THE MEDAL OF HONOR

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Ralph W. Olsen


VALOR
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE

MEDAL OF HONOR

OF THE

UNITED STATES ARMY

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

UNITED STATES

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FOREWORD

Frequently, when decorating war heroes with the Medal of Honor, I tell the recipient that of all my duties as President of the United States the one from which I derive the greatest satisfaction is the bestowal of this highest decoration in our land in the name of the Congress.

As a soldier I know what the Medal means.

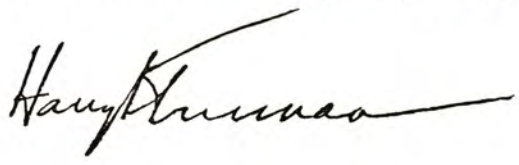
As a Senator I learned what the intent of the Congress was in providing for this recognition of valor.

But as President I realize that little or nothing is generally known of the history of this great decoration, or of the men who, during the last 172 years, have displayed the highest type of heroism in helping to build this Land of Liberty and bring our nation to its present status of world leadership.

For this reason I expressed my wish to have this history prepared. It is designed to perpetuate in memory the deeds of courage and selflessness for which the Medal has been awarded and to give the American people a fuller understanding of the ideal for which the Medal of Honor stands in the history of our Army and of our country.

It is to the men—living and dead—who have won this high honor during the history of our nation that this book is dedicated.

May the courage and heroism of which this Medal is a symbol always remind us of our debt to these men, and clearly point to the personal responsibility which every American has today to share in the work of helping to build a healthy and peaceful world.



THE WHITE HOUSE
July 10 1948

PREFACE

This study of the legislative and historical aspects of the Army Medal of Honor was undertaken by the Public Information Division of the Department of the Army upon the direction of the President of the United States.

Here for the first time in any publication will be found the story of the Army Medal of Honor complete with the names of the recipients from the time the Medal was established up to the present, the citation for each award, all available pictures of World War II winners and a listing of all source material on the subject.

The project was completed under the supervision of an Editorial Board composed of Colonel James H. Phillips, Deputy Chief of the Public Information Division, and Major Donald E. Bovee, Executive Officer of the Press Section.

The material is based upon two years of exhaustive research done by Mr. Thomas W. Huntington, who formulated the plans for the book. The history was written by Mr. John F. Kane.

A large number of people graciously lent their talents to the project from time to time, assisting in checking accuracy, advising upon proper form, aiding in preparation of the manuscript, and answering many questions involving highly specialized subjects. Among those to whom the Public Information Division is duly grateful are officials of the Publications Section, Public Information Division; the Army Publications Service Branch and the Decorations and Awards Branch of The Adjutant General's Office; the Decorations Board of the Office of the Secretary of the Army; the National Archives; the Stack and Reader Division, Library of Congress; the Bureau of the Mint; and the New York Historical Society.

F. L. Parks

F. L. PARKS
Major General, G. S. C.
Chief, Public Information Division
Department of the Army

WASHINGTON, D. C.
1 July 1948

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PART I

THE HISTORY OF THE

MEDAL OF HONOR

"In the Name of the Congress . . . "

CHAPTER ONE

What Is the Medal of Honor?

HE WHO POSSESSES THE MEDAL OF HONOR is the holder of the highest military award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the United States of America.

This symbol of bronze, wreathed in green enamel and held by a white-starred ribbon of blue silk, bestows upon the man who has won it a great privilege—that of sharing in the company of the few heroes who have been honored by the award of the same Medal he wears.

It is to define and illuminate the place in history which belongs only to winners of the Medal of Honor that this book is written.

The Medal of Honor was won in only one way during World Wars I and II. That was by a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice, above and beyond the call of duty, while a member of the American armed forces, in actual combat with an enemy of the Nation.

In their provisions for judging whether a man is entitled to the Medal, Army Regulations permit of no margin of doubt or error. The deed of the winner must be proved by incontestable evidence of at least two eyewitnesses; it must be so outstanding that it clearly distinguishes his gallantry beyond the call of duty from lesser forms of bravery; it must involve the risk of his life; and it must be the type of deed which, if he had not done it, would not subject him to any justified criticism.

A recommendation for the Medal must be made within 2 years from the date of the deed upon which it depends. Award of the Medal must be made within 3 years after the date of the deed.

Apart from the great honor which it conveys, there are certain small privileges which accompany the Medal of Honor. Its winners can, under certain conditions, obtain free Army plane transportation. Their military pay, if they are enlisted men, is increased by $2 per month. And former soldiers who have won the Medal are eligible, upon reaching the age of 65, for a special pension of $120 per year.

The Medal of Honor is presented to its winners by a high official "in the name of the Congress of the United States." For this reason it is sometimes called "The Congressional Medal of Honor."

It should be noted that on a few, rare occasions, the Congress of the United States has awarded special medals of honor for individual exploits taking place in peacetime. However, in peace or war, this Medal is the highest decoration which can be given in any of the armed services—Army, Navy, or Air Force.

This publication contains a list of all those who, during the existence of our country, have won the Army Medal of Honor.

It is to these men that this book is dedicated.

CHAPTER TWO

How the Medal Came Into Being

THE MEDAL OF HONOR was not the idea of any one American. Like most of the ideas which have flowered into institutions and practices in our nation, it was the result of group thought and action. While several earnest and energetic men had more to do with *executing* the idea than others, the fact remains that the original concept of the Medal was part and parcel of the times which produced it. It was an answer to an historical need, and it sprang forth when that need arose. By examining the period of history in which it was created, the clues will be found which, when analyzed, will tell why it was created in that time . . .

Washington, in the winter of 1861–62, was a city almost literally floating upon mud, a be-spattered national capital with duckboard sidewalks, and carriage-churned streets—overcrowded, underhoused, throbbing with the tensions of war. Out of the mud reared the unfinished national buildings—the Capitol still lacking its dome—the White House without its full complement of wings—the Washington Monument, less than half completed, looking much as if it had been finished and then struck by a bomb which tore away the top two-thirds of the pillar.

In many ways it resembled the Washington of 1942–45, especially in its hurry and crowds and tension and confusion, real or apparent. In others, it was clearly the capital of its own times, representing the extent to which our nation had been built by 1861. It was incomplete, still raw in spots, still struggling internally to bring order into the welter of ideas which had been the source of American democracy.

The Civil War had been in progress since the spring of 1861, and now, in the winter that followed, there was running into Washington a thin stream of thought concerned with the necessity for recognizing the deeds of American soldiers who had distinguished themselves in the fighting. This current of thought was a demonstration of the renewed energy of action and ideas which the demands of a huge and critically important struggle seem to bring about in any civilization.

The American Nation, which had given little thought to its Army in time of peace, now found it to be the focal point of attention. The soldier, unpublicized and isolated during the preceding years, many of which he spent guarding the national frontiers against Indian raids, now became a great, looming figure in the fight to preserve the Union. Overnight, he ceased to be a man plying some remote and mysterious trade out on the plains of Kansas or North Dakota and became the boy next door, or, indeed, the son of the household, dressed in a jaunty blue uniform and sent out to fight for a cause that, in a very real sense, lay close to home.

And he not only fought. He fought gallantly, sometimes displaying a sheer heroism which, when looked upon by the nation in whose name it was called forth, a nation which was extremely conscious of its importance, quite naturally caused that nation to seek some means of rewarding him.

But the thought did not stop there. For the first time in many years—since the Revolution itself, perhaps—Americans realized not only what an important citizen its soldier *was,* but how important *he had always been.* They realized that the far-off lonely trooper, walking his post on the frontier during the years of "peace", during the times when the Army was smaller and less publicized than it was in 1861, had been doing the same essential work as that of the soldier of the Civil War—protecting the nation. And they realized that in doing this work he had very often displayed a little-known and unrecognized heroism which, by its nature, rendered him capable of being killed in action on the plains, just as he could have been at Fort Donelson or Manassas.

If they looked back to see what honor had been given to soldiers who, during our history, had done more than their duty, these people of 1861 would have had to gaze far beyond the incidents of the Indian frontiers; beyond

the beach at Vera Cruz and the heights of Mexico City in the Mexican War; beyond the cotton-bale breastworks at New Orleans, from which Jackson's fire cut down the British in 1815; beyond all these things and back to the Revolution—back to 1782, where, symbolically, George Washington stood alone: the first and last American during all that time who had recognized the need for honoring all brave soldiers with decorations and who had provided for it by originating the Purple Heart . . .

It is true that there had been a "Certificate of Merit" authorized in 1847, when the demands of the Mexican War had brought the soldier to public attention for a brief moment. But even this Certificate proves the thesis that the public view of the soldier had changed. It did not provide for a medal, in the first place. It was really a certificate—a document. Congress later provided that holders of the Certificate who were still in service should have extra pay of $2 per month.

Now, one would have to search high and low throughout history—today included—to find a soldier who holds anything against the idea of an extra $2 per month. But that *in itself,* felt the thoughtful people of 1861, in no way compensated the soldier for a deed in which he risked life and limb in a truly outstanding surge of heroism. Something more was needed, they felt, than the mere expedient of "payment for services rendered".

And there had also been a method of honoring soldiers by means of the "brevet" system of promotion, whereby a soldier mentioned for gallantry in dispatches could be granted a "brevet rank" higher than that of his actual rank, and be entitled to wear the insignia which went with the brevet. But this system had fallen victim to a series of political abuses, and by 1861 much of its honor had grown meaningless. Also, its use, like that of the Certificate of Merit, did not involve the award of a medal.

It was George Washington alone, as we have said, who could provide the people of 1861 with their real cue for the action they had in mind. And this was that while soldiers could always use extra money, money alone cannot give honor; and since his honor is something which no real soldier likes to talk about, those who want to honor him should supply him with a token of that honor which he can wear without words. Knowing these things, Washington had created the Purple Heart at Newburgh, N. Y., on August 7, 1782, as a decoration for "singularly meritorious action."

Three men had been awarded it in 1783. The records show no others.

Under these circumstances, in that winter of 1861, if the people who thought of honoring their soldiers had searched American history for a true precedent, they would have found it only in the Revolutionary War. That they were thinking about it in the first place and that their thinking took the specific form it did were results of their realization that when all other defenses of a government fail—its survival depends upon the lengths of personal bravery to which men in uniform are willing to go to save it from destruction.

It remained for their thought to be confirmed by action. Senator James W. Grimes, of Iowa, took the lead, as chairman of the Senate Naval Committee. He introduced a bill into Congress to create a Navy Medal. It was passed by both Houses and approved by President Abraham Lincoln on December 21, 1861. It established a Medal of Honor for enlisted men of the Navy—the first decoration formally authorized by the American Government to be worn as a badge of honor.

Action on the Army Medal was started 2 months later, when, on February 17, 1862, Senator Henry Wilson, of Massachusetts, introduced a Senate resolution providing for presentation of "medals of honor" to enlisted men of the Army and Voluntary Forces who "shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldier-like qualities."

Lincoln's approval made the resolution law on July 12, 1862. It was amended by an act approved on March 3, 1863, which extended its provisions to include officers as well as enlisted men, and made the provisions retroactive to the beginning of the Civil War.

This legislation was to stand as the basis upon which the Army Medal of Honor could be awarded until July 9, 1918, when it was superseded by a completely revised statute.

As soon as the Navy Medal of Honor had been authorized, Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy in Lincoln's Cabinet, had written to James Pollock, Director of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, asking for his assistance in obtaining a design for the Medal. Pollock had submitted five designs to the Navy by the time the Army bill had been introduced in the Senate. When he heard that a similar medal was being considered for the Army, Pollock wrote to Edwin M. Stanton, the Secretary of War, enclosing one of the designs prepared for the Navy, and pointing out that it would be appropriate for use by the Army as well. Two more designs were submitted to the Navy on May 6, 1862, and on May 9 the Navy approved one of them.

In bas-relief, on the star, the Union held a shield in her right hand against an attacker, who crouched to the left, holding forked-tongued serpents which struck at the shield. In the left hand of the Union was held the fasces, the ancient Roman symbol of unified authority, an axe bound in staves of wood—still a common symbol on

many of our ten-cent pieces. The thirty-four stars which encircle these figures represent the number of States at the time the Medal was designed. The reverse of the Medal bore a blank for the name of the winner and the date and place of his deed.

On November 17 of that year, the War Department contracted with the firm of William Wilson & Son, Philadelphia, where the Navy Medals were being made, for 2,000 of the same type of medals for the Army. The only difference between the Army Medal and that of the Navy was that the Army Medal, instead of being attached to its ribbon by an anchor, was attached by means of the American Eagle symbol, standing on crossed cannon and cannon balls.

The ribbon which held this original Army Medal of Honor was of 13 vertical stripes of alternating red and white, with a solid blue strip on top. The pin to which this was attached was decorated with a small United States shield.

The Medal was designed by Christian Schussel, who was born in Alsace, France, and emigrated to Philadelphia, later becoming a professor of painting and drawing at the Pennsylvania Academy. The engraving of the dies was done by Anthony C. Paquet, who was born in Hamburg, Germany, and emigrated to America, later becoming a skilled employee at the Philadelphia Mint.

Both of these men had left their native countries in 1848—the year in which democratic uprisings against tyranny had swept over all Continental Europe, only to be eventually beaten down. It is significant to think about them for a moment in connection with the Medal. Neither of them were "native-born, hundred percent Americans." Both of them had been forced out of their homelands in a year in which it became dangerous to believe in democracy. They knew nothing about each other before they reached America. But both of them knew, by harsh experience, how important the American Idea was, and between them they produced the Medal which expressed its importance.

Like the men of the foreign-born regiments who fought so gallantly for their adopted country during the Civil War, contributing their military experience to the cause of the Union, these two artists made the kind of contribution *they* could best make—the gift of their artistic training and skill—in producing a Medal for a nation which had no precedent to guide it.

Schussel, the Frenchman, had a Germanic name. Paquet, the German, had a name with a French sound. Even in this, as in the other circumstances surrounding their contribution, they seem to point almost symbolically to one of the great strengths of America—that of being able to use the talents of all other nations, all during her history, caring nothing about the names or antecedents of those who possessed that talent and who gave it freely to the Nation.

And what of the man who was the first to perform a deed which later won an Army Medal of Honor?

He was Col. Bernard J. D. Irwin, born in Ireland on June 24, 1830, graduated from New York Medical College in 1852, and who entered the Army as a first lieutenant, assistant surgeon, in 1856. The deed which won him the Medal took place before the Medal had been created. It happened on February 14, 1861, before the outbreak of the Civil War, in the region which is now the State of Arizona.

The Chiricahua, one of the Apache Indian bands, had carried off a boy, the son of one of the few frontier families to gain a foothold in the region, during one of their cattle raids. Sixty men of the Seventh Infantry Regiment were ordered to rescue the boy and the cattle. This detail, under the command of Lt. George N. Bascom, made its way into the mountains and found Cochise, chief of the Chiricahua.

Lieutenant Bascom demanded that the boy be turned over to him, and was refused. Bascom determined to hold Cochise and others as hostages, but Cochise made a bold dash and escaped. Several of Bascom's men were wounded and in a short time his command was surrounded by the Chiricahua.

Cut off from Fort Breckenridge, Bascom waited until night before sending a messenger to make his way through the Indian-held ground and report the situation to the Fort. His messenger passed through the Indians, climbed a steep mountain out of the plain in which Bascom was besieged, and carried the news to Fort Breckenridge.

At Breckenridge, it was decided to send a relieving party of 14 picked infantrymen to Bascom's aid. Irwin, assistant surgeon at the Fort, knowing that some of Bascom's men were wounded, volunteered to lead the party. Mounted on mules, the party set off in a heavy snow storm on February 13, 1861, and on the night of the 14th they reached the long, winding canyon leading to the plain on which Bascom's command was surrounded, and relieved the party. After the wounded were attended, the village of Cochise was found and destroyed.

It was not until January 21, 1894, that Colonel Irwin was awarded the Medal for this deed. The citation given Irwin stated that he "voluntarily took command of troops and attacked and defeated the hostile Indians he met on the way" in his mission to rescue Bascom's command.

Irwin was chief medical officer, United States Military Academy 1873–78, and medical director in various Departments of the Army between 1882–94. He retired on June 28, 1894 and was advanced to rank of brigadier general, retired, by act of April 23, 1904. He died in Chicago on December 15, 1917.

The first Army Medals to be *awarded* were given to six soldiers in a joint ceremony on March 25, 1863. These six were the only ones out of an original band of 20 volunteers to escape from behind the Southern lines after carrying out a real "cloak-and-dagger" mission, designed to cut the entire State of Tennessee off from the Confederacy by sabotaging a railroad, the Western and Atlantic, which ran between Marietta, Ga., and Chattanooga, Tenn., constituting a vital supply line for the Confederate forces in Tennessee. If it could be torn apart to any effective degree, Tennessee could be isolated from its Southern supply base long enough to allow General Mitchell, commanding a division of the Army of the Cumberland, to attack and take Chattanooga.

A civilian, a secret agent named James J. Andrews, planned for 4 months, designing a raid upon the railroad. Basically, his scheme was to get a band of men aboard one of the trains out of Georgia headed for Chattanooga, capture the train, leave the other passengers behind, steam up North with frequent pauses to cut telegraph wires, burn bridges, and tear up rails behind them, do as much damage as possible, and then abandon the train and try to escape if capture threatened.

Twenty-one men volunteered for the mission, without being told all of its details and knowing only that it was extremely dangerous. After receiving preliminary instructions from Andrews, they left camp near Shelbyville, Tenn., on the night of April 7, 1862, disguised as civilians, and drifted singly into Chattanooga. There they boarded a passenger train for Marietta, Ga., where they arrived on April 11. The next day they went back to the station and bought tickets for a northbound train to the town of Big Shanty (now called Kenesaw) 8 miles to the north of Marietta. Andrews had picked Big Shanty as the best point at which to seize the train because of its lack of telegraph connections with the outside world.

The train bearing them stopped at Big Shanty, and the conductor called, "twenty minutes for breakfast!"

Passengers and trainmen got off on the right-hand side of the train. Andrews, followed by his volunteers, got off on the left-hand side, walked quickly to the head of the train and ran ahead of the engine to make sure a switch was open. One of his men jumped into the engine and eased open the throttle. Another cut the bell rope. Another acted as brakeman. The rest of them piled aboard. Andrews, his inspection of the switch finished, came running back and swung into the engine.

"All right," he called softly, "Let 'er go!"

The big wheels revolved, caught hold, and the raid was underway. They chugged forward for several miles, then stopped and tore down telegraph wires and piled cross-ties on the rails. Andrews gave the volunteers a final briefing, and they continued the sabotaging journey. They reached and passed the town of Calhoon with a clear track ahead to Chattanooga. But shortly after, the Confederates started to pursue them in another train, and the pursuit gained on them rapidly.

Andrews had probably counted on this. He cut loose the end cars of the train, one by one. But the Confederate engineer would slow down as he approached them, drive into them, and push them on ahead. Finally Andrews had only one boxcar left to hold his men. They broke the end out of it and commenced to drop cross-ties on the track, but this had the effect of checking the Confederate pursuit only slightly. Finally, with their cross-ties all gone, Andrews and his men got into the engine, set fire to the last boxcar, and uncoupled it as they crossed a long bridge at Oostenaula, leaving it burning in the center of the bridge. But the pursuing engine pushed on through the smoke, slowed up enough to nudge into the burning boxcar, and rolled it on ahead, getting rid of it at the next siding.

Then, near Graysville, after 90 miles of flight, Andrews' locomotive ran out of fuel, gasped and gave up the ghost. As it slowed down for its final stop, Andrews and his men jumped off and scattered into the woods.

Within a few days all of them had been captured by mounted Confederates who were sent in pursuit. They were taken to Atlanta, where Andrews and seven of his men were tried by court martial, condemned, and executed. The remaining 14 were kept in prison until the following October, when eight of them, making a coordinated attack on their guards, escaped.

This left six prisoners with the Confederates. They were finally paroled at City Point, Va., on March 17, 1863, almost a year after their exploit, and it was to these six men that the first Medals of Honor were given.

They arrived in Washington on March 25, with orders to report to the Judge Advocate General so that they could revise and qualify evidence concerning the raid. When Secretary of War Stanton heard that they were in the Capital, he sent word that he wanted to see them. As soon as their evidence had been given before the Judge Advocate, Maj. Gen. Ethan Allen Hitchcock and James C. Whetmore, State agent for Ohio took them to the War Department Building.

They swept through the waiting rooms, leaving behind them, according to newspaper accounts of the day, "numbers of military and civil dignitaries" who "were anxiously awaiting outside to see Mr. Stanton, but who were required to wait until . . . these . . . soldiers had been commended."

Stanton shook hands with each of them as they entered his office, and introduced them to Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, and Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee, the Vice President, who were in the room. Then Stanton turned to Pvt. Jacob Parrott, who had been beaten during his captivity, and spoke quietly about his appreciation of Parrott's devotion. Opening a morocco case, he explained the Congressional authorization for awards of medals for bravery.

"None of these medals," he said to Parrott, "have yet been awarded to any soldiers, and I now present you with the first one that has been issued by the authority of the late act."

Stanton then presented a Medal to each of the remaining five men.

He awarded them a hundred dollars apiece; asked Whetmore to request the Governor of Ohio to appoint each of the six to first lieutenancies in Ohio regiments, and added that if there were no vacancies in these regiments at the moment he would himself brevet them as first lieutenants in the Regular Army.

After Stanton, Johnson, and Chase had questioned the Medal winners about their observations of the Confederacy, they went to the White House, where Lincoln had requested that they be sent after leaving the War Department. Lincoln, says the *Washington Chronicle* for the following day, received them with great "warmth of feeling . . . manifested utmost sympathy for their sufferings, and commended them for the uncomplaining courage with which they had submitted to them," and they departed after "a very interesting interview of half an hour's duration."

And now the Army had a Medal of Honor. Heroic deeds had entitled their authors to the decoration, and the first of the Medals themselves had been awarded, "in the name of the Congress of the United States."

Recd 14th July.

Pub. Resol. No 43.

Thirty-Seventh Congress of the United States of America;

At the Second Session,

Begun and held at the city of Washington, on Monday, the Second day of December, one thousand eight hundred and Sixty-one

A RESOLUTION

To provide for the presentation of "medals of honor" to the enlisted men of the army and auxiliary forces who have distinguished or may distinguish themselves in battle during the present rebellion

Resolved *by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to cause two thousand "medals of honor" to be prepared with suitable emblematic devices, and to direct that the same be presented, in the name of Congress, to such noncommissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldier-like qualities, during the present insurrection. And that the sum of ten thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying this resolution into effect.

Galusha A Grow
Speaker of the House of Representatives

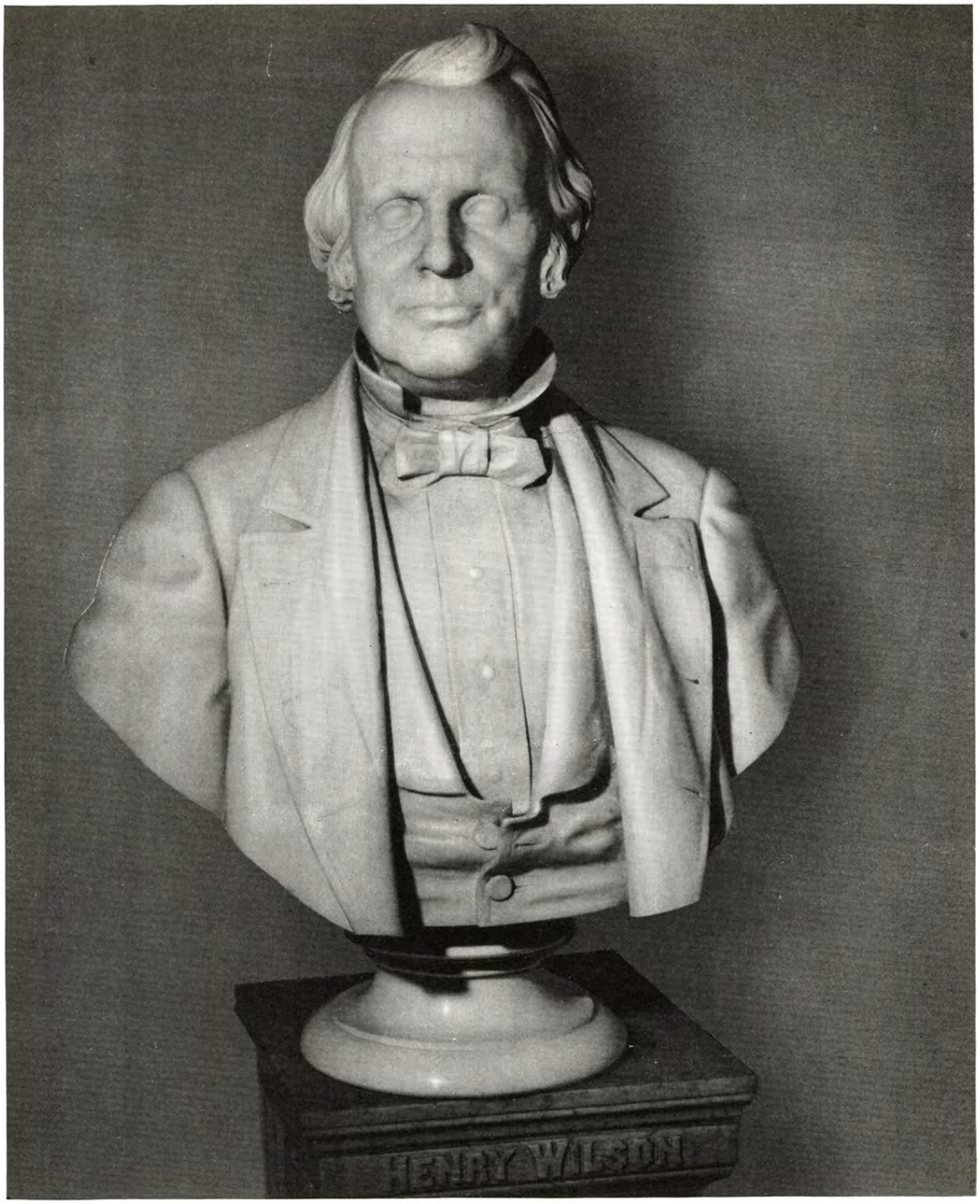
Solomon Foot
President of the Senate pro tempore

Approved, July 12, 1862

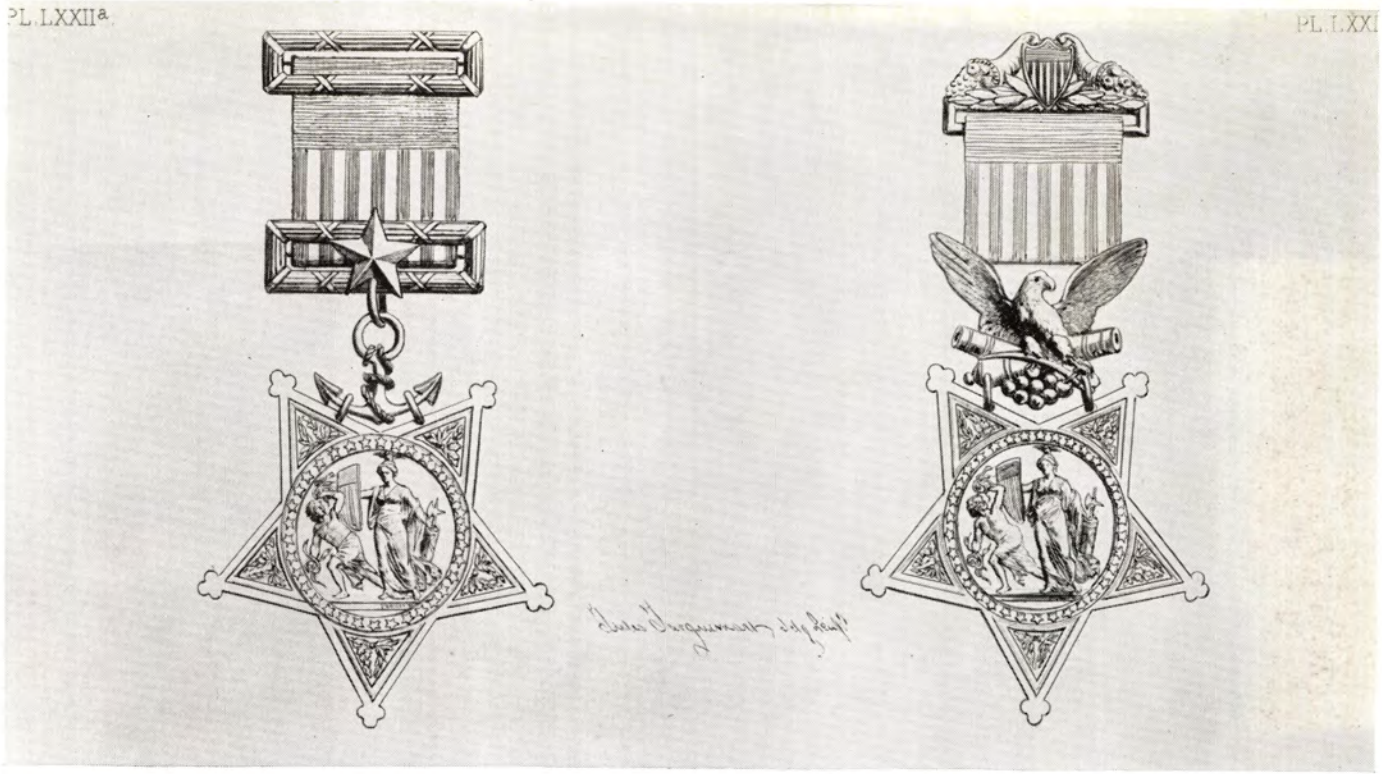
Abraham Lincoln

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The law which established the Army Medal of Honor



Senator Henry Wilson



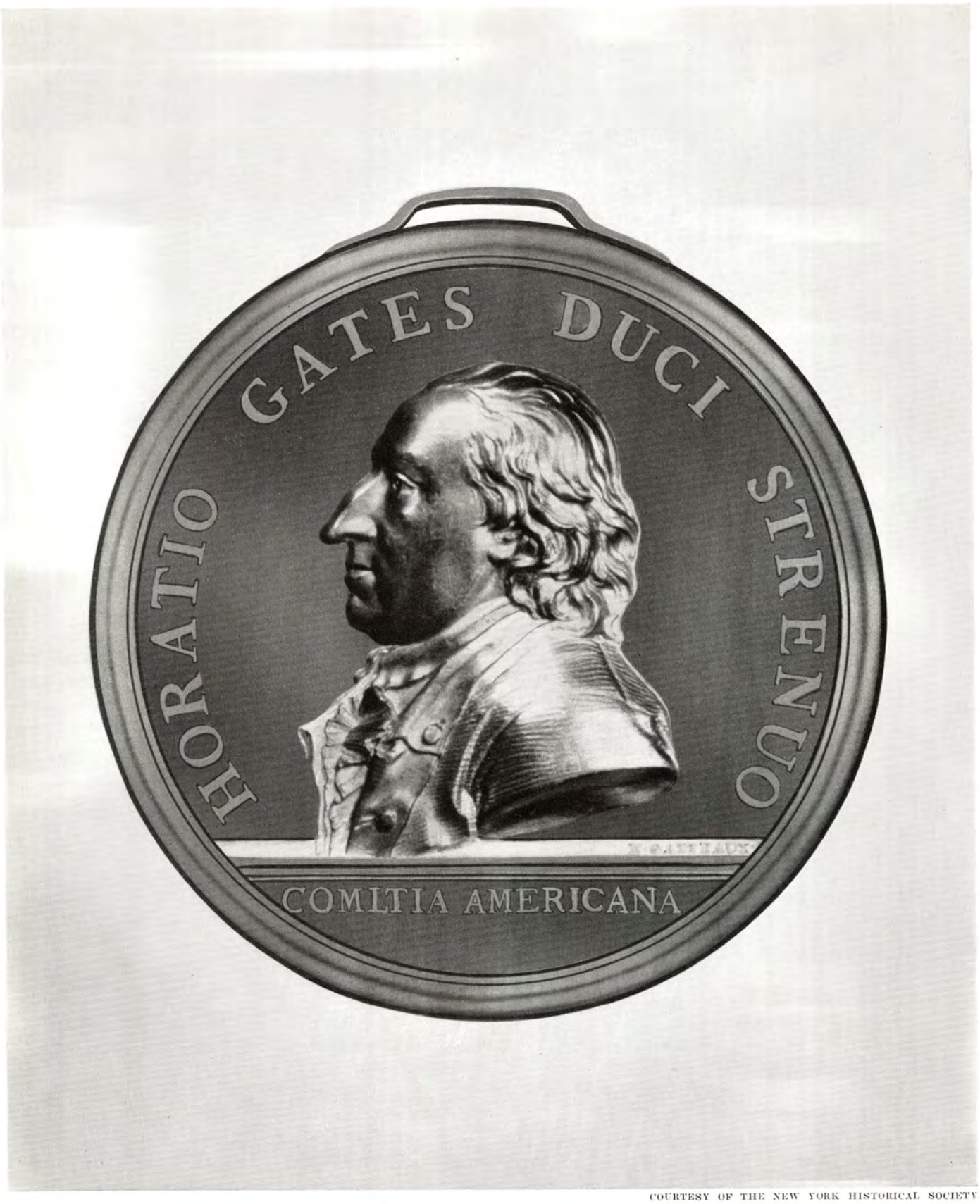
FROM J. F. LOUBAT'S "MEDALLIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES".

Steel engraved etching of Army and Navy Medals of Honor

Hub and die of Medal of Honor, 1862

Hub (slightly less than actual size)

The Adjutant General of the Army in 1861



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

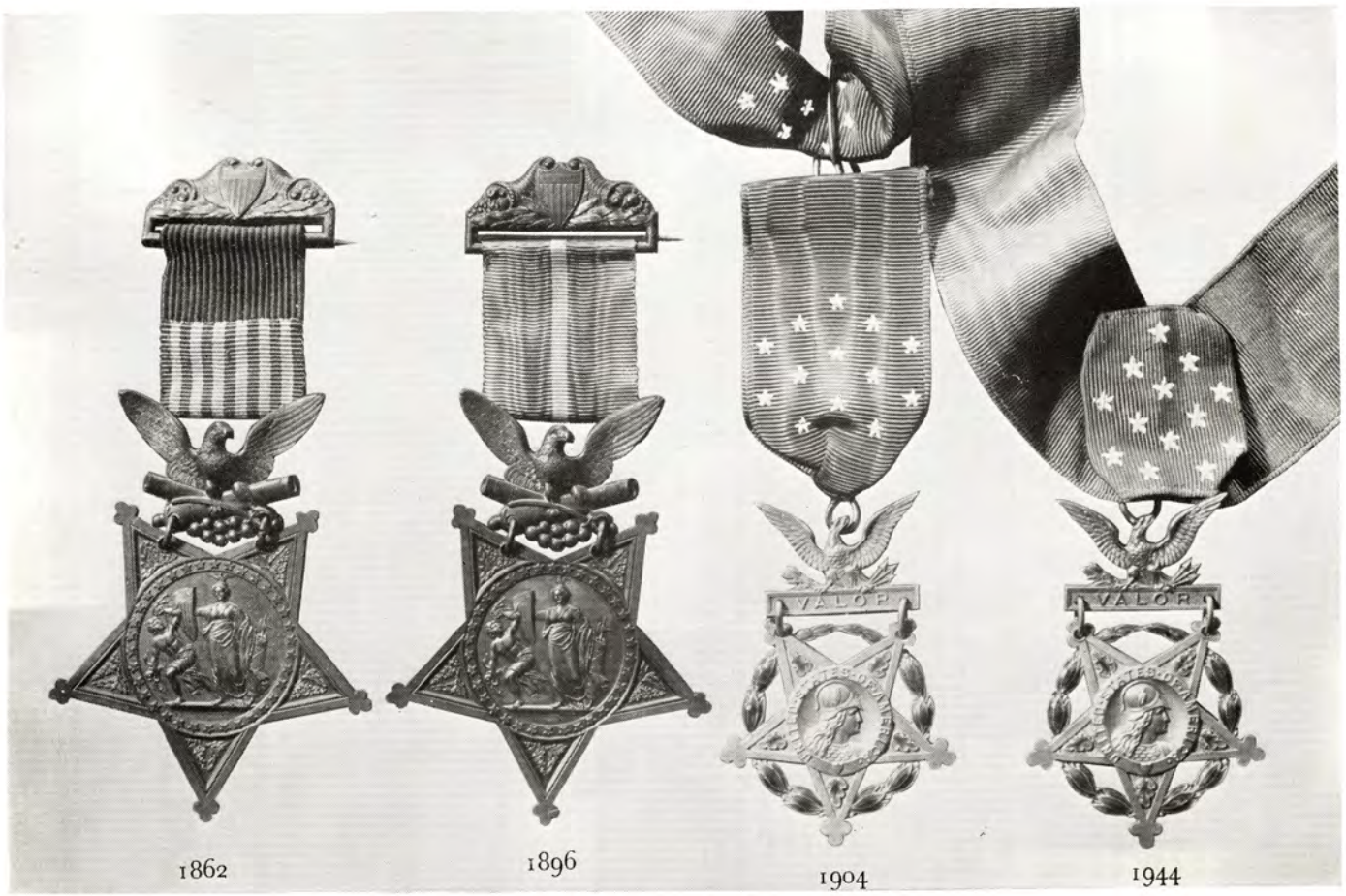
The Horatio Gates Medal (obverse)

COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Horatio Gates Medal (reverse)

COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Obverse and reverse of one of the "André" Medals



The four changes in styles of the Army Medal of Honor

CHAPTER THREE

A Backward Glance

IT HAS BEEN SEEN how the circumstances of the year 1861 called the Medal of Honor into being. American history before 1861 shows the Purple Heart as America's only true precedent. This chapter will look back past American history, into the histories of other nations, to see what developments there had been elsewhere in the idea of medals, and what effect, if any, these developments had upon the history of the American Medal of Honor.

It is known that in the period 1861–62 there were several European influences connected with the Medal of Honor. One, of course, was the physical design of the Medal itself, which had come from the hands of men born in Europe, who imparted to their task artistic skills which had first been acquired in Europe. Lt. Col. Edward D. Townsend, The Adjutant General of the Army in 1861, has described the effects of another European influence upon the Medal in his memoirs. This was the arrival in this country of officers who had been trained in foreign armies and who offered their services to the American Government. As these soldiers usually displayed medals or orders on their uniforms, "it is no wonder," wrote Townsend, that "they were objects of envy to many of our young aspirants for military glory."

Townsend had been one of the first to argue for the creation of an American Medal of Honor, using this and other arguments in its favor. But it was significant of the trend of thought which had survived since the Revolution, that there were many people who, far from agreeing that our soldiers should have medals because European soldiers had them, took just the opposite view and said, in effect, "If European soldiers wear medals, that's just another reason why Americans should not."

After all, these people argued—and they argued with complete sincerity—the ideal for which we had fought in the Revolution was that of a complete break with Europe and all its works in the form of titles, trappings, and the pomp and circumstance of the monarchies. Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, General in Chief of the Army in 1861, joined with several members of the Senate Military Committee, in having misgivings about the popularity of any move to give a medal to American soldiers.

Townsend, and other supporters of the idea of a medal, could well have argued that we never did break with *all* European ideas or institutions, and that if monarchies had developed medals which helped them to continue as monarchies, we should be quick to imitate their methods and develop a medal which would help us continue to be a democracy.

But whether they used this argument or not, the fact is that they did get their way. A Medal of Honor *was* created and European influences were immediately involved in its creation.

It stood, in 1862, at the end of a long line of symbols which people have used since the beginning of time to honor those who perform some outstanding achievement.

One of the first—and longest-lasting—forms of award for a deed of distinction was the laurel wreath, with which the Greeks crowned citizens who were outstanding not only in war, but also in athletics, literature and oratory.

Rulers in the late Roman era took the laurel wreath unto themselves, and when their profiles appeared on coins of the time, it was with the wreath upon their heads. Medals developed as more or less special kinds of coins, and it is not startling that the laurel wreath is part of the Medal of Honor today.

When the Roman Empire fell apart and feudalism rose to replace it, the feudal system was accompanied by a growth of "rewards" in the form of titles and prerogatives. Feudalism involved the pledging of loyalty by groups of retainers to "strong men" in their neighborhoods. The "strong men", or barons, would honor the "knights" who performed valiant feats of arms not only by giving them increased titles, lands, pensions, but encouraging them in the growing habit of decorating their shields and other armor with insignia which

were, in effect, a pictorial history of their deeds. As the deeds increased in number, so did the numbers and complexity of the insignia, giving root to the entire complicated field of heraldry and heraldic art, and the production of "coats-of-arms" for the families which had evolved them.

But this type of "decoration" was for the few. The warriors of feudalism were in sharp distinction to the peasants who fed them and who won no heraldic devices. Even when the knights found that their splendid armored cavalry was of little value unless accompanied by men-at-arms "drafted" from the peasantry—light infantry, in effect, comprised of pikemen and swordsmen and archers such as the "yeomen" of England—even then, the rewards given the peasant elements of their armies were few and far between.

Feudalism died a natural death and its heavy cavalry fell under the arrows of the English archers at Crécy and Agincourt. Government by kings and "sovereign states" replaced the first, and national armies, drawn from every sector of life, replaced the second. But the ancient system of "decorations for the aristocracy only" continued. Among them were the "orders" of semireligious bodies, such as the Knights Templar, which came into being in the Crusades—the titles of a hierarchy of royalty—the heraldic devices above noted—and even, with the French Revolution, a revival of the laurel wreath itself, during a time when it was fashionable to hark back to the Greek "republic" for clothing, hair styles, and ideas.

Napoleon Bonaparte put himself at the head of an even larger grouping of states than had been usual up to then, giving himself the title of Emperor. But he was careful not to repeat one of the errors of the original barons, kings, and emperors—he originated a decoration that could be won by *anyone,* regardless of rank or social background.

This was the decoration of the *Légion D'Honneur,* and Bonaparte used it skillfully, as one of the most important of a series of awards he designed to bolster up his empire. He had devised "eagles" for his regiments, copied from the old Roman standards carried by the legions. He gave his artillery (he was himself an artilleryman) a catchword of loyalty when he said, "I give no eagles to my batteries to defend. They have their guns." He used a broad system of promotion and prerogative in order to reward his generals and political appointees. But, as has been said, the *Légion D'Honneur* was the spearhead of the system he so shrewdly utilized to instill loyalty in the nation he led—because *anybody could win it.* He knew that once the people failed to stand by him he was finished.

And they stood by him for a long time. Graybearded grenadiers followed him for years, from Egypt through Prussia to Moscow, embracing him when he escaped his first prison—worshipping not only him, but *his recognition of them,* embodied in the decoration they wore. Pale adolescents cheered him before they charged to death at Waterloo or died in the Russian snow for his fantastic ambition, their hearts set upon becoming members of the *Légion D'Honneur.*

Before Napoleon died he had almost all of the Christian world united in competition against him. And the other states of Europe were forced to the realization that in order to fight him—or a revival of his ideas after his death—they would have to be as efficient as he was in everything. They adopted his principle of national armies; they drilled their armies in his efficient manner; they studied his tactics and strategy. And they adopted systems of using medals for bravery which could be won by anyone worthy of them.

Thus there arose the Russian Cross of St. George, the Iron Cross of Germany, and the English decoration of the Victoria Cross. They were products of the epoch of nationalism, created to reward the citizen for his loyalty to his state.

It should be noted in this chapter that before the establishment of the Purple Heart the American Government had given six medals to individuals—struck upon special occasions, and not part of any organized, systematic plan of awards. These medals, both in their design and method of award, as well as in the circumstances which caused them to be awarded, were more a part of the tradition of the past than of that which was to develop in America in the future.

The first was given to Washington, by a resolution passed by the Continental Congress and approved on March 25, 1776. The second was voted by Congress on November 25, 1777, to be given to General Horatio Gates for the defeat of the British under Gen. John Burgoyne at Saratoga. This was a large medal, weighing more than 4 ounces, far too heavy to be worn as a decoration. The third was voted to Henry Lee—nicknamed "Light Horse Harry"—the father of Robert E. Lee, on September 24, 1779, in recognition of his attack upon the British at Paulus Hook, N. J., in July of that year, during which he captured 160 of the enemy without sustaining any loss to his own forces.

The next three awarded were unique, in that they went to enlisted men rather than officers, and that they were created by Congress with the specific understanding that they were to be worn as decorations by the recipients. These were the so-called "André" medals,

given to the three American militiamen who captured the British intelligence major, John André, while he was enroute to New York from West Point, wearing civilian clothes, after having plotted with Benedict Arnold for the betrayal of the American cause. They were awarded in 1780 to John Paulding, Isaac Van Wart, and David Williams. Two of them are now in the possession of the New York Historical Society.

In concluding this brief account of how the Medal of Honor had links with the past in the form of other medals, awarded in this and other countries, it should be noted that the American Medal, called into existence long after the United States was born, and long after other nations had begun the custom of their award, was unique in another special way. It has been seen how medals in other lands were evolving to meet the needs of nationalism, and being used to reward those citizens who served the king—the ruler—the head of a state. America had little sympathy for this type of state—she had revolted successfully against one of them, and that one not the most despotic of them all. It is no wonder that in 1861 there were men who doubted that a medal could become popular in this country.

But this was not the whole story. By 1861 a crisis had made many Americans realize the importance of the idea that lay behind their country—and how important it was to defend that idea. It was natural that, when these Americans reached for a design for a medal to reward those who fought heroically for that idea, they should touch the tradition of the past. Between the Medal they created and the medals which had preceded it there was not much difference in design, and there were similarities in such facts as that the American decoration, like many another, was made of metal and bore a motto.

But the great difference between the American Medal and all the others which had ever been created was in the philosophy which lay behind it—the American philosophy of freedom for the individual, versus the Old World with its emphasis upon the state and its ruler; the great American experiment of democracy for everybody, versus the philosophy of the governments in which "classes" of citizens were ruled by the "divine right" of kings.

CHAPTER FOUR

Protecting the Medal

IN THE PRECEDING CHAPTER it has been shown that there were sincere men who believed that the idea of a Medal of Honor would not prove popular with Americans. By the end of the Civil War, and in succeeding years, this view was definitely proved to be incorrect. The Medal was, if anything, *too popular,* and the glory which it conferred upon its winners had the effect of inspiring the human emotion of envy in many breasts. This was at least partly the cause for imitations of the Medal, sometimes expressed by societies which used badges which were practically exact duplicates of the Medal to denote membership in their associations.

A flood of such imitations sprang up following the Civil War, and had the effect of causing Congress, eventually, to take steps to protect the dignity of the original Medal. Legislation was built up to clarify the meaning of the award, and, in the case of the Army, the design was changed. This change was accompanied by action which did away with the imitative designs which had sprung up before 1904. All this, however, occurred after the Civil War, and the legislative protection which was created to deal with it will be examined in the chronological story.

It is important to note, however, before beginning this chronological account, that the trend towards other decorations, expressed itself very definitely *during* the Civil War. This trend involved *predecessors* of the Medal, in the form of medals being created by soldiers themselves, as well as in the form of at least one similar movement launched by a civilian group. As early as June 6, 1861, the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York had adopted a resolution ordering, "the execution of a series of medals of a proper character" to be presented to those who defended Fort Sumter and Fort Pickens in the preceding month.

During the war, the first step taken by soldiers themselves to create a medal occurred when Maj. Gen. Philip Kearny, the beloved commander of the Third Division of the Army of the Potomac, was killed in action. Officers of each of the regiments which had served under Kearny adopted a resolution to procure "a medal in his honor", for distribution to officers and enlisted men. Further action of this nature came on March 13, 1863, when Brig. Gen. Daniel Birney, Kearny's successor in command of the Third Division, announced that he was obtaining another medal, a "cross of valor", to be known as the "Kearny Cross", which would be bestowed upon such noncommissioned officers and privates as had most distinguished themselves in battle.

There was a good reason for this type of decoration being connected with the name of Philip Kearny—a reason which illustrates still further the thesis that good soldiers have always known the power of decorations. Kearny was commander of a division which included many foreign-born soldiers. He was born in New York—an Irish-American with a romantic flair who was already something of a legend at the time the Civil War began. He had fought in the Mexican War with distinction, losing an arm at the Battle of Cherubusco. Both before and after that he had fought under the French flag—the first time in Algiers, leading some of the world's best cavalry, the *Chasseurs d'Afrique*—and, later on, at Solferino, in the Italo-French War. He had been the first American to win the *Légion d'Honneur* decoration for military service.

Because of the arm he had lost in Mexico, he had great difficulty getting himself accepted for service in the Union Army. Eventually he was accepted and rose rapidly to the rank of divisional commander after Bull Run and the Peninsular campaign. His tiny figure became a familiar sight in the front lines. He believed in reassuring his men during emergencies by his personal appearance, and would gallop in front of his lines, holding the reins of his horse in his teeth, his one arm waving wildly, his képi set at a jaunty angle, and his beard floating in the wind.

It was while he was exposing himself in this manner that he was killed just after the Second Battle of

Bull Run, at Chantilly, Va., on September 1, 1862.

But before he died he had done something for the morale of his troops which proved that he had thoroughly learned the lesson which Napoleon gave the French when he created the *Légion d'Honneur*. Kearny had issued a red, diamond-shaped patch to every man in his command, to be worn on their caps. It was his own idea, done by his own order, and it set his men apart from all the others, distinguishing them as "Kearny's men", both to the rest of the Union Army—and to the Confederates, who had a healthy respect for their ability. His red diamond patch (one similar to it can be seen today on the shoulders of men of the Fifth Infantry Division) materially assisted in establishing *ésprit de corps*—the "pride in outfit" which is now recognized as a "must" in military training.

Kearny—like Washington, who had created the Purple Heart—had worked out his own method of giving his soldiers something to symbolize their teamwork. It was not unnatural, therefore, that it would be the memory of this General Kearny which inspired the men he had led to "order" a medal bearing his name.

The fashion spread. Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks, commanding the Department of the Gulf, announced in June of 1863 that volunteers should receive "a medal fit to commemorate the first grand success of the campaign of 1863 for the freedom of the Mississippi." In the same month, Stanton signed an order authorizing a medal for those troops who reenlisted at the expiration of their terms of service. Major Generals James B. McPherson and Quincy A. Gillmore authorized "medals of honor" in October of the same year. In April 1864, Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside announced that "those who desired could also wear a medal of the same design made of gold or gilt." In October of that year, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, in his address to the soldiers of the Army of the James, announced that a "special medal would be struck in honor of certain colored soldiers of his command for gallantry in action."

A halt was called to this process in January 1865. Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard announced "awards of medals of honor to certain enlisted men"—and a few days later the order was suspended.

Without arguing whether this tendency toward unofficial award of medals, on the part of soldiers, was beneficial or not, it can be said that the practice certainly underlined the fact that medals were just as popular in America as anywhere else. All of these soldier-inspired "awards", moreover, were based upon a good assumption—that the soldier should be rewarded for his various types of gallantry.

But there were to be abuses of the Medal of Honor. One of these was stated as early as 1869, when M. H. Beaumont, publisher of a magazine named "The Soldier's Friend", wrote from New York to the War Department, indicating that he had been repeatedly requested to publish the names of all Medal of Honor winners.

"There are some who are using medals for the purpose of soliciting charity", he wrote, "who obtained them surreptitiously."

Adjutant General Townsend agreed that the publication of a list would be a good idea. He pointed out that some of the winners had never applied for their medals, and that publication might help lead to their delivery. A list was sent to Beaumont on September 29, 1869, and published in "The Soldier's Friend" shortly afterward.

Thus, one abuse was recognized very shortly after the Medal had been authorized. Another was springing up, although it was not defined until much later. This was the practice of imitating the Medal and ribbon, adopted by several semimilitary organizations—imitations which were so good that, according to The Adjutant General in 1896, it was "almost impossible to discern their slight difference from the Medal of Honor and its ribbon."

These abuses were specific and irritating, but there was an abuse growing up which was to prove far more embarrassing than either of these. This was the abuse inherent in the applications of a growing number of ex-soldiers, who, following the Civil War, began to present claims for the Medal of Honor without any sound documentation, and after the passage of an inordinate amount of time from the dates upon which they were alleged to have been won. To the ranks of these late claimants must be added those overzealous officers who, upon the slightest provocation, would recommend large numbers of the men under their command as being fit recipients of the Medal.

This practice received its first setback in the year 1876, when, following Custer's "last stand" and the massacre of his troops at Little Big Horn, the company commanders of the troops who had attempted his relief had recommended large numbers of their men for the Medal. These recommendations were submitted to Brig. Gen. Alfred A. Terry, commanding in that Department, who promptly disapproved them and returned them for revision.

It appeared to him, he wrote, "from the great number of decorations . . . that company commanders have recommended every man in their respective companies that behaved ordinarily well during the action of 25th June, 1876."

"Medals of Honor", he continued, "are not intended for ordinarily good conduct, but for conspicuous acts of

gallantry." He directed that the lists submitted be revised to include, "the names only of men who distinguished themselves in marked manner by conspicuous acts of gallantry in action . . ." with, "the particular act . . . set forth at length opposite the name of the soldier recommended . . ."

It is possible that when General Terry wrote these words he did not know that he was making the first official formulation of policy governing the award. That is exactly what his order constituted, however. It was the first step in constructing the body of regulations and legislation which has grown around the Medal since then and which has had only one objective—the protection of the Medal from abuses which would destroy its dignity and the original intent of its award.

General Terry's action had an immediate result. The regimental commander of the Seventh Cavalry, Col. S. F. Sturgis, appointed a board of officers to review the list of recommendations.

The work of this Board is historically important, first, because it set a precedent for future awards following review by similar boards; second, because it laid down two principles which have since become indispensable in governing award of the Medal. The Board was "of the opinion that only such persons should be recommended for Medals of Honor as displayed in the discharge of duty a zeal, energy, and personal daring which far exceeded any just demand of duty." The Board also stressed the consideration that, "the conduct which deserves such recognition should not be the simple discharge of duty, but such acts beyond this that, if omitted or refused to be done, should not justly subject the person to censure as for shortcoming or failure."

These recommendations of the Board were approved by Colonel Sturgis, General Terry, and Lt. Gen. Philip Sheridan. On August 29, 1878, Medals of Honor were awarded to the 22 men of the Little Big Horn relief forces who were recommended for Medals of Honor on the basis of having successfully passed the foregoing tests.

The first important construction of the law and establishment of precedent concerning award of the Medal had, by this action, been written into Army records.

A sword in itself may be an attractive object; it is only when its possessor has learned how to use it that it becomes the real weapon which it was intended to be. A book on a shelf may look impressive, but unless someone reads it, it is not fulfilling its function. And so with the Medal of Honor . . . if it had not been guarded by regulation and legislation throughout its history, it would have long since lost all of its meaning. Before it could fulfill its real mission in the life of our nation, that nation had to learn what it meant, protect it against imitation, dignify it by awarding it only to those who could be proved worthy of it.

This is why the recommendations of the Board appointed by Colonel Sturgis were important, and why all the legislation on the Medal which was yet to come is important. The Medal had been in existence for only 16 years before this Board met to frame its recommendations. During these 16 years, everyone concerned with the administration of awards of the Medal was undertaking a responsibility in which experience was almost wholly lacking.

The Army, by 1861, was experienced in many things. Among them were such administrative matters as recognizing precedents and procedures to be followed for censure, or punishment of shortcomings and disobedience. But procedures for the recognition and reward of acts beyond the just demands of orders or duty had not been developed as a major phase of military administration, simply because, prior to 1861, there was no such thing as a decoration in use in the Army.

Important as they were to be, the formulations of General Terry and his board applied only to a particular situation in a particular place. They were not army-wide. Since the time of General Terry's action and the recommendations of the board which was set up as a result, many steps have been taken to protect the Medal through regulations and legislation.

In 1884, a circular was published by The Adjutant General which laid down the provision that "the only decorations allowed to be worn on occasions of ceremony are the 'army corps badge' . . . the 'medal of honor' and the several distinctive marks given for excellence in rifle practice . . ."

In 1886 the War Department printed an official list of winners in a pamphlet entitled "Medals of Honor Awarded for Distinguished Service During the War of the Rebellion." On December 10, 1888, a general order directed all Army personnel to report the facts of any deed or service which might merit reward, inasmuch as the War Department contemplated publishing, at the end of each year, "an order making mention of gallant or specially meritorious conduct in service . . . (and) . . . the names of those who have received medals of honor and certificates of merit."

In 1889, the Army Regulations published the following: "Medals of Honor will be awarded by the President to officers or enlisted men who have distinguished themselves in action." This was the first time that the "Regulations" made mention of the Medal. Up to that date

the regulations had mentioned only the Certificate of Merit.

Public interest in the history of the Medal was quickening. Four editions of a book edited by Brig. Gen. Theophilus F. Rodenbaugh, himself a Medal winner, were published in rapid succession. These were titled, "Uncle Sam's Medal of Honor Men" (1886); "The Bravest Five Hundred of '61" (1891); "Fighting for Honor" (1893); and "Sabre and Bayonet" (1897).

Interest in perpetuating the ideals of the Medal was mounting on the part of Medal winners themselves. On April 23, 1890, the Medal of Honor Legion was organized at Washington, as a local society. It was made a national organization during the Grand Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Boston, on August 14, 1890. One of the principal objectives of the organization was, according to F. S. Frisbie, its historian, the "endeavor to obtain such legislation from Congress as will tend to give the Medal of Honor the same position among the military orders of the world which similar medals occupy."

On February 11, 1892, The Adjutant General's Office defined the distinction between the Medal of Honor and the Certificate of Merit pointing out that award of the Medal depended upon an act of heroism and award of a Certificate of Merit upon a deed which benefited the United States.

In 1890 there were 33 Medals awarded.

In 1891 there were 67 awarded.

Confronted with this hundred percent increase in a single year, the War Department, noting that many of the applications for Medals were from ex-soldiers who made no attempt to explain why they had delayed many years in making the applications, sought an opinion on the awards from the Attorney General.

A claim based upon a 28-year-old deed was used as a test case, and on July 11, 1892, the Attorney General, William Henry H. Miller, issued an opinion which, after quoting the act of 1863, said that it was reasonable to suppose that "Congress, in enacting this provision, proceeded upon the idea that the evidence which would chiefly, if not exclusively, guide the judgment of the President in awarding 'medals of honor' would be official reports of battles made to the War Department." He pointed out that in these reports "it was reasonable to expect that the names would be found of all who specially distinguished themselves in the battles and encounters of the late war." Because of the 28-year delay in presenting the claim of the test case, he stated, the award should not be granted.

On January 10, 1894, Secretary of War Joseph B. Doe stated that "Medals of Honor were intended by Congress for officers or men who have . . . done something more than what is expected of every faithful soldier, and the mere fact that this expectation has sometimes failed and that all soldiers are not equally faithful, brave and gallant does not entitle an officer or man who simply did his whole duty to an honor of this description."

And finally, on June 26, 1897, the Secretary of War, R. A. Alger, announced that paragraph 177 of the Army Regulations was revised, at the direction of President William McKinley and that new regulations would henceforth define the award of the Medal of Honor.

The resulting regulations gave the War Department an authoritative and comprehensive system for dealing with award of the Medal. They laid down the necessity for "incontestable evidence" of the deed, and the requirement that every such deed must be one clearly distinguishing the individual for intrepidity, judged by a standard of "extraordinary merit." It was provided that all Medal of Honor applications thenceforth were to be considered as belonging to one of three categories: (1) for services rendered from the outbreak of the Civil War to December 31, 1889; (2) for services during the period between January 1, 1890, and June 26, 1897; and (3) for "cases that may arise for service performed hereafter."

All three classes of claimants were required to submit either official records of the War Department or the testimony of one or more eye-witnesses who, "under oath", would, "describe specifically the act or acts they saw wherein the person recommended or applying clearly distinguished himself above his fellows for most distinguished gallantry in action."

Claims for Medals in reward for an action which took place after January 1, 1890—in other words, category (2) above—could not be made by the proposed recipient, but "by the commanding officer or soldier having personal cognizance of the act for which . . . the honor is claimed." Details were demanded, and also, where feasible, certificates or affidavits of eye-witnesses.

As for the third category—awards which might be made following June 26, 1897—the regulation specified that recommendations would have to be forwarded through channels "within one year after the performance of the act for which the award is claimed." Commanding officers were to make full investigations of all recommendations in their commands, give their opinions on the cases by indorsement, and forward them to The Adjutant General.

It will be noted that this regulation laid down basic procedures affecting the award of the Medal which are still part of today's regulations—namely, a time limit

upon the filing of recommendations and a stipulation demanding eye-witness proof.

A year before these regulations were drawn up, Congress authorized the Secretary of War to issue rosettes, or knots, to be worn in lieu of the Medal, as well as to purchase new ribbons for issue to Medal winners whose old ones had worn out. The new ribbon, announced on July 7, 1897, had a white stripe in the center, two wider stripes of blue on each side of the white, and two even wider stripes of red on each side of the blue. The Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. George D. Ruggles, had advised the Secretary of War to consider revising the design of the original ribbon, with its 13 stripes of red and white, topped by a blue bar, because it had been imitated to such an extent by semimilitary organizations.

On August 1, 1899, Elihu Root was appointed Secretary of War. He proved to be one of the most efficient and painstaking army administrators in history.

Early in 1901 he described the weaknesses of the existing laws concerning the Medal of Honor in a letter to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. "Under existing law", he wrote, "there is no limit to the time within which applications for the award of Medals of Honor may be filed and considered. Indeed, applications have been filed in recent years for the award of the Medals for acts of gallantry alleged to have been performed more than 40 years ago . . . It is needless to say that it is impossible at this late date to determine the facts in such cases with any degree of accuracy."

He stressed the importance of deciding all Medal of Honor cases while the facts were still fresh in the minds of witnesses, "and while it is possible for the Department to do exact justice to all concerned." He concluded with a recommendation that a limit of 3 years should be fixed as the time within which a claim for the Medal might be made. This, he said, "would give abundant time for the consideration of any meritorious case that may arise . . . hereafter. It is believed that such a limit should be established by law."

Root had a mind which was trained in law, orderly and logical. He saw the necessity for clarification of the existing regulations, which, when they were applied to all the Medals of Honor issued after the Civil War, illustrated many ambiguities. Medals of Honor had been issued after 1862 for "soldierlike qualities", for example, which the 1897 regulations would not accept as the basis of awards from then on. Moreover, he found that too much time was being spent by the War Department in investigating applications based upon service in the Civil War.

Root had the advice, during this period, of Capt. (later Brig. Gen.) Frederick Grayton Ainsworth, who had been in charge of the Record and Pension Office of the War Department since 1886. Captain Ainsworth wrote a 10-page history on the topic of early awards of the Medal and incorporated it in his annual report for the fiscal year 1900-01. It was a comprehensive history of the administration of Medal of Honor awards up to that time, official and authentic, and it gave the Secretary of War firm ground upon which to stand in making his reforms.

Congressional action based upon Root's recommendations was not immediately forthcoming, so Root took the steps toward reform of Medal of Honor awards which he could take through War Department action. On September 21, 1901, he appointed Maj. Gen. Arthur MacArthur, himself a Medal of Honor winner, who had just returned from his post as Military Governor of the Philippines, as chairman of a board of officers created for the purpose of examining and acting upon recommendations for the Medal of Honor growing out of the War with Spain and the Philippine Insurrection.

The board was in session only 9 weeks, screening recommendations, but the methods which it developed during that period were rated highly by the War Department. The task of the board was the appraisal and reward of bygone acts, and the directive which instituted the board gave no authority to continue the work into the future. But when its assignment was finished, it was evident that this type of work should be made permanent. Assistant Secretary of War William Sanger on February 24, 1902, recommended to Secretary Root that the procedure should be a continuing process.

Root took quick action upon the suggestion. By Special Order No. 95, dated April 19, 1902, another board of officers was appointed for the purpose of, "examining such applications and recommendations as may be referred to it." This board had its first meeting on May 5, 1902. Up to this time, any individual who thought that he had qualified during the period from 1861 up to January 1, 1890, could file an application with the War Department for the Medal of Honor. The date of the action involved or the date of his separation from the Army were not used as factors in judging his case.

On February 6, 1903, the Attorney General gave the War Department an opinion on this practice to the effect that "A Medal of Honor cannot be awarded when the application or recommendation therefor is made after the . . . [claimant] . . . has been discharged from the military service." This view was concurred in by the Secretary of War, by direction of the President, and pub-

lished in the War Department Circular dated March 16, 1903.

Elihu Root resigned as Secretary of War on February 1, 1904, but legislation which he had recommended concerning the Medal had already been introduced in Congress. By the act approved on April 23, 1904, two basic achievements were accomplished. This act made it mandatory that all claims for the Medal should be accompanied by official documents describing the deed involved. The act also changed the design of the Medal.

Mr. Root, while traveling in Europe in 1902, had discussed the Medal of Honor design with our ambassador to France, Brig. Gen. Horace Porter—who, as a captain, had won the Medal at Chickamauga in 1863. General Porter was in favor of redesigning the Medal. Correspondence of the period shows that this view was also

DESIGN

No. 37,236. PATENTED NOV. 22, 1904.

G. L. GILLESPIE.

BADGE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1904.

Inventor:
G. L. Gillespie

Witnesses:
E. N. Hill.
Jno. B. Saunders Jr.

The design for the Gillespie patent

favored by Lt. Gen. Henry Clark Corbin, and Brig. Gen. George L. Gillespie, the Chief of Engineers—also a Medal winner. The Army War College Board had the question referred to it, and after making its recommendations suggested that they be forwarded to General Porter for additional comment.

Late in 1903, General Porter had several designs prepared by Messers. Arthur, Bertrand, and Berenger, of Paris, showed them to Root—who was again in Europe—and sent them to The Adjutant General, recommending that one of them should be approved by the Legion of the Medal of Honor, which, at that time, was headed by Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles. Following the approval of this organization, the Secretary of War approved the new design and a rosette, fixing his signature to the plan on January 28, 1904, 4 days before he resigned.

Just 2 weeks earlier Representative Cordell Hull, of Tennessee, had introduced the act of 1904, providing for the two changes noted above, into Congress. As stated, it was approved on April 23, 1904, and it authorized "three thousand medals of honor prepared . . . upon a new design."

It remained only to protect the new design from abuse. Early in 1904, Ambassador Porter had written to General Gillespie praising the General's idea for taking out a patent or copyright on the new design of the medal. General Gillespie was granted Patent Serial No. 197, 369, covering the new Medal of Honor, specified as United States Patent Office Design No. 37,236. The final step for protection of the new design was taken on December 19, 1904, when General Gillespie transferred the Medal of Honor Patent "to W. H. Taft and his successor or successors as Secretary of War of the United States of America."

Thus control of the design of the Medal was put into the hands of the Secretary of War, and uncontrolled imitations of the Medal were halted.

In addition to the developments which this chapter has listed, there were two actions of Congress concerning the Medal which should be noted. On April 15, 1904, an act was approved which authorized the issue of duplicate medals in cases in which the originals had been lost or destroyed. Almost 3 years later, on February 27, 1907, by a joint resolution, Congress released Medal holders from the obligation to surrender old Medals when they were replaced by Medals of the new design.

No. 37,236. Patented November 22, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. GILLESPIE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

DESIGN FOR A BADGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Design No. 37,236, dated November 22, 1904.

Application filed March 9, 1904. Serial No. 197,369. Term of patent 14 years.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. GILLESPIE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented a new, original, and ornamental Design for a Badge, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

The figure is a plan view of the badge, showing my design.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The ornamental design for a badge, as shown.

G. L. GILLESPIE.

Witnesses:
W. P. HALL,
E. R. HILLS.

Specifications of the Gillespie patent

CHAPTER FIVE

"The Pyramid of Honor"

THE MEDAL OF HONOR, which had begun as an idea in the minds of a few people back in 1861, had become a reality occupying the attention and energies of many Americans by 1904. This chapter will describe how the citizens who worked for protection of the Medal of Honor were eventually confronted by the fact that there are "degrees" of courage and service to the Nation, over and above the service normally given by any good soldier. Not all of the extraordinary examples of courage or of service were of the type which would deserve the Medal of Honor. At the same time, *all* of them deserved recognition, and *each* degree of valor or service could be looked upon as *a step in the direction* of that extraordinary service of heroism above and beyond the call of duty which is rewarded, once it has been proved, by the award of the Medal of Honor.

And this chapter will describe how the problem of recognition of these lesser deeds was solved by the creation of a system of decorations arranged in an ascending order, with the lowest awards being the most widely distributed—and the Medal of Honor as the final, supreme award, its distribution limited strictly to the handful of those meeting the most severe tests of heroism. Thus, between the medals most widely distributed—and the Medal of Honor, held by only a few, there came all the other awards of Americans in uniform—the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, and all the rest, each one denoting successively higher grades of service or valor—in short, arranged as a "pyramid of honor", with the Medal of Honor being the highest point, at the very top.

The legislation of 1904, described in the last chapter, gave the Medal the maximum protection it had yet achieved. Now thought began to turn to the matter of *presentation* of the Medal as a means through which it could be further dignified.

There had been a few scattered instances in which the Medal was presented by the President or another high official. The survivors of the Mitchell Raid through Georgia were given their Medals by Secretary of War Stanton, as noted in Chapter Two. When Ulysses S. Grant became president, he presented the Medal in the White House on two separate occasions. While soldiers of the Civil War had, in some cases, been given their Medals at troop formations and mentioned in the orders of the day, there is only one occasion recorded in which this custom was continued after the Civil War. This took place when a sergeant, William B. Lewis, was honored at Fort Laramie, Wyo., on April 17, 1886.

In some cases, the Medals had been sent to winners by registered mail. And, unfortunately, in some cases these Medals had been returned to the War Department because the soldiers who had won them had been discharged and their whereabouts were unknown.

On December 9, 1904, Maj. William E. Birkhimer—who had been a brigadier general of Volunteers during the Spanish-American War and who was himself a Medal winner—suggested to the Military Secretary in Washington that "every possible attention should be paid to formality and solemnity of circumstance" whenever the Medal was given to its winners. His suggestion was passed up through channels to the Chief of Staff, and after extensive exchanges of correspondence, President Theodore Roosevelt, on September 20, 1905, signed an Executive order directing that ceremonies of award "will always be made with formal and impressive ceremonial", and that the recipient, "will, when practicable, be ordered to Washington, D. C., and the presentation will be made by the President, as Commander in Chief, or by such representative as the President may designate." If it should be impracticable for the winner to come to Washington, the order provided, the Chief of Staff would prescribe the time and place of the ceremony in each case.

Asst. Surg. James R. Church, of the 1st U. S. Volun-

teers, was the first to receive the Medal in the White House under the terms of this order. The presentation was made by President Roosevelt on January 10, 1906.

On April 27, 1916, Congress approved an act which provided for the creation of a "Medal of Honor Roll", upon which honorably discharged Medal winners who had attained the age of 65 years were to be recorded, with each enrolled person to receive a special pension of $10 per month for life. The primary purpose of this act was to give Medal winners the same special recognition shown to winners of similar British and French decorations for valor. Limiting the award to the nominal sum of ten dollars monthly emphasized that it was not given as a pension, but to provide a small amount for personal comforts in the advanced years of life, at a time when needs are generally not very acute, especially in cases in which the veteran is in receipt of pension benefits. The amount was not made larger both because it was contrary to the policy of Congress to recognize distinguished service by pensions, and because to combine an award for conspicuous gallantry with a pension would diminish the honor attached to the award of the medal.

The passage of this act marked the successful culmination of a 26-year effort by the Legion of the Medal of Honor—the organization of Medal winners which was formed back in 1890—to obtain, in the words of one of its first documents, "such legislation from Congress as will tend to give the Medal of Honor the same position among the military orders of the world which similar medals occupy." Bills aimed at this type of legislation had been introduced into Congress recurrently following the organization of the Legion of the Medal of Honor—none of them meeting with success.

The successful bill was introduced by Representative Isaac R. Sherwood, of New York, who was a Civil War veteran, breveted Brigadier General by Lincoln. He had fought in 43 battles, being under fire 123 days, and had been complimented in special orders for gallantry in action six times. He had led a full-dress Congressional discussion of the Medal of Honor question on the floor of the House on July 6, 1914.

The act of April 27, 1916 provided for enrollment "upon written application being made to the Secretary of the proper department"—War or Navy—"and subject to the conditions and requirements hereinafter contained", of "the name of each surviving person who has served in the military or naval service of the United States in any war, who has attained or shall attain the age of sixty-five years . . ." It then laid down the condition that the applicant's Medal of Honor should have been won by action involving actual conflict with an enemy, distinguished by conspicuous gallantry or intrepidity, at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty.

Then the act specified that the Secretary of War or of the Navy would be responsible to decide whether each applicant would be entitled to the benefits of the act.

If the official award as originally made appeared to the War Department to conform to the criteria established by the statute, this automatically entitled the applicant to the pension without further investigation. If, on the other hand, a doubt arose as to whether or not the applicant was entitled to entry on the roll, then, to quote the act further, "all official correspondence, orders, reports, recommendations, requests and other evidence now on file in any public office or department shall be considered."

What was to be done if, after the consideration of these documents, the War Department felt that the applicant was ineligible, was defined on June 3, 1916, in section 122 of the Army reorganization bill. This act provided for appointment by the Secretary of War of a board of five retired general officers for the purpose of "investigating and reporting upon past awards or issue of the so-called congressional medal of honor by or through the War Department; this with a view to ascertain what medals of honor, if any, have been awarded or issued for any cause other than distinguished conduct . . . involving actual conflict with an enemy . . ."

"And in any case", this act continued, "in which said board shall find and report that said medal was issued for any cause other than that hereinbefore specified, the name of the recipient of the medal so issued shall be stricken permanently from the official Medal of Honor list. It shall be a misdemeanor for him to wear or publicly display such Medal, and, if he shall still be in the Army, he shall be required to return said Medal to the War Department for cancellation."

By October 16, 1916, the board created by this act had met, gathered all Medal of Honor records, prepared statistics, classified cases and organized evidence which might be needed in its deliberations. Between October 16, 1916, and January 17, 1917, all of the 2,625 Medals of Honor which had been awarded up to that time were considered by the board, and on February 15, 1917, 911 names were stricken from the list.

Of these 911 names, 864 were involved in one group—a case in which the Medal had been given to members of a single regiment. In this group case as well as in the remaining 47 scattered cases, the board felt that the Medal had not been properly awarded for distinguished services, by the definition of the act of June 3, 1916.

In its final report, the board indicated that in the large majority of cases "the medals have been awarded for distinguished conduct in action, measuring that term by the highest standard, and there can be no question as to the propriety of the award."

In some cases, the board reported, the rewards the men received were "greater than would now be given for the same acts", but in the absence of evidence to the contrary, "and because there has been no high judicial interpretation of the Medal of Honor laws" the board found that there were "but few instances where the Medal has not been awarded for distinguished services."

The 911 cases which did not pass the board's investigation were turned over to the War Department, and against each of the names involved was stamped the inscription, "Stricken from the list February 15, 1917, Adverse Action Medal of Honor Board—A. G. 2411162."

This board had few legal definitions to guide it in its work. It had to work with a quantity of regulations and precedents in making its decisions, and this mass of information was uncoordinated and even, in some cases, conflicting. For example, the act of April 27, 1916, provided for a "Medal of Honor Roll" for those who met the definition of valor above and beyond the call of duty; whereas the original act creating the Medal on July 12, 1862, specified only gallantry in action and "other soldier-like qualities" as the basis for award.

In 1918, Congress decided to clear away any inconsistencies of the legislation which had grown around the Medal and make a set of perfectly clear rules for its award. On July 9, 1918, an act was approved which stated as follows:

". . . the provisions of existing law relating to the award of Medals of Honor . . . are, amended so that the President is authorized to present, in the name of the Congress, a Medal of Honor only to each person who, while an officer or enlisted man of the Army, shall hereafter, in action involving actual conflict with an enemy, distinguish himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

At one stroke, by use of the word "hereafter", this legislation wiped out of existence the War Department's problem of acting on numerous ancient and complicated claims for Medals originating as far back as the Civil War. At the same time, it clearly defined the type of deed which could win a Medal.

But these were not the only provisions of this 1918 Act. It directed that enlisted men who were Medal winners should receive $2 extra in their military pay. This matter of an extra $2 per month, as we have noted in Chapter 2, was intertwined with the Certificate of Merit. The 1918 legislation abolished the Certificate of Merit and replaced it by a new medal—the Distinguished Service Medal—still retaining the extra pay feature.

The Distinguished Service Cross was brought into existence so that the Medal of Honor would be more protected. The Committee on Military Affairs, which had prepared the bill, stated that, "It is believed that if a secondary medal . . . had been authorized in the past, the award of the . . . Medal of Honor would have been much more jealously guarded than it was for many years. And it is certain that the establishment of such a secondary medal now will go far toward removing the temptation to laxity with regard to future awards of the greater medal."

However, it would have been illogical to have a "secondary" medal which carried the old Certificate of Merit provision for $2 extra pay per month, while the "greater medal"—the Medal of Honor—had no such provision attached to it. Therefore, the extra pay feature was added to the award of the Medal of Honor.

But possibly the most important and far-reaching effect of this 1918 legislation was the fact that for the first time in American history it was established by law that there were degrees of service to the country, each worthy of recognition, but only *one* of which could be accorded supreme recognition. In addition to the Distinguished Service Cross, the 1918 act also created the Distinguished Service Medal and the Silver Star, each of them lower in precedence.

The building of the "Pyramid of Honor" had begun. At the topmost point of this pyramid, the Nation had placed the Medal of Honor, restricting its award only to the handful who could qualify by the most rigid definition of courage. Underneath it had been placed the Distinguished Service Cross, with its restrictions less rigid, allowing more people to qualify for its award. Once this precedent had been set, the way was made clear for all the other decorations which have since been created, to meet specific needs, during our military history. Beneath the Distinguished Service Cross came the Distinguished Service Medal, which can be awarded for exceptionally meritorious service other than in combat against an armed enemy, then the Silver Star; later, the Legion of Merit; the Soldier's Medal; the Purple Heart (revived on February 22, 1932); and the others—each in its order of "rank", or importance. The order of importance of these medals is described in full in the Appendix, with accompanying chart.

This legislation also made it clear that recommendations for such awards had to be made within 2 years

after the act involved, and laid down the time limit of 3 years as that in which the medals involved could be issued, following the date of the act meriting their award. It provided that not more than one medal should be issued to any one person, but that for each succeeding act justifying the award a suitable bar or other device could be awarded by the President. The President was authorized to delegate award of all four medals with which this 1918 act was concerned—the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal and Silver Star—to commanding generals of armies or higher units in the field.

Inasmuch as the legislation defining all these points was not passed until close to the end of World War I, only four Medals of Honor were approved before the Armistice. The Medal winners in these cases were Capt. George C. McMurtry, Private Thomas C. Neibaur, Maj. Charles W. Whittlesey, and 1st Lt. Samuel Woodfill.

In order to insure fairness to all, Gen. John J. Pershing issued instructions to various commanding officers of the American Expeditionary Forces to submit recommendations for award of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, and Distinguished Service Medal. Recommendations were to come from regimental commanders, or, in the cases of men not in regiments, from the commanders corresponding as nearly as possible to the grade of regimental commander. General Pershing also appointed a board of officers at his headquarters to consider recommendations for the decorations. The recommendations so screened were then passed on to the Commander in Chief.

From these procedures there evolved the methods of examining possible awards which were used throughout World War II. Among the major requirements established at Headquarters, AEF, was one which specified that each recommendation for a Medal of Honor must cite a specific action on a particular day or in a particular engagement, giving the place and details of the action and the numbers of troops involved. It was also specified that each recommendation must be accompanied by sworn statements of two or more persons who were eyewitnesses of the action for which the Medal was recommended.

Five days after the Armistice, General Pershing not only directed that a careful review be made of each case which had been submitted for award of the Distinguished Service Cross, but he also sent to headquarters of each division an officer thoroughly familiar with the forms necessary to substantiate awards of the Medal of Honor. He ordered that these officers were to be given every possible assistance in obtaining necessary evidence for Medal of Honor award in these cases, so that the Distinguished Service Cross would not be given when a case merited the Medal of Honor.

Up to November 23, 1918, 24 Medal of Honor recommendations had been received in the Personnel Bureau, AEF, and 4 approved, as mentioned above. As of that date, the Personnel Bureau became the Personnel Division of The Adjutant General's Office, and Lt. Col. J. A. Ulio continued as chief of the Decorations Section within this new division.

Medal of Honor recommendations and those pertaining to other decorations were handled at General Pershing's Headquarters at Chaumont, France, between November 1918 and July 1919. They were submitted to the War Department, and during this period 78 Medal of Honor awards were made.

General Pershing personally reviewed each recommendation and the supporting documents.

Following World War I, Army Regulations were changed so that not more than one Medal could be issued to one person, as directed by the 1918 legislation. Up to that time five men had been awarded two Medals of Honor. They were—

Frank D. Baldwin, Captain, Company D, 19th Michigan Infantry.

Thomas Custer, Second Lieutenant, Company B, 6th Michigan Cavalry.

Henry Hogan, First Sergeant, Company G, 5th U. S. Infantry.

Patrick Leonard, Sergeant, Company C, 2d U. S. Cavalry (1870), and Corporal, Company A, 23d U. S. Infantry (1876).

William Wilson, Sergeant, Company I, 4th U. S. Cavalry.

Until June 30, 1921, the Badge and Medal Section in The Adjutant General's Office functioned within very limited areas of administration. On that date, the Secretary of War directed The Adjutant General to take over all operating functions connected with the award of medals and decorations.

The patent which had been taken out for protection of the design of the Medal expired on November 21, 1918. When this situation was referred to The Judge Advocate General of the Army for an opinion, he stated that this method of protecting the design should be replaced by legislative action forbidding imitations on the part of Congress. A bill for this purpose was recommended by the War Department, passed Congress, and was approved by the President on February 24, 1923. Imitation of the design of the Medal was now forbidden by law.

The last Medal of Honor which could be awarded under the legislation of 1918—which specified that the award could be made not more than 3 years from the date of the act which won it—was presented to the American Unknown Soldier on Armistice Day of 1921. The bill which allowed it to be awarded to an unidentified soldier was signed by the President on August 24, 1921.

The Medal was pinned on the flag draping the coffin of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery by President Warren G. Harding, at services in the Amphitheater of the Cemetery. At the same time, the President pinned to the flag high awards of Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, and Poland. All of these nations had authorized award of their highest decorations to the American Unknown Soldier, and the ceremony was attended by dignitaries of each of these countries.

During the post-World War I period, special Congressional action and Executive orders allowed the award of the Medal of Honor to Unknown Soldiers of nations which had been our allies in the conflict. On March 4, 1921, an act was approved awarding the Medal to the Unknown British and French Soldiers, and on October 12, 1921, a similar act awarded it to the Italian Unknown Soldier.

Authorization to award the Medal to the Belgian Unknown Soldier was given by Executive order of the President on December 1, 1922, and a similar authorization was given in the case of the Unknown Rumanian Soldier on June 6, 1923.

In the winter of 1919–20, there was some discussion of changing the design of the Medal once again, in order to beautify it, but the prevailing opinion was in favor of leaving it unchanged, and the design remained the same as it is today.

During the period of 1927–30, the Army War College, which has the mission of training selected officers for duty with the General Staff of the War Department and for high command, made studies of the principles and technical aspects of administration of Medal of Honor awards. Ten student officers had been assigned to make a study of the system of rewards in the Army as early as 1924. Three years later, in 1927, using the earlier study as a guide and source of material, a study of greater scope was finished at the War College. It embraced a full analysis of existing systems of rewards and commendations, and proposed revisions of them to "make available to more men and organizations the award of decorations and commendations in one form or another."

This recommendation was based upon the belief of the student officers that "in our army, we, up to the present time, have not fully taken advantage of this means of improving morale."

A third study of the subject was made later.

When the time limitation on awards of the Medal—contained in the 1918 legislation—expired for the second time, on April 7, 1923, many applications for War Department decorations which already had been filed with the Department during the first four postwar years still remained pending in the archives of The Adjutant General and the General Staff. On May 26, 1928, an extension was made part of an act of Congress in order to allow clearing up of these cases. It provided for consideration of recommendations pending at that date in the War and Navy Departments and the Marine Corps, with awards to be made in such cases as could be shown worthy.

All of these procedures and policies, based upon Congressional legislation, may seem dry and uninteresting. Legal terminology does not make for glamour. Records of proceedings of a board of review do not lend themselves to heroics. And the precise wording of Army Regulations and bulletins, spelling out the law with care and repetition, hardly constitutes the material of an adventure story. But it is precisely *because* of these legalistic safeguards that the Medal of Honor is a symbol of such glorious tradition today. The hours which were spent—thousands of them—from 1862 to the present day in the work of legislation, definition, administration, review of applications and recommendations, were unglamorous hours which painfully built the firm base for the pinnacle which bears the Medal of Honor. As a result of this painstaking work, the nation was prepared, when World War II struck, to administer a swift and accurate reward for many provable cases of valor in action. How this system operated and the effect which it had upon upholding morale in the critical days after Pearl Harbor will be the subject of the next chapter.

Through legislation, precedent, and procedure, America had built its "Pyramid of Honor." The Medal of Honor was now where it had been intended, all through its history, that it should be—at the top of that pyramid.

CHAPTER SIX

The Medal in World War II

DURING WORLD WAR I, no Medals of Honor were presented until after the cessation of hostilities, and only four of them had been authorized before that time. In World War II, because of the lessons the nation had learned by experience, because of the policies which had been laid down and interpreted, and because of the prompt and efficient operation of the award system, Medals of Honor were awarded more quickly than ever before.

"It is my sincere belief", said General of the Army George C. Marshall, while he was Chief of Staff, "that we cannot do too much in the way of prompt recognition of the men who carry the fight and live under the conditions that exist at the fighting front."

To give this prompt honor, the War Department, drawing upon all the experience which has been set forth in the preceding chapters, had set up a regularly-functioning organization for administration of the Medal of Honor and all other awards. This organization was defined on August 8, 1932, when Army Regulations No. 600–45 were published, giving a complete guide to all questions of decorations and awards. Administration of the Medal of Honor decoration was divided among three separate War Department agencies: the Office of the Chief of Staff, the War Department Decorations Board (a part of the Office of the Secretary of War), and the Decorations and Awards Branch of The Adjutant General's Office. The responsibilities of each of these agencies were as follows:

In the case of the Office of the Chief of Staff, duties connected with the Medal were assigned to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G–1 (later the Personnel and Administration Division of the War Department General Staff). This office established the policies and procedures for protection of the Medal of Honor and other War Department decorations, and it recommended to The Adjutant General measures which would guarantee that these standards should be maintained.

The Office of the Secretary of War, through the War Department Decorations Board, insured that each award was justified under these policies. This Board reviewed all recommendations, to find whether the facts were as presented and, in doubtful cases, whether additional facts should be produced for support or clarification.

The Decorations and Awards Branch of the Office of The Adjutant General was responsible for publishing (in Army Regulations) the policies governing the award of the Medal of Honor and other decorations; the preparation of each recommendation for presentation to the War Department Decorations Board; the arrangement for the presentation ceremony for each Medal, and the announcement of each award to the officer who originally recommended the citation.

The review function of the War Department Decorations Board was one of the key points in the process, and in its review and evaluation of each case it was guided by two principles. The first was that to fail to recognize true valor promptly would have defeated the purpose of the decorations system. The second was that to make unmerited awards of the Medal of Honor would have depreciated the value of the award to those who had really won it.

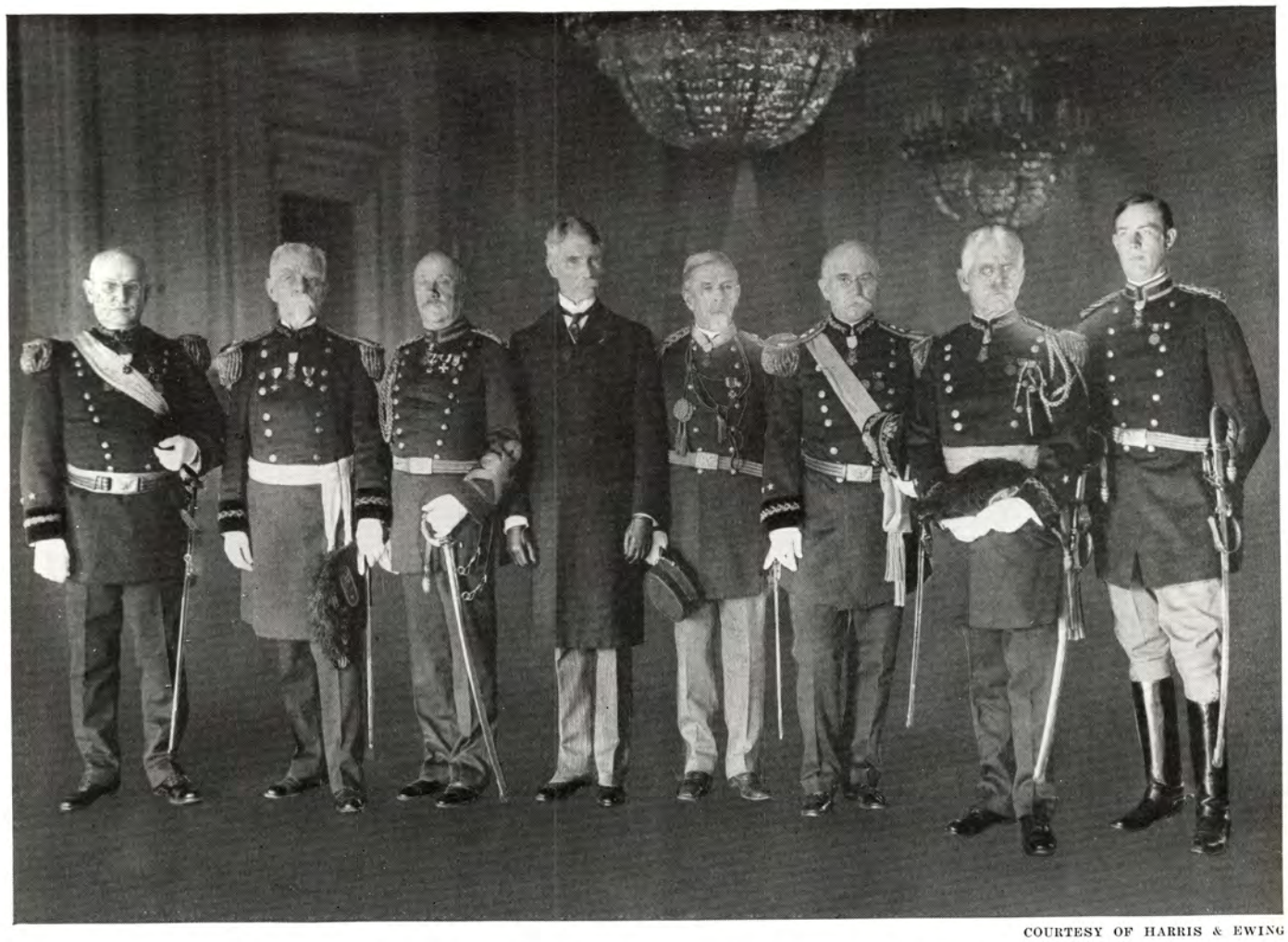
The attitude of the Board was consistently open-minded and not negative. Every possible effort was made to obtain all the facts for a sound judgment on each case. However, it was the Board's unconditional requirement that second-hand evidence would not be accepted in Medal of Honor cases. Each case had to be supported by incontestable proof in the form of affidavits of at least two individuals who were eye-witnesses of the deed.

As World War II extended and new theaters of operation opened, accumulating experience revealed the necessity for providing the Board with more complete factual backgrounds in connection with recommendations for the Medal. Theater commanders were instructed by cables and letters to include with each Medal of Honor recommendation the most specific information obtainable concerning exactly what the individual did, and to give more

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

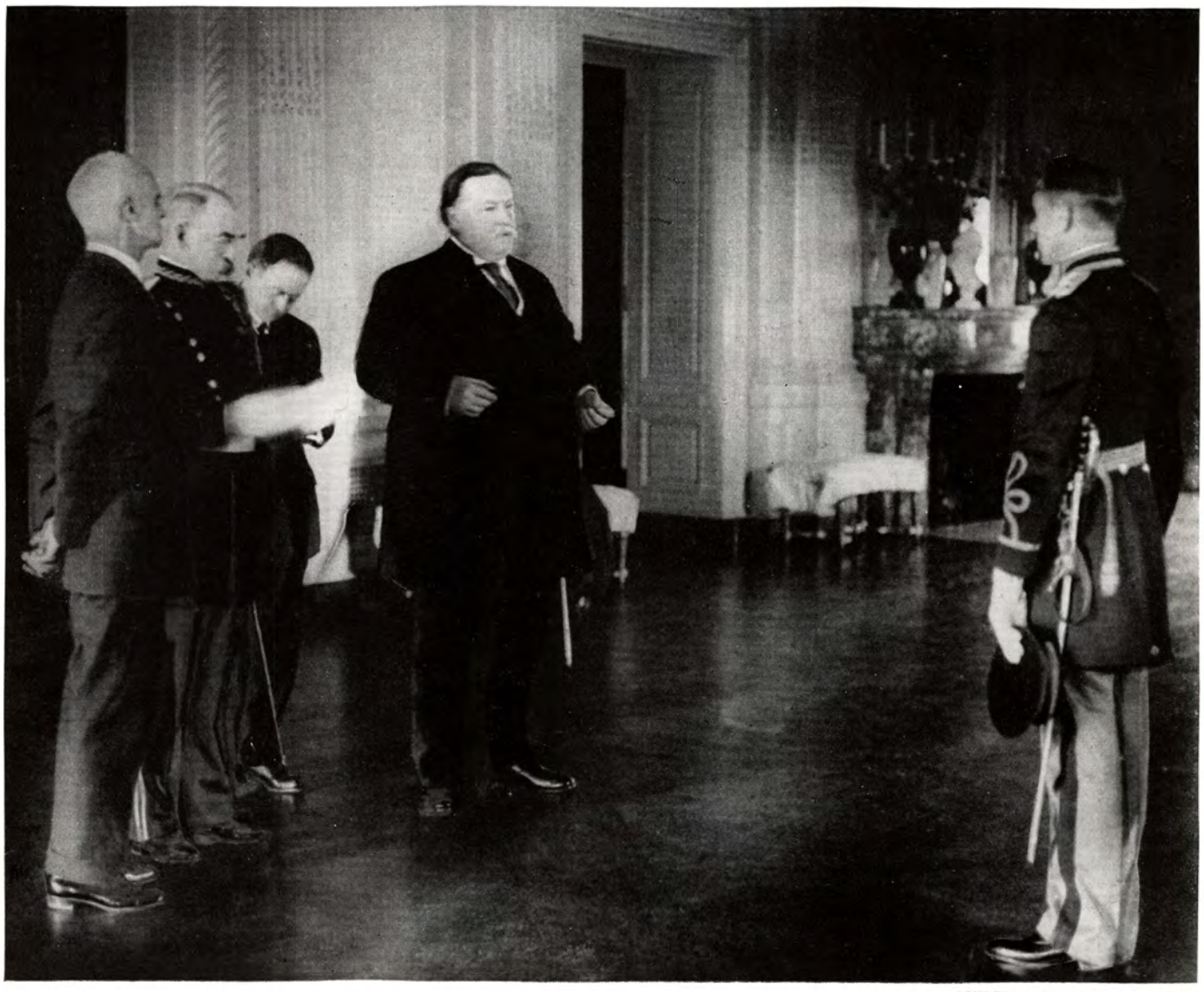
Major General Arthur MacArthur, Jr.

797847°—48——4



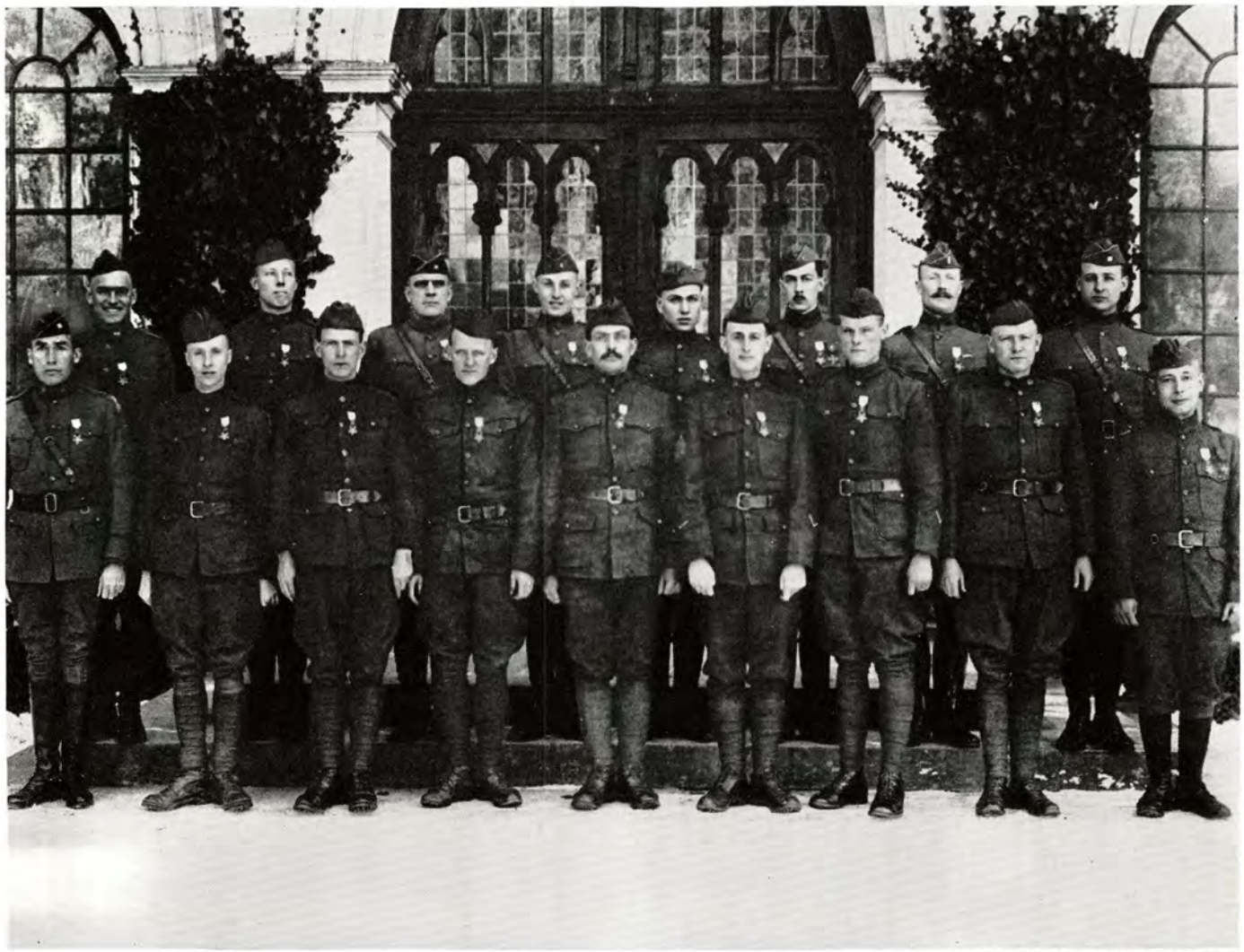
COURTESY OF HARRIS & EWING

Picture taken in the East Room of the White House, probably on November 7, 1910, on the occasion of presentation of the Medal of Honor to Lieutenant Gordon Johnston. From left, General Charles F. Humphrey, General John M. Wilson, Colonel Charles H. Heyl, General Theodore Schwan, Colonel Frederick Fuger, General W. H. Carter, General A. L. Mills, and Lieutenant Johnston



COURTESY OF HARRIS & EWING

President Taft with Major General William W. Wetherspoon, Acting Chief of Staff, and Robert Shaw Oliver, Assistant Secretary of War, at presentation ceremony for Captain Julien E. Gaujot



COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

February 9, 1919—a group of medal winners at Chateau Valdes Ecolier, Chaumont, Haute Marne, France. Front row, from left: Captain George C. McMurtry; Sergeant Archie A. Peck; Sergeant Willie Sandlin; Corporal Berger Lamon; First Sergeant Johannes S. Anderson; First Sergeant Sydney G. Umpertz, Private First Class Charles D. Barger, Sergeant Harold I. Johnston, Corporal Frank I. Bart. Back row: Corporal Jesse N. Funk, Private Clayton N. Slack, Captain George H. Mallon, First Lieutenant Harold A. Furlong, Private Thomas O. Neibaur, Second Lieutenant Donald M. Call; First Lieutenant Samuel Woodfill, Captain Edward C. Allworth

Sergeant Alan L. Eggers

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Sergeant John C. Latham

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

General Pershing shakes hands with Sergeant Harold Johnston, Chaumont, France, 1919

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

COURTESY OF T. HORYDCZAK

Trophy Room of the Unknown Soldier's Tomb

care to incorporation of detailed information in the eyewitness affidavits. Maps or descriptions of the terrain on which the action occurred were requested, also such details as how near the individual was to the enemy at the time of his deed, or any other shred of evidence indicating the *degree* of hazard confronted and of gallantry performed.

Immediately after D-day, in Normandy, the War Department, through the Decorations Board, made a major policy change, establishing the rule that Medal of Honor recommendations would no longer be accepted when forwarded by subordinate commanders without higher endorsement. From then on, the rule stated, recommendations must be passed upon and endorsed by theater commanders in person. At the same time, orders were issued from Washington specifying that every recommendation for a Medal of Honor should be given the highest priority at every headquarters.

By the spring of 1945, general officers who had combat experience and company grade officers who were themselves winners of the Medal or of other valor decorations were available for service with the Decorations Board. In March of that year, the Board was completely reorganized, with all retired personnel being relieved and replaced by officers on active duty. Because of the increase in its duties, the size of the Board was increased, and the Decorations and Awards Branch was relieved of all details relative to presentation ceremonies. The ceremonies were handled from then on by the commanding general of the Military District of Washington.

World War II—the mightiest struggle ever forced upon the United States—was the war which brought about more numerous medals and decorations than ever before. The philosophy of General Marshall to the effect that more honor should be shown the men who did the fighting was evidenced in the care which was taken by the War Department to reward *all* types of service. During the 1930's, following the revival of the Purple Heart, it was believed that there was no act of bravery or distinguished service in the Army which was not recognizable by an appropriate reward. But World War II, as it developed, brought out the fact that the constantly changing conditions of warfare demanded new types of awards.

New campaigns demanded new medals for those who participated in them. The badges for proficiency, such as marksmanship, had to be supplemented as new techniques, such as parachuting, were developed for use in the fighting. And the numerous theaters of operation demanded special ribbons for those who served within them. Women entered the war in uniform—as soldiers and members of the other services—and became eligible to win many of the awards—and won them. The Bronze Star was authorized for heroic deeds and meritorious noncombatant duty in a combat zone, filling a need for honoring many men and women who otherwise would have gone unrewarded. Later the Army Commendation Ribbon was authorized to recognize meritorious service in any zone, ranking side by side with the Bronze Star in order of precedence.

In short, World War II was the background of the period in which the American nation filled in the details of its "Pyramid of Honor." For every stone which was set firmly into place in this "Pyramid", the base was made just that much firmer for the supreme award—the highest point of the pyramid—the Medal of Honor.

There can be no doubt that this complete and workable scheme of decorations and other awards had much to do with improving morale during World War II. The doctrine of prompt rewards for actions meriting them was promulgated with the best possible results.

The war itself was an upsetting, unwished-for, harsh and often horrible experience for Americans in uniform, as it was, indeed, for all Americans. But the experience, when it ended finally, with the United States and her allies triumphant, meant something to those who went through it—something more than just the daily labor, of whatever kind, that they put into it. And having proof that their work meant something to the nation, proof in the form of the medals and decorations they had won, meant, to many a soldier, the difference between feeling "lost" or "forgotten" and knowing that the Nation had reached out to give him a token of its thanks—no matter how small.

On the day of their discharge, there were few uniformed Americans who made the "last march"—to receive their discharge certificates and emblems—who did not feel proud of the ribbons they wore, whether they were wearing them for the first time or the last.

" . . . above and beyond the call of duty"

CHAPTER SEVEN

"A New Birth of Freedom"

JOHNNY DIDN'T COME MARCHING HOME until 1865. That was four long years after Fort Sumter was bombarded, and in that time he had become a soldier the hard way—learning how to fight as he went along, with most of his training coming from combat itself.

The Civil War provided some of the bitterest, knock-down-and-drag-out fighting that ever has been engaged in by Americans. In every major battle the opponents saw each other clearly—personally—and knew that they were fighting complete personal duels to the death. It is significant that many of these battles ended in what we today would call "stalemates", with neither side having accomplished anything more than slaughter of the enemy. Relative positions of each side would remain unchanged at the close of the fighting—with each side too exhausted to do more than reorganize, bury the dead, and treat the wounded.

One element of explanation for this circumstance was the incredible personal bravery displayed on both sides. Everybody fought, from drummerboys on up, and the casualty lists of all ranks, private to general, are there to prove it.

There was more close-range fighting than in modern war. The range of weapons today is much longer. There was less concealment. Attacks were simple and direct, with completely exposed men running forward against the enemy positions in close-order ranks. The modern—and more sensible—attack, creeping and crawling forward making frequent use of protective ground until the last moment, was unknown.

It was natural that this type of war would develop a special type of heroic action peculiar to its close-fought circumstances. The soldier of the Civil War, Federal or Confederate, carried into battle with him a physical symbol of the things that he was fighting for. It was his flag. The flag meant to him whatever he wanted to read into it, and it spoke to him wordlessly. In the case of one individual, it could have stood for an entire complicated system of reasoning which pointed out that his cause was just and worth preserving, and it could just as easily have inspired in another, a simple emotional reaction to its presence, expressed in some feeling such as, "There's our flag, and by God, they're not going to get near it."

It was always present, visible to large numbers of the men who fought under it. When they charged, it went forward with them, in the front ranks. When the man carrying it was killed and it fell, there was mad scramble to pick it up and carry it forward again. When it was captured it was a disgrace. As long as it was held aloft, it was a weapon, just as surely and truly as the atom bomb is today, and even more so, because where the bomb in itself can merely explode and then pass into eternity, its mission accomplished, the flags of the Civil War were weapons which kept their enemies in a constant state of danger.

When the blue and gray lines met, some of the hottest hand-to-hand fighting was around the flags, with one side intent upon capturing them and the other upon their protection. It is no wonder that in the yellowing pages of old Army lists of Medal of Honor winners many of the descriptions of their Civil War deeds hinge around incidents connected with a flag.

The very first Medal of Honor won in the Civil War was of this nature. The date was May 24, 1861, a little more than a month after the war began. It must be remembered that the City of Washington, during this period, was practically an island of the Federal cause, surrounded by areas in which sympathy for the Confederacy ran high. To the North, Baltimore was a hotbed of intrigue for the South, and right across the Potomac lay Virginia. The portions of Virginia closest to the capital were occupied by Federal troops on May 24, but the population resented them and made no secret of their loyalty to their State.

On this day, Col. Ephraim E. Ellsworth and men of the Eleventh New York Infantry, in the city of Alexandria, Va., saw a Confederate flag floating from the top of the Marshall House, a hotel in the center of the town.

Ordering Pvt. Francis Brownell, of Company A, to accompany him, Ellsworth entered the hotel, walked up to the top floor, and hauled the flag down. Then the two men started down the stairs, Brownell leading and Ellsworth rolling the flag into a small bundle.

"As I reached the first landing and turned," reported Brownell later, "with half a dozen steps between me and the floor, there stood a man with a double-barreled gun resting on the banisters, the muzzle pointing at my breast."

Brownell took immediate action. He leaped forward, throwing the barrel of his musket against that of the shotgun held by the Confederate (whose name, it was later discovered, was Jackson). His leap carried him from the landing to the floor, and the gun barrels clattered together along the banister.

Brownell landed, off balance, just as Ellsworth came into view on the landing. Jackson turned from Brownell to Ellsworth, and fired one charge of his shotgun into the colonel's chest. As Ellsworth fell, the Confederate whirled upon Brownell and fired the second charge at him, but just a second too late. Brownell had recovered his balance. He fired his musket at Jackson and sprang forward with his bayonet. The second charge of the shotgun passed over Brownell's head. Jackson was shot through the head, and Brownell's lunge put his bayonet through the Confederate's chest. He fell back dead on the stairs, in Brownell's words, "without having spoken a word from the time I saw him."

Brownell reloaded his weapon as other members of his squad rushed into the hotel. Excited guests poured out of the hotel rooms. The soldiers lined them up against walls, not knowing whether another attack would take place. When the situation quieted down, they wrapped Colonel Ellsworth's body in a blanket and took it to the Navy Yard.

Another incident which speaks clearly of the meaning of the flag to the Civil War soldier occurred in the siege of Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River, in Tennessee, by Union forces led by General Grant.

On the afternoon of February 15, 1862, the Second Regiment of Iowa Infantry was ordered to retake positions which had been lost on the right of Grant's line. The record of Voltaire P. Twombly, corporal of Company F of the regiment, who won the Medal that day, is best told in the words of his regimental commander, Colonel J. M. Tuttle, in the Official Records:

"I cannot omit in this report an account of the color-guard. Color-sergeant Doolittle fell early in the engagement, pierced by four balls and dangerously wounded. The colors were taken by Corporal Page, Company B, who soon fell dead. They were again raised by Corporal Churcher, Company I, who had his arm broken as he entered the entrenchments, when they were taken by Corporal Twombly, Company F, who was almost immediately knocked down by a spent ball, immediately rose, and bore them gallantly to the end of the fight . . ."

Corporal Twombly, a native of Van Buren, Iowa, later became Iowa State treasurer.

Much has been written of the panic which followed the Battle of Bull Run, and it is very often forgotten that Union troops fought bravely all during the preceding day before the rout began in the rear lines.

Sergeant John G. Merritt, of Company K, First Minnesota Volunteers, had no birds-eye view of that battle. This is the way the details which he saw looked to him:

"We could hear the sound of cannon very distinctly about eight o'clock, and by ten or eleven o'clock we could plainly hear the sound of musketry; by that time we knew we were going to have a fight . . . Being desirous of obtaining military distinction, I applied to Captain Holtzborn, of my company, for the privilege of selecting four men for the purpose of capturing the first Confederate flag we could get."

As his regiment advanced toward the Confederate lines, Merritt caught sight of a Confederate color bearer about 30 yards away. Merritt, followed by another man, sprinted ahead of his own advancing line, yelled at the Confederate to surrender, and grabbed the colors out of his hand. He was laughing at the apparently easy thing he had done, when a band of Confederates, screaming with rage, burst from their lines in pursuit of him, firing a volley that wounded Merritt in the leg and killed his companion.

At about 9 o'clock that night Sergeant Merritt reached Centerville in an ambulance. He refused to allow the surgeons to amputate his leg, and was shipped on, through Fairfax Courthouse to Washington. The wagon load of wounded remained on Pennsylvania Avenue for an hour before hospital facilities could be set up. When he woke up in the E Street hospital, later on, he wrote, "the doctors were around my bed examining my wound and deciding whether they would amputate above or below the knee. I would not consent to amputation and they left me in charge of an attendant."

"The New York papers," he continued, "contained a list of the dead and wounded; my name appeared among the list of the dead."

He remained in the hospital for 30 days. Then, with his wound healed, he rejoined his regiment in Maryland and served with it for the rest of the war.

The citation accompanying the Medal of Honor later awarded to him stated that the award was for "Gallantry in action; was wounded in advance of his regiment."

Seven other men performed deeds during the Battle of Bull Run for which they were later awarded the Medal of Honor. They were First Lt. Adelbert Ames, who later was a member of the executive committee of the Medal of Honor Legion; Capt. Walter H. Cooke; Col. John F. Hartranft, who was to become Governor of Pennsylvania; Pvt. Henry W. Wheeler; Capt. William H. Withington; Col. Orlando Bolivar Willcox; and, finally, Lt. Charles J. Murphy, whose experience is preserved in the following letter from Brig. Gen. Samuel P. Heintzelman to President Lincoln:

" . . . At the close of the fight on that disastrous day, he organized a field hospital at the Sudley Church, remaining there in full charge, and humanely attending to the wants of the wounded soldiers, although this was out of the line of his duty, through which he was captured by the enemy. His assistance to the surgeons and to the suffering men on that occasion, as I am credibly informed, was of the most incalculable value, and his disinterested and humane services deserve the greatest praise, all of which makes him fully entitled to the consideration of the Government. His escape to our lines from his prison at Richmond, after the most unheard of sufferings and privations was one of the best planned and most successful affairs of the kind I heard of during the war."

On May 5, 1862, near Williamsburg, Va., in the Peninsular campaign, Sgt. John N. Coyne, of Company B, 70th New York Infantry, leading a small group of soldiers, came upon a party of Confederates, one of them bearing a flag. Coyne and his men rushed the Confederates. Coyne fell upon the color-bearer and wrestled with him, trying to drag the flag from his grasp. The fight continued until one of Coyne's men shot the Confederate in the hand. Coyne ripped the flag away from him, tore it from its staff, and tied it around his body. The Confederates were in retreat.

Coyne was awarded the Medal of Honor for this deed and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Later, in recognition of several other acts of gallantry, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Three days later, on May 8, 1862, Pvt. Delano Morey, of Company B, 82d Ohio Infantry, was with his unit at McDowell, Va. His regiment had just started a retreat in the face of overwhelming odds.

"But I," wrote Morey later, "noting two of the enemy at some distance from me, left the retreating men and made for the two sharpshooters with the intention of capturing them. When they saw me coming on the full run, they hastened to load their guns, but I was a little too quick for them, and leveling my empty gun at them, I ordered them to surrender, which they promptly did."

Morey delivered the two men to his captain. Later on, he added:

"The Colonel patted me on the head and said I was a good soldier. I was then but 16 years old."

Valor of another kind won the Medal for Brig. Gen. Oliver O. Howard, of the 61st New York Infantry, in the same campaign. On June 1, 1862, he charged at the head of two regiments of his brigade at the Battle of Fair Oaks, Va.

A bullet tore through his forearm, but he did not stop.

Later, a second wound destroyed his elbow.

Howard pressed on with the charge, consolidating gains.

It was half past five in the afternoon when he received medical attention. His right arm was amputated.

General Howard was philosophically witty about his loss.

"It was here," he wrote later, "that I met General Phil [Kearny], who expressed his sympathy. I suggested that he and I thereafter buy our gloves together, he having lost his left arm in the Mexican War."

In later life, from 1869 to 1873, General Howard was president of the University in Washington, D. C., which bears his name.

Earlier, in the West, at the bloody battle of Shiloh, on April 6, 1862, Pvt. Ellwood N. Williams, of Havanna, Ill., had performed one of the deeds typical of Medal of Honor winners in all wars.

After 2 hours of hard fighting, his outfit, the 28th Illinois Infantry, had retreated, discovering later that a box containing a thousand rounds of ammunition had been left behind. There was a call for volunteers to get the box back. Williams, of Company A, volunteered, along with one of his former schoolmates. They crawled forward on their hands and knees under heavy fire. Williams' buddy was wounded—mortally, it developed later. Williams went on alone, obtained the box and delivered it to his regiment. Then he returned to his comrade and dragged him back to the lines.

J. C. Julius Langbein was the rather impressive name of a 15-year-old drummer boy with Company B of the 9th New York Infantry. But to the soldiers he was

"Jennie"—the teasing nickname being given because he looked like his sweetheart back home.

On April 19, 1862, he charged with his regiment at Camden, North Carolina. One of the men of his outfit was struck in the neck by a shell fragment. Blood gushed forth.

"The boy . . ." in the words of the official documents, "rushed up to him through the rain of bullets and screaming shot and shell, caught him as he was wandering deliriously and aimlessly about, and managed to pilot him to a comparatively quiet place in the rear towards the hospital field.

"The wounded man was pronounced by the regimental surgeon 'nearly dead' and 'not worth while to remove', but young Langbein would not abandon his friend. Securing the assistance of a stronger comrade, he managed to carry the unconscious man to a house nearby.

"Later in the day the Confederates were reinforced, and the Federals had to retreat in such haste that there was no question of taking care of the wounded."

The wounded man, the report continues, would have been abandoned "had it not been for the continued devotion of his little friend, who managed to get him into the army wagon and stayed by him till he was safe in the Federal Hospital at Roanoke."

Another drummer, William H. Horsfall, ran away from home late in 1861, arrived at Cincinnati and enlisted with Company G of the First Kentucky Infantry at the age of 14.

On May 21, 1862, he was in the fight before Corinth, Miss. His captain was wounded and fell. In a stooping run the drummer gained his side and dragged him to stretcher-bearers who took him to the rear.

"By direction of the President," read the order later issued, "let a medal of honor be presented to W. H. Horsfall, drummer, Company G, First Kentucky Infantry, for most distinguished gallantry in action at Corinth, Mississippi, on the 21st of May 1862; this soldier, then a boy of 14 years of age, voluntarily advanced between two fires and saved the life of an officer who was wounded and lying between the lines."

Young Horsfall evidently acquired a taste for action as a result of his experience. Later on, in the indorsement of a furlough for him dated May 1, 1863, his commanding officer wrote:

"This application is in behalf of a nice little lad—who wants to stay in the service. He is a good drummer, a brave boy; at Stone River he got a gun and some cartridges and went into the fight. I encountered him firing and I had him sent to the rear."

Sergeant John D. Terry, of Company E, 23d Massachusetts Infantry, disembarked with his regiment 15 miles below Newbern, N. C., and found himself in command of his company shortly after his captain was wounded.

A Confederate cannon was doing great injury to the Union ranks.

"We charged," wrote Terry, "we got the gun, the very last shot from which, before we reached it, got me with seven other comrades . . . My foot was gone, and we were left on the field in very nearly the same spot as where we fell."

The citation accompanying the Medal of Honor which he later was awarded reads:

"In the thickest of the fight, where he lost his leg by a shot, still encouraged the men until carried off the field."

Some days later, while he lay in a hospital, his colonel told him that he should have a commission.

"I got that," wrote Terry, "and the Congressional Medal of Honor besides."

Gettysburg, with its 3 days of inferno, accounted for the winning of 62 Medals of Honor.

Here is one deed which won the Medal at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863, performed by a soldier who was noted all his life for doing what he thought best and letting the consequences be what they would—Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles.

"I commanded the 3rd Corps, which held the Union Left at Devil's Den, Round Gap, and Peach Orchard," wrote the general. "July 2nd, Longstreet made his famous charge of which my corps bore the brunt. In the midst of it a grape shot shattered my knee, knocking me off my horse. The report spread among my men that I was dead, and they began to fall into disorder. I knew that if they wavered or gave ground, Longstreet, who was a most indomitable fighter, would break through our lines, flank the Union army and perhaps gain a famous victory. I had myself placed on a stretcher and a blanket thrown over my legs to conceal the nature of my wound. I then placed a lighted cigar in my mouth and had myself carried down the battle line in order to talk to and encourage my men. They stood firm as a rock, and Longstreet's charge failed. That night my leg was amputated above the knee."

Earlier, in the West, the siege of Vicksburg was in progress. On May 21, 1863, 150 men of the Second Division volunteered to attempt building a bridge over a ditch 12 feet wide and 6 feet deep, placed in front of a bluff to the south of the city. It was a "forlorn hope" attempt, but if it succeeded, a frontal assault could be carried out against the bluff.

As soon as the 150 volunteers left their lines and appeared in view of the enemy they were met by intense fire which ripped from the Confederate lines and tore through the blue ranks. Half of the attackers fell in their tracks. The bottom of the ditch was strewn with mangled bodies. From 10 o'clock in the morning until darkness the fight went on, with the remnant of the Union forces pinned down in the ditch. Then the survivors crept back to their own lines, carrying their bullet-riddled flags.

There were 53 of them left. Eighty-five percent of the original party were either killed or dangerously wounded. Few escaped without a wound of some sort.

All 53 were awarded Medals of Honor.

At Resaca, Ga., on May 15, 1864, Maj. Henry E. Tremain, who, as an aide-de-camp, was observing the positioning of one of the brigades for an attack, witnessed an unfortunate moment of confusion, when one of the Union brigades fired into another during the assault. What followed was described later by Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield:

"In the most gallant and splendid style, with great courage and coolness," he wrote, ". . . Tremain rode between the lines of fire to stop the firing."

In front of one regiment Butterfield saw Tremain, "with his sword and hands knock down the muskets of nearly, if not all, the front rank to stop the firing."

Medal winner Tremain later became a general.

When fighting became severe, at the battle of Winchester, Va., on September 19, 1864, the 38th Massachusetts Infantry was ordered to advance about 800 yards and halt. But that was the plan on paper. In actuality, the charge went much further, and when it had ended, the regiment found itself dangerously close to a far superior force of Confederates, just preparing to attack.

One of the reports of the action from then on describes what happened.

"Because of the long, rapid advance over ploughed fields, fences and rough broken country generally, the Union line was in no condition to face such an assault and began to waver. At this, Medal-winner Sergeant Alphonso Lunt, who carried his colors aloft thus far through the fight, seeing that a rally must be made, waved the flag and with a yell rushed ahead about 200 yards in advance of the front line and shouted: 'Dress on the colors!' Inspired by his bravery, the men of Company F at once responded, to be followed immediately by others, until about 100 men were supporting him, and there they stood facing a Confederate line of battle until the overwhelming numbers of the enemy forced them to retreat. No less than 22 bullet holes were counted in the folds of the flag which Sergeant Lunt had defended so bravely."

By 1865 the days of the Confederacy were numbered. Early in that year Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry assaulted Fort Fisher, a strong point at the mouth of the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. One of his brigades was commanded by Gen. Galusha Pennypacker. Sixty warships attacked from the sea, and on the land side, Pennypacker's brigade, having carried palisades toward the river, was ordered to wheel to the support of a smaller brigade which was barely keeping its foothold on the west end of the parapet.

"Seeing that only example could carry the men forward" it was later recounted, Pennypacker "seized the colors of his old regiment, the 97th Pennsylvania, and calling upon it to follow, he charged up the fifth traverse and planted his flag at the top, the first Union colors to be placed on the fort.

"Just as he thrust the staff into the ground a minie ball crashed through his right side, fracturing the upper portion of the pelvic bone . . . It was a grievous wound. Nerves in close attachment with the torn muscle made even momentary relief from pain impossible."

At first it was thought that the young general—he was one of the youngest in American history, having reached that rank at the age of 22—was dead, and a coffin was ordered for him. Later, he was discovered to be alive, and was revived. He became a Regular Army colonel after the war, retired because of his wounds in 1883 and died in Philadelphia in 1916.

On April 6, 1865, at Sailors Creek, Va., as the Union armies were moving in for the final struggles of the Civil War, Company H of the First West Virginia Cavalry was all but destroyed by the bullets of the Twelfth Virginia Infantry of the Confederate Army.

Brig. Gen. George A. Custer watched what happened from a distance. Only five men of Company H were left. One of them was First Sgt. Francis Marion Cunningham, whose horse had been killed under him.

A Confederate mule was running loose across the field. Cunningham grabbed the animal, threw his saddle upon it, mounted, and galloped straight toward the Confederate breastworks. The four remaining men of Company H followed him.

The mule galloped over the works; Cunningham rode

straight for the Confederate flag, tore it from its bearer, turned and galloped back again, with bullets singing about his ears.

General Custer immediately sent for Cunningham and ordered him to remain on his staff for the rest of the fighting.

Three days later, on April 9, Lee surrendered at Appomattox and the Civil War was over. General Custer sent Cunningham direct to Washington, to report in person to Secretary of War Stanton and present him with the flag.

Stanton gave the first sergeant a Medal of Honor on the spot, as well as a first lieutenant's commission and a 30-day furlough.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Fiddlers' Green and the War With Spain

". . . none but the shades of Cavalrymen
Dismount at Fiddlers' Green.
. . . when . . . the hostiles come to get your scalp,
Just empty your canteen,
And put your pistol to your head
And go to Fiddlers' Green."

—Favorite song of the Sixth Cavalry.

THE SHADES OF HUNDREDS OF CAVALRYMEN dismounted at Fiddlers' Green from the end of the Civil War until December 15, 1890, when Sitting Bull, the last of the great Indian warriors, was killed, and the need for frontier Indian fighting dwindled away.

For the Nation, the end of the Civil War meant the attempt to resume normal living, push ahead with reconstruction, develop new industries. For the Regular Army, it meant the resumption of its task of making the frontiers safe for settlers, despite interference from the Indians.

This task was conducted mainly by cavalrymen. Leather-skinned and iron-legged, they drove off raiders, broke up Indian formations before they could do damage, pursued, and punished those who had done damage. In hundreds of minor engagements they carried out their duty from the end of the Civil War to the start of the Spanish-American conflict with little attention or publicity . . . and died doing so, in the hot, dusty Arizona sun or the bitter, whirling Nebraska snow.

Some of them won Medals of Honor. There was little public ceremony connected with the event when they did. Applications were started by commanding officers in the West and forwarded to Washington. If they were approved, the Medals were sent to the posts in question by registered mail. The army administrative machinery was still developing. It had not yet completed the full organization described in earlier chapters. But the records, scanty as they are—sometimes not more than a few essential lines speaking briefly of "gallantry in action"—provide the clues which, when fitted together with other historical accounts can give us a picture of the deeds of some of these men.

For instance, there is the case of Col. Guy V. Henry. During an attack by the Sioux near Goose Creek, Wyo., on June 17, 1876, he had half of his face shot away. He remained in his saddle and led his men against unequal odds until weakness caused him to fall from his horse.

Colonel Henry received no Medal of Honor for this deed. It is significant, however, that he had received one 12 years earlier, for his actions at the Battle of Cold Harbor, when, as colonel of the 40th Massachusetts Infantry, he had two horses shot under him while leading charges.

During an attack upon Cheyenne Indians at the Crazy Woman's Fork of the Powder River, Wyo., continuous hand-to-hand fighting raged throughout most of the day of November 25, 1876. The captain of Company M, Fourth Cavalry, was shot down. Only a few of the company were on the scene. First Sgt. Thomas H. Forsyth was dangerously wounded, but he directed the defense of the position and held the company's remaining men together. Later he rescued the captain and another man from a position in which they could have been seized by the Indians and scalped.

Three companies of the Fifth Cavalry and one of the Fourth Infantry—about 200 men in all—were attacked by 300 Indians on September 29, 1879, while on their way from Fort Steele, Colo., to the White River Indian Agency. The major in command was killed, and the unit was surrounded on three sides by Indians. Ammunition gave out. Sgt. Edward P. Grimes, of Company F, Fifth Cavalry, volunteered to bring up more from the wagon train. With Indian bullets screaming around him, he made the trip and brought up the am-

munition. Later the command had to fall back upon its wagons and use them as a barricade.

It was 6 days later—October 5—before reinforcements got through to the party.

The following January Sergeant Grimes received his Medal of Honor.

One of the few Indian fights during this period which produced a public sensation was the Little Big Horn disaster on June 25, 1876, in which Col. George A. Custer and 211 men of the Seventh Cavalry were surrounded and killed to the last man. It is sometimes forgotten that not all of the Seventh Cavalry was destroyed on that day.

Two miles away the balance of the divided force fought a 3-day action against the Indians which ended in a withdrawal by the savages the day before the soldiers were relieved. On these days—the 25th, 26th, and 27th—these men fought not only Indians but thirst. Their only access to water was over an area swept by Indian fire.

Yet several men volunteered to make the trips necessary to bring water to the wounded. Among them were Pvt. Neil Bancroft, of Company A, Pvt. Abram B. Brant, of Company D, and Pvt. Theodore W. Goldin, of Company G. Meanwhile, Blacksmith Henry W. B. Mechlin, of Company H, held down the position on the stream that guarded the water supply and directed its defense against the hot Indian fire. In the same engagement, Corp. Charles Cunningham, of Company B, was wounded in the neck on the first day. He refused to leave his post for treatment and fought on, all through that day and the next.

During the day a pack mule, loaded with ammunition, stampeded and galloped into the Indian lines. Sgt. Richard P. Hanley, of Company C, ran right after it, in among the Indians, miraculously escaped being killed and brought it back.

It was this type of action that beat the Indians off. All of these men won Medals of Honor for their actions on these days.

Infantrymen also had their chance to win fame in the Indian fighting after the Civil War. Late in 1866 there had been a massacre near Fort Philip Kearny, in what was then known as the Department of the Platte, in Nebraska. Ninety miles westward of this fort was another outpost, Fort C. F. Smith, and for 2 months no word had come from there to Fort Kearny.

The authorities at Fort Kearny, apprehensive for the safety of the Fort Smith garrison, had made two efforts to communicate with the outpost, using guides and scouts familiar with the country. However, the deep snows, the severe weather and the presence of hostile Indians caused failures both times.

Early in February, 1867, two noncommissioned officers of the Eighteenth Infantry volunteered to try to get in touch with Fort Smith. They were 1st Sgt. Joseph Graham, of Company G, and Sgt. George Grant, of Company E. What happened is best told in this report of Sergeant Grant, dictated by him after the journey:

"DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
"FORT PHILIP KEARNEY,
"Feb. 14th, 1867.

"LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that about reveille on the morning of the 4th inst., in company with 1st Sergeant Joseph Graham, Co. 'G', 18th U. S. Inf, I started for Fort C. F. Smith, DP. Arriving at the north end of 'Buried Mountain' about noon, we could now plainly see the north end of 'Big Horn Mountains' and judged of the same to be distant seventy miles, allowing that we had traveled about twenty miles. The snow thus far was very deep, but now, over a belt of country some ten miles in extent there was scarcely any snow at all.

"5th "We traveled all night due north and at daylight northeast, for about four miles, and struck the government road at sunrise. After breakfasting, we proceeded on the government road, which we kept all day, wading through large creeks, including that of 'Little Horn'. At 3 p. m. we were again troubled with deep snow in the road and were obliged to pass the night on an open prairie without fire.

"6th "This morning we again found the government road and traveled south. About 4 p. m. there came a tremendous storm of sleet and snow, which continued all night. We lost the road at 8 p. m., and were obliged to pass the night on an open prairie without fire.

"7th "At 6 a. m. we stopped and made a fire for the first time. Our feet were in very bad condition. We arrived at Fort C. F. Smith about 4 o'clock p. m., where we were warmly received by the Officers, and here remained the 8th and 9th.

"9th "Returning, we started about tattoo with the mail, accompanied by an Indian guide, to whose orders we were now subject. We were each furnished a horse to ride, besides a mule to carry the mail and one to carry forage. We traveled until 4 a. m. the 10th.

"10th "From 9 a. m. until 1 p. m. we traveled briskly, reaching 'Little Horn' four miles north of the Government road. Our horses were well-nigh exhausted, [we] having been running and trotting them all day. The guide now said there were Indians around and wished to know what to do. I proposed travelling southwest upon the top of a mountain, and in case of attack to get into the pine timber as soon as possible. At this proposition the

guide abandoned the mail, stripped the mules, threw away his saddle, rations and everything, and going upon the crest of a hill said there were Indians in view and after us on horseback and, taking the lead, started southwesterly for home. Here we ran our horses about fifteen miles without intermission. About 3:30 p. m. Indians, about fifteen in number, came yelling toward us. I told the guide to halt in the pines and we would fight them. My horse being now completely fagged and being now dismounted and the Indians in warm pursuit of us, I became separated from the others the balance of the journey.

"I soon discovered a cave, inaccessible on all sides but one. Here I sat down and could hear the Indians after the balance of the party, yelling like demons. Here I remained, prepared against attack, the sun only about half an hour high. One Indian presently came down, dressed in buckskin, with a Henry rifle in his hand. Upon seeing him I fired. He yelled, and, dropping his gun upon the bank, jumped the precipice and fell dead. At sundown there was a young Indian came up, upon whom I also fired. He jumped and, falling dead over a precipice, hung on a pine tree. About this time there came from the East a heavy white fog, enveloping everything. I here returned to peep out of the cave, over the edge of a hill, and, seeing no Indian in view, travelled the same way they did for about fifty yards, struck bare ground, and travelled nearly south all night.

"11th "At daylight this morning I travelled east one half mile, then north one mile, saw a good ravine with plenty of dry wood and thick bushes. Here making a bed of the bushes, I slept until sundown. I then proceeded, travelled all night, wading several branches of the 'Big Horn.' This morning my moccasins became worthless and I threw them away.

"12th "Today it snowed so that, not seeing the mountains, I was compelled to guess at the road, stopped at midnight, and slept in a snow drift.

"13th "Crossed Piney Creek, struck the lake at 3 p. m. and now knowing where I was, regained the road and arrived here at 8:30 p. m., very sore and completely exhausted.

"I have the honor to be, Lieutenant,
"Very Respectfully,
"Your Ob't Serv't,
"GEO. GRANT,
"Sergeant, Co 'E', 18th U. S. Inf.
"1st Lieut. Tho's L. Brent,
"Commanding Co. 'E', 18th Inf.
"and A. A. A. Gen'l, Mountain Dist., D. P."

Sergeant Grant made an understatement when he said that he was "very sore and completely exhausted." In later years he underwent serious physical troubles because of the exposure which he had endured. He reenlisted in the Army in the '70's. A request for a reward for the sergeant was initiated by one of his officers and forwarded to Washington. There, because no funds were provided for such purposes, the request was declined, but The Adjutant General's Office suggested that he apply for a Medal of Honor. Application was made and the Medal granted.

His masterpiece of soldier's prose, presumably dictated to a company clerk on February 14, 1867 (and very likely partially composed by the clerk) is reproduced here exactly as it appears in the old records, with the exception that punctuation necessary for clear reading has been supplied.

It will be noted that his exploit took place in the territory, with its "Big Horn" and "Little Horn" topography, which was later made famous by the Custer massacre.

One of the most tragic of the Indian campaigns was that conducted against the Nez Percé Indians in the summer of 1877. Few American military leaders of that day, if asked to give their estimate of this tribe as fighters, would have withheld their admiration for them and for their skilled chief, Joseph.

Under his discipline the Nez Percé achieved a high calibre of military efficiency. They could form a line from gallop, march in column of twos, and build fortifications. They were tall, well-built, and intelligent. Their previous history had been one of friendship for the white men, but in the summer of 1877 the Government decided that they should be placed on the Indian Reservation.

A small force, composed of two companies of the First Cavalry, was sent to their village at White Bird Canyon, Idaho, to conduct them to the reservation. The Nez Percé, spying on the advancing cavalry with field glasses, gathered their forces, skillfully ambushed the soldiers, and drove them back, killing an officer and 33 men.

It was in this fight that 1st Lt. William R. Parnell, fleeing with the rest of the outnumbered and surprised cavalry, looked behind him and saw that one of his troopers had been left behind, with his horse killed. Lieutenant Parnell swerved his horse back, went to the trooper and swept him onto his saddle, then joined once again in the retreat, barely escaping death or capture himself.

Gen. Oliver Howard, the Departmental Commander, realized that he would have a real campaign on his hands in order to round up the Nez Percé. While he had earlier recommended that this tribe not be confined to a reservation, because they were friendly and had committed no acts of terror, he now did his utmost to obey orders. He

collected 227 men, two Gatling guns, and a howitzer and hurried forward with them in person. Joseph, meanwhile, had called out 400 of his braves. Howard met the Indians at Clearwater, Idaho, on July 11, 1877. All day the soldiers charged only to be met by skillful counterattacks each time.

In one of these Nez Percé counterattacks the Gatling guns and the howitzer were left behind as the soldiers gave up ground they had gained. 1st Lt. Charles F. Humphrey, of the Fourth Artillery (one company of which was on hand, fighting as infantry) volunteered to lead a party to recapture his guns, in the best tradition of the artilleryman. They charged, under cover of soldiers fire, to the guns, which were just a few yards from the Indian lines, and dragged them back to safety.

Before the day ended, Howard was forced to extend his lines to a width of 2½ miles, to cope with repeated Indian flanking movements. Joseph was deploying his forces as skillfully as any tactician working with small units in World War II.

That night Howard worked at strengthening the breastworks of his position. He was reinforced the next day and made an attack on the left of Joseph's line. However, the Indians had completed their arrangements to flee to other territory, avoiding the hated reservation. Their supplies had been packed. By their bold attack they had bought the time necessary to organize their flight by the almost impassable route out of the valley of the Clearwater and over the Lolo trail into Montana. They knew the country. They outmarched Howard and escaped.

Howard telegraphed ahead to Gen. John A. Gibbon, at Helena, Mont., to cut them off. Gibbon scraped together what forces he could: 17 officers, 132 cavalrymen, and 34 private citizens. He scouted the Indians, learned the location of their camp, and attacked them at dawn with complete success. The surprised Nez Percé were driven from their camp, and Gibbon occupied it and planted a howitzer in it. Joseph rallied his forces and counterattacked. They drove the soldiers from the camp, captured the howitzer, and settled down to another day-long battle of rifle fire from behind breastworks. Gibbon himself seized a rifle and fought alongside his men. But by nightfall his force was exhausted and crippled and the Nez Percé once again gathered their supplies and moved off. Gibbon had lost 29 killed and 40 wounded.

During this engagement Private Lorenzo D. Brown, Company A, 7th Infantry, continued fighting after being seriously wounded in the right shoulder and won himself a Medal of Honor. So did four other soldiers of the 7th Infantry, and one of the 2d Cavalry, their citations being for gallantry.

The Nez Percé now crossed the Great Divide and went back into Idaho, camping on the Camas Prairie. Telegraphic orders had dispatched 350 men from the Powder River area to capture them. Meanwhile Gibbon pursued and fenced with them in brief actions during August. On August 20, Capt. James Jackson of the First Cavalry, involved in one of these skirmishes, dismounted in the face of Indian fire to pick up his trumpeter, who had fallen. The man was dead, but Captain Jackson carried his body off to safety.

On August 29, Corp. Harry Garland, of Company L, 2d Cavalry, faced a party of the Nez Percé with his squad. He was wounded in the hip. He could not stand. But he kept command of his unit and directed fire until the Indian party withdrew. Both of these men won Medals of Honor.

On September 3 the new Army force, 350 men of the Seventh Cavalry, overtook Joseph and captured 400 of the Indians' ponies. But the Nez Percé fought a rear-guard action and escaped along the Mussel Shell River, again turning toward Montana.

Army reinforcements continued to gather at the scene of the trouble. On September 30 Col. (later General) Nelson A. Miles, a Civil War Medal of Honor winner, was on hand, with four companies of the Second Cavalry, four of the Seventh Cavalry, a company and a half of the Fifth Infantry, a scout company and two field pieces. He moved in on Joseph's camp, which was now at Eagle's Creek in the Bear Paw Mountains, in Montana, and succeeded in driving the Indians out of the camp. They took to the ravines of the mountains, in very strong defensive positions.

The siege continued for 4 days. Miles realized that he could carry Joseph's positions only at great cost in bloodshed, and refrained from a frontal attack. Joseph himself could have escaped. He would not do so, because he did not want to leave his wounded behind.

Eight Medals of Honor were won in the 4 days of creep, crawl, and fire siege among the rocks at Bear Paw Mountains. One of them went to Henry R. Tilton, major and surgeon who "Fearlessly risked his life and displayed great gallantry in rescuing and protecting the wounded men."

If Joseph had not lost his 400 horses his force might yet have escaped. As it was, his effort was doomed and he chose to surrender with his wounded rather than make a personal flight for freedom. On the fourth day he came forward under a white flag to meet Col. Miles. He pointed at the sky and said, "From where the sun now stands I fight no more against the white man."

The Nez Percé had fought a remarkable series of running actions, cut their way through three territories, and during the entire campaign had not once scalped or mutilated an American soldier.

Colonel Miles promised Joseph that the Nez Percé would be returned to the Lapwai reservation. It took him 7 years to make his promise good. They were sent, instead, to an unhealthy section of the Indian territory, where 50 percent of them died. Miles began a one-man campaign to accord them just treatment which did not stop until he was successful in having what remained of the tribe transferred to its original homeland in 1884.

During the entire unfortunate and hard-fought Nez Percé campaign 20 Medals of Honor were won.

Sitting Bull, the leading spirit of Indian trouble-making, surrendered to American troops in 1881, and for a time, it looked as if there might be peace on the frontier. But in May of 1885 the scene of Indian outbursts shifted to Arizona, where the Chiricahua tribe of the Apaches, led by Geronimo, left their reservation and headed for the Sierra Madres. The warriors broke up into small groups, each one of which had to be laboriously hunted down, and it was almost a year later, on March 27, 1886, before Geronimo surrendered to forces under Gen. George Crook. But before he could be taken back to the reservation he changed his mind, gave the troops the slip once more and had to be chased for 4 more months by troops of the Fourth Cavalry under General Miles.

During this campaign, a 26-year-old assistant surgeon named Leonard Wood, who had graduated from Harvard Medical School 2 years before, volunteered to carry dispatches through country swarming with hostiles and undertook a journey which covered 70 miles in a night and another 30 miles—on foot—the following day. Later, the young surgeon voluntarily took command of an officerless infantry detachment and rendered conspicuous service in the campaign which finally ended in Geronimo's capture in July. Assistant Surgeon Wood—who was later to command the Rough Riders in the Spanish American War, with Theodore Roosevelt as his lieutenant-colonel, and still later to rise to the post of Army Chief of Staff, with the rank of major general—was awarded a Medal of Honor for these Indian campaign services in 1898.

The end was near in the frontier fighting. Its last great gasp of fire and smoke died out in the Bad Lands of South Dakota late in 1890. The Sioux tribes, on their various reservations, had embarked upon a semireligious cultivation of fanaticism which involved vapor baths, fasting and "ghost dancing." Their leaders were preaching that an Indian Messiah was to come who would sweep the white man away. Some 1,800 of them broke away from the reservations and gathered in the Bad Lands. At this point the Government thought it would be a good idea to arrest Sitting Bull before the old chief medicine man could supply the leadership necessary to bring this bubbling of Indian nationalism into a full-scale revolt.

Five companies of infantry and three of cavalry came to Sitting Bull's camp at Pine Ridge on December 15, 1890, and attempted to carry out this order. Followers of the old chieftain promptly killed an Army lieutenant at the moment Sitting Bull was put under arrest, and two Indian police sergeants shot Sitting Bull on the spot. In the riot that ensued, Indians from Pine Ridge escaped and made their way 40 miles to the northwest, to the camp of another Indian leader, Big Foot, at Wounded Knee Creek.

Col. James W. Forsyth, leader of the expedition sent to capture them, surrounded the camp and asked for a parley, hoping that the Sioux could be disarmed peaceably. Sullen, scowling Indians came out of their tepees and sat on the ground before them. Forsyth asked them to bring their arms out of their tents and surrender them. Groups of Indians made a pretense of looking among the tepees and came forth, finally, with only two weapons.

Forsyth then ordered soldiers to search among the tepees. Fifty rifles were promptly uncovered, and then one of the seated Indians pulled a rifle from beneath his blanket and fired at a soldier.

That one shot was all that was needed to set off the powder keg. Inside of 10 seconds every Indian who had a concealed weapon had picked himself a target and blazed away.

The fight raged throughout the camp for 7 hours, with no chance for orderly direction and each man on his own. Forsyth had two Hotchkiss howitzers among his equipment, served by a platoon of the 1st Artillery under Second Lieutenant Harry L. Hawthorne. A party of the Indians found effective cover in a ravine and poured fire upon the troops. Hawthorne had his howitzers moved forward by hand to enfilade them and was severely wounded. Meanwhile, infantry charged the ravine, mingling with the Indians.

Capt. Allyn Capron, Hawthorne's superior, recounted later that the wounded Hawthorne "stood by his guns, and by his coolness at the most critical moment restrained his men from firing until the troops had separated themselves from the hostiles. If the gunners, in the excitement of the moment, had fired their pieces when the

Indians first broke, the fire would have been most deadly to our men."

Musician John E. Clancy, of Company E, 1st Artillery, ran to an exposed spot and rescued a wounded man. He assisted in carrying him to the rear, then returned and, a few minutes later, repeated the performance, bringing in another wounded comrade.

By 3 o'clock in the afternoon the battle, which had started shortly after eight in the morning, was over. The discipline and training of the troops, even though they were taken at first by surprise fire, had won out, and they had taken action on their own volition, organized in small groups, and fought their way to victory. Eighteen of them won Medals of Honor for their bravery and cool thinking.

The Indians were rounded up in the closing days of 1890, and the last of them surrendered in the middle of January in the following year.

The last great Indian troubles were at an end.

Not much detail accompanies the citations for Medals of Honor won by men in Cuba, during the Spanish-American War. They read with almost monotonous regularity . . . "Gallantly assisted in the rescue of the wounded from in front of the lines and while under heavy fire from the enemy . . . Gallantly assisted in the rescue . . ."

They tell nothing of the steaming 20 days of jungle fighting which ended in the surrender of the city of Santiago. It was an infantry campaign almost to the end, with Americans charging entrenched Spanish positions, incurring heavy losses, and, eventually, bottling the Spaniards up in Santiago, where the artillery brought to bear upon the city forced its surrender.

The main American attacks were upon the fortified position of San Juan Hill and the blockhouse of El Caney, key points in a defended line of heights outside Santiago. These attacks were delivered on July 1, 1898, and most of the Medals of Honor won were for deeds of self-sacrifice which took place on that date. Capt. Albert L. Mills, the Assistant Adjutant General of the U. S. Volunteers, suffered a severe head wound and temporarily lost his sight. He remained at his post and showed "distinguished gallantry in encouraging those near by him by his bravery and coolness . . ." He was later to become a brigadier general.

One result of the Spanish-American War was our occupation and administration of the Philippine Islands, an Army mission which required pacification of Philippine insurgents under Aguinaldo and the quelling of the Mohammedan Moros in the South Philippines. Here are some scattered incidents connected with Medal of Honor winners in these campaigns:

During September and October of 1899, Maj. Gen. Arthur MacArthur embarked on a campaign against Aguinaldo's territory in the plain of central Luzon. One of the three attacking columns, under Maj. Gen. Henry W. Lawton, made its way through Arayat, toward Cabiao and San Isidro. On October 19, Sgt. Charles W. Ray, of Company I, 22d Infantry, in advance of his unit, and in command of a small detachment, came upon a bridge held by the insurrectoes. He and his men made a dash toward the bridge, captured it, and then played a fairly modern version of "Horatius at the Bridge". He and his men, greatly out-numbered by the enemy, defended the structure successfully until the main force came up to cross it. For this the sergeant, along with Private Charles H. Pierce, of his unit, was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Ten days later, in the same campaign, another assistant surgeon joined the ranks of Medal winners. He was George W. Mathews of the 36th Infantry, Volunteers. Near Labao he was busily engaged, under severe fire, in treating wounded men, when one of the insurgents' attacks swept in the direction of his field station. Assistant Surgeon Mathews dropped his instruments, seized a carbine, and blasted away at the attackers with such good effect that they retreated. Then he went back to his work with the wounded.

He was awarded his Medal of Honor on March 14, 1902.

Guerrilla actions in the Philippines continued well into the second decade of the 1900's. In the south, the Moros, fierce fanatical fighters, kept up their resistance to American occupation almost continually, and fighting was slow to die out in the northern Philippines as well.

On December 5, 1906, Corp. Seth L. Weld, of Company L, 8th Infantry, was with another soldier and a constabulary officer when they were attacked by 40 Pulajanes at La Paz, Leyte. Weld's right arm was cut open by a bolo—a long, curved, heavy knife—and his rifle was broken. The constabulary officer was wounded. Wading into the thick of the fight, using his broken rifle as a club, Weld smashed heads, broke ribs, and put the insurgents to flight.

The Philippine Scouts, an organization of Philippine natives loyal to the United States, was formed to aid the Army in its duties in the Islands. On September 24, 1911, Private Jose Nisperos, of the 34th Company of this

COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Battle Flag of the 39th Regiment of New York Volunteers

797847°—48——6

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The first Civil War Medal of Honor incident

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS BY THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF BROOKLYN, AT PORT GREENE, TO THE VETERANS OF THE BROOKLYN REGIMENTS ENGAGED IN THE LATE WAR, THURSDAY, OCT. 25TH.—PAGE 119.

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Brooklyn presents its own medals

FRANK LESLIE'S
ILLUSTRATED
NEWSPAPER

Entered according to the Act of Congress in the year 1866, by FRANK LESLIE, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of New York.

No. 580—Vol. XXIII.] NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 10, 1866. [Price 10 Cents. $4 00 Yearly, 13 Weeks $1 00.

SOLDIER'S MEDAL, AWARDED TO VETERANS OF LONG ISLAND TROOPS, OCT. 25, 1866.

The Citizens' Association.

We feel assured our readers will scarcely require any apology from us for continuing this subject. A pure and upright government in this city concerns not its inhabitants alone, but every citizen of the United States.

In the first place, by way of example: being the city where the largest portion of the moneyed capital of the country is concentrated, it attracts to itself, and influences directly or indirectly, the trade of the continent; and its municipal institutions are an object of careful and curious inquiry to other cities which aspire to a like eminence. If it be seen that among us corruption is the rule, and honesty the exception, and that office is only sought as a means of personal aggrandizement, our example only serves as an encouragement to the turbulent and vicious in other cities and towns to pursue the same system which has brought wealth without honor to similar classes here. But if we can show that the success of such vampires is but short-lived, that the disgrace they have brought upon us is but transient, that there exists in republican institutions a power of self-purification, and that a majority in numbers in an American community means a majority likewise of good and true men, the friends of upright government in other cities in the Union will thank God and take courage.

REVERSE SIDE OF SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MEDALS.

Again, it nearly touches our honor that democratic institutions should not, by our means, be discredited throughout the world. If we are obliged to confess to the masses in Europe, to whom we have boasted of our superiority in this respect, that in crowded communities our theories fail, and become a delusion and a snare, how shall we demonstrate

SAILOR'S MEDAL, AWARDED TO THE NAVAL VETERANS OF LONG ISLAND, OCT. 25, 1866.

THE BATTLE-SCARRED AND LIMBLESS VETERANS OF THE BROOKLYN REGIMENTS, LONG ISLAND, BEING CONVEYED IN CARRIAGES IN THE PROCESSION TO FORT GREENE, TO RECEIVE THEIR MEDALS, TUESDAY, OCT. 25.—SEE PAGE 119.

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Leslie's Weekly pictures medals and medal winners

BATTLE OF THE BIG HORN.

COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

One of the old prints of the Custer disaster

COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Lieutenant Colonel Charles W. Whittlesey is presented with the Medal on Boston Common, December 2, 1918

President Roosevelt presents the Medal to General James A. Doolittle, May 20, 1942, upon his return from the first raid on Tokyo

Brigadier General William H. Wilbur, first recipient of the Medal of Honor in the North African Campaign, is decorated by President Roosevelt, at Casablanca, January 24, 1943, with General George S. Patton assisting

organization, distinguished himself in action against the Moros at Lapurap, on the island of Basilan. His citation gives a brief description of his deed:

"Having been badly wounded (his left arm was broken and lacerated and he received several spear wounds in the body so that he could not stand) continued to fire his rifle with one hand until the enemy was repulsed, thereby aiding materially in preventing the annihilation of his party and the mutilation of their bodies."

While the Army was active in the Philippines, trouble broke out in China. The "Society of Harmonious Fists", popularly known as the Boxers, embarked upon an active crusade to throw the "foreign devils" out of China, and started a siege of the foreign embassies in the capital, Pekin. A mixed force of Russians, Japanese, British, French, and American troops, dispatched by their various governments, landed in China and moved to Pekin on August 14, 1900, to relieve the siege of their nationals in the various embassies.

The city was surrounded by a 30-foot wall. One attack was made upon the Tung Pien Gate of the outer city. Another was made upon the wall south of the gate by two companies of the 14th Infantry. The records of the American forces under Brig. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee, contain the following digest of correspondence in connection with the case of a Medal winner:

"Under date of September 11, 1900, 1st Lt. Joseph F. Gohn, commanding Company E, 14th Infantry, recommends for a medal of honor Musician Calvin P. Titus of his company for meritorious conduct . . . the act having been performed under his personal observation. Believing it possible to scale the wall, the company commander called for a volunteer to make the attempt, for the purpose of ascertaining the feasibility of the scheme. Musician Titus promptly volunteered and succeeded without ropes, ladders, or other assistance, in scaling the wall 30 feet high and almost vertical, simply by the footholds that he was able to obtain where loosened stones and brick had fallen at the intersection of the bastion with the wall, and was accomplished at great risk of life and limb through falling, and with no knowledge as to whether or not the wall was occupied by the enemy. Musician Titus was the first American upon the walls of Pekin, and was subject to severe rifle and artillery fire at short range almost immediately after reaching the top of the wall . . .

"Muster roll of Company E, 14th Infantry, for July and August, 1900, shows Musician Titus present, with remark: 'Shell wound in neck (slight) at attack on Imperial City of Pekin, August 15, 1900, in line of duty'."

After Musician Titus had shown the way, the two companies of the 14th Infantry followed him up the wall and cleared it of Chinese. The American flag was the first of any nation to be placed on the wall of Pekin. The Tung Pien gate, meanwhile, was blown up, and the expeditionary force entered the city and relieved the suffering men, women, and children who had been cooped up in the embassies under constant attack.

Titus, incidentally, later went to West Point, graduated, and accepted a Regular Army commission. He served with efficiency, rising to the rank of captain before World War I. He was a deeply religious man, and at one time considered resigning from the service to devote his full time to religious work.

The citation accompanying the Medal of Honor he received was for "Gallant and daring conduct in the presence of his colonel and other officers and enlisted men of his regiment."

CHAPTER NINE

"Over There"

IN 1917 AMERICA entered a new kind of war. This was war without flags, without trumpets, without smashing cavalry charges, without any of the glitter and pageantry of older times and with all the horrors increased ten-fold.

Industrial development, new scientific advances, had outstripped the old tactics. The word "attrition" came into general use to describe the national state of siege which war imposed upon the conflicting nations of Europe. The Western Allies, France and Great Britain, were committed to the defensive in 1917. Their great hope was that American participation would supply their tired armies with fresh manpower, to be used within existing units.

For the purposes of this history of the Army Medal of Honor, it is necessary to note two developments in the over-all conduct of the war which came about following America's declaration of war upon the Central Powers. Both of them are important because they had great effects upon the course of American fighting. Because they both materialized, the records of Medal of Honor winners are as they are today. Without them, the history would be much different.

The first was Gen. John J. Pershing's insistence that American troops would fight as a unit. He carried his battle for this policy to its final victory in spite of all protests of the Allies, made to him directly and made over his head to President Woodrow Wilson. Had he allowed his troops to be used merely as replacements in existing French and British units, our Army could not have developed its system for decorations and awards to the fully organized point it reached in 1918, as described in the earlier chapters of this book.

The second American development which has a great influence upon this section of our history is best described in an instruction on training issued by General Pershing in October of 1917, after he had the opportunity to size up the situation in Europe:

"All instructions must contemplate the assumption of vigorous offensive. This purpose will be emphasized in every phase of training until it becomes a settled habit of thought."

Pershing's thinking—and it had behind it the weight of America's participation in the conflict—was directed toward taking the war out of the trenches and carrying it to the enemy. It was the same thinking which had dominated every American military effort since the time of Winfield Scott: "the best defense is a strong offense."

The assumption that military service would be in the form of a "vigorous offensive" had certainly become a "settled habit of thought" with the men who won their Medals of Honor at Château Thierry, Belleau Wood, St. Mihiel, and the Argonne. They could not have won them otherwise.

The first two Army Medals of Honor won in France in World War I were won by Marines. On June 6, 1918, the 2d and 3d Divisions stopped the German attack at Château Thierry. On that day, Sgt. Charles F. Hoffman, of the 45th Company, 5th Marine Regiment, which was a part of the 2d Division, used his initiative, quick thinking and courage to drive the enemy from a position which would have enabled the Germans to sweep a critical hill with machine-gun fire and force an American withdrawal.

On June 13 and 14, the 2d Division unleashed a savage, 2-day counterattack upon the Germans in Belleau Wood. In this fight, which showed that Americans could not only stop the Germans, but roll them back, Gunnery Sgt. Fred W. Stockham, of the 96th Company, 2d Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, also a part of the 2d Division, won his Medal. His unit was subjected to heavy bombardment by high explosive and gas shells. Casualties fell all around him, and he noticed that one of the wounded men had his gas-mask torn away. Stockham immediately ripped off his own mask and saw that

it was put on the wounded man.Then he stayed in the gas-saturated area, helping to get the wounded out, until he collapsed from the effects of gas.

A few days later he died.

Decorations of any branch of the service may be awarded to members of other branches. Because Marine Sergeants Hoffman and Stockham fought as part of the American Army in France they were awarded Army Medals of Honor. The Army was proud to award them—and was proud to present them to the four other gallant Marines who won them in France in 1918: Sgt. Louis Cukela, Private John Kelly, Sgt. Matej Kocak, and Corp. John Pruitt.

Americans had taken Cantigny and participated in attacks on the Germans at Soissons and Hamel during June, July, and August of 1918, fighting alongside British, French, and Senegalese Divisions. But it was not until September 12 that the first major "all-American" offensive was mounted, under Pershing's command, at St. Mihiel.

Early in 1918, the Germans had launched the last of their great offensives. Its progress has been compared to that of a swinging door, the hinge of which was the area to the South around St. Mihiel and the Argonne Forest and the open portion—the high point of the offensive—between Château Thierry and Montdidier, to the north.

The Allied strategy was to close the open part of the door with a concentrated offensive in the north by the British and French, while the Americans were assigned the task of breaking its hinge in the south. The hinge had two salients. The southernmost enveloped St. Mihiel, and it would have to be erased before an attack could be launched beyond the Argonne Forest.

The American offensive started at 5 a. m. on September 12, 1918. By the next afternoon the St. Mihiel salient was wiped out.

It was in this offensive that Second Lt. J. Hunter Wickersham, of the 353d Infantry, 89th Division, won his Medal of Honor—and died fighting.

He and his orderly were hit by fragments of a heavy explosive shell. With blood streaming from four wounds in his body, Lieutenant Wickersham halted to dress the other man's wounds. Weak with loss of blood, he refused to go to the rear, pushed on with his platoon, with his revolver in his left hand while his right arm hung useless at his side. He fired it left-handed at the enemy again and again—then dropped and died.

Pershing's plan following the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient had been to push straight forward. However, the Allied offensives to the north had met with surprising success, and Marshal Foch, commanding all Allied Armies, had decided upon a shift of the American front, to attack direct through the Argonne Forest towards Sedan, to cut off supplies for the Germans in the north from the Carignan-Sedan-Mezieres-Lille railroad.

The shift of American forces from one front to the other took place exactly on schedule, in spite of many obstacles. But before the shift was achieved, three more Medals of Honor were won.

Capt. L. Wardlaw Miles of the 308th Infantry, 77th Division, led his company in an assault upon an almost impregnable position on the Aisne Canal. Cutting through barbed wire, he was hit by five machine-gun slugs. Both of his legs were broken, and one of his arms. But his men had cut through, and he had himself carried forward to the new position on a stretcher. The fight lasted 2 hours.

Lt. Col. Emory J. Pike, a division staff officer of the 82d Division, happened to be in the front lines on September 15, reconnoitering machine-gun positions, when the American infantry advance to the new "jumping off" line became disorganized and confused because of heavy enemy shelling. He took command, gathered the lost men in his area together, established outposts, and kept up a running comment of joking encouragement. One of the men in an outpost was hit by a shell fragment. Colonel Pike rushed to him, just in time to be wounded by a second shell dropping in the same area. He kept command until he was removed, continuing his joking, holding the morale of the scattered units together, and preventing a panic.

And on the day before the Argonne offensive started, First Lt. Edward V. Rickenbacker of the 94th Aero Squadron of the Army Air Service, voluntarily in the air on that day, attacked seven German planes and finished off two of them.

By 5:30 a. m. on September 26 all was ready for the great attack through the Argonne, toward Sedan, along the Meuse River.

It has been written that a full picture of this offensive could only be obtained by reading the history of practically every company which participated in it. For that is what it was—an offensive of small units, each of them fighting its way through German defenses in an area which had been quiet throughout years of the war and which the Germans had fortified and refortified to the point at which they were so strong that the part of the attacker was almost suicidal. The offensive went on and on, through four heavily fortified German "lines", week after week, through October, on into November. It was not until November 5, when Dun-Sur-Meuse fell, that victory was in sight.

And within that period 79 Medals of Honor were won. They were won in close, deadly fighting, in which American units were continually halted, reorganized, and swept forward again. And in this inferno of close-packed death there was incident after incident of true heroism.

There was the case of Sgt. Phillip C. Katz, of Company C, 363d Infantry, 91st Division, who rushed over an area swept with machine-gun fire to rescue a wounded comrade.

There was the case of Pvt. Nels Wold, Company I, 138th Infantry, 35th Division, who silenced four machine-gun positions, returned with 11 prisoners, then jumped from his trench and shot a German officer who was about to kill an American, before he himself was killed while rushing a fifth machine-gun nest.

There was the case of Second Lt. Frank Luke, "The Balloon Buster", who shot down three balloons while being pursued by eight German planes, was himself shot down, fired on the Germans during his forced landing, and then fought on foot with his pistol until he died.

There were the cases of Maj. Charles Whittlesey and Capt. George McMurtry, who brought their surrounded command, elements of the 77th Division, through to safety after a 5-day siege, and were known as the commanders of the "Lost Battalion", although, as it has been said, it was never "lost" and was not a battalion.

And there was the case of Corp. Harold Roberts, 344th Battalion, Tank Corps, the tank driver who, when his tank slid into a shell hole full of water said to his gunner: "Well, only one of us can get out, and out you go", pushed the man out of the back door of the tank, and drowned.

On October 8, 1918, a tall, grey-eyed corporal reported to the general who comanded his brigade. The general smiled and said, "Well, York, I hear you have captured the whole damned German army."

The corporal replied that this wasn't quite the case. He explained that he had captured only 132 Germans.

At any rate, the deed of Corp. Alvin C. York—later to become Sergeant York—was one of the most famous feats of arms ever to occur in American history.

At the time it happened, he was a corporal in Company G of the 328th Infantry, 82d Division. Part of his platoon—in advance of the other squads—came under heavy machine-gun fire on October 8, 1918. The men were pinned down—they huddled together under cover and got behind trees. The American attack was stopped in its tracks.

But York, fortunately, was trapped in front of the rest, within a 25-yard range of the machine-gun pits and trenches. Instead of thinking of his safety, he calmly picked out targets for his rifle and began shooting. York knew that in order to kill him the Germans would have to put their heads up to see where he was. And as each head came up he put a bullet into it.

Six Germans charged him with fixed bayonets and he picked them off—shooting the sixth man first, then the fifth, and so on. York knew that if the front ones were to fall first, the Germans in the rear would drop down and fire a volley at him.

After the charge was disposed of he continued his marksmanship, shooting and then calling on the Germans to surrender. Eventually a German major advanced and offered to surrender if York would stop shooting. York had the Germans throw down their arms. Then he reorganized the seven remaining men of his own command and began marching the 90 captured Germans toward the rear. But they were inside the German lines, and unless he could get his detachment past the first German trench, his expedition could end in disaster.

Marching up to the front-line trench with his pistol in the German major's back, York forced the surrender of the remaining Germans and got them back to his own lines.

All this was done by a man who had entered the army as a conscientious objector—who had believed that any killing would be a violation of his religious principles. His own story of his prayers for guidance after a talk with his commanding officer in which the latter had quoted him the Biblical injunction to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and of how his prayer helped him to think out the moral problem of war for himself before going into combat is one of the most touching and simple accounts of this type of mental struggle ever written.

Four days after the York exploit, First Lt. Samuel Woodfill, of the 60th Infantry, 5th Division, found that his company was in much the same position as York's tiny command had been. Heavy machine-gun fire threatened to pin down the advance. With two soldiers following him by 25 yards, the lieutenant advanced alone, working his way around the flank of one of the machine-gun positions. He crept to within 10 yards of the gun. Suddenly it ceased firing, and four Germans came into view.

Shooting rapidly, he killed three of them. The fourth, an officer, rushed him, and Woodfill missed clubbing him down with his rifle. The German flung his arms around Woodfill and the two men wrestled until Woodfill got his pistol free and shot the German.

The obstacle was cleared and the company advanced.

A second machine-gun suddenly chattered to the front. Woodfill called to his men to follow and rushed forward.

German heads came up and Woodfill shot them down. When he reached the gun, three Germans were left and he captured them. The advance went on.

A third machine-gun held them up. Again Woodfill charged, reached the gun, and killed five Germans with the last rounds in his rifle. Drawing his pistol, he was about to jump into the machine-gun pit when two enemy gunners a short distance away turned their gun on him. He fired the pistol at them and missed. Seeing a pick lying on the ground, he seized it, dashed at the Germans and killed them with it.

Who can say how long it would have taken to complete the American offensives if it had not been for deeds such as these? In war it is necessary for men to advance over enemy-held ground. There are times when they cannot advance unless enemy fire is silenced. Somehow, it must be done.

York and Woodfill and many of the other Medal winners of World War I were men who did it by taking their own lives in their hands and thinking of only one thing—getting the job finished.

As we have seen earlier, most of the World War I Medals were awarded following the Armistice. Many of the awards were made at General Pershing's Headquarters, at Chaumont, France.

And many of them were awarded posthumously.

Following World War I, there were two awards of the Medal of Honor, made by special actions of Congress, that fall in a unique category.

Six months after his world-acclaimed solo trans-Atlantic flight, Charles A. Lindbergh, Colonel in the Reserves, visited Washington. A reception was held in the Chamber of the House of Representatives in his honor, and when it ended, Representative Snell, of New York, introduced a bill authorizing the President to present the young aviator a Medal of Honor in the name of the Congress.

Unanimous consent was given to dispense with the rules and the bill passed quickly. It was a short bill, reading as follows:

"Be It Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to present in the name of Congress a Medal of Honor to Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh, United States Air Corps Reserve, for displaying heroic courage and skill as a navigator, at the risk of his life, by his nonstop flight in his plane, the Spirit of Saint Louis, from New York City to Paris, France, on May 20, 1927, in which he not only achieved the greatest individual triumph of any American citizen, but demonstrated that travel across the ocean by aircraft is possible."

Shortly thereafter, Lindbergh was the first person to fly without a stop between Washington and Mexico City, and on the day of this flight, President Coolidge signed the bill, making it law, just before word reached the White House of the aviator's arrival at his destination.

The Medal was presented to Lindbergh in simple exercises in the White House on March 21, 1928.

The second such Medal was awarded to Maj. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely, "for his lifetime of splendid public service, begun on March 27, 1844, having enlisted as a private in the United States Army on July 26, 1861, and by successive promotions was commissioned a major general February 10, 1906, and retired by operation of law on his sixty-fourth birthday."

General Greely had been wounded three times in the Civil War, and reached the rank of brevet major. Starting as a second lieutenant after the war, he rose to the rank of brigadier general and the post of chief signal officer.

In 1882, participating in an international movement to establish weather stations around the North Pole, he led an expedition which reached the farthest North at that time. Three relief expeditions had to be sent out to rescue his party—of which all but seven had perished.

The Medal was presented to him at his home in Georgetown, upon his 91st birthday. Outside, at attention, was stationed a troop of the Third Cavalry, with color guard and regimental band, as the old soldier received his award from Secretary of War George H. Dern.

CHAPTER TEN

"... The Inevitable Triumph—So Help Us God"

FROM DECEMBER 7, 1941, when Japanese bombs fell on Pearl Harbor, to September 2, 1945, when the Japanese signed the surrender document, America strove to realize the objective which was proclaimed in the closing words of President Roosevelt's War Message to Congress: ". . . we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God."

And in gaining that triumph, more Americans died in uniform on more fronts, fighting more enemies, than ever before in history. Some of them did far more than their duty, rising to the heights of heroism marking them as members of the small number of those who are entitled to the highest honor their nation can give them. Their names and deeds are a part of this volume, and speak for themselves.

The stories of the deeds of several men, enacted in the various theaters of operations, summarize the kind of heroism which won the Medal in World War II.

Second Lt. Alexander R. Nininger, Jr., graduated from West Point in June of 1941. He had a short tour of duty at Fort Benning, Ga., and then was assigned to the Philippine Islands, for duty with the 57th Infantry Regiment of Philippine Scouts.

He had not been there long when the Japs invaded the Philippines. On January 12, 1942, although his own company was not in action, he went along with another company to fight hand to hand against a Jap counter-attack, "repeatedly", in the words of his citation, forcing "his way to and into the hostile position." He was wounded three times, but he pushed on, into the Jap position, throwing grenades and firing at snipers and enemy groups in fox holes until, finally, he fell dead.

"When his body was found after recapture of the position", reads the citation, "one enemy officer and two enemy soldiers lay dead around him."

In Tunisia, near Medjez-El-Bab, on April 28, 1943, Pvt. Nicholas Minue, a 44-year-old Regular Army Infantryman and a veteran of both World Wars, was in the advanced, assault elements of Company A, 6th Armored Infantry, 1st Armored Division.

Flanking fire from an enemy machine-gun post caused the men to stop their advance and take cover. But Minue spotted the guns and charged them.

Rifle fire joined the coughing machine guns. Minue was not hit. He killed Germans, charged on and killed more. Before he was through 10 of them were dead and the machine-gun fire was silenced.

Minue kept going, chasing the German riflemen out of their fox holes. Then he fell, badly wounded. Later, he died.

In the Pacific Theater the World War I record of enemy planes shot down by one individual—Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker—had finally been broken. The new holder of the "ace" record was Maj. Richard I. Bong—an officer assigned to duty with the Air Corps as a gunnery instructor, who was not required to go into combat.

The major had repeatedly requested combat duty, and the Medal which he won was for taking part in "repeated combat missions, including unusually hazardous sorties over Balikpapan, Borneo, and in the Leyte area of the Philippines." During the period from October 10 to November 15, 1944—little more than a month—he shot down eight Jap planes. As of the latter date, he had destroyed a total of 36 Jap planes.

Major Bong was later to die in a tragic accident following the war.

On April 5, 1945, the 100th Infantry Battalion, composed of Japanese-Americans, launched an offensive along the western slopes of the Appennino Mountains in Italy. Company A of the battalion was assigned the task of taking Hill "Georgia", near Seravezza.

Ceremony of presentation to Technical Sergeant Jake W. Lindsey—the 100th Infantryman to win the Medal in World War II—before a joint session of Congress, May 21, 1945

Captain Bobbie E. Brown receives his Medal from President Truman, August 23, 1945

Twenty-eight soldiers, the largest group in history to receive their Medals at a White House ceremony, are decorated on August 23, 1945

COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE

Morris Fay Crain wearing the Medal of Honor of the father whom she never saw—Technical Sergeant Morris E. Crain

The hill was shelled for 10 minutes. Then Company A raced forward, trying to get to the top, in good positions, before the Nazis could recover.

The German defenses were well-planned. They comprised a series of trenches placed so that they could pour fire on all the approaches. The German fire started. It was not too accurate, in the early morning darkness, but it was backed up by hand grenades which caused the Americans to take cover.

It was when a grenade fragment wounded the leader of the most advanced squad that Pfc. Sadao S. Munemori, the assistant squad leader, found himself in command. He got the men through a mine field and was within 30 yards of the German position when a machine gun ahead caused his squad to scatter for cover in shell craters.

Munemori took six hand grenades and started crawling forward. When he was within 15 yards of the gun he began lobbing his grenades. The gun was wrecked and two of the crew were wounded. The men of Munemori's squad came out of their shell holes and began to move forward. Then another machine gun opened up on them from a point straight to their front.

Again the squad scattered for cover. Munemori came crawling back and picked up four more grenades. Inching his way forward, he got to within 6 yards of the gun, threw his grenades and destroyed it. He crawled back again toward a crater in which Pfc. Akiri Shishido and Pvt. Jimi Oda had taken cover. The Germans to the front were still hurling grenades, and just as Munemori reached the edge of the crater, one of them bounced off his helmet and rolled into the hole.

Unhesitatingly, Munemori threw himself forward and covered the grenade with his body, hunching up his shoulders and bending his head down in order to smother the blast.

The grenade exploded and Sadao Munemori died.

The lives of Oda and Shishido were saved. The first was wounded in the eye by a grenade fragment and the second suffered concussion and partial deafness.

The man who had laid down his life for them was not yet 23 years old.

In the China-Burma-India Theater, early in the morning of February 2, 1945, First Lt. Jack L. Knight, commanding a troop of the 124th Cavalry Regiment, led his men in an attack on a Japanese-held hill on the Burma Road, north of Lashio. After 35 minutes of fighting through dense jungle, supported by artillery, machine-gun and mortar fire, the troop had taken its first objective, and the men began to dig in. Lieutenant Knight moved about the position, reconnoitering, and discovered that the ground his troop held was a trap: the Japs had the area surrounded with a cleverly-concealed horseshoe formation of pillboxes.

He had two courses open to him—withdrawal or attack, and he immediately chose the latter. Calling to his men to follow him, he advanced, tossing grenades into four of the pillboxes. Machine-gun fire mixed with the sound of bursting grenades and barking rifles. Lieutenant Knight was hit in the face and partly blinded, but he re-grouped his men and continued the assault.

A little later a grenade fragment hit him and he fell. The first sergeant of the troop, his brother, Curtis Knight, took command, but was wounded and fell almost immediately. Lieutenant Knight ordered his brother carried to the rear, then propped himself up on his elbow and directed the attack until all but one of the Jap pillboxes were wiped out. The lieutenant started to crawl forward toward the last pillbox on his hands and knees and was killed by a rifle bullet.

Three days later he was buried on the hill which he died in capturing. The hill is now known as "Knight's Hill."

Company I, of the 121st Infantry, 8th Infantry Division, was moving through Hurtgen Forest in Germany on November 21, 1944, when the first platoon, which was in the assault position, hit a mine field and halted. To remain halted was not good. Concentrations of enemy artillery and mortar fire had been trained on the halting spot. It was essential to get through the mine field and continue with the attack.

Staff Sgt. John W. Minick, of the second platoon, went to the head of the assault column and discovered the reason for the halt. He took a good grip on his Thompson submachine gun and said:

"Just follow old Minick, and if I stop, you'd better stop."

Four other volunteers started out with him. Working their way through a mass of débris and barbed wire, they advanced 300 yards.

An enemy machine gun started chattering. Minick signalled to his four followers to take cover. He himself advanced standing up, to the left flank of the machine-gun position and opened fire on it. Two Germans near the machine gun fell dead. Three others threw down their weapons and raised their hands.

Now he had guides. He forced the Germans toward their own lines, making them show him the way through the mines. All this was in heavily wooded country, with visibility not more than 15 yards to front or flanks. The platoon followed him, working toward the right flank of

the Germans. Minick, still in advance, stumbled upon a strong security post of the enemy and promptly opened fire again.

Twenty Germans fell dead as his submachine gun sprayed the post. Twenty others put up their hands. His platoon rushed in behind him, taking over the prisoners, and Minick went on, still in advance. His action had broken down the entire left flank of the German position.

He was within 30 yards of the enemy battalion command post when he stepped on a "Bouncing Betty" mine.

He was killed instantly.

His company commander, Capt. Jack R. Melton, later reported, "He had an uncanny ability to pick up enemy fire by sound, as there was no muzzle blast to give the [machine] gun position away . . ."

He had a reputation for gallantry. Before his final deed he had won the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

"There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever that the actions of Sergeant Minick in that attack saved the entire company from complete annihilation. Only by his aggressive action was I able to get two-thirds of my company in the German dugouts", reads the report of Captain Melton.

The date on which the last Medal of Honor of World War II was won was July 29, 1945—35 days before the end of the war.

Melvin Mayfield, the man who won it, was a corporal with Company D of the 20th Infantry Regiment, 6th Infantry Division, then closing in on the Japanese in Northern Luzon. Companies A and C of his regiment had attacked a ridge line of three hills which had withstood four major assaults in 12 days, and which was honeycombed with enemy caves and interlocking trenches. These hills were the key point in the enemy defense of a large area of Northern Luzon. The two companies launched their attack, but were soon pinned down by enemy fire.

Mayfield, a lineman with the supporting Company D, had just finished his job of laying a forward observation post communications wire. He instructed the Filipino rifleman near him to cover him with steady fire, then made several long rushes over the top of the hill, and reached the side of one of the four Japanese caves which covered the northern hill approach. Hurling a white phosphorous grenade into the mouth of the cave, he waited until it exploded. Two of the enemy dashed out, and he killed them with his carbine. Then he worked his way to another cave and used the carbine to kill two more.

Fire converged toward him from the other two caves. He sprang out of range and headed for one of them. Weapons emplaced all along the summit opened up on him as he ran, and bullets struck all around him. But he reached the third cave, tossed another phosphorous grenade inside it, and waited for the occupants to run out. Nothing happened. Mayfield threw another grenade inside, just to be sure, then dashed to the fourth cave.

When he threw his grenade into this one, it set off a load of ammunition cached inside. The explosion sealed up the cave and killed seven of the enemy within it. His carbine had been broken by a bullet and his left hand was wounded. But he returned to the American lines and got a light machine-gun squad to follow him back to the summit against point-blank fire and knock out an enemy observation post.

"This bold assault on the part of the corporal," wrote Col. Paul H. Mahoney, who was with the battalion headquarters during the attack, "cinched the taking of the ridge."

Two days later, Mayfield volunteered to accompany a patrol into enemy territory and was severely wounded in both legs.

In looking over the list of Medal of Honor winners for this period, it can be seen that the Medal was World War II's scarcest as well as most democratic decoration. Only 292 men won it, out of the more than 10 million in the Army. And yet, it was won by as many T/5's as it was by generals . . . six in each group. Nine corporals won it, and so did nine majors. The first lieutenants, with 31, trailed the staff sergeants, with 39. And the privates first class and privates accounted for 79.

Most of the awards went to men killed in action.

There is no rank in honor—or in death.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

A Medal for Americans

WHAT IS THE MEDAL OF HONOR? The question was asked in the first chapter of this brief account of how it originated and how it has become a recurring pattern in American history. It was answered factually in that chapter. And yet the reader has seen that through the years the concept of this Medal has grown, has been reinforced, has become, with time, ever more important.

Is the Medal of Honor the medal itself—a thing of bronze and ribbon and the engraver's art?

No. Because this is the mere symbol, changing with time. A Medal of Honor winner is just as much a Medal of Honor winner whether he wears this symbol or not. And, further than that, who can say that every hero who has deserved a Medal of Honor has been awarded one?

"It is a tragic fact", said General Marshall during the war, "that the men who have received the most decorations are usually lost to us by their own continued daring and leadership."

Men who lay down their lives for their country cannot tell a board of review just what it was they did before they died. Units that are wiped out in battle cannot provide eye-witnesses to initiate recommendations for awards.

No. The most that can be said is that the Army has made certain that the Medal will not be awarded to those who do not deserve it. And thus the Army guarantees that the Medal will not be cheapened, and that the deeds of those who have won the Medal will not be forgotten. But neither the Army nor any other power on earth could be certain that it knows of *all* the men who have deserved the Medal.

And so the concept of the Medal of Honor is something which goes beyond the Medals themselves, which goes beyond the deeds which are recorded in this or other histories, which goes beyond the legislation, the Army Regulations, and the boards of review. These are the things which make up the structure of protection of the Medal and for perpetuation of its ideals. And the concept which this structure supports remains something impossible of definition—simply because it is not a material thing. It is an idea—an ideal—which springs from the deepest roots of all that is best in humanity.

Looking back beyond the beginning of American history for precedents of this ideal, it has been seen that, somehow, men have always needed to have symbols which represent to them that which they hold most precious. It is precisely at times when men are under greatest stress that they feel most need of these symbols.

In the days of primitive warfare, certain tribes would carry their dead chieftains into battle with them—for security—for revenge—for a mixture of reasons, perhaps, but always with the thought that the chief somehow had the power to help them in defeating the enemy.

In the Biblical wars David's armies carried the Ark of the Covenant into battle with them—the chest containing the laws precious to a people fighting for its existence.

It can be read how the Roman legions grouped around standards—each with its own numeral—each with its own *ésprit de corps*—once again pointing to the need for symbols. And it has been shown how Napoleon gave the same type of standards, bearing eagles, to his regiments, and how the Civil War soldier fought so savagely for his flag.

All these things are symbols of beliefs—beliefs which become ten thousand times more precious when they are under attack than they ever seem to be in normal times. And if periods of attack bring out the preciousness of these beliefs, they also bring out in mankind a feeling of gratitude to those who fight for them—who protect them from the assaults which are made upon them. That is why soldiers were accorded special privileges in ancient times. Later there was to come the devising of uniforms, so that soldiers could be recognized in time of peace, while they were not actually bearing the weapons which distinguished them in war.

Two principles lie behind the concept of a Medal of Honor—man's need for a symbol of his beliefs, and his

gratitude to the men who do most to protect those beliefs. Combining the two, an approach can be made to the definition of a Medal. Combining the great democratic beliefs of America with the typical, great-hearted American spirit of gratitude, a definition of the Medal of Honor of the United States can be reached.

It is because America's deep belief in personal liberty combined with America's deep appreciation of those who fought for that liberty that there is a Medal of Honor today.

And this belief in liberty is more important today than ever before. To preserve it, in a world which is torn and embittered, it is necessary for all who believe in democracy to realize that they themselves constitute an Army—and that their tasks are just as real as any which could be assigned on a battlefield.

The cause for which this Army does its work is the same cause for which lovers of freedom have always struggled: the right to live one's life as one pleases, without fear of interference or coercion by others, and granting others the same freedom in return.

If it sounds simple, it must be remembered that this idea has been under attack during century after century. There is no reason to believe that it will never be attacked again.

In the service of this idea, all Americans must do their share, if it is to live. And while not all Americans may serve in actual uniform, under an actual flag, winning actual medals, all must be prepared to serve in their normal, everyday lives, without outward symbols of their beliefs, to advance a world in which peace and freedom may live together forever. For this kind of service, in this kind of an army, there can be only one reward—the personal knowledge that one has done his best to be a citizen worthy of the great opportunity which has been insured to America by the heroism of the past.

This knowledge is the Medal of Honor which can be won by any American.

PART II

THE MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS OF WORLD WAR II

On the following pages are presented the photographs of the soldiers who, during World War II, performed acts of heroism above and beyond the call of duty which entitled them to Medals of Honor.

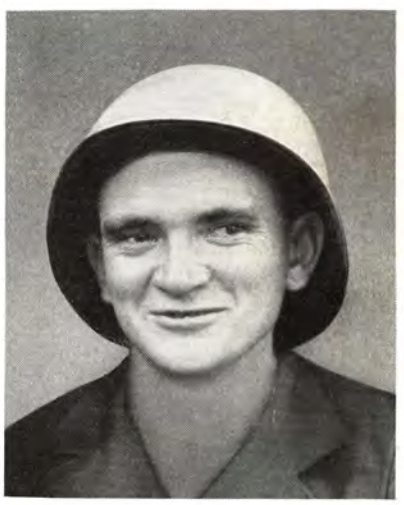
The photographs are accompanied by condensations of their citations, and are arranged alphabetically. While every effort has been made to obtain photographs of these Medal winners, there are several cases in which it was impossible, either because no pictures could be found, or because time limitations prevented their inclusion.

Those which do appear are the faces of heroes—from private to General of the Army—faces of great soldiers and great Americans.

ADAMS, Lucian (S Sgt.) Near St. Die, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 28 October 1944. Sergeant Adams made a lone assault on a force of German troops which resulted in his killing nine Germans, eliminating three machine guns, clearing the woods of hostile elements and reopening the severed supply lines to the assault companies of his battalion.

ANDERSON, Beauford T. (T Sgt.) Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa; 96th Inf. Div.; 13 April 1945. Singlehandedly he fought off a predawn Japanese counterattack armed only with his carbine and a box of mortar shells which he used as grenades. Twenty-five enemy were killed and several machine guns and knee mortars were destroyed by his action.

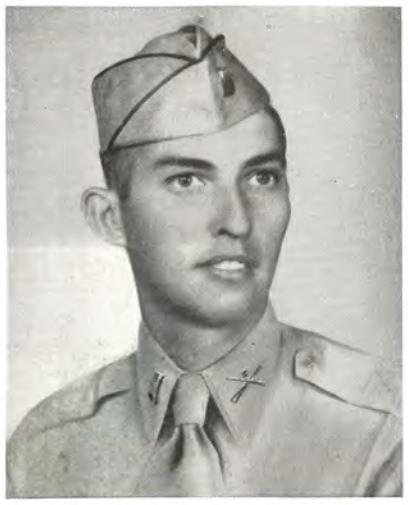
ANTOLAK, Sylvester (Sgt.) Near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 24 May 1944. He gave his life in a savage, singlehanded attack against a German machine-gun strongpoint. Wounded three times, he succeeded in eliminating one machine gun and dispersing enemy troops before he was killed in his final charge.



ATKINS, Thomas E. (Pfc.) Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 10 March 1945. Although painfully wounded, Private Atkins defended his solitary position against numerous Japanese attacks for 4 hours killing 13 of the enemy. After withdrawing for more ammunition he killed another enemy and forced the withdrawal of an enemy group attempting to envelop his platoon.

BAKER, Addison E. (Lt. Col.) Ploesti, Rumania; 93d Bomb Gp.; 1 August 1943. Colonel Baker's plane was hit by antiaircraft fire approaching the Ploesti oil refineries but he continued to pilot the plane over the target and dropped his bomb load. Shortly after the plane crashed in flames.

BAKER, Thomas A. (Sgt.) Saipan, Marianas Islands; 27th Inf. Div.; 17 June–7 July 1944. After performing many heroic acts over a period of days, he was severely wounded on 7 July but remained in the line until his ammunition was exhausted. He refused to withdraw and requested to be placed against a small tree armed with a remaining weapon, a pistol with eight rounds. Later his body was found, gun empty, with eight Japanese lying dead before him.



BARFOOT, Van T. (2d Lt.) Near Carano, Italy; 45th Inf. Div.; 23 May 1944. He succeeded in knocking out two machine-gun nests alone and capturing 17 prisoners. Later he placed himself in the path of three Mark VI tanks, disabling one and making the others veer off. He killed the crew of the tank, destroyed an abandoned field piece and then carried two of his wounded men to safety.

BARRETT, Carlton W. (Pvt.) St. Laurent-sur-Mer, France; 1st Inf. Div.; 6 June 1944. Refusing to be pinned down by the intense barrage of small arms and mortar fire on D-day, he assisted many comrades to shore. Later he carried dispatches the length of the fire-swept beach, assisted the wounded and saved many lives by carrying casualties.

BEAUDOIN, Raymond O. (1st Lt.) Hamelin, Germany; 30th Inf. Div.; 6 April 1945. To relieve the pressure on his platoon, he made a one-man attack on an enemy sniper nest. At point-blank range he shot and killed two of the enemy and killed another with the butt of his carbine. As he started to continue his attack he was killed by a machine-gun burst.

BELL, Bernard P. (T Sgt.) Mittelwihr, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 18 December 1944. Covered by his squad, he captured a schoolhouse held by the enemy and defended it against numerous counterattacks by infantry and a tank. During the action his squad killed at least 87 enemy and captured 42, of which Sergeant Bell personally killed more than 20 and took 33 prisoners.

BENDER, Stanley (S Sgt.) Near La Londe, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 17 August 1944. Alone, he knocked out two enemy strong points and then led his squad in the capture of another strongpoint. The remainder of his company was so inspired by his actions that they followed him to the objective knocking out 2 antitank guns, killing 37 Germans, and capturing 26 others.

BENJAMIN, George, Jr. (Pfc.) Leyte, P. I.; 77th Inf. Div.; 21 December 1944. A radio operator, he took charge and fearlessly led his platoon in an assault although he carried a bulky radio and was armed only with a pistol. When he fell mortally wounded he called for the battalion operations officer and reported the location of enemy weapons and valuable tactical information.

BENNETT, Edward A. (Pfc.) Heckhuscheid, Germany; 90th Inf. Div.; 1 February 1945. In the face of vicious enemy machine-gun fire he reached a house held by the Germans as a strongpoint. Killing a sentry with his trench knife he entered the house alone and in a room which harbored seven Germans he killed three with rifle fire, clubbed another to death with the butt of his gun, and killed the remainder with his pistol.

BERTOLDO, Veto R. (Sgt.) Hatten, France; 42d Inf. Div.; 9–10 January 1945. For more than 48 hours without rest or relief he defended his command post against numerous enemy infantrymen, a self-propelled gun and a tank. Armed with a machine gun and later, a rifle, he killed at least 40 Germans and wounded many more.

BEYER, Arthur O. (Cpl.) Near Arloncourt, Belgium; 603d T. D. Bn.; 15 January 1945. Dismounting from his vehicle and in the face of overwhelming odds, he destroyed two enemy machine-gun positions, killed 8 Germans, and captured 18 prisoners, including two bazooka teams.

BIANCHI, Willibald C. (1st Lt.) Near Bagac, Bataan, P. I.; 45th Inf., P. S.; 3 February 1942. He voluntarily joined another unit attacking machine-gun nests and personally silenced one with hand grenades. Although wounded three times, he climbed on top of an American tank and continued to fire its antiaircraft gun against the enemy.

BIDDLE, Melvin E. (Pfc.) Near Soy, Belgium; 517th Prcht. Inf. Reg.; 23–24 December 1944. A scout, he led his entire battalion in a 5-kilometer penetration of strong German assault positions. Unassisted he killed 17 Germans with 19 shots from his rifle and knocked out 3 machine-gun emplacements.

BJORKLUND, Arnold L. (1st Lt.) Near Alta Villa, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 13 September 1943. Unassisted, he used three hand grenades to destroy two machine guns, a heavy mortar, and to kill seven Germans, all from close range. His actions permitted his platoon to move forward and to take its objective.

BLOCH, Orville E. (1st Lt.) Near Firenzuola, Italy; 85th Inf. Div.; 22 September 1944. He wiped out 5 German machine-gun nests, single-handedly captured 19 prisoners, 6 of whom he had wounded, captured a quantity of enemy equipment, and eliminated a strongpoint that had held up the advance of his unit.

Photograph not available

BOLDEN, Paul L. (S Sgt.) Petit-Coo, Belgium; 30th Inf. Div.; 23 December 1944. Attacking a house held by the enemy he tossed two grenades through a window. Following that, he kicked open the door and came upon 35 SS troops. He killed 20 with his submachine gun before he was wounded and retired from the house. When the remaining Germans refused to surrender he reentered the house and killed the other 15.

BOLTON, Cecil H. (1st Lt.) Mark River, Holland; 104th Inf. Div.; 2 November 1944. Although twice severely wounded he waded across a canal to eliminate an enemy machine-gun post, returned to pick up assistance and again entered the icy water to knock out another machine gun and an enemy artillery piece before painfully crawling back to his own lines.

BONG, Richard I. (Maj.) Southwest Pacific Area; Air Corps; 10 October–15 November 1944. Assigned as an instructor, Major Bong voluntarily engaged in repeated combat missions over Balikpapan, Borneo, and Leyte, Philippine Islands during this period and shot down eight enemy planes.

BOOKER, Robert D. (Pvt.) Near Fondouk, Tunisia; 34th Inf. Div.; 9 April 1943. Advancing with his light machine gun over 200 yards of open ground despite heavy small-arms and artillery fire, he silenced one enemy gun despite being wounded and was firing on a second gun when he received a second mortal wound. With his last remaining strength he encouraged his squad and directed their fire.

BOYCE, George W. G., Jr. (2d Lt.) Near Afua, New Guinea; 112th Cav. Reg. Combat Team; 23 July 1944. While leading his men in an attack, an enemy hand grenade fell between himself and his men. He promptly threw himself upon the grenade and smothered the blast with his body, thus deliberately sacrificing his life to save those of his men.

Photograph not available

BRILES, Herschel F. (S Sgt.) Near Scherpenseel, Germany; 899th Tk. Destroyer Bn. (atchd. to 9th Inf. Div.); 20 November 1944. Twice he entered tank destroyers that had been hit by enemy fire to put out the fires and rescue wounded comrades and when enemy infantry advanced he delivered such heavy machine-gun fire at them that 55 of the Germans surrendered.

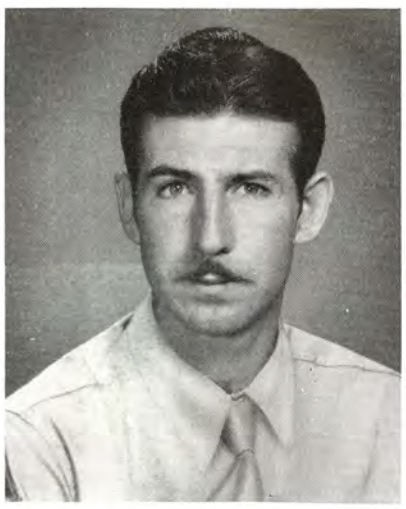
BRITT, Maurice L. (Capt.) North of Mignano, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 10 November 1943. Despite several wounds he led a handful of soldiers in repulsing a German counterattack consisting of more than 100 enemy and prevented them from isolating an American battalion. He personally killed 5 and wounded an unknown number of enemy.

BROSTROM, Leonard C. (Pfc.) Near Dagami, Leyte, P. I.; 7th Inf. Div.; 28 October 1944. Single-handed he attacked a key enemy pillbox and worked his way to its rear where he tossed grenades through its entrance. Beating off a counterattack by six enemy soldiers he continued to grenade the pillbox until he collapsed from wounds. Then the enemy fled the pillbox and were killed by Brostrom's comrades.

BROWN, Bobbie E. (Capt.) Crucifix Hill, Aachen, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 8 October 1944. Although wounded three times, he successfully destroyed three pillboxes and their occupants which were holding up the advance of his company and then made a reconnaissance which led to the destruction of several enemy guns and stopped two counterattacks.

BURKE, Frank (1st Lt.) Nurnberg, Germany; 3d Inf. Div.; 17 April 1945. In 4 hours of heroic action, he single-handedly killed 11 and wounded 3 enemy soldiers in repeated 1-man charges against superior forces and then took a leading role in assignments in which an additional 29 enemy were killed or wounded.

BURR, Elmer J. (1st Sgt.) Near Buna, New Guinea; 32d Inf. Div.; 24 December 1942. During an attack he saw an enemy grenade strike near his company commander. Instantly he threw himself upon it smothering the explosion with his body thus giving his life to save that of his commander.



BURR, Herbert H. (S Sgt.) Near Dorrmoschel, Germany; 11th Armd. Div.; 19 March 1945. When his crew was forced to abandon their tank, he manned the tank alone to continue the mission of reconnoitering. Encountering an enemy antitank gun at pointblank range he headed straight for it, destroyed it even though it was fully manned, and then overturned a large enemy truck before returning to his own lines.

BURT, James M. (Capt.) Near Wurselen, Germany; 2d Armd. Div.; 13 October 1944. Over a period of several days, although he commanded a tank company, Captain Burt also assumed command of infantry units and led them in attacks, directed artillery fire, reconnoitered with his tank into enemy territory and, even though wounded, rescued several wounded comrades.

BUTTS, John E. (2d Lt.) Normandy, France; 9th Inf. Div.; 14–23 June 1944. Wounded in leading attacks on 14 June and 16 June he refused to be evacuated. On 23 June he was again wounded in a lone assault but by grim determination and sheer courage continued to attack until he was killed 10 yards from his objective.

CALUGAS, Jose (Sgt.) Near Culis, Bataan, P. I.; 88th F. A., P. S.; 16 January 1942. A mess sergeant, he voluntarily ran 1,000 yards across a shell-swept area to take command of a gun position which had lost its personnel. Organizing a volunteer squad, he placed the gun back in commission and fired effectively against the enemy although the position was under constant and heavy Japanese fire.

CAREY, Alvin (S Sgt.) Near Plougastel, France; 2d Inf. Div.; 23 August 1944. Alone, he attacked a German pillbox killing an enemy rifleman en route. He hurled grenades at the pillbox in the face of intense fire which mortally wounded him. Undaunted, he gathered his strength and continued his grenade attack until the occupants of the pillbox were all killed.

CAREY, Charles F., Jr. (T Sgt.) Rimling, France; 100th Inf. Div.; 8 January 1945. He demonstrated inspiring leadership when he destroyed a German tank, captured 16 Germans in a house and led the rescue of 2 American squads after the enemy had overrun part of his battalion position.

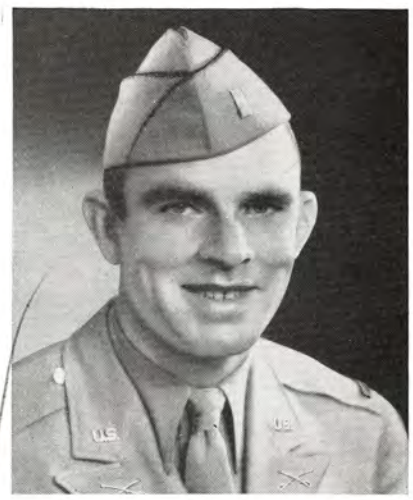
CARSWELL, Horace S., Jr., (Maj.) South China Sea; 308th Bomb. Gp.; 26 October 1944. He twice attacked with his bomber a Japanese convoy of 12 ships escorted by 2 destroyers despite extremely heavy antiaircraft fire. Although his plane was severely crippled he managed to reach land where he ordered his crew, except for one man without a parachute to bail out. He then chose to stay with his comrade in an unsuccessful attempt to land the plane.

CASTLE, Frederick W. (Brig. Gen.) Over Belgium; 4th Bomb. Wg., 8th A. F.; 24 December 1944. When his B–17 caught on fire while leading an attack of 2,000 bombers against the German Ardennes salient, he took over the controls of the flaming plane and enabled the crew to parachute to safety while he crashed to his death.

CHELI, Ralph (Maj.) Near Wewak, New Guinea; 5th A. F.; 18 August 1943. Leading a formation of bombers through a successful attack, he crashed his own flaming plane into the sea rather than disrupt the formation and the completion of the mission.

CHILDERS, Ernest (2d Lt.) Oliveto, Italy; 45th Inf. Div.; 22 September 1943. Despite a fractured instep he led a small squad in an attack against several German machine guns. He killed two enemy snipers before he got behind two of the nests where he killed all the occupants of one and assisted his men in eliminating another. He then continued his attack where he, single-handed, captured an enemy mortar observer.

CHOATE, Clyde L. (S Sgt.) Near Bruyere, France; 601st T. D. Bn.; 25 October 1944. He pursued a German tank with a bazooka and set fire to it with a rocket. Despite the fact that the tank and enemy infantry were still firing at him he killed some of the crew attempting to flee and then charged the tank and dropped a grenade into the turret killing the rest of the crew.



CHRISTENSEN, Dale Eldon (2d Lt.) Driniumor River, New Guinea; 112th Cav. Regt.; 16–19 July 1944. During a period of 4 days he continuously made lone attacks on enemy automatic weapon positions and succeeded in destroying several with grenades. He also led his platoon in successful assaults and later brought safely into his lines a wounded officer.

CHRISTIAN, Herbert F. (Pfc.) Near Valmontone, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 2–3 June 1944. Although his right leg was severed above the knee he attacked a strong enemy position killing at least 4 Germans and distracting their fire in order that his 12 comrades might escape from an ambush.

CICCHETTI, Joseph J. (Pfc.) South Manila, Luzon, P. I.; 37th Inf. Div., 9 February 1945. At the cost of his life he led a litter bearer team that rescued 14 wounded men in the face of intense Japanese fire. Although mortally wounded, he completed his final rescue lifting a soldier to his shoulders and carrying him to safety.

CLARK, Francis J. (T Sgt.) Luxembourg and Germany; 28th Inf. Div.; 12–17 September 1944. During this period he assumed command of his unit when leadership was desperately needed, launched attacks and beat off counterattacks, fearlessly faced powerful enemy fire alone and still overcame superior enemy forces and aided many stranded comrades.

COLALILLO, Mike (Pfc.) Near Untergriesheim, Germany; 100th Inf. Div.; 7 April 1945. He formed a 1-man spearhead for his unit, killing or wounding at least 25 of the enemy in bitter fighting on foot and atop a tank and then assisted a wounded soldier in reaching the American lines.

COLE, Robert G. (Lt. Col.) Near Carentan, France; 101st Abn. Div.; 11 June 1944. When his battalion had been stopped by heavy enemy fire, he rose to his feet in front of his battalion and led them in a bayonet charge at the enemy completely disregarding the enemy's fire. This so inspired his men that the action resulted in the complete establishment of a bridgehead over the Douve River.

CONNOR, James P. (Sgt.) Cape Cavalaire, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 15 August 1944. Unmindful of 3 grave wounds he led his small group in attacks on the enemy with such fury that they killed 7 Germans, captured 40, seized much matériel, and at the same time insured safe and uninterrupted landings for a huge volume of men.

COOLEY, Raymond H. (S. Sgt.) Near Lumboy, Luzon, P. I.; 25th Inf. Div.; 24 February 1945. After destroying a Jap machine gun, he was joined by his platoon as he was about to throw a grenade. Suddenly he was charged by six enemy and knowing that he could not throw the armed grenade without injury to his men, he covered it with his body as it exploded.

COOLIDGE, Charles H. (T Sgt.) Near Belmont sur Battant, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 24–28 October 1944. With a handful of new reinforcements he directed a 4-day battle against a superior German force during which time he dueled two tanks with his carbine, advanced alone to stop a German attack with two cases of grenades and frustrated an attempt to turn the flank of his battalion.

COWAN, Richard E. (Pfc.) Near Krinkelter Wald, Belgium; 2d Inf. Div.; 17 December 1944. As a heavy machine gunner he held off seven waves of hostile infantrymen with little rifle support of his own. Moving his gun to another position he killed or wounded half of an enemy force of riflemen supporting a German tank and refused to be driven from his position until infiltration made it untenable.

CRAFT, Clarence B. (Pfc.) Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; 96th Inf. Div.; 31 May 1945. In a 1-man attack against tremendously superior forces heavily armed with rifles, machine guns, mortars, and grenades, he killed at least 25 of the enemy and spearheaded the capture of Hen Hill which resulted in the breaking of the Naha-Shuri-Yonaburu Line.

CRAIG, Robert (2d Lt.) Favoratta, Sicily; 3d Inf. Div.; 11 July 1943. He deliberately drew the concentrated fire of a force of approximately 100 Germans so his platoon could withdraw to safety. Before he went down, mortally wounded, he killed 5 enemy soldiers and wounded 3 others.

CRAIN, Morris E. (T Sgt.) Haguenau, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 13 March 1945. With great daring and aggressiveness he spearheaded his platoon in killing 10 enemy soldiers, capturing 12 more and securing its objective in spite of heavy enemy rifle and shell fire.

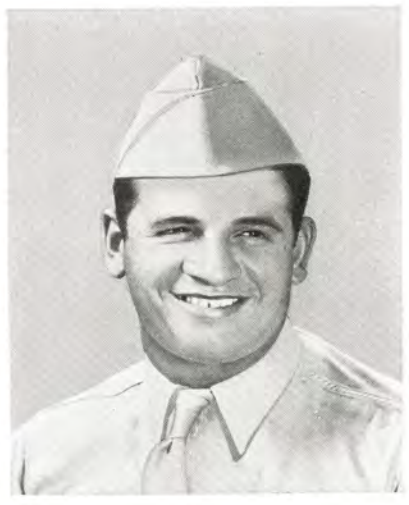
CRAW, Demas T. (Col.) Near Port Lyautey, French Morocco; Air Corps; 8 November 1942. He was killed instantly by machine-gun fire at point-blank range as he attempted to pass through the lines in an attempt to locate the French commander with a view to suspending hostilities in the North African invasion.

CRAWFORD, William J. (Pvt.) Near Alta Villa, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 13 September 1943. On three occasions he moved forward on his own initiative to knock out alone three well-placed German machine-gun positions which were holding up the advance of his company. In doing this he killed, wounded, or routed the three enemy crews.

CREWS, John R. (S Sgt.) Near Stein, Germany; 63d Inf. Div.; 8 April 1945. Although badly wounded, he single-handedly stormed a strong enemy emplacement killing or putting to flight some 20 Germans and capturing 7 others.

CURREY, Francis S. (T Sgt.) Near Malmedy, Belgium; 30th Inf. Div.; 21 December 1944. Using his automatic rifle, machine guns, and a bazooka he stopped an enemy tank and infantry attack which threatened to flank his battalion's position. During this same period he rescued five comrades that had been pinned down by heavy enemy fire.

DAHLGREN, Edward C. (2d Lt.) Oberhoffen, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 11 February 1945. He led his platoon in the rescue of an enemy-surrounded platoon of infantry and then single-handedly stormed 4 buildings to kill 8 Germans, capture 39, and wound an undetermined number.



DALESSONDRO, Peter J. (T Sgt.) Near Kalterherberg, Germany; 9th Inf. Div.; 22 December 1944. With a great display of leadership he continuously encouraged his men and himself bore the brunt of several enemy attacks. He fired at pointblank range and with his last clip killed four Germans who were about to murder an aid man and two wounded soldiers nearby. His last act, as the enemy swarmed about him, was to call for mortar barrage on his own position.

DALY, Michael J. (Capt.) Nurnberg, Germany; 3d Inf. Div.; 18 April 1945. He fearlessly engaged in 4 single-handed firefights with a desperate, powerful armed enemy, voluntarily taking all major risks himself and protecting his men at every opportunity. As a result, he killed 15 Germans, silenced 3 enemy machine guns, and wiped out an entire enemy patrol.

DAVIS, Charles W. (Maj.) Guadalcanal Island; 25th Inf. Div.; 12 January 1943. With complete disregard for his own safety he made his way to trapped units, delivered instructions and supervised their execution. In the assault that followed later he drew his pistol and led the troops to the capture of their objective.

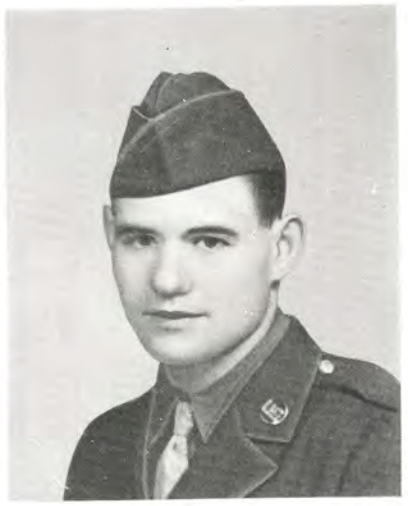
DEFRANZO, Arthur F. (S Sgt.) Near Vaubadon, France; 1st Inf. Div.; 10 June 1944. After rescuing a wounded comrade, although wounded himself, he gave his life to clear a blazing path through concentrated enemy fire and in so doing spared the lives of scores of his comrades.

DEGLOPPER, Charles N. (Pfc.) La Fiere, France; 82d Abn. Div.; 9 June 1944. Although wounded several times he singlehandedly held off a large enemy force while the remainder of his platoon withdrew to safety. Later, in the area where he made his stand, his unit found the ground strewn with dead Germans and many machine guns and automatic weapons which he had knocked out of action.

DELEAU, Emile, Jr. (Sgt.) Oberhoffen, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 1 February 1945. With magnificent courage and daring aggressiveness, he cleared four well-defended houses of Germans, inflicted severe losses on the enemy and at the sacrifice of his own life aided his unit to reach its objective with a minimum of casualties.

DERVISHIAN, Ernest H. (2d Lt.) Cisterna, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 23 May 1944. He led a group of 4 men far in advance of the lines and in the resultant action 4 enemy machine-gun positions were put out of action and 48 Germans captured, primarily through his efforts.

DIAMOND, James H. (Pfc.) Mintal, Mindanao, P. I.; 24th Inf. Div.; 8–14 May 1945. During this period he killed a Japanese sniper harassing his comrades, and though himself wounded, repaired a bridge under heavy enemy fire and then ran through a hail of fire to secure an abandoned machine gun, giving his life by drawing fire upon himself and so allowing his comrades to reach safety.



DIETZ, Robert H. (S Sgt.) Near Kirchain, Germany; 7th Armd. Div.: 29 March 1945. When a column of armor was held up, he moved to the front of his unit and killed a bazooka team protecting a bridge. Moving forward to a second bridge, he killed another bazooka team, bayoneted another German and killed two enemy infantrymen before being killed himself.

DOOLITTLE, James H. (Brig. Gen.) Tokyo, Japan; Air Corps; 18 April 1942. He personally led the squadron of Army bombers, manned by volunteer crews, in the highly destructive raid on Tokyo and the Japanese mainland.

DOSS, Desmond T. (Pfc.) Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; 77th Inf. Div.; 29 April–21 May 1945. He displayed outstanding bravery and unflinching determination as a medical aid man even though he himself was wounded, twice seriously, during this period. Time after time he deliberately exposed himself to enemy fire to bring the wounded back to safety for medical aid.

DROWLEY, Jessie R. (S Sgt.) Bougainville, Solomon Islands; Americal Div.; 30 January 1944. After rescuing two wounded comrades and carrying them to safety, he jumped atop an American tank and directed it toward a pillbox which was holding up the advance. He remained in the open on the tank despite heavy enemy fire and despite a serious wound. He returned for medical aid only after the pillbox had been destroyed.

DUNHAM, Russell E. (T Sgt.) Near Kayserberg, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 8 January 1945. Despite a bullet wound in his back he spearheaded an attack and destroyed three enemy machine guns, killed nine Germans, wounded seven, and captured two. He refused medical aid until the objective had been taken.

DUTKO, John W. (Pfc.) Near Ponte Rotto, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 23 May 1944. He made a 1-man assault against a German 88-mm. cannon and 3 machine guns which were holding up the advance of his unit. Firing his automatic rifle from the hip, he killed the 11 members of the cannon and gun crews and then fell dead.

EHLERS, Walter D. (S Sgt.) Near Goville, France; 1st Inf. Div.; 9–10 June 1944. Always acting as the spearhead of an attack, he led his squad against heavily defended enemy strong points knocking out two machine guns and two mortars, personally killing seven Germans himself. Although wounded, he stood up to draw enemy fire and allow his men to withdraw before he returned to have his wound treated.

ENDL, Gerald L. (S Sgt.) Near Anamo, New Guinea; 32d Inf. Div.; 11 July 1944. When seven of his men became wounded and trapped he deliberately drew enemy fire so others of his men could help the wounded. After that mission had been accomplished he brought back to safety four others of his comrades one by one until he was killed.

ERWIN, Henry E. (S Sgt.) Over Koriyama, Japan; 20th A. F.; 12 April 1945. As he was launching phosphorus bombs one proved faulty and exploded in the B-29 plane. Realizing that the plane and crew would be lost if the burning bomb remained in the plane, without regard to the severe burning of his hands he carried it to the copilot's window and threw it out.

EUBANKS, Ray E. (Sgt.) Noemfoor Island, Dutch New Guinea; 503d Prcht. Inf.; 23 July 1944. Leading an attack, he advanced to within 15 yards of the Japanese positions when he was wounded and an enemy bullet rendered his rifle useless. However, he immediately charged and using his weapon as a club killed four of the enemy before he was himself again hit and killed.

EVERHART, Forrest E. (T Sgt.) Near Korling, France; 90th Inf. Div.; 12 November 1944. When his platoon bore the brunt of an enemy counterattack he ran through 400 yards of artillery and mortar fire to strengthen the defense. With one machine gunner supporting him he attacked with hand grenades forcing the Germans to retreat leaving 30 dead.

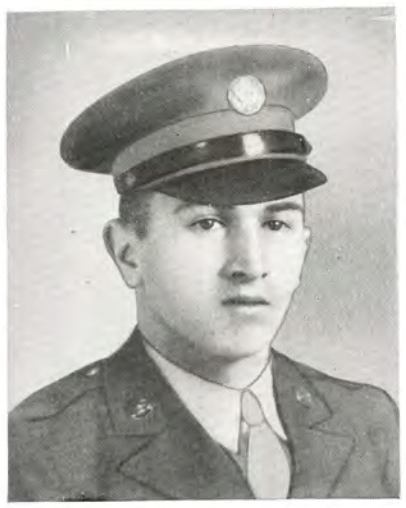
FEMOYER, Robert E. (2d Lt.) Over Merseburg, Germany; 711th H. B. Sq.; 2 November 1944. As navigator on a bomber he was severely wounded by antiaircraft shells on a mission. He refused morphine in order to keep his mental faculties clear and direct the plane out of danger. For 2½ hours he directed the navigation of the plane until it had reached England. He died shortly after.

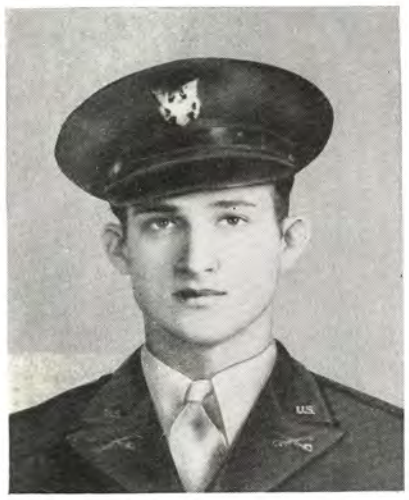
Photograph not available

FIELDS, James H. (1st Lt.) Rechicourt, France; 4th Armd. Div.; 27 September 1944. Although his platoon had been seriously depleted and he himself had been rendered speechless by wounds, he continued to lead them by hand signals. He attended to a wounded man and then silenced two enemy machine-gun positions inspiring his small force to continue forward.

FISHER, Almond E. (2d Lt.) Near Grammont, France; 45th Inf. Div.; 12–13 September 1944. Despite painful wounds in both feet, he single-handedly eliminated four enemy machine-gun emplacements in front of his platoon and, refusing to be evacuated, he remained with his men to direct a successful defense against a powerful enemy counterattack.

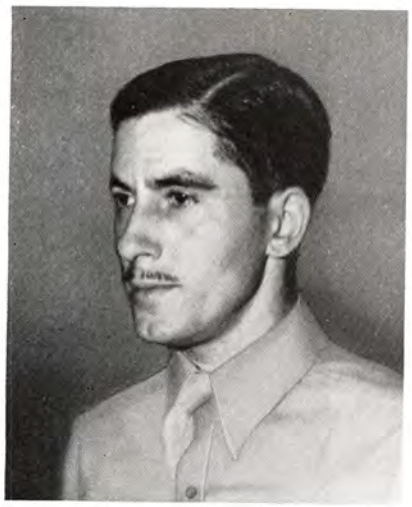
FOURNIER, William G. (Sgt.) Guadalcanal Island; 25th Inf. Div.; 10 January 1943. With a comrade he ran forward under heavy enemy fire to put an idle machine gun into action. To get a better field of fire he lifted the gun off the ground and held it by the tripod while his companion operated it. Before being killed they stopped a strong Japanese attack and killed approximately 46 enemy.





FOWLER, Thomas W., Sr., (2d Lt.) Near Carano, Italy; 1st Armd. Div.; 23 May 1944. After clearing a German antipersonnel mine field by hand he led first infantry and then tanks through the path he had made. When an enemy tank counterattack set one of his tanks on fire he disregarded heavy fire to render assistance to the wounded.

FRYAR, Elmer E. (Pvt.) Leyte, P. I.; 11th Abn. Div.; 8 December 1944. After personally killing 37 Japanese in stopping an enemy attack he was helping a seriously wounded comrade to safety when he encountered his platoon leader also assisting another wounded man. At this time an enemy sniper appeared and took aim at the platoon leader. Private Fryar immediately stepped between them and fell mortally wounded.



FUNK, Leonard A., Jr., (1st Sgt.) Holzheim, Belgium; 82d Abn. Div.; 29 January 1945. After leading his unit in the capture of 80 Germans, an enemy patrol, by means of a ruse succeeded in capturing the guards, freeing the prisoners and demanded his surrender. Pretending to comply, Sergeant Funk, with lightning motion, riddled the German officer in charge and led his men in seizing the enemy's weapons.

GALT, William W. (Capt.) Near Villa Crocetta, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 29 May 1944. An infantry officer, he rode a tank destroyer and manned the turret gun despite heavy enemy fire. Before he was mortally wounded he had personally destroyed a 77-mm. antitank gun, killed 40 Germans, and wounded many more.

GAMMON, Archer T. (S Sgt.) Near Bastogne, Belgium; 6th Armd. Div.; 11 January 1945. After he had charged through hip-deep snow to knock out an enemy machine gun and its three-man crew with grenades, he again rushed forward to destroy another automatic weapon position and its crew of four. He then advanced to within 25 yards of a Tiger Royal tank, killing two hostile riflemen en route. As the tank started to withdraw it fired pointblank and killed him.

GARCIA, Marcario (S Sgt.) Near Grosshau, Germany; 4th Inf. Div.; 27 November 1944. Although wounded, he twice crawled in front of his unit to destroy enemy machine-gun emplacements. In doing so he killed six Germans with his rifle and grenades and captured four more.

GARMAN, Harold A. (Pvt.) Near Montereau, France; 5th Inf. Div.; 25 August 1944. A medical aid man, when a boatload of wounded soldiers were fired upon midstream in the Seine River, he swam directly into a hail of machine-gun bullets to tow the boats and the three wounded men to safety.

GERSTUNG, Robert E. (T Sgt.) Near Berg, Germany; 79th Inf. Div.; 19 December 1944. For 8 hours he maintained a position with his heavy machine gun supporting infantry even though all of his crew members were casualties. When his gun was hit, he crawled to another gun whose entire crew had been killed and continued to fire at the enemy, not even stopping when an enemy tank shot the glove from his hand.

GIBSON, Eric (Cpl.) Near Isola Bella, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 28 January 1944. Although his primary duty was a cook, he single-handedly charged and captured four German automatic weapons positions, killed five Germans, captured two and secured the left flank of his company during an attack in which he gave his life.

Photograph not available

GONZALES, David M. (Pfc.) Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 25 April 1945. He was mortally wounded while desperately trying to dig out of a living tomb, five of his comrades who had been buried in the explosion of an enemy 500-pound bomb. He succeeded in saving three despite a hail of bullets directed at him as he worked. The other two soldiers were saved later.

GOTT, Donald J. (1st Lt.) Over Saarbrucken, Germany; 8th A. F.; 9 November 1944. Despite the fact that three of his B-17's engines were damaged beyond control and the fourth on fire, he ordered his crew to bail out and then attempted to fly the plane to friendly territory so that his badly injured radio operator could be treated. He had nearly succeeded in his mission when the plane exploded.

GRABIARZ, William J. (Pfc.) Manila, Luzon, P. I.; 1st Cav. Div.; 23 February 1945. Despite a severe wound, he left his place of safety behind a tank and deliberately covered a wounded officer with his own body to form a human shield. The enemy riddled him with concentrated fire and he gave his own life to save that of his commander.

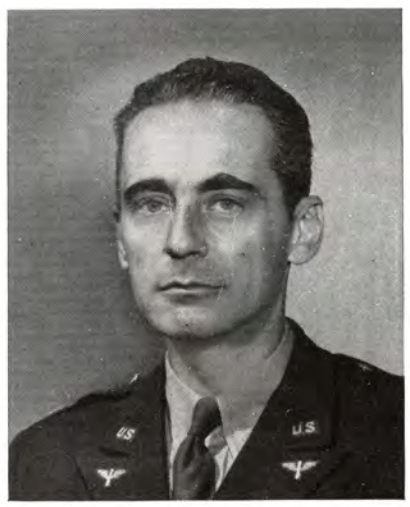
GREGG, Stephen R. (2d Lt.) Near Montelimar, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 27 August 1944. He successfully staged a one-man machine-gun assault to permit a medical aid man an opportunity to recover seven wounded comrades from enemy-held territory. Later, with two other men, by means of hand grenades he recaptured an American mortar position that had been taken by a German squad.

GRUENNERT, Kenneth D. (Sgt.) Near Buna, New Guinea; 32d Inf. Div.; 24 December 1942. He advanced alone at the head of his platoon and knocked out one enemy pillbox single-handed, and drove the occupants of another into the open where they were routed by his men. He was killed by enemy snipers before his platoon could reach his advanced position.

HALL, George J. (S. Sgt.) Near Anzio, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 23 May 1944. He knocked out two German machine-gun nests, killing seven Germans and capturing nine. Even after his right leg had been shattered by an enemy shell burst and he had severed the remains of the leg with his sheath knife, he still begged to go forward with his platoon.

HALL, Lewis (Cpl.) Guadalcanal Island; 25th Inf. Div.; 10 January 1943. With a comrade he ran forward under heavy enemy fire to put an idle machine gun into action. To get a better field of fire he operated the gun while his companion held the gun off the ground. Before being killed they stopped a strong Japanese attack and killed approximately 46 enemy.

HALLMAN, Sherwood H. (S Sgt.) Brest, France; 29th Inf. Div.; 13 September 1944. When his platoon was held up by heavy enemy fire, he leaped over a hedgerow into the German defenders firing his carbine and throwing grenades. He killed or wounded 4 of the enemy and nearly 90 others surrendered. As a result his company advanced and took the position.



HAMILTON, Pierpont M. (Lt. Col.) Near Port Lyautey, French Morocco; Air Corps; 8 November 1942. Although captured as he attempted to pass through the lines in an attempt to locate the French commander with a view to suspending hostilities in the North African invasion, he completed his mission even though an accompanying officer was killed in the attempt.

HARMON, Roy W. (Sgt.) Near Casaglia, Italy; 91st Inf. Div.; 12 July 1944. Although wounded, he gave his life in firing three separate German machine-gun positions in haystacks in order to neutralize their effect on a platoon which was in danger of annihilation.

HARR, Harry R. (Cpl.) Near Maglamin, Mindanao, P. I.; 31st Inf. Div.; 5 June 1945. In a fierce counterattack, the Japanese closed in on his machine-gun emplacement hurling hand grenades. One grenade landed squarely in the emplacement and to save his four comrades, he gave his own life by unhesitatingly covering it with his body.

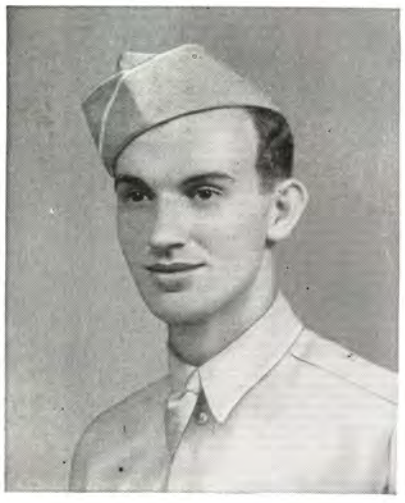
HARRIS, James L. (2d Lt.) Vagney, France; 756th Tk. Bn.; 7 October 1944. Although struck down and mortally wounded by machine-gun bullets, he crawled to his tank and, too weak to climb inside it, issued fire orders while lying on the road. He and his crew held off the enemy until friendly tanks came to their support.

Photograph not available

HASTINGS, Joe R. (Pfc.) Drabenderhohe, Germany; 97th Inf. Div.; 12 April 1945. Braving a storm of concentrated German fire, he killed three enemy gun crews to pave the way for an attack by two infantry platoons and then personally led them in the attack against the town.

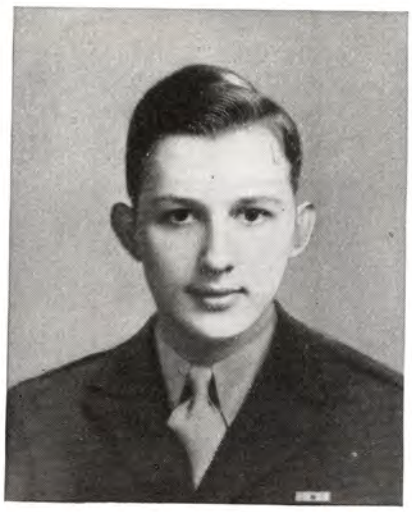
HAWK, John D. (Sgt.) Near Chambois, France; 90th Inf. Div.; 20 August 1944. During an enemy counterattack by tanks and infantry, he forced the infantry to withdraw by his machine-gun fire and then seizing a bazooka, he and a comrade forced the tanks back to a wooded area. In full view of the enemy he then directed the fire of two tank destroyers on the enemy and, as a result, two of the tanks were knocked out and the third driven off.

HAWKS, Lloyd C. (Pfc.) Near Carano, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 30 January 1944. He braved an enemy counterattack, although wounded in the right hip and left forearm, in order to rescue two wounded men who, unable to move, were lying in an exposed position within 30 yards of the enemy.



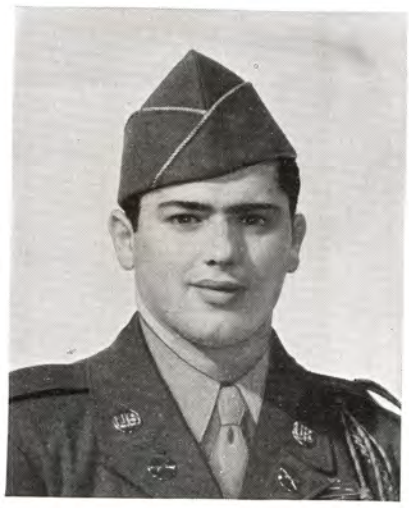
HEDRICK, Clinton M. (T Sgt.) Lembeck, Germany; 17th Abn. Div.; 27–28 March 1945. After leading his platoon in three charges at the enemy and killing with a burst of fire six enemy attempting to flank his position, he was mortally wounded by a self-propelled gun but remained firing at the enemy in order that his men might withdraw.

HENDRIX, James R. (S Sgt.) Near Assenois, Belgium; 4th Armd. Div.; 26 December 1944. Alone he advanced against two 88-mm. guns and, by the ferocity of his rifle fire, forced the enemy to surrender. Later, he aided two wounded soldiers who were helpless and exposed to intense machine-gun fire and then rescued still another soldier who was trapped in a burning half-track.



HENRY, Robert T. (Pvt.) Near Luchem, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 3 December 1944. He sprinted alone across open terrain to charge an enemy defensive position. Although hit by machine-gun fire, he continued to stagger forward until he fell mortally wounded only 10 yards from the emplacement.

HERRERA, Silvestre S. (Pfc.) Near Mertzwiller, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 15 March 1945. After a one-man, frontal assault on an enemy strongpoint which resulted in the capture of eight Germans, he started to attack another emplacement in spite of a mine field. He stepped on a mine and had both feet severed but despite pain and loss of blood, he pinned down the enemy while his comrades captured the position.



HORNER, Freeman V. (S Sgt.) Wurselen, Germany; 30th Inf. Div.; 16 November 1944. He rushed into the teeth of concentrated enemy fire to destroy three enemy machine-gun positions that were holding up the advance of his company. He killed or captured seven enemy and cleared the path of his company's successful assault on the town.

HOWARD, James H. (Lt. Col.) Over Oschersleben, Germany; Air Corps; 11 January 1944. Flying a P-51, he attacked single-handed a formation of more than 30 German airplanes that were harassing American bombers. For more than 30 minutes he pressed home determined attacks despite the fact that three of his guns went out of action and his fuel ran low near the end of the engagement.

HUFF, Paul B. (Cpl.) Near Carano, Italy; 509th Prcht. Inf. Bn.; 8 February 1944. He advanced 350 yards through an enemy minefield and, under intense enemy fire, silenced a German machine gun by killing its entire crew. He then deliberately drew more enemy fire on himself to determine the location and strength of another German unit which later caused 27 enemy killed and 21 captured.

HUGHES, Lloyd H. (2d Lt.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 9th A. F.; 1 August 1943. With the knowledge that his B-24 was leaking gasoline in two places, he still piloted it low over the flaming target of the oil refineries and bombed his prescribed target rather than jeopardize the formation and the success of the attack.

JERSTAD, John L. (Maj.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 9th A. F.; 1 August 1943. Although he had completed his share of missions, he volunteered to pilot the lead aircraft in the attack on Ploesti. Three miles from the target area his plane was hit, badly damaged, and set on fire, but he continued on his course and dropped his bomb load before crashing into the target area.

JOHNSON, Elden H. (Pvt.) Near Valmontone, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 3 June 1944. To allow his comrades to escape from an ambush, he braved the massed fire of about 60 riflemen, 3 machine guns, and 3 tanks by standing erect at about 25 yards distance to draw their fire. Before falling mortally wounded he succeeded in destroying a machine-gun crew.

JOHNSON, Leon W. (Col.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 9th A. F.; 1 August 1943. Leading a heavy bombardment group he succeeded in bringing it over the target area even though it had been temporarily lost when separated from another element. Although the element of surprise was gone, he elected to make the prescribed low-level attack and, as a result, succeeded in accomplishing his mission.

JOHNSON, Leroy (Sgt.) Near Limon, Leyte, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 15 December 1944. As leader of a four-man patrol, he saw two unexploded grenades which the Japanese had thrown at them. Knowing that his comrades would be wounded or killed by their explosion, he deliberately gave his life and threw himself on the grenades and received their full charge.

JOHNSON, Oscar G., Jr., (Sgt.) Near Scarperia, Italy; 91st Inf. Div.; 16–18 September 1944. Using the weapons of his slain and wounded comrades, he stood alone at the base of a German defense arc and for 2 days and 2 nights without respite and, despite the fact that friendly troops could not reach him due to heavy fire, he withstood repeated enemy attacks.

JOHNSTON, William J. (Pfc.) Near Padiglione, Italy; 45th Inf. Div.; 17–19 February 1944. After causing at least 25 enemy casualties with his machine gun, he was left for dead because of a wound over the heart. He was captured and managed to escape when the Americans attacked the position. He then painfully made his way back to the American lines with much valuable information.

KANDLE, Victor L. (1st Lt.) Near La Forge, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 9 October 1944. He led a small group of riflemen and machine gunners to take a German mountain-quarry fortress that had held off a battalion 2 days. In doing so he killed a German officer in a duel and then rushed forward to force the enemy in the quarry to surrender, destroyed 2 machine-gun crews, and captured 32 more enemy.

KANE, John R. (Col.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 9th A. F.; 1 August 1943. Leading a heavy bombardment group he succeeded in bringing it over the target area even though it had been temporarily lost when separated from another element. Although the element of surprise was gone, he elected to make the prescribed low level attack and accomplished his mission.

KARABERIS, Christos H. (Sgt.) Near Guignola, Italy; 85th Inf. Div.; 1–2 October 1944. Alone, he charged into the fire of five German machine guns to eliminate them from a ridge his company had been assigned to capture. As a result, he captured all of the machine-gun nests, killed 8 Germans, captured 22 others, and drove a wedge into the enemy lines.

KEARBY, Neel E. (Col.) Over Wewak, New Guinea; Air Corps; 11 October 1943. Flying a P–47, he was leading a flight of 4 fighters when he shot down an enemy plane and then sighted 12 Japanese bombers accompanied by 36 fighters. Although his fuel was low, he led his formation in the attack and personally brought down 5 of the enemy before bringing his formation back to a friendly base.

KEATHLEY, George D. (S Sgt.) Mount Altuzzo, Italy; 85th Inf. Div.; 14 September 1944. When his company suffered heavy casualties, he assumed command of two platoons and led them in defending their positions against four heavy enemy counterattacks. A grenade exploded near him and inflicted a mortal wound, but he continued to fire at the enemy until his life gave out.

KELLEY, Jonah E. (S Sgt.) Kesternich, Germany; 78th Inf. Div.; 30–31 January 1945. Although twice wounded and his left hand useless, he led his squad in house to house fighting and personally accounted for five Germans. When hit by a hail of machine-gun bullets, he summoned his waning strength and destroyed the machine-gun nest before he died.

KELLEY, Ova A. (Pvt.) Leyte, P. I.; 96th Inf. Div.; 8 December 1944. On his own initiative, he left his foxhole and armed with hand grenades made a 1-man assault. Inspired by his example his comrades followed him in a charge which destroyed the enemy force of 36 and captured 2 heavy and 1 light machine guns. He died from wounds received 2 days later.

KELLY, Charles E. (T Sgt.) Near Altavilla, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 13–14 September 1943. After several hazardous patrol missions, he defended an ammunition storehouse against vastly superior enemy forces with his automatic rifle, secured another when that overheated, and then when the Germans threatened to overrun the position he used 60-mm. mortar shells, killing at least five more of the enemy.

Photograph not available

KELLY, John D. (T Sgt.) Fort du Roule, Cherbourg, France; 79th Inf. Div.; 25 June 1944. Three times he walked alone, laden with explosives and pole charges, against the concentrated fire of the guns of the fort to blast a strongpoint to impotence and forcing survivors of the gun crews to surrender. As a result of his actions the fort was captured by the Americans.

KELLY, Thomas J. (Cpl.) Alemert, Germany; 7th Armd. Div.; 5 April 1945. A medical-aid man, he made 10 separate trips through a murderous enemy fire to bring critically wounded men out of a battlefield death trap. During each of his trips he dragged a wounded man and guided a total of 7 others less seriously wounded to safety.

KERSTETTER, Dexter J. (Pfc.) Near Galiano, Luzon, P. I; 33d Inf. Div.; 13 April 1945. He led an attack against Japanese well entrenched on a hill killing 16 enemy himself with his rifle and grenades. As a result of his efforts, a platoon captured the enemy position and held it against all counterattacks, which continued for 3 days.

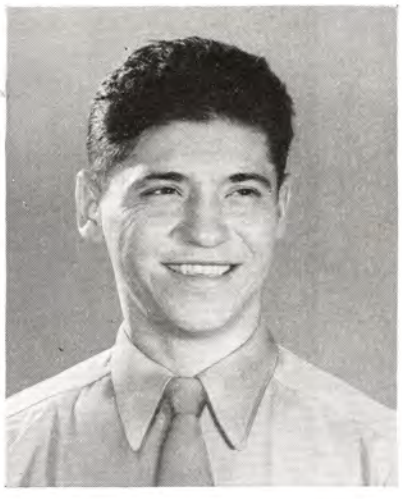
KESSLER, Patrick J. (Pfc.) Near Ponte Rotto, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 23 May 1944. In one whirlwind action, he dealt alone with an enemy machine-gun nest, a strongpoint with its machine gunners and riflemen plus several individual snipers. He killed 4 Germans and captured 16 more enabling his unit to advance to its objective.

KIMBRO, Truman (Sgt.) Near Rocherath, Belgium; 2d Inf. Div.; 19 December 1944. Assigned to mine a vital crossroads, he discovered it was occupied by an enemy tank and at least 20 riflemen. Driven back by withering fire, he left his squad and, laden with mines, crawled alone towards the crossroads. Although severely wounded he dragged himself forward and laid the mines across the road but he was killed trying to crawl back to his unit.

KINER, Harold G. (Pvt.) Near Palenberg, Germany; 30th Inf. Div.; 2 October 1944. When the Germans threw hand grenades, one of which dropped between him and two comrades, he hurled himself without hesitation upon it, smothering the explosion. He gave his own life to save two comrades from death or serious injury.

KINGSLEY, David R. (2d Lt.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 9th A. F.; 23 June 1944. He was bombardier when several crew members were wounded. He administered first aid and when it was apparent that the plane was too badly damaged to reach safety and one of the crew's parachutes had been damaged, he unhesitatingly removed his own and placed it on the wounded crew member and helped him bail out. The plane crashed and burned shortly after.

KISTERS, Gerry H. (2d Lt.) Near Gagliano, Sicily; 2d Armd. Div.; 31 July 1943. With another man, he succeeded in capturing a machine gun and its crew of four that was holding up the advance. He then advanced toward another emplacement and, although wounded five times in both legs and his right arm, he captured the gun.



KNAPPENBERGER, Alton W. (Pfc.) Near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 1 February 1944. He crawled forward under heavy enemy fire, emplaced himself on an isolated knoll and disrupted a German counterattack for 2 hours. During this period he killed at least four enemy, wounded two, silenced two machine guns, and held off a vastly superior force.

KNIGHT, Jack L. (1st Lt.) Near Loi Kang, Burma; 124th Cav. Regt., Mars Task Force; 2 February 1945. Single-handedly he knocked out two enemy pillboxes. While attempting to knock out a third pillbox, he was struck and blinded by an enemy grenade. Although unable to see he rallied his platoon and continued forward in the assault until he fell mortally wounded.

KNIGHT, Raymond L. (1st Lt.) Over Po Valley, Italy; Air Corps; 24–25 April 1945. Flying a P–47, his daring and self-sacrifice accounted for the destruction of 24 aircraft during this period. His action eliminated German planes intended for attack on Allied forces. When he attempted to return his badly damaged plane to his base, he crashed and was killed.

KROTIAK, Anthony L. (Pfc.) Belete Pass, Luzon, P. I.; 37th Inf. Div.; 8 May 1945. As an acting squad leader he was directing his men in consolidating a newly won position when an enemy grenade landed in the center of the group. He attempted to jam the grenade into the earth and then threw himself over it to protect the other men. The grenade exploded and he died a few minutes later.

LAWLEY, William R., Jr. (1st Lt.) Over Occupied Europe; 8th A. F.; 20 February 1944. While pilot of a B–17, his co-pilot was killed, eight crew members wounded, one engine was on fire, the controls were shot away and his plane was under attack by enemy fighters. Although wounded himself, he managed to fly the ship and elected to remain with it after giving the crew members the option of bailing out.

LAWS, Robert E. (Sgt.) Pangasinan Province, Luzon, P. I.; 43d Inf. Div.; 12 January 1945. Although wounded by enemy grenades, he attacked and knocked out a pillbox with grenades alone. Continuing his attack he suffered additional wounds and when attacked by three Japanese he killed two with his machine pistol and killed the third in hand-to-hand combat.

LEE, Daniel W. (1st Lt.) Montrevel, France; 117th Cav. Rcn. Sq.; 2 September 1944. He crawled within 30 yards of two enemy mortars and machine pistol fire shattered his right thigh when he was discovered. Despite this, he crawled relentlessly forward killing five of the enemy with rifle fire and forced the rest to flee.

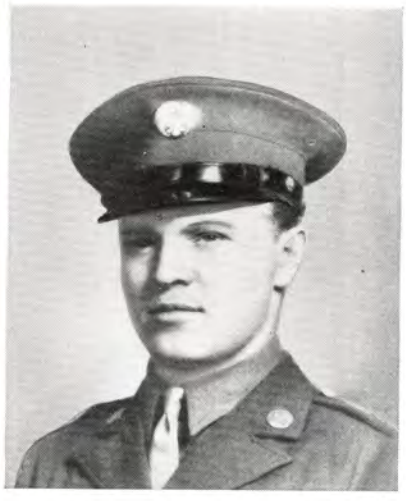
LEONARD, Turney W. (1st Lt.) Kommerscheidt, Germany; 893d T. D. Bn.; 4–6 November 1944. Although wounded early in the fierce 3-day engagement, he eliminated an enemy machine-gun emplacement with a hand grenade and reorganized infantry units to withstand the strong German attack. He then continued to direct fire from the tank destroyers which resulted in the destruction of six German tanks.

LINDSEY, Darrell R. (Capt.) Over L'Isle Adam, Occupied France; Air Corps; 9 August 1944. While leading a force of 30 B-26 planes, his right engine received a direct hit and burst into flames. He continued to lead the formation, however, until the bomb run had been made and then ordered the crew to bail out as he held the plane in a steep glide.

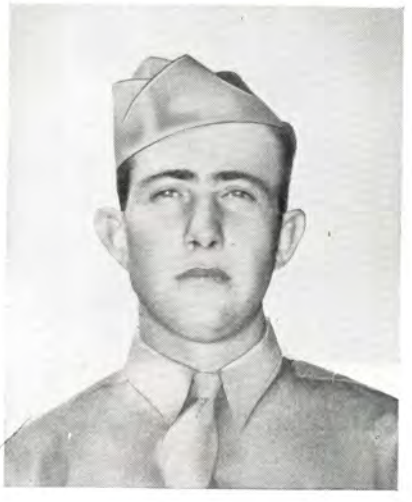
LINDSEY, Jake W. (T Sgt.) Near Hamich, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 16 November 1944. Taking up a position in front of his platoon during an enemy counterattack, he destroyed two machine-gun nests, forced two tanks to withdraw and halted German flanking patrols. Shortly after, though wounded he engaged eight Germans in hand-to-hand combat, killing three, capturing three, and causing the other two to flee.

LINDSTROM, Floyd K. (Pfc.) Near Mignano, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 11 November 1945. When his unit was pinned down by heavy enemy machine-gun fire, he picked up his own heavy machine gun and carried it to within 10 yards of the enemy gun and engaged it in an intense duel. Seeing that the enemy gunners received cover from a large rock, he charged the position, killed them with his pistol and captured their gun.

LLOYD, Edgar H. (1st Lt.) Near Pompey, France; 80th Inf. Div.; 14 September 1944. When his unit was held up by a strong enemy defensive position, he ran to an enemy machine-gun nest, knocked out the gunner with his fist, dropped a grenade and jumped out before it exploded. He then went from one nest to another, destroying them with hand grenades.



LOBAUGH, Donald R. (Pvt.) Near Afua, New Guinea; 32d Inf. Div.; 22 July 1944. When his platoon was cut off, he volunteered to attempt to destroy an enemy machine gun that covered the only route of withdrawal. Although wounded as he worked his way toward the emplacement, he boldly rushed it despite being hit repeatedly and killed two more Japanese before he was himself slain.



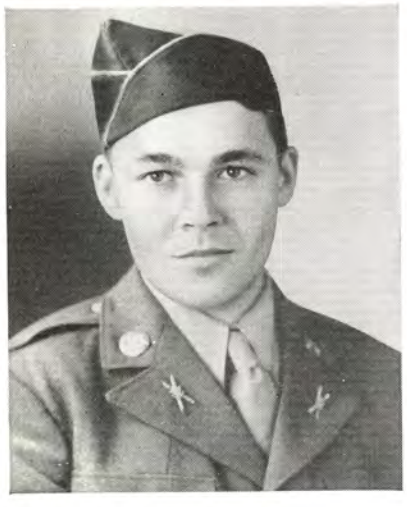
LOGAN, James M. (Sgt.) Near Salerno, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 9 September 1943. He hit the beaches with the first wave at Salerno, killed three Germans with three shots and then charged 200 yards to capture a machine gun. Later on the same morning, he ran a gauntlet of snipers' fire to break into a house and kill an enemy sniper.

LOPEZ, Jose M. (Sgt.) Near Krinkelt, Belgium; 2d Inf. Div.; 17 December 1944. Carrying his heavy machine gun from place to place to meet the heaviest German attacks, he first killed a group of 10 Germans and then a group of 25 more. Despite heavy enemy rifle and artillery fire, he continued to deliver fire on other German groups until he had killed at least 100 of the enemy before he withdrew.

MABRY, George L., Jr., (Lt. Col.) Near Schevenhutte, Germany; 4th Inf. Div.; 20 November 1944. After clearing a mine field and disconnecting a booby-trapped double-concertina obstacle for his battalion, he captured three enemy in foxholes at bayonet point. When attacked by nine Germans, he felled one and bayoneted another before his scouts came to his aid.

MACARTHUR, Douglas (General), Philippine Islands; CG, US Army Forces, Far East; 25 March 1942. He mobilized, trained, and led an army which received world acclaim for its gallant defense against a tremendous superiority of enemy forces in men and arms. His utter disregard of personal danger under heavy fire and aerial bombardment and his calm judgment in each crisis inspired his troops.

MACGILLIVARY, Charles A. (Sgt.) Near Woelfling, France; 44th Inf. Div.; 1 January 1945. When his unit was held up by heavy enemy fire he worked his way through snow-covered woods to the main emplacement and shot the two camouflaged gunners. Later, he disposed of three machine gun crews with hand grenades and gun fire.



MAGRATH, John D. (Pfc.) Near Castel d'Aiano, Italy; 10th Mt. Div.; 14 April 1945. As a scout, he charged headlong into withering fire to kill two Germans and wound three more as he captured a machine gun. With this gun he neutralized two more nests and killed four other enemy. Spotting another German group, he killed two of them and wounded three until he was himself killed by heavy enemy fire.

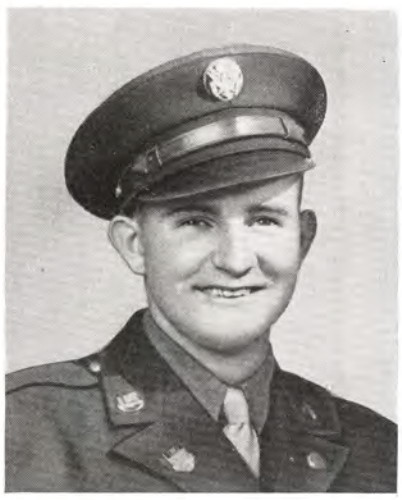
MANN, Joe E. (Pfc.) Near Best, Holland; 101st Abn. Div.; 18 September 1944. He engaged the enemy in fire fights until he was four times wounded. He insisted upon remaining in a forward position and when the enemy attacked with hand grenades and one landed in the midst of his unit, he immediately fell on it and died to save the lives of his comrades.

MARTINEZ, Joe P. (Pvt.) Attu, Aleutian Islands; 7th Inf. Div.; 26 May 1943. Time after time, despite intense enemy machine-gun, rifle, and mortar fire, he rose from his place of safety to lead other men in the attack against strong Japanese defensive positions. He killed five enemy before being mortally wounded.

MATHIES, Archibald (Sgt.) Over Occupied Europe; 8th A. F.; 20 February 1944. When the aircraft on which he was serving as engineer was severely damaged, the co-pilot killed and the pilot wounded, he managed to fly the plane with the aid of the navigator. They attempted to land the plane in order to save the life of the pilot. On the third attempt to land, the plane crashed and all three were killed.

MATHIS, Jack W. (1st Lt.) Over Vegesack, Germany; Air Corps; 18 March 1943. As leading bombardier of his squadron, he was just starting his bomb run when he was hit by antiaircraft fire shattering his right arm and wounding him in the side and abdomen. Realizing that the success of the mission depended upon him, he dragged himself to his bomb sights, released his bombs, and then died at his post of duty.

MAXWELL, Robert D. (Tec 5) Near Besancon, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 7 September 1944. He unhesitatingly hurled himself on a German hand grenade to absorb the blast and save the lives of three Infantry comrades with whom he was fighting off enemy efforts to capture his battalion observation post.



MAY, Martin O. (Pfc.) Iegusuku-Yama, Ie Shima, Ryukyu Islands; 77th Inf. Div.; 19–21 May 1945. Private May gallantly maintained a 3-day stand against superior enemy forces. He broke up one counter-attack by accurate machine-gun fire and a second with hand grenades. Although severely wounded and his gun disabled, he refused to withdraw and continued to hurl grenades until mortally wounded.

Photograph not available

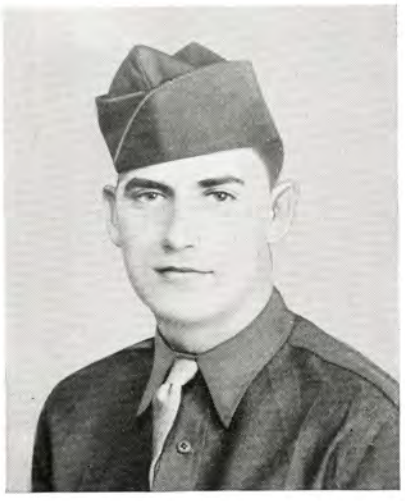
MAYFIELD, Melvin (Cpl.) Cordillera Mountains, Luzon, P. I.; 6th Inf. Div.; 29 July 1945. When two Filipino companies were pinned down, he single-handedly rushed four enemy caves armed only with his carbine and grenades. In destroying the last redoubt his weapon was rendered useless and his left hand slashed. However, he continued to lead the fight.

McCALL, Thomas E. (S Sgt.) Near San Angelo, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 22 January 1944. After crossing the Rapido River, he ran forward carrying his machine gun on his hip to within 30 yards of an enemy machine-gun position where he killed or wounded all of the crew and destroyed the gun. Continuing, he rushed another emplacement and killed four of its crew.

McCARTER, Lloyd G. (Pvt.) Corregidor, P. I.; 503d Prcht. Inf. Reg.; 18 February 1945. After killing six enemy snipers in the afternoon, he bore the brunt of a night attack by the Japanese. Fearlessly exposing himself to locate enemy soldiers, he first used a sub-machine gun, then an automatic rifle and finally an M1 rifle. Before being wounded and evacuated he had killed more than 30 Japanese.

McGAHA, Charles L. (M Sgt.) Near Lupao, Luzon, P. I.; 25th Inf. Div.; 7 February 1945. When his platoon was held up by heavy fire from 5 Japanese tanks supported by 10 machine guns and a platoon of infantry, he braved the hail of bullets to move a wounded comrade to safety. Once again he moved to the aid of a wounded soldier although himself wounded.

McGARITY, Vernon (S Sgt.) Near Krinkelt, Belgium; 99th Inf. Div.; 16 December 1944. Despite painful wounds in the face and legs, he rescued several wounded comrades under fire and with his squad made possible a vital 2-day delaying action stand against superior enemy forces before he and his men ran out of ammunition and were captured.

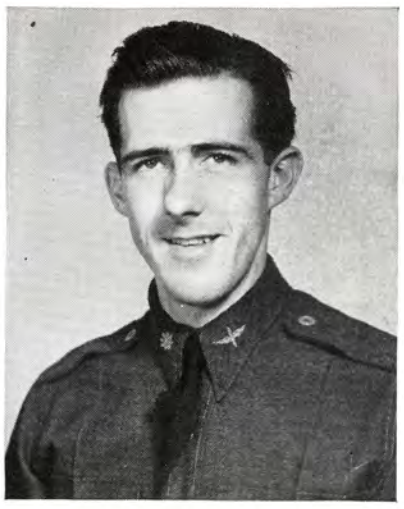


McGEE, William D. (Pvt.) Near Mulheim, Germany; 76th Inf. Div.; 18 March 1945. He voluntarily entered a German minefield to bring out a wounded comrade. When he returned to rescue a second victim, he stepped on a mine and was severely wounded. Although dying from loss of blood, he shouted orders that none of his comrades was to risk his life to save him.

McGILL, Troy A. (Sgt.) Los Negros Island, Admiralty Group; 1st Cav. Div.; 4 March 1944. Sergeant McGill, with a squad of 8 men, bore the brunt of a furious attack by approximately 200 drink-crazed Japanese. When all members of the squad except himself and another man were killed or wounded, he charged the enemy only 5 yards away and engaged in hand-to-hand combat until he was killed.

McGRAW, Francis X. (Pfc.) Near Schevenhutte, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 19 November 1944. Braving an intense enemy preparatory barrage, he stuck by his machine gun and poured deadly accurate fire into the advancing Germans. When his ammunition was expended, he picked up a carbine and killed one enemy and engaged in a fire-fight with another until mortally wounded.

McGUIRE, Thomas B., Jr. (Maj.) Over Luzon, P. I.; 5th A. F.; 25–26 December 1944. During these 2 days Major McGuire shot down seven Japanese fighters while leading a flight of P–38 aircraft flying as top cover for heavy bombers attacking Mabalacat Airdrome and Clark Field. He later was killed in action.

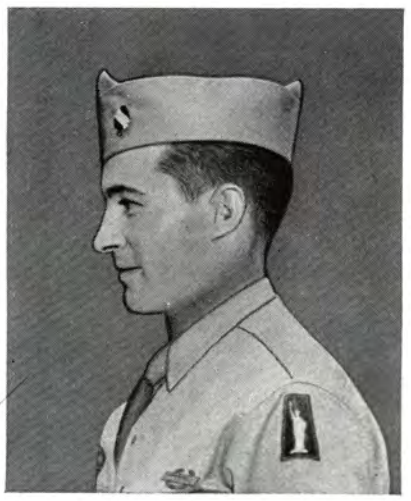


McKINNEY, John R. (Sgt.) Tayabas Province, Luzon, P. I.; 33d Inf. Div.; 11 May 1945. When 10 enemy riflemen captured an American machine gun, he leaped into the position and shot 7 of them with his rifle and killed the other 3 with his rifle butt. He withstood Japanese attacks killing several with his fire and clubbing others to death in hand-to-hand combat.

McVEIGH, John J. (Sgt.) Near Brest, France; 2d Inf. Div.; 29 August 1944. Despite heavy fire and a German counterattack, he stood up in full view and directed the fire of his squad. He then drew his trench knife and charged several of the enemy. In a savage hand-to-hand struggle, he killed one with his knife and was advancing on three more of the enemy when he was killed by point-blank fire.

McWHORTER, William A. (Pfc.) Tacloban–Ormoc Road, Leyte, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 5 December 1944. While he and his assistant were manning a machine gun opposing a Japanese attack, an enemy demolition squad succeeded in throwing a fused demolition charge into his position. Without hesitation, he picked it up and gave his own life to save that of his comrade.

MEAGHER, John (T Sgt.) Near Ozata, Okinawa; 77th Inf. Div.; 19 June 1945. In an attack he mounted an assault tank and, despite terrific fire, designated targets to the gunner. Seeing an enemy soldier dash for the tank carrying an explosive charge, he jumped from the tank and bayonetted the Japanese. He then charged a pillbox killing its crew of six.



MERLI, Gino J. (Pfc.) Near Sars la Bruyere, Belgium; 1st Inf. Div.; 4–5 September 1944. Feigning death when the other members of his section were captured, he resumed fire as soon as the enemy left. Again the position was captured and he feigned death a second time. He remained at his gun throughout the night and at dawn 52 enemy dead were found, 19 directly in front of his gun.

MERRELL, Joseph F. (Pvt.) Near Lohe, Germany; 3d Inf. Div.; 18 April 1945. Entirely on his own initiative, he made a single-handed assault running through 100 yards of concentrated fire to kill four Germans at point-blank range. Armed only with grenades he moved on to kill several Germans before being killed himself.

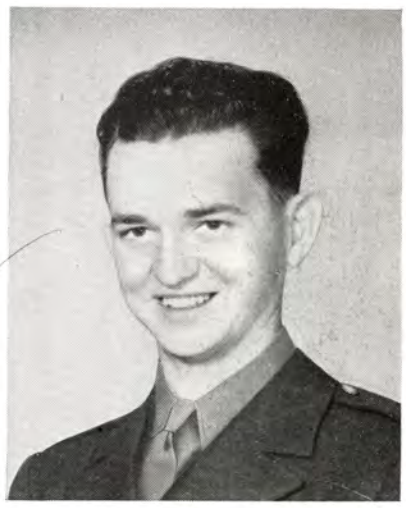
MESSERSCHMIDT, Harold O. (Sgt.) Near Radden, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 17 September 1944. In leading his squad in the defense against a fanatical foe, he killed five Germans and wounded many others with his submachine gun before all of his men became casualties. Without ammunition he fought on alone until killed.

METZGER, William E., Jr. (2d Lt.) Over Saarbrucken, Germany; 8th A. F.; 9 November 1944. When three of his B-17 engines were damaged and aflame, Lieutenant Metzger, the co-pilot, conferred with the pilot and decided to attack the target and then try to make friendly territory. Ordering the able-bodied members of the crew to bail out, he remained with the plane until it exploded, killing those remaining aboard.

MICHAEL, Edward S. (1st Lt.) Over Germany; Air Corps; 11 April 1944. Although his bomber was severely damaged and he was seriously wounded, he continued to fly his plane since one of his crew could not bail out because of a damaged parachute. He reached England despite exhaustion and landed without mishap.

MICHAEL, Harry J. (2d Lt.) Near Neiderzerf, Germany; 80th Inf. Div.; 13 March 1945. Completely surprising the Germans, he single-handedly captured 2 machine guns and their crews and later on reconnaissance missions he killed 2 enemy, wounded 4 and captured 13. Before being killed by a sniper later in the day, he led his platoon in killing 10 enemy and capturing 55 men, 3 artillery pieces and 20 horses.

MILLER, Andrew (S Sgt.) France and Germany; 95th Inf. Div.; 16–29 November 1944. He participated in a series of gallant actions leading his squad from Woippy, France, through Metz to Kerprich Hemmersdorf, Germany. He single-handedly wiped out 4 enemy gun emplacements and captured 27 prisoners before being killed.



MILLS, James H. (Pvt.) Near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 24 May 1944. Preceding his platoon down a draw, he killed four Germans, captured nine and destroyed two machine guns in several individual charges. Then, acting as a decoy, he attracted the attention of the enemy while the remainder of the platoon attacked the German position and captured the objective and 22 prisoners without casualties.

MINICK, John W. (S Sgt.) Near Hurtgen, Germany; 8th Inf. Div.; 21 November 1944. After moving 300 yards through a mine field he killed 20 Germans and captured 20 more which he turned over to his platoon. He then moved forward to knock out another enemy machine gun. Shortly after he was killed while making his way forward through another mine field.

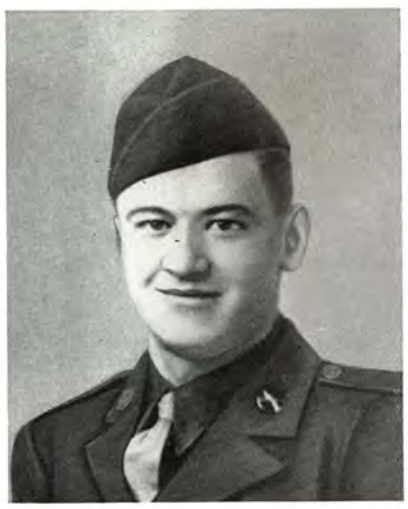
MINUE, Nicholas (Pvt.) Near Medjez-el-Bab, Tunisia; 1st Armd. Div.; 28 April 1943. Voluntarily and alone, he charged an enemy-entrenched position with fixed bayonet in spite of withering machine-gun and rifle fire. He killed 10 enemy in the position and continued forward, routing enemy riflemen from dug-out positions, until he was fatally wounded.

MONTEITH, Jimmie W., Jr. (1st Lt.) Near Colleville-sur-Mer, France; 1st Inf. Div.; 6 June 1944. After leading tanks on foot through a mine field, he inspired his men to advance against and overcome seemingly hopeless odds to gain and hold their objective. He died after he had led them through obstacles of barbed wire, mines, and fire, and had won a position above the shore.

MONTGOMERY, Jack C. (1st Lt.) Near Padiglione, Italy; 45th Inf. Div.; 22 February 1944. He attacked singlehanded an extremely strong German defensive position with rifle and grenades. As a result of his action, he killed 11 Germans, took 33 prisoners, and wounded an unknown number of enemy.

MOON, Harold H., Jr. (Pvt.) Pawig, Leyte, P. I.; 24th Inf. Div.; 21 October 1944. Armed with a submachine gun, he broke up a powerful Japanese attack during a 1-man, all-night stand in which he lost his life as a climax to the battle that scattered 200 enemy dead near his foxhole.

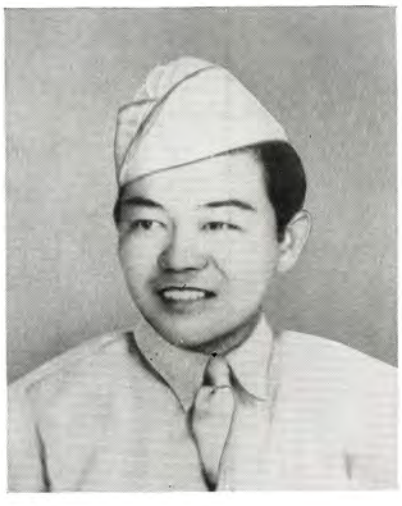
MORGAN, John C. (2d Lt.) Over Occupied Europe; Air Corps; 28 July 1943. While on a bombing mission over Europe, the B-17 in which he was copilot was attacked by enemy fighters and the pilot was wounded and left in a crazed condition. For 2 hours he flew in formation with one hand at the controls and the other holding off the struggling pilot who was also attempting to fly the plane, until another crew member entered the compartment and relieved the situation.



MOSKALA, Edward J. (Pfc.) Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; 96th Inf. Div.; 9 April 1945. After charging 40 yards to wipe out 2 enemy machine-gun nests, he remained at his position to cover the withdrawal of his company killing 25 Japanese in 3 hours. He then rescued 2 wounded comrades and killed 4 enemy infiltrators before falling mortally wounded.

MOWER, Charles E. (Sgt.) Near Capoocan, Leyte, P. I.; 24th Inf. Div.; 3 November 1944. Half submerged in a stream and gravely wounded, he refused to seek shelter or aid and directed his squad in the destruction of two enemy machine guns and numerous riflemen. The enemy concentrated their fire on him and he was killed while still urging his men forward.

MULLER, Joseph E. (Sgt.) Near Ishimmi, Okinawa, Ryukyus Islands; 77th Inf. Div.; 15–16 May 1945. On several occasions he charged Japanese positions alone, destroying machine-gun positions and killing numerous riflemen. After moving into a foxhole with two comrades, the Japanese threw a grenade in their midst. He quickly smothered the blast with his body, sacrificing his life to save his companions.



MUNEMORI, Sadao S. (Pfc.) Near Seravezza, Italy; 442d Regtl. Combat Team; 5 April 1945. He single-handedly destroyed two German machine guns, killed three and wounded two of the gunners and then gave his life by hurling himself upon an exploding grenade to save the lives of two comrades.

MURPHY, Audie L. (1st Lt.) Near Holtzwihr, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 26 January 1945. Jumping on a burning tank destroyer, he employed its machine gun against two companies of German infantry supported by six tanks. Despite a leg wound, he continued firing and killed or wounded about 50 Germans and brought the attack to a halt.

MURPHY, Frederick C. (Pfc.) Near Saarlautern, Germany; 65th Inf. Div.; 18 March 1945. A medical-aid man, he, with machine-gun bullets in his shoulder and one foot blown off by an exploding mine while attempting to aid a companion, continued to give medical aid to his wounded comrades until he was killed by another exploding German mine.

MURRAY, Charles P., Jr. (1st Lt.) Near Kaysersberg, Germany; 3d Inf. Div.; 16 December 1944. While on patrol, he observed a force of 200 Germans attacking an American position. He called for artillery fire but his radio went dead. Attacking alone with an automatic rifle, he killed 20, wounded many others and prevented the withdrawal of 3 mortars.

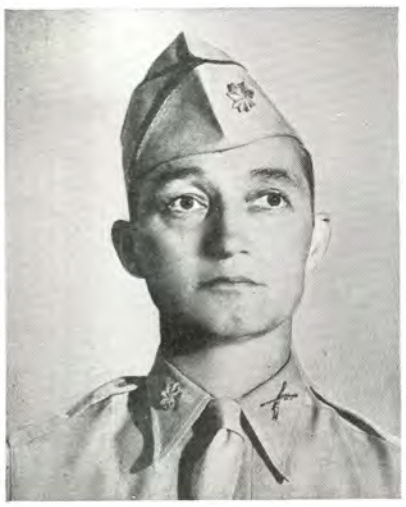
NELSON, William L. (Sgt.) Near Sedjenane, Tunisia; 9th Inf. Div.; 24 April 1943. Although mortally wounded in directing the fire of his mortar section and with his duty clearly completed, he crawled to a still more advanced observation point and continued to direct the fire. Dying of hand grenade wounds and only 50 yards from the enemy, he encouraged his men to continue firing.

NEPPEL, Ralph G. (Sgt.) Near Birgel, Germany; 83d Inf. Div.; 14 December 1944. As a machine-gun squad leader, he calmly ignored a charging tank to wipe out 20 Germans who were assaulting his position. Although blasted from his position by a shell fired by the tank which severed his right leg below the knee, he dragged himself back to his gun and continued the battle forcing the enemy to withdraw.

NETT, Robert P. (Capt.) Near Cognon, Leyte, P. I.; 77th Inf. Div.; 14 December 1944. He led an attack against a reinforced enemy battalion that had held off previous assaults from entrenched positions around a three-story concrete building. Although seriously wounded in the neck and abdomen, he continued in the fight, bayoneting and shooting Japanese.

NEWMAN, Beryl R. (1st Lt.) Near Cisterna, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 26 May 1944. Attacking the strongly held German Anzio-Nettuno Line, he single-handedly assaulted enemy positions in spite of concentrated fire. Single-handedly he silenced three enemy machine guns, killed 2 Germans, wounded 2 more, and took 11 prisoners.

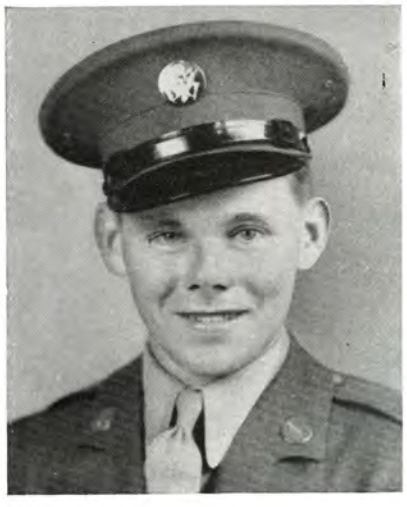
NININGER, Alexander R., Jr. (2d Lt.) Near Abucay, Bataan, P. I.; 57th Inf., P. S.; 12 January 1942. In hand-to-hand fighting, he repeatedly forced his way into Japanese positions. Although wounded three times, he continued his attacks until he was killed after pushing alone far within the enemy position. When found, one enemy officer and two enemy soldiers lay dead around him.



O'BRIEN, William J. (Lt. Col.) Saipan, Marianas Islands; 27th Inf. Div.; 20 June–7 July 1944. In a series of gallant exploits, he personally directed and led in the destruction of enemy strongpoints. Then, leading four men, he captured five machine guns and a 77-mm. field piece. After the enemy had enveloped his position, his body was found surrounded by the Japanese he had killed.

OGDEN, Carlos C. (Capt.) Fort du Roule, Cherbourg, France; 79th Inf. Div.; 25 June 1944. In spite of a painful wound and enemy fire from close range, he charged up the hill to the Fort. He silenced an 88-mm. gun with a well-placed rifle grenade and then, with hand grenades, knocked out two machine guns although again being severely wounded.

OLSON, Arlo L. (Capt.) From Piana di Caiazzo to Monticello Hill, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 13–27 October 1943. For 13 days he led his infantry company, crossing the swollen Volturno River and covering 30 miles of mountainous enemy terrain. Not once during this period was he out of contact with the enemy. He personally killed 18 Germans before succumbing to a fatal wound.

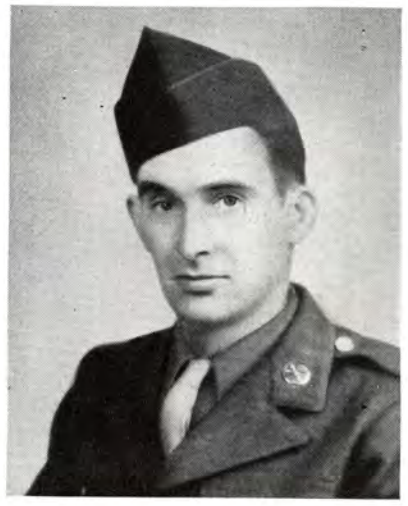


OLSON, Truman O. (Sgt.) Near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 30–31 January 1944. Although mortally wounded, he manned his crew's only serviceable light machine gun and fired until an attack of about 200 Germans had been turned back. During his heroic stand, he killed at least 20 Germans and wounded many more.

ORESKO, Nicolas (T. Sgt.) Near Tettington, Germany; 94th Inf. Div.; 23 January 1945. After charging alone an enemy machine-gun bunker and killing all of its occupants with grenades and rifle fire, he was seriously wounded in the hip by another machine gun. He refused to withdraw and attacked the second position, crippling the gun and killing its crew.

PARRISH, Laverne (Tec 4) Binalonan, Luzon, P. I.; 25th Inf. Div.; 18–24 January 1945. During this period, he continually braved intense enemy fire to administer first aid to his wounded comrades and to drag others to safety. On one day he treated nearly all of the 37 casualties suffered by his company before he was mortally wounded by mortar fire and shortly after died.

PEASE, Harl, Jr. (Capt.) Over Rabaul, New Britain; Air Corps; 6–7 August 1942. When one engine of his aircraft failed and he was forced to return to an Australian base, he selected the most serviceable of a group of airplanes not fit for combat duty and rejoined his unit by continuous flying. He completed his bomb mission and destroyed several enemy planes but enemy fighters shot down his plane in flames.



PEDEN, Forrest E. (Tec 5) Near Bieshem, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 3 February 1945. When the group of infantrymen that he was accompanying as an artillery observer was ambushed, he ran 800 yards through a hail of bullets to secure the help of two light tanks. He climbed upon the hull of a tank and guided it into battle. He was killed when the tank received a direct hit.

PENDLETON, Jack J. (S Sgt.) Bardenberg, Germany; 30th Inf. Div.; 12 October 1944. After being seriously wounded in the leg by a burst from the machine gun that he was assaulting, he gave his life by deliberately drawing the concentrated fire of the enemy so that others in his unit could advance safely through the German strong point.

Photograph not available

PEREGORY, Frank D. (T Sgt.) Grandcampe, France; 29th Inf. Div.; 8 June 1944. When his unit was held up by withering enemy fire, he leaped into a trench occupied by the Germans and killed 8, forced 35 more to surrender, captured a machine gun and thus opened the way for the American troops to advance and secure their objective.

PEREZ, Manuel, Jr. (Pfc.) Fort McKinley, Luzon, P. I.; 11th Abn. Div.; 13 February 1945. Making a 1-man attack on an enemy-held pillbox, he killed 18 Japanese by rifle fire, the butt of his rifle and his bayonet. By his heroic act, he made possible the successful advance of his unit toward a valuable objective.

Photograph not available

PETERS, George J. (Pvt.) Near Fluren, Germany; 17th Abn. Div.; 24 March 1945. After parachuting into Germany with 10 comrades, the group landed about 75 yards away from an enemy machine gun supported by riflemen. While the rest of his group was pinned down by the fire, he made a single-handed assault against the position and, although hit several times and mortally wounded, he succeeded in destroying the gun and driving back the enemy riflemen.

PETERSON, George (S Sgt.) Near Eisern, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 30 March 1945. Although a mortar shell had severely wounded him in the legs and in spite of a bullet wound in his arm, he crawled through grazing fire to silence three enemy machine gun positions. Then, he started to go to help a wounded comrade and was struck and killed by an enemy bullet.

PETRARCA, Frank J. (Pfc.) Horseshoe Hill, New Georgia, Solomon Islands; 37th Inf. Div.; 27–31 July 1943. As a medical-aid man, he repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to administer first aid to his wounded comrades. On the last day of this period he resolutely worked his way to within 2 yards of a mortar fragment casualty when he was mortally wounded by hostile enemy fire.

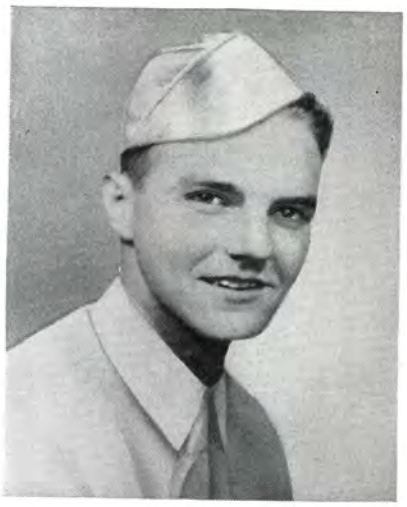
PINDER, John J. (Tec 5) Near Colleville-sur-Mer, France; 1st Inf. Div.; 6 June 1944. Carrying a vitally important radio in the invasion of France, he was gravely wounded but waded 100 yards to shore and delivered it. Refusing to accept medical attention, he returned to his boat three times to salvage communication equipment. While so engaged, he was wounded for the third time and killed.

POWERS, Leo J. (Pfc.) Near Cassino, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 3 February 1944. Alone he attacked the Germans, estimated to be at least 50 in strength and supported by machine guns emplaced in pillboxes. In his assault he killed 5 enemy, wounded and captured 4 others, and smashed 3 pillboxes.

PRUSSMAN, Ernest W. (Pfc.) Near Les Coates, France; 8th Inf. Div.; 8 September 1944. In an assault against a strong enemy fortification, he disarmed two German riflemen and attacked a machine-gun position. He was then mortally wounded by another German but as he fell he threw a hand grenade, killing his opponent.

PUCKET, Donald (1st Lt.) Over Ploesti, Rumania; 98th Bomb. Gp.; 9 July 1944, When his aircraft was badly damaged in an attack against the oil fields and one crew member killed and others wounded, he ordered them to bail out. When three of the crew, uncontrollable from fright or shock, refused to leave, he attempted to crash land his plane but the flaming bomber crashed on a mountainside.

RAY, Bernard J. (1st Lt.) Near Schevenhutte, Germany; 4th Inf. Div.; 17 November 1944. He opened a path for his company through a wire barrier in the Hurtgen Forest by heroically turning himself into a human explosive charge. With the primer cord wound around his body and explosive caps in his pocket he completed a hasty wiring system and unhesitatingly thrust down on the charger destroying himself.



REESE, James W. (Pvt.) Mount Vassillio, Sicily; 1st Inf. Div.; 5 August 1943. When he had used his last mortar round to destroy a German machine-gun nest, he seized a rifle and continued the advance. He took up an exposed position overlooking the enemy and remained at this position in spite of heavy fire to inflict casualties until he was killed.

REESE, John N., Jr. (Pfc.) Manila, P. I.; 37th Inf. Div.; 9 February 1945. With a comrade, he made an attack on the Paco railroad station defended by 300 determined enemy soldiers. Before being killed by enemy fire, Pvt. Reese and his companion, in 2½ hours of fierce fighting, had killed more than 82 Japanese, completely disorganized their defense, and paved the way for their subsequent defeat.

RIORDAN, Paul F. (2d Lt.) Near Cassino, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 3–8 February 1944. During this period, he attacked the enemy in advance of his unit and, on one occasion, he hurled a grenade 45 yards and scored a direct hit on a pillbox. Later he single-handedly attacked the jail in Cassino and killed two of the enemy before he was killed by German defenders.

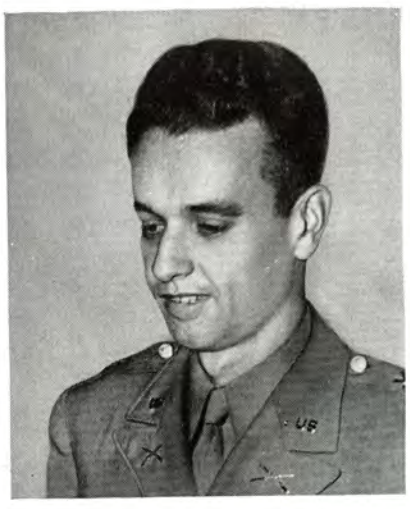
ROBINSON, James E., Jr. (1st Lt.) Near Untergriesheim, Germany; 63d Inf. Div.; 6 April 1945. Although he was an artillery forward observer, he rallied and led a commanderless infantry company through two assaults. Severely wounded in the throat, he refused medical attention and continued the attack until mortally wounded.

RODRIGUEZ, Cleto (Pfc.) Manila, P. I.; 37th Inf. Div.; 9 February 1945. With a comrade, he made an attack on the Paco railroad station defended by 300 determined enemy soldiers. Before his companion was killed by enemy fire, the team, in 2½ hours of fierce fighting, had killed more than 82 Japanese, completely disorganized their defense and paved the way for their subsequent defeat.

ROEDER, Robert E. (Capt.) Mount Battaglia, Italy; 88th Inf. Div.; 27–28 September 1944. During this period, he led his company in defeating six separate counterattacks by superior German forces. Although seriously wounded, he refused medical treatment and securing a rifle rejoined his men. He had personally killed two enemy before he was instantly killed by an exploding shell.

ROOSEVELT, Theodore, Jr. (Brig. Gen.) Normandy Invasion, France; 4th Inf. Div.; 6 June 1944. After repeated requests, he was granted permission to land with the assault troops on D-day. Time after time, he led groups from the beach, over the sea wall and established them inland in spite of heavy enemy fire.

ROSS, Wilburn K. (Pfc.) Near St. Jacques, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 30 October 1944. He manned his light machine gun alone and in five hours of continuous combat turned back 9 counterattacks by a company of elite German mountain troops, killing or wounding at least 58 of the enemy.

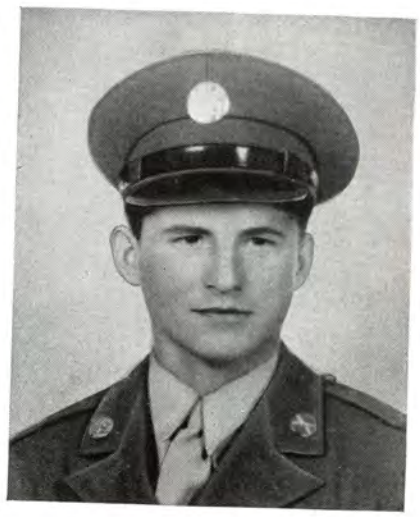


RUDOLPH, Donald E. (2d Lt.) Munoz, Luzon, P. I.; 6th Inf. Div.; 5 February 1945. He used his bare hands to rip a grenade slot in the roof of a Japanese pillbox and then went on to knock out seven other pillboxes. Later he climbed to the top of an attacking enemy tank and dropped a white phosphorus grenade through the turret, destroying the crew.

RUIZ, Alejandro R. (Sgt.) Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; 27th Inf. Div.; 28 April 1945. He single-handedly attacked and destroyed a Japanese pillbox while under concentrated fire and thereby saved the lives of many men in his platoon who were wounded and trapped by enemy fire.

SADOWSKI, Joseph J. (Sgt.) Valhey, France; 4th Armd. Div.; 14 September 1944. After ordering his crew to dismount when his tank was disabled and burst into flames, he discovered that one crew member had been unable to leave the tank. Despite a hail of enemy small arms, bazooka, grenade, and mortar fire, he unhesitatingly returned to the tank and endeavored to save his comrade. While engaged in the attempt, he was killed by enemy machine-gun fire.

SARNOSKI, Joseph R. (2d Lt.) Over Buka Area, Solomon Islands; Air Corps; 16 June 1943. When his photographic mapping mission was nearly completed, his plane was attacked by about 20 enemy fighters. Although he was severely wounded along with 5 other crew members, he continued to fire at the enemy and shot down 2 enemy planes before dying at his gun.



SAYERS, Foster J. (Pfc.) Near Thionville, France; 90th Inf. Div.; 12 November 1944. He set up his machine gun only 20 yards from the enemy to distract them while his company crossed an open area and flanked the Germans. In manning his position he killed 12 enemy with close-range fire before being killed himself by the very heavy concentration of return fire.

SCHAEFER, Joseph E. (S Sgt.) Near Stolberg, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 24 September 1944. After leading his squad in repulsing several German counterattacks, he overtook the fleeing enemy and liberated an American squad which had been captured earlier in the battle. In all, he killed between 15 and 20 Germans, wounded as many more, and took 10 prisoners.

SCHAUER, Henry (T Sgt.) Near Cisterna di Littoria, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 23–24 May 1944. In duels with 3 German machine guns, he killed their gun crews while standing unprotected as bullets sprayed the ground at his feet. In this remarkable display of marksmanship and daring, he killed 17 Germans in 17 hours.

SCOTT, Robert S. (Capt.) Near Munda Air Strip, New Georgia, Solomon Islands; 43d Inf. Div.; 29 July 1943. Disregarding small-arms fire and exploding grenades aimed at him by attacking Japanese and suffering a bullet wound in the left hand and a painful shrapnel wound in the head after his carbine had been shot from his hands, he threw grenade after grenade with devastating accuracy until the beaten enemy withdrew.

SHEA, Charles W. (2d Lt.) Near Mount Damiano, Italy; 88th Inf. Div.; 12 May 1944. He single-handedly attacked three enemy machine-gun nests, capturing the crews of the first two and killing three Germans in the last nest in spite of a deadly hail of enemy machine-gun fire.

SHERIDAN, Carl V. (Pfc.) Near Weisweiler, Germany; 9th Inf. Div.; 26 November 1944. Using a bazooka, he stood in point-blank range of fire pouring from the Frenzenberg Castle defense positions and blasted the gateway across the castle moat. He died attempting to lead the assault inside the castle walls.

SHOCKLEY, William R. (Pfc.) Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 31 March 1945. When the Japanese launched a counterattack against his position, he remained at his machine gun in spite of intense fire and certain death to allow the remainder of his squad to withdraw to safety. He continued to fire until he was killed at his post.

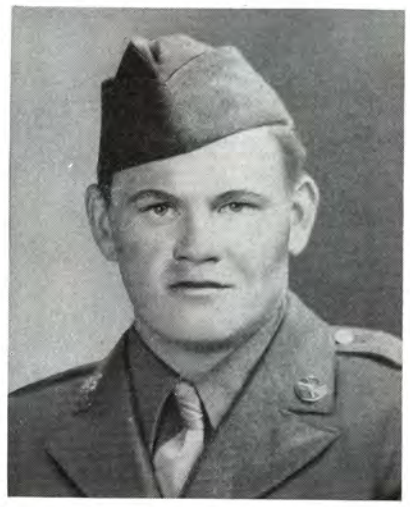
SHOMO, William A. (Maj.) Over Luzon, P. I.; Air Corps; 11 January 1945. Without hesitation he attacked a flight of 12 Japanese fighters escorting a twin-engine bomber. In the ensuing struggle he shot down not only the bomber but 6 of the fighters as well.

SHOUP, Curtis F. (S Sgt.) Near Tillet, Belgium; 87th Inf. Div; 7 January 1945. When his company was held up by intense machine-gun fire, he realized that the gun must be silenced at all costs to stop the possible annihilation of his unit. He stood up and walked into the murderous fire until close enough to hurl a grenade, wiping out the nest with his dying action.

SILK, Edward A. (1st Lt.) Near Moyenmoutier, France; 100th Inf. Div.; 23 November 1944. After making one-man attacks on two enemy machine-gun nests which resulted in their destruction, he demanded the surrender of the remaining Germans in a farmhouse by throwing rocks at a window. Twelve enemy, overcome by his relentless assault and confused by his unorthodox methods, surrendered to the lone American.

SJOGREN, John C. (S Sgt.) Near San Jose Hacienda, Negros, P. I.; 40th Inf. Div.; 23 May 1945. In the face of fire from an enemy company and although wounded, he single-handedly killed 43 Japanese soldiers and destroyed 9 pillboxes, thereby paving the way for his company's successful advance.

SLATON, James D. (Cpl.) Near Oliveto, Italy; 45th Inf. Div.; 23 September 1943. Moving over open ground under constant fire, he knocked out three enemy machine guns and killed six German gunners with bayonet, grenade, and rifle. As a result of his action, an American unit which was receiving heavy casualties was enabled to withdraw to safety.



SMITH, Furman L. (Pvt.) Near Lanuvio, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 31 May 1944. When nearly a company of Germans assaulted his squad's position, he remained to combat them in an effort to save two wounded comrades. Alone, he faced the attack killing and wounding many of the enemy until shot down and killed.

SMITH, Maynard H. (Sgt.) Over Enemy Occupied Europe; 423d Bombing Sq.; 1 May 1943. When the aircraft on which he was a gunner was hit by enemy fire and set ablaze, he threw exploding ammunition overboard, manned workable guns until German fighters were driven off, administered first aid to a wounded comrade and, wrapping himself in protecting cloth, completely extinguished the fire by hand.

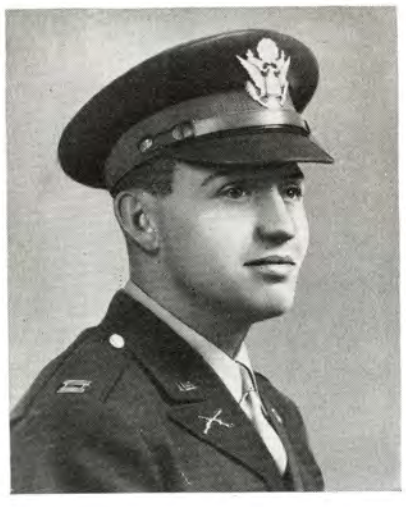
SODERMAN, William A. (Pfc.) Near Rocherath, Belgium; 2d Inf. Div.; 17–18 December 1944. Armed with a bazooka and defending a key road junction, he remained at his post all night under severe artillery, mortar, and machine-gun fire. In spite of a serious wound, he was successful in retarding the German counteroffensive by knocking out three enemy tanks.

SPECKER, Joseph C. (Sgt.) Mount Porchia, Italy; 48th Eng. Bn.; 7 January 1944. Voluntarily and alone, he carried his machine gun up the slope of the mountain to secure a better position. Although so severely wounded that he could not walk, he dragged his gun to the desired position, silenced an enemy gun and forced German snipers to retreat. His platoon then obtained their objective but Sergeant Specker was found dead at his gun.

SPURRIER, Junior J. (S Sgt.) Achain, France; 35th Inf. Div.; 13 November 1944. Attacking the town alone from the west and using his BAR, M1 rifle, American and German rocket launchers, a German automatic pistol, and hand grenades, he killed an enemy officer and 24 enlisted men, and captured 2 officers and 2 men.

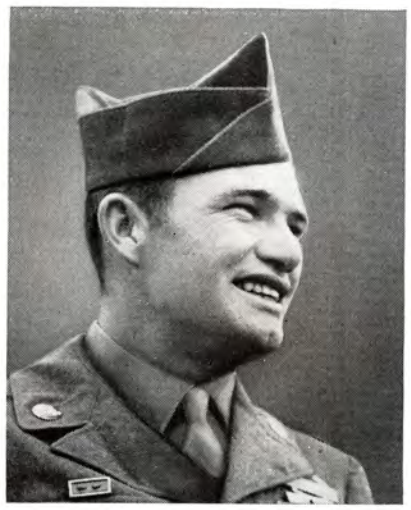
SQUIRES, John C. (Sgt.) Near Padiglione, Italy; 3d Inf. Div.; 23–24 April 1944. A platoon messenger, he used a captured German machine gun to repel several enemy counterattacks. As the result of his determined resistance, he captured 13 other machine guns and took 21 prisoners single-handedly.

STRYKER, Stuart S. (Pfc.) Near Wesel, Germany; 17th Abn. Div.; 24 March 1945. After his unit had made its jump east of the Rhine, it was pinned down by a powerful force of Germans. In full view of the enemy and under constant fire, he exhorted the men to get to their feet and follow him. The charge was successful in overwhelming the enemy but Private Stryker was killed in the battle.



TERRY, Seymour W. (Capt.) Zebra Hill, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; 96th Inf. Div.; 11 May 1945. During 3 single-handed assaults against strong Japanese fortifications, he wrecked 5 pillboxes and several trench positions, destroyed 3 machine guns and killed more than 35 enemy before being killed himself.

THOMAS, William H. (Pfc.) Zambales Mountains, Luzon, P. I.; 38th Inf. Div.; 22 April 1945. Although mortally wounded by an explosive charge which blew off both his legs below the knees, he refused medical aid and evacuation. He destroyed three of the enemy after he received his fatal wounds and assured the capture of the objective by his platoon.



THOMPSON, Max (Sgt.) Near Haaren, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 18 October 1944. Although wounded, he used a machine gun, bazooka, automatic rifle, and hand and rifle grenades to single-handedly stop an enemy break-through that threatened his entire battalion.

THORNE, Horace M. (Cpl.) Near Gruflingen, Belgium; 9th Armd. Div.; 21 December 1944. He gave his life in taking an enemy defensive position but in doing so he killed four German tank crew members, killed or wounded eight enemy riflemen, and succeeded in driving back other German machine-gun crews and riflemen.

THORSON, John F. (Pfc.) Dagami, Leyte, P. I.; 7th Inf. Div.; 28 October 1944. After being seriously wounded in single-handedly attacking a Japanese defensive position, he threw himself on a grenade thrown into the midst of his platoon by the enemy. He was instantly killed but his supreme self-sacrifice prevented the injury and possible death of his comrades.

TOMINAC, John T. (1st Lt.) Saulx de Vesoul, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 12 September 1944. Leading his small group of men in spite of a severe wound, he attacked numerically superior German forces repeatedly. As a result of this action, 4 successive enemy defensive positions were destroyed and 60 Germans were either killed or captured.

TOWLE, John R. (Pvt.) Near Oosterhout, Holland; 82d Abn. Div.; 21 September 1944. Armed with a rocket launcher, he single-handedly broke up a German counterattack of 100 enemy infantry supported by 2 tanks and a half-track before he was mortally wounded by a mortar shell.

TREADWELL, Jack L. (Capt.) Near Nieder-Wurzback, Germany; 45th Inf. Div.; 18 March 1945. In spite of concentrated enemy fire, he went forward alone armed with a submachine gun and grenades to clear the way for his pinned-down company. Never slackening his attack he single-handedly captured 6 pillboxes and 18 German prisoners.

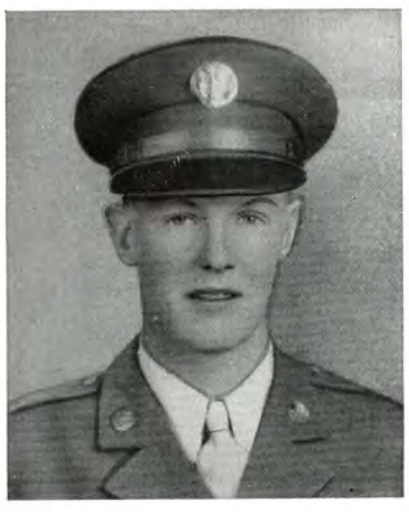
TRUEMPER, Walter E. (2d Lt.) Over Occupied Europe; 8th A. F.; 20 February 1944. When the aircraft on which he was serving as navigator was severely damaged, the co-pilot killed and the pilot wounded, he managed to fly the plane with the aid of the engineer. After ordering the remainder to bail out, the two attempted to land the plane in order to save the life of the pilot. On the third attempt to land, the plane crashed and all three were killed.

TURNER, Day G. (Sgt.) Dahl, Luxembourg; 80th Inf. Div.; 8 January 1945. He continued to lead his squad in a valiant defense after 5 of them were wounded and another killed. The savage fight raged for 4 hours including hand-to-hand combat and, as a result, 25 Germans were taken as prisoners, and 11 were killed.

TURNER, George B. (Pfc.) Philippsbourg, France; 14th Armd. Div.; 3 January 1945. An artilleryman, he was cut off by an enemy armored infantry attack. Seizing a rocket launcher, he advanced under heavy small-arms fire to destroy one German tank and disable another. He then secured a machine gun and repulsed the attack of the infantrymen, killing or wounding a great number.

VALDEZ, Jose F. (Pfc.) Near Rosenkrantz, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 25 January 1945. While slowly bleeding to death from a painful stomach wound, he single-handedly fought off an attack by two German companies with his automatic rifle, directed an artillery barrage on the SS troops in front of him and saved his patrol and possibly his company from annihilation.

VANCE, Leon R., Jr. (Lt. Col.) Over Wimereaux, France; 8th A. F.; 5 June 1944. When his plane was seriously crippled by antiaircraft fire and his right foot practically severed, he managed to fly the aircraft to the English coast and ordered all members of the crew to bail out. Believing a wounded crew member still remained aboard, he made a successful attempt to ditch the plane in the English Channel.

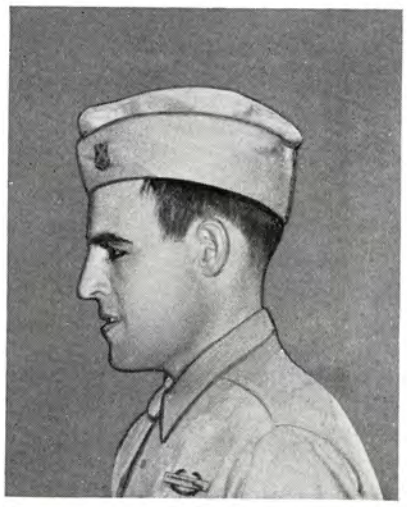


VAN NOY, Junior N. (Pvt.) Near Finschhafen, New Guinea; 532d Eng. Boat and Shore Regt.; 17 October 1943. When enemy barges loaded with troops approached the beach that he was guarding with his machine gun, he remained at his position despite heavy enemy fire and serious wounds. He killed at least half of the 39 Japanese but gave his life to save his comrades.

VIALE, Robert M. (2d Lt.) Manila, Luzon, P. I.; 37th Inf. Div.; 5 February 1945. Unable to throw away a live grenade without endangering the lives of his men and some civilians nearby, he held the deadly missile close to his body and bent over it as it exploded. He died a few minutes later.

Photograph not available

VILLEGAS, Ysmael R. (S Sgt.) Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 20 March 1945. In rapid succession he charged five foxholes occupied by Japanese, each time destroying the enemy within. Disregarding the intense enemy fire, he pressed toward a sixth position but he was hit and killed as he neared his goal.

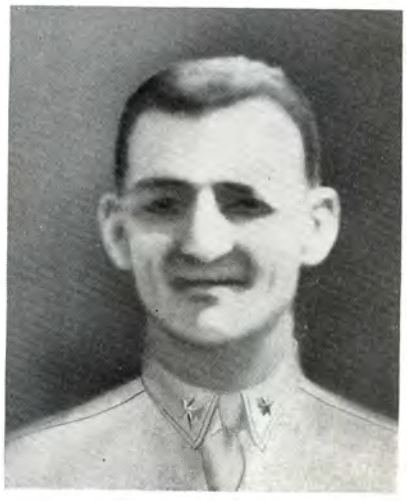


VLUG, Dirk J. (Pfc.) Near Limon, Leyte, P. I.; 32d Inf. Div.; 15 December 1944. Defending a road block with a rocket launcher and six rounds of ammunition, he single-handledly destroyed five enemy tanks that attacked his position as well as several members of the crews.

VOSLER, Forrest L. (T Sgt.) Over Bremen, Germany; Air Corps; 20 December 1943. When the aircraft in which he was serving as radio operator and gunner was severely damaged by antiaircraft fire and he was painfully wounded in the legs, thighs, and face, he asked to be thrown out to lighten the plane. He managed to operate the radio and send out distress signals and then saved the wounded tail gunner when the plane was ditched.

WAINWRIGHT, Jonathan M. (Gen.) Philippine Islands; U. S. Army Forces, P. I.; 12 March–7 May 1942. He distinguished himself by intrepid and determined leadership against greatly superior enemy forces and the final stand on beleaguered Corregidor, for which he was in an important measure personally responsible, commanded the admiration of the Nation's allies.

WALKER, Kenneth N. (Brig. Gen.) Over Rabaul, New Britain; 5th Bomber Comd.; 5 January 1943. He developed a highly efficient technique for bombing when opposed by enemy fighter craft and by antiaircraft fire. While leading an effective daylight bombing attack against shipping which resulted in direct hits on nine enemy vessels, his plane was forced down by an attack of a number of enemy fighters.



WALLACE, Herman C. (Pfc.) Near Prumzurley, Germany; 76th Inf. Div.; 27 February 1945. Realizing that he had tripped the deadly mechanism of a mine, he calmly placed his other foot on the fatal spot and absorbed the full shock of the explosion to save the lives of two comrades.

WARE, Keith L. (Lt. Col.) Near Sigolsheim, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 26 December 1944. He went forward beyond the front line elements of his command and for 2 hours reconnoitered a strongly held enemy position. He then led a small patrol forward and destroyed or captured four machine-gun positions and killed numerous enemy riflemen. Half of the patrol, including Colonel Ware, were wounded but he refused medical attention until the position was captured by his men.

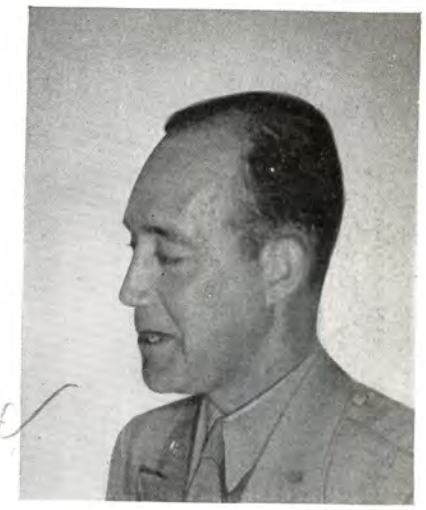
WARNER, Henry F. (Cpl.) Near Dom Butgenbach, Belgium; 1st Inf. Div.; 20–21 December 1944. An antitank gunner, he disregarded the superior strength of the enemy to single-handedly smash and set afire three enemy tanks and put another to flight. He died in a final blast of machine-gun fire from the last tank he had disabled.

WAUGH, Robert T. (1st Lt.) Tremensuoli, Italy; 85th Inf. Div.; 11–14 May 1944. During this period he accounted for the death of 30 of the enemy, the capture of 25 and the destruction of 6 bunkers and 2 pillboxes. His heroic actions caused a break-through in the Gustav Line at that point.

WAYBUR, David C. (1st Lt.) Near Agrigento, Sicily; 3d Inf. Div.; 17 July 1943. With three of his small patrol hit and himself seriously wounded, he stopped an enemy tank single-handed armed only with a submachine gun. He killed the two crew members with point-blank fire at 30 yards and forced the tank to crash into a stream bed.

WEICHT, Ellis R. (Sgt.) St. Hippolyte, France; 36th Inf. Div.; 3 December 1944. Attacking alone, he killed seven Germans, wounded several others, and destroyed three machine guns in spite of concentrated enemy fire before being killed by a direct hit from an antitank gun.

WETZEL, Walter C. (Pfc.) Birken, Germany; 8th Inf. Div.; 3 April 1945. While guarding his platoon's command post in a house, the enemy, under cover of darkness, worked their way close enough to toss two grenades in the room. Shouting a warning, he threw himself on the grenades to absorb the blast thus giving his life to save those of his comrades.



WHITELEY, Eli (1st Lt.) Sigolsheim, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 27 December 1944. Although wounded in the arm, shoulder, and face, he attacked several houses held by the enemy killing 9 Germans and capturing 24 more single-handed. He remained at the head of his platoon until forcibly evacuated.

WHITTINGTON, Hulon B. (Sgt.) Near Grimesnil, France; 2d Armd. Div.; 29 July 1944. His expert leadership when his platoon leader was missing in action against an advancing German tank column resulted in the destruction of more than 100 of the enemy vehicles and large numbers of Germans wiped out by a bayonet charge that he inspired.

WIEDORFER, Paul J. (Pvt.) Near Chaumont, Belgium; 80th Inf. Div.; 25 December 1944. Realizing that his platoon could not advance until two enemy machine guns were destroyed, he voluntarily charged alone across slippery open ground and killed or captured both crews by grenade and rifle fire.

WIGLE, Thomas W. (2d Lt.) Near Monte Frassino, Italy; 34th Inf. Div.; 14 September 1944. He attacked German forces in three houses and single-handedly, armed only with a carbine, drove them into a single house. When his men reached him, they found him mortally wounded on the cellar stairs but his heroic action resulted in the capture of 36 enemy soldiers and the seizure of the strongpoint.

WILBUR, William H. (Brig. Gen.) French Morocco, North Africa; Western Task Force, North Africa; 8 November 1942. He proceeded through 16 miles of enemy occupied country to obtain an armistice to prevent unnecessary bloodshed. Returning to his command, he took charge of a platoon of tanks and led them in an attack and capture of a hostile battery.

WILKIN, Edward G. (Cpl.) Siegfried Line, Germany; 45th Inf. Div.; 18–20 March 1945. In 3 days of heavy fighting he single-handedly knocked out 6 enemy pillboxes in the Siegfried Line, killed at least 9 Germans, wounded 13, took 13 prisoners, aided in the capture of 14 others, and saved many lives by his fearless performance as a litter bearer.

WILKINS, Raymond H. (Maj.) Over Rabaul, New Britain; Air Corps; 2 November 1943. Despite the fact that his plane's right wing was damaged and control rendered extremely difficult, he destroyed two enemy vessels and put his aircraft in the position of greatest risk. His bomber was shot down by antiaircraft fire and crashed into the sea.

WILL, Walter J. (1st Lt.) Near Eisern, Germany; 1st Inf. Div.; 30 March 1945. After rescuing three wounded men although he was himself painfully wounded, he charged the enemy to destroy four machine guns and kill their crews. He then returned to his men and was mortally wounded leading them in a final assault.

WILSON, Alfred L. (Tec 5) Near Bezange la Petite, France, 26th Inf. Div.; 8 November 1944. A medical-aid man, he was seriously wounded while treating his comrades but refused to be evacuated. When he could no longer do this due to loss of blood, he verbally directed unskilled men in continuing the first aid for the wounded. The effects of his injuries later caused his death.

WISE, Homer L. (S Sgt.) Near Magliano, Italy; 36th Inf. Div.; 14 June 1944. He opposed a German advance alone and, in doing this, cleaned out two enemy strong points, saving the life of a wounded comrade. He then repaired a disabled tank machine gun under enemy fire and continued to harass other German strongpoints.

WOODFORD, Howard E. (S Sgt.) Near Tabio, Luzon, P. I.; 33d Inf. Div.; 6 June 1945. After wiping out a Japanese machine-gun crew single-handedly, he organized a perimeter defense for the night. The enemy launched a fierce suicide attack and, although wounded by a grenade, he remained at his post. At daybreak he was found dead in his foxhole, but 37 enemy dead were lying in and around his position.

YOUNG, Rodger W. (Pvt.) New Georgia, Solomon Islands; 37th Inf. Div.; 31 July 1943. Although wounded twice, he advanced toward an enemy machine-gun position attracting enemy fire and answering with rifle fire. When he was close enough to his objective, he began throwing hand grenades, and while doing so was hit and killed.

ZEAMER, Jay, Jr. (Maj.) Over Buka, Solomon Islands; Air Corps; 16 June 1943. While on an important photographic mapping mission, he sustained gunshot wounds in both arms and legs. Despite his injuries, he maneuvered the damaged plane so skillfully that enemy planes were fought off for 40 minutes and five were destroyed. He then directed the flight to a base 580 miles away.

ZUSSMAN, Raymond (2d Lt.) Noroy le Bourg, France; 756th Tk. Bn.; 12 September 1944. Under his heroic and inspiring leadership in the attack on the town, his tank crew overcame the heavy German resistance resulting in 18 enemy soldiers being killed and 92 captured.

Photograph not available

KEFURT, Gus (S Sgt.) Near Bennwihr, France; 3d Inf. Div.; 23–24 December 1944. During this period he killed 25 Germans and captured several more. He then assumed command of his platoon and led it in defeating several enemy counterattacks until he was killed.