

R E S T R I C T E D
HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

AG FILE COPY
Sup

GENERAL ORDERS)

APO 411, U. S. ARMY,

NUMBER 73)

20 March 1946.

Award of the Soldier's Medal	I
Award of the Bronze Star Medal (Posthumous)	II
Award of the Bronze Star Medal	III
Award of the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal	IV
Award of the Third Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal	V
Award of the Purple Heart	VI
Revocations.....	VII

I. AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL:-... By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to:

Horace J. Barnard, 36 468 453, Private First Class, Field Artillery, Service Battery, 402d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 13 May 1945, near Mittersill, Austria. When ammunition being carried in the caisson attached to the truck directly in front of him exploded, setting fire to the caisson, truck, and ammunition boxes, Private Barnard unhesitatingly attempted to extinguish the flames. Driven back twice by exploding grenades and small arms ammunition, he finally assisted in unhitching the trailer and moving the vehicle from the scene of the explosion. Then, with complete disregard for personal safety, he jumped to the back of the truck and fearlessly helped to extinguish the burning ammunition boxes. Private Barnard's courageous action saved the vehicle and prevented a more serious explosion which would have endangered the lives of his comrades in the area. Entered military service from Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Joseph L. Michael, 36 764 900, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 24 October 1945, in Vienna, Austria. While Private Michael and another soldier were guarding a gasoline dump in Vienna, Austria, a fire broke out in one of the gasoline storage rooms. Calling the fire department, Private Michael unhesitatingly entered the blazing building and attempted to extinguish the flames with fire extinguishers. Realizing the futility of the apparatus against the intense flames, he started to remove the cans of gasoline from the danger area. Although severely burned on the hands and face, he succeeded in removing 250 five-gallon cans from the building. He then continued to throw buckets of water on the flames, preventing the fire from spreading until the fire department arrived. By his exceptional courage and determination, Private Michael saved the entire dump of 60,000 gallons from destruction. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

Luie D. Sinclair, 31 461 512, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 24 October 1945, in Vienna, Austria. While Private Sinclair and another soldier were guarding a gasoline dump in Vienna, Austria, a fire broke out in one of the gasoline storage rooms. Calling the fire department, he unhesitatingly entered the blazing building and attempted to extinguish the flames with fire extinguishers. Realizing the futility of the apparatus against the intense flames, he started to remove the cans of gasoline from the danger area. Although severely burned on the hands and face, he succeeded in removing 250 five-gallon cans from the building. He then

o v e r

- 1 -

R E S T R I C T E D

20 March 1946.

continued to throw buckets of water on the flames, preventing the fire from spreading until the fire department arrived. By his exceptional courage and determination, Private Sinclair saved the entire dump of 60,000 gallons from destruction. Entered military service from Augusta, Maine.

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

Harry W. Freitag, 37 743 462, Private First Class, Infantry, Company K, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 16 January 1945, near Ingolshelm, France. When the outpost of which he was a member was forced to withdraw, Private Freitag volunteered to cover the withdrawal with his automatic rifle. He opened up with effective fire, slowing the enemy advance and enabling the men to withdraw to friendly lines. While he was engaging his target with telling effect, the enemy sent a flanking element armed with automatic weapons against his position, mortally wounding him. Through his outstanding courage and self-sacrifice, Private Freitag delayed the enemy sufficiently to enable the other men of the group to withdraw to the main line of resistance with a minimum of casualties. Name and address of nearest relative: Mr. Harry W. Freitag (father), 1205 South Independence, Harrisonville, Missouri. Entered military service from Harrisonville, Missouri.

Ignacio Plasencio, 38 438 637, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 16 March 1945, in the Hardt Mountains, France. When an enemy patrol attacked the left flank of his platoon in superior numbers, Private Plasencio and another soldier immediately advanced to help repulse the enemy force. Firing steadily as he moved forward, he enabled his platoon to take cover and assume more effective firing positions. Wounded by the intense small arms fire, he continued to fire until he was hit once again, this time fatally. By his indomitable courage and unselfish sacrifice, Private Plasencio prevented further casualties to his comrades and inspired them to successfully repulse the determined enemy attackers. Name and address of nearest relative: Mrs. Josefina R. Plasencio (Wife), 3820 Cypress, El Paso, Texas. Entered military service from El Paso, Texas.

III. 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 :

Howard A. Althouse, 33 507 299, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 17 April 1945, at Atzenhof, Germany. When his battalion's advance became temporarily halted by intense enemy machine gun fire, Private Althouse immediately volunteered to go forward as radio man for an observer to clear the area. Suddenly harassed by enemy artillery fire, he discovered the position of a German forward observer and rapidly advanced on the position, killing the observer and his security with his carbine. As a result of Private Althouse's courageous and unhesitating action, his battalion had unlimited observation, enabling our mortar observer to direct devastating fire on the enemy machine gun emplacements holding up our advance. Entered military service from Stevens, Pennsylvania.

Franklin P. Burkett, 33 558 215, Corporal, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945, near Reipertswiller, France.

When the attack on Hill 301, near Reipertswiller, France, was held up because of lack of ammunition, Corporal Burkett volunteered to lead a patrol in obtaining the vitally-needed ammunition. Making his way across a heavily mined area under intense enemy mortar and artillery fire, he procured the needed ammunition and returned to his company to effect its resupply. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Corporal Burkett contributed immeasurably to the successful attack. Entered military service from Ellerslie, Maryland.

Robert L. Crance, 42 117 547, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. When his company was held up by intense machine gun fire during the fighting through the ruins of Wurzburg, Germany, Private Crance, with utter disregard for his own safety, moved toward the enemy position. Reaching a point within grenade distance of the hostile emplacement, he hurled a hand grenade into the enemy gunners, wounding one and forcing two others to surrender. Through his heroic aggressiveness and selfless determination, Private Crance enabled his company to continue its advance. Entered military service from Wellsville, New York.

Robert L. Cunliffe, 33 414 985, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company D, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 January 1945, at Sessenheim, France. When numerically superior enemy forces cut off his machine gun platoon, Private Cunliffe tenaciously held his position for six hours under intense small arms, machine gun and artillery fire in a valiant attempt to halt the onslaught. After the overwhelming force had overrun his positions, he fought his way through the German lines to return to his Battalion Command Post, where he passed on information that enabled our troops to launch a counterattack and retake the area. Through his indomitable courage and selfless determination, Private Cunliffe made an effective contribution to the successful defense of Alsace. Entered military service from Pitcairn, Pennsylvania.

William B. Hanna, 16 101 408, Corporal, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 6 January 1945 near La Wantzenau, France. When a group of enemy troops were by-passed by our rapidly advancing forces, Corporal Hanna unhesitatingly advanced to eliminate this threat to our rear elements. Cautiously advancing upon them, he threw a grenade into their midst and quickly opened fire with his rifle, killing two and forcing the remainder to surrender. Corporal Hanna's courageous action and unflinching determination completely neutralized the by-passed enemy pocket of resistance and saved many of his comrades from certain death. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

Culver Q. Holt, 33 662 767, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 21 March 1945, near Fishbach, Germany. During the confusion of the night advance of the company to which he was attached, Private Holt and his litter squad advanced beyond the forward elements and into enemy territory. Administering first aid to a wounded man, they soon discovered that he was a German, at which time they were captured by the man's comrades. Taken to a nearby pillbox, Private Holt, by sign language and a few spoken words, attempted to convince the enemy group to surrender. After five unnerving hours in which the enemy wavered between acceptance of the terms and using the prisoners as protection for escape, they finally surrendered and accompanied Private Holt to our lines. By his presence of mind and fearless determination Private Holt was responsible for the safety of his men, saving them from possible injury or death at the hands of the enemy. Entered military service from Baltimore, Maryland.

o v e r

- 3 -

Ollie S. Hurst, 35 683 414, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 21 March 1945, near Ludwigswinkle, Germany. During a night attack through the vaulted German West Wall, Private Hurst was taken prisoner and held in an enemy pillbox. When his German guard fell asleep, he struck him in the head with an iron rod, knocking the guard unconscious. Seizing an enemy machine pistol, he then forced the five occupants of the position to surrender and marched them to friendly troops. Private Hurst's heroic actions reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the finest traditions of the United States Army. Entered military service from Cynthiana, Kentucky.

Leonard B. Karlson, 37 311 926, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company F, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 27 April 1945, at Donauworth, Germany. When the advance of our lead tanks and infantry was held up by two enemy panzerfaust and machine gun positions at Donauworth, Germany, Sergeant Karlson unhesitatingly advanced alone to assault the emplacements. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he advanced, throwing hand grenades and firing his rifle into the completely surprised enemy, thus killing three and capturing twelve. By his outstanding courage and unflinching aggressiveness, Sergeant Karlson saved our lead tanks and infantry from almost certain annihilation. Entered military service from Washburn, North Dakota.

Kiefford J. Lawrence, 39 472 968, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 6 January 1945, near La Wantzenau, France. While leading a four-man patrol to the safety of our lines from deep in enemy territory, Private Lawrence discovered that the route of escape had been closed by the enemy. Cautioning his comrades to lie completely quiet, he set out to reconnoiter another route to safety and was fired upon from his flank by small arms. Shouting to the patrol to make a run for it, he engaged the enemy in order to provide covering fire until his men had reached safety, waiting until the last moment before withdrawing himself. Private Lawrence's exceptional courage and unflinching determination played a major role in the successful accomplishment of the patrol's mission without casualty. Entered military service from Tacoma, Washington.

James R. Mustard, 35 336 996, Technician Fourth Grade, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. While laying communication lines through the fire-swept streets of Wurzburg, Germany, Sergeant Mustard's wire team was subjected to deadly small arms fire from an enemy position in a nearby building. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Mustard unhesitatingly entered the house and hurled a hand grenade into the occupied room. Storming the room, he knocked one of the fanatical enemy soldiers unconscious and then forced the remaining soldier to surrender. Through his indomitable courage and heroic devotion to duty, Sergeant Mustard contributed effectively to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Toledo, Ohio.

Gabriel E. Padawer, 32 972 085, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 2 April 1945, in Gebrum, Germany. While on a motorized patrol to establish contact with the enemy, Private Padawer captured two German soldiers who were digging a position covering the road leading into Gebrum, Germany. Learning from the prisoners that a large German garrison was billeted in the town, Private Padawer moved forward with his captives. Then, coming upon thirty of the enemy, he convinced them that resistance was useless and they shortly surrendered to him. Private Padawer's courageous and unflinching

determination secured the town for our forces without firing a shot. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

Theodore A. Parker, 36 909 930, Private First Class, Infantry, Company F, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 2 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. On the night previous to our assault on Wurzburg, Germany, Private Parker and seven comrades crossed the Main River to secure a position on the enemy-held side of the river. Advancing to a house in which he had heard noises, he entered alone and cleared the building of enemy soldiers with hand grenades and his sub-machine gun. By his outstanding courage and aggressiveness, Private Parker killed nine of the enemy and established a point for the leading elements of his battalion to strike for on the following day. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

Robert A. Pervis, 33 887 864, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company H, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 24 January 1945, at Schweighausen, France. When the enemy attacked our positions in Schweighausen, France, Private Pervis unhesitatingly allowed the enemy to approach within fifty yards of his machine gun position before opening fire. Forced to withdraw momentarily, the enemy attempted to outflank his position under an intense artillery and mortar barrage. Realizing the importance of informing headquarters of this maneuver, Private Pervis fearlessly braved the deadly fire to return to the command post, informing his commander of the situation. His courageous action and unflinching determination enabled our forces to completely frustrate the enemy attempt with serious losses. Entered military service from Richmond, Virginia.

John D. Rennick, 16 118 339, Private First Class, Infantry, Antitank Company, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, in Wurzburg, Germany. While reconnoitering for an antitank gun position, Private Rennick was fired upon by enemy snipers concealed among the ruins of Wurzburg, Germany. Returning the fire, he wounded one of the enemy and forced another to surrender. Reconnoitering further, he was again fired upon, this time by a machine gun concealed in a nearby house. Throwing a hand grenade into the building, he advanced under cover of the explosion and succeeded in capturing the German gun crew. As a result of Private Rennick's courageous action, two serious threats to our forces were eliminated. Entered military service from Champaign, Illinois.

Marvin G. Rude, 37 771 995, Private First Class, Infantry, Company B, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 1 April 1945, near Inberg, Germany. As Private Rude's platoon was dismounting from tank destroyers in order to clear the town of Inberg, Germany, of enemy forces, one of his comrades dropped an armed hand grenade. While the others rapidly dispersed, Private Rude, with complete disregard for his personal safety, picked up the grenade and threw it to an area where it exploded harmlessly. By his calmness, alertness, and courageous action, he saved his platoon from suffering many casualties. Entered military service from Guthrie, Minnesota.

William J. Schoerens, 32 733 561, Sergeant, Infantry, Company D, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 10 April 1945, near Zelt, Germany. When our attacking column was ambushed by murderous panzerfaust and machine gun fire during a night attack near Zelt, Germany, Sergeant Schoerens, with utter disregard for his own safety, moved forward to an exposed position and lit a match, thus drawing the deadly concentration upon himself. Locating the German emplacements, his machine gun platoon quickly silenced the hostile positions. Through his courageous initiative, Sergeant Schoerens was responsible for the destruction of two enemy machine gun nests, thus enabling the attacking column to continue its advance on Schweinfurt. Entered military service from Newark, New York.

o v e r

- 5 -

R E S T R I C T E D

GO NO 73 CONTD.

Page 6

20 March 1946.

WILLIAM L. SMART, O 547 330, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company D, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 March 1945, near Fishbach, Germany. During the advance of rifle troops on Fishbach, Germany, sudden and intense machine gun and small arms fire temporarily halted our forces. Quickly organizing an emergency mortar squad from his platoon and company headquarters, Lieutenant Smart set up a mortar and opened fire on the enemy positions. The enemy immediately returned his fire with direct artillery, covering the area with a devastating barrage. Under Lieutenant Smart's skillful control, the squad remained in position and continued to fire until the enemy machine gun and small arms fire had been silenced. By his courageous determination and able leadership, Lieutenant Smart played a major role in the rapid capitulation of the enemy-held town. Entered military service from Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Bruce E. Straw, 33 950 669, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945, in the Hardt Mountains, France. During the first phase of the general offensive through the Hardt Mountains, Private Straw observed his machine gun squad leader lying seriously wounded in the center of an open field. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he braved the deadly machine gun fire striking all about him to rush to the side of his comrade. Supporting the wounded man's weight on his shoulder, he carried him back to the safety of the nearby woods where first aid was administered. Private Straw's courageous action and selfless determination undoubtedly saved the life of his wounded comrade. Entered military service from New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

Edgar K. Wall, 35 079 548, Sergeant, Infantry, Company D, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 11 April 1945, near Schweinfurt, Germany. When his platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy small arms and machine gun fire during the attack on Schweinfurt, Germany, Sergeant Wall attacked one of the hostile positions from the flank, killing the crew with devastating rifle fire. Observing the location of a second emplacement, he made his way to a vantage point and killed the occupants of the position with hand grenades. Through his indomitable courage and selfless determination, Sergeant Wall contributed immeasurably to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Schweinfurt. Entered military service from Somerset, Kentucky.

IV. 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 1942 as amended, the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Warren E. Kaehn, 36 979 449, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company E, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 13 April 1945, in Schweinfurt, Germany. When his company entered Schweinfurt, Germany, and was met by intense 88 mm and 20 mm flak fire, Sergeant Kaehn advanced through intense sniper fire to a position 50 yards from the gun position. Then, completely exposing himself to the withering small arms fire, he scored a direct hit on the 88 position with a rifle grenade, killing five of the personnel and wounding three more. With utter disregard for his safety and under intense machine gun fire, he then advanced upon the position, firing as he proceeded, until he had killed and captured the remaining crew and security. Sergeant Kaehn's outstanding courage and unflinching determination in the face of superior odds enabled his company to continue its successful advance through the city. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

- 6 -

R E S T R I C T E D

GO NO 73 CONTD.

Page 7

20 March 1946.

George E. Sutherland, 35 425 417, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company C, 692d Tank Destroyer Battalion for heroic achievement in action on 27 February 1945 near Sindorf, Germany. When two infantrymen advancing with his platoon were seriously wounded in a mine field, Sergeant Sutherland dismounted from his tank destroyer and went unhesitatingly to their assistance. Although the field was covered by machine gun and small arms fire and strewn with anti-personnel mines, he removed the men from danger and administered first aid. Sergeant Sutherland's extreme courage and devotion to duty undoubtedly saved the lives of the two injured men. Entered military service from Williamson, West Virginia.

V. AWARD OF THE THIRD 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 Third Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

WILLIAM G. GASKINS, O 556 796, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 9 March 1945, at Wingen, France. When his combat patrol suddenly encountered a platoon of enemy, Lieutenant Gaskins gave the order to fire and twenty-one of the enemy group fell wounded, the remainder retreating to prepared positions to return the fire. Suddenly an enemy self-propelled gun appeared and proceeded to fire point blank at our forces. Fearlessly exposing himself to the deadly barrage in order to direct a steady stream of submachine gun fire at the weapon, Lieutenant Gaskins forced the crew to close all openings which neutralized the effectiveness of the German gun. Then ordering a withdrawal, he carried one of our wounded back to the safety of our lines. By his outstanding courage and aggressive leadership, Lieutenant Gaskins was primarily responsible for the successful conclusion of the patrol's mission. Entered military service from Stillwater, Oklahoma.

VI. AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART:--- By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following for wounds received in action against the enemy:

Jim A. Abrusley, 38 490 694, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 242d Infantry Regiment, 27 March 1945, at Oberwessel, Germany.

CHARLES M. BERTALAN, O2 006 297, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company E, 242d Infantry Regiment, 8 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany.

JAMES S. DOUGLAS, O26 625, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Service Company, 222d Infantry Regiment, 15 April 1945, in Germany.

VII. REVOCATIONS: --- So much of General Orders 1, cs, as pertains to the awarding of the Bronze Star Medal to George E. Sutherland, 35 425 417, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company C, 692d Tank Destroyer Battalion, is revoked.

So much of General Orders 189, 1945 series, as pertains to the awarding of the Bronze Star Medal to Harry W. Freitag, Private First Class, Infantry, Company K, 222d Infantry Regiment, is revoked.

By command of Major General COLLINS:

OFFICIAL:

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

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

- 7 -

DISTRIBUTION: "A" & "E", 3-TAG, 5-CG, USFA, 5-CG, USFET, 1-Central MRU, APO 887.
1-CG, Third Army 65-AG Misc

R E S T R I C T E D