

R E S T R I C T E D

HEAD-QUARTERS 70TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APS 461 U S ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS )  
NUMBER 23 )

28 March 1945

- Award of the Silver Star..... I
- Award of the Bronze Star Medal..... II
- Award of the Purple Heart..... III

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded to the following individuals:

CHARLES B BLACKMAR, O1 183 815, 1st Lieutenant (then 2d Lieutenant), Infantry, Company G, Infantry, for gallantry in action on 17 February 1945, near Kerbach, France. When, in the darkness of night, the enemy launched a strong counterattack against his company, Lieutenant Blackmar, without regard for his personal safety, boldly went forward to an exposed position, and using an M-9 projector, ordinarily inadequate for this purpose, he shrewdly improvised effective artificial light and trained it on the enemy. The observation thus gained of the enemy's positions, permitted the accurate placing of heavy machine gun fire upon the enemy, and resulted in the repelling of the counterattack with casualties approximated at 65 enemy dead or wounded. Entered military service from Kansas City, Missouri.

JAMES D KIDDER, O26 227, Captain, Infantry, Company H, Infantry, for gallantry in action on 21 February 1945. During the battle for wooded terrain south of Styring Wendel, France, an enemy counterattack cut off one company from the battalion and regained a strong fortified position. Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, Captain Kidder, organizing a group of men from three separate tactical units, led them with such skill and aggressiveness that they drove the enemy back, inflicting heavy casualties and reestablishing contact with the company which had been cut off. After quickly establishing defensive positions he went to the rear and, despite hazardous enemy artillery fire, brought up a HMG to a strategic position in time to aid in beating back another enemy counterattack, accounting for 15 known dead. Throughout the action Captain Kidder displayed such outstanding leadership and courage that all the men were inspired to greater efforts and finally drove the enemy from the fortified positions. Entered United States Military Academy from Sedona Park, Maryland.

EVERETT G SHERMAN, O1166 373, Captain, Field Artillery, Headquarters Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 20 and 22 February 1945, near Spichenen, France. Braving a terrific enemy preparation shelling on 20 February, Captain Sherman remained at his post, adjusting friendly artillery on the enemy, until the counterattack came within 25 yards of his position. His action resulted in heavy enemy casualties and was largely responsible for repelling the counterattack. On 23 February, under heavy enemy fire, Captain Sherman, even after being wounded, observed and adjusted friendly artillery on the enemy to cover an infantry attack, inflicting heavy casualties and driving 30 enemy into pillboxes from which they all surrendered. Entered military service from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

II --- AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following individuals:

DEAN W CLARK, 39 218 549, Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, Company C, Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 24 February 1945. With enemy snipers active, Sergeant Clark, with a comrade, courageously removed five 100 pound enemy demolition bombs and 12 anti-tank mines from focal positions in Forbach, France and, at great personal risk, carried them three miles to a place where they would not endanger the lives of others. His heroic actions prevented these missiles from causing devastation which might have impeded the capture of the city. Entered military service from Boise, Idaho.

ISAAC W DIAL, 38 038 467, Private First Class, Infantry, Company B, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 17 February 1945, near Ostingen, France. During an attack by Company B, Infantry, Private First Class Dial's platoon with other leading elements of the company were seriously harrassed by frontal enemy machine gun fire. Although wounded in the action, Private First Class Dial kept his BAR in action, and without regard for his personal safety, directed effective fire upon the enemy positions until his company reached its objective. Entered military service from Houston, Texas.

EARLE F GOODWIN, 31 352 630, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 20 and 21 February 1945 at Forbach, France. When the evacuation of 30 wounded from a castle in Forbach was impossible because of the intense enemy fire, Private First Class Goodwin, braving the hostile fire, made his way to the wounded. Through the night he administered medical aid and, in the morning, assisted their evacuation. Later, though endangered by the enemy fire which had already caused heavy casualties within an Infantry company, he gave untiring medical treatment to each of the wounded. At nightfall he slipped back to the aid station for two litter squads and a medical officer, and his service as a guide effected the removal of the wounded by midnight. The hazards and fatigue of two days and nights unbroken, Private First Class Goodwin continued nevertheless throughout the following day as a litter-bearer. His persistent, determined devotion to his comrades and his valor under fire were instrumental in saving many lives. Entered military service from Ellsworth, Maine.

WALTER HESS, O 557 691, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company G, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 18 February 1945, near Etzling, France. During a strong enemy counterattack and an intense artillery preparation barrage, Lieutenant Hess voluntarily left cover to check the ammunition supply. Finding the supply nearly depleted he obtained, at great personal risk, additional supplies so that the men could continue intensive fire upon the enemy. His courageous action contributed greatly in breaking the counterattack and permitted his company to move forward and take its objective the following day. Entered military service from Washington, D C.

WAGNER D HOWARD, 38 541 492, Technician Fourth Grade, Corps of Engineers, Company C, Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 24 February 1945. With enemy snipers active, Technician Howard, with a comrade, courageously removed five 100 pound enemy demolition bombs and 12 anti-tank mines from focal positions in Forbach, France, and, at great personal risk, carried them three miles to a place where they would not endanger the lives of others. His heroic actions prevented these missiles from causing devastation which might have impeded the capture of the city. Entered military service from Beaumont, Texas.

HAROLD J JAROS, 36 023 160, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company A, Infantry for heroic achievement in action on 19 February 1945 at Forbach, France. His platoon held up by a hostile machine gun, while moving toward its objective of clearing a strong enemy position, Staff Sergeant Jaros took his squad and outmaneuvering the gun crew, forced it to withdraw. Then, after repelling a small enemy counterattack, he mounted a moving tank and from his precarious position directed the tank's fire so accurately that the enemy position was neutralized, permitting another squad to move in and complete the platoon's mission. By his courageous initiative, Staff Sergeant Jaros' actions also secured his company's left flank. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

JOHN J KELLY, 12 226 738, Private First Class, Infantry, Company E, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 24 February 1945, at Styring Wendel, France. With his company pinned down by hostile machine gun fire, Private First Class Kelly, valiantly exposing himself, boldly advanced on the hostile position, firing his rifle steadily at the enemy machine gunners. Although severely wounded in the action, his assault diverted the enemy fire from his company permitting it to maneuver to a better position. Entered military service from Flushing, New York.

RUDOLPH B FITTERLE, JR, 36 982 694, Corporal, Infantry, Company D, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 24 February 1945, near Saarbrucken, Germany. During a strong enemy counterattack by infantry and armor heavily supported by an artillery and mortar barrage, Corporal Fitterle kept his 81mm mortar in effective operation against the enemy though exposed to continuous enemy small arms, mortar, artillery and tank fire. His outstanding courage and persistence under hazardous fire was instrumental in repelling the counterattack. Entered military service from Jefferson, Wisconsin.

ANTHONY P VAN de WEGE, 39 104 467, Technical Sergeant, Infantry, Company D, Infantry, for heroic achievement in action 24 February 1945, near Saarbrucken, Germany. When his company was subjected to an enemy counterattack and his machine gun platoon harassed by a hostile sniper, Technical Sergeant Van de Wege, courageously exposing himself to enemy observation, crept forward to the sniper's position and killed him. His brave action was an inspiration to his men who were finally instrumental in repulsing the enemy counterattack. Entered military service from Denver, Colorado.

GO #23 Hq 70th Inf Div  
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R E S T R I C T E D

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


BRUCE M CAMPBELL, O1 032 693, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 70th Infantry Division, 14 February 1945, France. Entered military service from Portland, Oregon.

WILLIAM J MINIHAN, O1 032 164, 2d Lieutenant, Cavalry, 70th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 20 March 1945, France. Entered military service from Casper, Wyoming.

By command of Major General BARNETT:

LEO A BESSETTE  
Colonel GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

  
B V MERRICK  
Lt Col AGD  
Adj General