medical attention until all others were safely evacuated. His bravery, skill, and unselfish devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Hampshire.



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M Elick T. Pritt, 15116171, T Sgt (then S Sgt), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 1 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 1 November 1944, T Sgt Pritt was serving as machine gun platoon sergeant when hostile artillery and mortar barrages severed wire communications between his two sections. Placing one section in position, he made his way under continuing enemy fire to the other section and led it forward. Then, moving from squad to squad, he selected the best possible gun positions and directed deadly fire against the enemy. The courage, outstanding leadership, and devotion to duty displayed by T Sgt Pritt exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from West Virginia.

JOHN A. SANDERS, 01825263, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 27 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 27 January 1945, while attacking Hosingen, Luxembourg, Lt Sanders was in command of a platoon which was delayed by intense enemy fire. With utter disregard for his own personal safety, he organized and encouraged his men to successfully reach their objective through heavy mortar, artillery, and small arms fire. The bravery, leadership, and zealous devotion to duty displayed by Lt Sanders exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from North Carolina.

Harold F. Showers, 35314225, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 27 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 27 January 1945, shortly after leaving the line of departure in an attack on Hosingen, Luxembourg, the platoon in which T Sgt Showers served was dispersed by an intense mortar barrage. Assuming command of the platoon and with complete disregard for his personal safety, T Sgt Showers encouraged his men to successfully reach the objective despite the heavy mortar fire. His bravery, leadership, and zealous devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

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

OFFICIAL:

*J. W. Throne*  
J. W. THRONE  
Lt Colonel, AGD,  
Adjutant General.

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