

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 463

ORIGINAL ORDER

GENERAL ORDERS

21 June 1945.

NUMBER 146

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

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:

Major CLARE A THURSTON, 0350185, Infantry, Headquarters 9th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During the period 7 - 13 March 1945, in the vicinity of REMAGEN, GERMANY, Major THURSTON fearlessly exposed himself to enemy artillery fire and air attack in order to direct and maintain the traffic over the vital Ludendorf Bridge. Although previously wounded by a shell fragment he heroically rushed across the bridge on foot during a heavy air bombardment and carried to safety a man dazed from concussion. His cool, courageous actions inspired personnel to continue crossing in the face of devastating enemy fire. Major THURSTON'S dauntless leadership and gallantry are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Captain RALPH T BROWN, 0354104, Infantry, Company "K", 376th Infantry Regiment, 94th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy, in GERMANY. During an attack on SITZERATH, GERMANY, on 16 March 1945, when Captain BROWN observed a well camouflaged German 77mm artillery piece dominating the route of advance and protected from tank artillery fire by rocket-launchers, he armed himself with a grenade-launcher and courageously crawled towards the German gun. Although he was observed and seriously wounded by almost point-blank fire from the enemy piece, he forced the enemy soldiers manning the rocket-launchers to retreat and friendly tanks silenced the artillery piece and led the infantry units in a successful assault upon the town. Captain BROWN'S heroic, selfless actions and unswerving devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Captain ROBERT W SMITH, 01285651, Infantry, Company "K", 317th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in LUXEMBOURG. While engaged in fierce action near KEHLEN, LUXEMBOURG, during the period 24 -26 December 1944, Captain SMITH made a lone reconnaissance under intense hostile small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire and established contact with a platoon that had become isolated. In the two days of bitter fighting that followed, he exhibited superb courage in leading his company in the face of powerful enemy resistance, and although painfully wounded, personally led an attack on the enemy-held town until he was again seriously wounded. Captain SMITH'S heroic leadership was an inspiration to the men in his command and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces.

Captain FRANK L BRADLEY, 0423587, Infantry, 10th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During a strong enemy counterattack near KARLSRUHE, GERMANY, on 4 December 1944, Captain BRADLEY

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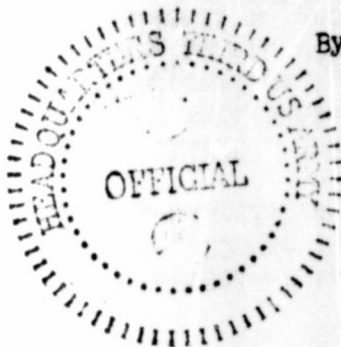
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courageously exposed himself to intense enemy artillery fire and ran approximately 300 yards to contact friendly tank destroyers. Although painfully wounded by shell fragments just as he reached his objective he gallantly refused to be evacuated, led the tank destroyers against the enemy and succeeded in repulsing the counterattack. Captain BRADLEY'S heroic actions and indomitable fighting spirit are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Second Lieutenant WILLIAM S READ, O1183171, Field Artillery, Battery "C", 512th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During the period 17 - 21 February 1945, Lieutenant READ exhibited courageous determination by constantly remaining in a dangerous forward position to adjust artillery fire on strong German defenses near FREILINGEN, GERMANY. On 21 February he voluntarily moved forward alone through withering hostile fire and destroyed one and disabled another of two approaching enemy tanks. Although wounded in this action he returned to the Company and Battalion Command Posts and rendered a vital, detailed report of enemy activities and disposition. Lieutenant READ'S heroic, fearless actions and unswerving devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Sergeant GERVIS WILLIS, 13017510, Company "F", 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in LUXEMBOURG. From 16 December 1944 to 21 December 1944, during a heavy enemy counterattack in BERDORF, LUXEMBOURG, Sergeant WILLIS inspired his men to a valiant defense of their position in the face of overwhelming enemy forces. Shouting encouragement to his men he gallantly maintained a constant stream of fire upon the numerically superior enemy forces although his own position was subjected to intense enemy artillery, rocket and small arms fire. On one occasion, although knocked down and dazed from hostile rocket fire, he rose to his feet and continued to pour rifle fire at the enemy, forcing them to withdraw. Sergeant WILLIS' heroic leadership and indomitable fighting spirit uphold the finest traditions of the military service.

By command of Major General CRAIG:



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

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

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