

R E S T R I C T E D

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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

APO 411, U. S. ARMY

NUMBER 18)

16 January 1946

Award of the Bronze Star Medal..... I
Award of the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal..... II

I. AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:- (a) 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:

Leo Lefkowitz, 32 823 548, Private First Class, Infantry, Company M, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 April 1945 near Nurnburg, Germany. Upon observing a large enemy group advancing toward his machine gun position near Nurnburg, Private Lefkowitz and his squad leader moved his gun to an exposed position from which he could deliver effective fire on the approaching enemy. Although the remainder of the squad was unable to come forward because of the enemy fire, Private Lefkowitz remained in his exposed position, laying down a base of fire which inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy. His extreme courage and determination were directly responsible for the ultimate surrender of the enemy force. Entered military service from Bronx, New York.

Edward N. Lindsey, 31 160 739, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew during the forced crossing of the Main River at Wurzburg, Private Lindsey participated in seven round-trip crossings of the river under heavy machine-gun, sniper, and flak fire. Ignoring the heavy fire involved, he continued to volunteer for the mission of carrying infantrymen and ammunition to the far shore and bringing wounded and prisoners back until the bridgehead was firmly established. His outstanding courage and devotion to duty contributed to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Boston, Massachusetts.

Doris R. Massey, 38 532 790, Private First Class, Infantry, Company F, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 8 April 1945, near Arnstein, Germany. During the attack on Arnstein, heavy machine pistol and rifle fire from enemy dug-in positions pinned his squad to the ground. Completely ignoring his personal safety, Private Massey fearlessly exposed himself to the direct enemy fire to crawl to a flank position which afforded him direct fire with his automatic rifle. He killed the enemy gunner, and with the aid of another rifleman, captured five others. Private Massey's courageous action enabled his squad to advance without further delay or casualty. Entered military service from Gunter, Texas.

William J. Mountford, 34 678 620, Private First Class (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company K, 232nd Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 January 1945, near Sessenheim, France. During the enemy attack on Sessenheim, Sergeant Mountford, squad leader, made repeated trips under intense enemy artillery, mortar, machine gun, and small arms fire and under direct enemy observation to secure ammunition for his squad. When not carrying ammunition Sergeant Mountford was in exposed positions directing and observing his squad's fire. When enemy troops broke through on the company left flank, Sergeant Mountford led his squad over and repulsed the enemy penetration. His outstanding courage, initiative and devotion to duty were instrumental in successfully repulsing the enemy attack on Sessenheim. Entered military service from Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.

over

- 1 -

R E S T R I C T E D

Robert T. Mull, 12 022 573, Technician Fifth Grade (then Private First Class), Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 402nd Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945, near Althorn, France. As an artillery wireman with a forward observer party, Private Mull was laying wire to an advancing Infantry unit during the first day of our general offensive in the Hardt Mountains when an enemy force counter-attacked. Private Mull and three infantrymen bore the brunt of the attack, defending Hill 355 in the center of the company's sector. Four times, groups of the enemy estimated to number between 25 and 30, supported by heavy mortar and machine gun fire, attempted to retake the hill, but Private Mull's skillful use of his carbine, together with the accurate fire delivered by his three comrades, beat off every assault. Even before the infantry established its defensive positions for the night, Private Mull was busy repairing the wire which had been broken by enemy artillery concentrations, thereby restoring communications and facilitating our advance the next day. Entered military service from Slocum, New York.

Richard G. Paulson, 39 399 631, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew during the forced crossing of the Main River at Wurzburg, Germany, Private Paulson participated in numerous round trip crossings of the river under heavy machine gun sniper, and flak fire. Ignoring the enemy fire, he continued to volunteer to ferry infantrymen and ammunition to the far shore and return with wounded and prisoners until the bridgehead was firmly established and the river bridged. Through his outstanding courage, skill, and unswerving devotion to duty, Private Paulson made an effective contribution to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Alturas, California.

John W. Phelan, 37 645 930, Private First Class, Infantry, Company F, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 27 April 1945, near Ob-Peiching, Germany. During the action at Ob-Peiching, one of the men in Private Phelan's platoon was suffering from severe shock while in one of the forward positions. Without regard for his personal safety, he crawled forward under heavy machine gun and rifle fire to help an aid man carry the shock victim back to the aid station. He then crawled forward alone and under continued heavy enemy fire he carried the body of a dead comrade back to the rear. Private Phelan's courageous action under fire was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Rainbow Division. Entered military service from St. Louis, Missouri.

Edward J. Reibeling, 36 765 690, Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant), Corps of Engineer, Headquarters and Service Company, 142nd Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 1 April 1945, near Wertheim, Germany. As a member of a three man reconnaissance team, Sergeant Reibeling entered the town of Wertheim, Germany while searching for possible intact bridges across the Main River. Noting an enemy group in the streets, he and his comrades drove forward in their vehicle and demanded surrender of the enemy officer in charge while covering him with a machine gun. Then, although outnumbered and surrounded by other concealed enemy personnel, he fearlessly assisted in marching the captured soldiers out of the town. Sergeant Reibeling's aggressiveness and disregard for personal safety helped to reduce an enemy strongpoint and supplied information of the enemy's strength and disposition. Entered military service from Columbia, Illinois.

Richard L. Rider, 19 129 284, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 222nd Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 2 March 1945, at Wingen, France. When volunteers were requested to accompany a reconnaissance patrol whose mission it was to locate enemy command posts and observation posts, Private Rider unhesitatingly volunteered. While

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9 Feb 46*

guiding the patrol through enemy mine fields, concealed enemy forces opened fire with machine guns and Private Rider was seriously wounded in both legs. Realizing the devastating effect of the cross-fire he refused to permit anyone to come to his aid. Private Rider's exceptional courage in refusing help and forcing the patrol to withdraw without him undoubtedly saved many of his comrades from certain death. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

John Ronco, 12 077 439, Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant), Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 27 February 1945, at Lichtenberg, France. When Sergeant Ronco's reconnaissance patrol encountered a heavily mined area, the explosion of several mines seriously wounded two men and aroused nearby enemy mortar positions, which immediately adjusted fire on the group. Four more of the patrol fell wounded by the mortar fire. Sergeant Ronco then organized an evacuation team to remove the wounded men. He fearlessly led his group over five hundred yards of difficult terrain, and, despite the mines and mortar fire, succeeded in evacuating all casualties to safety. Sergeant Ronco's extreme courage and calmness under fire contributed materially to saving the lives of the wounded soldiers. Entered military service from Roseto, Pennsylvania.

Theodore H. Ruhling, 37 540 026, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters First Battalion, 242nd Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 8-10 January 1945 near Hatten, France. Private Ruhling was acting as scout for a seven man reconnaissance patrol on the mission of obtaining information of the disposition of enemy troops. Trapped behind enemy lines in the face of a major enemy attack, Private Ruhling was forced to conceal himself in the snow for over fourteen hours. When darkness fell, the patrol attempted to make its escape. Private Ruhling walked over twenty four miles in the sub-freezing weather, evading countless enemy patrols and overcoming almost insurmountable obstacles. His outstanding courage and endurance played a major role in the successful completion of the patrol's mission. Entered military service from Independence, Missouri.

Lester V. Rutan, 35 088 675, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142nd Engineer Combat Battalion for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, near Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Private Rutan participated in numerous round trip crossings of the Main River under intense enemy machine gun, sniper, and flak fire. In the face of this heavy fire, he continually volunteered for each succeeding trip until the mission was completed. Private Rutan's exceptional courage and aggressive determination played a major role in successfully establishing a bridgehead and in the ultimate capture of the city of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Urbana, Ohio.

Glenn R. Schroeding, 33 941 647, Private, Infantry, Company E, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, near Sturzelbronn, France. During an enemy artillery concentration which inflicted serious casualties on his company, Private Schroeding exposed himself to the intense fire to aid another wounded soldier. Although seriously wounded himself, he placed a more severely wounded comrade upon his back and carried him three hundred yards to the shelter of a dugout where he could receive medical aid. Private Schroeding's magnificent display of courage was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Baltimore, Maryland.

Cecil O. Smalley, 35 883 356, Technician Fifth Grade, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters and Service Company, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 17 April 1945, at Furth, Germany. As a member of a three man reconnaissance team, Corporal Smalley, radio operator, was endeavoring to contact his battalion when his jeep was stopped by enemy machine-gun and small-arms fire. Disregarding the enemy fire striking all around him, he continued to send

over

- 3 -

R E S T R I C T E D

GO NO 18 CONTD.

Page 4

16 January 1945.

and receive messages until he was forced by the other members of the team to abandon his vehicle and take cover. Through his outstanding courage and devotion to duty, Corporal Smalley made an effective contribution to the rapid bridging of the Regnitz River at Furth, Germany. Entered military service from Xenia, Ohio.

David Smallwood, 35 882 406, Private First Class, Infantry, Company E, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 March 1945, at Ludwigswinkel, Germany. Private Smallwood was a member of a force assigned to protect the flanks of tank destroyers occupying the town. They were subjected to mortar and artillery fire and enemy sniping with machine guns from 300 yards away. When a man was wounded by shell fragments at a time that all aid men and litter bearers were busy, Private Smallwood and another soldier volunteered to carry the wounded man to the aid station 500 yards up the main street. Though they had to expose themselves to deadly fire, the two men disregarded their own safety to evacuate the wounded man to the aid station. Entered military service from Cane Creek, Kentucky.

John H. Sterthaus, 34 789 766, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company B, 142nd Engineer Combat Battalion for heroic achievement in action on 18 March 1945, near Ludwigswinkel, Germany. When the tank crew he was attached to came under heavy enemy fire from the Siegfried Defenses near Ludwigswinkel, Germany Private Sterthaus, with utter disregard for his own safety, began sweeping the road sides with his mine detector in order to allow the tank to maneuver into a defiladed position. Working in the mine field with enemy shells bursting nearby, he remained at his task until the tank and crew were in a position of comparative safety. Through his outstanding courage and unswerving devotion to duty, Private Sterthaus made an effective contribution to the attack against the vaunted German west wall. Entered military service from Daytona Beach, Florida.

Dennis F. Sullivan, 32 862 761, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company K, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 January 1945, near La Wanzeneau, France. When his four man patrol was ambushed by enemy snipers, Sergeant Sullivan was wounded in the chest and his comrade hit in the leg. Disregarding his own wound, Sergeant Sullivan administered first aid to the injured soldier and carried him back into friendly territory where medical aid was available. Sergeant Sullivan's extreme courage and disregard for himself saved the wounded man from possible death or capture. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

Henry Terry, 35 440 185, Private First Class, Infantry, Company I, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 6 March 1945, near Reipertsweiler, France. As the patrol of which Private Terry was a member approached a wooded knoll, four enemy riflemen appeared preparing to fire. Before the enemy could fire a shot, Private Terry, firing from the off hand position, killed one, wounded another and caused the others to retreat. Private Terry's prompt heroic action saved his patrol from casualties and enabled it to advance and destroy several gun positions, facilitating a later attack in that area. Entered military service from East Lynn, West Virginia.

Harold G. Walling, 6 262 295, First Sergeant, Infantry, Company B, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 25 January 1945, near Ohlungen, France. While moving forward near Ohlungen, France, Sergeant Walling's company was pinned down by withering enemy machine gun fire. In the initial burst of fire, the company commander's messenger was killed and his radio put out of order. Realizing the need for mortar fire, Sergeant Walling, who was near the company commander, received fire orders from him and then crawled through deep snow to relay the orders to a mortar position. Although the enemy was firing at

- 4 -
R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

GO NO 18 CONTD.

Page 5.

16 January 1946.

him the entire route, he made three trips which resulted in the silencing of the enemy guns, thus enabling his company to continue its counterattack. Entered military service from Whitefish, Montana.

Howard L. Willet, 18 171 880, Private First Class, Infantry, Company I 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945, in Wurzburg, Germany. As light machine gunner for his squad, Private Willet was in position alerted for an expected enemy counter attack. He observed the approach of enemy soldiers and immediately opened fire on them, receiving in return a heavy concentration of machine gun, machine pistol, rifle, grenade, and panzerfaust fire. Although he suffered painful burns from white phosphorous grenades thrown into his position, he held his ground fearlessly until friendly rifle troops reinforced his position and drove the enemy back. Entered military service from Pineville, Louisiana.

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 for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States:

b. PRESTON BROWN, JR., 01 183 028, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Battery B, 232d Field Artillery Battalion, from 17 February 1945 to 26 April 1945, inclusive, in France and Germany. Entered military service from Selma, Alabama.

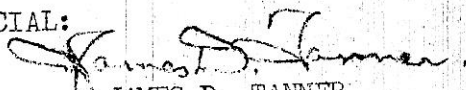
II. AWARD OF THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:--- By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following:

Charles A. Stratton, 36 604 383, Technician Fifth Grade, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 April 1945, at Furth, Germany. During the attack on Furth a direct artillery hit on an ammunition truck set off a series of explosions, wounding several American soldiers. Corporal Stratton, although painfully wounded continued to administer first aid and carry the seriously wounded to shelter until all of the men were evacuated to a position of safety. Then in the face of the intense enemy barrage, he made his way to the medical aid station and returned with medical aid men and ambulances. Through the heroic actions of Corporal Stratton the wounded men were safely evacuated to the rear for medical treatment. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COLLINS:

EDWIN RUSTEBERG,
Lt. Col., General Staff Corps,
Actg. Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


JAMES D. TANNER,
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

- 5 -

R E S T R I C T E D

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