

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 270

ORIGINAL ORDER

APO 336
19 Juno 1945

I. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL.
II. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS.
III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). *Patent*
IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS). *7/14/45*

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 Sergeant David H. Peaslee, 20140029, Field Artillery, 172nd Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for heroism and courageous action in Belgium on 14 January 1945. Upon hearing an explosion and a call for help, Sergeant Peaslee, disregarding the danger involved, went into an enemy mine field covered with snow to rescue a soldier who was wounded by an exploding mine. As he was preparing to move the wounded man, another soldier set off a mine which injured Sergeant Peaslee and fatally injured the other soldier. Despite his wound he removed the first man from the mine field and assisted in moving the other soldier to a place of safety. The heroism and courage of Sergeant Peaslee reflect much credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New Hampshire.

Private First Class Manuel Costa, 31228235, Corps of Engineers, 252nd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for heroism and courageous action in Germany on 19 April 1945. Disregarding his personal safety, Private Costa dived into the turbulent Rhine River to rescue a drowning soldier. Upon reaching the soldier, who by this time was just below the surface of the water, Private Costa pulled him up and using an overhead cable as a guide, swam ashore with the soldier. Through his quick thinking and immediate action, Private Costa undoubtedly saved this soldier's life. The heroism and courage of Private Costa reflect much credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

Private First Class Emory M. Webb, 33734092, Corps of Engineers, 252nd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for heroism and courageous action in Germany on 19 April 1945. Completely disregarding his own safety and with knowledge of the strong current, Private Webb dived into the Rhine River in an effort to save a drowning soldier. Although succeeding in swimming to within a short distance of the soldier in distress, he was driven back by the swift current. He courageously repeated his attempts several times and gave up only when the drowning soldier had been rescued by another soldier. The heroism and courage of Private Webb reflect much credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Maryland.

Private First Class Harlan Williams, 33581372, Corps of Engineers, 208th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for heroism and courageous action in Germany on 6 May 1945. While he was working on a bridge that spanned the Lippe River, Private Williams noticed a woman struggling against the strong current. He immediately ran up-stream along the bank and disregarding his own safety, Private Williams dived into the turbulent water and succeeded in pulling the woman to safety. The heroism and courage of Private Williams reflect much

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credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

II. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of Section I, General Orders No 162, this headquarters, 17 May 1945, pertaining to the award of Bronze Star Medal to Major Thomas J. Bowen, 0379209, Corps of Engineers, 244th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, is revoked.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (OAK LEAF CLUSTER). 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, in addition to the Bronze Star Medal previously awarded a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Bowen, 0379209, (then Major), Corps of Engineers, 244th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations on 20 and 21 April 1945. Entered military service from Alabama.

Major James F. Porter, 0406776, Infantry, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 24 December 1944 to 1 May 1945. Entered military service from Maryland.

Captain William R. Mathews, Jr., 0500490, (then First Lieutenant and Captain), Field Artillery, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 24 September 1944 to 8 May 1945. Entered military service from Texas.

IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS). 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 posthumously awarded to:

Technical Sergeant Norman Porron, 31005056, Field Artillery, 547th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 7 March 1945 to 16 April 1945. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

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

