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HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 103

APO 339
9 April 1945

- I. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL.
- II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.
- III. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS.
- IV. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART.

I. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to:

First Lieutenant William W. Hammond, 01556220, Ordnance Department, 233rd Ordnance Service Platoon, United States Army. Entered military service from Washington, D. C.

Technician Third Grade Howard E. Robinson, 36292430, Ordnance Department, 233rd Ordnance Service Platoon, United States Army. Entered military service from West Virginia.

For distinguishing themselves by acts of heroism involving voluntary risk of life. On 7 March 1945 in Germany, the above named officer and enlisted man entered a rail wagon where approximately two hundred 81mm. high explosive and smoke mortar projectiles, whose increments were already afire, were in imminent danger of exploding. In approximately five minutes the fire was extinguished. The prompt and aggressive action of these individuals undoubtedly averted a serious explosion involving injury or death to numerous enlisted men and the destruction of valuable government equipment. The heroism and courage of these men reflect much credit upon themselves and uphold the highest traditions of the military service.

II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Captain Harlow L. Preston, 01046230, Coast Artillery Corps, 2nd AAA Group, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations from 31 December 1944 to 2 January 1945. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Edd J. Skillern, 20428606, (then Sergeant), Field Artillery, 34th Field Artillery Brigade, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 3 December 1944. Entered military service from Tennessee.

Technician Fourth Grade Charlie D. Pugh, 13063999, Field Artillery, 256th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 19 February 1945. Entered military service from Virginia.

Technician Fourth Grade John Vrana, 36870172, Corps of Engineers, 172nd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 6 January 1945 to 14 January 1945. Entered military service from Michigan.

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Technician Fifth Grade Robert W. Johnson, 35656023, (then Private), Field Artillery, 34th Field Artillery Brigade, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 3 December 1944. Entered military service from Indiana.

Technician Fifth Grade Joseph R. Myers, 35896233, Field Artillery, 256th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 19 February 1945. Entered military service from Indiana.

Technician Fifth Grade Willie N. Williams, 34739916, Corps of Engineers, 172nd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 6 January 1945 to 14 January 1945. Entered military service from Tennessee.

Technician Fifth Grade Charles R. Winter, 36446443, Chemical Warfare Service, 64th Chemical Depot Company, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 1 January 1945. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Edward W. Chorney, 36446693, Chemical Warfare Service, 64th Chemical Depot Company, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 1 January 1945. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Henry D. Luciani, 36449687, (then Private), Chemical Warfare Service, 64th Chemical Depot Company, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 1 January 1945. Entered military service from Illinois.

Lieutenant Colonel Merrick H. Truly, 018614, Infantry, Headquarters Twelfth Army Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 9 March 1945 to 31 March 1945. Entered military service from Mississippi.

OK III. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of Section II, General Orders No 101, this headquarters, 5 April 1945, pertaining to the award of Purple Heart to Private First Class Floyd Sparks, 35763598, Infantry, 3rd Service Group, 72nd Publicity Service Battalion, United States Army, is revoked.

IV. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, in addition to the Purple Heart previously awarded a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to:

Private First Class Floyd Sparks, 35763598, Infantry, 3rd Service Group, 72nd Publicity Service Battalion, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 14 March 1945 in Germany.

Approved and countersigned of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

J. E. MOORE,
Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.

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JOHN A. KLEID
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.
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