

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 76th INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 461 U.S. ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)

29 April 1945

NUMBER 33)

Award of the Bronze Star Medal..... I
Award of the Purple Heart..... II
Amendment of General Orders..... III

I ---- 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:

ALAN G ANDERSON, 16 123 137, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 5 January 1945. Under heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire near Philippsbourg, France, Sergeant Anderson, with a comrade, crawled forward from concealment in a woods to an exposed position where he emplaced a 60mm mortar. Immediately opening fire, he destroyed an enemy machine gun position and forced the withdrawal of an enemy mortar crew. This courageous action enabled the company to complete a successful attack. Entered military service from Rockford, Illinois.

PAUL D BARTLEY, 33 763 772, Staff Sergeant, Company D, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 23 February 1945. While his platoon supported an attack in the wooded hills west of Etzling, France, Staff Sergeant Bartley, HMG section leader, was reconnoitering for gun positions 150 yards away. The enemy launched a counterattack against the machine gun platoon's right flank while the gun crews were moving forward with equipment dismounted and on their shoulders. Staff Sergeant Bartley immediately ran to his section through heavy small arms fire, deployed his men, and took over operation of a machine gun himself. He laid down such effective fire that the enemy attack was repelled with heavy casualties. Staff Sergeant Bartley's gallantry and initiative reflect the highest standards of the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Altoona, Pennsylvania.

LEON E BARTRAM, 37 537 892, Staff Sergeant, Company C, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 13 January 1945, near Philippsbourg, France. Volunteering to re-establish an important listening post where a wounded comrade had been cut off by the enemy Staff Sergeant Bartram courageously led two men forward through a steep draw covered by hostile machine guns and under heavy artillery fire. He discovered that the listening post was occupied by the enemy, and the wounded comrade probably captured. Continuing on alone, Staff Sergeant Bartram gained a vantage point from which he observed the enemy massing for a counterattack. He returned to his unit with this information, and fires were immediately placed upon the hostile forces, breaking up the counterattack before it could be successfully launched. Entered military service from Oregon, Mo.

DELBERT C BRANDT, 35 077 169, Private First Class, Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 20 February 1945 near Spicheren Heights, France. While assisting in covering their squad's assault on a pillbox, Private First Class Brandt and a comrade were first to detect an enemy force of approximately 12 men attacking from the right flank. Immediately moving into positions they aggressively engaged the hostile group with accurate rifle fire. When they were joined by other men covering the squad's assault, the enemy was completely routed. Private First Class Brandt's alertness, prompt initiative and gallantry helped secure the right flank and enabled his platoon to continue its mission. Entered military service from Troy, Ohio.

HOWARD L BUCY, 37 476 678, Staff Sergeant, (then Private First Class), Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 18 February 1945, near Spicheren, France. Commanding his squad during the absence of his squad leader, Private First Class Bucz was ordered to protect a LMG section during an enemy counterattack. Disregarding heavy fire and under direct hostile observation, he moved beyond the front line and covered the movement of his squad with his own rifle fire. His courageous action enabled his squad to go into position without casualties and was a decisive factor in repelling the counterattack. Entered military service from Decatur, Nebraska.

FRED M CRAIG, 02 006 374, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company E, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 18 February 1945 in the vicinity of Behren and Kerbach, France. When his unit was separated from an adjacent company during an attack, Lieutenant Craig set out alone to establish contact, rather than send someone else through woods not cleared of enemy troops. While reconnoitering he was painfully wounded by an enemy machine gun. Boldly exposing himself again to hostile fire, Lieutenant Craig was able to determine the location of the gun emplacement. Later he directed the attack which neutralized this hostile strong point. His courageous action eliminated a serious threat to his company's flank. Entered military service from Sumner, Illinois.

WILLIAM B CUNNINGHAM JR, 38 079 000, Private First Class, Company B, 370th Medical Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 16 and 17 March 1945, near St Arnaud, France. Private First Class Cunningham and a comrade were called upon to give assistance to a seriously wounded soldier. Disregarding hostile machine gun and mortar fire, they promptly administered first aid and carried the wounded soldier up a steep incline to a position of safety. On the following day, under similar conditions, they again went to the assistance of a wounded comrade and, while exposed to enemy small arms fire, carried him to a covered location. Upon both occasions, a smoke screen was laid for their protection, but the enemy concentrated heavy fire on the area in which the wounded soldiers were located. This display of courage on the part of Private First Class Cunningham was beyond the call of duty and an inspiration to the troops who witnessed it. Entered military service from Cuernavaca, Texas.

WILLIAM C DUKES, 20 805 463, Private First Class, Company C, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 10 March 1945, near Saarbrucken, Germany. Private First Class Dukes led a five-man patrol one and one-half miles through enemy held woods to within 200 yards of hostile positions. Halting his patrol, Private First Class Dukes crawled even closer to the enemy and remained for some time observing their number and deployment. He then maneuvered his patrol back to his own lines without casualties. The information he so courageously gained was a decisive factor in the attack his company subsequently made. Entered military service from Robeline, Louisiana.

CHARLES D EBLEN JR, 0 556 580, Captain (then 2d Lieutenant), Infantry, Company F, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 24 February 1945, at Etzling, France. After the capture of Spicheren Heights, Captain Eblen, then platoon leader, assumed command of the battle weary company. Skillfully reorganizing the unit, he led it against counterattacking forces threatening his battalion's left flank. Captain Eblen's untiring efforts and superb leadership under heavy artillery and small arms fire so inspired his men that they repelled the counterattack, enabling his battalion to advance to its objective. Entered military service from Ashland, Kentucky.

NEAL C GIBBS JR, 37 744 165, Staff Sergeant, Company L, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 6 March 1945. During the attack on the Simon Mine near Styring Wendel, France, Company L, 274th Infantry had many wounded who could not be evacuated because of enemy fire. Staff Sergeant Gibbs voluntarily led his squad forward under heavy artillery and mortar fire and engaged the hostile gun position. This courageous action successfully diverted the attention of the enemy and enabled litter bearers to evacuate the casualties in safety. Entered military service from Kansas City, Missouri.

HAROLD M HANSEN, 37 268 673, Private First Class, Company C, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action from 12 to 19 January 1945. For 7 days, near Philippsbourg, France, Private First Class Hansen volunteered each day to carry rations and ammunition to his platoon. These trips were made on a trail three-quarters of a mile long which was under direct observation of the enemy and continually subjected to artillery, mortar and small arms fire. His courageous perseverance was a decisive factor in the successful operation of his platoon. Entered military service from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

VIRGIL D HECK, 37 484 409, Technician Fifth Grade, 70th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for heroic achievement in action on 20 March 1945, near Heiligenwald, Germany. While on reconnaissance in an armored car, Technician Heck and the crew encountered enemy equipped with a 20mm gun and two machine guns. Although wounded in the ensuing fire fight, he continued to man the turret gun until

ordered to withdraw. Taking an exposed position, he gave the driver directions to back the car to cover. The driver misunderstood and backed the vehicle the wrong way. Still standing exposed in the turret and disregarding the hostile fire, Technician Beck re-directed the car successfully to safety. His courageous action saved the vehicle from damage and the crew from probable death or capture. Entered military service from Hubbard, Nebraska,

JOHN O HERSTAD, 022 068, Major, Coast Artillery Corps, 443d AAA (AW) Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 18 March 1945 near Oetingen, France. In the afternoon of 18 March, Major Herstad conducted a forward reconnaissance on the banks of the Saar River to site automatic weapons for direct fire on the enemy. Under continual mortar and small arms fire in clear view of the enemy, he was wounded by a shell burst, but continued to reconnoiter the exposed terrain until he had accomplished his mission. The information gained by Major Herstad's courageous perseverance greatly assisted in the river crossing and successful assault which followed. Entered United States Military Academy from Salt Lake City, Utah.

JOHN G HUNTER JR, 34 986 747, Private First Class, Headquarters Company 3d Battalion, 275th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action from 21 to 24 February 1945, in the Gifertwald, near Alsting, France. During a three-day attack, Private First Class Hunter almost singlehanded maintained communication between the Battalion Command Post and the assaulting companies. On one occasion, he laid wire for an artillery Observation Post 350 yards beyond the front lines. On the second day of the attack, when his own supply of wire was exhausted, he went forward and assisted the wire crews of the advancing companies. When the Battalion's objective was captured, he continued to service communication lines under intermittent artillery and mortar fire, and refused relief until a secondary wire net had been established late in the third day. Entered military service from Nashville, Tennessee.

EARL KROFF, 33 908 796, Private First Class, Company A, 276th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, near Fursten, Germany. A patrol attempting to cross the Saar River in small boats was forced to withdraw under fire from the enemy entrenched on the opposite bank, and one man was seriously wounded. When the boats reached the shore, Private First Class Kropf lifted the wounded man to his shoulder and carried him through continued heavy fire over 500 yards of exposed ground to safety. Entered military service from Baltimore, Maryland.

ANDREW KUBACHKO JR, 01 054 295, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Company B, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 19 February 1945. When 1st Lieutenant Kubachko's platoon attacked across a clearing in the woods near Eteling, France, one squad was pinned down by heavy enemy fire on the opposite side and the rest of the platoon prevented from crossing. Disregarding machine gun and small arms fire, Lieutenant Kubachko left cover to go forward

through the clearing to the isolated squad. Before he could reach the concealment of the woods he was severely wounded and had to be evacuated. His courageous leadership and gallantry, however, so inspired his platoon that they held their positions and were later successful in rescuing the squad which had been cut off. Entered military service from Monessen, Pennsylvania.

JAMES R MICHAEL, 025 609, Captain, Infantry, Headquarters 2d Battalion, 276th Infantry, for meritorious service in action on 6 and 7 February 1945, near Forbach, France. Serving in his first operation as Battalion Executive Officer, Captain Michael planned and directed a raid which advanced his battalion's lines despite strongly entrenched enemy, heavy fog, and difficult terrain. The following day, when the enemy launched a counterattack, supported by artillery and armor, Captain Michael personally assisted in reorganizing one company whose positions had been overrun. In the absence of the battalion commander, he later executed a withdrawal ordered by his regiment without loss, and so efficiently that the counterattacking enemy was unaware of its progress until the withdrawal had been substantially completed. Captain Michael's superior judgment and initiative were largely responsible for the success of the operations. Entered military service from Ada, Ohio.

ROBERT W NAULT, 36 195 090, Private, Company B, 275th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 23 February 1945, in Stiftswald, France. With his company under a heavy artillery concentration reinforced by rocket launchers and machine guns, Private Nault exposed himself to aimed hostile fire for the purpose of locating the enemy gun positions. While remaining exposed and firing his rifle, he deliberately adjusted mortar fire to within 35 yards of his own position. His courageous actions were a deciding factor in repelling a counterattack. Entered military service from Chippewa County, Michigan.

LUNDY R NUNNERY, 6 666 700, Private First Class (then Private Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 22 February 1945, on Spicheren Heights, France. Without regard for his own safety, Private First Class Nunnery, under enemy artillery fire, crawled through a trench to a seriously wounded comrade. Reaching the wounded man he then carried him 150 yards through heavy shelling to a place where medical care was available. His gallant action was an inspiration to his comrades and probably saved the man's life. Entered military service from Wharton, West Virginia.

LLOYD J PORTER, 37 573 066, Technician Fifth Grade, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 270th Engineer (C) Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 18 February 1945. When heavy artillery fire pinned down the infantry at Etzling, France, Technician Porter and a comrade left cover to clear enemy mines from the path of friendly tanks. His courageous action in breaching the mine fields enabled the armor to move forward and successfully support the infantry in the accomplishment of its mission. Entered military service from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

WARREN S PRICE, 35 079 900, Sergeant, Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 20 February 1945, near Spicheren, France. While assisting in covering their squad's assault on a pillbox, Sergeant Price and a comrade were first to detect an enemy force of approximately 12 men attacking from the right flank. Immediately moving into position, they aggressively engaged the hostile group with accurate rifle fire. When they were joined by other men covering the squad's assault, the enemy was completely routed. Sergeant Price's alertness, prompt initiative and gallantry helped secure the right flank and enabled his platoon to continue its mission. Entered military service from Galena, Ohio.

FREDERICK M ROBERTS, 11 136 377, Private First Class, Company B, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 28 February 1945, near Spicheren, France. When two companies were separated at night, they were threatened with enemy infiltration. Private First Class Roberts was ordered to carry vital messages between the units. Although wounded by 88mm shell fragments, he successfully established contact and delivered his messages. His courageous action helped prevent hostile infiltration and materially assisted his battalion in its mission. Entered military service from Peacedale, Rhode Island.

OSCAR D SCHRAGE, 36 536 416, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 275th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 3 January 1945, in Philippsbourg, France. Staff Sergeant Schrage was operating a battalion radio in a house 400 yards to the rear of his company command post when the enemy launched an attack with an estimated force of two companies against the rear of his company and against the house in which he was operating. He and his crew of three repeatedly drove back the hostile forces. During one heavy assault on his position, many of the enemy were killed or captured. His courageous actions kept the communication lines open, and his radio crew was credited with taking 48 prisoners. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

GERALD V SHAHAN, 02 011 629, 2d Lieutenant (then Technical Sergeant), Infantry, Company K, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945, near Styring Wendel, France. When his platoon leader was hit by enemy fire, Lieutenant Shahan, then platoon sergeant, assumed command, reorganized his platoon under a heavy hostile mortar and artillery fire, and skillfully led the men into attack. His outstanding leadership was an inspiration to his men and kept casualties at a minimum during the action. Entered military service from King Wood, West Virginia.

PAUL A SWENSON, 01 542 164, 1st Lieutenant, Medical Administrative Corps, Medical Detachment, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945, near Behren, France. When Lieutenant Swenson was reconnoitering a route to evacuate a French soldier, he was severely injured by enemy small arms fire. Disregarding his wound, he continued his mission and successfully

evacuated the casualty. This courageous action was typical of the devotion to duty which Lieutenant Swenson displayed many times in the evacuation of casualties under heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

JAMES C WILSON, 15 315 036, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 5 January 1945. Under heavy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire near Philippsbourg France, Technical Sergeant Wilson with a comrade crawled forward from concealment in a woods to an exposed position where they emplaced a 60mm mortar. Immediately opening fire, they destroyed an enemy machine gun position and forced the withdrawal of an enemy mortar crew. This courageous action enabled the company to complete a successful attack. Entered military service from Bowling Green, Kentucky.

WOODROW W WINN, 36 954 522, Private, Company B, 370th Medical Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 16 and 17 March 1945 near St Arnual, France. Private Winn and a comrade were called upon to give assistance to a seriously wounded soldier. Disregarding hostile machine gun and mortar fire, they promptly administered first aid and carried the wounded soldier up a steep incline to a position of safety. On the following day, under similar conditions they again went to the assistance of a wounded comrade and, while exposed to enemy small arms fire, carried him to a covered location. Upon both occasions, a smoke screen was laid for their protection, but the enemy concentrated heavy fire on the area in which the wounded soldiers were located. This display of courage on the part of Private Winn was beyond the call of duty and an inspiration of the troops who witnessed it. Entered military service from Paw Paw, Michigan.

II --- AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 60^U-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds received in action on 10 March 1945, in France:

JAMES PRYDE, 35 928 852, Private, 570th Signal Company. Entered military service from Cleveland, Ohio.

III -- AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of Paragraph I, General Orders 31, this headquarters, dated 23 April 1945, as pertains to 1st Lieutenant THEODORE J DU BOIS, O1 054 968, which reads "Field Artillery" is amended to read "Coast Artillery Corps" and so much as reads "Battery B, 433d AAA (AW) Battalion" is amended to read "Battery D, 443d AAA (AW) Battalion",

By command of Major General BARNETT:

OFFICIAL:

A. L. Tucker
A L TUCKER
Major AGD
Actg Adj General

LEO A BESSETTE
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

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