

7/6
2

~~RESTRICTED~~

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

16 March 1945.

NUMBER 75)

SECTION

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

I. 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:

LLEWELLYN H. FARDEN, 0527087, 1st Lt, FA, 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, during an attack on Lupert Ridge near Ettelbruck, Luxembourg, Lt Farden observed that infantrymen could not cross Lupert Ridge because of heavy enemy artillery fire. Leaving the comparative safety of the reverse slope he moved to an exposed position in view of the enemy. There he remained for eighteen hours directing effective artillery fire and thereby neutralizing the enemy artillery and making it possible for the infantry to gain its objective. Lt Farden'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 California.

II. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Soldier's Medal is awarded the following named personnel:

Lloyd E. Diemel, 36255231, Tec 4, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroism in Luxembourg on 14 February 1945, not involving actual conflict with an enemy of the United States. While mechanics were repairing a two and one half ton truck the barn in which they were working caught fire. Realizing that the rapidly spreading flames would soon detonate the load of artillery shells on the vehicle, Tec 4 Diemel, with utter disregard for his own safety, backed the truck from the barn although the front wheels had been removed. Tec 4 Diemel's courage, resourcefulness, and presence of mind saved the lives of those around him and much valuable equipment and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

III. 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:

med Rudolph E. Rodriguez, 37362378, Pfc, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 22 December 1944, in connection with

DECLASSIFIED

Authority DDO 735017
By CA NARA Date 8-17-0

~~RESTRICTED~~

Sec III GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 December 1944, near Merzig, Luxembourg, Pfc Rodriguez, a medical aid man, advanced with a rifle platoon which was temporarily halted by enemy machine gun fire. Observing that five men had been wounded and were lying in an exposed position, Pfc Rodriguez, with utter disregard for his own safety, moved from comparative safety to aid these men. Finding only one man alive he was in the act of rendering first aid when mortally wounded by enemy fire. Pfc Rodriguez's courage, initiative, and sincere devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Colorado.

IV. 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:

Roy R. Faulkner, 15078503, S Sgt, CE, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 5 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Upon preparing to lead an infantry patrol across the Sauer River into Germany on the night of 5 February 1945, S Sgt Faulkner led his men through a heavy enemy artillery and mortar barrage to the river's edge. While crossing, the patrol received intense German machine gun fire forcing them to abandon the boat and seek safety on the enemy shore. Despite the danger of his exposed position S Sgt Faulkner unhesitatingly moved up and down the shore reorganizing and assembling his reconnaissance party until he was severely wounded by an enemy mine. The personal bravery, leadership, and devotion to duty displayed by S Sgt Faulkner are commensurate with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from West Virginia.

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:

Garland E. Ackelson, 37679033, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avold, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc Ackelson, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc Ackelson's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Iowa.

James W. Atrip, 35483653, S Sgt, 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, during an enemy counterattack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, lines of communication were severed by artillery fire, making it impossible to direct mortar

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NO 735017
By SP NARA Date 8-17-0

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec V GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

fire against the enemy. S Sgt Atnip, mortar squad leader, and two companions organized an arm and hand signal relay system across open ground exposed to enemy fire. Through this system the mortars were able to destroy two tanks, five halftracks, and an untold number of infantrymen. S Sgt Atnip's courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky.

William Chacona, 32828827, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avoird, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc Chacona, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc Chacona's courage, initiative, 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.

Roy H. Cooper, 38066397, Pvt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avoird, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pvt Cooper, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pvt Cooper's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

Oscar E. Cromer, 7006876, S Sgt, Inf, 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. After liberating Dahl, Luxembourg, two infantry battalions repulsed repeated enemy attempts to recapture the town. On 8 January 1945, during an extremely severe attack S Sgt Cromer, a squad leader, distinguished himself by the courageous and aggressive manner in which he used his skill to repel the enemy. With utter disregard for his own personal safety he moved from position to position to combat each fierce enemy thrust by ably performing his duties as a squad leader. S Sgt Cromer'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 Alabama.

ERWIN DIECKMANN, 01301273, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, in the vicinity of Normee, France, the Division Administrative Center, located well forward in the zone of advance, was attacked by an enemy patrol of approximately forty men. Upon hearing the firing, Lt Dieckmann, then serving as an Assistant Personnel Officer, advanced to the scene of the attack and with his knowledge of the German language volunteered to talk the enemy into surrendering.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MD 735017
By CA NARA Date 8-17-0

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec V GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

With utter disregard for his own safety, with another officer, he exposed himself to enemy fire calling on them to surrender. One officer and another soldier, convinced by his statements that they were greatly outnumbered, surrendered themselves to Lt Dieckmann. Through this action the enemy patrol was repulsed. The courage, initiative, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Lt Dieckmann are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Stanley K. Jezowski, 32046371, Cpl, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Cpl Jezowski, during the night of 30 August 1944, was posted as a member of a perimeter guard for the Division Administrative Center. When an armed enemy patrol approached the area, Cpl Jezowski, realizing the seriousness of the situation and disregarding his personal safety, unhesitatingly opened fire, thereby exposing the enemy to the other members of the guard who immediately opened fire and routed the patrol, killing one, wounding one, and capturing a number of prisoners. His initiative, courage, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

✓ Leslie N. Jones, 38471407, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avold, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc Jones, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc Jones' courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

✓ Tony Kudrna, 37677749, S Sgt (then Cpl), 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. During the attack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, S Sgt Kudrna, serving as first gunner, calmly and efficiently fired his mortar in support of rifle troops despite the intense artillery which fell about the position. Although working steadily for long periods, he and the other gunners in the platoon fired over two thousand rounds so effectively that the enemy were driven off. S Sgt Kudrna's courage, efficiency, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Iowa.

VI. Published as an extract.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

J. W. Trone
J. W. TRONE

Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

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

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NO 735017
By SP NARA Date 8-17-0

16 B08m

R E S T R I C T E D

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 75)

16 March 1945.

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

VI. 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:

Co E James I. Lafferty, 32647570, Sgt, 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, during an enemy counterattack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, lines of communication were severed by artillery fire, making it impossible to direct mortar fire against the enemy. Sgt Lafferty, assistant mortar squad leader, and two companions organized an arm and hand signal relay system across open ground exposed to enemy fire. Through this system the mortars were able to destroy two tanks, five halftracks, and an untold number of infantrymen. Sgt Lafferty's courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

Co H Doyle M. Lisenby, 38209723, Cpl, 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. During an attack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, on 23 December 1944, Cpl Lisenby, serving as first gunner, calmly and efficiently fired his mortar in support of rifle troops despite the intense artillery which fell about the position. Although working steadily for long periods, he and the other gunners in the platoon fired over two thousand rounds so effectively that the enemy were driven off. Cpl Lisenby's courage, efficiency, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Co M Calvin C. McKee, 36865297, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avoird, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc McKee, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc McKee's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

Co M Robert J. Myers, 35320069, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avoird, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MMO 735017

By SP NARA Date 8-17-0

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec VI GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc Myers, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc Myers' courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

AUSTIN D. O'MEARA, C1000162, Capt, AGD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, near Normee, France, enemy patrols attempted a penetration of the Division Administrative Center, then operating well forward in the Division zone. The ensuing firefight drove the enemy into a nearby wood. Capt O'Meara, disregarding his own safety, voluntarily organized and led a patrol in searching the woods and capturing a number of the enemy. Through his skillful leadership the patrol suffered no casualties and the threat to the command post was eliminated. Capt O'Meara's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

serv WILLIAM L. OWEN, JR, C328291, Capt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, in the vicinity of Normee, France, the Division Administrative Center, located well forward in the zone of advance, was attacked by an enemy patrol of approximately forty men. Capt Owen, a Regimental Personnel Officer, then serving as Security Officer, upon hearing the firing, organized reinforcements and lead them to the attack. After building up a protective line of resistance, he ordered his men to hold their fire while, with another officer, he advanced into the open calling the enemy to surrender. One officer and another soldier surrendered to Capt Owen and the balance of the enemy patrol was routed so completely that they threw away their weapons in hasty retreat, twenty five surrendering. The aggressive leadership, courage, determination, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Capt Owen are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Louisiana.

Billy C. Rabenau, 34547107, Cpl, CE, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 7 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 7 February 1945, while ferrying an infantry unit in an assault crossing the Our River into Germany, Cpl Rabenau and his squad proceeded with the mission despite heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire. Cpl Rabenau and his men made several trips carrying troops and evacuating wounded. While unloading casualties the boat suddenly broke loose and began floating downstream. Although realizing the danger, Cpl Rabenau dove into the icy waters and safely steered the boat back to shore. Though wet and cold, he remained on the river bank to successfully complete the loading of critically needed supplies. The skill, resourcefulness, courage, and devotion to duty displayed by Cpl Rabenau are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Florida.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NO 735017
By SP NARA Date 8-17-00

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec VI GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

JAMES H. RICE, JR, 0455419, Capt, FD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 31 August 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 31 August 1944, near Normee, France, enemy patrols attempted a penetration of the Division Administrative Center, then operating well forward in the Division zone. The ensuing firefight halted the enemy. Capt Rice, on hearing the rifle fire, proceeded immediately to the outpost line and, although exposed to heavy enemy fire, he moved from position to position encouraging and directing the men in driving the enemy into a nearby woods. Through his initiative and leadership, Capt Rice controlled the outpost fire so that the enemy was completely disorganized and routed. His courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Com Jerry C. Richie, 38479108, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 26 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 26 November 1944, after an infantry battalion had taken its objective near St Avoild, France, there were many casualties to be evacuated. Realizing that the available litter bearers could not accomplish this task before nightfall, Pfc Richie, an ammunition bearer, and several other soldiers, volunteered to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Despite the continued enemy fire he improvised litters and aided in the speedy evacuation of all the casualties. Pfc Richie's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

Leon M. Schaeffer, 33185215, 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. On 26 December 1944, during an attack on Kehmen, Luxembourg, S Sgt Schaeffer encountered three Germans while reconnoitering for positions to emplace machine guns. After a heavy exchange of fire he captured these men and conducted them to the rear. On returning to the front line he went to the aid of a wounded soldier and while in the process of evacuating him, S Sgt Schaeffer was also wounded. His courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Robert H. Siegrist, 14115683, Pfc, CE, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 5 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. As a member of an engineer boat detail with the mission of leading an infantry patrol across the Sauer River into Germany on the night of 5 February 1945, Pfc Siegrist and his comrades led the reconnaissance party through a heavy enemy artillery and mortar barrage to the river's edge. While crossing they received intense German machine gun fire which wounded Pfc Siegrist. Forced to abandon the boat he swam to shore and, despite his painful leg wound, moved about aiding the other wounded men. Pfc Siegrist's courage, initiative, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Carolina.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NO 735017
By CA NARA Date 8-17-0

R E S T R I C T E D

Sec VI GO #75 16 Mar 45 contd

Co L George Tokar, 33936704, Pfc, Inf, 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. After liberating Dahl, Luxembourg, two infantry battalions repulsed repeated enemy attempts to recapture the town. On 8 January 1945, during an extremely severe attack Pfc Tokar, an automatic rifleman, distinguished himself by the courageous and aggressive manner in which he used his skill to repel the enemy. With utter disregard for his own personal safety, he moved from position to position to combat each fierce enemy thrust by ably performing his duties as a squad leader. Pfc Tokar'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 Pennsylvania.

Co H Charles H. Westfall, 35630091, Cpl, 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. During an attack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, on 23 December 1944, Cpl Westfall, serving as first gunner, calmly and efficiently fired his mortar in support of rifle troops despite the intense artillery which fell about the position. Although working steadily for long periods, he and the other gunners in the platoon fired over two thousand rounds so effectively that the enemy were driven off. Cpl Westfall's courage, efficiency, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Co E John W. Wickersheim, 36784738, Sgt, 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, during an enemy counterattack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, lines of communication were severed by artillery fire, making it impossible to direct fire against the enemy. Sgt Wickersheim, assistant mortar squad leader, and two companions organized an arm and hand signal relay system across open ground exposed to enemy fire. Through this system the mortars were able to destroy two tanks, five halftracks, and an untold number of infantrymen. Sgt Wickersheim's courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

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.

DECLASSIFIED

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