

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS  
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY  
APO 403

*Original Order*  
*200/10/12/45*

GENERAL ORDERS

27 September 1945.

NUMBER 268

**ORIGINAL ORDER**

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS)

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, a Distinguished Service Cross is awarded posthumously to:

Captain PATRICK W MURPHY, 01291679, Infantry, Company C, 391st Infantry Regiment, 83d Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 14 April 1945, near WAILPFENBURG, GERMANY, Captain MURPHY forced the surrender of two enemy snipers in a foxhole with accurate rifle fire. Then his company was pinned down by a vicious crossfire from snipers and machine guns, this intrepid officer mounted a tank, manned a machine gun and directed the tank towards the first enemy strongpoint. Although mortally wounded, he continued to direct his company until they had cleared the enemy strongpoint and captured a large number of prisoners. Captain MURPHY's heroic, inspiring leadership and supreme devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Corporal ORVAL D IRVIN, 37399188, Company H, 406th Infantry Regiment, 102d Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 10 April 1945, near RINT, GERMANY, when the attacking element of his unit was pinned down by withering small arms and machine gun fire, Corporal IRVIN courageously volunteered to attempt to silence the enemy machine gun. Armed with grenades and a carbine he fearlessly advanced through the intense fire to a point within grenade-throwing distance of the hostile emplacement. Although his first grenade killed the enemy soldier manning the machine gun, Corporal IRVIN was mortally wounded while attempting to silence other enemy positions. The intrepid gallantry and supreme devotion to duty displayed by Corporal IRVIN will live on as an inspiration to the men of the armed forces.

Private First Class RALPH H HIGBY, 19203972, Company I, 319th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 13 February 1945, during an attack on Siegfried Line positions near MALLERDORF, GERMANY, Private HIGBY led a squad of three men which captured an enemy-held pillbox. When his squad was subjected to a fierce enemy counterattack, this intrepid soldier, with untless courage, advancing alone towards the enemy, fired his BAR with such devastating effect that they were forced to withdraw. Later Private HIGBY was found face to the enemy, mortally wounded, with his finger still on the trigger of his BAR. His indomitable fighting spirit and supreme devotion to duty will live on as an inspiration to the men with whom he fought.

Private First Class LEONARD F KRUSE, 36556686, Company L, 406th Infantry Regiment, 102d Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 10 April 1945, near LUNDEN, GERMANY, Private KRUSE'S platoon was advancing over open

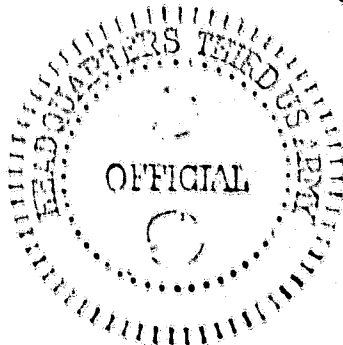
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ground up a hill when they were pinned down by withering hostile small arms, automatic weapons and machine gun fire emanating from cleverly concealed positions at the crest of the hill. With utter disregard for his own life he gallantly moved to the flank, rose to his feet in the face of the murderous enemy fire and placed such devastating BAR fire upon the enemy that both his squad and another platoon were enabled to withdraw without casualties. Private KRAUSE was killed by a sniper before he could again drop to the ground but his self-sacrificing heroism and supreme devotion to duty will live on as an inspiration to the men with whom he fought.

By command of General PATTON:



PAUL D. HARKINS,  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Acting Chief of Staff.

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

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