

13
R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 103

*Typed by
A.M. 7/7/45
Rev.
S.B.
7/9*

GENERAL ORDERS

11 June 1945.

NUMBER 137

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1. By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 Mar 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Distinguished Service Cross is awarded posthumously to:

Second Lieutenant SAMUEL LEO, 01994155, Infantry, Company A, 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in LUXEMBOURG. On 16 December 1944, while advancing on the town of LONGSDORF, LUXEMBOURG, Lieutenant LEO'S platoon was attacked by a group of Germans and subjected to heavy rifle and machine gun fire. Accompanied by a squad of men from his platoon, he fearlessly charged the enemy position, silenced two machine gun nests with grenades, killed five German soldiers with rifle fire and although wounded, pressed forward against the retreating Germans, killing five more and forcing the remainder to surrender. Lieutenant LEO'S heroic leadership and fierce aggressiveness are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Technical Sergeant ARCHIE F AVERITTE, 6262643, Company I, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 1 September 1944, near FOURNEUF, FRANCE, Sergeant AVERITTE led his platoon in a courageous charge on strongly defended German positions. He killed three enemy soldiers with his bayonet, fearlessly pressed forward in an endeavor to establish contact with the left assault platoon and assisted in wiping out several Germans defending an important tunnel leading to the road. The next day his body was found, surrounded by three of the enemy he had killed single-handedly in a fight to the death. Sergeant AVERITTE'S heroic, aggressive actions and supreme devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant EVERETT E BAKER, 17122700, Company L, 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During action near BOICH, GERMANY, on 26 February 1945, Sergeant BAKER assigned his light machine gun sections to the infantry platoons advancing on the heavily defended town and when one section was put out of action by intense enemy fire he personally manned their weapon and continued to direct accurate fire against a German pill box. Fearlessly exposing himself to direct enemy fire he silenced two German machine guns that were holding up the advance, picked up his machine gun and advanced on another enemy strong-point, firing as he ran. Although fatally wounded he continued to cover the assault until the position was reduced. Sergeant BAKER'S heroic, aggressive actions and supreme devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class WILLIAM J BROOKS, 35076303, Company K, 341st Infantry Regiment, 86th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 15 April 1945, in the town of HAGEN, GERMANY, Private BROOKS was advancing with his squad of men when the safety pin of a grenade he carried in his pocket became

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

GO 137, Hq Third US Army, 11 Jun 45 (continued) .

released. Exhibiting heroic unselfishness, he called a warning to his squad and fell to the ground, covering the explosion with his body. Private BROOKS gave his life to save his comrades but his courageous action and supreme devotion to duty will live on as an inspiration to the military forces of the United States.

2. By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 Mar 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel DERRILL M DANIEL, 0255096, Infantry, 2d Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in BELGIUM. On 20 December 1944, near BUTGENGACH, BELGIUM, when three enemy tanks penetrated to within fifty yards of the battalion command post, Colonel DANIEL organized rocket-teams and, under withering enemy fire, courageously coordinated their fire with that from tank destroyers and drove the enemy tanks from the area. Realizing the tank penetration indicated an imminent enemy attack, he fearlessly proceeded to the front lines and by his cool example of leadership inspired his men to repulse fanatical enemy counterattacks. Colonel DANIEL'S heroic actions and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States.

Lieutenant Colonel LEWIS W LEENEY, 025206, Infantry, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. While leading a task force against ANSBACH, GERMANY on 20 April 1945, Colonel LEENEY discovering a bridge necessary to the attack had been destroyed, personally led a reconnaissance to locate another crossing site and returned to lead the armored element of his force. When three enemy 88mm guns opened fire on the column, narrowly missing his vehicle, Colonel LEENEY fearlessly directed the reduction of the enemy guns and the mopping-up operations in the surrounding woods. Exhibiting courageous leadership he led the task force into the town and inspired by his bold aggressive actions they captured their objective and successfully repulsed determined enemy counterattacks. Colonel LEENEY'S heroic determination and gallant actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Lieutenant Colonel ALBIN F IRZYK, 024158, Cavalry, 8th Tank Battalion, 4th Armored Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. During the advance of Colonel IRZYK'S battalion against WOLFSHEIM, GERMANY, on 18 March 1945, four of the assaulting tanks were knocked out in a sudden enemy attack and the leading company was disorganized. Colonel IRZYK immediately advanced to the head of the column, and with all guns firing charged headlong against the opposing antitank guns. The guns were overrun, and pushing rapidly ahead, Colonel IRZYK led his command on into the town. When his tank was destroyed by enemy rocket fire, Colonel IRZYK dismounted, and although wounded, led infantry forces forward through a hail of fire. He continued to direct the attack until the mission was accomplished. Colonel IRZYK'S courageous, inspiring leadership, his fearless determination and unswerving devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.

GO 137, Hq Third US Army, 11 Jun 45 (continued) .

Captain WILLIAM M MARSDEN, 01202729, Infantry, Company I, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During action near DUREN, GERMANY, on 1 December 1944, Captain MARSDEN was leading his company through a bitterly defended section of the Hurtgen Forest when they were subjected to devastating enemy artillery and mortar fire. As his men wavered in the face of the terrific fire, Captain MARSDEN moved forward shouting encouragement to his troops, skilfully and courageously led them around a mine field and continued the attack with accurate grenade and sub-machine gun fire, until seriously wounded. Inspired by his heroic leadership the company fought on and reduced the enemy positions. Captain MARSDEN'S fearless, aggressive action reflect the highest credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain DAVID H WIGGS, 0507427, Infantry, Company E, 359th Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 6 February 1945, near HABSCHNEID, GERMANY, fire from a concealed enemy anti-tank gun killed and wounded several men of Captain (then First Lieutenant) WIGGS' organization. With utter disregard for his own safety he advanced upon an enemy pill box from which it appeared the fire was emanating and subjected it to rocket fire. Discovering that the enemy gun was located a short distance from the pill box, he courageously charged the position armed only with a rifle, forced the surrender of a German officer and three enemy soldiers and enabled his company to continue the advance. Captain WIGGS' aggressive, heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States.

Captain CHARLES A WIRT, 025725, Infantry, Company G, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. After taking the town of GENSCHACH, GERMANY, on the night of 24 March 1945, Captain WIRT'S company was counterattacked by a numerically superior enemy force, supplemented by three self-propelled weapons and a heavy tank, and was forced to fall back. Captain WIRT recognized his men, personally silenced a self-propelled gun with accurate rifle-grenade fire and then, realizing the odds against them were too great, ordered his men into basements and called for an artillery barrage on the area. Strengthened by reinforcements he boldly led his men in a counterattack, driving the enemy from the town and inflicting heavy casualties. Captain WIRT'S heroic leadership and courageous actions are in keeping with the highest tradition of the military service.

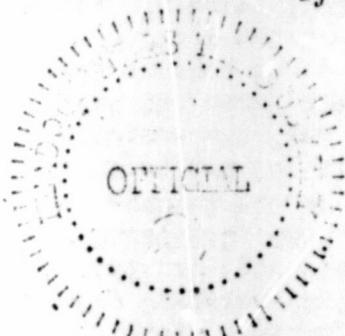
Second Lieutenant CHARLES M PHILLIPS, JR., 0539555, Field Artillery, Company A, 778th Tank Battalion, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. The heroic, inspiring leadership Lieutenant PHILLIPS displayed during action in the Barholz Woods near SINZ, GERMANY, on 18-19 February 1945 distinguishes him as an outstanding officer. Commanding a tank platoon, he fearlessly led his men against the enemy, constantly exposing himself to heavy fire to direct the action. When his tank was twice hit and immobilized, Lieutenant PHILLIPS continued on with the advancing infantry, armed only with a trench knife. Employing a field radio he directed artillery fire against enemy tanks, and forging ahead of the assault troops captured three German artillery observers. The bold, fearless determination Lieutenant PHILLIPS displayed and his courageous devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

GO 137, Hq Third US Army, 31 Jun 45 (continued) .

Private First Class CHRISTY A HAMPE, JR, 34122225, Company F, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During action near BOLSODORF, GERMANY on 7 March 1945, Private HAMPE observed two wounded men attempting to crawl to safety over open terrain under withering enemy fire. With heroic disregard for his own life he ran to the men, in full view of the enemy, and crawling on hands and knees laboriously carried one of them on his back to safety. He returned for the second wounded man and carried him through the hail of enemy fire in a similar manner. Private HAMPE'S fearless courage and unselfish devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.

Private ERNEST J STEINEKER, 44032971, Company A, 395th Infantry Regiment, 99th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. While advancing with a combat patrol near MOOSBURG, GERMANY, on 30 April 1945, Private STEINEKER, the leading scout, sighted a number of the enemy defending a critical bridge across the Ludwig Canal and some wires running from the bridge to one of the enemy emplacements. Realizing that the structure was undoubtedly prepared for demolition, he determined to cut the wires at any cost. He undressed, and braving the icy water and heavy fire boldly swam to the far shore where he cut the wires. He swam back, still under heavy fire, and fought fiercely with his unit until the enemy were driven from their entrenchments. The courage Private STEINEKER displayed, and his determination and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

By command of Major General CRAIG:



ROBERT R. GAY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff.

R. E. CULLINGS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

- "A" "F" "I"
- 3 - TAG (Decorations & Awards Br)
 - 4 - CG HQT, US Army (AG Opns Div - 2)
(Awards & Decorations Br, AG Mil Pers Div - 2)
 - 2 - CG 12th A Gp (G-1 Sec - 1)
(CG 37th MRU - 1)
 - 3 - G-1, this Hq
 - 18 - AG Misc