

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

2 September 1945
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GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 237

Section I - Award of Distinguished Service Cross
Section II - Award of Soldier's Medal

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS - By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 52, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, the Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel HENRY T. CHERRY, JR., O19888, Cavalry, Headquarters Third Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 1 March 1945, during an assault on TRIER, GERMANY, Colonel CHERRY fearlessly exposed himself to intense enemy small arms, anti-tank, mortar and artillery fire and remained with his forward elements to direct operations. Ordering a smoke screen to obscure the vision of the hostile anti-tank guns, he audaciously mounted a light tank and personally led a surprise attack that was instrumental in the successful capture of the city. Colonel CHERRY'S heroic leadership and unswerving devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Captain CUD T. BAIRD III, O441536, Infantry, 358th Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in FRANCE. On 8 September 1944, after receiving reports that a column of enemy armored vehicles were approaching friendly positions near MAIRY, FRANCE, Captain BAIRD fearlessly advanced with a rocket launcher and with deadly, accurate fire disabled the lead vehicle, blocking the defile against further advance by the remainder of the column. Even as hostile infantry deployed across the fields to each side of the road for a fierce fire fight, he continued his aggressive actions, disabling a second armored vehicle even though his position became the object of a heavy concentration of return fire. When his ammunition was exhausted, he went back for more and although wounded by enemy shell-fire shortly afterward, returned to reorganize and lead his company in a complete rout of the enemy forces. Captain BAIRD'S courageous actions and unflinching devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain ALBERT C. GEIST, O1294649, Infantry, 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. During the period, 1 - 16 April 1945, while leading a motorized patrol from WIPPA to ASCHERSLEBEN, GERMANY, Captain GEIST repeatedly displayed outstanding qualities of heroism and dauntless leadership. With utter disregard for his own safety he led his small patrol against overwhelming odds and personally killed seven enemy soldiers, captured seventeen, and destroyed two anti-tank guns. During the course of the intense two-day action his patrol, inspired by the gallantry of their dauntless leader, captured 282 prisoners, an 88mm artillery piece and seven anti-tank guns. Captain GEIST'S fearless actions were directly responsible for the capturing of three bitterly defended towns; his indomitable fighting spirit and unswerving devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

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GO 237, Hq Third U. S. Army, 2 September 1945, cont'd.

Technical Sergeant CHESTER E. KROLL, 36515191, Company M, 393rd Infantry Regiment, 99th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 11 April 1945, when Sergeant KROLL'S company was pinned down by direct enemy anti-aircraft fire near ELSPE, GERMANY, he skilfully crawled seventy-five yards across fire-swept terrain to an exposed position where he eliminated one hostile machine gun emplacement and then established his own heavy machine gun section. Although two of his gunners were wounded, he refused to withdraw and held the position through two days of fierce fire fighting. When the enemy permitted friendly units to penetrate into their lines, he courageously advanced to set up positions against the impending counterattack. Encountering a hostile halftrack with thirty enemy soldiers, he killed or wounded several of them and forced the remainder to flee. On the way back to bring up his section, he killed four more enemy troops and captured two. These heroic actions enabled Sergeant KROLL'S section to cover a successful advance of his company upon their objective; his courageous determination and unflinching devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

II. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL - By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to:

Sergeant KENNETH M McAINSH, 32160276, Company A, 503rd Military Police Battalion, United States Army. For heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy in GERMANY. On 20 June 1945, during a heavy storm on Lake TEGERN-SEE, GERMANY, Sergeant McAINSH and another soldier commandeered a small power boat and unhesitatingly went to the aid of four officers whose sailboat had capsized. With utter disregard for his own safety he braved the hazardous elements and at the risk of having his own boat capsize, assisted in helping the officers on board and bringing them to the safety of the shore. Sergeant McAINSH'S heroic, unselfish actions and loyal devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

By command of General PATTON:

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



Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Acting Adjutant General.

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