

Krambeck, Irwin W. Btry A, 232d FA Bn



The SILVER STAR is awarded to IRWIN W. KRAMBECK, 6 245 306, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Battery A, 232d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945, near Reipertswiller, France. While serving as a Forward Observer with Company B, 232d Infantry, during the attack north of Reipertswiller, Sergeant Krambeck and a corporal from his Forward Observer Section were ordered to lay wire over exceedingly difficult, rugged terrain in order to maintain important communications between Company B and the Artillery Liaison Section. Because of these difficulties Sergeant Krambeck and the corporal were unable to advance as rapidly as the Infantry but, in spite of the danger from German mine fields and the imminence of contact with the enemy, continued to lay the line until the supply of wire was exhausted. Moving to regain contact with their company, they entered an enemy mine field. While moving through the field, Sergeant Krambeck stepped on a mine, the explosion from which blew off his foot. As the corporal attempted to come to his aid, he also stepped on a mine blowing off his own foot. With no assistance available, Sergeant Krambeck and the corporal crawled several hundred yards through the

field to safety, encouraging each other as they struggled along. The outstanding fortitude demonstrated by Sergeant Krambeck is worthy of the highest praise.

Entered military service from Seattle, Washington.

General Orders # 47, 1945, 42DIV)