

R E S T R I C T E D

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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

AGO 411, US ARMY

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4 March 1946

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

Peter P. Opoka, 36 546 175, Technician Fourth Grade, (then Technician Fifth Grade), Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 9 January 1945, at Hatten, France. When a superior force of enemy armor had completely surrounded our forces in Hatten, France, Corporal Opoka attempted to contact higher headquarters with his radio for reinforcement. His attempts failing, he and another soldier took a bazooka and several rounds of ammunition and set out to attempt to halt the advancing tanks. Fearlessly approaching one tank under direct machine gun and small arms fire, he fired three rounds, knocking the tread off the vehicle. Corporal Opoka's indomitable courage in the face of overwhelming odds enabled one of our tank destroyers to flank the enemy tank and completely demolish it. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

William R. Pierce, 32 004 121, Technician Fifth Grade, Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 10 April 1945, near Kronungen, Germany. When his rifle platoon was suddenly subjected to heavy concentrations of machine gun, rifle and mortar fire during the advance upon Kronungen, Germany, Corporal Pierce, disregarding his own safety, immediately returned the fire with his automatic rifle. Tenaciously holding his precarious position under full enemy observation, he enabled the rest of his platoon to reach cover. With indomitable perseverance, he continued to fire until he was seriously wounded in the left hand. Through his outstanding heroism and unflinching devotion to duty, Corporal Pierce played a major role in the successful attack. Entered military service from Long Island, New York.

Frank Reis, 32 974 512, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company G, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 25 January 1945, near Ohlungen, France. When Private Reis learned that enemy patrols had encircled the left flank of his platoon, he unhesitatingly made his way through the withering artillery concentrations covering the area in an attempt to effect the escape of his comrades. Reaching the beleaguered defenders, he guided them to friendly lines. He then covered his company's withdrawal to new positions with devastating mortar fire. Through his heroic courage and selfless determination, Private Reis contributed immeasurably to the successful defense of Alsace. Entered military service from New York, New York.

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Oscar A. Shansky, 36 223 194, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 April 1945, at Furth, Germany. Although painfully wounded while accompanying the lead platoon in a forced crossing of the Regnitz River at Furth, Germany, Sergeant Shansky refused medical treatment, and, upon reaching the opposite bank of the river, set up a temporary medical aid station to care for the wounded. Disregarding the heavy machine gun and panzerfaust fire covering the area of the bridgehead, he worked continually throughout the raging fire-fight, treating his wounded comrades until he was ordered to the rear for evacuation. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Sergeant Shansky was an inspiration to the infantrymen fighting around him. Entered military service from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Raymond H. Smith, 44 011 469, Private First Class, Infantry, Company E, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, near Wimmenau, France. When his platoon was caught in a deadly concentration of mortar and artillery fire near Wimmenau, France, Private Smith, although severely shaken by concussion, assisted several of his wounded comrades in reaching the comparative safety of a ditch. Seeing that the majority of his platoon were casualties, he immediately made his way through the withering barrage in a search of medical aid. Although painfully wounded a short time later, he continued on his mission until medical treatment was secured for the injured men. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Private Smith saved his wounded comrades from further injury or possible death. Entered military service from Fairmont, North Carolina.

Richard Starkie, 31 076 952, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 11 April 1945, at Schweinfurt, Germany. When one of our medical aid men was mortally wounded during the attack on Schweinfurt, Germany, Private Starkie, litter bearer, made his way through the withering flak barrage covering the area to the side of the wounded soldier. Taking the soldier's medical kits, he continued to brave the intense concentration until all the wounded in the area had been treated and evacuated to the rear. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Private Starkie saved his wounded comrades from further injury or possible death. Entered military service from Pepperell, Massachusetts.

Reuben Turner, 35 448 629, Private First Class, Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 10 April 1945, near Kronungen, Germany. During the attack on Kronungen, Germany, Private Turner displayed outstanding courage and initiative under fire. When the lead scout was killed by a burst of enemy machine gun fire, Private Turner advanced to his position and, with utter disregard for his own safety, continued to lead his company through the withering barrage until he was severely wounded himself. His unflinching devotion to duty was an inspiration to the men about him and contributed immeasurably to the successful attack. Entered military service from Tolbert, Kentucky.

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:

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John P. Eisinger, 36 762 532, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. During a fierce fire fight in Wurzburg, Germany, Private Eisinger, upon seeing two wounded men lying in an area covered with deadly enemy machine gun fire, unhesitatingly made his way to the injured soldiers. After quickly dressing the wounds of the first man, who was able to make his own way to cover, Private Eisinger carried the other man to a position of comparative safety from where he was evacuated to the rear for medical treatment. Through his great daring and heroic actions, Private Eisinger saved two wounded comrades from further injury or possible death. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

Daniel J. Haggerty, 31 288 647, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 9-15 January 1945, at Hatten, France. During the fierce fighting at Hatten, France, Private Haggerty, though seriously wounded in the right arm, refused evacuation and remained to aid in defending the Company Command Post. Forced to abandon the position several days later in the face of superior enemy strength, he voluntarily returned unarmed through mortar, artillery, machine gun, and sniper fire in order to secure rations and ammunition for his hard-pressed comrades. Facing murderous enemy fire throughout the entire period, he fought tenaciously against the overwhelming attacking forces until ordered to withdraw to new defensive positions. By his indomitable courage and unflinching determination, Private Haggerty played a major role in repulsing the fanatical German attempt to retake Alsace. Entered military service from Springfield, Massachusetts.

Willis F. Jacques, 36 981 958, Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 20 April 1945, near Nurnburg, Germany. During a drive to cut the escape route of the Germans from Nurnburg, Germany, Sergeant Jacques' company was held up by enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire from well-dug-in positions. In the ensuing fire fight Sergeant Jacques crawled within 20 yards of the hostile emplacements and threw two hand grenades into the nearest position killing the occupants. This so terrified the remaining enemy that they lay down their arms and immediately surrendered. By his unfaltering courage and selfless determination Sergeant Jacques eliminated a strong obstacle from our route of advance. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

HOWELL W. KADRIE, 02 007 186, First Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company E, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 25 January 1945, near Schweighausen, France. When the enemy penetrated our main line of resistance near Schweighausen, France, Sergeant Kadrie led a patrol in an attempt to re-establish our lines. Crawling through the deep snow, he made his way to within 50 yards of the German forces where he attempted to set up a machine gun. Finding the gun would not fire because of a mechanical failure and knowing that the enemy was closing in from the rear, he ordered his men to return to friendly lines and inform their company commander of the extent of the penetration. When he was completely surrounded and ordered to surrender by the Germans, he abandoned his project and fought his way through the enemy lines, returning to the newly established defensive positions of his company. Through his great daring and selfless determination, Sergeant Kadrie played a major role in the successful defense of Alsace. Entered military service from Grand Forks, North Dakota.

George C. Marsh, 36 832 213, Technician Fifth Grade, (then Private First Class) Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 29 April 1945, near Schonleiten, Germany. When four men,

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including a company commander, were wounded by enemy panzerfaust and machine gun fire, Private Marsh immediately went forward to aid the injured soldiers. Disregarding the proximity of the Germans and the heavy fire falling all around him, he administered the necessary first aid and supervised the evacuation of the wounded men to the rear. He then returned under the withering barrage to search the area for other casualties. Through his indomitable courage and intrepid devotion to duty, Private Marsh saved four wounded comrades from further injury or possible death. Entered military service from Richland Center, Wisconsin.

ALBERT K. MATHRE, O 52 150, First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant), Infantry, Company E, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 February 1945, near Wingen, France. When the enemy suddenly subjected his patrol to intense automatic weapons fire, Lieutenant Mathre fearlessly exposed himself in order to direct his men into positions to return the fire, covering their deployment with fire from his carbine. Then, after the patrol had accomplished its mission, he disregarded the hail of bullets striking all about him to cover the withdrawal of his men. Lieutenant Mathre's exceptional courage and fearless leadership enabled the patrol to effect a successful retrograde movement with a minimum of casualties. Entered military service from Cambridge, Illinois.

Archie R. Monaghan, 39 476 211, Private First Class, Infantry, Antitank Company, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 23 March 1945, near Dahm, Germany. Learning from a civilian that SS troopers were holding out in a nearby building, Private Monaghan organized a patrol and led the way to the enemy-held house. Approaching the stronghold, Private Monaghan was fired upon and immediately dispersed his men. Making his way to the rear of the position, he entered a doorway and opened fire, killing an SS officer and forcing the surrender of two enemy soldiers. Through his great daring and selfless determination, Private Monaghan eliminated a German threat to his Regimental Command Post. Entered military service from Billingham, Washington.

III. AWARD OF THE SECOND 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 Second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Ray A. Friend, 16 177 002, Technical Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company G, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 25 January 1945, near Ohlungen, France. When his company was pinned down by heavy machine gun fire while attacking a wooded area near Ohlungen, France, Private Friend set up his mortar in an open field and concentrated devastating mortar fire upon the hostile emplacements, silencing two machine guns and neutralizing the fire of two others. When his ammunition supply was exhausted, he voluntarily acted as platoon runner and maintained contact between his platoon leader and the Company Command Post, braving the deadly artillery barrages covering the area to deliver vital tactical messages. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Private Friend contributed effectively to the successful defense of Alsace. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

By command of Major-General COLLINS:

OFFICIAL:

John W. Denny
JOHN W. DENNY,
Major, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

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

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