

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
AFO 403

ORIGINAL ORDER

GENERAL ORDERS

14 June 1945.

NUMBER 139

SECTION I - Award of Bronze Star Medal
SECTION II - Award of Meritorious Service Unit Plaque

I. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL - 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 Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

First Lieutenant JOHN L. GRAVES, 01550173, Ordnance Department, 177th Ordnance Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States from 13 to 15 April 1945. While on a reconnaissance mission with another officer and two enlisted men near WISENFIELDS, GERMANY, Lieutenant GRAVES braved heavy enemy fire to reach his objective. Displaying cool leadership, he secured a guard for valuable Ordnance material in the area, established a perimeter defense and courageously continued to make a thorough search for additional enemy soldiers, capturing several personally. Lieutenant GRAVES' heroic actions and aggressive leadership reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant HAROLD K. SHARP, 01593264, Quartermaster Corps, 501st Quartermaster Railhead Company, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on 18 March 1945. During an enemy air attack on the company area in GERMANY, an anti-personnel bomb was dropped in a billet housing two wounded men, and lay unexploded in the building. With utter disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant SHARP courageously entered the building and with the assistance of another officer carried the wounded men to safety. His heroic actions and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Second Lieutenant KENNETH S. ALLEN, 02005632, Quartermaster Corps, 501st Quartermaster Railhead Company, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on 18 March 1945. During an enemy air attack on the company area in GERMANY, an anti-personnel bomb was dropped in a billet housing two wounded men, and lay unexploded in the building. With utter disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant ALLEN courageously entered the building and with the assistance of another officer, carried the wounded men to safety. His heroic actions and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technical Sergeant KARL KARCH, 32119437, Headquarters Detachment, 177th Ordnance Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States from 13 to 15 April 1945. While on a reconnaissance mission with another enlisted man and two officers near WISENFIELDS, GERMANY, Sergeant KARCH braved heavy enemy fire to reach his objective. He later volunteered to remain in the bitterly defended area to prevent valuable Ordnance material from being captured or destroyed and with the assistance of a comrade captured five enemy soldiers defending a pillbox. Sergeant KARCH'S heroic actions and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Staff Sergeant FRANK E YELENCHIC, 33404030, Company A, 34th Signal Construction Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on 11 February 1945. During construction of communications installations near FISCHBACH, LUXEMBOURG, the crew was forced to take cover from terrific enemy shelling. Hearing the cries of a man wounded by shrapnel, Sergeant YELENCHIC left the shelter of a ditch in which he had taken refuge, fearlessly crawled to the exposed position where the injured man lay and, with the aid of a comrade, carried him to safety. Sergeant YELENCHIC'S heroic action and unselfish devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

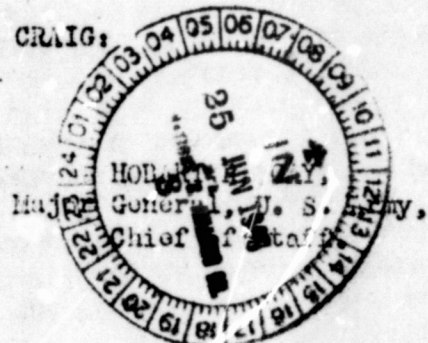
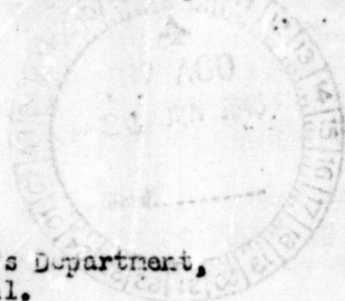
Technician Fifth Grade CHARLES STANKO, 33404012, Company A, 34th Signal Construction Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on 11 February 1945. During construction of communications installations near FISCHBACH, LUXEMBOURG, the crew was forced to take cover from terrific enemy shelling. Hearing the cries of a man wounded by shrapnel, Technician STANKO left the shelter of a ditch in which he had taken refuge, fearlessly crawled to the exposed position where the injured man lay and with the aid of a comrade, carried him to safety. Technician STANKO'S heroic action and unselfish devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

II. AWARD OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE - 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, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded to the 34th Signal Construction Battalion for service from 20 October 1944 to 26 December 1944.

By command of Major General CRAIG:



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



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