

R E S T R I C T E D

A-G-5-1105

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army
24 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 144)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL I
AWARD OF PURPLE HEART II

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 to following named individual:

MAJOR EDWIN G. BARTON, 01821081 (then CAPTAIN), Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of Saulcy, France, MAJOR BARTON, Regimental Surgeon, went forward with advancing infantry elements to locate a route of evacuation across the Meurthe River. On the advance forward a medical aid man was seriously wounded by enemy mortar fire. MAJOR BARTON quickly reached the wounded man's side, dragged him to a shallow ditch for protection and amid an intense barrage of enemy fire carefully and skillfully dressed his wounds. The extent of the wounds necessitated MAJOR BARTON remaining in an exposed position for more than twenty minutes while a sniper less than 150 yards away fired at him constantly. MAJOR BARTON assured that the wounded man was protected from further danger sought out a litter team and directed his evacuation. MAJOR BARTON's outstanding valor reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Streator, Illinois.

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

Sergeant Herbert A. Schmidt, 36240921, Field Artillery, Service Battery, 384th Field Artillery Battalion, France, 19 March 1945. Residence: Turtle Lake, Wisconsin.

Private Albert J. Rivera, 39294829, Corps of Engineers, Company "C", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 15 March 1945. Residence: San Diego, California.

Private First Class Harry L. Beaver, 34592113, Medical Department, Company "C", 328th Medical Battalion, Germany, 21 March 1945. Residence: China Grove, North Carolina.

R E S T R I C T E D

9


R E S T R I C T E D

GO #144, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 24 May 45 (Cont'd)

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MCAULIFFE:

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

OFFICIAL:



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

DISTRIBUTION:

"B" & "D" and SPECIAL.

- 2 -

R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

29 files

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General

AGO 470, U. S. Army,
25 May 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 145)

- AWARD OF SILVER STAR I
- AWARD OF OAK-LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR II
- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL III
- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL IV

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

Technical Sergeant Alston J. Shakeshaft, 31337714 (then Sergeant), Infantry, Company "C", 410th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On 15 March 1945, near Uttenhoffen, France, after Sergeant Shakeshaft had moved well forward of his company to a position from which to direct mortar fire, the company was forced to withdraw. Setting up his machine guns to cover the company's withdrawal, he remained until the last of the men had withdrawn. Disregarding intense machine gun and fire from tanks, he organized litter teams and evacuated the wounded. Still under heavy fire, he searched the area to make certain that all the wounded had been removed and then he, himself, withdrew. Sergeant Shakeshaft's actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Topeka, Kansas.

AGO 470, U. S. Army

Technical Sergeant William H. Craig, Jr., 34044769, Infantry, Company "B", 410th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On 24 April 1945, although newly assigned to the infantry, Sergeant Craig assumed command of a platoon and led his men in an attack on Munsingen, Germany. He halted his men near the outskirts of the town, and moving forward, reconnoitered for a favorable route of advance. When fired on by snipers in a building, he returned, led two supporting tanks forward and, standing on top of one of the tanks, directed their fire until the positions were destroyed. Sergeant Craig then led his platoon forward in the attack, capturing approximately 100 of the enemy. His actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Dyersburg, Tennessee.

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

Private First Class Carmine Varano, 12160997, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. During an attack by Company "E", 411th Infantry, on Rothbach, France, intense enemy small arms, automatic weapon and artillery fire inflicted many casualties on the company and forced the men to dig in. Observing a wounded man lying exposed to the

RESTRICTED

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #145, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 25 May 45
II - AWARD OF OAK-LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR (Cont'd)

artillery barrage, Private Varano, aid man, crawled 50 yards to his comrade and administered aid. When a shell burst again wounded the casualty, he grasped the man's jacket and dragged him up a slope 125 yards to a covered position. His actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Union City, New Jersey.

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

Sergeant Earl W. Brownell, 36231158, Armored, Company "B", 781st Tank Battalion. For heroism in action. On 4 April 1945, in the vicinity of Ober-eifesheim, Germany, Sergeant Brownell, tank commander, with members of his crew, maneuvered the tank across an open field in direct line of the enemy in order to afford a patrol of pinned down infantrymen protection. In the face of intense enemy machine gun fire both the tank and the patrol successfully withdrew. Sergeant Brownell's actions were in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

CAPTAIN ERITH L. HOPP, 01171598, Field Artillery, Headquarters 384th Field Artillery Battalion. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy during the period 10 November 1944 to 8 May 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. Residence: Donnelson, Iowa.

Private First Class Mark Watterson, 39706487, Infantry, Anti-Tank Company, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 21 April 1945, near Kirchheim, Germany, when 88 millimeter artillery and automatic weapon fire knocked out the prime mover which was pulling his anti-tank gun and stopped the remainder of a task force, Private Watterson dismounted from the vehicle, placed the anti-tank gun into position and fired on the enemy emplacements. Although the prime mover was again struck by an enemy shell, he continued to fire until a direct hit knocked out his gun and wounded one of the crew. Private Watterson's actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Los Angeles, California.

Technical Sergeant Kenneth E. Dohm, 36407695, Infantry, Hq Company, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 20 March 1945, when it became necessary to set up a regimental observation post in Nieder Schlettenbach, Germany, while fighting was still in progress, Sergeant Dohm, wire chief, drove forward 300 yards through hostile fire, laying wire over the exposed road. Unable to enter the town because of the intensity of the enemy's fire, he dismounted and laid the wire 150 yards into town to the proposed observation post. Observing enemy bullets set fire to his vehicle, he dashed forward to save it, and although too late, successfully removed the telephone equipment. His actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Jackson, Michigan.

IV -- 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:

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #145, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 25 May 45
IV - AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Private Walter H. Johnson, 36618224, Infantry, Company "I", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 20 November 1944 near Ebersheim, France, Private Johnson, disregarding intense enemy 88 millimeter artillery and machine gun fire, moved ahead to reach an area where defensive positions were to be set up. When an enemy counterattack was launched, he killed four of the enemy, wounded two, breaking up the attack sufficiently until his platoon reached the position and dug in. Private Johnson's actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Bensenville, Illinois. Next of kin: Mrs. Hilma Johnson (Mother), Route 2, Chestnut Street, Bensenville, Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Harley S. Wedgbury, 37251369, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. On 16 December 1944, near Climbach, France, Sergeant Wedgbury voluntarily organized a group of four litter bearers and drove them forward to evacuate casualties in the face of strong enemy fire. A mortar barrage wounded Sergeant Wedgbury and one of his litter bearers. Disregarding his own wounds and the heavy enemy fire, he placed his seriously wounded comrade in the vehicle, turned it around and drove to the aid station. Having his own wounds dressed, he secured another litter bearer and successfully reached a forward company with the litter team intact. Sergeant Wedgbury's actions reflected the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Laurens, Iowa. Next of kin: Mrs. Laura Wedgbury (Mother), Laurens, Iowa.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McAULIFFE:

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.

DISTRIBUTION:
"B" & "D" and SPECIAL.

- 3 -
10
R E S T R I C T E D