

**RESTRICTED**

NOTE: GENERAL ORDERS NO 98 IS THE LAST OF THE SERIES FOR 1944

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APD 470, U. S. Army  
1 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 1)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . .	I
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . .	II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Sergeant Oather Dotson, 6987457, Infantry, Company "K", 41th Infantry Regiment, France, 26 December 1944. Residence: Jeffrey, West Virginia.

FIRST LIEUTENANT NICHOLAS SEMASCHKO, JR., 01307580, Infantry, Company "A", 41th Infantry Regiment, France, 3 December 1944. Residence: Jamaica, New York.

Private First Class Robert S. Grogan, Jr., 16116573, Infantry, Company "C", 41th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: West Bend, Wisconsin.

FIRST LIEUTENANT GEORGE D. HENRY, JR., 01296030, Infantry, Headquarters Third Battalion, 41th Infantry Regiment, France, 26 December 1944. Residence: Reading, Pennsylvania.

Private First Class Thomas B. Molder, Jr., 38568712, Infantry, Company "K", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Los Angeles, California.

Staff Sergeant Leo A. Bisch, 36289041, Infantry, Company "K", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Baraboo, Wisconsin.

Private First Class Walter B. Vander Veer, 15314880, Infantry, Company "K", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Westfield, New Jersey.

Private James A. Franklin, 34702358, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 23 December 1944. Residence: Collinsville, Alabama.

Staff Sergeant Weldon B. Mallette, 18072998, Infantry, Company "F", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 November 1944. Residence: Houston, Texas.

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GO #1, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
 AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

Private First Class Andrew Grossie, 38491455, Infantry, Company "E",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 14 December 1944. Residence: Lafayette,  
 Louisiana.

Private Harroll O. Burns, 38700788, Infantry, Company "C", 409th In-  
 fantry Regiment, France, 14 December 1944. Residence: Sallisaw, Oklahoma.

Staff Sergeant Andrew F. Barnes, 6879472, Infantry, Company "E", 409th  
 Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Olean, New York.

Private First Class Richard J. Ambrose, 36840100, Infantry, Company "D",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: De Pere,  
 Wisconsin.

Technical Sergeant Harry M. Knarr, Jr., 16143759, Infantry, Company "E",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Joliet,  
 Illinois.

Private Fred J. Startz, 37326999, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry  
 Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Ely, Minnesota.

Private William C. Short, 34739388, Medical Department, Medical Detach-  
 ment, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 17 November 1944. Residence: Nash-  
 ville, Tennessee.

Private First Class John Kulekjian, 39689870, Infantry, Company "M",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 19 December 1944. Residence: Parlier,  
 California.

Private First Class Anthony Pagli, 36527440, Infantry, Company "K",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 10 December 1944. Residence: Detroit,  
 Michigan.

Private First Class Roman T. Stelmore, Jr., 36672217, Medical Department,  
 Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944.  
 Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

Private Robert E. Sutton, 36955801, Infantry, Company "K", 409th Infan-  
 try Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Sergeant Sherman A. Sprague, 37446138, Infantry, Company "K", 409th  
 Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Clinton, Iowa.

Technician Fifth Grade Paul J. Chabotzky, 32813752, Infantry, Company  
 "F", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 22 December 1944. Residence: Bronx,  
 New York.

Private First Class Robert J. Clark, 33498705, Infantry, Company "K",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Sunbury,  
 Pennsylvania.

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GO #1, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

FIRST LIEUTENANT CLYMER C. COOPER, 01586386, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters and Service Company, 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 21 December 1944. Residence: Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Private Wilfred L. Salyers, 37489072, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 December 1944. Residence: Neligh, Nebraska.

Technician Fifth Grade Cecil T. Coldiron, 35806553, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 19 December 1944. Residence: Hamilton, Ohio.

Private First Class Paul K. Hiser, 36575368, Infantry, Company "D", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 25 December 1944. Residence: Petersburg, Michigan.

Private William L. Harader, 37510250, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 23 December 1944. Residence: Arkansas City, Kansas.

Private First Class Frank P. Giltner, Jr., 37529973, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 23 December 1944. Residence: Joplin, Missouri.

Private First Class Lawrence S. Davis, 32968007, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 23 December 1944. Residence: Bronx, New York.

Private Dewey A. Casey, 38700652, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 22 December 1944. Residence: Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Private First Class John R. Durrance, 34543882, Infantry, Company "D", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 22 December 1944. Residence: Gainesville, Florida.

Private First Class Roy E. Williams, 37465419, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Superior, Colorado.

Private First Class Theodore O. Tollefson, 17157291, Infantry, Company "H", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 13 December 1944. Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Sergeant Lawrence H. Ketel, 37327306, Corps of Engineers, Company "C", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 31 December 1944. Residence: Bellflower, California.

Technician Fifth Grade James J. Ryan, 37326315, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters and Service Company, 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 12 December 1944. Residence: Farmington, Minnesota.

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OO #1, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
 AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

Corporal John A. Gregg, 36713224, Corps of Engineers, Company "B",  
 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 30 December 1944. Residence:  
 Rockford, Illinois.

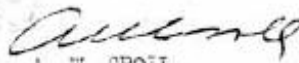
II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provi-  
 sions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze  
 Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named in-  
 dividual for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Technical Sergeant Austin M. DeLaughter, 6284318, Infantry; Company "E",  
 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Texarkana,  
 Texas.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
 Colonel, G.S.C.,  
 Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



A. W. CROLL,  
 Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
 Adjutant General.

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*A. S. Kibbe*  
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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
 Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
 1 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 2)

- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . . I
- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, MISSING IN ACTION . . . . . II
- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . . III
- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . . IV

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Technician Fifth Grade Joe D. Ramirez, 34789216, (then Private First Class), Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 41th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 15 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Ramirez, aid man attached to Company "E", worked tirelessly day and night in order to render aid and evacuate the wounded. The area in which he worked was under constant enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, but he continued on completely oblivious of the withering fire. With utter disregard for his life, he braved the fire-swept terrain again and again to attend his wounded comrades. Even though it was necessary in one instance to cross an icy stream he pushed on relentlessly. Technician Ramirez's heroic efforts were instrumental in saving the lives of many of his comrades and rendering first aid to innumerable others. Residence: Bay Harbor, Florida.

Private First Class Matthew P. Anderson, 31316521, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 21 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* \*, Germany, Private Anderson, with one other comrade, went forward on his own initiative, to capture an enemy strongpoint which was holding up his company's advance. This mission had to be accomplished in direct observation of the enemy who were fully aware of the impending assault. His path was swept by a murderous barrage of enemy small arms and mortar fire but he courageously and boldly continued on his mission undeterred. Because of the immense size of the fortification he carried a 20 pound pole charge of TNT to assist him in blasting the position. Although protective cover was available he disregarded it entirely and pushed relentlessly toward the accomplishment of his mission. In the face of devastating fire he and his comrade skillfully placed the charge, resulting in the complete destruction of the enemy embrasure. As the smoke cleared from the blast, 15 of the enemy dashed from the enclosure and surrendered. As a result of Private Anderson's outstanding valor and utter disregard for his life, the attacking troops were able to advance successfully toward their objective. Residence: West Haven, Connecticut.

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**R E S T R I C T E D**



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GO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45 (Cont'd)  
 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Privats Alvin Golbe, 12192667, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the period 19th to 20th December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* \*, Germany, Private Golbe, medical aid man attached to the Second Battalion, braved withering enemy fire night and day to render aid and assist in the evacuation of the wounded. On many occasions it was necessary to carry the wounded down a steep mountain slope on his back as the use of litters was impossible. He worked tirelessly and efficiently rendering all possible aid until he dropped from sheer exhaustion. Refusing evacuation, he rested but a few moments and again went courageously forward to be of assistance wherever it was deemed necessary. In one instance he administered blood plasma to a seriously wounded comrade under intense enemy fire and in complete blackout. Private Golbe's devotion to duty and utter disregard for his life, resulted in his saving the lives of many of his comrades and served as a source of inspiration to all. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

Private First Class John J. Killilea, 31254552, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 10 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* \*, France, Private Killilea, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun and sniper fire. Observing his platoon sergeant lying wounded in an exposed position, he, with utter disregard for his life dashed from his place of safety over 200 yards of fire-swept terrain to the side of the wounded man. Although withering fire raked the area where he stood, he carefully tied the wounded man's hands together, placed them around his neck and dragged him to safety. As a result of Private Killilea's outstanding courage his injured comrade was removed from an extremely dangerous position and professional medical attention was rendered efficiently and expeditiously. Residence: Wallston, Massachusetts.

Staff Sergeant Donald O. Enlander, 36411790, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 13 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Enlander, with his platoon in the attack was warned of an impending counter-attack by enemy tanks. He quickly and skillfully deployed his platoon as a covering force while he fearlessly went forward with his bazooka. Lurking in the shadows of a nearby house he observed a tank approaching on the road. When the tank was approximately 40 yards from him he opened fire forcing it from the road with a direct hit. Despite the fact that the tank continued firing on his position he exposed himself to signal his platoon to open fire, resulting in the tank's complete neutralization due to the superbly directed cross-fire. Observing a second tank approaching from behind, he again skillfully directed fire on it with his bazooka forcing it to stop. This brilliant delaying action enabled a tank destroyer group to come forward, ultimately repulsing the counter-attack and forcing the enemy tanks to withdraw. Residence: Hudsonville, Michigan.

Sergeant Gordon F. Robinson, 36548763, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the moonlight night of 26 November 1944, in the village of \* \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Robinson, and his company were attacking the village when a comrade fell seriously wounded

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 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

by enemy small arms fire. Although the area in which his injured comrade was lying, was subjected to intense enemy fire, he, and another comrade, fearlessly advanced forward to aid the wounded soldier. Disregarding the bullets that raked his path he courageously continued on and successfully reached his wounded comrade, and succeeded in moving him to the safety of a sheltered doorway. Sergeant Robinson's display of outstanding courage in the face of severe enemy fire was an inspiration to all. Residence: Plymouth, Michigan.

Private First Class Robert M. Ord, 39467039, Infantry, Company "I", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the moonlight night of 26 November 1944, in the village of \* \* \*, France, Private Ord, and his company were attacking the village when a comrade fell seriously wounded by enemy small arms fire. Although the area in which his injured comrade was lying, was subjected to intense enemy fire, he, and another comrade, fearlessly advanced forward to aid the wounded soldier. Disregarding the bullets that raked his path he courageously continued on and successfully reached his wounded comrade, and succeeded in moving him to the safety of a sheltered doorway. Private Ord's display of outstanding courage in the face of severe enemy fire was an inspiration to all. Residence: Baker, Oregon.

Private First Class Marcus T. Connelly, 37420155, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 21 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Connelly, with one other comrade, went forward on his own initiative, to capture an enemy strongpoint which was holding up his company's advance. This mission had to be accomplished in direct observation of the enemy who were fully aware of the impending assault. His path was swept by a murderous barrage of enemy small arms and mortar fire but he courageously and boldly continued on his mission undeterred. Because of the immense size of the fortification he carried a 20 pound pole charge of TNT to assist him in blasting the position. Although protective cover was available he disregarded it entirely and pushed relentlessly toward the accomplishment of his mission. In the face of devastating fire he and his comrade skillfully placed the charge, resulting in the complete destruction of the enemy embrasure. As the smoke cleared from the blast, 15 of the enemy dashed from the enclosure and surrendered. As a result of Private Connelly's outstanding valor and utter disregard for his life the attacking troops were able to advance successfully toward their objective. Residence: Garber, Iowa.

Corporal Francis X. Bosch, 32486545, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Corporal Bosch, observed several wounded men lying in an exposed position on a hill in direct line of enemy fire. Realizing the precarious position of his wounded comrades, he, with utter disregard for his life dashed fearlessly up the fire-swept hill to give aid and assistance. He braved the devastating fire many times rushing up and down the hill carrying the men to shelter. In one instance a shell landed nearby, striding the man whom he was carrying. This did not deter him a moment as he pushed relentlessly on. As a result of Corporal

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I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Bosch's magnificent valor the lives of many of his comrades were saved.  
Residence: Camden, New Jersey.

Private Roy J. Williams, 38495296, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 26 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Williams an aid man, was advancing through open terrain with Company "L", when they were subjected to a murderous concentration of enemy artillery fire. Observing a comrade severely wounded and unable to reach cover, Private Williams, with utter disregard for his safety, fearlessly advanced through shell-raked terrain to the side of his injured comrade. Despite the harassing conditions about him he coolly and expeditiously rendered first aid. So severe was the enemy barrage that his comrade was wounded a second time as he prepared to evacuate him. Unswerved by this action he successfully brought the wounded man from his exposed position to safety. Residence: Walker, Louisiana.

Staff Sergeant Sigmund M. Cieszkowski, 36549230, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Cieszkowski, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire. Observing his company commander lying wounded in an exposed position, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed to the side of the injured man. While bullets raked the area where he stood, he efficiently and expeditiously administered first aid. When all possible aid had been rendered he boldly picked up the injured man and carried him across the fire-swept terrain to safety. As a result of Sergeant Cieszkowski's outstanding courage the wounded man was removed from a precarious position and professional medical attention was made possible. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class Conrad A. Herrmann, 32963711, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Herrmann, observed a driver forced to abandon his vehicle due to a terrific enemy artillery barrage falling in the immediate area. Realizing the valuable vehicle would suffer a direct hit unless immediate action was taken, he, with utter disregard for his life dashed boldly from his place of safety to rescue the exposed vehicle. Fully cognizant of the extreme danger confronting him, he jumped into the vehicle amid a hail of devastating fire and drove it to safety. Residence: Glendale, New York.

Technician Fifth Grade Urban J. Henning, 37326692, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Henning was in charge of a wire crew laying wire for the regimental command post to the regimental observation post when he and his men were caught in an intense enemy barrage of mortar and small arms fire. Quickly dashing back to his vehicle, he, with utter disregard for his life, boldly drove through the hail of enemy fire, stringing the wire as he drove. Undaunted by the fact that mine sweepers had not cleared the road, he drove courageously on for three miles although hostile fire raked his path for half

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 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

the way. As a result of his valorous act, Technician Henning not only enabled his command post to know when the leading elements of attack crossed into Germany, but also enabled his regiment to keep uninterrupted contact with the forward companies. Residence: Belgrade, Minnesota.

Private First Class Edward F. Shepard, Jr., 33789415, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Shepard, medical aid man attached to Company "F", worked tirelessly throughout the day to render aid and evacuate the wounded. Repeatedly he exposed himself to the devastating and concentrated fire of the enemy. He aided his company until all wounded men had been evacuated and then, on his own initiative, assisted an adjacent unit in need of medical help. With utter disregard for his life he courageously carried many of his wounded comrades to safety in the face of withering enemy fire. As a result of Private Shepard's indomitable efforts and outstanding courage the lives of many of his comrades were saved. Residence: Chester, Pennsylvania.

Technician Fifth Grade Herbert Y. Gill, 38468487, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Technician Gill, automatic rifleman, was painfully wounded while assisting in the repulsion of an enemy counter-attack. Having observed the source of enemy fire he directed his assistant to take over his gun and crawled back in search of his platoon leader to give him the vital information. With utter disregard for his life and despite his excruciating pain he courageously crawled over the hilly terrain in the face of enemy fire. Having located his platoon leader he divulged the location of the enemy position and not until he was assured that the plans had been formulated for its neutralization would he submit to evacuation. Residence: Poteau, Oklahoma.

Private First Class Edward P. Levonian, 19205440, Infantry, Company "M", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 3 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, a heavy machine gun was placed in a position to protect the flank of the battalion from enemy grazing fire. Private Levonian stayed at his exposed position throughout the day to return intense enemy small arms fire without the protection of supporting riflemen. He pinned the enemy down by a hail of fire thus preventing the enemy from setting up their mortars. Private Levonian's effective fire held the enemy down until artillery fire neutralized the hostile emplacements. Later in the day, he again laid a cover of fire enabling a friendly patrol to escape from an isolated house to safety. As a result of his valor, the battalion was secure and a friendly patrol safely returned to its lines. Residence: Los Angeles, California.

Private Henry A. Tucker, 34789256, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Tucker and his company were pinned to the ground by intense enemy small arms fire from a hostile pill-box. Observing heavy casualties being inflicted on his comrades,

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He advanced forward with his bazooka, and, with utter disregard for his life, crawled to an exposed position with 40 yards of the hostile emplacement. He fired his bazooka scoring a direct hit which greatly reduced the fire emanating from the enemy strongpoint. Unswayed by the hail of fire about him, he advanced to a machine gun nest on which he again skillfully scored a direct hit, to completely wipe it out. As a result of his valorous actions, two enemy positions were neutralized, thus preventing heavier casualties among his comrades. Residence: Homeland, Florida.

Technician Fourth Grade Robert J. Caskey, 6292905, (then Technician Fifth Grade), Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Caskey, a medical aid man, volunteered to reconnoiter a mountainous and hazardous area for a vitally needed evacuation route. In addition to intense enemy artillery fire, blackout conditions made his mission extremely difficult. Although enemy artillery shells were dropping all around him, he did not once seek cover, but relentlessly continued his reconnaissance. He skillfully discovered the desired route and began the evacuation of the serious litter cases from the top of a mountain. His display of courage and deep devotion to duty while under the most dangerous of conditions enabled the speedy evacuation of his seriously wounded comrades to medical aid. Residence: San Antonio, Texas.

Technician Third Grade Lawrence E. Dorsey, 36715089, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944 in the village of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy artillery made a direct hit on a building near a howitzer position, injuring several of the gun crew. The building which contained small arms ammunition adjoining an artillery ammunition dump, burst into flames. Realizing the danger of exploding small arms ammunition and nearby howitzer projectiles, Technician Dorsey, fearlessly entered a building immediately adjacent to the burning structure, coolly administered first aid and removed a seriously injured soldier to safety. Residence: Freeport, Illinois.

Private First Class Stanley L. Myers, 31298592, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Myers and his platoon had moved around the right flank and silenced an enemy machine gun nest, when a murderous, hostile artillery and mortar barrage was concentrated on them. Several of his comrades were wounded by this fire and the platoon was ordered to withdraw. Private Myers, together with two comrades, chose to remain behind with the wounded and give aid and protection to them. Despite the terrific enemy fire which lasted several hours, he remained with his wounded comrades until darkness fell, at which time they were successfully evacuated. Residence: Newton, Massachusetts.

Private First Class Paul E. Roberts, 31374062, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* \*, France, Private Roberts,

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 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

was pinned to the ground by intense enemy small arms and machine gun fire. Hearing the cries of a wounded comrade, he dashed from his sheltered position across the fire-swept terrain to the injured man's side. Oblivious of the devastating fire that raked his path he carefully hooked his belt under the injured comrade's shoulders, and slowly and laboriously dragged him to safety. Private Roberts' display of outstanding courage and utter disregard for his life, resulted in first aid being rendered efficiently and expeditiously to the wounded man. Residence: Berlin, New Hampshire.

Sergeant Arthur R. Williams, 18220956, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Sergeant Williams, machine gunner, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire. Observing his assistant machine gunner lying wounded and exposed to withering fire, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed to the side of his wounded comrade. Completely oblivious of the devastating fire that raked the area he flung himself along side of his companion to protect him from further danger. Unable to administer aid because of the ferocity of the fire he courageously dragged his comrade to safety. As a result of Sergeant Williams' outstanding valor medical attention was administered expeditiously, thus saving the life of his comrade. Residence: Fort Wingate, New Mexico.

Staff Sergeant Charles H. Henrikson, 39086295, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Henrikson with a patrol, skillfully located and occupied a key position in order to render protective fire power for a tank destroyer group in the attack. This hazardous duty necessitated his crawling to an open position under intensive enemy machine gun, artillery and mortar fire. Sergeant Henrikson was forced to send half of his patrol for aid men, and the remaining men of the patrol to the rear with prisoners. Single-handedly he maintained his position, courageously and with utter disregard for his life. Observing an enemy machine gun about to open fire, he quickly and skillfully fired into their position, completely neutralizing it. As a result of Sergeant Henrikson's magnificent valor the tank destroyer unit was able to proceed successfully toward its objective. Residence: Emeryville, California.

Private First Class Harold E. Robinson, 35595925, (then Private), Infantry, Company "F", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 29 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Williams, a messenger, observed a comrade wounded by enemy small arms fire. All aid men being preoccupied, he, on his own initiative fearlessly advanced forward under the enemy fire and successfully reached the injured man. Bullets raked his path as he expeditiously carried his comrade to safety. Because of Private Robinson's courageous actions while under fire, his injured comrade was able to receive prompt medical attention. Residence: Stou, Ohio.

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I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Private William J. Stach, 37591325, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, the enemy counter-attacked Private Stach's company and threatened to break through a vulnerable part of his company's defensive positions. Realizing the perilous position of his comrades should the hostile forces break through, Private Stach stayed in his exposed position laying an intense cover of fire while his company organized to hold its line. He was struck in the shoulder and head by enemy fire but stayed at his position courageously determined to stop the advancing enemy. Despite his pain, he stayed at his position until he was certain that an effective defense had been established. Only then would he submit to medical attention. As a result of his valorous act, the company remained intact and successfully repulsed the enemy assault. Residence: Wolverton, Minnesota.

Technician Fourth Grade George J. Suppes, 38110204, Infantry, Company "H", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Suppes tirelessly maintained communications throughout the day between a mortar observation post and the gun emplacement. The area was under intense and concentrated enemy small arms and artillery fire, but completely oblivious of the withering fire he fearlessly checked, repaired and rechecked the line in order to insure uninterrupted communication. On one occasion, during a terrific barrage, the line was severed and Technician Suppes courageously left his place of safety to crawl out and check the line. In the process he was painfully wounded by shrapnel but he continued on relentlessly, despite his injury. He located the break, speedily repaired it and then had his wound dressed. Refusing evacuation, he again crawled forward to the observation post to lend further assistance. By his heroic actions vital communications were restored and an enemy strong point was reduced. Residence: Portland, Oregon.

Private Orval E. Boyer, 33767109, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Boyer's company was pinned down by an intense enemy mortar and artillery barrage. Observing a wounded comrade lying helpless, Private Boyer, with utter disregard for his life crossed an exposed and open field, administered first aid and evacuated the injured man to safety. As a result of his valor, the life of a comrade was saved. Residence: Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Corporal John N. Waters, 39202061, Infantry, Company "D", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, fire from an enemy pillbox raked a machine gun nest, which protected Company "D"'s flank, killing the gunner and forcing the remainder of the squad to hastily withdraw to cover. Realizing the vital need of the unmanned machine gun, Corporal Waters, with utter disregard for his life, cautiously crawled over the fire-swept terrain to the emplacement. With the hail of enemy fire missing him only by inches, he realized that he would not be able to dash with a heavy weapon through the

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R E S T R I C T E D



R E S T R I C T E D

GO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

gauntlet of fire. Lying on the ground beside the weapon, he tied a piece of wire to the tripod and then slowly crawled backward pulling the machine gun with him. He courageously inched his way over the ground dragging the weapon, stopping every few feet as enemy fire streamed over. Unswerved from his painstaking task, he carried on until he reached safety. As a result of his valor and ingenuity, a desperately needed heavy machine gun was saved from loss. Residence: Vancouver, Washington.

Staff Sergeant Willard P. Topar, 7024265, (then private) Infantry, Company "G", 41th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Topar with the lead platoon in the attack, suddenly encountered enemy machine gun and anti-tank fire emanating from a strongly fortified position. The intensity of the enemy fire wounded Sergeant Topar and momentarily stunned the remainder of the platoon. Regaining his composure immediately, he courageously assisted his platoon leader in setting up an effective base of fire. When this operation was completed, he, with utter disregard for his life and despite his painful wounds braved the enemy fire to dash back to the Battalion command post to report the company situation to them. By Sergeant Topar's display of outstanding courage and superb operative ability the battalion was materially assisted in the successful accomplishment of its mission. Residence: Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Technician Fifth Grade Warren D. Wilkinson, 37466444, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 41th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in an attack in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, a communication line was vitally needed from the battalion command post to a forward company. Technician Wilkinson, carrying all the signal equipment, set forth stringing wire along trails, over extremely mountainous terrain. Caught in an intense enemy mortar barrage, he continued on, realizing the great need of the vital communication. He climbed courageously to the attacking company, undaunted by the hail of sniper fire that often raked his path. As a result of his valorous act, the company was in continuous contact with the battalion as it advanced to its objective. Residence: Alexandria, Nebraska.

Private First Class Michael S. Podielski, 31239499, Medical Department, Company "B", 328th Medical Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 11 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private First Class Podielski, member of a litter squad, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and artillery fire. Heeding the cries of a wounded comrade, he with his squad, dashed forward to administer aid and evacuate him if necessary. On the move forward he encountered a swift, swollen stream with only a three inch pipe foot bridge, spanning it. He skillfully crossed the bridge, searching the area until the injured man was located. After all possible aid had been rendered, he, with the other members of the squad, heedless of the devastating fire that swept the area, carefully placed the man on a litter. Unable to carry the patient back across the river he displayed a remarkable degree of ingenuity by assisting to construct a temporary bridge. By Private First Class Podielski's display of magnificent valor and utter disregard for

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R E S T R I C T E D



R E S T R I C T E D

CO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

his life, the wounded man was speedily evacuated to professional medical attention. Residence: San Francisco, California.

Private Barrard L. Cottam, 37466462, Medical Department, Company "B", 328th Medical Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 11 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Cottam, member of a litter squad, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and artillery fire. Heeding the cries of a wounded comrade, he with his squad, dashed forward to administer aid and evacuate him if necessary. On the move forward he encountered a swift, swollen stream with only a three inch pipe foot bridge, spanning it. He skillfully crossed the bridge, searching the area until the injured man was located. After all possible aid had been rendered, he, with the other members of the squad, heedless of the devastating fire that swept the area, carefully placed the man on a litter. Unable to carry the patient back across the river he displayed a remarkable degree of ingenuity by assisting to construct a temporary bridge. By Private Cottam's display of magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, the wounded man was speedily evacuated to professional medical attention. Residence: Hubble, Nebraska.

Private First Class Donald Jones, 33670997, Medical Department, Company "B", 328th Medical Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 11 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Jones, member of a litter squad, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and artillery fire. Heeding the cries of a wounded comrade, he with his squad, dashed forward to administer aid and evacuate him if necessary. On the move forward he encountered a swift, swollen stream with only a three inch pipe foot bridge, spanning it. He skillfully crossed the bridge, searching the area until the injured man was located. After all possible aid had been rendered, he, with the other members of the squad, heedless of the devastating fire that swept the area, carefully placed the man on a litter. Unable to carry the patient back across the river he displayed a remarkable degree of ingenuity by assisting to construct a temporary bridge. By Private Jones' display of magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, the wounded man was speedily evacuated to professional medical attention. Residence: Carnegie, Pennsylvania.

Technician Fifth Grade Frank A. Ross, 38233096, Medical Department, Company "B", 328th Medical Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 11 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Ross, member of a litter squad, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and artillery fire. Heeding the cries of a wounded comrade, he with his squad, dashed forward to administer aid and evacuate him if necessary. On the move forward he encountered a swift, swollen stream with only a three inch pipe foot bridge, spanning it. He skillfully crossed the bridge, searching the area until the injured man was located. After all possible aid had been rendered, he, with the other members of the squad, heedless of the devastating fire that swept the area, carefully placed the man on a litter. Unable to carry the patient back across the river he displayed a remarkable degree of ingenuity by assisting to construct a temporary bridge. By Technician Ross'

**R E S T R I C T E D**

GO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

display of magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, the wounded man was speedily evacuated to professional medical attention. Residence: McGehee, Arkansas.

II - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, MISSING IN ACTION. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Private First Class Robert G. Downey, 15359694, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Downey's company was pinned to a trench by a concealed machine gun which could not be located. Realizing the peril to his comrades, he, with utter disregard for his life, courageously crawled forward through the woods in the direction he believed the hostile position to be located. Oblivious to the hail of fire about him, he crawled on and was last seen advancing through the woods to find the hostile emplacement. As a result of his courageous act, the enemy machine gun revealed its location and the company was able to neutralize it. His valorous action was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Homewood, Illinois. Next of kin: Mrs. Jennie Downey (Mother) 1826 Cedar Road, Homewood, Illinois.

Private First Class Christian V. Ericksen, 19095617, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Ericksen, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire. The action was so severe the Company was ordered to withdraw because of the casualties it had suffered. Private Ericksen, on his own initiative, with utter disregard for his life, stayed with his wounded companions to protect them from falling into enemy hands, while the remainder of the company withdrew. He remained with the wounded men protecting them until darkness fell and then assisted in their evacuation. As a result of Private Ericksen's outstanding valor many of the wounded were saved from enemy capture and medical aid was able to be rendered expeditiously. Private Ericksen has subsequently been reported as missing in action. Throughout this entire activity Private Ericksen's display of magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Enumclau, Washington. Next of kin: Mrs. Anne M. Ericksen (Mother) Route 2, Box 195, Enumclau, Washington.

Sergeant Rudolph C. Trapp, 37321381, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Sergeant Trapp and his company were attacking through fortified hills when the enemy, from concealed and fortified emplacements, counter-attacked the company's exposed flank. Immediately cognizant of the peril to his comrades should they be cut off, Sergeant Trapp ordered his machine gun section into positions. Crawling forward to an exposed position, he opened fire on the advancing enemy. With utter disregard for his life, he courageously stayed at his position and held the attacking enemy to the ground until his machine gun section and the riflemen

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45

II - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, MISSING IN ACTION (Cont'd)

could maneuver into position. As a result of his quick and effective action, his company maneuvered to the flank and successfully drove the enemy back. When last seen, Sergeant Trapp was courageously firing at the attacking enemy. His valorous act was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Danube, Minnesota. Next of kin: Mrs. Lucie Trapp (Mother) Route 1, Danube, Minnesota.

Private First Class Anthony J. Vaccaro, 31428599, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Vaccaro, lead scout, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the entire company was in extreme danger, he, on his own initiative, skillfully crawled forward to ascertain the location of the hidden emplacement. Unable to locate the position, he, with utter disregard for his life, deliberately exposed himself to the enemy in order to draw fire. Private Vaccaro was last seen courageously advancing toward the enemy strongpoint. By his valorous action, the company was able to locate the hostile strongpoint ultimately wiping it out. Private Vaccaro has subsequently been reported as missing in action. Throughout this entire action Private Vaccaro's outstanding courage was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Allston, Massachusetts. Next of kin: Mrs. Jennie M. Vaccaro, (Mother) 16 Smith Street, Allston, Massachusetts.

III -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to following named individuals:

Private Henry Gaynor, 32961334, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Gaynor was a member of the leading squad in the attack, when pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and small arms fire. Realizing that unless immediate action was taken to ascertain enemy positions, severe casualties would ensue, he, with utter disregard for his life, crawled cautiously forward. Fully cognizant that any slight movement of the body would draw enemy fire he pushed courageously on completely oblivious of the impending danger. As he approached the strongpoint preparing for an assault single-handedly, enemy machine guns opened fire mortally wounding him. Private Gaynor's outstanding courage in the face of withering fire so inspired his comrades that they plunged headlong in the face of extreme danger, ultimately neutralizing the strongpoint. Throughout this entire action Private Gaynor's magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Brooklyn, New York. Next of kin: Mr. Julius Ginsberg (Father) 1307 East Fifth Street, Brooklyn, New York.

Staff Sergeant Frank Caraccio, Jr., 36551830, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Caraccio, squad leader, was assigned the task of protecting his company's right flank during

## R E S T R I C T E D

GO #2, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45  
 III -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

an attack. Observing a platoon pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire, he, on his own initiative, skillfully maneuvered his squad to a vantage point in order to alleviate the difficulty confronting the pinned down platoon. With utter disregard for his life and displaying superb coolness under fire, he courageously crawled forward and single-handedly set up his automatic weapon. Before he could pour fire on the enemy strongpoint a hitherto undisclosed enemy machine gun opened fire mortally wounding him. Throughout this entire action, Sergeant Caraccio's display of outstanding valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Centerville, Iowa. Next of kin: Mr. Frank Caraccio (father) Route 2, Centerville, Iowa.

IV -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Private First Class Charles J. Bossett, 36547845, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 10 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Bossett, wireman, assisted in establishing vital communication lines between the forward observation post and battalion command post. Completely oblivious of the devastating fire that swept the area he worked diligently and tirelessly laying the necessary wire. In one instance during a concentrated barrage, he observed one of his crew killed by shrapnel, but with great courage and utter disregard for his life he pushed on relentlessly. Braving the withering fire again and again he finally completed the communication line and fearlessly remained at his post in case the line became severed. As a result of Private Bossett's display of outstanding valor, vital communications were established and maintained, assisting materially in the efficiency of the tactical operation. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class Fuhle Maki, 36549450, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Maki set forth to reconnoiter an important tactical route of advance for the battalion vehicles. While pursuing his mission he observed a patrol of enemy soldiers completely surrounding him. With rapidity of judgment he quickly jumped into a concealed position directing his weapon on them. He shouted for them to surrender and lay down their arms. Complying with his orders he then commanded them to assemble in a column. When he was certain no more of the enemy lurked in the vicinity, he boldly marched them across open terrain back to his command post. This courageous act accomplished, he once more went forth on his original mission successfully locating a tactical route of advance for the battalion vehicles. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

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R E S T R I C T E D


R E S T R I C T E D

OO #2; Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 1 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MEYER, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
 A. W. CROLL,  
 Lt. Col., I.G.D.,  
 Adjutant General.
DISTRIBUTION:

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R E S T R I C T E D



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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

2 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
:  
NUMBER 3)

The undersigned hereby resumes command of the 103d Infantry Division.

*C. C. Haffner, Jr.*  
C. C. HAFFNER, JR.,  
Major General, United States Army,  
Commanding.

DIST: "B" "C" "F"

*AS 300 4 1945, check*

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

AGO 470, U. S. Army  
2 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 4)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-4.5, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Technician Fifth Grade Jere N. Cooper, 34496239, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Whiteville, Tennessee.

Private First Class Ignacio M. Esparza, 39274474, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 13 December 1944. Residence: Los Angeles, California.

Private Hobert H. Morrison, 6929800, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: Santa Barbara, California.

Technical Sergeant Ottis W. Jacobs, 34575386, Infantry, Company "I", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 13 November 1944. Residence: Savannah, Georgia.

Sergeant Charles A. Dorner, 36716280, Infantry, Company "I", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 4 December 1944. Residence: Muskegon Heights, Michigan.

Private First Class Frederick J. Markhardt, 37553787, Infantry, Company "L", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 14 November 1944. Residence: White Lake, South Dakota.

Private Ray K. Fike, 33691239, Infantry, Company "L", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Private First Class Verne E. Hausfeld, 36715964, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 10 December 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

*AGO 300.4 AGO, Classy*

R E S T R I C T E D

CO #4, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 2 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

Private First Class Harold A. Fornell, 39692214, Infantry, Company "I", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 22 November 1944. Residence: Fresno, California.

Private First Class Frederick W. Kleiner, 32773585, Infantry, Company "K", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: North Bergen, New Jersey.

Staff Sergeant Eugene J. Burkart, 36712003, Infantry, Company "K", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Rudolph W. Collins, 34495946, Infantry, Company "M", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: Medon, Tennessee.

CAPTAIN HOWARD T. WALPOLE, 0416042, Infantry, Headquarters, Third Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 November 1944. Residence: New Holland, Georgia.

Private Ditzler H. Jones, 38562082, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 December 1944. Residence: Ovalde, Texas.

Private First Class Milton T. Belec, 16020210, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 December 1944. Residence: San Francisco, California.

Technical Sergeant Richard W. Meyer, 16143722, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 30 December 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Edward G. Guidziejko, 32923085, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 30 December 1944. Residence: Kearny, New Jersey.

FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM H. STONE, JR., 0520908, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Greensboro, North Carolina.

SECOND LIEUTENANT EARL H. SPRACKLEN, 01298944, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 23 December 1944. Residence: Fort Worth, Texas.

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private First Class Henry A. Tucker, 34789256, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 25 December 1944. Residence: Homeland, Florida.


R E S T R I C T E D

GO #4, Hq 109d Inf Div, dtd 2 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

By command of Major General HAFNER:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
A. W. GROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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AG FILES ----- 4

*J.G. files*  
*90*

**R E S T R I C T E D**

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
2 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 5)

MAJOR JOHN E RHEA, O454402, GSC (Cav), assigned this headquarters per paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 338, 21st General Hospital, dated 30 December 1944, is announced as Assistant to Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

By command of Major General HOFFMEIER:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Groll*  
A. W. GROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:  
"E" & "D"

*Copy 301.4.50, change*

**R E S T R I C T E D**



R E S T R I C T E D

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*5*

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
2 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 6)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . .	I
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . .	II
AWARD OF AIR MEDAL . . . . .	III

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

*AW 301.4 AGO, this by*

CAPTAIN WILLIAM L. PULTZ, O1165436, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December 1944, CAPTAIN PULTZ was the artillery observer with a task force whose mission was to capture and hold the village of \* \* \*, France. The enemy strongly defended the village, subjecting the task force to heavy direct fire from artillery, mortar, machine gun and small arms. Despite the intense enemy fire, and with utter disregard for his life, he proceeded to an observation post forward of the front lines. From this exposed vantage point he skillfully directed the artillery to lay down a rolling barrage, which enabled our troops to advance with a minimum of casualties. CAPTAIN PULTZ'S skill and heroic action contributed materially to the success of the attack. Residence: Boundbrook, New Jersey.

FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM H. STONE, JR., O520908, Infantry, Company "P", 411th Infantry Regiment. During the daylight hours of 15 December 1944; in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, in an attack on an enemy-held village, LIEUTENANT STONE'S company suffered many casualties from an intense enemy mortar and artillery barrage. Heeding the cries for help from one of his men, LIEUTENANT STONE, with utter disregard for his life, crawled fifty yards over the crest of a hill in the face of intense enemy small arms fire in order to reach the wounded man. Oblivious to the hail of hostile artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, LIEUTENANT STONE administered aid and then courageously carried the helpless man over the crest of the hill, shielding the casualty as best he could. As a result of his valorous act, a wounded man was expeditiously evacuated and given proper medical attention. Residence: Greensboro, North Carolina.

FIRST LIEUTENANT ROBERT D. MONLUX, O435280, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, LIEUTENANT MONLUX worked indefatigably and skillfully day and night in order to render medical attention to the

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R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #6, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 2 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

wounded. Completely oblivious of the withering fire that swept the area, he hastily set up an aid station in a small building directly behind the front lines. Regardless of physical exhaustion he worked with renewed vigor on the casualties. He courageously remained at his station with utter disregard for his life, refusing to take shelter, as the intensity of the bombardment greatly endangered his position. Not until all the wounded were efficiently treated would he cease his activity. As a result of LIEUTENANT MONLUX'S magnificent courage many lives were saved and the wounded were brilliantly attended. Residence: Algona, Iowa.

CHAPLAIN (FIRST LIEUTENANT) LEON J. DAVIS, O546034, Chaplain Corps, Headquarters, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. From 14 to 17 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, CHAPLAIN DAVIS served with the Second Battalion to give spiritual and moral guidance to his men. Running over the mountainous terrain from foxhole to foxhole as enemy mortar and artillery fire blasted about him, he comforted and assisted the men of all faiths and creeds. Later, in an attack on a village, CHAPLAIN DAVIS, with utter disregard for his life, courageously dashed from house to house through intense sniper fire to conduct services and prayers for the men. Frequently during the attack, CHAPLAIN DAVIS was by the side of the wounded giving comfort and aid while medical treatment was being administered. The untiring and valorous efforts of CHAPLAIN DAVIS were an inspiration to the men and were greatly responsible for the high degree of morale throughout the battalion. Residence: West Tulsa, Oklahoma.

SECOND LIEUTENANT WILLIAM D. CAIN, O543225, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 6 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, LIEUTENANT CAIN, with the Battalion Adjutant, volunteered to assist in supplying the battalion with ammunition, food, and water which had been urgently requested by radio. The supply route was jammed with vehicles mired in the mud, and the party proceeded on foot to reconnoiter a by-pass despite knowledge that the area was subjected to heavy enemy mortar and sniper fire, and that mines had not been removed. In order to determine whether the by-pass was suitable for the passage of vehicles, LIEUTENANT CAIN, with utter disregard for his life, volunteered to return, obtain a vehicle, and complete the reconnaissance. While proceeding forward, the vehicle struck a mine, LIEUTENANT CAIN sustaining severe lacerations of the face and a leg wound which necessitated amputation. As a result of this heroic action it was possible to get needed supplies forward, and the battalion was able to continue the attack. Residence: Springfield, Illinois.

CAPTAIN STEVE P. HIMIC, O1296032, Infantry, Company "K", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 16 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, CAPTAIN HIMIC, acting as battalion executive officer, on his own initiative, led one of his companies over extremely difficult terrain into an advance position. This hazardous movement was accomplished in extreme darkness and necessitated the company passing within 50 yards of an enemy strongpoint over a mine-infested area. During the course of the action enemy small arms opened fire adding immeasurably to the precariousness of his position. With utter disregard for his life, he courage-

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GO #6, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 2 Jan 45  
 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

ously led the men forward to the safety of their new position. Arriving at their objective he discovered one platoon of the company was missing. Instantaneously he heroically retraced his steps and found the lost platoon in the vicinity of the enemy emplacement. He led them to the new company command post without the loss of a single man. As a result of CAPTAIN HIMIC'S outstanding valor under the most trying of conditions, the company advanced to its new position without a casualty and succeeded ultimately in repulsing an enemy counter-attack. Residence: Bradenville, Pennsylvania.

CAPTAIN CHESTER C. ACHER, O339423, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 12 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, CAPTAIN ACHER, while leading his company in an attack, keenly observed four enemy tanks approaching in the distance. He quickly deployed his company into strategic positions of protective cover, simultaneously grabbing a rifle from a nearby soldier. He courageously went forward to a vantage point, from which he fired directly into the oncoming tanks. Realizing this fire to be ineffective he rushed back to bring up a bazooka team. When he found none available he seized a bazooka, dashed forward despite intense enemy fire and fired his bazooka into a tank, scoring a direct hit. As a result of his accurate fire the enemy tank was neutralized and the occupants taken prisoner. By CAPTAIN ACHER'S display of magnificent valor the efficiency of the bazooka's fire power so impressed the men of his company that they rushed forward with renewed vigor completely destroying the remainder of the tanks. Residence: Fort Dodge, Iowa.

SECOND LIEUTENANT LEE E. ENGEN, O545582, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, a heavily mined and blocked road had to be cleared so that tanks and tank destroyers could take part in a dawn attack. Cognizant of the importance of clearing the road and the risk of his personal safety, LIEUTENANT ENGEN organized a group of volunteers to clear the road. He not only supervised the work, but also wielded a saw and axe to expedite the removal of the roadblocks. He courageously worked for two hours removing the deadly mines, until a booby-trap wounded him and killed another man. He reorganized and checked his men for further casualties and then permitted himself to be taken 1000 yards for medical treatment. After aid had been administered, he learned that a group of engineers had arrived to assist in clearing the road. Despite his painful wound, he insisted on returning to the road block where he rendered valuable assistance in removing the mines. As a result of his magnificent valor, armored troops and infantry successfully advanced to their objective. Residence: Brookings, South Dakota.

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individual:

SECOND LIEUTENANT ALFRED J. POLTA, O545595, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 28

R E S T R I C T E D

CO #6, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 2 Jan 45

## II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, LIEUTENANT POLTA, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire. Observing a wounded soldier lying in open terrain he, with utter disregard for his life, cautiously crawled over the fire-swept area to reach the injured man's side. The severity of enemy fire made it impossible to render aid in this exposed position. Realizing medical attention was imperative, he courageously picked up the wounded man and carried him to safety. As a result of LIEUTENANT POLTA'S outstanding valor in the face of withering fire, medical aid was administered efficiently and expeditiously to the wounded soldier. Residence: New Ulm, Minnesota.

III -- AWARD OF AIR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Air Medal is awarded to the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight:

SECOND LIEUTENANT THOMAS J. BRISCOE, O532123, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 384th Field Artillery Battalion, from 18 November 1944 to 28 December 1944, in France. Residence: Decatur, Alabama.

FIRST LIEUTENANT EUGENE S. HUFF, O1184525, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 384th Field Artillery Battalion, from 18 November 1944 to 26 December 1944, in France. Residence: Tulsa, Oklahoma.

By command of Major General HOFFNER:

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Colonel, G.S.C.,  
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2 January 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 7)

AWARD OF SILVER STAR . . . . . I  
AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver star is awarded following named individuals:

Private First Class Charles E. Autry, 36161282, Infantry, Company "L", 411th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. In the dawn of 17 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Autry, advancing with his company, found it necessary to cross a swift, turbulent stream, in order to reach the company objective. As a bridge was not available he skillfully made his way to the opposite bank by swimming across. When he reached safety he heard a cry of distress from a drowning comrade. With utter disregard for his life, he plunged into the icy waters, fighting a vicious current, to reach his comrade's side. He succeeded in pulling the drowning soldier to safety. Courageously he remained in the frigid water until he was assured that all members of the leading platoon had reached the security of the opposite bank. This valorous deed accomplished, he observed a soldier of another platoon struggling for his life after he had been swept from his feet by the swift current. Once again he gallantly plunged into the stream and rescued the drowning man. He remained in the water until he was certain that all members of the last platoon had successfully crossed the stream. As a result of Private Autry's display of outstanding courage two comrades lives were saved and many others were materially assisted in their crossing. Residence: Houston, Texas.

II -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded, posthumously, to the following named individuals:

Corporal Gordon K. Bentson, 37542021, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. During the daylight hours of 13 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France; Corporal Bentson, squad leader in the leading assault platoon, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy artillery, mortar and automatic weapon fire. The assigned route of the attacking squad necessitated Corporal Bentson's maneuvering them over 800 yards of fire-swept terrain in full view of the enemy. He gallantly preceded his squad, with utter disregard for his life, seeking out the enemy as he courageously advanced. When he had advanced approximately 100 yards he was painfully wounded by enemy small arms fire.

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CO #7, Hq 103d Inf Div, Std 2 Jap 45.  
 II -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR (Cont'd)

Despite these injuries he pushed relentlessly on, heedless of the devastating fire that swept his path. Advancing but a few yards farther, he was wounded again, this time by enemy mortar fire. He dragged himself to a nearby doorway and from this vantage point, brilliantly directed his squad in the attack which ultimately resulted in their forcing the enemy to withdraw. Corporal Bentson subsequently died of the wounds received in this action. Throughout this entire activity Corporal Bentson's display of magnificent courage was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Dallas, Texas. Next of kin: Mrs. Gwendolyn O. Bentson (wife), 3628 Lartmouth, Dallas, Texas.

Private First Class Elmo E. Gross, 37402352, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. During the night of 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, it was imperative that a heavily mined and blocked road be cleared in order that a task force of infantry and tanks could begin a dawn attack. Realizing that the small group of engineers could not clear the road in time for the early morning attack, Private Gross, on his own initiative, assisted the engineers in removing deadly mines from four road blocks. In addition to the danger of removing the booby trapped mines in the dark there was also the possibility of the noise of the digging attracting the alert enemy. Despite this danger he worked on, with utter disregard for his life, until a hostile mine exploded, mortally wounding him. As a result of Private Gross' heroic action, the task force was able to advance along the cleared road to successfully capture its objective. His gallantry was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: St. Louis, Missouri. Next of kin: Mrs. Bessie M. Gross (wife), 4705 Thrush Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

By command of Major General HAFNER:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
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3 January 1945

(GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 8)

- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . . I
- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART, REVOCATION . . . . . II
- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . III

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private Alfred A. Jones, 16151867, Corps of Engineers, Company "C", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 12 December 1944. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class Richard D. Carlson, 17123330, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 21 December 1944. Residence: Gothenburg, Nebraska.

Technical Sergeant Harry M. Knarr, Jr., 16143759, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 16 November 1944. Residence: Joliet, Illinois.

II -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART, REVOCATION. So much of General Orders Number 1, this Headquarters, dated 1 January 1945, as pertains to Technical Sergeant Harry M. Knarr, Jr., 16143759, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment, is revoked.

III - AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Technical Sergeant Harry M. Knarr, Jr., 16143759, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Joliet, Illinois.

Private First Class Donald W. Sikes, 18132983, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 November 1944. Residence: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

R E S T R I C T E D

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*A. J. Hill*  
*S*

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
4 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 10)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I - AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private First Class Francis H. Benoit, 38490726, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Church Point, Louisiana.

Private First Class Thomas M. VanEck, 33777633, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Private Harry G. Schwed, 35247570, Infantry, Company "H", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 17 December 1944. Residence: Cleveland, Ohio.

Sergeant John F. Yagerhofer, 33827089, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Coplay, Pennsylvania.

Technician Fifth Grade Elton R. Jacobson, 37542290, Corps of Engineers, Company "B", 28th Engineer C Battalion, France, 2 January 1945. Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Private Dayman W. Gray, 35810078, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 26 December 1944. Residence: Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Private Warren J. Theiss, 42061057, Infantry, Company "C", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 26 December 1944. Residence: Yonkers, New York.

Technician Fifth Grade James E. McInvale, 17008734, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 28 December 1944. Residence: Melvin, Arkansas.

Private Joseph P. Grastara, 42088189, Infantry, Company "A", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 9 December 1944. Residence: North Bergen, New Jersey.

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R E S T R I C T E D

GO #10, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 4 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

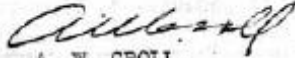
II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private Jesus M. Caballero, 39864599, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Phoenix, Arizona.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army.  
4 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS,  
NUMBER - 11)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Private Carl F. Otto, 37447904, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the period 19 - 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Otto, litter bearer attached to Second Battalion, worked tirelessly day and night evacuating wounded comrades. With utter disregard for his life, he braved withering enemy fire time after time, climbing a precipitous mountain slope under the most trying conditions, in order to reach the casualties. When the wounded were finally located, evacuation necessitated going down the slope in direct observation of the enemy and completely exposed to a hail of mortar, artillery and sniper fire. As a result of Private Otto's magnificent valor, many lives were saved and professional medical attention was rendered efficiently and expeditiously. Residence: Oxford Junction, Iowa.

Staff Sergeant Carl C. Wells, 34464922, Infantry, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 23 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Wells, in the company of two men and his platoon leader, was subjected to intense enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the vital necessity of ascertaining the location of the hostile strongpoint, he, with utter disregard for his life, accompanied by two comrades and his platoon leader, courageously went forward in full view of the enemy. Headless of the withering fire that blasted the area around him, killing one of his comrades, he pushed heroically forward in quest of the enemy emplacement. As a result of Sergeant Wells' magnificent valor the position of the hostile gun was located and ultimately destroyed by mortar fire. Residence: Willard, North Carolina.

Sergeant Robert O. Rose, 35422577, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 2 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Rose, with his mortar squad, skillfully manned an enemy road-block vital to the operation of our attacking

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GO #11, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 4 Jan 45  
 AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

forces. When this protection was no longer necessary he moved his squad to a new position under intense enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire. In the progress of the movement a squad member was struck by shrapnel. With utter disregard for his life, he dashed to the side of his wounded comrade, and despite the withering fire, dragged him 75 yards to protection. The intensity of the fire became so severe at one point that the wounded man was struck again. Heedless of this extreme danger Sergeant Ross continued courageously, and as a result of his outstanding valor he saved the life of a wounded comrade. Residence: Springfield, Ohio.

Private Veneslado M. Salgado, 39017751, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the period of 19 December to 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Salgado, litter bearer attached to Second Battalion, worked tirelessly and courageously night and day evacuating wounded. Warned that going forward entailed extreme danger, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed to the front line troops to be of assistance wherever it was deemed necessary. Evacuation of the wounded necessitated traversing a thousand yards of hazardous and mountainous terrain, in the face of withering enemy fire. Repeatedly he crossed the fire-swept area to bring his comrades to safety. Oblivious of physical exhaustion he did not cease his courageous efforts until all the wounded had been carried to safety. By his outstanding valor many lives were saved and medical attention was rendered expeditiously to the wounded. Residence: Rosemead, California.

Private First Class Harry E. Thomas, 37400595, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 10 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Thomas was pinned to the ground by intense enemy small arms fire. Observing a wounded comrade lying in an exposed position, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed courageously to the injured man's side. Completely oblivious of the devastating fire that swept his path, he picked up the wounded man in full view of the enemy and carried him to safety. As a result of Private Thomas' heroic actions, his wounded comrade received prompt medical attention. Residence: St. Louis, Missouri.

Private First Class Bernard A. Enos, 36553926, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 21 December 1944, in the rocky and mountainous region near \* \* \*, Germany, Private Enos, a one quarter ton truck driver, on his own initiative, volunteered to bring urgently needed ammunition to the battling front line troops. With utter disregard for his safety, he courageously drove two miles through intense enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire to a precarious advance position. Successfully reaching his destination, he unloaded the vital ammunition and then brought a wounded soldier back to safety as litter bearers were needed elsewhere. On four occasions he braved the heavy enemy fire to transport ammunition to the front and evacuate casualties to the rear for medical aid. Private Enos' heroic

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GO #11, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 4 Jan 45  
 AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

actions were of material assistance to our infantry in their advance and his expeditious manner of evacuating the wounded was extremely helpful to the seriously wounded casualties. Residence: Saginaw, Michigan.

Private First Class Donald G. Leichtweis, 36548766, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 25 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Leichtweis, litter bearer assigned to Company "A", was pinned to the ground by intense enemy mortar and small arms fire. Informed that many wounded were in an exposed position in front of an enemy road-block, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed forward to locate and evacuate the wounded. Despite the withering fire that swept the area, he continued his heroic efforts completely oblivious of the dangers that confronted him. He worked untiringly and courageously evacuating many wounded, until he, himself, was seriously wounded by enemy machine gun fire. As a result of Private Leichtweis' magnificent valor, prompt medical attention was rendered efficiently and expeditiously to his wounded comrades. Residence: Plymouth, Michigan.

Private First Class Lynn R. Stowe, 38535135, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 1 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Stowe, was subjected to a murderous enemy artillery barrage. The terrain, being open and flat, offered little cover from the devastating fire. Observing a comrade struck down by a shell fragment, Private Stowe, with utter disregard for his life, fearlessly advanced to the side of his wounded comrade. While enemy shells raked the area, he expeditiously administered first aid, and then skillfully assisted the wounded man to safety. His courageous actions accomplished under the most hazardous conditions saved the life of a fellow soldier. Residence: Fort Worth, Texas.

Private First Class Robert L. Leslie, 33435556, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, a light machine gun failed to function while the company was undergoing a heavy artillery and mortar-supported counterattack. Cognizant of the peril to his company, Private Leslie, machine gunner, with utter disregard for his life, courageously held the position while the remainder of the squad withdrew the machine gun to be repaired. Private Leslie returned fire with his rifle and, although the counterattack increased in intensity as the enemy approached to within 75 yards, he firmly held his position. Private Leslie's delaying action enabled the squad to repair the machine gun in time to return it to the position and drive off the enemy. As a result of his valorous act, the company materially aided in stabilizing its position, successfully repulsed the hostile counterattack. Residence: Newcastle, Pennsylvania.

Private Philip H. Lesh, 32777429, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of

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GO #11, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 4 Jan 45  
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

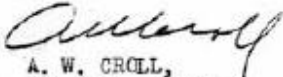
30 November 1944, in the mountainous and wooded region near \* \* \*, France, Private Lesh, a wireman in a forward observer section, was assisting in maintaining a radio relay station during the assault on the village. Being in close proximity to the enemy lines, hostile patrols were known to be active in the area. Shortly after the infantry advance passed their position an enemy patrol of ten men came within thirty yards of their post and another hostile patrol opened fire. Due to his expert firing the patrol was forced to withdraw. Despite the danger constantly confronting him in this forward position, he, showing great devotion to duty, stayed at his post so that important artillery fire missions could be relayed to the fire direction center. Residence: Clifton, New Jersey.

Private Oscar H. Walker, 38479112, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, an enemy attack supported by intense artillery, mortar, and tank fire resulted in heavy casualties. Several times throughout the day, Private Walker, a medical aid man attached to Company "D", courageously exposed himself to hostile fire to administer aid to the wounded. On one occasion, with utter disregard for his life, he courageously dashed 200 yards through mortar, artillery, small arms, and direct tank fire to the aid of a wounded comrade who had been shot through the lung. Displaying great stamina and determination, he carried the casualty, unaided, up a precipitous slope to the safety of a troop-shelter. Private Walker skillfully and expeditiously treated the serious wound, but was unable to evacuate the injured man to the aid station during the persistent enemy assault on our positions. For a period of 60 hours, during which time he did not sleep, Private Walker remained continually at his comrade's side carefully attending and watching the serious lung wound. As a result of his magnificent valor and spirit of duty, his helpless patient was later evacuated to an aid station where professional and effective medical treatment was administered. His courage and sacrifice remains a lasting inspiration to all his comrades. Residence: Atoka, Oklahoma.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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APO 470, U. S. Army  
5 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 12)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . .	I
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, MISSING IN ACTION . . . . .	II
AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . .	III
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . .	IV
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, AMENDMENT . . . . .	V
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, REVOCATION . . . . .	VI

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

*103d*

Staff Sergeant Virgil A. Gallion, 17175027, Infantry, Service Company, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the morning of 16 December 1944, Sergeant Gallion, a battalion supply sergeant, on his own initiative, began the dangerous mission of delivering rations and ammunition over fire-swept terrain to the front line troops fighting near \* \* \*, Germany. Because our troops had advanced swiftly, a considerable distance lay between the supply point and the troops, with no direct route available. Sergeant Gallion reconnoitered the area and found a feasible, though fire-swept, route. Realizing the importance of his mission, he disregarded warning of those around him, and proceeded forward, although at one time he passed under direct enemy observation and was subjected to intense shelling. He successfully directed his vehicle as close to the troops as possible and then swiftly organized hand-carrying parties. While in this forward position, he learned that a nearby village was to be bombed shortly, but remained so that he could evacuate any casualties. Having successfully evacuated the sole casualty of the bombing, he returned to the supply point. Sergeant Gallion skillfully continued his important work throughout the following two days by supplying forward troops with rations and ammunition, which were of material aid in their advance. Residence: Atchison, Kansas.

Private First Class Harold E. Robinson, 35595925, (then Private), Infantry, Company "F", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 29 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Robinson, a messenger, observed a comrade wounded by enemy small arms fire. All aid men being preoccupied, he, on his own initiative fearlessly advanced forward under the enemy fire and successfully reached the injured man. Bullets raked his path as he expeditiously carried his comrade to safety. Because of Private Robinson's courageous actions while under fire, his injured comrade was able to receive prompt medical attention. Residence: Stow, Ohio.

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GO #12, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 5 Jan 45  
I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Private First Class Charles E. Widas, 38496876, Infantry, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 23 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* , France, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment, was subjected to intense enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the vital necessity of ascertaining the location of the hostile strongpoint, Private Widas, with utter disregard for his life, courageously accompanied his platoon leader and two comrades who were going forward in full view of the enemy. Heedless of the withering fire that blasted the area, knowing one of his comrades had been killed and another wounded, he heroically pushed forward to locate the enemy emplacement. As a result of Private Widas' magnificent valor the position of the hostile gun was located and ultimately destroyed by mortar fire. Residence: Roseland, Louisiana.

II -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, MISSING IN ACTION. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individual:

Sergeant Willis M. Gartrell, 34497242, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* , Germany, the position of Company "G" was threatened by an enemy counter-attack. Sergeant Gartrell, with utter disregard for his life, crawled from his trench numerous times in order to fire more effectively. On numerous occasions he stood upright exposing himself, firing with devastating accuracy on the attacking enemy. Although he was in the mortar section, he courageously joined the riflemen in their counter-drive to repulse the severe hostile attack. Sergeant Gartrell advanced toward the enemy forces, firing as he moved, and was last seen driving forward over the hostile area. Sergeant Gartrell's magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Memphis, Tennessee. Next of kin: Mrs. Emma O. Smith (Mother), 1519 Gaither Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

III -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to following named individuals:

Private Robert J. Doris, 32960552, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \* , France, Private Doris, machine gunner, while under severe enemy shelling, courageously remained at his post despite the withering fire that blasted the area. When one gunner was killed by enemy fire, he, with utter disregard for his life, single-handedly moved the gun and directed accurate and effective fire on the hostile troops. The accuracy of his fire was so severe that the opposing forces were compelled to withdraw in a disorganized retreat. In the process of this heroic action he was struck by hostile fire, falling mortally wounded. Throughout this entire action Private Doris' display of magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the

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GO #12, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 5 Jan 45  
 III -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

military service. Residence: Newark, New Jersey. Next of kin: Mr. Archibald Doris (Father), 197 Barclay Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Private First Class Allen L. Blackman, 36548178, Infantry, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 23 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment, was subjected to intense enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the vital necessity of ascertaining the location of the hostile strongpoint, Private Blackman, with utter disregard for his life, courageously accompanied his platoon leader and two comrades, who were going forward in full view of the enemy. Heedless of the withering fire that blasted the area, Private Blackman heroically pushed forward until cut down by enemy fire, falling mortally wounded. His outstanding courage materially assisted in locating the position of the hostile gun which was ultimately destroyed by mortar fire. Throughout this entire action, Private Blackman's display of magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: La Salle, Michigan. Next of kin: Mrs. Edna Blackman (Mother), RFD #1, La Salle, Michigan.

Sergeant J. C. Gentry, 34497640, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Gentry, machine gun squad leader, courageously deployed his squad into strategic positions while under intense artillery fire. He directed accurate and effective fire on an enemy strongpoint while in full view of the hostile forces. In order to locate a more advantageous position, he, with utter disregard for his life, skillfully crawled forward, completely oblivious of the devastating fire that blasted the area about him. In the process of his move forward he was struck by enemy fire, falling mortally wounded. Throughout this entire action, Sergeant Gentry's display of outstanding valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Shady Valley, Tennessee. Next of kin: Mrs. Ida Gentry (Mother), Route 1, Shady Valley, Tennessee.

Private First Class Donald E. Hudson, 38509704, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Hudson, machine gunner, while under severe enemy shelling, courageously remained at his post despite the withering fire that blasted the area. He effectively placed fire on hostile forces moving forward in a counter-attack, with such accuracy that the enemy were forced to withdraw in a hasty retreat, suffering numerous casualties. Heroically, he picked up his gun, dashed forward on the heels of the fleeing enemy, firing on them as they withdrew, and continued firing until he was struck by enemy fire, falling mortally wounded. Throughout this entire action Private Hudson's display of magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Little Rock, Arkansas. Next of kin: Mrs. Bernice E. Hudson (Mother), 3405 West 13th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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GO #12, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 5 Jan 45  
 III -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Private First Class Lincoln Ng, 32901529, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Ng and his company were subjected to murderous enemy artillery, mortar, and sniper fire, during a hostile counter-attack. During this severe concentration of hostile fire a fellow machine gunner was wounded. With utter disregard for his life, Private Ng unhesitatingly braved this withering fire and fearlessly carried the machine gun to a more advantageous position. From this vantage point, he skillfully and courageously directed devastating fire into the enemy ranks, inflicting heavy casualties and forcing the enemy to withdraw. Private Ng, during this valorous act was fatally wounded by enemy fire. Throughout this entire action, his display of self-sacrifice and magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the armed forces. Residence: New York, New York. Next of kin: Mr. Wing Ng (Father), 61 Chryptic Street, New York, New York.

Private Edward V. Ciricillo, 43002871, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Ciricillo's company established a bridgehead across an enemy-held river. His company was pinned to the open terrain by an intense barrage of mortar and machine gun fire. Realizing his comrades were cut off on the hostile side of the river, Private Ciricillo, with utter disregard for his life, courageously crawled forward under a fierce hail of hostile fire toward an enemy machine gun emplacement. Taking advantage of the little cover that the exposed bridgehead offered, he crawled forward to within a few yards of the hostile emplacement, when struck by a blast of hostile fire, falling mortally wounded. The men, inspired by Private Ciricillo's courageous act, moved forward driving the enemy back. His magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Newark, New Jersey. Next of kin: Mrs. Madoline Ciricillo (Mother), 23d Sixth Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Private First Class Frank J. Horjes, 336712851, Infantry, Company "D", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Horjes, machine gunner, while under severe enemy shelling, courageously remained at his post, despite the withering fire that blasted the area. He placed fire on enemy positions with such deadly accuracy and effectiveness that they were forced to withdraw in disorganized retreat. His heroic efforts materially assisted artillery observers to successfully relay vital information to their fire direction center, which ultimately brought devastating fire on the retreating enemy. In the course of this activity Private Horjes was mortally wounded by enemy machine gun fire. Throughout this entire action Private Horjes' display of outstanding valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Chicago, Illinois. Next of kin: Mrs. Agnes Horjes (Mother), 5207 South Fairfield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

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GO #12, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 5 Jan 45

IV -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individual:

Private First Class Conrad A. Herrmann, 32963711, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Herrmann, observed a driver forced to abandon his vehicle due to a terrific enemy artillery barrage falling in the immediate area. Realizing the valuable vehicle would suffer a direct hit unless immediate action was taken, he, with utter disregard for his life dashed boldly from his place of safety to rescue the exposed vehicle. Fully cognizant of the extreme danger confronting him, he jumped into the vehicle amid a hail of devastating fire and drove it to safety. Residence: Glendale, New York.

V -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, AMENDMENT. So much of Section I, General Orders Number 2, this Headquarters, dated 1 January 1945, as reads "Private First Class Marcus T. Connelly, 37420155", is amended to read "Private First Class Marcus J. Connelly, 37420156".

VI -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL, REVOCATION. So much of Section I, General Orders Number 2, this Headquarters, dated 1 January 1945, as pertains to following named individuals, is revoked:

Private First Class Conrad A. Herrmann, 32963711, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment.

Private First Class Harold E. Robinson, 35595925 (then Private), Infantry, Company "F", 409th Infantry Regiment.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Croll*  
A. W. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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*4-8-1103*

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
5 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 13)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

SECOND LIEUTENANT BENSON E. BRISTER, 01318341, Infantry, Company "H", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 19 December 1944. Residence: Yates Center, Kansas.

Private First Class William A. Bailey, 37731874, Infantry, Company "K", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Jewell, Kansas.

Technician Fourth Grade George H. Harsch, 20743123, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 17 December 1944. Residence: Ottumwa, Iowa.

Private First Class Willard A. Potts, 36579270, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 19 December 1944. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class John J. Kaufmann, 36643050, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 20 December 1944. Residence: Wilmette, Illinois.

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Staff Sergeant James A Parslow, 32847029, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 20 December 1944. Residence: Watertown, New York.

Private First Class C. B. McCarrell, 38589382, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 20 December 1944. Residence: Bethel, Oklahoma.

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GO #13, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 5 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Groll*  
A. W. GROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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