

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY  
APO 403

GENERAL ORDERS

22 January 1945.

NUMBER 21

SECTION I - Award of Distinguished Service Cross  
SECTION II - Award of Silver Star  
SECTION III - Award of Bronze Star Medal

I. 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:

Lieutenant Colonel STERLING S BURNETTE, 0383615, Infantry, 1st Battalion, 317th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 11 November 1944, the 1st Battalion, 317th Infantry, commanded by Colonel BURNETTE, was attacking against fierce resistance toward the town of HAN-SURNIED, FRANCE. Colonel BURNETTE was with the leading elements of one of his companies that had pushed forward of the battalion in an effort to capture, intact, the one remaining bridge across the river in that sector. From his commanding position in front of the battalion, inspiring his men by his determination and bold, aggressive leadership, Colonel BURNETTE fearlessly led the assault on the bridge through an intense concentration of enemy artillery, small arms, mortar, and machine-gun fire. He fell, mortally wounded, at the approaches to the bridge, but his men, inspired by his heroic example, pressed on and secured the objective. Colonel BURNETTE's conspicuous courage, heroic determination and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Corporal JAMES A RAPINO, 33283408, Company "L", 317th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 19 September 1944, during the course of heavy action in the vicinity of BRATTE, FRANCE, Company "L", 317th Infantry, to which Corporal RAPINO was assigned, advanced to high ground isolating pockets of enemy resistance. When a formidable group of the enemy was discovered on the right flank of the company, Corporal RAPINO was assigned the mission of cleaning them out with a squad of men. He skilfully maneuvered his squad to within grenade-throwing range of the enemy, and under his leadership four enemy mortars and three half tracks were destroyed. While returning to the company area the squad encountered heavy sniper fire. Again Corporal RAPINO displayed conspicuous leadership by fearlessly closing with the enemy. Two enemy prisoners were taken in the ensuing action, but Corporal RAPINO suffered severe wounds which later resulted in his death. His inspirational, heroic leadership, fearless courage and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

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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:

Major LEON D GLADDING, 0406918, Infantry, 1st Battalion, 104th Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 8 December 1944, the 1st Battalion, 104th Infantry, commanded by Major GLADDING, seized a series of Maginot Line forts near ACHEN, FRANCE. One fort remained firmly held by the enemy, and from it fire was being directed against the left flank of the battalion, preventing consolidation of the ground gained. Major GLADDING, in an effort to reduce the fort, organized a small assault group, armed himself with a sub-machine-gun, and personally led the men to within two-hundred yards of the enemy position. Then, while members of the group directed machine-gun and rocket fire against embrasures of the fort, Major GLADDING led four men through a barbed wire obstacle to assault the fort itself. Standing in full view of the enemy he demanded that the occupants surrender. Receiving no answer, he threw a phosphorus grenade into one of the bunkers and courageously closed in on an adjoining bunker alone, firing his sub-machine-gun as he advanced. By the time he reached the bunker a white flag had appeared. Nineteen enemy enlisted men and one officer were thus taken prisoner and the threat of the fort removed. Major GLADDING'S heroic, inspiring leadership, courage and loyal devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Sergeant WATSON W PAINE, 31445017, Company "B", 316th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 8 October 1944, during an attack upon the enemy-held town of CLEMERY, FRANCE, Sergeant PAINE, a communications sergeant of one of the assaulting infantry companies, was given a message to deliver to a platoon leader. While enroute with his message, through a heavy enemy artillery barrage, he was severely wounded in his arms and hands by shell fragments. In spite of this he continued on, determined to accomplish his mission. While advancing, he encountered an enemy machine-gun nest that blocked his way. Unhesitating, he boldly assaulted the gun and destroyed it with grenades and rifle fire. Sergeant PAINE reached the platoon which was stopped in its advance by a second enemy machine-gun. The intrepid sergeant delivered his message and assisted the platoon leader in destroying the gun, and only then did he call for medical aid. Sergeant PAINE displayed magnificent courage. His conspicuous heroism and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class GLENN T MARTIN, 34576561, Cannon Company, 22d Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 8 June 1944, in the vicinity of CHLU DE FONTEMAY, FRANCE, Company "E", 22d Infantry, was cut off from other attacking units of the regiment by strong infiltrating enemy forces. The company commander realized that in order to direct effective cannon fire against the enemy it would be necessary to call for fire upon his own position, and notified his men of the situation. Private MARTIN, a wireman with the forward observation party of the company, having full knowledge of the danger to himself, elected to remain with the party and assist in directing the supporting fire. When the company commander was severely wounded by the friendly fire he had directed upon the position, Private MARTIN, at grave personal danger, carried him back for medical attention. Private MARTIN'S conspicuous heroism and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

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Private First Class LOUIS B GREENBERG, 32105144, Cannon Company, 22d Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 8 June 1944, in the vicinity of CHAU DE FONTENAY, FRANCE, Company "L", 22d Infantry, was cut off from other attacking units of the regiment by strong infiltrating enemy forces. The company commander realized that in order to direct effective cannon fire upon the enemy it would be necessary to call for fire upon his own position, and notified his men of the situation. Private Greenberg, a radio operator with the forward observation party of the company, having full knowledge of the danger to himself, elected to remain with the group and assist in directing the supporting fire. During the ensuing action, when his company commander was seriously wounded by shell fragments, Private GREENBERG assumed the responsibility of fire direction and courageously remained at his post until the enemy withdrew. His heroic action and conspicuous courage, determination and loyal devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.

11. AWARD OF SILVER STAR - By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, HQ ETO US Army, 23 Mar 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, HQ ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Silver Star is awarded to:

First Lieutenant HENRY W PLISKE, 01645288, Corps of Engineers, 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action. During the period 17 December to 29 December 1944, Lieutenant PLISKE commanded a platoon of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion which had been committed to action as infantry to assist in defending the town of ST VITH, BELGIUM. Lieutenant PLISKE skillfully organized and directed his platoon which inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy, although greatly outnumbered and subjected to constant enemy artillery, small arms and direct tank fire. When, after five days of continuous action, the enemy broke through and completely surrounded the platoon, Lieutenant PLISKE, realizing that further defense would result in capture, reorganized his men to fight their way through the enemy and reach friendly lines. Under his gallant, courageous leadership, the men traveled by compass for eight days, covering forty-five miles of enemy-held territory on foot, finally arriving at BASTOGNE on 29 December. The accurate information which Lieutenant PLISKE was able to give regarding enemy troop movements and concealment was of great value for subsequent operations. His personal courage and heroic devotion to duty are in keeping with the traditions of the military forces of the United States.

12. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

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 Bronze Star Medal is awarded posthumously to:

Technician Third Grade HOWARD E MADISON, 33040281, 3448th Ordnance Medium Automotive Maintenance Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 4 August 1944 to 21 December 1944.

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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, the award of the Bronze Star Medal to the following named officer on 15 January 1945 is announced:

Brigadier General FRANK L CULIN, 04717, United States Army, 87th Infantry Division, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in BELGIUM from 29 December 1944 to 14 January 1945.

3. 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:

Staff Sergeant ROBERT E GLEASON, 31362372, Company "A", 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in Belgium, from 17 December to 21 December 1944. During an intense enemy artillery barrage, a soldier of Sergeant GLEASON's unit was rendered unconscious by concussion from an exploding artillery shell. Sergeant GLEASON, without hesitation, and with complete disregard for his own safety, aided another enlisted man in administering artificial respiration to the soldier, thus saving his life. His conspicuous courage reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private EDDIE L GOODWIN, 34585665, 3137th Signal Motor Messenger Company, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. The outstanding manner in which Private GOODWIN performed his duties as a messenger with the 3137th Signal Motor Messenger Company distinguishes him as an outstanding soldier. On one occasion, while traveling over a route mined by the enemy, his vehicle was wrecked by a mine and he suffered severe wounds. Despite his wounds, he removed all messages from his vehicle and proceeded on foot for three miles before receiving assistance from a passing vehicle. Private GOODWIN's determination and his loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States.

Lieutenant Colonel DONALD A CURTIS, 0132385, Medical Corps, 172d Medical Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 6 August 1944 to 31 December 1944.

Lieutenant Colonel TALBOT A TUMBLESON, 0457591, Medical Corps, 167th Medical Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 11 August 1944 to 3 January 1945.

Staff Sergeant ALEX J SABO, 35021557, Company "A", 87th Engineer Heavy Ponton Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM from 1 May 1944 to 30 June 1944.

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Staff Sergeant HENRY J NORMAN, 32800037, Headquarters Third United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 20 August 1944 to 7 December 1944.

Staff Sergeant CROCKETT C LEWIS, 38170877, 587th Ambulance Company, Motor, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 31 July 1944 to 9 August 1944.

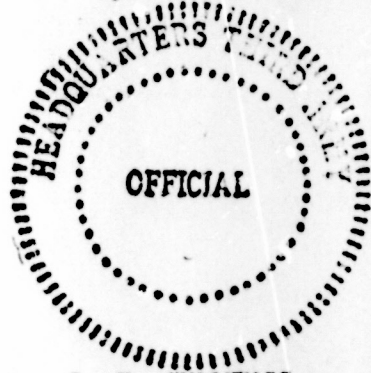
Technician Third Grade JOSEPH L WENNES, 37161907, 109th Evacuation Hospital, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM and FRANCE from 1 May 1944 to 31 December 1944.

Sergeant JOHN E LAPEIRE, 12147633, 575th Ordnance Ammunition Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 13 October 1944 to 5 January 1945.

Technician Fourth Grade ENEAS W DALE, 39619861, 35d Medical Depot Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 18 July 1944 to 6 January 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade HANS E LANTZSCH, 36857377, 33d Medical Depot Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 12 August 1944 to 16 December 1944.

By command of Lieutenant General PATTON:



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

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

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