

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

6 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 292

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

SECTION

I

II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43; War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Officer:

First Lieutenant Charles G. Fyfe, O462162, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For gallantry in action near Naeda, Okinawa Island on 30 April 1945. When a flame thrower tank became immobilized in a shell hole and was immediately thereafter hit by an enemy anti-tank gun, First Lieutenant Fyfe, a tank platoon officer in a medium tank, upon observing the desperate plight of the flame thrower tank and its crew, voluntarily and without regard for his own personal safety, proceeded into the direct line of fire of the gun to evacuate the disabled tank. As he moved into position, his own tank was twice hit by fire from the anti-tank gun, but he opened his turret hatch and exposed himself to full view so as to direct the fire of his tank weapons and successfully accomplish the evacuation of the flame thrower crew. By his strong offensive action, the enemy in the area were killed; the anti-tank gun was made ineffective by counter-battery fire, and lives of the crew of the disabled tanks were saved. First Lieutenant Fyfe's outstanding example of leadership is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1. Under the provisions of Act 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Silver Star having been previously awarded to the following named Officer per General Orders No. 35, Headquarters 7th Infantry Division, 20 April 1945, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Captain Mortimer K. Karten, O1283441, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For gallantry in action near Shuri, Okinawa Island on 28 and 29 April 1945. Captain Karten, displaying brilliant leadership and unsurpassed courage and acting with intrepidity and gallantry, personally led the men of his unit with utter disregard for his own life, into the enemy bastion around Shuri. Through his inspirational example and great skill, his unit was able to destroy all the enemy they immediately encountered, forcing the remainder to flee in great disorder and enabling the Infantry units in the entire sector to advance along the line. In the final sweep against the enemy on 29 April 1945, Captain Karten and his men broke through the first line of defense, surrounding Shuri and secured strategic terrain from which a total effort could be launched in a final crushing blow against the enemy. Through his shining example of great courage, profound devotion to duty,

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and gallant actions, Captain Karten's men were rallied to new heights, enabling them to smash a fanatic enemy force. Captain Karten's brilliant display served as an inspiration to the men of his command, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

2. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Officers per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to them in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

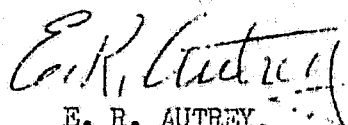
First Lieutenant Richard M. Fenno, 61014321, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. While his platoon of tanks was supporting an Infantry advance against strongly defended enemy ground, First Lieutenant Fenno a tank platoon officer, was struck in the forehead by an enemy sniper's bullet, which temporarily rendered him unconscious. Upon recovery from his first shock, he refused to relinquish his command even though his wounds were producing profuse bleeding. First Lieutenant Fenno continued in the attack until all of his units were relieved by another tank platoon. The aggressive determination displayed by First Lieutenant Fenno was an inspiration to all who witnessed his action and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 56, Headquarters 7th Infantry Division, 20 July 1944.

Captain Charles R. Thom, 0406450, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 13 April 1945. When his battalion was attacking heavily fortified enemy positions on Kakazu Ridge, Captain Thom, Battalion S-3, while under extremely intense enemy mortar and machine gun fire in exposed positions, coordinated the defensive fires of artillery, chemical mortars and battalion heavy weapons, which were primarily instrumental in repulsing strong enemy attacks. Captain Thom's actions were with utter disregard for personal safety and in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 262, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 June 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

ORIGINAL ORDER

6 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 293

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section IV, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Justin L. Bible, 18216582, Air Corps, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 27 April 1945. When the command post of the regiment to which he was attached suffered numerous periods of prolonged and accurate enemy artillery fire, Sergeant Bible, a radio operator and mechanic, maintained constant air-ground communication with complete disregard for his own safety. During the bombardments, on at least three occasions, Sergeant Bible, assisted by another operator, maintained communications while the radio jeep he occupied, or a portion of the radio housing was struck by shrapnel from shells bursting within the area. On all such occasions, Sergeant Bible disregarded his own safety and his personal coolness and courage were highly contributing factors in the maintenance of continuous communications throughout the period.

Private First Class Mazarot Cherkézien, 32905584, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. When a temporary withdrawal of an Infantry unit necessitated leaving a seriously wounded man forward of the front lines, Private First Class Cherkézien, a litter bearer, totally disregarding his own safety, volunteered to help evacuate him. Crawling forward under heavy enemy machine gun fire, Private First Class Cherkézien reached the wounded man and, assisted by another man, was able to evacuate him. Private First Class Cherkézien's heroic actions in going forward of the front lines to the aid of the wounded is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Eli J. Corriveau, 11035959, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. When a tank was set afire by enemy action, and a second tank was evacuating the burned and wounded crew, Sergeant Corriveau, a tank commander, on his own initiative, ordered his tank to join the rescue work. In the face of heavy crossfire from enemy machine guns, and also endangered by mortar fire, Sergeant Corriveau dismounted from his tank and aided the commander of the rescuing tank to evacuate all the wounded tankers and four injured Infantrymen. Placing part of the wounded on the back deck of his own tank, Sergeant Corriveau, with total disregard for his own safety, stood highly exposed on the tank deck to hold the wounded men during their removal to a rear medical aid station. Sergeant Corriveau's courageous action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Private First Class Norman Flanders, 16119921, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 6 November 1944. When his unit was under heavy enemy fire and a wounded man was found to be lying in an exposed forward area, Private First Class (then Private) Flanders, an aid man, crawled two hundred yards under heavy enemy fire to give treatment to the wounded man, remaining at his side dressing the wound and administering sedatives without regard to the danger of enemy rifle and mortar fire to which he was being subjected. Private First Class Flanders' action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

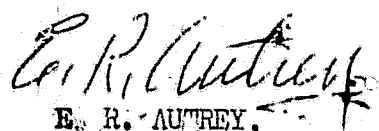
Staff Sergeant Myron J. Franz, 36434027, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte on 29 October 1944. Staff Sergeant Franz's squad was assigned to the mission of protecting the right flank of his platoon which had advanced about one thousand yards when they were held up by intense enemy machine gun fire. Staff Sergeant Franz made a quick estimate of the situation and chose decisive action. On his own initiative, he flanked the enemy position with his squad and delivered enough effective fire to force the enemy to retreat some fifty yards across a rice paddy where they stopped and resumed the fire-fight. Staff Sergeant Franz immediately called for mortar fire and skillfully directed the fire of his own automatic rifle. Deciding he had fire superiority, he gave the order to fix bayonets and charge. Boldly leading his squad, they closed with the enemy and destroyed them. Staff Sergeant Franz's sound judgement, courageous and decisive action was reflected in the willingness of his men to close with the enemy, thus allowing his platoon to continue their advance.

Sergeant Jacob G. Graber, 36166560, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 30 April 1945. When the tank which Sergeant Graber commanded became bogged down and immobilized while under intense enemy artillery and anti-tank fire during an assault on strongly defended enemy positions, he dismounted and, although wounded by enemy machine gun fire, succeeded in hooking the tow cable of another tank to his own crippled vehicle. Returning to his tank, Sergeant Graber personally directed its removal from the bog. Through Sergeant Graber's unselfish devotion to duty and courage under fire, he saved the lives of his crew. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE, JR.,  
Colonel, U. S. A.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

6 June 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 294

ORIGINAL ORDER -

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class James M. Fornear, 16075652, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Samar Islands from 20 October 1944 to 20 January 1945. Next of Kin: Alvine Fornear, Wife, P. O. Box 691, Sesser, Illinois.

First Sergeant Walter M. Korejwo, R-326754, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Samar Islands from 20 October 1944 to 28 January 1945. Next of Kin: Mary Denbowski, Sister, 238 Wonder Street, Reading, Pennsylvania.

Staff Sergeant Darwin D. Thompson, 38292622, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 28 November 1944. Next of Kin: Joe C. Thompson, Father, Calico Rock, Arkansas.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Staff Sergeant William R. Dowdy, 36429804, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 10 December 1944.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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Sergeant Edward J. Metz, 35253854, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 5 May 1945. Sergeant Metz, a tank platoon sergeant, assuming command of his unit on his own initiative, when his platoon officer was wounded and evacuated, held the position of responsibility for four days, during which period he accomplished all the duties of a tank platoon officer with above average results. On one occasion, when his tank was hit by an enemy artillery shell, and a satchel charge, causing it to be immobilized and defenseless with its guns pointed into a bank, Sergeant Metz, utilizing another tank supervised the successful evacuation of the entire crew. Sergeant Metz's aggressiveness and courage under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

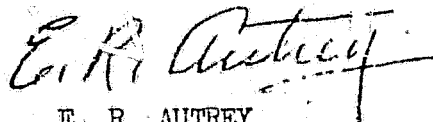
Private First Class Morris M. Reznick, 3504950, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Hitomog, Leyte Island on 5 November 1944. Private First Class Reznick, when a member of his squad was seriously wounded during an advance against the enemy, under constant and determined enemy fire, edged himself forward at great risk to his own life and although himself wounded by an enemy sniper, he continued his heroic efforts in attempting to evacuate the wounded man. Private First Class Reznick remained with the casualty until ordered to withdraw. His devotion to duty and courageous actions under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Daniel R. Sanders, 33695489, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Mueda, Okinawa Island on 30 April 1945. Observing the desperate plight of a tank which had bogged down while under intense enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire during an attack on enemy pockets of resistance, Private First Class Sanders voluntarily and without regard for his own personal safety, dismounted from his own tank and although aware of the fact that he had drawn the fire from every enemy gun in observation, attached towing cables to the immobilized tank. Through his efforts, the tank and crew were successfully evacuated to the rear area where they were enabled to reorganize for further action. The calm courage displayed by Private First Class Sanders was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY,

C. H. WHITE Jr.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

6 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 296

ORIGINAL ORDER - SECTION

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

~~3022 Inf~~ Sergeant William K. House, 39327576, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Karika, Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. When the advance of his company on a heavily fortified enemy position was held up by intense enemy machine gun fire, all lines of communication were disrupted with the exception of an SCR 516 radio operated by Sergeant House. It was also impossible to reinforce or supply the assault platoon during this critical period. Sergeant House, acting as an intermediary for his commanding officer, received his orders by radio and by relaying them to the men, succeeded in moving his units to alternate positions, during which actions, he exposed himself several times to severe machine gun and mortar fire with complete disregard for his own safety. Later when the situation was relieved and the advance continued, Sergeant House again moved forward with the assault elements instead of returning to the company Command Post and when in the late afternoon, an enemy counter-attack developed and both platoon leaders were seriously wounded, Sergeant House took command of the two platoons and succeeded in repulsing the fanatic enemy attacks. Sergeant House's gallant actions and courage under fire are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division to the following named Enlisted Man:

~~301st Inf~~ Staff Sergeant Clayton H. Virnig, 31515690, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AGO 98

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7 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 297

ORIGINAL ORDER -

SECTION

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR	I
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POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	III

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Staff Sergeant Erby L. Boyd, 38519726, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When the ammunition supply of his unit was running dangerously low, Staff Sergeant Boyd voluntarily led a group of men to the rear areas to replenish the supply, traveling through a five hundred yard open field which was covered by ceaseless enemy machine gun and sniper fire. Staff Sergeant Boyd succeeded in his mission, returning with the ammunition just in time to put it to use in stemming a fierce enemy counter-attack. Later in the same day, Staff Sergeant Boyd again volunteered to run the gauntlet of enemy machine gun fire and returned to the rear area, guiding litter bearers to the forward positions with urgently needed litters and blood plasma. Staff Sergeant Boyd succeeded in his second mission but was mortally wounded during the action by enemy sniper fire. Staff Sergeant Boyd's gallant actions and great devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Charles Boyd, Father, 622 East Fremont Street, Salinas, California.

Private First Class Leonard P. Kelly, 39262255, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. When members of the mine platoon of an Infantry Anti-Tank Company were pinned down by enemy machine gun fire, Private First Class Kelly, who was directing the forward movement of a tank by radio, led the tank between the fire and his squad and heroically attempted to direct the fire from the tank on the enemy gun emplacement, but was mortally wounded by the direct fire of the enemy machine gun. Private First Class Kelly's gallant action in protecting his comrades at the cost of his own life is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Winnifred R. Kelly, Wife, 219 2d Avenue, Chula Vista, California.

Private First Class Charles L. Sullivan, 19124850, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon leader asked for a BAR man to place protective fire to his unit's flank, Private First Class Sullivan immediately volunteered and brought his gun into position behind a clump of rocks far to the front of the other troops. He was thus able to bring deadly fire upon the enemy and was instrumental in the repulse of a strong enemy counter-attack. When the enemy laid in a barrage of mortar and concentration of machine gun fire on his position, Private First Class Sullivan maintained his position until he was mortally wounded. Private First Class Sullivan's outstanding devotion to duty, his fearlessness

and intrepid actions were a source of inspiration for all of his comrades and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin Myrtle R. Sullivan, Mother, 610 Blaine Street, Missoula, Montana.

SECTION II

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin S, War Department, 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Staff Sergeant Charles W. Dorough, 373 5304, Infantry, United States Army. For heroism displayed on Leyte Island on 19 March 1945. When a man was swept out to sea by a powerful undertow, while swimming in the vicinity of Dalay, and was unable to make his way back to shore, Staff Sergeant Dorough, although not a strong swimmer himself, valiantly swam to the man in distress and succeeded after much struggle against a rough sea, in bringing him to safety. Next of Kin Mrs. Joyce R. Dorough, Wife, 2251 Irving Street, Denver Colorado.

SECTION III

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

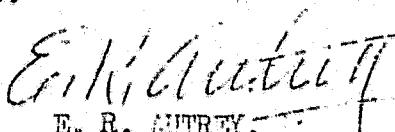
By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 23 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Olegario L. Vasquez, 38254946, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 11 April 1945. Next of Kin: Trinidad Vasquez, Wife, 1511 Lamar Street, San Antonio, Texas.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. ANTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

7/5  
7 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 298

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL II  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER III

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 13, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Technician Fifth Grade Donald C. Pitts, 37231442, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For gallantry in action on Conical Hill, Okinawa Island on 20 May 1945. When two battalions of Infantry were held back by extremely rough terrain and fire from concealed enemy positions which could not be neutralized, Technician Fifth Grade Pitts took his bulldozer forward of the front lines to open a passage for the advance of armored vehicles and Infantry troops. Although he was under constant enemy observation and fire, he successfully completed his mission which was of such great importance that an air strike was called for, an artillery smoke screen laid and Infantry support was given while Technician Fifth Grade Pitts did his task. The coolness and courage with which Technician Fifth Grade Pitts undertook his extremely hazardous mission was inspiring to those who witnessed his actions. The successful accomplishment of the passage-way by Technician Fifth Grade Pitts was immediately followed by an armored vehicle and Infantry assault of Conical Hill with the resulting neutralization of enemy resistance in that sector. The heroism exhibited by Technician Fifth Grade Pitts is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Peter F. Koenig, 36336110, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When a strong enemy counter-attack, preceded by an intense mortar and artillery barrage and supported by withering machine gun and rifle fire, developed, Private First Class Koenig, first gunner in a light machine gun squad disregarding his personal safety, gallantly exposed himself to enemy fire to place his machine gun in a new advantageous position. While mounting his gun in position an enemy hand grenade exploded so close by that he and his gun were blown from the spot. Escaping injury, Private First Class Koenig coolly and determinedly moved the gun to another position from which he delivered deadly fire upon the enemy force.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, War Department, 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 293 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 7 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Corporal James R. Anderson, 37242011, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroism displayed on Okinawa Island on 16 April 1945. When a defective parachute flare landed, burning fiercely, in a stock pile of 75mm ammunition still in its wooden crates, Corporal Anderson, realizing that the intense heat of the flare had ignited the dry wood of the crates, immediately set about putting out the blaze. Corporal Anderson kicked dirt on the spreading flames with his hands and feet, and then running to his tank, he secured a shovel and threw enough dirt on the fire to extinguish it just as it had burned through to the shells. Corporal Anderson's quick thinking and courage averted a tragedy which would undoubtedly have had serious consequences.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following, named Enlisted Men per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to them in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

*Rec'd by Co # 528 - June 14, 1945*  
\*Staff Sergeant William J. Thurstin, 53255834, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Homobaru, Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. While advancing with his machine gun section with the forward elements of his company, Staff Sergeant Thurstin was pinned down by intense fire from three machine guns and several mortars. Removing his equipment, Staff Sergeant Thurstin crawled thirty yards to a more advantageous but exposed position for observation and seeing an enemy force take up a position with a fourth machine gun, he unhesitatingly opened fire on the new threat, killing the enemy crew before their machine gun could be put into action. The quick action and initiative on the part of Staff Sergeant Thurstin undoubtedly saved his unit many casualties and his calm display of determined courage was a prime factor in sustaining the momentum of the drive for the beachhead objective. Staff Sergeant Thurstin's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 285, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 June 1945.

Private First Class Lee W. Worlax, 316164, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Homobaru, Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. When his company ran into heavy resistance from mortar, artillery and machine gun fire and many casualties resulted Private First Class Worlax, a company aid man, acting on his own initiative and with utter disregard for his own safety, while under intense enemy fire, administered first aid and evacuated several casualties. Private First Class Worlax saved the lives of several wounded men through his heroic action which reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 18, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 23 January 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

7 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 299

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bill No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 1600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Lieutenant Colonel De Witt Ballard, O15425, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 21 May 1945.

First Lieutenant Jeffrey L. Besson, O1297643, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 26 April 1945.

Captain Burton G. Boesser, O908440, Ordnance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 20 October 1944 to 30 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Junior R. Collins, 33285320, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 20 May 1945.

Sergeant Hubert K. Guller, 39829682, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 30 November 1944 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 2 May 1945.

Staff Sergeant Evodio Diaz, 31437406, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 2 April 1945 to 15 May 1945.

First Lieutenant Anton C. Focht, O111247, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 10 December 1944 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 2 May 1945.

Corporal John D. Higgins, 15307116, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 24 November 1944 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 11 April 1945.

Second Lieutenant Billy J. Hutensson, O301247, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Conical Hill, Okinawa Island on May 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 299 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 7 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

First Lieutenant John A. Landt, 01035123, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 13 April 1945.

Master Sergeant Russell T. Lantz, 3421235, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 2 April 1945 to 20 May 1945.

Sergeant Roy T. Lincoln, 38299712, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 27 October 1944 to 7 November 1944.

Technician Fifth Grade Robert G. Mellow, 36645411, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 2 April 1945 to 20 May 1945.

Captain Joseph F. Moore, Jr., 02136453, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 10 February 1945 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 2 May 1945.

Master Sergeant Leo R. Moulton, 3930187, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 1 February 1945 to 25 May 1945.

Sergeant Lawrence E. Nace, 33011910, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 13 April 1945.

Sergeant William C. Nokes, 18114744, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

Private First Class Everett H. Snider, 36540220, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945.

Private First Class Harless H. Torry, 38119535, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

Private First Class Wilbur E. Wiest, 36616559, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 11 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Bradley*  
E. R. BRADLEY,  
Lt. Col., G. S. C.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

7 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 300

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Travis B. Acker, 34677397, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 19 April 1945. During the emergency created when several officers of his company had become casualties, Sergeant Acker volunteered his services as Forward Observer for his battery of guns, displaying exceptional courage and devotion to duty in accomplishing his job with success. On one occasion when an Infantry rifle company was subjected to repeated enemy counter-attacks, Sergeant Acker, unhesitatingly and with utter disregard for his own safety, successfully sought and established an observation post on the crest of a ridge from which he could observe and direct fire on the enemy. Throughout the night, Sergeant Acker maintained his position which was under constant enemy machine gun and mortar fire and by his accurate and effective fire on enemy concentrations, he was instrumental in breaking up the formations, thus enabling his unit to remain on the ridge. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Acker reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant John P. Barry, 13124533, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa from 1 April 1945 to 22 April 1945. Sergeant Barry, a member of a Field Artillery Forward Observer Section, performing his duties with great initiative and aggressiveness, maintained uninterrupted communications with the forward party at all times, making possible the great volume of artillery fire which was delivered on the enemy. On one occasion, Sergeant Barry was the only surviving member of his party and his radio had been destroyed by enemy fire, he acquired an Infantry radio and with a display of coolness under fire and great devotion to duty, remained at his post and relayed fire missions with such speed and accuracy that the resulting fire enabled the Infantry to advance upon their objective with a minimum of casualties. Sergeant Barry's resourceful and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

*Rec. Coy # 307 - June 10, 1945*  
\*First Lieutenant Arthur H. Bauer, 01286422, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 19 April 1945 to 24 April 1945. When his battalion made a series of coordinated attacks against strongly fortified enemy positions of Wishi-Baru Ridge, where observation and control was extremely difficult to maintain because of adverse weather, difficult terrain and incessant enemy mortar and artillery fire; and at times when the Battalion Commander was unable to cover personally the entire battalion front, First Lieutenant Bauer made repeated reconnaissance trips to the front and left flank to obtain vitally important information which enabled his unit to destroy an enemy pillbox and advance upon its

objective. First Lieutenant Bauer's courageous actions were with utter disregard of danger to himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant Harry Brenner, 36407498, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 5 November 1944. When a patrol of a rifle company which was operating over mountainous terrain behind the enemy lines was stopped by heavy enemy fire and several casualties resulted, Staff Sergeant Brenner boldly moved his machine gun section up to an exposed position and delivered effective fire upon an enemy strong point, and neutralized it until such time as the wounded men could be evacuated from the area. Then with the continued and effective fire of Sergeant Brenner's machine gun section, the enemy machine gun nest was completely wiped out. Staff Sergeant Brenner's courageous action and aggressive leadership reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Elmer O. Brown, 38300250, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 12 April 1945 to 21 April 1945. When his platoon leader was mortally wounded, Staff Sergeant Brown assumed command of the heavy machine gun platoon and led it against the enemy for a period of nine days with a display of outstanding leadership and courageous action which was an inspiration to his men. Staff Sergeant Brown many times exposed himself to heavy machine gun and mortar fire to put his platoon into position in the support of a rifle company and on one occasion, by his firm leadership and aggressive action, directed fire in such a manner as to successfully repulse a strong enemy counter-attack. Staff Sergeant Brown's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

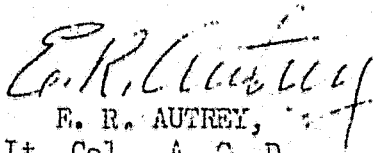
Lieutenant Colonel John M. Williams, 020319, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 23 October 1944 to 30 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Thomas A. Woodward, 34048193, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 6 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
F. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

7 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 301

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 2, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant Marvin W. Daniels, 01011616, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. In the final assault on Kakazu Ridge, First Lieutenant Daniels, a tank platoon leader, fearlessly led his unit through heavy mine fields and a withering barrage of enemy artillery, mortar, and anti-tank fire and took up an advantageous position from which he directed effective fire against the enemy. By his constant coolness and superior leadership, First Lieutenant Daniels was directly responsible for neutralizing enemy pillboxes and caves which had held up the Infantry advance. First Lieutenant Daniels' initiative, courage and exceptionally outstanding qualities of leadership were an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class George B. Foust, 33257336, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. During an intense enemy mortar shell barrage, Private First Class Foust led his squad to the safety of a cave where an enemy soldier appeared at the entrance, firing his rifle, and wounding Private First Class Foust in the arm. Private First Class Foust, with unhesitating disregard for his life, courageously reached for his rifle and killed the enemy, thus preventing further casualties to his squad. Private First Class Foust's courageous action and coolness under enemy fire was an inspiration to all who witnessed it and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Corporal Joseph G. Gastoier, 36384637, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945 and 25 April 1945. Prior to the initial landing on Okinawa on 1 April 1945, Corporal Gastoier, voluntarily accompanied an underwater demolition team on its mission and at great risk to his life, drew sketches and obtained valuable information which greatly aided his unit when the assault landings were made. On 25 April 1945, as a reconnaissance corporal and observer, Corporal Gastoier, advancing with the front line troops to select an observation point, came upon a wounded man, and at great personal risk, assisted in evacuating him to the battalion aid station. Corporal Gastoier's courageous and aggressive actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

*Recd. by Co # 307 - June 10, 1945*  
\* ~~Second Lieutenant Edward J. Hardie, CI 301179, Infantry, United States Army.~~ For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. While clearing a route for advancing tanks through an enemy mine field, Second Lieutenant Hardie and his platoon were pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun fire. With cool courage and unflinching initiative in the face of withering enemy fire, Second Lieutenant Hardie, seeing a disorganized rifle platoon in the sector, left his place of cover and reorganized the platoon on his left flank, thus enabling it to advance on its mission. Second Lieutenant Hardie then moved forward at greater risk to his own life to administer first aid to a seriously wounded man. Second Lieutenant Hardie's actions were an inspiration to all who witnessed it and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Alva E. Harrison, 30067174, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. Private First Class Harrison, while operating a 300 radio on a Regimental channel, was subjected to enemy mortar and artillery fire and although in an exposed position, he continued to maintain communications with utter disregard for his personal safety. It was through the use of communications that his unit was able to make a joint attack and successfully secure their objective. Private First Class Harrison's determined effort and valor in the face of the enemy reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Manuel O. Hernandez, 30254974, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Tombstone Ridge, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. When his platoon was pinned down by intense enemy machine gun fire and the platoon leader was killed, Private First Class Hernandez assumed command and ordered his men to remain in position until such a time as he thought it practical to withdraw. Private First Class Hernandez waited until darkness had fallen and then led the men in small groups to the safety of the company night perimeter. On his last trip to his men, Private First Class Hernandez, rescuing a man from an adjacent company who lay wounded and very close to the enemy lines, completed his trip and returned alone to remove the wounded man to a position of safety. Private First Class Hernandez's courage, coolness under fire and deep devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autney*  
E. R. AUTNEY,  
Lt. Col., A. C. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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## HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 302

APO 96

ORIGINAL ORDER

7 June 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Louis M. Hopkins, 38271615, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. During an enemy counter-attack and when his unit was under heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Private First Class Hopkins, with complete disregard for his personal safety, crawled from his fox-hole to successfully locate and operate a naval gunfire liaison officer's radio through which it was imperative that communications be established to secure illumination necessary for the repulse of the enemy attacks. Private First Class Hopkins' courage under fire and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Frank W. Jones, 37575994, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When a strong enemy counter-attack, preceded by an intense artillery and mortar barrage, developed, in his unit's area, Private First Class Jones, second gunner of a light machine gun squad, was largely responsible for repulse of the attack. Although in a position constantly exposed to enemy fire, Private First Class Jones gallantly manned his machine gun in the interval between flares and accurately fired an M-1 rifle and threw grenades when flares went up. His action greatly inspired his comrades to repulse the terrific attack.

Captain Paul R. Kruger, 0391952, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945. Captain Kruger, a Naval Gunfire Spotter, attached to a front line Infantry battalion, made daily reconnaissance trips along the front lines for the employment of Naval gunfire, working extremely long hours under enemy mortar and small arms fire with complete disregard for his own safety in order to adjust effective fire on enemy held positions. During an attack on a strongly defended Nish-Baru Ridge, Captain Kruger took an exposed position and under almost ceaseless enemy mortar and small arms fire, adjusted and controlled Naval gunfire so effectively that the unit was able to take the ridge with much greater ease and a minimum of casualties.

Private First Class Joseph H. Nemeo, 39622086, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Although wounded by an enemy hand grenade while engaged in hand to hand fighting during a strong enemy dawn counter-attack, Private First Class Nemeo refused medical attention and remained in his position in the face of a strong enemy counter-attack until ordered to withdraw with the remainder of his unit. Private First Class Nemeo's courageous actions and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS 302 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 7 JUNE 1945 (CONTD.)

Sergeant Michael Kwistkowski, 32550939, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic action in connection with military operations against the enemy as squad leader on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Sergeant Kwistkowski was in charge of a rifle squad, whose positions were on the right flank of the company's perimeter, guarding against possible enemy counter-attacks from that side. Due to the intelligent placing of his men, Sergeant Kwiatkowski and his men were able to repulse two enemy counter-attacks. Under a heavy sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire for ten hours, Sergeant Kwiatkowski, notwithstanding his own lack of protective cover, moved from position to position keeping the men in fighting spirits and boosting their morale. His aggressiveness, initiative, and lack of regard for his own personal safety are exemplary of great leadership and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military services.

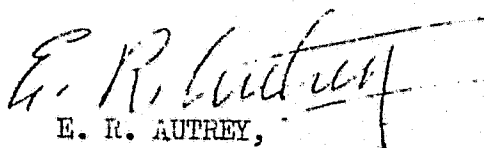
Sergeant Louis G. Nannini, 39910200, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. When his unit received a strong enemy counter attack, Sergeant Nannini, completely disregarding the heavy enemy fire, and with grenades falling all about him, rushed to the side of another man who was standing in an exposed position firing a machine gun from the hip, and fed ammunition into the gun and replenished the supply when needed. This gun alone accounted for the successful repulse of the enemy force. The courage and heroism displayed by Sergeant Nannini is in keeping with the highest military traditions.

Sergeant Joseph E. O'Connor, 36461790, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 28 October 1944. During an assault on strong enemy positions on Catmon Hill, when his platoon was pinned down by intense enemy fire and several casualties which occurred were lying on ground exposed to enemy fire, Sergeant (then Private First Class) O'Connor, with complete disregard for his own safety, voluntarily ran forward and succeeded in removing three of the wounded men to cover, moving three times across open ground and under a hail of enemy fire to accomplish his chosen task. Sergeant O'Connor's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 303

7 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

ORIGINAL ORDER

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-25 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Tony M. Palmer, 38271707, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 21 November 1944. When two front line Infantry platoons in an attack on a strong enemy position in the vicinity of Hitomog were pinned down by enemy heavy machine gun and sniper fire, Private First Class Palmer, a rifleman, moved forward to a position within a few yards of a well concealed enemy machine gun emplacement and opened a rapid fire which silenced the machine gun and made it possible for the platoons to withdraw without further casualties. Private First Class Palmer's act of courage reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant Ralph W. Parker, 2084158, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. When his tank became immobilized in a shell hole forward of the front lines, Sergeant Parker, a Tank Commander, dismounted from his tank, and in the face of enemy artillery, anti-tank and sniper fire attempted to attach a tow cable to it. In the midst of his work, a direct hit from an anti-tank gun rendered his tank completely disabled. By radio contact, Sergeant Parker was then ordered to abandon the tank, and disarm the equipment when the enemy action reduced in intensity. A few hours after he and his crew retired to a rear area, Sergeant Parker and another man voluntarily went forward again to disarm the tank, even though the heavy enemy activity had not yet subsided. Constantly endangered by sniper and mortar fire, Sergeant Parker successfully completed his mission, thus saving valuable equipment from being captured by the enemy. Sergeant Parker's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade Hubert B. Perkins, 38074187, Infantry, (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. When three crew members were wounded when their tank was hit by an enemy anti-tank gun, Technician Fourth Grade Perkins, the tank driver, attempted to return the tank to cover. On backing his tank, a land mine exploded, completely immobilizing the vehicle and leaving it exposed to enemy fire some two hundred yards forward of the Infantry front lines. Amid intense enemy anti-tank and artillery fire, Technician Fourth Grade Perkins, with the aid of his platoon officer, removed the wounded from the tank and remained with the wounded for four hours to administer first aid until the enemy fire subsided; then evacuated them to a rear area. Technician Fourth Grade Perkins's courageous and steadfast devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS 303 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 7 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Sergeant Harold Silverman, 36383395, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakezu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When a ten hour heavily sustained enemy barrage of high angle fire pinned his platoon down, Sergeant Silverman voluntarily offered his services as a contact man between his platoon and the company commander. Although the route Sergeant Silverman had to follow lay across a wide gorge which was covered by constant and heavy enemy machine gun and sniper fire, he courageously ran the gauntlet of enemy fire three times, successfully taking urgent messages between the two units. When his platoon was later forced to withdraw, Sergeant Silverman searched and found the only safe route of travel. Undaunted and ceaseless in his valiant efforts, Sergeant Silverman was instrumental in the successful evacuation of the wounded men. Sergeant Silverman's coolness under fire, his deep devotion to duty and utter disregard for his personal safety were a source of great inspiration to all who witnessed his actions.

Sergeant George H. Rice, 32700001, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When his unit was forced to withdraw after an attack against the enemy in the vicinity of Nishibaru, Sergeant Rice, upon learning that a vitally important radio had been left behind, advanced alone into territory covered by enemy machine gun, mortar, and rifle fire and subject to enemy observation from an enemy pillbox at thirty yards distance, and recovered the radio, thus enabling his unit to maintain uninterrupted communications. Sergeant Rice's courage under fire and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant Sylvester Smith, 30319747, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. During an assault on enemy held positions in the vicinity of Nishibaru, Sergeant Smith, a squad leader in a mortar section, hearing a cry for help from a wounded man, left his position of cover and ran twenty yards over open terrain which was under heavy enemy mortar fire, administered first aid and removed the wounded man to safety. Sergeant Smith's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

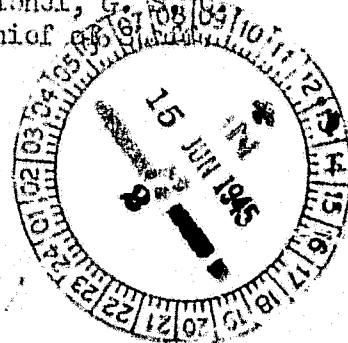
OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Aubrey*

E. R. AUBREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "C" "F" & "X"

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. [85]  
Chief of Staff



HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 304

ORIGINAL ORDER -

SECTION

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CROSSER II

7 Jun 1945 7/13

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Kent W. Snider, 3763331 Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Nishibar, Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. Private First Class Snider, an ammunition bearer in the mortar section of a rifle company, voluntarily assumed the additional duties of a litter bearer and assisted in removing a casualty over a hazardous route which was subjected to enemy mortar and artillery fire. Private First Class Snider's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Lester A. Terrebonne, 18151219, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 18 December 1944. When a member of a patrol, advancing toward Mount Lobi, was seriously wounded by enemy sniper fire, and the decision was made to push out of the mountains and into the lowlands using a trail which was believed to be held by the enemy, Staff Sergeant Terrebonne voluntarily acted as lead scout and with aggressiveness and courage, led the patrol safely to the aid station without further casualties and killing two of the enemy en route.

Private First Class Richard S. Tobias, 35869890, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. Private First Class Tobias, with his squad, was clearing a route for advancing tanks through an enemy mine field in the vicinity of Ginowan. The entire squad was pinned down by heavy, raking, enemy machine gun fire when Private First Class Tobias saw a member of his squad, who was directing tanks by radio, wounded by enemy fire. Private First Class Tobias unhesitatingly and at great risk to his own life went to the aid of the wounded man. Finding the man mortally wounded, he calmly and coolly remained in the exposed position and directed the tanks towards the enemy positions, although he himself sustained a serious leg wound. Private First Class Tobias' teamwork and individual initiative reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Clifford L. Wilson, 33283984, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 5 April 1945 to 30 April 1945. While he was acting as a lineman in a forward observer section attached to an Infantry company, participating in an assault on heavily fortified enemy held Kakazu Ridge, Private

First Class Wilson ran fifty yards across an open field to recover an injured Infantryman who had fallen under enemy machine gun fire. All of the medical aid men having returned to the Battalion Medical Aid Station, Private First Class Wilson found it necessary to bandage the injured man's wound, and, completely disregarding his own personal welfare, dragged the Infantryman across the open field, under a hail of enemy bullets, to safety. Private First Class Wilson's heroic action and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Lieutenant Colonel Clarence T. Dehaven, O268767, General Staff Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 23 July 1944 to 11 April 1945.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

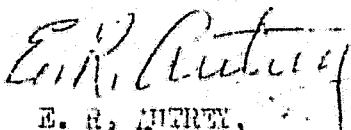
Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (1 December 1943), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Officer per General Orders No. 136, Headquarters 1st Infantry Division, 28 December 1944, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division:

First Lieutenant Raymond R. Hawthorne, O531752, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 13 April 1945. First Lieutenant Hawthorne served as forward observer and platoon executive for his platoon of 4.2 inch chemical mortars, moving constantly forward with the assault elements and, with complete disregard for his personal safety, from observation posts exposed to enemy fire, both day and night, he directed accurate and effective supporting fires and smoke screens which materially assisted in the advances of the Infantry. During the performance of his duties, First Lieutenant Hawthorne was wounded by enemy fire, but continued to carry out his assigned task. First Lieutenant Hawthorne's courage under fire and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL I. WOLFE:

C. F. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. MURREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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47

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

*Approved by*  
*7/16/45*  
*and signed 7/17/45*

9 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 305

ORIGINAL ORDER -

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART	I
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Sgt	Carlton W. Coss	36877032	Inf	17 May 45
Pvt	Curtis L. Deaver	39425043	Inf	18 May 45
S Sgt	Edward G. Detters	36383142	Inf	20 May 45
S Sgt	Frank J. Dowell	36700169	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Harold L. Fare	37647130	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Johnny O. Gemmecke	37647152	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Charles R. Hoot	36472049	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Delbert F. Jones	39147198	Inf	20 May 45
S Sgt	George R. Jones	34435517	Inf	20 May 45
2d Lt	Richard J. Kate	0551613	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Gerald E. LaParch	36846692	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Delbert P. La Rowe	35999362	Inf	21 May 45
Sgt	Levi J. LeBeau	37315345	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Ralph Leedom	35850624	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Hoyt Leoth Jr.	35834912	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	John W. Lindner	37597945	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Richard G. Linebrick	35850640	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Elmo D. Littlefield	39935782	Inf	23 May 45
S Sgt	E. G. Markie	38293724	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Robert V. Meinzer	38689036	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	James F. Miles	38511132	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth H. Parks	36531150	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Leonard L. Reiger	35242923	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Joe S. Rodriguez	38626128	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Oscar R. Romero	39591405	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Paul E. Rowe	39339046	Inf	20 May 45
Tec 5	Meyer Sanberg	32527509	MD	21 May 45
Sgt	Nathaniel N. Servi	36429884	Inf	18 May 45
S Sgt	Henry K. Shackleton	36430859	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Henry T. Simpson	37753396	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Robert H. Sjodin	37775516	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	John R. Super	33811830	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Frederick K. Trust	39425990	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Neal W. Tyler	38573540	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Herbert L. Underwood	38635338	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	James H. Wade	33926438	Inf	20 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 305 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 9 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pvt	LaVerne R. Virt	33713114	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Nils L. Wilwel	39346707	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Lloyd W. Wofford	38573229	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Emil L. Ziarnek	36615978	Inf	19 May 45

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Staff Sergeant George T. Frazier, 36381813, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 20 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 210, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 May 1945.

Sergeant Edwin E. June, 36254837, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 23 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Private First Class Armond W. LaRow, 37487927, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 22 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Private First Class Milton E. Nichols, 36536163, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 20 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 210, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 May 1945.

Private First Class George L. Olds, 39283610, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 10 May 1945 near Hinamiaebaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 241, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 22 May 1945.

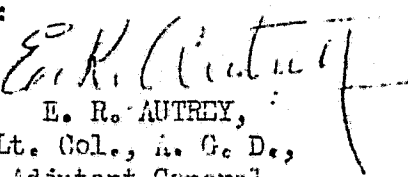
Sergeant Preston D. Peightal, Jr., 33758601, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 211, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 May 1945.

Sergeant George L. Sartain, 38400624, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 20 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., i. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

43  
3

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 306

10 June 1945  
SECTION

AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS I  
POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II  
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART III

ORIGINAL ORDER

SECTION I

AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS

- 1. So much of General Orders No. 277, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 31 May 1945, as pertains to Private First Class Hubert M. O'Neil, 37316959, is rescinded.
- 2. So much of General Orders No. 189, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945, as pertains to Private First Class Floyd H. Shurton, 3535774, is rescinded.
- 3. So much of General Orders No. 246, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 23 May 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant Adolphe F. Flos, 35354537, is rescinded.

SECTION II

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Sergeant (then Private First Class) Hubert M. O'Neil, 37316959, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 4 November 1944 to 25 November 1944.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Leo L. Alexander	38572532	Inf	16 May 45
Pvt	Curtis A. Allen	37647397	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Alvin W. Anderson	37775490	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Leonard E. Anderson	37753143	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	John W. Andrade	39596363	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Venus B. Avery	38732544	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Edward Bedno	36916723	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	James H. Besharse Jr.	38732522	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Pearl H. Bolyard	36914675	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Leonard G. Boughton	36915344	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Wilford D. Bravard	35211030	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Floyd H. Brohmer	37774218	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Henry E. Bringman	36610656	FA	21 Apr 45

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 306 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 10 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Tec 5	Roy A. Brogan	36539837	ID	20 May 45
Pfc	Warren L. Brown	36431870	Inf	12 Apr 45
Pfc	Jessie E. Burkhalter	44032621	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Frank B. Bush	37753181	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Joseph G. Buswink	36470903	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Roy S. Childs	44038282	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Charles R. Christian	35734533	Inf	22 May 45
Sgt	Peter P. Cloonan	6719870	SigC	4 Apr 45
Pfc	William R. Cooper	36906425	Inf	22 May 45
Tec 4	Charles W. Davis	38300229	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Jack D. W. Frederick	37227964	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Andrew Hall	38292054	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Elmor Hale	35654903	SigC	6 Apr 45
1st Lt	Harold S. Head	026272	Inf	24 Apr 45
T Sgt	Elias T. Hill	6273880	Inf	22 May 45
S Sgt	Edward S. Lawrence	20457651	Inf	18 Apr 45
Pfc	George W. Lutz	37312482	Inf	14 May 45
2d Lt	John M McCraney	0550827	FA	21 May 45
Pfc	Jesse Medrano	38280401	Inf	22 May 45
<i>Rec'd by Co 4774</i> CP/Ch	<del>Mason H. Pawlak</del> <i>July 8, 45</i>	4103535	USNR	4 May 45
Sgt	Marshall S. Pratt	37312015	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Donald O. Price	36595454	Inf	4 Apr 45
Pfc	Herman J. Rohde	38254862	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	George P. Speranza	36650006	Inf	24 Apr 45
Pfc	Frank M. Tanora	39866542	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Robert E. Traster	36914787	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth D. Wildfang	36540139	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Muriow F. Woodard	6973174	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Joseph Yerkovich	39339313	ID	16 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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AGRS-DA 201 Cooper, William R.  
36 906 425 (28 May 51)

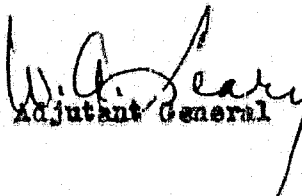
26 July 1951

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Amendment of General Orders

TO: Mr. William R. Cooper  
1021 Highland Avenue  
Dixon, Illinois

So much of General Orders 306, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 10 June 1945, as pertains to Private First Class William R. Cooper, which reads "Purple Heart," is amended to read "First Oak-Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart."

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

  
Adjutant General

DAAGD Files

AGAR-SC 201 Buswink, Joseph G.  
36 470 903 (12 Dec 56)

12 December 1956

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Withdrawal of General Orders

1. So much of General Orders 306, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 10 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to Private First Class Joseph G. Buswink, 36 470 903, for wounds received in action on 23 May 1945, is withdrawn.

2. This individual was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously, since wounds received in action on 23 May 1945, resulted in his death on 25 May 1945.

By Order of Wilber M. Brucker, Secretary of the Army:

Adjutant General

(571) (u)

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 307

SECTION  
I  
II

10 June 1945. 7/12

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

ORIGINAL ORDER

SECTION I

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

1. So much of General Orders No. 300, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 7 June 1945, as pertains to First Lieutenant Arthur H. Bauer, 01236422, is rescinded.

2. So much of General Orders No. 301, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 7 June 1945, as pertains to Second Lieutenant Edward J. Hardie, 01301479, is rescinded.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Officers per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to them in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

First Lieutenant Arthur H. Bauer, 01236422, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 19 April 1945 to 24 April 1945. When his battalion made a series of coordinated attacks against strongly fortified enemy positions of Nishi-Baru Ridge, where observation and control was extremely difficult to maintain because of adverse weather, difficult terrain and incessant enemy mortar and artillery fire; and at times when the Battalion Commander was unable to cover personally the entire battalion front, First Lieutenant Bauer made repeated reconnaissance trips to the front and left flank to obtain vitally important information which enabled his unit to destroy an enemy pillbox and advance upon its objective. First Lieutenant Bauer's courageous actions were with utter disregard of danger to himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Previous award per General Orders 282, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 June 1945.

Second Lieutenant Edward J. Hardie, 01301479, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. While clearing a route for advancing tanks through an enemy mine field, Second Lieutenant Hardie and his platoon were pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun fire. With cool courage and unflinching initiative in the face of withering enemy fire, Second Lieutenant Hardie, seeing a disorganized rifle platoon in the sector left his place of cover and reorganized the platoon on his left flank, thus enabling it to advance on its mission. Second Lieutenant Hardie then moved forward at great risk to his own life to administer first aid to a seriously wounded man. Second Lieutenant Hardie's action were an inspiration to all who witnessed it and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Previous award per General Orders 142, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS 307 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 10 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

2. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated; a Bronze Oak Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Staff Sergeant Richard T. Dohra, 36381636, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 May 1945 near Kibura, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 187, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Staff Sergeant Adolphe F. Rios, 36384557, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 May 1945 on Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 44, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 December 1944.

Private First Class Floyd Shurter, 36535774, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 11 April 1945 near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 20, 36th Evacuation Hospital, 17 December 1944.

First Lieutenant Harry V. Smith, 0295630, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 20 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

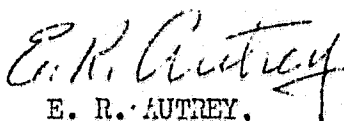
Staff Sergeant Kenneth L. Smith, 37673658, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Staff Sergeant J. D. Steenbergen, 35243335, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 15 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 184, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.;  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 308

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Captain John E. Byers, 01236604, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. During an attack on strongly fortified enemy positions on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Captain Byers, although himself wounded and his eyesight impaired by the wounds, with utter disregard for his own safety, led the advance of his company through heavy enemy mortar, artillery, machine gun and small arms fire and upon the death of the commanding officer of another company, he assumed command and organized and led the two companies into action with no other officers remaining to assist. Captain Byers, by his exceptionally outstanding leadership and aggressive actions continued to hold the strategic ridge and completely repulsed the enemy who attempted several counter-attacks.

Staff Sergeant Lloyd E. Dodd, 36429925, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. When during an assault on enemy positions near Nishi-Baru, two Infantry platoons reached an area composed of large rocky crags and boulders and found it impossible to dig in for measures of defense. When the enemy started a counter-attack and caused heavy casualties, Staff Sergeant Dodd, seeing that his platoon leader was wounded and that a leader was urgently needed, assumed command of the platoon on his own initiative and quickly organized it to withstand the enemy attack. Staff Sergeant Dodd's gallant actions and his great display of courage and leadership is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Ovid W. French, 33134281, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. When a tank was disabled by enemy artillery fire while in support of an Infantry unit forward of the front lines, Sergeant French, a tank commander in another tank upon observing the situation, guided his tank over a hastily laid enemy mine field to evacuate the disabled tank's crew members. To thread his way backwards to safety, Sergeant French, voluntarily and without regard for his own safety, dismounted from his tank and despite heavy enemy mortar and sniper fire, guided his tank successfully through the mine field. With the added burden of a double crew, Sergeant French then continued on his assigned mission with the Infantry. The courage and leadership displayed by Sergeant French exemplifies the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Grant J. Gunderson, 39932255, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When his platoon, in an advance against strong enemy positions on a steep and rocky ridge, came under enemy machine gun fire from a reinforced pillbox, Private First Class Gunderson crawled twenty-five yards under intense enemy fire and by throwing hand grenades, completely eliminated the enemy force which was

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 308 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 12 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

firing from the emplacement, thus making it possible for all of the previously wounded to be evacuated and for the unit to continue its advance.

First Sergeant William L. Holborow, 39232884, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Despite a serious shoulder wound, First Sergeant Holborow remained with his company during the assault on Kakazu Ridge, assisting the company command greatly in the organization and building up of the morale of the troops. He chose to be on line with the riflemen, fighting with them and keeping them in aggressive fighting spirit and was instrumental in helping to check an enemy counter-attack personally killing three of the enemy force. Although wounded a second time, this time in the chin, by a mortar shell, First Sergeant Holborow again refused evacuation, concerning himself entirely with the welfare of the company. First Sergeant Holborow's gallantry and lack of concern for his personal safety are exemplary of great leadership and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Frank E. Kleynowski, 33610323, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Kleynowski, a medical aid man, on his own initiative established an aid station in a deep gorge at the base of Kakazu Ridge and worked feverishly in a continuous barrage of mortar and artillery fire falling at the base of the ridge, as many casualties were brought in, caring not only for the wounded of his own unit, but others as well. When the situation finally warranted his relief at the improvised aid station, Private First Class Kleynowski not content with the prodigious job he had already accomplished, worked his way up the slopes of Kakazu Ridge, withstanding the withering enemy fire, to aid in the evacuation of the many casualties. He made repeated trips up and down the hazardous slopes evacuating the wounded and only when he himself was seriously wounded were his untiring efforts halted. He refused aid for his own wounds, sending the litter bearers on to what he called the more seriously wounded and reached the Battalion Aid Station under his own power. Through Private First Class Kleynowski's heroic efforts, his undying courage and profound devotion to duty, he saved many lives. His shining example and blazing loyalty in the face of grave danger served as an inspiration to the men of his unit and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 309

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Rudolph W. Adams, Jr.	44046929	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Martin L. Allday	38701158	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Guillermo Amaro	38582454	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Alphonse Ariola	36909085	Inf	24 May 45
T Sgt	William H. Ballard	38281763	Inf	11 May 45
Sgt	Roy L. Bates	38319805	Inf	11 May 45
1st Sgt	Larty G. Beecher	6931314	Inf	10 Apr 45
Pfc	Scott C. Blackmore	33572237	Inf	11 May 45
Sgt	Albert H. Buoning	36700354	Inf	14 Apr 45
S Sgt	Charles C. Burgess	36700488	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Ervin L. Butterfield	39926901	Inf	11 May 45
Sgt	Clarence W. Carroll	38289287	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Rosario J. Cirincione	13204060	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Emerson G. Crawford, Sr.	34890359	MD	12 May 45
Pfc	Millard F. Cross	38732392	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Willard F. Crowther	37353576	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Albert G. Currey	37461670	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Billy J. Dalton	38634654	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	James S. Doan	34841994	Inf	8 May 45
Pfc	Morris Dierkens	35850235	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Ernest A. Dodge	37749179	Inf	11 May 45
T Sgt	Joseph S. Drozd	36700162	Inf	7 Apr 45
Pfc	Thaddeus Dziondziak	36844535	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Arvid C. Edeburn	37774437	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Lester L. Elmquist	39596943	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Robert K. Fatum	36914193	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Paul J. Fleming	39935562	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Howard V. Frano	39934900	Inf	11 May 45
S Sgt	Johnny Freeman	38291251	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Gilbert A. Fricko	36915263	Inf	10 May 45
S Sgt	Julius J. Glowacz	36700586	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	William J. Grzincic	35242992	Inf	24 May 45
S Sgt	Norman C. Haber	36212864	Inf	10 Apr 45
Pfc	Julius P. Hansmann	38312965	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Bruce E. Hartwell	37678872	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Ralph E. Heise	35243471	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	William Henderson	39146925	Inf	22 May 45
S Sgt	James E. Horstman	35242723	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Walter Y. Hurburch	38680380	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Ivan S. Iverson	39479796	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Gordon A. Jacobson	37586601	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Frank J. Jameson	38570882	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Clyde Jenkins, Jr.	34939880	Inf	13 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 309 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 12 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

S Sgt	Joe Jimenez	37457096	Inf	10 Apr 45
Tac 5	Leo W. Johnson	36705192	Inf	14 Apr 45
Pfc	Paul J. Kacmar	35242794	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	William T. Keller	39346580	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Leroy G. Kern	37752149	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Ray E. Kersey	37645779	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Maurice A. Kistner	36757542	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	James W. Knoff	35238133	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Willy J. Krogor	37751004	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Dennis L. Kuebler	35243227	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Donald C. Lance	36915806	Inf	21 May 45
T Sgt	Howard W. McGraw	35212907	Inf	8 Apr 45
Pvt	Claude M. Neison	39591008	Inf	10 Apr 45
Pfc	Clifford J. Noel	39213923	Inf	13 May 45
Sgt	George J. O'Brien	13114848	Inf	21 May 45
Cpl	Vincent Osuna	39700029	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	Howard R. Phelps	39730205	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Albert F. Pongracz	39728884	MD	10 May 45
Pfc	Gabriel Rakowitz	38254966	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Mark P. Ralph	39475431	Inf	26 May 45
Capt	Robert E. Rector	01286704	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Roland M. Reeves	38573568	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Herbert W. Reue	38635666	MD	13 May 45
Pfc	Arthur R. Riskey	38573536	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Joseph W. Rogers	37775391	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Alvin B. Rose	37775140	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Mifred R. Ross	39475174	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Edwin J. Rue	36844377	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Edward A. Sanderfer	35243285	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Charles J. Schilliger	35241459	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Roy F. Schroeder	37775429	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	Stanley J. Schultz	36405261	Inf	5 Apr 45
Pfc	Clifford R. Sense	33941795	MD	10 May 45
Pfc	Floyd D. Seward	38670935	MD	24 May 45
Pfc	Floyd Sharp, Jr.	34937697	MD	28 May 45
Pfc	Theodore Silva	39730189	Inf	17 May 45
Sgt	Roland S. Smithers	37315803	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Francisco L. Sotelo	39426259	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth W. Spaer	36692704	Inf	10 May 45
1st Lt	John R. Spoidel	01306331	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	John R. Ulman	16141547	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	James T. Williams	38670513	Inf	11 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96th INFANTRY DIVISION  
APR 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 310

GENERAL ORDER -  
SECTION  
POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR II  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL III

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class Eldon A. Wiese, 35225533, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Kenika, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. Private First Class Wiese, an automatic rifleman for an Infantry assault platoon, with utter disregard for his own life, demonstrated great courage by crawling through intense machine gun and mortar fire to an advantageous position from which he could eliminate an enemy pillbox defense which was cut into a solid rock wall and was holding up the advance of the unit and causing heavy casualties. As Private First Class Wiese threw his first grenade, he was mortally wounded by an enemy sniper, but the men of his unit were so inspired by his courageous and gallant actions that they surged forward and successfully eliminated the enemy position. Private First Class Wiese's heroism is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Nellie I. Wiese, Mother, Route 3, Delaware, Ohio.

Sergeant Roy W. Woodruff, 39383417, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. When his tank platoon was temporarily halted by rugged terrain one hundred yards south of Sawtooth Ridge, Sergeant Woodruff, on his own initiative, and despite intense enemy artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire, dismounted from his tank and made a foot reconnaissance of the area. He secured the necessary information regarding a trail over the ridge, then returned to his tank platoon and guided the tanks into positions from which they could bring fire upon the enemy. While directing the fire of his own tank's guns, Sergeant Woodruff was mortally wounded by enemy sniper fire. The supreme courage and unflinching devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Woodruff was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Emma Hargis, Mother, 3710 Rucker Avenue, Everett, Washington.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43; War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

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Private First Class Richard W. Noke, 12094997, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Olinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When his company which had fought its way to the top of strongly defended enemy held Kakazu Ridge and was subjected to a fierce enemy counter-attack, preceded by intense mortar, artillery and machine gun fire, Private First Class Noke, without regard for his own personal safety, maintained his position atop the ridge despite the fury of enemy action and poured a murderous stream of fire into the enemy force throughout the night. When dawn came, the enemy dead were littered four and five men high in the surrounding area and the attack had subsided. Private First Class Noke's courage under fire, bravery and determined defiance were a constant source of inspiration to the men around him. His single courage and initiative were instrumental in successfully repulsing the enemy and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9417, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Mc Dowell Linker, 38603949, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945.

Captain Willard G. Hollinger, 01254430, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945.

Private First Class Edward M. Carroll, 35562475, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April to 15 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Francis M. Fox, 02297732, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April to 28 April 1945.

Private First Class Arthur P. Gallegos, 37246394, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRANTEN:

C. H. ... JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. ...*  
E. R. ...  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 90TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 311

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

SECTION  
II

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
SECTION I

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Full Title No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-40 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 90th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant Kenneth H. Aakerhus, 01297470, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. During an attack on strongly fortified enemy positions on Kakazu Ridge, when the company commander of an Infantry company had been wounded and evacuated, First Lieutenant Aakerhus assumed command of the company and through his able leadership and courageous actions led his company to a successful completion of its mission, overcoming all obstacles developing from the quick transfer to a strange unit in an outstanding manner. First Lieutenant Aakerhus was mortally wounded while performing a reconnaissance for furtherance of an attack on Nishi-Baru Ridge. Next of Kin: Mrs Eleanor Aakerhus, Wife, Ferguson Falls, Minnesota.

Private First Class James T. Mallows, Jr., 34707242, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. Private First Class Mallows was a member of a Field Artillery Forward Observation Party attached to an Infantry company. Preceding an Infantry attack, when the section's only radio failed, Private First Class Mallows and another man were sent to the Battalion Command Post to obtain another radio and rejoin the party. Running through a heavy barrage of enemy mortar, artillery and machine gun fire, Private First Class Mallows and his companion safely reached the Command Post and were on their way back to the front lines with the procured radio, when they were pinned down by enemy mortar, artillery and machine gun fire. Knowing the urgent need of the party for a radio, Private First Class Mallows decided to get through the curtain of fire and courageously started forward, but was mortally wounded by enemy artillery in the attempt. Private First Class Mallows' fearless actions and great devotion to duty which cost him his life, is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs Bertie K. Mallows, Mother, Route #2, Piedmont, Alabama.

Private Carl W. Nyland, Jr., 11024660, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kaniku, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. During an assault on a strongly defended enemy held ridge, Private Nyland, in addition to his job as platoon aid man, assisted a machine gun squad in carrying ammunition. When one gun ran out of ammunition, he crossed an open field subjected to enemy sniper and mortar fire to bring up two boxes of ammunition. He then returned by the same route to give aid to a wounded gunner on the other gun. Whenever he evacuated the wounded, Private Nyland always immediately returned to his unit with ammunition. Private Nyland performed both jobs with great efficiency and courage and his actions were greatly instrumental in his company's successful assault on the enemy held ridge. Next of Kin: Mrs Mary V. Nyland, Mother, Monposset Street, Hanson, Massachusetts.

Technician Fourth Grade Lawrence C. Roche, 36358692, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945 and on 28 April 1945. When on a mission to clean out pockets of resistance south of Kakazu Ridge, five hundred yards forward of the front lines on 20 April 1945, Technician Fourth Grade Roche, an acting platoon sergeant, ordered his crew to remain in their tank and fire on the enemy until all ammunition had been expended. Through his total efforts, an enemy anti-tank gun which had disabled twenty tanks, and which was emplaced sixteen hundred yards away, was destroyed. On 28 April 1945 Technician Fourth Grade Roche again displayed outstanding qualities of leadership by clearing out several enemy machine gun nests which were in almost inaccessible positions. Technician Fourth Grade Roche was killed during the action by enemy sniper fire when he opened the turret hatch of his tank to get better observation of the well camouflaged enemy positions. Technician Fourth Grade Roche displayed unflinching devotion to duty and extreme courage. His actions served as an inspiration to his men and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Minnie Bowman, Mother, 115 S. Seeley Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

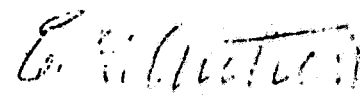
Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders No. 185, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1944 a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Technical Sergeant Arthur F. Busboom, 36430230, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When the medical personnel from a battalion aid station were buried in a cave as the results of an enemy spigot mortar burst, Technical Sergeant Busboom, an Infantry battalion Sergeant Major, with the aid of several other men rushed to the scene immediately and began excavating the casualties, completely unmindful of the falling debris and additional enemy mortar and artillery fire. Technical Sergeant Busboom's courageous actions were instrumental in saving many lives, and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
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Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 312

12 June 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AF 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Robert B. Abbott, 16167300, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. A few hundred yards from enemy held White Hill, when the rifle company to which Sergeant Abbott's machine gun squad was attached was pinned down by fire from an enemy machine gun position, orders were given to take cover; but Sergeant Abbott, and his first and second gunners, chose to remain in their dangerous position and silence the enemy guns. Although the enemy were located on a high ground with excellent observation and a good field of fire, Sergeant Abbott with total disregard for his own safety, stood his ground in the face of the withering machine gun fire and was successful in neutralizing the enemy position and thus enabling the rifle company to continue its advance. The courage and self-sacrificing devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Abbott was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Sebastian Abel, 36403994, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with the military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands on 28 October, 1944. While participating in an attack on the enemy near Tabontabon, Private First Class Abel spotted two Japanese soldiers placing a light machine gun into position to fire on the advancing troops. Without orders and with complete disregard for his own life, Private First Class Abel rushed the enemy position, killed the two men with a single concussion grenade and put the gun out of order. Private First Class Abel's quick, decisive and courageous actions undoubtedly prevented many casualties among his own troops and hastened the complete success of the attack.

Private First Class J. D. Allen, 38292772, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. During the battle for Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Allen a lineman, established wire communication to an infantry assault company, traveling up the hazardous ridge undaunted by enemy mortar and rifle fire, and at all times completely exposed to enemy observation. Although knocked down several times by mortar blasts and having his carbine hit by shrapnel he successfully laid his lines to the forward area. Through his courage, determination and realization of the necessity of communications, Private First Class Allen made it possible for his unit to have an uninterrupted communication system when it was vitally needed.

Private First Class Otto A. Bier, 30679900, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. When his company which was making an attack on a heavily fortified enemy held hill was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire and it became necessary to replenish the supply of ammunition for the heavy machine gun squads, Private First Class Bier and one other man volunteered to go after it. Passing through open terrain, fully exposed to enemy fire, he reached the ammunition supply point and although pinned down several times by the intensity of the enemy fire, he continued on his mission and delivered the vital ammunition in time for his squad to render effective fire to support the further advance of his company and to silence the enemy guns so the casualties could be evacuated. Private First Class Bier's courage and devotion to duty was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Virgil V. Brewer, 37103695, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) Brewer was an acting tank platoon sergeant when his platoon came under direct fire of an enemy anti-tank gun, and was forced to temporarily withdraw. Immediately after his withdrawal, although he had been wounded by shrapnel when his tank was hit by enemy fire, Staff Sergeant Brewer volunteered to expose his tank in order to silence the enemy gun. Directing his tank into the field of fire, Staff Sergeant Brewer, by his calm control of his unit, succeeded in knocking the gun out of action. His daring move enabled the tanks and the Infantry to continue on their advance with the minimum of casualties and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade Louis Butto, 33178647, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. When a tank was immobilized and set afire by an enemy anti-tank gun, the crew abandoned the tank and took cover in a nearby ditch. Technician Fourth Grade Butto, a commander of another tank, dismounted from his tank voluntarily and without regard for his personal safety, and despite heavy enemy fire, administered first aid to the wounded men and evacuated the men by placing them on the exposed rear deck of his tank and shielding them from enemy fire with his own body. Accomplishing this task, he returned with his tank to the enemy held territory and aided in the evacuation of four wounded infantrymen. Technician Fourth Grade Butto's courage and devotion to duty was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL HEADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. I. Autery*  
E. I. AUTERY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 313

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION

II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Ellis A. Horsfall, 36472708, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his machine gun squad was in urgent need of ammunition, Private First Class Horsfall ran five hundred yards to the rear areas to obtain it and succeeded in bringing it to within twenty-five yards of his squad's gun position when he was hit by heavy enemy machine gun fire. Despite his serious wounds he crawled the remaining distance, turned over the ammunition to the gunner, and helped load the gun before he succumbed. Private First Class Horsfall's unflinching devotion to duty, complete disregard for his own life and willingness to perform his obligations under all hazards, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Lucy Horsfall, Wife, Route 6, Jackson, Michigan.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Technician Fifth Grade Norman J. Anderson, 37435664, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Technician Fifth Grade Anderson assisted in the unearthing of medical personnel of a battalion aid station who had been buried in a cave as the result of a spigot mortar after a night of intense enemy artillery and mortar fire. Being one of the first to arrive at the scene, Technician Fifth Grade Anderson aided those only partially buried and then immediately began excavating the others, entirely unmindful of falling debris and additional enemy mortar and artillery fire. Through his courageous and untiring efforts, many lives were saved.

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Private First Class Donald C. Brown, 36432265, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. While in a company attack against strong enemy positions on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Brown, an assistant automatic rifleman, when the BAR man was wounded during a fierce enemy counter-attack, immediately secured the fallen rifle and by continuous fire, silenced an enemy heavy machine gun and subsequently halted an enemy counter-attack. Private First Class Brown's courageous action under intense enemy fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain Everette W. Garrison, 01286632, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April to 28 April 1945.

Corporal Cleo L. Greenfield, 37229180, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

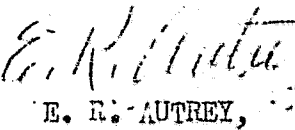
Technician Fifth Grade Donald Hollingshead, 36539749, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

Technician Fourth Grade Arthur J. Underhill, 36700522, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
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Chief of Staff.

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

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 314

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Clarence J. Friese, 36615490, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 8 April 1945. Private First Class Friese, while driving his vehicle loaded with 81mm mortar and machine gun ammunition, was subjected to a heavy barrage of enemy artillery fire falling on and near to the road on which he was travelling. Realizing the importance of his cargo and the need for transportation, and disregarding thoughts of his personal safety, Private First Class Friese continued on his way and succeeded in reaching the battalion dump. The route traveled by Private First Class Friese passed through several native villages which were being continually shelled by the enemy but Private First Class Friese never once hesitated in passing directly through the towns, thus speeding the delivery of his load of ammunition to the front line troops. The courage and aggressiveness displayed by Private First Class Friese reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Joseph I. Golden, 31367455, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. While at a forward observation post, maintaining radio communications for his unit during an attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Golden was struck in the knee and leg by four shrapnel fragments from an enemy mortar round which exploded but five yards away. At the time of the action, Private First Class Golden was operating his radio and, despite his wounds and exposed position, he continued to maintain communications, refusing to be returned for proper medical attention. During the night when the enemy launched a fierce counter-attack, Private First Class Golden, without regard for his personal safety nor dismayed by his previous injuries, continued to operate an SCR 300 radio on the regimental channel, and through his valor and efficiency in the face of enemy force, coordination between his battalion and regiment was obtained and the counter-attack was successfully repulsed.

Staff Sergeant William J. Gustaitis, 36645091, Air Corps, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Gustaitis, a member of an air liaison team, was advancing on enemy held positions when the officer in charge was struck down by enemy small arms fire and lay exposed on a road leading into the town of Kue. Although exposed to constant enemy observation and fire, Staff Sergeant Gustaitis voluntarily remained with the wounded officer, administered immediate first aid and then assisted in removing him to a position of safety. Staff Sergeant Gustaitis' courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant L. T. Hammer, 37233354, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. During an attack by his company on Tombstone Ridge, Staff Sergeant Hammer, without regard to his own personal safety, crossed twenty yards of terrain exposed to enemy sniper and mortar fire and removed a wounded man to a position of safety. Upon returning to his platoon and finding that his platoon sergeant had been wounded, Staff Sergeant Hammer assumed command and when the advance was slowed down by fire from an enemy mortar, he crawled forward alone to the enemy position in a trench and with grenades, killed three of the enemy and knocked out the mortar. Staff Sergeant Hammer's courageous actions and aggressive leadership reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

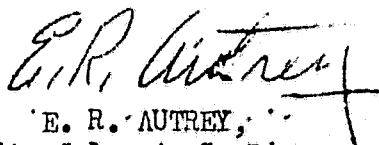
Corporal Nile R. Herrin, 36748628, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. When a tank was hit during an advance and was set afire, Corporal Herrin, a gunner, was in another tank which moved forward to evacuate the crew of the disabled tank. Observing that the disabled tank crew members were wounded and unable to aid themselves, Corporal Herrin, voluntarily and without regard for his personal safety, dismounted from his tank and despite heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, assisted the wounded men. In the accomplishment of his task, Corporal Herrin himself was wounded twice, but he courageously continued his work until all the men were evacuated. Corporal Herrin's steadfast devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Sergeant Thomas A. Highberger, Jr., 20900044, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Uchitomari, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Following a night of intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, when medical personnel of a battalion aid station were buried in a cave as the results of a spigot mortar burst, First Sergeant Highberger, a battalion headquarters company first sergeant, with the aid of several other men, was one of the first to arrive at the scene to aid those who were only partially buried. He began excavating immediately using his hands and a shovel and through his efforts, many lives were saved. Unmindful of falling debris and enemy mortar and artillery fire and with no thought to his own personal safety, he continued his efforts until all of the victims were unearthed.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 315

12 June 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1945 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant James E. Cox, 17159801, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. During an assault by his company on a strongly fortified enemy held hill near Kamiyama, Staff Sergeant (Platoon Sergeant) Cox with utter disregard for his own safety, climbed to the crest of the ridge which was being raked by enemy machine gun and mortar fire and directed the fire of his mortar section on the enemy positions by telephone. He succeeded in his mission, Staff Sergeant Cox brought the fire of his mortar section upon the enemy directly in front of, and dangerously close to his own position and even though this action constituted a serious threat to his own safety, he continued his performance until the enemy were forced to retreat after several counterattacks to the caves in which they were later destroyed by demolition teams. Staff Sergeant Cox's courage and aggressive actions reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class William W. Dailey, 36780694, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When a strong enemy counter attack, preceded by an intense artillery and mortar barrage and supported withering machine gun and sniper fire, developed at dawn, Private First Class Dailey gallantly stayed with his machine gun in an exposed but advantageous position and threw many grenades with telling effect, manning his machine gun in the interval between flares. Private First Class Dailey's aggressive action against the enemy greatly inspired his platoon to successful repulsion of the attack and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Richard M. Devereaux, 32772673, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When tanks were being used to lead his company's attack on an enemy held ridge, Private First Class Devereaux was given the job of guiding them and directing their fire. At great risk of life, he exposed himself to enemy artillery, mortar and rifle fire and so successfully directed the fire of the tanks that two pillboxes and an enemy field piece were knocked out and his company was able to press their attack and capture the enemy held ridge with a minimum loss of personnel. The courage and initiative displayed by Private First Class Devereaux reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant James E. Dowdy, 38293039, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. As a squad leader of a 60mm mortar squad, Sergeant Dowdy, on numerous occasions, exposed himself to enemy fire in order to observe their positions and as a result of his observations,

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his squad scored several direct hits upon two enemy machine gun emplacements and one 2.10mm mortar position. When his squad went out of action, due to a lack of ammunition and the radio which was the only means of communication went out of order, Sergeant Dowdy voluntarily offered to act as contact man between the various elements of the company. On one mission to get in touch with the third platoon of his company, when Sergeant Dowdy was caught in a withering hail of enemy machine gun fire, he made his way back to the Company Command Post, contacted the machine gun squad in position there and pointed out to them the whereabouts of the enemy gun which they succeeded in knocking out, thus enabling him to continue on his mission. Sergeant Dowdy's courageous actions were a source of inspiration to the men of his unit and contributed greatly to the success of the mission.

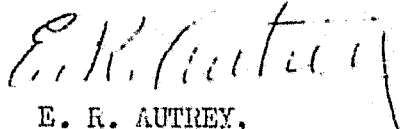
Technical Sergeant Charlie M. Fink, 19048735, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. Technical Sergeant Fink, through his profound devotion to duty and cool courage under an intense barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire, controlled his group and led them brilliantly, giving maximum fire support to the attacking rifle troops. When given a mission of supporting the rifle units of his command, Technical Sergeant Fink locating gun positions under intense enemy fire led his men through the curtain of fire to establish his guns in a more favorable position to bring fire on the enemy. He did this through his outstanding traits of leadership and in so doing kept his group in a fighting state and brought devastating fire on the enemy force. Technical Sergeant Fink's every action was inspirational to his men, and his profound devotion to duty and cool courage was exemplary of the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Robert E. Flowers, 36383147, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. When the rifle company to which Private First Class Flower's machine gun squad was attached was pinned down by fire from an enemy machine gun during an attack on White Hill, and orders were given to take cover, Private First Class Flowers, a first gunner, and his squad leader and second gunner, chose to remain fast and silence the enemy guns. Even though the enemy was located in a position suitable for excellent observation and had a good field of fire, Private First Class Flowers stood his ground in the face of the withering machine gun fire and succeeded in neutralizing the enemy positions, thus enabling the rifle company to continue its advance. Private First Class Flower's courage and great devotion to duty was an inspiration to all who witnessed his action and is keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 316

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION

II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Technician Fourth Grade Forrest C. Jordan, 37016633, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands on 10 December 1944. Technician Fourth Grade Jordan, a first scout of a front line rifle platoon, was leading his platoon in an advance against the enemy through dense underbrush and rugged terrain when he was fired upon and pinned momentarily down by an enemy ambush consisting of one light machine gun and eight riflemen, forty yards to the right front. Assisted by the second scout and continuously firing his rifle, Technician Fourth Grade Jordan moved to the enemy's right flank and knocked out the light machine gun with a hand grenade thus enabling his platoon to move in and eliminate the remaining eight riflemen. Technician Fourth Grade Jordan's aggressive and courageous action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Elma Jordan, Wife, Box 273, Drain, Oregon.

First Lieutenant John J. Berry, 01307938, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 11 February 1945 to 24 April 1945. Next of Kin Mrs. Mary C. Berry, Wife, 319 West First Street, Spencer, Iowa.

Private First Class Ralph C. Hutchons, 37726088, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Next of Kin: Zetta Hutchons, Mother, El Dorado, Kansas.

First Lieutenant James H. Redden, Jr., 01308000, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 23 April 1945. Next of Kin: Mrs. James H. Redden, Mother, 4107 Hays Street NE, Washington, D. C.

*Rec. by HQ # 454 - July 5, 1945*  
\* ~~First Lieutenant Earl G. Sorenson, 01297607, Infantry, United States Army.~~  
For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. Next of Kin: Mrs. Eleanor G. Sorenson, Wife, 19 South Barneburgh Road, Medford, Oregon.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 5, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Homer S. Clark, 32485861, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 8 April 1945.

First Lieutenant George A. Cook, 01291932, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 15 April 1945.

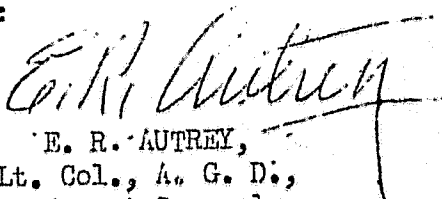
Technician Third Grade Allan C. Cunningham, 36534721, Ordnance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with preparations for the Leyte Operation from 15 July 1944 to 12 September 1944; and in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 30 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Frank L. Galligan, 36704878, Ordnance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with preparations for the Leyte operation, from 1 August 1944 to 12 September 1944; and in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 30 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96th INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

12 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 317

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant William E. Beard, 01315535, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. First Lieutenant Beard, a weapons platoon leader, during an advance of the rifle company his platoon was supporting, received the information that three men were trapped near a burial vault, the only approach to which was covered by enemy fire. Earlier attempts to get aid to the three men all of whom were wounded, had been unsuccessful and had resulted in another casualty. Voluntarily, First Lieutenant Beard worked his way to the wounded men, across open terrain, in the face of enemy sniper fire and completely disregarding his own personal safety. The enemy increased their small arms fire on the stranded group and added mortar shelling but ignoring this, First Lieutenant Beard made two complete trips to safely evacuate the wounded men. First Lieutenant Beard's courageous action, unfaltering devotion to duty and his aggressive spirit in the face of enemy fire, reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant John D. Blair, 01318751, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands on 12 November 1944. When a forward element of the battalion suffered heavy casualties, First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant) Blair immediately led two rifle squads forward to a position from which they could effectively cover the evacuation of the wounded. Having full knowledge that the area to his front was covered by hostile small arms fire, First Lieutenant Blair voluntarily and without hesitation, twice left his position of cover and personally moved two wounded men to safety. He distributed ammunition to the men in his sector and voluntarily exposed himself in order to make the enemy disclose their location, then having spotted the hostile position, he effectively directed 60mm mortar fire, at ranges endangering his own safety, in the destruction of two Japanese machine gun nests. The heroic example set by First Lieutenant Blair so bolstered the morale of the front line troops that they were able to hold their precarious position and complete their mission of seizing the battalion objective.

Private First Class Lumir W. Cadek, 37266305, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When his platoon was subjected to a strong enemy night attack on a high rocky ledge on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Cadek, a runner, took up a position on an exposed section of the line and poured a steady stream of fire into the enemy force with his M3. Running out of ammunition, Private First Class Cadek, seized a BAR and continued firing until the enemy attack was repulsed. Private First Class Cadek's courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Sergeant Claude C. Davis, 38292768, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 3 December 1944. Sergeant Davis, a rifle squad leader, having been given the mission of securing a flank position, ran into enemy machine gun fire and several riflemen. Under heavy machine gun, rifle and grenade fire, Sergeant Davis maneuvered his squad into an advantageous position and with one other man, he himself advanced through thick underbrush and succeeded in neutralizing the enemy gun emplacement and completely routing the enemy forces. Sergeant Davis' aggressive and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Dan Harn, 38272381, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When all radio communications between the various elements of the company failed to function, Private First Class Harn, a runner, became the only means for disseminating vital messages. On numerous occasions, he exposed himself to heavy enemy mortar, machine gun and sniper fire in order to carry out his duties, and although he received a serious shoulder wound on one of his trips, he went on without faltering to complete his mission. Private First Class Harn's unflinching devotion to duty is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

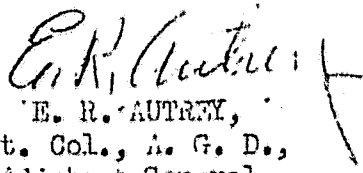
Private Wesley R. Hillstrom, 36537933, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When a mortar shell fell in the company area and buried five men in their holes, Private Hillstrom, completely disregarding the continuing barrage of enemy artillery fire which was falling in the area, seized a shovel and ran to their assistance and by his prompt and courageous action, was instrumental in saving the lives of the five men. Private Hillstrom's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class William E. Hokanson, 37586663, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon had become isolated on the top of Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Hokanson's position was an open one, subject to heavy enemy sniper and machine gun fire, but which was necessary for the safety of the rest of the company. For a period of ten hours, he maintained his position, aiding greatly in the stemming of two strong enemy counter-attacks and was personally responsible for the killing of three of the enemy who were charging his position. Private First Class Hokanson's steadfastness and devotion to duty in the face of great danger are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 319

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	William R. Anderson	36384696	Inf	21 May 45
Sgt	Henry G. Armstrong	39344029	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Arthur V. Belcher	35257498	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	John G. Bellessa	39480120	Inf	23 May 45
S Sgt	John W. Boch	35423812	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Glenn C. Bolinder	39934912	Inf	30 May 45
Pfc	Oakley C. Brooks	35908686	Inf	28 May 45
Pfc	Clyde J. Broward, Jr.	35850570	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Samuel H. Brown	44020497	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Eddie U. Bull	38634489	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Garlin I. Bullard	44046818	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	James W. Casteel	38701256	Inf	21 May 45
Sgt	Arnold O. Chase	37586669	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	<del>Donald M. Chase</del>	<del>36486833</del>	<del>Inf</del>	<del>24 May 45</del>
Pfc	<del>Elmo D. Cheney</del>	<del>39934474</del>	<del>Inf</del>	<del>23 May 45</del>
Pfc	Melvin E. Child	39932807	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Alvin E. Clark	33859389	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth D. Clover	33713073	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Gene H. Cole	39591280	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Dors Cowles	39728238	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Jimmie D. Cowger	39705926	Inf	30 May 45
T Sgt	James E. Cox	17159801	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	William B. Creutz	37711952	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Alvis E. Crow, Jr.	38634613	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Orville F. Darby	37231015	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Roy B. Davis, Jr.	35624553	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Vernon C. Dowville	37597820	Inf	25 May 45
Sgt	James E. Downing	36704950	Inf	14 Apr 45
Pfc	William S. Earl, Jr.	34792423	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Mardjen Edris	39074300	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Merrill C. Elswood	39935859	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Martin J. Fahey	39147092	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Wayne B. Flick	37711629	Inf	28 May 45
Pfc	Albert D. S. Flynn	34948354	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Frank H. Frazer	39594372	Inf	23 May 45
X 2d Lt	Robert V. Fulkerson, Jr.	01331618	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Paul E. Garrett	34524968	Inf	26 May 45
1st Sgt	Lomer D. Hawkins	6286827	Inf	7 Apr 45
Pfc	Jack Helton	35723659	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Delber. K. Hendricks	37748922	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Robert W. Hibbard	36914902	Inf	21 May 45

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Pfc	Edwin C. Hirtel	39122843	Inf	17 May 45
S Sgt	John F. Hornell	33673145	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Blaine C. Horton	39951137	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Horace W. Howard, Jr.	44016305	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Siegfried Hufenbach	35820318	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Carlisle S. Hunt	3490876	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Joe D. Jacob	3890332	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Glenroy L. Jensen	38550286	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Elmer D. Johnston	39731066	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Robert P. Jordan	33924114	Inf	17 May 45
1st Lt	Ernest H. Judge	01300046	Inf	5 Jun 45
Pfc	James E. Kelly, Jr.	35701144	Inf	1 May 45
Pfc	Ellwyn D. Kemmer	37751955	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	John E. Kent	36913347	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Joseph W. Kornbau, Jr.	35920870	Inf	30 May 45
Pfc	Forrest C. Krause	37640923	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Eldon B. Lake	39935546	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	Orval L. Lake	39935566	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Russell L. Lane	33926218	Inf	1 May 45
Pfc	Vernel L. Morris	39171139	Inf	1 May 45
Pfc	George E. Murphy	39593594	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Wayne W. Nagle	36903806	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Raymond Novak	36907675	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Bernard Nudelman	36907657	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Moises H. Orona	38582037	Inf	17 May 45
S Sgt	Wayne M. Owen	34135347	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Melvyn L. Packer	39136248	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Diamond Pappas	36383353	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Robert N. Patrick	37621272	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Clarence W. Pawlonty	37598659	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Reino E. Pellonpa	36846719	Inf	27 May 45
Pfc	Joseph W. Perry	38635169	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Robert J. Rowell	34139276	Inf	19 May 45
T Sgt	Florian G. Pronowicz	36129345	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth J. Roth	37152517	Inf	18 May 45
S Sgt	Robert T. Rockel	33148782	Inf	17 May 45
Sgt	George G. Roy, Jr.	36193247	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Edward E. Ripley, Jr.	37149272	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Harold L. Robinson	37153074	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Frank G. Rodrigues	37126153	MD	10 May 45
Pfc	Herle O. Scott	37753052	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Michael J. Shea	36172008	Inf	22 May 45
2d Lt	Frederick B. Stued	01331780	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Harold R. Stratmoon	37555621	Inf	18 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 320

*ORIGINAL ORDER*  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Roderick J. Long, 39910285, Infantry, United States Army for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When returning to his unit from which he had been sent with one other man to secure rations and water for the front line troops, Private First Class Long and his companion were subjected to a heavy barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire while crossing an open field and the other man was seriously wounded. Private First Class Long immediately administered first aid and then seeing that the man was too weak to move, he carried him one hundred and fifty yards across the field which was still under enemy fire to a position of safety. Private First Class Long's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

*Recd. by S. # 336 - June 14, 1945*  
~~\* Technical Sergeant D. W. Mayes, 20740767, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. Technical Sergeant Mayes, a weapons platoon leader, aided greatly in repulsing a strong enemy counter-attack which was preceded by an intense enemy artillery and mortar barrage. Technical Sergeant Mayes controlled and directed the fire of every available weapon in his platoon and by his timely planning and gallant devotion to duty, his mortar section successfully stopped infiltrations through the draw to his units left flank and succeeded in destroying thirty seven of the enemy in that sector. Throughout the entire campaign, Technical Sergeant Mayes directed machine gun fire in close support of the rifle platoons and although wounded twice, he stayed on the job until ordered to leave.~~

Private First Class Sylvester J. Nielsen, 37481410, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. While guiding the company commander of a rifle company which was relieving his unit, on a tour of the front lines, Private First Class Nielsen and the officer were subjected to a heavy enemy artillery barrage. When one shell landed near the officer, temporarily stunning him, Private First Class Nielsen removed him to a sheltered position. Another artillery shell struck close by and spewed dirt over the pair, knocking Private First Class Nielsen's carbine from his grasp, but he continued his efforts, and by sheer courage managed to bring both himself and the officer to safety. It was only as a result of Private First Class Nielsen's heroism that the officer was able to return to safety.

Private First Class John W. Peterson, 36681931, Infantry, United States Army For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. As a rifleman in a infantry assault company, Private First Class Peterson was subjected to extremely heavy enemy mortar and artillery concentrations, and under constant withering machine gun fire but although wounded in the arm, he refused evacuation from the front lines; treating himself instead, in order that he might remain and carry on the assault. Private First Class Peterson fought on for three days under demoralizing conditions with never a thought but for the welfare of his comrades and the destruction of the enemy. His actions contributed greatly to the success of the mission and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

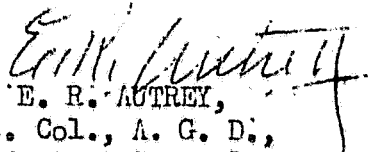
Private First Class Duane V. Rappe, 36430033, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When the tremendous volume of fire laid down by the enemy made positions held by his unit on Kakazu Ridge unsuitable and a withdrawal was ordered, Private First Class Rappe volunteered to remain behind with his machine gun to cover the evacuation of the wounded. In the face of the blistering enemy fire, he coolly and courageously continued his fire until evacuation was nearly completed when ordered to retire, and upon his retiring, he helped to carry the wounded back to safety. Private First Class Rappe's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Corporal Doy O. Riddle, 39190522, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. Corporal Riddle was a member of a Field Artillery Forward Observation party attached to an Infantry company. A short while before the Infantry attacked an enemy position, the radio, which was the only means of communication with the supporting artillery, failed to function. Corporal Riddle and another man were sent to the rear command post to obtain a new radio and although immediately coming under heavy mortar, artillery and machine gun fire, they ran through the barrage and safely reached the command post. On the way back to the front lines with the new radio when they were still six hundred yards away from the position of the party, Corporal Riddle and the other man were pinned down by enemy mortar, artillery and machine gun fire, but realizing the urgent need of the party for a radio, Corporal Riddle decided to get through the curtain of fire. When they had almost reached a position of comparative safety, Corporal Riddle's companion was struck by an enemy artillery shell. Seeing that his companion had been killed and the radio destroyed, Corporal Riddle retraced his steps to the command post and reported to his Battery Commander. Corporal Riddle's utter disregard for his own safety and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. MOTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 321

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1913, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Technician Fourth Grade Lyle A. Robinson, 17153543, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kanikau, Okinawa Island from 18 April 1945 to 21 April 1945. When the company to which Technician Fourth Grade Robinson was attached was engaged in an attack on strongly fortified enemy positions, and suffered heavy casualties, he courageously and cheerfully rendered immediate aid wherever and whenever it was needed. On one occasion on 19 April 1945, Technician Fourth Grade Robinson responded to a call for aid from a man in an adjoining company and crossed two hundred yards of open terrain which was under enemy fire to reach the wounded man. After administering first aid, Technician Fourth Grade Robinson remained with the man and assisted in his evacuation, again exposing himself to enemy fire. Technician Fourth Grade Robinson's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technical Sergeant Milton Shepsky, 36383496, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon was pinned down by a heavy sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire and subjected to numerous counter-attacks, Technical Sergeant Shepsky supervised their movements into the safest possible positions, at the same time forming a protective perimeter from which they could offer the best defensive fire. On numerous occasions, he exposed himself to enemy fire to bring the men into position. During one enemy counter-attack, Technical Sergeant Shepsky personally was responsible for killing seven of the force. His cleverness in the placing of his troops played a great part in the repulsing of all enemy attacks. His aggressive actions, complete disregard for his own life in exposing himself on numerous incidents and his great concern for the welfare of the troops in his charge are exemplary of great leadership and contributed materially to the ultimate success of his unit's mission.

Private First Class Kenneth C. Slauson, 36432016, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. Private First Class Slauson, a messenger on duty at a forward command post, upon observing two squads of an adjacent unit which were becoming disorganized when they were fired on by enemy machine guns and mortars, voluntarily left his position of comparative safety and seeking a possible route of escape for the squads, crossed an open area which was covered by enemy fire, contacted the units and led them out. Returning to his observation post after completing his mission, Private First Class Slauson noticing that two of the men had failed to follow him, returned over the same exposed route and led them to safety.

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An enemy pillbox crew, seeing the action, opened fire on him, but Private First Class Slauson, by rushing from cover to cover and sometimes crawling, returned to his post. Private First Class Slauson's courageous and aggressive actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Frank Stead, gr., 36534203, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When his platoon was pinned down by intense enemy machine gun and mortar fire, Private First Class Stead, a BAR man, moved quickly and fearlessly into the open and in spite of the intense fire, continued to fire his BAR into the pillbox embrasure, silencing the gun long enough to allow the platoon to secure a more advantageous position and remove the wounded to a position of cover.

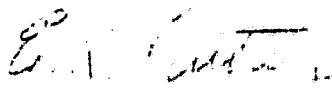
Private First Class Carl H. Strauss, 37345595, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When an enemy mortar shell fell in the company area, burying five men in their holes, Private First Class Strauss, realizing the need for haste, and completely disregarding the concentrated barrage which continued to fall in the area, seized a shovel and ran to the assistance of the men. His prompt action was instrumental in saving the lives of the five men and was an inspiration to all who witnessed it. Private First Class Strauss' courageous act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Joseph A. Tabaczynski, 35905905, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. During an attack by his company on a heavily fortified enemy held hill, when his heavy machine gun squad which was giving supporting fire, was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire and it became necessary to replenish their ammunition, Private First Class Tabaczynski and one other man volunteered to go after it. He had to pass through open terrain, fully exposed to the enemy fire in order to reach the ammunition supply point and although pinned down several times by the intensity of the enemy fire, he continued on his mission and delivered the much needed ammunition in time for his squad to give effective supporting fire to further the advance, and to silence the enemy guns so that the wounded could be evacuated. The courage and self sacrificing devotion to duty displayed by Private First Class Tabaczynski was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 322

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7117, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-44 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Corporal Paul E. Hudson, 38291208, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Corporal Hudson, transportation corporal, continually travelled under heavy enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire with his vehicle, in order to maintain contact between supply vehicles and the front line troops. On 11 April 1945, when his unit was in urgent need of ammunition, Corporal Hudson voluntarily and without regard for his own safety, drove through a heavy enemy artillery and mortar barrage which had his troops pinned down and successfully passing through this intense fire, delivered to his unit, a supply of vitally important ammunition, thus enabling them to continue firing and to knock out many enemy strong points.

Private First Class Edgar H. Hughson, 19002026, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniha, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. While his battalion was being attacked by a strong enemy force of approximately two hundred and fifty men, supported by mortars and artillery fire, Private First Class Hughson exposed himself, with complete disregard for his own safety, in order to fire upon the enemy. When his BAR became over-heated, Private First Class Hughson, knowing his weapon was sorely needed in the fire fight, remained in his open position and proceeded to make the necessary adjustments, quickly cleaning it and re-entering the fight, thus assisting greatly in the repulse of the attack in his platoon sector. Private First Class Hughson's actions were in accord with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Harold E. James, 35842399, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. During an attack on enemy forces near Momobaru, Private First Class James, a rifleman, volunteered to go across an open field covered by heavy enemy machine gun crossfire to evacuate a man from an adjacent unit who had been seriously wounded. Upon reaching the man and finding that he was in need of blood plasma and could not be removed, Private First Class James made his way back to his unit's lines and returned after dark with the plasma and an aid man. When the group reached the wounded man, they saw an enemy patrol passing between them and their lines so they carried the casualty into a thicket and stayed with him as the enemy passed by within three feet of their position. Private First Class James and the other man remained with the wounded man, administered first aid throughout the night, and succeeded in saving his life. Such courageous actions and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Carl F. Klinner, 36285765, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When his unit sustained heavy casualties during an attack on Kakazu Ridge and litter bearers were called for, Private First Class Klinner, a BAR man, volunteered to assist in the evacuation of the wounded and worked throughout the entire day and into the night in leading litter squads across eight hundred yards of hazardous terrain which was constantly covered by enemy mortar and sniper fire. On one occasion, Private First Class Klinner assisted in evacuating a seriously wounded man who was in immediate need of blood plasma, to the aid station of an adjacent unit which was nearer than his own, travelling successfully along an unfamiliar trail in total darkness. Private First Class Klinner's great courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

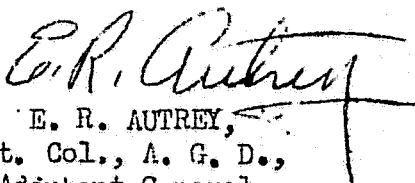
Second Lieutenant William K. Knobel, 01013669, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. During the fight for a ridge south of Nishi-Bar when the Infantry troops were pinned down by murderous enemy machine gun fire from two well emplaced pillboxes, Second Lieutenant Knobel displaced his 37mm anti-tank guns forward to the crest of Nishi-Baru Ridge while under heavy mortar fire and although hit by shrapnel, he coolly continued to direct the fire and succeeded in knocking out both gun emplacements. Through his courage and disregard of personal safety, Second Lieutenant Knobel made it possible for the front line troops to move forward and secure their objective.

Technician Fifth Grade Robert G. Livingston, 36728399, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When a man was seriously wounded by an enemy mortar shell, Technician Fifth Grade Livingston ran to his assistance, and in spite of the enemy artillery fire which continued to fall in the area and which made evacuation impossible, he remained with his patient throughout the entire night and succeeded in saving the man's life. Technician Fifth Grade Livingston's act of great courage is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 95TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 323

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section 11, Bulletin No. 3, War Department, 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 20 September 1943 as amended by Change No. 3, 15 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 95th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Albert F. Tibault, 31121192, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. When his platoon leader and platoon sergeant were wounded during the assault on Kakazu Ridge, Sergeant Tibault assumed command of a heavy machine gun section and displayed outstanding leadership and courageous action in the performance of his duties, many times exposing himself to heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire. He carried out his orders in an exceptional manner and with aggressiveness and great devotion to duty, led his men on to the successful accomplishment of their missions.

Technician Fourth Grade William J. Lucas, 36271742, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kenika, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When heavy casualties among the front line Infantry companies prevented rapid evacuation of all wounded to the Battalion Aid Station, Technician Fourth Grade Lucas, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, advanced with prepared plasma and other supplies necessary to give supportive therapy to the wounded in the forward area until such time as they could be removed from the field of battle. By his courageous actions, Technician Fourth Grade Lucas, who remained in the forward position until all casualties were evacuated, was instrumental in saving the lives of several men who had been seriously wounded. His exemplary coolness and devotion to duty were an inspiration to all who witnessed his action and aided materially in the success of the operation.

Second Lieutenant Carl A. Schluter, Jr., 01015056, Cavalry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. During a tank attack on an enemy stronghold, when his tank was hit by an enemy anti-tank gun and caught afire, Second Lieutenant Schluter assisted the crew, all of whom were suffering from burns or wounds, in evacuating the tank. Then he ordered the other tanks in his platoon to disperse and withdraw from the field of fire. Although he himself was twice wounded during the abandonment of the tank, Second Lieutenant Schluter courageously continued his efforts to aid his crew by leading them to protective cover until they could be evacuated. Second Lieutenant Schluter's steadfast devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 323 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 13 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Private First Class Loyd Thomas, 38329809, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Shuri, Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. Private First Class Thomas, acting platoon leader of a front line rifle platoon, had the mission of defending with his platoon of only eleven riflemen, a part of the company perimeter on a steep rocky ridge. When the position which the platoon defended was attacked by a strong enemy force in the night, Private First Class Thomas kept his men well organized by his determined leadership in the face of strong enemy opposition and in spite of the intense small arms fire and grenades used by the enemy, the attack was successfully repulsed. Private First Class Thomas' courage under fire and his aggressive action are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Marion L. Wagoner, 37355311, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 30 April 1945. When a tank which was maneuvering forward of the Infantry lines bogged down in a swamp hole and was endangered by intense enemy fire because of its exposed position, Private First Class Wagoner, who was an assistant driver in another tank, upon observing the desperate plight of the tank, voluntarily and with complete disregard for his personal safety, dismounted from the top hatch of his tank and despite heavy enemy machine gun and sniper fire, hooked a tow cable to the disabled tank. By Private First Class Wagoner's action, the disabled tank was put back into operation against the enemy. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Private First Class Wagoner is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant Maynard V. Ware, 34196257, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. When a tank, commanded by Staff Sergeant Ware, was hit and set afire by an enemy anti-tank gun, he helped his crew to the cover offered by a nearby ditch and although he himself was badly burned and despite heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, he left his protected position to return three hundred yards to the Infantry front lines to secure aid for his wounded men. Instructed to accept medical aid and evacuation for his own wounds, Staff Sergeant Ware elected to return to his crew to aid in their evacuation. His supreme bravery, courage and intrepid leadership have set a lasting example for the men of his unit and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 324

13 June 1945

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Revised), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryugu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Frank Alberts	36214351	Inf	14 May 45
S Sgt	Alfred J. Amarrina	37452462	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Robert J. Ash	36420283	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Alfred Atanuy	39762422	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Howard L. Allen	37491291	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Hugh Aspinwall	44021622	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	George E. Augler	39471557	Inf	13 May 45
Tec 4	Nicholas M. Bader	19 18377	Inf	20 May 45
S Sgt	Frederic E. Baker	35431237	Inf	28 Apr 45
Pfc	Paul P. Baker	37341266	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Berna H. Barnett	33723383	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Yancy Berzell	38622227	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Alfred W. Bellisle	36451277	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Wylie J. Berrett	39453122	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Arthur C. Bergaron	31 12461	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Alvin Bernard	39441235	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Gervase J. Bletcher	37221203	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Valentino R. Boehm	37221209	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Nathan B. Boley	35 47 52	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Nathan H. Borgens	39431231	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Lauren L. Brower	37521254	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Edwin L. Cahoun	42221248	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Gerald A. Canol	33221243	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Floyd P. Casey	37421291	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Muzum Glina	38721280	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Henry R. Cohen	33221203	Inf	26 Apr 45
Sgt	William T. Corcoran	34221207	Inf	1 Apr 45
Pfc	Warren H. Culp	39221203	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Alexander Davis	36221203	Inf	12 May 45
Pvt	Robert M. Dochterman	37521236	Inf	5 Apr 45
Pfc	Dorinda E. Eaton	36721267	Inf	17 May 45
Pvt	Edward C. Edwards	35421277	Inf	30 Apr 45
Sgt	Ernest A. Evans	34221290	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Cesar J. Fink	38421223	Inf	18 May 45
Pvt	Claude M. Fowler	38421251	Inf	24 Apr 45
Pvt	Cecil S. Hatley	36421255	Inf	22 Apr 45
S Sgt	Everett B. Hanson	37221259	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Ole A. Henning	37360536	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Asa L. High	38332079	Inf	19 May 45
Sgt	William A. Hohner	36430619	Inf	4 Apr 45
Pvt	Crestor Jackson	34369012	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pvt	Kenneth W. Johnson	39221273	Inf	22 Apr 45
Pfc	Barney H. Keemo	36472039	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Michael J. Kushner	33354089	Inf	5 Apr 45

GENERAL ORDERS 324 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 13 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pfc	Robert R. King	39344002	Inf	6 Apr 45
Pfc	Earl C. Lee	37644502	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Frank R. Manseau	36540400	Inf	21 May 45
Sgt	Gerald C. Means	38271425	Inf	13 May 45
Sgt	James L. Medler	36429630	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Dorald G. Melquist Jr.	32839642	Inf	18 May 45
Sgt	Ernest H. Ottjes	37318833	Inf	4 Apr 45
S Sgt	Aaron D. Overstreet	36586062	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Byron E. Peters	39142155	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Raymond J. Petersen	36700880	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Clarence E. Plotner	36581149	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Vilburn E. Price	38230520	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Juan G. Ponce	39254487	Inf	26 Apr 45
Pfc	Joseph P. Reich	33928181	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Angel M. Reyes	39587260	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Curtis L. Rhoades	38632197	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Billie B. Richardson	37266320	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth W. Roberson	44013155	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Roy L. Robinson	39295836	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Allan C. Ross	39470521	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	David S. Ross	38632280	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Leo F. Rosanek	39595422	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Billy J. Rugg	39470482	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	George Samchuck	33885765	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Gerald C. Sandersfield	36471229	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Edward H. Scherer	35092996	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Reinhold J. Schnabel	37315632	Inf	12 May 45
S Sgt	Walter R. Scott	37085411	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Bobby R. Self	35851299	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	George H. Sharp	36429932	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Albert M. Shelby	39595523	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Merle C. Sherretz	35909670	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Edward P. Shively	33836973	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Darven J. Shragal	36949674	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Joseph H. Smith	6839538	Inf	9 Apr 45
Pfc	Theodore G. Stanley	36719234	Inf	13 May 45
Sgt	Donald L. Stephens	36539907	Inf	4 Apr 45
Pfc	Robert D. Strickland	39866026	Inf	16 May 45
T Sgt	Hilton Stults	36534779	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	John S. Surprenant	36906087	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Jose P. Valdez	38230385	Inf	1 Apr 45
Pfc	Odell C. Whitmore	39595002	Inf	10 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "C" "F" & "X"



AGRS-DA 201 Petersen, Raymond J.  
(4 Apr 49) 36 700 880

28 April 1949

WITHDRAWAL OF GENERAL ORDERS

So much of General Orders 324, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 13 June 1945 as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to Raymond J. Petersen, 36 700 880, is withdrawn.

The Purple Heart has been awarded previously to the above-named individual by General Orders 5, Headquarters 1109th Pacific Area, Provisional Army Ground Forces, dated 5 June 1945.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*W. A. Leary*  
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

13 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 325.

ORIGINAL ORDER

	<u>SECTION</u>
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR	I
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	II
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	III

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43; War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Sergeant John C. McKinnie, 36431732, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island, on 13 April 1945. Sergeant McKinnie, a squad leader of a light machine gun squad, manned his gun during a strong enemy counter-attack and remained in position despite heavy enemy mortar fire until his gun failed to fire, at which time, he acquired a rifle and continued to fire until his machine gun had been repaired. After it had been repaired, he continued to deliver effective fire and by use of grenades assisted in splitting the enemy force. At day-break, thirty-five enemy dead were counted at his position. Sergeant McKinnie's outstanding courage and ability as a squad leader were an inspiration to all the men of his command and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Corporal Harry C. Weese, 39218239, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When medical personnel from a battalion aid station were buried in a cave as the result of an enemy mortar burst, Corporal Weese with the aid of several other men began excavating immediately, entirely unmindful of falling debris and continued enemy mortar and artillery fire and continued his efforts until all of the victims had been removed from the cave. Corporal Weese's quick action and heroic efforts reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class John J. Stricklin, 36617010, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 3 December 1944. Private First Class Stricklin, a BAR man, when his squad had been given the mission of securing a flank position attacked and destroyed an enemy machine gun. Under heavy enemy fire and with many grenades being thrown at him, Private First Class Stricklin advanced toward the gun, and firing from the hip, routed ten members of the enemy force and killed several others. The courageous work of Private First Class Stricklin enabled the company to maneuver forward and accomplish its mission.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

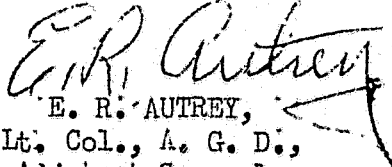
Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders No. 67, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 March 1945, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Technician Fifth Grade Robert T. Lynch, 38310300, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. When his company met stiff resistance and had suffered several casualties during an advance against enemy positions near Momobaru, Technician Fifth Grade Lynch, a company aid man, exposed himself to the enemy fire with utter disregard for his own safety, and with one other man administered immediate first aid and evacuated all of the wounded men after travelling over open terrain under intense enemy fire. Although knocked down on one occasion by the explosion of an artillery shell, Technician Fifth Grade Lynch unhesitatingly continued his tasks and was directly responsible for saving the lives of several men. Technician Fifth Grade Lynch's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

14 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 326

SECTION

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Public Law 43, War Department, 1513), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Staff Sergeant Horace L. Jones, 38229938, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Chiyunna, Okinawa Island on 3 April 1945. When Staff Sergeant Jones' squad had dug in in a forward position ahead of the rest of his company and had the mission of guarding the company against enemy night infiltration, his positions were attacked by an enemy force using grenades. Staff Sergeant Jones and the two other occupants of his foxhole were seriously wounded but despite his wounds, he crawled out of his hole, located the enemy force, killed three of them and drove the remainder away. Through his fearless actions, Staff Sergeant Jones saved the lives of many of his men for when the bodies of the dead enemy were examined in the morning they were discovered to have in their possession, many satchel charges, hand grenades and other demolitions. The intrepid actions of Staff Sergeant Jones, his physical endurance under the great stress of pain, his utter disregard for his own personal well-being are all exemplary of great leadership and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Alejo Garcia, 39595015, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon had been cut off from all friendly aid; had been subjected to a murderous sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire for a period of ten hours, and had received numerous enemy counter-attacks, Private First Class Garcia, a rifleman, volunteered to run through heavy enemy fire to attempt communications with another unit far to the rear. He completed his mission successfully but found it impossible for the large body of troops to move through the heavy enemy fire to the aid of his unit so he returned alone and aided greatly in the maintaining of organization within his squad. When it was necessary for his platoon to withdraw, Private First Class Garcia exposed himself three separate times in rescuing the wounded and voluntarily remained behind with a machine gun squad providing fire for the successful withdrawal. Private First Class Garcia's courage, aggressiveness and devotion to duty was a constant source of inspiration to men of the command, and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Arnold F. Small, 31375269, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When a wounded man lay fifty yards forward of the front lines, Private First Class Small voluntarily crawled to him under heavy enemy machine gun fire, rendered first aid and removed him to a position of safety where, for a period

of ten hours, he worked with the wounded diligently and with little regard for his own safety. Private First Class Small continually was with the wounded, rendering aid and restoring morale. On one of his missions, he received a wound in his hand, but despite this, he persisted in his work and besides taking care of the men in his own platoon, he assisted in the solicitude of an adjoining platoon, when that platoon's aid man was seriously wounded. In addition, Private First Class Small personally killed two of the enemy in protecting his patients. When it became necessary for his unit to withdraw, Private First Class Small provided improvised litters for the seriously wounded and assisted in their safe evacuation, disregarding the pain from his own wound. Private First Class Small's devotion to duty and courage under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 500-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Cecil A. Beall, 36290689, Corps of Military Police, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniku, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Elmer B. Howells, 01798000, Corps of Military Police, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniku, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945.

Corporal Jack C. Kelley, 37229201, Corps of Military Police, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniku, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Nesbit Hovory, 36331173, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 1 June 1945.

Private First Class Cecil M. Parrish, 38305061, Corps of Military Police, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniku, Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945.

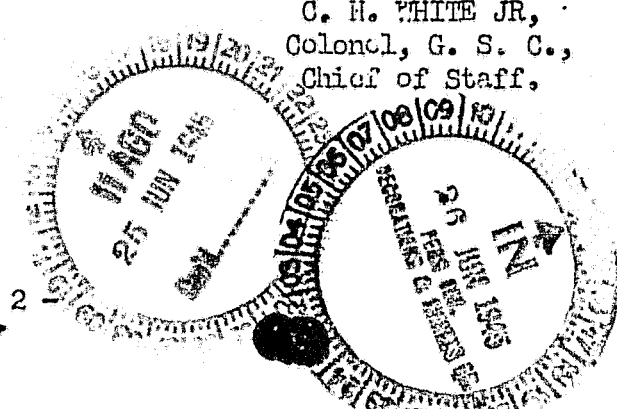
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"



HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 327

*Typed by J.C.  
7/12/45*  
14 June 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943 as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Harold W. Cunningham, 36430334, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Private First Class Cunningham with complete disregard for his own safety volunteered to evacuate a wounded man from a box ravine which was covered by enemy machine gun and sniper fire, during an advance on enemy positions near Kue, and with a group of fellow litter bearers brought the casualty out of the ravine to the safety of the aid station. Private First Class Cunningham's courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Jack Buckner, 38319713, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Upon learning that a man lay wounded in a ravine which was covered by enemy machine gun and sniper fire, Private First Class Buckner and several fellow litter bearers volunteered to remove him and safely brought him out of the ravine to the aid station. The heroic service displayed by Private First Class Buckner reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

*\* Recd. by HQ 495 - July 11, 1945*  
\* Captain Hugh D. Young, 01286752, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During the advance by his battalion on Kakazu Ridge, Captain Young, a battalion Operations Officer, to better coordinate and plan the assaults of his battalion, occupied a position exposed to direct enemy machine gun and mortar fire. Despite the strong enemy attempts to dislodge him, he remained in his position, with utter disregard for his own personal safety. Captain Young's actions were directly responsible for the success of his battalion's attacks on the heavily fortified enemy bastion on Kakazu Ridge, and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Clarence W. Krutzfeldt, 37313269, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 14 April 1945. When a dud hand grenade came to life in the center of a position occupied by his squad, Staff Sergeant Krutzfeldt, a squad leader, ordered his men to cover and without regard for his life, threw the grenade out of range before it exploded. Staff Sergeant Krutzfeldt's fast thinking and courageous actions undoubtedly saved his men from serious injury and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Ray E. Decker, 38290711, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island, on 9 April 1945. When four of his mortar squad were injured by enemy fire, Private First Class Decker took over the complete functions of the gun; aiming, adjusting, firing, and loading it entirely

GENERAL ORDERS 327 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 14 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

unaided, and when ammunition became scarce, he voluntarily went to the rear to get a re-supply, running through four hundred yards of intensely heavy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire with complete disregard for his own life. Upon completing his mission successfully, Private First Class Decker returned to his gun to fire again, and was instrumental in checking a strong enemy counter attack which came shortly after his return. Later in the same day Private First Class Decker voluntarily carried a wounded man back to the aid station under the same hazards as he had previously encountered. Private First Class Decker's display of valor and courage reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Ralph B. Caporaletti, 33811892, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit attacked the enemy stronghold on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Caporaletti was one of the lead men, and upon attaining the ridge, took up an exposed position and held it through three fierce enemy counter attacks, at numerous times exposing himself to enemy fire with complete disregard for his own safety to break up the fanatic enemy as they swept toward him. Private First Class Caporaletti's courageous actions, profound devotion to duty, and blazing loyalty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Francis R. Girth, 37391004, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. During the advance by his battalion in the hills east of Kuo, Private First Class Girth with complete disregard for his own safety, volunteered to evacuate a wounded man from a box ravine which was under heavy enemy machine gun and sniper fire and with the assistance of several other litter bearers, safely brought the casualty out of the ravine to the aid station. The heroic action displayed by Private First Class Girth reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Dean A. Davis, 36430791, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Davis with complete disregard for his own safety volunteered to evacuate a wounded man from a box ravine which was covered by enemy machine gun and sniper fire. Under the constant machine gun and sniper fire, Staff Sergeant Davis with assistance from four litter bearers safely brought the casualty out of the ravine to the aid station. Staff Sergeant Davis' heroic act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Kelly Vick, 38305102, Corps of Military Police, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kaniku, Okinawa Island, on 21 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. ACHESON*  
E. R. ACHESON,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General,

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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J

ORIGINAL ORDER

*Typed by...*  
*7/10/45*

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 328

14 June 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	I
AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS	II
POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	III
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	IV

SECTION

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section III, Bulletin No. 3, War Department, 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations, 14 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944), a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Bryant Darnaby, 37000095, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Private First Class Darnaby, with complete disregard for his own safety, voluntarily went forward for one-half mile over rocky and shell torn terrain which was under heavy enemy artillery fire to administer first aid to a wounded man, and, with the aid of fellow litter bearers, successfully evacuated him to an aid station. Private First Class Darnaby's courageous act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Jim F. Dollery, 38453396, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Uchitomari, Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Private First Class Dollery, upon learning that a wounded man was without medical aid and was in an exposed position one-half mile forward of the aid station, voluntarily went forward over rocky and hazardous terrain which was under heavy enemy artillery fire to administer first aid to him and with the aid of fellow litter bearers evacuated him to an aid station. Private First Class Dollery's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Frederick J. Zito, 32900304, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Uchitomari, Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Private First Class Zito, learning that a wounded man lay in an exposed position without medical aid, one-half mile forward of the aid station, with utter disregard for his own safety voluntarily went forward over hazardous terrain which was under heavy enemy artillery fire to administer first aid and, with the aid of fellow litter bearers, succeeded in evacuating him. This heroic service on the part of Private First Class Zito reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain Leo J. Sklar, 0408079, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Uchitomari, Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Captain Sklar, with utter disregard for his own safety, led a litter squad to a Battalion Aid Station through extreme difficult terrain and under heavy enemy machine gun, sniper and mortar fire to evacuate a seriously wounded soldier. The courage, leadership and determination to render aid to the wounded displayed by Captain Sklar, reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.



SECTION II

AMMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

OK 1. So much of General Orders No. 298, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, June 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant William J. Thurstin, 33255834, is rescinded.

OK 2. So much of General Orders No. 220, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 May 1945, as pertains to Technician Fourth Grade Lyle A. Robinson, 17153543, is rescinded.

SECTION III

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders 285, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 June 1945, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded Posthumously to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Staff Sergeant William J. Thurstin, 33255834, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Morobaru, Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. While advancing with his machine gun section with the forward elements of his company, Staff Sergeant Thurstin was pinned down by intense fire from three machine guns and several mortars. Removing his equipment, Staff Sergeant Thurstin Crawled thirty yards to a more advantageous but exposed position for observation and seeing an enemy force take up a position with a fourth machine gun, he unhesitatingly opened fire on the new threat, killing the enemy crew before their machine gun could be put into action. The quick action and initiative on the part of Staff Sergeant Thurstin undoubtedly saved his unit many casualties and his calm display of determined courage was a prime factor in sustaining the momentum of the drive for the beachhead objective. Staff Sergeant Thurstin's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Glenna Thurstin, Mother, Curwensville, Pennsylvania.

SECTION IV

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted man per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on date indicated:

Technician Fourth Grade Lyle A. Robinson, 17153543, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 13 May 1945 on Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 135, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJ. GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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9/11/45  
Res 11/1/45*

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 329

ORIGINAL ORDER - *with*

14 June 1945

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL	<u>SECTION</u> I
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, WD. 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Harold J. Dutro, 39227317, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroism displayed at San Roque, Leyte, Philippine Islands on 19 March 1945. When a fellow soldier became exhausted and developed cramps while attempting to rescue a man swimming in a rough sea, Private First Class Dutro swam two hundred and fifty yards through a choppy sea, unhesitatingly gave him aid, towing, reassuring, and guiding him to the safety of the shore, despite the fact that he was near exhaustion himself.

Sergeant Wilton R. Wortman, 36407410, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroism displayed at San Roque, Leyte, Philippine Islands on 19 March 1945. Hearing the cries of a man who was in distress while swimming in a rough sea, Sergeant Wortman, unhesitatingly swam to his assistance and despite the strong undertow and high waves, kept the man afloat until he himself was exhausted, developed cramps, at which time he called for the help of other soldiers to aid in the rescue. Sergeant Wortman's heroic efforts were instrumental in saving the life of a fellow soldier.

Technician Fourth Grade Lowell R. Butler, 35540225, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroism displayed at Manus Island, on 7 October, 1944. With utter disregard for his own safety, Technician Fourth Grade (then Private First Class) Butler dived into a choppy sea from a landing craft one mile off shore and rescued a seaman who had fallen out of an LCVP, and who was unable to swim. Technician Fourth Grade Butler, with unhesitating courage, swam to the seaman and with the assistance of one other man, kept him afloat and returned him to the LCVP.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders No. 54, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 18 February 1945, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

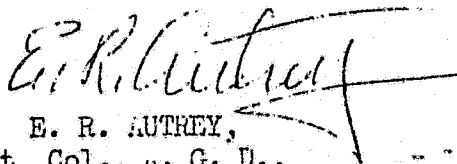
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 329 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 14 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Private First Class Roy M. Harvell, 38253810, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Private First Class Harvell with complete disregard for his own safety volunteered to evacuate a wounded man from a box ravine which was covered by enemy machine gun and sniper fire and with a group of fellow litter bearers safely brought the casualty out to the aid station. Private First Class Harvell's courageous act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., U. S. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 330

14 June 1945.

ORIGINAL ORDER #

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

SECTION  
I  
II

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	William F. Anderson Jr.	31401074	FA	21 May 45
Pfc	Sylvester H. Abendorf	37316391	MD	12 Apr 45
Sgt	Hurice T. Badley	37511602	Inf Armored	19 May 45
Pfc	Alfred J. Berglas	19013136	Inf	23 Apr 45
Sgt	Elmer Bebo	38300770	Inf	4 Apr 45
1st Lt	Robert J. Bolan	01307796	Inf	10 Apr 45
Tec 5	Hunter Bradshaw	38300935	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Chester J. Bucknell	39596051	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	Ray M. Bryan	39594660	Inf	26 Apr 45
Pfc	Anthony T. Byrne	37748055	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Shorman E. Canty	39595353	Inf	26 Apr 45
Pfc	Otis H. Clark	39422097	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Willis R. Clark Jr.	37735462	Inf	30 Apr 45
Cpl	Earl H. Clugston	36404999	Inf	22 Apr 45
Pvt	Cloyd D. Conner	37647650	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Z. C. Cornell	39590337	Inf	14 Apr 45
Pfc	Jeff E. Crabtree	39597120	Inf	19 May 45
Tec 5	Lawrence P. Demarab Jr	36903816	Inf	14 Apr 45
Pfc	John D. DiAmico	33813469	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	Arthur J. Eck	37747321	Inf	11 May 45
Sgt	Edward W. Funk	36407473	Inf	4 Apr 45
Pfc	Arthur Fechner	39933188	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	Chester W. Ferguson	39591131	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pvt	Walter J. Felden	39345547	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	LeRoy C. Forker	33586590	Inf	27 Apr 45
Sgt	Orland H. Garber	36433317	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Trilby G. Gillespie	39865758	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Lloyd R. Hoisington	39422250	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	Isaac Keck	38292041	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	James H. Kingery	36705110	Inf	1 Apr 45
Pfc	Albert T. Lalen	37774099	Inf	5 May 45
S Sgt	Oliver C. Lewis	16148180	Inf	4 Apr 45
Pfc	Manny Lopkin	32506794	Inf	1 Apr 45
1st Lt	Rudolph Mamala	01014397	Inf Armored	7 Apr 45
Pfc	Leroy F. Mayer	35713908	Inf	14 Apr 45
Pfc	William L. McVeigh	35510072	MD	22 May 45
T Sgt	Lawrence E. Meeks	36703120	Inf	10 Apr 45
Pfc	Raphel N. Rodgers	38290746	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	William L. Sanders	36572871	Inf	28 Apr 45
Pfc	Dave G. Schaffer	37457108	Inf	18 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 330 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 14 JUNE 1945 CONTD.  
*The entire text is revoked by G.O. # 336 - June 16, 1945*

SECTION II

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the Provisions of AR 600-45, Chapter 1, par. 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Men per authority in the title, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated.

\* Private First Class Chester Kadakowski / 36771564, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Gita, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 131, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 45.

\* Technician Fifth Grade George R. Spratt, 37569271, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 13 May 1945 near Gita, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 132, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 45.

\* Private First Class Grady W. Malone / 34423615, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 12 May 1945 near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 171, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 7 May 1945.

\* Private First Class Frank A. Kilcollins / 37316403, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 27 April 1945 near Maeda, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

\* Staff Sergeant John D. Evers / 36700553, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 30 April 1945 near Koshi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

\* Private First Class Crawford Cornett / 36272536, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 26 April 1945 near Gita, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 38, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 February 1945.

\* Private First Class Theodore T. Strickel / 36281561, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 2 April 1945 near Furukawa, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

\* Staff Sergeant William J. Green / 3922600, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 May 1945 near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 15 November 1944.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

14 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 331

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

	SECTION
AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS	I
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER	II
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	III

SECTION I

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

1. So much of General Orders 287, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 4 June 1945 as pertains to Private First Class William Horn, 20261473, is rescinded.
2. So much of General Orders 286, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 June 1945 as pertains to Technician Fifth Grade Lorraine C. Sharp, 36430286, is rescinded.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to them in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Private First Class William Horn, 20261473, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Private First Class Horn, a member of a Field Artillery Forward Observer Section, working with a front line Infantry Company, when the unit with which he was working was understrength due to previous casualties and which was subjected to an enemy counter-attack and was in a dangerous position, realizing the seriousness of the situation, left his position of comparative safety and exposed himself to enemy fire in order to take his place on the line as a rifleman. Although unfamiliar with Infantry weapons and tactics, he remained on the line for over an hour until the attack was repulsed and the ground held. Private First Class Horn accounted for many enemy casualties and was of great material aid in the successful repulsion of the enemy force. Private First Class Horn's heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fifth Grade Lorraine C. Sharp, 36430286, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

GENERAL ORDERS 331 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 14 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Second Lieutenant Tom Blakey, 01327804, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Captain Arcene P. Bonifas, 01286589, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 10 February 1945 and from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

Private First Class Rudolph V. Jamrock, 36975337, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945 and 21 April 1945.

Private First Class Vernon T. Hiatt, 19172308, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 20 April 1945 to 25 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Jay W. Kasband, 01314549, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Captain Henry P. Medinger, 01101577, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 20 May 1945.

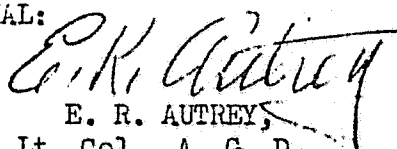
First Lieutenant MacKenzie E. Roberson, 01551721, Ordnance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Island from 1 August 1944 to 30 April 1945.

Captain Alces P. Robishaw, 0389602, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 16 November 1944 to 1 May 1945.

Sergeant Raul G. Vasquez, 18200600, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 1 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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## HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 332

15 June 1945

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR  
AND THE BRONZE STAR MEDALSECTION I  
SECTION IISECTION IPOSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provision of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Officer:

Second Lieutenant William L. McDougald, O2012493, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. During an assault on Makuru Ridge, when his heavy machine gun platoon was in support of a rifle company and it became necessary to put it into action, Second Lieutenant McDougald attempting to bring his platoon forward could only get one section of guns together because of the intensity of the enemy fire, so he gallantly moved forward carrying one gun himself. On reaching the gun position, Second Lieutenant McDougald and his platoon sergeant set up the gun and with complete disregard for the barrage of enemy fire, remained in position and continued to fire on the enemy. Second Lieutenant McDougald made several subsequent trips to bring his platoon forward and although wounded during one trip, he returned to his platoon after receiving treatment and continued his task until he was mortally wounded later in the night. Second Lieutenant McDougald's aggressive and courageous actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Emma Gene McDougald (wife), Route 5, Prescott, Arkansas.

SECTION IIAWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in IR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant Leon F. Andrews, Jr., O1014027, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. When three of his crew members were wounded after his tank was hit by an enemy anti-tank gun, First Lieutenant Andrews ordered the driver to withdraw. When the tank backed, it exploded a land mine, completely immobilizing the vehicle and leaving it exposed to enemy fire two hundred yards forward of the Infantry front lines. Under intense enemy anti-tank and artillery fire, First Lieutenant Andrews with the aid of his driver, removed the wounded men from the tank. When another tank attempted to move up to assist in the evacuation, First Lieutenant Andrews signaled it to withdraw from the dangerous field of enemy fire and with his driver, remained with the wounded for four hours administering first aid until the enemy fire subsided and then evacuated them to the rear. First Lieutenant Andrews' cool and courageous actions were instrumental in saving the lives of his crew and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.



Staff Sergeant Charles J. Denker, 37439527, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Urasce-Iura, Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Denker, a platoon leader of an Engineer platoon attached to a front line Infantry Regiment took his platoon into enemy territory to clear mines from a road which had been selected as the line of advance in that sector. Working always to the front of his men while under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, Staff Sergeant Denker skillfully maneuvered his men so as to clear the road which was immediately used for a successful assault on strongly fortified enemy positions. Staff Sergeant Denker's courage under fire and the superior leadership exhibited by him, gave confidence to his men and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

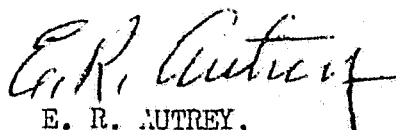
Sergeant Lee C. Buechler, 36533709, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Sergeant Buechler took his squad beyond the established front lines to clear a heavily mined area to permit the advance of tanks and Infantry. Although working under enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Sergeant Buechler remained calm and collected and was a great inspiration to his men. The skillful direction rendered by Sergeant Buechler was of inestimable value in the expeditious clearing of the mines and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade Robert C. Dick, 20906262, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 May 1945. While spearheading an advance of Infantry troops under heavy enemy fire, Technician Fourth Grade Dick, a tank commander, observed that the Infantry units were suffering numerous casualties and were pinned down by an increase in the intensity of the enemy fire. With other tanks of his platoon, Technician Fourth Grade Dick fired screening smoke shells for the Infantry's withdrawal, then with complete disregard for his own safety, and despite fierce enemy machine gun, mortar and rifle fire, he voluntarily dismounted from his tank and assisted in removing the wounded to the safety of his and other tanks. Although Technician Fourth Grade Dick was himself wounded during the action, he continued to aid in the evacuation of the Infantrymen. Technician Fourth Grade Dick's courageous action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. NUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "C" "F" & "X"

85

*4970*  
*7/10*

*Rec'd by G-1*  
*7/1/45*

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

15 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 333

ORIGINAL ORDER -  
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Reynold T. Adlseen	36985770	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	J. R. Altum	44020370	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Daniel H. Amaral	39424457	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Ralph W. Anderson	37774317	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Jason W. Austrey	35430670	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Frentress Bass	34989352	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Harold F. Bentley	36915153	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	James F. Bickett	39932027	Inf	16 May 45
1st Sgt	Francis G. Blair	37406228	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Harold H. Elozier	39480408	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Robert K. Bolon	35635724	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	George W. Bougher	35556043	Inf	16 May 45
2d Lt	John B. Bresnahan	01331703	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Arlie L. Bryant	38601350	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Preston W. Bushman	39425435	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	William T. Covins	35904204	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	George E. Chamberlain	36903692	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Harry T. Chaney	39728746	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Santiago Chavez	36585124	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Ralph W. Clairmont	37185967	Inf	10 May 45
Sgt	Robert C. Clark	33596266	Inf	9 May 45
Pfc	George R. Clement	38526091	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Carlos E. Copeland	36701579	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Fernin Cordova	31364238	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Joseph P. Coyne	35349886	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Arthur Creacy, Jr.	38635065	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Gerald W. Crooks	37774472	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Perry O. Cross	35073039	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Frank W. Culver, Jr.	36915342	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Jay B. Dansie	39934942	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Harold J. Davis	35650572	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Odell W. Doan	37752422	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	John A. Drew	36915604	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Joe L. Dutta	39149728	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Charlie R. Edens	39124648	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Frank M. Elliott	39586105	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Leopoldo Escarciga	38582221	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	James B. Estes	66661473	Inf	10 May 45
Sgt	Floyd Evans	35445035	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Max H. Faltz	39124793	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Howard J. Ferguson	44041057	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Robert G. Fielding	33926033	Inf	16 May 45.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 333 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 15 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pfc	Aaron L. Flippin	38701505	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Donald P. Free	38571911	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Vicente A. Garcia	38533631	Inf	12 May 45
S Sgt	Raymond A. Gientke	16333194	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	John E. Grimes	35243257	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Max E. Harding	39920454	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Rudolph Z. Hinzosa	34320442	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Charlie F. Hoitash	31435669	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Earl D. Hord	38609426	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Earl H. Huber	37774153	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Henry J. Huisinga	37774071	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Donald M. Jackson	35441295	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Quentin E. Jenkins	34441219	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	James C. Johnson	30734444	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Robert W. Johnson	35441770	Inf	17 May 45
<del>Pfc</del>	Donald E. Jones	38542553	Inf	12 May 45
S Sgt	Frank J. Karwoski	31235281	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	John Kotodny	39477724	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Andrew W. Kronauer	35850593	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Regis G. Lettner	33926149	I. f	16 May 45
T Sgt	Wilbert C. Line	36535135	Inf	10 May 45
S Sgt	Marion O. Marks	37223043	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Carey A. Martin	38616930	Inf	16 May 45
Sgt	Clark Mayos	37625668	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	William C. Montgomery	38521099	Inf	9 May 45
Pfc	Billie D. Olson	39914613	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	John A. Polodna	37233433	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Ben W. Renfroe	39054889	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Harold E. Rollins	39730533	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	John Rydl	37775515	Inf	17 May 45
Sgt	Joseph J. Sandalski	36617311	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Gabriel G. Sanchez	39598138	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Edward J. Sokala	35931074	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Charles L. Shoots	37712054	Inf	10 May 45
S Sgt	Paul R. Sholton	34435351	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Louis T. Sharp	39730524	Inf	16 May 45
Sgt	Paul E. Shirley	19146202	Inf	16 May 45
Tec 4	Roy E. Smith	39330714	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Alfred A. Viradiola	39590785	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Robert E. Volkerts, Jr.	39149119	Inf	16 May 45
T Sgt	Chester F. Waraksa	36536121	Inf	17 May 45
S Sgt	Chester W. White	36540208	Inf	12 May 45
S Sgt	Joseph Yarosovich	37267487	Inf	17 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., U. S. G. D.,  
Adjutant General

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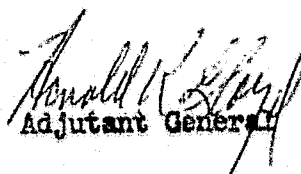
8 April 1958

AGAR-FG 201 Cavins, William T.  
35 904 204 (17 Mar 58)

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Revocation of General Orders

1. So much of General Orders 333, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 15 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to William T. Cavins, 35 904 204, is revoked.
2. The Purple Heart was previously awarded to the above-named individual by General Orders 3, Headquarters 1109th PCA Provisional Army Garrison F, dated 24 May 1945.

By Order of Wilber M. Brucker, Secretary of the Army:

  
Adjutant General

37

*Suppl by ac*  
*7/13/45*

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

16 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 334

~~ADDITIONAL ORDER~~  
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART SECTION I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER II

*Forwarded by [unclear]*  
*7/13/45*

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

*Amend by G.O. 495*

Sgt	Paul L. Bartunck	37265584	CE	10 Jun 45
Pfc	Walter L. Boyd	38634961	Inf	21 May 45
Sgt	Lee C. Buechler	36533709	CE	31 May 45
Pfc	Noel L. Eastridge	36540072	Inf	2 Jun 45
*1st Lt	Albert W. Faraci <i>July 11, 45</i>	01114118	CE	23 <del>Apr</del> 45
Cpl	Charles W. Lange	36382958	CE	31 May 45
Tec 5	Thomas E. Roby	37553572	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Dennis S. Simonis	36843637	MD	22 May 45
Pfc	Peter S. Skora	36364241	Inf	10 Apr 45
Pvt	Virgil D. Smith	39731247	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Walter E. Spears	39182624	Inf	23 Apr 45
Sgt	Leonard J. Speicher	33564946	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Glenn A. Stewart	19187460	Inf	29 Apr 45
Tec 5	Raymond G. Stinson	38292891	MD	15 May 45
Pfc	Richard E. Tamm	39202962	Inf	23 Apr 45
Pfc	Lester A. Taylor	39933354	Inf	2 Jun 45
Pfc	Raymond T. Valentino	36655587	SigC	26 May 45
S Sgt	Jay S. Waxman	36649626	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Abraham H. Weitman	32694751	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Ozzie Whitlow	35900877	MD	27 Apr 45
Pfc	Robert J. Wortman	39595560	Inf	23 Apr 45
Tec 5	James R. Wysong	35871325	CE	31 May 45
Pfc	Louis Yazzie	39865801	Inf	26 Apr 45
Pfc	Gerald F. Zahnlo	36615961	Inf	11 Apr 45

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated; a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

*RESC BY G.O. 498 - 14 June 45*  
\* Private First Class Harry L. Clifton, 35224578, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 8 April 1945 near Ginowan, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 183, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 334 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 16 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Sergeant Jack M. Copeland, Jr., 14079104, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 16 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 31, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 26 November 1944.

First Lieutenant John A. Farnsworth, 01304894, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 8 April 1945 near Ginowan, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 21, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 November 1944.

Sergeant Jerome A. Fick, 37220345, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 113, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 20 April 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade Harry Galin, 32692931, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 26 April 1945 near Kaniku, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 35, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 1 December 1944.

First Sergeant Walter F. Hartmeier, Jr., 35120522, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 7 April 1945 near Kamiyama, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 9, Headquarters 51st General Hospital, APO 545, 27 November 1944.

Sergeant Howard E. Killough, 37392776, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 79, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 26 December 1944.

Private First Class Elmer E. Lembecke, 37597165, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 30 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 153, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 May 1945.

Private First Class Arturo Maciariello, 36700870, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 April 1945 near Kaniku, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 42, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 December 1944.

Technical Sergeant Howard W. McGraw, 35212907, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 22 April 1945 near Kakazu, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 309, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 June 1945.

Private First Class John D. Murray, 30567072, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 15 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 126, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 April 1945.

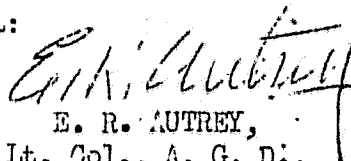
Private First Class Herbert L. Sloan, 33300687, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 53, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 December 1944.

Technical Sergeant Wayne W. Smith, 36430320, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 May 1945 near Shuri, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 160, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 5 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

85

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

*referred by me  
7/13/45*

16 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 335

**ORIGINAL ORDER #**  
**AWARDS OF THE PURPLE HEART**

*Reviewed by W. Walker  
7/13*

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1945, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Harold E. Adams	36914686	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Richard L. Alexander	39344144	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	George A. Allard	36471052	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Andrew Andrews	39470527	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	John O. Ayres	13138901	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Walter G. Baguet	33925127	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Clyde E. Baird	38464808	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	James W. Bailoy	35817611	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Buford K. Baker	35885067	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Charles W. Baker	39422420	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Paul D. Ballard	38572272	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Floyd W. Ballontine	39426208	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Lewis C. Barry	38711528	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Charles F. Batte	39594631	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Arthur E. Boasley	20420602	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Virgil C. Boll	38545091	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Herman S. Bollcourt	37774696	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	William H. Berger	36915043	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	James E. Black	15204018	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Ralph W. Eliss	39469024	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Leonard H. Bromenshankel	37775551	Inf	22 May 45
Cpl	Curtis C. Brooks	37232842	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	William D. Burt	38632198	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Melvin L. Campbell	37753213	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Harold E. Capps	39730309	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Anthony A. Cardinale	39042728	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Frank V. Caringella	39595091	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	J. W. Carter	38291293	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Dario Castagnola	39592859	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Manuel M. Chavez	39365910	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Ernesto H. Chiquete	39865764	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	George R. Coakley	39595394	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Cocil F. Cockrum	39470416	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Coy Conover	35815904	Inf	26 May 45
Pfc	Hilmer G. Coto	36843804	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Davie K. Couch	35845294	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Clarence O. Crawford	14014108	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth W. Cunningham	39345582	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Raymond L. Davis	39470574	Inf	28 May 45
Pfc	Earl P. Embree	39470421	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Harold England	34937478	Inf	16 May 45
S Sgt	Orlo A. Fredorick	6830576	Inf	13 May 45
S Sgt	Otis Gilliland	37531344	Inf	14 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 335 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 16 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pfc	Edwin H. Hackbarth	36843884	Inf	14 May 45
T Sgt	W. D. Horn	6273706	Inf	2 Jun 45
Pfc	Howard H. Horn	39596025	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	John M. Isabel	38290809	Inf	26 Apr 45
Tec 5	Cl. de H. Johnston	37560426	Cav	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Adolph R. Kloss	35272413	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	James R. Lasch	35213370	Inf	15 May 45
S Sgt	R. C. Logan	30282800	Inf	15 May 45
Sgt	David R. Miller	15317551	Inf	26 May 45
Pfc	Elbert L. Morgan	30571332	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	John G. Myers	37545165	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Clarence J. Pic	37586610	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Duane A. Purdon	37715457	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Edgar O. Reeves	38731992	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	James F. Reinock	36572704	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth H. Ripley	19193571	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Antonio Rivas	39728397	Inf	29 May 45
Pfc	Vernon J. Roberts	38300184	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Wayne H. Roberts	35908794	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Harold L. Rohloff	37748811	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Gale E. Rosebrook	39470399	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	William F. Rough	33615028	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Fred J. Schnell	39422039	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Lester C. Sherman	37336559	Inf	26 May 45
Sgt	Bernard J. Shikonyu	37316142	Inf	31 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth J. Shill	39865852	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Joseph Shutty, Jr.	35846515	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Leonard T. Simpson	39422108	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Hubert R. Soper	39475930	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Bernie B. Stalvey	14123586	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Enos G. Stinson	44016391	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	Fray A. Taber	38272529	Inf	30 Apr 45
Capt	Charles G. Tamm	01286920	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	Ellsworth H. Tamm	36407461	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth L. Todd	35170761	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Paul C. Ulshafer	36171116	Inf	13 May 45
Sgt	Aaron L. Wheeler	37673784	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	Wilbert Wall	36701826	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	John D. Wilson	34581408	Inf	13 May 45
Sgt	Lawrence Winters	36430881	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Hong O. Wong	31466390	Inf	15 May 45
Tec 5	John A. Zorn	37233201	Inf	15 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" & "X"



AGDP-GS 201 Beasley, Arthur E.  
20 420 602 (19 May 52)

10 June 1952

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Withdrawal of General Orders

1. So much of General Order 335, Headquarters, 96th Infantry Division, dated 16 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to Private First Class Arthur E. Beasley, service number 20 420 602, is withdrawn.

2. The Purple Heart has been previously awarded to the above named former soldier by General Order 13, Headquarters, 204th General Hospital, dated 19 May 1945.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*H. H. Newman*  
Adjutant General

*Go file*

1203  
GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 336

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

16 June 1945  
Typed by [unclear]  
7/16/45  
[unclear] 7/16

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

SECTION  
I  
II

SECTION I

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

- OK 1. So much of General Orders No. 153, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 May 1945, as pertains to Sergeant Ralph L. McKenna, 32041919, is rescinded.
- OK 2. Section II, General Orders No. 330, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 June 1945, is rescinded.
- OK 3. So much of General Orders No. 320, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 June 1945, as pertains to Technical Sergeant D. W. Mayes, 20740767, is rescinded.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named enlisted man per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Technical Sergeant D. W. Mayes, 20740767, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. Technical Sergeant Mayes, a heavy weapons platoon leader, aided greatly in repulsing a strong enemy counter-attack which was preceded by an intense enemy artillery and mortar barrage. Technical Sergeant Mayes controlled and directed the fire of every available weapon in his platoon and by his timely planning and gallant devotion to duty, his mortar section successfully stopped infiltrations through the draw to his units left flank and succeeded in destroying thirty seven of the enemy in that sector. Throughout the entire campaign, Technical Sergeant Mayes directed machine gun fire in close support of the rifle platoons and although wounded twice, he stayed on the job until ordered to leave.

2. Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated.

Private First Class Crawford Cornett, 38272536, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 26 April 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 33, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 February 1945.

Staff Sergeant John D. Evers, 36700553, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 30 April 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS 336 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 16 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Staff Sergeant William J. Green, 39202630, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 May 1945 near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 15 November 1944.

Private First Class Frank A. Kilcollins, 37316407, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 27 April 1945 near Maeda, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

*Rec by No 433 - July 2, 45*  
\* Private First Class Chester Kwiatkowski, 36718501, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 131, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 1945.

Private First Class Grady W. Malone, 3443815, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 12 May 1945 near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 171, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 7 May 1945.

Sergeant Ralph L. McKeown, 32041919, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 1 April 1945 near Momobaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 79, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 26 December 1944.

Private First Class Theodore T. Sanecki, 36381561, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 2 April 1945 near Momobaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

*Rec by No 433 - July 2, 45*  
\* Technician Fifth Grade George R. Specht, 37569271, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 13 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 132, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 1945.

Private First Class Grady L. Whitmore, 34819566, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 14 May 1945 near Tobaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 189, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Private First Class ROLLAND T. Zech, 35551557, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 4, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 5 January 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

16 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 337

*6*

*Filed by [unclear]  
7/16/45  
[unclear]  
7/16/45*

*GENERAL ORDER*

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR	I
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR	II
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	III

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Clay O. Williams, 39597355, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 2 April 1945. When his platoon which had been isolated from all friendly units, and had, for ten hours, been subjected to a heavy and sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire and numerous counter-attacks, was forced to withdraw from its position, Private First Class Williams, voluntarily and alone and unaided, made eight separate trips, each time under heavy enemy fire, to rescue eight wounded men who lay unprotected some two hundred yards forward of the lines. Private First Class Williams was killed in a subsequent action, while again performing gallantly. His heroism and devotion to duty will long be a source of inspiration to the men of his unit and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Maynard Williams, Father, Box 63, Lancaster, California.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant David N. Dovel, 38338172, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. When his unit received an enemy counter-attack on Sawtooth Ridge, Staff Sergeant Dovel, unable to find a suitable position for his machine gun, removed the gun from the tripod and standing up in the face of the enemy attack, began firing from the hip. His gun alone accounted for thirty-five of the onrushing enemy and was largely responsible for the repulse of the attack. His heroic action was performed in spite of the fact that he had suffered mortar wounds in both legs and his hands were badly burned from the barrel of the gun. The courage and heroism displayed by Staff Sergeant Dovel are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

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Captain Sam E. Hughes, 0240242, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. During an attack on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Captain Hughes personally led his company forward across flat, open terrain for two hundred yards and when it was completely pinned down by heavy flanking enemy machine gun fire and receiving heavy mortar fire, by his gallantry and coolness in commanding at the head of his men in an exposed position, inspired them not only to maintain their position, but to try to continue the advance, despite suffering heavy casualties. Captain Hughes assisted in the evacuation of the wounded and skillfully directed the fire of a platoon of supporting tanks. Captain Hughes continued his courageous and skillful work of directing and encouraging his men until he was seriously wounded. His gallant actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Second Lieutenant John H. Stevens, 01319675, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. When his unit received a strong enemy counter-attack on Saoteath Ridge, Second Lieutenant Stevens, seeing one of his machine guns knocked out of action, secured an automatic rifle and ran over the crest of the ridge, firing into the advancing enemy, killing twenty. All of this action was performed in spite of the fact that Lieutenant Stevens was under heavy enemy sniper fire, and with hands severely burned from his rifle barrel. The leadership, courage and heroism displayed by Lieutenant Stevens reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant Arvil M. Brewer, 38227412, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

Technician Fourth Grade Anthony H. Codespote, 33296736, Finance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 15 September 1944 to 31 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

*17 June 1945*  
*7/2/45*

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 338

17 June 1945

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER II

SECTION

ORIGINAL

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Russell L Buehrle	35093826	FA	5 June 45
Pfc	Charles M Danielson	37586298	FA	7 June 45
Tec 5	Harold Leonard	38291027	MD	8 June 45
Pfc	Clifford E. McCormick	39344106	CE	10 June 45
Pfc	James C McKelvey	37537243	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Raymond L Scott	37586207	CE	8 June 45
Tec 5	Lorraine C Sharp	36430236	FA	4 June 45

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1. Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Sergeant Edward W. Funk, 36407473, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 22 April 1945 near Kaniku, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 330, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 June 1945.

Sergeant Milo C. Galas, 36375966, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 23 May 1945 near Tobaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1944.

Corporal Elwyn Hollenbeck, 36540292, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 20 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 39, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 December 1944.

Private First Class James H. Kingery, 36705110, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 5 April 1945 near Kamiyama, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 330, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 June 1945.

Staff Sergeant David E. Lounsberry, 6290650, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 22 May 1945 near Onaga, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 144, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 April 1945.

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First Lieutenant George L. Marquis, 01314805, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 12 April 1945 near Uchitomari, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 284, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 June 1945.

Private First Class George L. Russell, 38282346, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 28 April 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 132, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 1945.

Private First Class Floyd D. Seward, 38570935, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 25 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 309, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 June 1945.

Sergeant Stanley J. Smith, 35094602, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 11 May 1945 near Gaja, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 189, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 9 May 1945.

Private First Class Howard R. Swanson, 38575046, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 8 June 1945 near Iwa, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1945.

Sergeant Russell J. Terrell, 39117432, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 18 May 1945 near Tobaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders No. 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 13 November 1945.

2. Under the Provision of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Staff Sergeant William I. Domovich, 36384315, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 16 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Order 62, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 March 1945.

Private First Class Dewey D. Smith, 38603343, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 11 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 115, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 21 April 1945.

Private First Class James H. Kingery, 36705110, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 27 April 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 330, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 14 June 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

17 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 339

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL SECTION I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER SECTION II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 2, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Technician Fourth Grade Jesse T. Cope, 38361591, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 1 June 1945.

Technical Sergeant Leonard F. Fisher, 6292012, Medical Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 1 November 1944 to 18 May 1945.

Captain Edward E. Gibbons, 01286634, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands from 20 October 1944 to 10 February 1945 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

Lieutenant Colonel Jaroslav G. Hlavac, 0300246, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 4 June 1945.

Private First Class Richard E. Kight, 39549979, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945 and 21 April 1945.

Private First Class Lyman D. Moad, 38272478, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 and 12 April 1945.

Captain Parker B. Poe, 01234761, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands from 20 October 1944 to 10 February 1945 and on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

Private First Class Virgil M. Simmons, 39336889, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 and 11 April 1945.



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First Lieutenant Calvin E. Stevens III, O1382119, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands from 20 October 1944 to 13 January 1945.

First Lieutenant Jack L. Vore, O1297987, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 10 February 1945 and from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

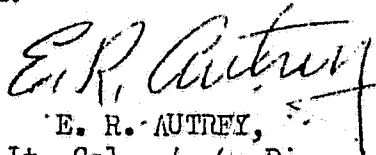
Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders No. 288, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 4 June 1945 a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Private First Class Edward A. Martin, 36404120, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When his rifle platoon was completely pinned down by intense machine gun, rifle and mortar fire, during an advance against the enemy through a constant drizzle of rain, Private First Class Martin, an automatic rifleman, crawled twenty yards over open ground under fire, continuously fired at two enemy pillboxes and kept them bottled up. In a Japanese counter-attack later in the day, Private First Class Martin fired all his ammunition to repulse the attack and held his position on his own initiative and unaided. His courageous actions and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, U. S. G.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
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Lt. Col., U. S. G.,  
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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

17 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 340

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7119, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 20 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, A Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class Noel H. Beckstead, 39633846, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Private First Class Beckstead, with complete disregard for his own safety, carried or hauled to a heavy machine gun position across open ground, a distance of seventy-five yards, under enemy observation and intense enemy small arms fire, continuing his unhesitating and courageous performance of duty until mortally wounded by enemy fire. Private First Class Beckstead's courageous actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Ruth E. Beckstead, Wife, Route #1, Riverton, Utah.

Private First Class Richard S. Cain, 34623031, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. On numerous occasions, Private First Class Cain, a runner, exposed himself to enemy fire in order to deliver messages and maintain contact between his platoon and the other elements of his company. On one occasion when he noticed the enemy preparing to launch a counter-attack on one of the platoons on his left, he ran to the platoon and alerted the men who succeeded in turning back the charge. He then returned to his platoon and assumed the duties of a rifleman in order to afford his unit more fire-power, and continued giving support until he was mortally wounded by an enemy mortar shell. Private First Class Cain's courage, devotion to duty and unflinching determination reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Lilla M. B. Cain, Wife, Sallis, Mississippi.

Private First Class Joe N. Draughon, 34596045, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 6 April 1945 to 9 April 1945. In an attack against Uchitomar on 6 April 1945, Private First Class Draughon received a shrapnel wound for which he refused medical treatment, because he felt his presence needed in his unit and on 9 April 1945 when an automatic rifleman was killed, he picked up the BAR and effectively used it against the enemy. He then remained with one other casualty until his platoon withdrew under smoke through heavy machine gun fire. At great risk to his own life, he remained with the casualty until his position was bombed by the enemy and then at far greater risk, he and one other man carried the casualty back to his unit. Private First Class Draughon's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Lilla Mae Wright, Mother, Route #4, Mount Airy, North Carolina.

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Private First Class Stanley Rubinstein, 35634388, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was cut off from their lines and was subjected to a murderous barrage of enemy high angle fire from encircling positions, Private First Class Rubinstein, despite being wounded, remained at his key position, guarding the flank of his platoon. In repulsing a Banzai attack, Private First Class Rubinstein was mortally wounded. His great courage, steadfastness and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Anna Rubinstein, Mother, 10317 Empire Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

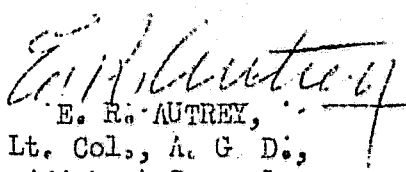
Private First Class Volmar M. Bass, 37323977, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. During the battle for Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Bass, an Infantry line man, while proceeding up Kakazu Ridge, exposed to the enemy and completely disregarding heavy mortar and intense small arms fire, established wire communications to a rifle company on the front line, and upon returning under continuing mortar bursts, he repaired two breaks in the wire caused by mortar shrapnel. Private First Class Bass' courage and determination made possible the maintenance of uninterrupted communications with the company and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Robert L. Brasier, 38294188, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Private First Class Brasier, at the risk of his own life, left a covered position and went fifty yards across open terrain to the aid of a fellow member of his squad who had been wounded by enemy fire. Private First Class Brasier, although under continual enemy small arms fire, remained in the open area for a half hour administering first aid. Private First Class Brasier's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

17 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 341

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9417, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in LR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Wallace E. Brede, 15109148, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kikazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Private First Class Brede kept continuous radio communications from a forward observation post to three companies and a command post for over forty eight hours before leaving his radio and, three hours after his relief, he was called upon to reestablish communications because the operator who had relieved him had been wounded by shrapnel from enemy artillery fire. During an enemy counter-attack at that time, it was only through successful radio communications that the companies knew of the huge numbers and positions of the infiltrating Japanese and were able to repulse them successfully. Private First Class Brede's untiring efforts and courage reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Sergeant Albert Busby, 6939025, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 8 April 1945. First Sergeant Busby, a leader of a group of litter squads, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, made three trips to evacuate casualties over a mile long stretch of irregular and difficult terrain which was made hazardous by persistent enemy artillery, mortar and sniper fire. First Sergeant Busby's courage and leadership speeded the evacuation of the wounded soldiers to further medical care and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Joseph R. Conkright, 35242287, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 6 November 1944. When his platoon was pinned down by enemy automatic rifle fire, two and one half miles south of Malabago, Private First Class Conkright, an automatic rifleman, acting upon his own initiative, moved forty yards out to the right flank of his platoon to prevent any possible flanking by the enemy. He arrived just in time and held off an enemy attack until assistance arrived. Private First Class Conkright's heroic act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Harold Davidson, 35846128, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. During an enemy counter-attack on the flanks of his company, Private First Class Davidson, a member of a heavy machine gun squad, when he was not able to fire his gun on the enemy position from its location on the ground, picked it up in his arms and standing up, exposed himself to enemy fire while firing into the enemy force. Private First Class Davidson, by his heroic actions, killed three of the enemy and turned back the flanking attack. Private

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 341 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 17 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

First Class Davidson's courage under fire and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

*Rescinded by  
G.O. 378 DTD 22 June 45  
ck*

First Lieutenant Frederick H. Dilg, 01324618, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. During an attack on the heavily fortified ridge four hundred yards north of Nishi-Baru, when heavy casualties were sustained from enemy guns placed on high ground to the front and both flanks, First Lieutenant Dilg, assisted by six other men, took it upon himself to aid and help evacuate the wounded. Disregarding all danger to himself from enemy spigot mortars, machine gun and rifle fire, First Lieutenant Dilg remained in this untenable area until the last of the men had been removed to the aid station, despite the fact that darkness was falling and his small group was alone and separated from the rest of the battalion. First Lieutenant Dilg's heroic action in the face of withering enemy fire, devotion to duty and loyalty to his men in this time of great need, reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class George W. Engel, 33380766, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. When on a mission of cleaning out pockets of enemy resistance south of Kakazu Ridge, five hundred yards forward of the Infantry lines, the tank in which Private First Class Engel was a 75mm loader, was hit by an enemy anti-tank gun and disabled. Knowing that the disabled tank was directly in the line of fire of the enemy gun, Private First Class Engel and the four other crew members, rather than abandon the tank, elected to remain and fire on the enemy positions until all of their ammunition was expended. Private First Class Engel was instrumental in destroying several attacking enemy troops, several machine gun emplacements and the enemy anti-tank gun. Private First Class Engel displayed an unflinching devotion to duty which reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Strawdor H. Estes, 38272420, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 25 April 1945. When his platoon was assigned the mission of clearing a gap in which at least two enemy machine guns and several snipers were holding up the advance of two companies, Private First Class Estes, an assistant BAR man, with two other men, scaled the face of a cliff overlooking the enemy positions and assisted in knocking out a machine gun position at the base of the cliff. He then moved on down to the base of the cliff to an archway between two tombs, where he assisted his BAR man in placing fire on the enemy positions, thus enabling the companies to advance. Private First Class Estes' courage and tenacity reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

17 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 342

~~ORIGINAL ORDER~~  
AWARD ORDER -  
THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Technical Sergeant Houston Fontenot, 38260325, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) Fontenot, mortar section leader in a rifle company, acted as forward observer for his section, in the face of a strong enemy counter-attack, selected an observation post on a rocky crag and despite the fact that his position was exposed and subjected to heavy enemy mortar fire, remained at his post and successfully adjusted fire on the enemy force throughout the night. Largely as a result of Technical Sergeant Fontenot's work, the enemy attack was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy who left behind forty-seven dead and six machine guns. Technical Sergeant Fontenot's display of gallantry and devotion to duty is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Richard Harmon, 35243178, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. Private First Class Harmon refused to leave his position in the face of intense enemy mortar and artillery fire despite the fact the nature of the terrain would not permit the digging of foxholes and the fact that all other men in his area had withdrawn to more protected positions. As a result of Private First Class Harmon's intrepid devotion to duty, he was able, in the early hours of the morning, after a heavy concentration of enemy mortar and artillery fire, to report the presence of the enemy in considerable strength and thereby give warning in time for the lines to be reorganized and strengthened and the attack repulsed. Private First Class Harmon's unceasing devotion to duty and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Alvis F. Harrell, 36610650, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 8 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Harrell, with complete disregard for his own safety, led his litter squads across a mile long stretch of irregular, difficult and open terrain made extremely hazardous by persistent enemy artillery fire, making three trips leading his men and assisting in the evacuation of casualties from the Battalion Aid Station to forward ambulance loading posts when he himself was injured as a result of enemy shelling. Staff Sergeant Harrell's courage and brilliant leadership set an example for his men and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 342 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 17 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Private First Class David Hasher, 32694232, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945. Private First Class Hasher, a rifleman, was wounded on the first day of the operation, but on his own insistence, he was allowed to return to his unit two days later. During all of the extremely hard fighting which ensued, Private First Class Hasher constantly volunteered to aid in the evacuation of many wounded and dead and carried water, rations and ammunition through extremely heavy enemy sniper, machine gun and mortar fire when not employed as a rifleman. On 10 April 1945, Private First Class Hasher voluntarily took a bazooka to the forward slope of a hill and placed fire upon a Jap machine gun position and from his exposed position, fired until the gun position was reduced. Private First Class Hasher's outstanding performance of duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Vernon L. Holets, 17751674, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. During an attack on Lone Stone Ridge when it was impossible for the artillery forward observer to get communications to a forward exposed position, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class) Holets crawled with his SCR-300 radio and while under constant enemy sniper and mortar fire, radioed messages of artillery given by the forward observer to the battalion liaison officer. Until the liaison officer was seriously wounded, Staff Sergeant Holets continued the adjusting through which effective fire was laid down, silencing the enemy mortar fire.

Corporal Anthony Kaitis, 35307678, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. When on a mission of cleaning out pockets of enemy resistance south of Kakazu Ridge, five hundred yards forward of the Infantry lines, the tank in which Corporal Kaitis was a 75mm gunner, was hit and disabled by an enemy anti-tank gun. With full knowledge that the disabled tank was directly in the line of fire of the anti-tank gun, Corporal Kaitis and the four other crew members, rather than abandon the tank, elected to remain in it and fire on the enemy until all of their ammunition was expended. By his courageous efforts, Corporal Kaitis was instrumental in destroying several of the enemy, several machine gun emplacements and the anti-tank gun which had disabled the tank. Corporal Kaitis' courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 343

17 June 1945.

~~ORIGINAL OF ORDER~~  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-15 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Corporal George E. Pruitt, 32143775, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. During an intensive enemy artillery barrage preceding a counter attack, Corporal Pruitt although wounded by shrapnel, remained at his post and continued to receive and send messages over the radio he was operating. He refused medical aid until the important message that he was receiving had been completed and after first aid was rendered, immediately returned to his radio where he continued to work until he was evacuated on the following day. Corporal Pruitt's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class David C. Roland, 34587420, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When his platoon was completely pinned down by enemy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire in an exposed position, Private First Class Roland carried three messages to the company commander over fifty yards of fire-swept terrain, which was slippery and rough from rains. The messages were of vital importance to his platoon, because of the failure of the radio and his heroic acts maintained the communications by which fire was laid down on the enemy positions thus relieving the situation. Private First Class Roland's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Roland G. Talley, 38463281, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. In an assault on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Talley took over the duties of a squad leader and in such capacity performed diligently and with ability. After gaining the crest of the ridge, Private First Class Talley, discovering an enemy 240mm mortar emplacement, moved his squad which was under enemy machine gun fire towards the mortar emplacement and succeeded in knocking it out. Although wounded, Private First Class Talley refused to be evacuated and instead remained with his squad. Three enemy counter attacks upon the positions were turned back, due largely to Private First Class Talley's intelligent posting of his men. Late in the day, when it became urgent that the troops withdraw, Private First Class Talley refused aid and managed to get back to the Battalion Aid Station on his own power leaving the litters for what he termed the more seriously wounded. His courageous actions and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.



GENERAL ORDERS 343 HEADQUARTERS 96th INFANTRY DIVISION 17 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Private First Class Joseph Urbano, 36540631, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When all radio communications failed to function, and the only means of contact was by messenger, Private First Class Urbano maintained constant contact with the various elements of his company, on numerous occasions, exposing himself to heavy enemy fire in order to carry out his duties. On one mission, Private First Class Urbano received a wound in his arm, but continued on the successful completion of his task. When enemy counter attacks began to develop, Private First Class Urbano took up the duties of a rifleman and in such capacity helped repulse three enemy thrusts. He was again wounded in the subsequent action, but still maintained his position and kept up his fire. Private First Class Urbano's steadfastness, courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

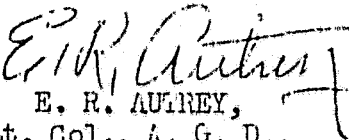
Technician Fifth Grade Haskell A. Vest, 57061118, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. While operating a 50 radio at a forward observation post, Technician Fifth Grade Vest was caught under an enemy mortar barrage and, at the same time, was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire. Headless of his own personal safety, Technician Fifth Grade Vest continued operating the radio from an exposed position even when a man standing beside him was wounded. Through his courageous actions, mortar fire was brought to bear and the enemy strongpoint was subsequently reduced. Throughout the campaign, Technician Fifth Grade Vest maintained continuous radio communication from the command post to the observation post and front line companies. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Glen H. Wilson, 38566099, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 25 April 1945. When his patrol was returning to its own lines after a trip into enemy territory and came under enemy fire, Private First Class Wilson, in the face of the intense enemy small arms fire, left a protected position and dragged his wounded squad leader to safety. Private First Class Wilson's heroic action reflects great credit on himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 34.

17 June 1945

ORIGINAL ORDER -  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in Act 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Captain Stanley J. Kuk, 0408072, Medical Corps, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When an enemy artillery shell landed between the trails of a gun, setting ablaze the gun's powder dump, men's equipment, small arms ammunition, camouflage net, and seriously wounding several men, Captain Kuk left the safety of his foxhole and despite the fact that shells were still landing in the area, rendered immediate first aid to the injured men. Captain Kuk's prompt action, complete disregard for his own safety, and devotion to duty saved the lives of the injured men and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Arthur F. Kukuk, 35557834, Infantry (Armored), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. When on a mission to clean out pockets of enemy resistance south of Kakazu ridge, five hundred yards forward of the Infantry lines, the tank which Private First Class Kukuk was driving, was hit and disabled by an enemy anti-tank gun. With full knowledge that the disabled tank was directly in the line of fire of the gun, Private First Class Kukuk and four other crew members, rather than abandon the tank, elected to remain in it and fire on the enemy until all of their ammunition was expended. By his efforts, Private First Class Kukuk was instrumental in destroying several attacking enemy troops, several machine gun emplacements, and the anti-tank gun which had disabled the tank and had been accredited with the disabling of twenty other friendly tanks. Private First Class Kukuk displayed an unflinching devotion to duty which is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Armond W. LaRow, 37437927, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 18 April 1945. When his platoon came under heavy 81mm mortar and spigot mortar fire, and suffered several casualties, Sergeant (then Private First Class) LaRow, disregarding his own injuries, assisted in the evacuation of four wounded comrades and upon completion of his task returned to his position and dug out his 536 radio which he was able to restore to working order. He then regained radio contact with the rear elements of his company and was responsible for guiding them successfully forward. The courage and initiative displayed by Sergeant LaRow reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 344 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 27 JUNE 1945 CONTD

Private First Class Everett L. McCollough, 38665712, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 8 April 1945. Private First Class McCollough, although wounded by shrapnel from an enemy artillery round which killed the other occupant of his foxhole, refused to leave his post for medical attention, electing to stay through the remainder of the night in order that there might not be a gap in the line due to casualties caused by the heavy enemy artillery barrage. Private First Class McCollough's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technical Sergeant Howard W. McGraw, 35212907, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When three men of his platoon were seriously wounded by enemy artillery fire, Technical Sergeant McGraw unhesitatingly went forward to their assistance, and although exposed to heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire and in darkness, evacuated two of them to the battalion aid station. Technical Sergeant McGraw's courageous act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade James F. Mellars, 33405798, Infantry (Armored Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 5 April 1945. Technician Fourth Grade Mellars, a tank driver, and one other man, volunteered to move forward into enemy territory to salvage equipment and disable the guns and radio of their tank which earlier had been knocked out of action by an enemy anti-tank gun. Although constantly exposed to and endangered by intense enemy mortar and sniper fire, Technician Fourth Grade Mellars successfully accomplished his mission, thus preventing valuable equipment from being used against our own forces. The courage displayed by Technician Fourth Grade Mellars reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

*Resc. by Co # 436 - July 2, 1945*  
~~Major Howard K. Miles, 0341318, Infantry, United States Army.~~ For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When the only feasible entrance to an area wherein his battalion was to relieve another, was swept by heavy machine gun and sniper fire from dominating, enemy held Kakazu Ridge, Major Miles, sizing up the situation rapidly, ran, with complete disregard for his own safety, across the exposed area to a small hummock from which he encouraged and directed the movement of each member of the entire battalion. Although working from an exposed position which was under constant enemy observation and fire, Major Miles unhesitatingly remained in his position for some three hours until the relief had been accomplished. Through the superb leadership and gallantry of Major Miles, this hazardous feat was accomplished with an exceptionally light number of casualties. His profound devotion to duty does honor to, and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

17 June 1945  
*Thompson*

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 345

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 1 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Omar C. Morris, 36615967, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. With utter disregard for his own safety, Private First Class Morris carried two radio batteries for five hundred yards through a field covered by intense enemy mortar and machine gun fire to a rifle company which was in dire need of the equipment to operate its SCR 300 radio, and thus enabled the unit to secure a continual barrage of supporting artillery fire necessary to the success of the attack. Private First Class Morris' heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant Robert J. Neuman, 36404917, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. During the battle for Kakazu Ridge, realizing the necessity of wire communications, Sergeant Neuman, undaunted by mortar or artillery fire nor held back by sniper fire, proceeded up the ridge although exposed to enemy observation, and established wire communications to the front line companies. A short time after a wire head was established, one wire was destroyed by mortar fire, and, without regard for his own personal safety, Sergeant Neuman once again ventured forth to scale Kakazu Ridge and reestablish communication. Sergeant Neuman's courageous actions in the face of enemy fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Carmine L. Pellegrini, 36661628, Infantry (Armor 1 Force), United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. When on a mission to clean out pockets of enemy resistance south of Kakazu Ridge, five hundred yards forward of the Infantry lines, the tank in which Private First Class Pellegrini was a bow gunner, was hit and disabled by an enemy anti-tank gun. Knowing that the disabled tank was directly in the line of fire of the anti-tank gun, Private First Class Pellegrini and the four other crew members, elected to remain in the tank and fire on the enemy hill until all of their ammunition was expended. By his efforts, he was instrumental in destroying several of the enemy who attempted an attack, several machine gun emplacements and the enemy anti-tank gun. Private First Class Pellegrini's courage and unflinching devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

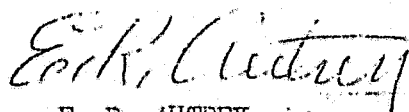
GENERAL ORDER NO. 345 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 17 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Private First Class Lawrence B. Wright, 36472005, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Although he has been seriously wounded by shrapnel from an enemy mortar shell early in the attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Wright chose to remain with his platoon rather than be evacuated and occupied his position for ten hours under a heavy barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire and numerous counter-attacks. In one of the enemy charges, which came directly toward his position, Private First Class Wright held his ground and, with the rest of the platoon, managed to drive the attackers off. Private First Class Wright's courage, steadfastness and unflinching devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. N. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 346

ORIGINAL ORDER

18 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of Art 600-45 (Recreation), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Wendell C. Aeschliman	37612939	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Carson W. Allen	37612921	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Chap Allen	37612924	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Mark H. Allison	37612948	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	James H. Alsop	37612989	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Noel J. Anderson	37612925	Inf	21 May 45
S Sgt	Salvador C Aranda	37612935	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Garfield F Arnsdorf	37612973	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Victoriana C. Arbiaga	37612951	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Hal J Bagshaw	37612996	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Arden H. Baird	37612927	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth Basham	37612907	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Edward W. Bennett	37612932	MD	8 Apr 45
Capt	Marvin Blum	07114136	MC	16 Apr 45
Pfc	Leo K. Bonner	37612951	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Bernard J. Brewer	16177998	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Vernon C Brook	44031507	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Peter J. Brodner	37612939	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Cecil R. Brown	37612966	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Robert L Brown	37612940	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Herman S. Bruce Jr	37612905	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Leon C Burzich	37612933	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Karl N Butler	37612950	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Richard Q. Cardenas	37612939	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Luis A. Castillo	37612985	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Royes S. Castillo	37612992	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Jesse Cerialo	37612962	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Adolph G. Chavez	37612931	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Walter T. Chester	37612909	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth E. Clark	37612928	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	David R. Cluib	37612936	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Clydie C. Bratcher	37612920	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	James A. Cochran	37612930	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Blaine Collins	37612908	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Edwin R Comstock	37612923	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Francisco H Coronado	37612975	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Rosendo O Cota	37612928	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	David H. Cox	37612932	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Charles C Cozine	37612920	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Glenn E. Crawford	37612939	Inf	20 May 45
Sgt	John E. Daley	37612971	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Thomas M. Dargie	19133126	Inf	25 May 45
Pfc	Jessie Davis	37612949	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	Raymond N. Davis	37612928	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	James L. Delaney	37612903	Inf	15 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS 346 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 18 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pfc	Adolph H. Demulling	37774385	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Harvey A. Derby	37774324	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Russell V. Dewey	39424795	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Clinton L. Dickman Jr.	33616132	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Q. C. Dietering	38651866	Inf	19	May	45
Pfc	Marvin J. Dinner	37365186	Inf	13	May	45
Pfc	Bernard F. Diven	33926070	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Stanley J. Dorhek	38572861	Inf	15	May	45
Pfc	Foy E. Driver	38680190	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Charles W. Dudley	39935499	Inf	24	May	45
Pfc	Arthur D. Duncan	19014413	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Archie D. Eastman	39424658	Inf	15	May	45
Pfc	Elmer H. Erickson	37773770	Inf	23	May	45
Pfc	Robert L. Everett	44035288	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Gilbert A. Fisher	39866392	Inf	19	May	45
Pfc	Robert L. Fisher	38635076	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Loren E. Fredenburg	36913252	Inf	14	May	45
Sgt	Kenneth H. Fuller	37313689	Inf	20	May	45
Pfc	Raymond C. Gutierrez	39865911	Inf	13	May	45
Pfc	Henry H. Hackel	37576869	Inf	13	May	45
Pfc	William E. Hadley	35735726	Inf	23	May	45
Pfc	James T. Holt	34502322	Inf	19	May	45
S Sgt	Albert P. Halter Jr.	38312701	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Willard L. Helzer	37711813	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Chester M. Hedberg	37774156	Inf	13	May	45
Pfc	William C. Hendershott	36909160	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Leonard S. Henyon	38230279	Inf	23	May	45
Pfc	Eugene F. Herman	36909136	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Vernon D. Herman	36915866	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Ricardo G. Hernandez	39706017	Inf	10	May	45
Pfc	John C. Hesketh	19193842	Inf	10	May	45
Pfc	Paul R. Hess	35241554	Inf	23	May	45
Pfc	Charles W. Hicks	33536594	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Jack R. Hollis	35908628	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	George W. Holm	37774153	Inf	14	May	45
Pfc	Ralph C. Holton	39422758	Inf	13	May	45
Pfc	John J. Howard	36908758	Inf	24	May	45
Pfc	Donald D. Hubbert	36430487	Inf	15	May	45
Pfc	Trinidad G. Inovejas	42177586	Inf	21	May	45
Pfc	Roland D. Irritt	31412488	Inf	15	May	45
Pfc	Dailey E. Jackson	38701668	Inf	13	May	45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE Jr.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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AGDP-OS 201 Daley, John E.  
36 903 771 (2 May 52)

12 September 1952

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Withdrawal of General Orders

TO: Mr. John E. Daley  
10306 Hoxie Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

1. So much of General Orders 346, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 18 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to Sergeant John E. Daley, 36 903 771, is withdrawn.

2. The Purple Heart had been previously awarded to the above-named individual by General Orders 3, Headquarters 1109th Pacific Ocean Area Provisional Army Garrison Forces, dated 24 May 1945.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*J. H. Newman*  
Adjutant General

*Go file*



24 January 1957

AGAR-SC 201 Hadley, William E.  
35 235 726 (23 Jan 57)

**SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Withdrawal of General Orders**

1. So much of General Orders 346, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 18 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to William E. Hadley, 35 235 726, for wounds received in action 23 May 1945, is withdrawn.

2. This individual was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously since wounds received in action 23 May 1945 resulted in his death 24 May 1945.

By Order of Wilber M. Brucker, Secretary of the Army:

Adjutant General

*YD J. L. S.*

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

ORIGINAL <sup>APQ:96E</sup> ~~96E~~

18 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 347

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department, 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class John R. Crabb, 38300540, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge; Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an assault on enemy-held Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Crabb advanced with his BAR pouring deadly fire into the enemy ranks, and was at one time, cut off from the rest of his unit. Though alone and facing insurmountable odds, Private First Class Crabb continued his advance until he was mortally wounded. In his advance, Private First Class Crabb killed nine of the enemy. Private First Class Crabb's outstanding courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Erma Crabb, Wife, Box 264, Picton, Texas.

Private First Class Frank X. Jaso, 36908534, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon attacked Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Jaso, as lead scout, had been the first man atop it. For ten hours following, when his platoon was subjected to a murderous barrage of enemy high angle fire and numerous intermittent counter attacks, Private First Class Jaso remained in position and aided in checking two enemy attacks. Later in the day, when a lack of ammunition and manpower made it expedient that the troops withdraw, Private First Class Jaso volunteered to assist a wounded comrade going back to the aid station. While shielding the wounded man from enemy machine gun fire, Private First Class Jaso was himself killed. His aggressiveness, initiative and great courage reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: David Jaso, Father, 524 West 81st Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Private First Class Martin J. Spencer, 38289189, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. When Private First Class Spencer's squad was attacked by the enemy while moving up a ridge, he stood his ground and continued to fire his automatic rifle at the enemy until fatally wounded by a shot from the enemy. Private First Class Spencer's intrepid and undeviating determination to destroy the enemy does honor to the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Volina V. Spencer, Father, Bay, Arkansas.

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Private First Class Allan L. Stohl, 32842575, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Disregarding a heavy, sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire, Private First Class Stohl remained in an extremely dangerous position on Kakazu Ridge in order to pour deadly fire upon the enemy and when offered an opportunity to withdraw, he elected to remain in an exposed position, wherein he sacrificed his life in saving the lives of many of his comrades. Private First Class Stohl's outstanding heroism and courage reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Martha Stohl, Mother, 532 Tacoma Avenue, Buffalo, New York.

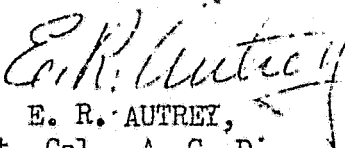
Technical Sergeant Charles R. Tyler, 36703083, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Although seriously wounded by shrapnel from an enemy mortar shell, Technical Sergeant Tyler remained with his platoon, guiding them into positions and directing their fire. His careful and intelligent placing of his men kept casualties within his platoon to a minimum and was a great factor in their being able to repulse all enemy counter-attacks. Later in the day, Technical Sergeant Tyler was mortally wounded while observing the fire and position of an enemy machine gun. His initiative, aggressiveness, great physical fortitude and courage under fire are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mary E. Tyler, Wife, 602 West Washington Street, Paris, Illinois.

Private First Class Samuel Vitas, 35587540, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 23 April 1945. While his company was attacking an enemy position, Private First Class Vitas, an assistant gunner in a light machine gun squad, endeavored to remove the machine gun to an alternate position under enemy rifle and machine gun fire. As a result of his efforts to better support his unit, he became exposed to enemy fire and was mortally wounded. His devotion to duty is a credit to himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Sophie Vitas, Mother, Box 254, Mongo Junction, Ohio.

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## HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

ORIGINAL

18 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 348AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Lloyd G. Backart, 36859095, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Backart's mortar position was subjected to a particularly heavy barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire, but in spite of this he kept his gun in action, firing steadily, and was largely responsible for the repulse of an enemy counter-attack, during which time he was firing with deadly effect at a range of only fifty yards. When his mortar squad had expended all of its ammunition, he took up a rifle and, assuming the duties of a rifleman, aided in the stemming of two subsequent enemy counter attacks. When it became expedient for our troops to withdraw, Private First Class Backart helped to a large degree in rendering first aid and evacuating the wounded. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Merlin J. Baler, Jr., 39932305, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Baler, although wounded by enemy mortar fire, refused evacuation, choosing instead, to remain with his squad where he felt he was needed. For a period of ten hours he lay atop Kakazu Ridge under a heavy barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire and, when subsequent enemy counter attacks began to develop, aided considerably in repulsing them. Private First Class Baler's courage, physical stamina, and deep devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Clarence O. Beasley, 38300911, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Beasley assumed command of his squad when the squad leader was killed. The squad was on the left flank of the company perimeter and had the mission of guarding that side from possible enemy counter attacks. On one occasion, Private First Class Beasley's squad was the mainstay in the repulse of an enemy charge and later helped greatly in the turning back of two other attacks. Private First Class Beasley exposed himself many times to enemy fire in checking his squad's positions, aiding the wounded and directing fire. When it became expedient that the troops withdraw, Private First Class Beasley organized a litter bearer team and helped greatly in the evacuation of the wounded. His initiative, aggressiveness and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Alvin Louis Becker, 38381116, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an attack on heavily fortified enemy held Kakazu Ridge, when his platoon was cut off from their lines and subjected to a barrage of enemy high angle fire from encircling positions, Private First Class Becker assumed the duties of a squad leader and, as such, performed diligently, and with little regard for his own personal safety, maneuvering and directing his squad's fire. Private First Class Becker personally killed six of the enemy. His aggressiveness, outstanding qualities of leadership, and coolness under fire were an inspiration to his men and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.


Private First Class David Carmen, 33794208, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Private First Class Carmen, a rifleman, took over an automatic rifle after the gunner had been wounded. Although he was under constant machine gun and rifle fire, Private First Class Carmen under his own initiative manned the automatic rifle and held that position until he was wounded. His coolness, courage, and devotion to duty were a credit to the military service.

Private First Class Sylvester E. Brokl, 36271713, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Private First Class Brokl made prompt and efficient repair of the telephone communication line between the front-line companies and the battalion command post while under one of the heaviest enemy artillery and mortar barrages which the battalion encountered. As a result of Private First Class Brokl's heroic achievement the front-line companies were not isolated from their reserves and were able to call promptly for supporting fire and emergency illumination, which broke up any enemy attempt to drive the companies from the ridge.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 349

18 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant Terrell Mack Caudle, 20740592, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Caudle at the risk of his life reconnoitered an open field which was under constant observation of the enemy, so as to enable the platoon to place effective fire upon the enemy. The re-organization of the platoon and the placing of the men in effective positions in the face of the enemy required great skill and excellent judgement. By his cool, calm courage his platoon suffered minor casualties in a most difficult maneuver during a fire fight. His excellent leadership during a withdrawal of his platoon inspired the men and placed the utmost confidence in his decisions.

Private First Class Warren C. Charbonnet, 38500202, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy south of Nishibaru Ridge, Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. With other members of his squad, Private First Class Charbonnet had taken cover when an enemy mortar round burst nearby. He saw that a comrade 10 yards to his right had been hit. In spite of enemy fire, he rushed from his covered position to bring his comrade to safety and then proceeded to render first aid and bandage the wound. His heroic actions were a credit to himself and the military service.

Private Harold E. Charnock, 35809642, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. During the assault on Cactus Ridge, a rifle company was subjected to heavy artillery, mortar, machine gun, and rifle fire in an open field at the base of the ridge and suffered heavy casualties. Private Charnock, a member of a litter squad, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, repeatedly went in and out of the zone of fire evacuating casualties. Due to the courageous and untiring efforts of Private Charnock, the lives of many wounded men were saved. The heroism displayed by Private Charnock reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fifth Grade Walter N. Christopherson, 37318283, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Technician Fifth Grade Christopherson gave up his job as cook in the rear to go forward as ammunition bearer, at which job he functioned courageously and with little regard for personal safety. On several occasions he exposed himself to enemy fire in moving with his squad and when he was seriously wounded, he continued in the performance of his duty. Technician Fifth Grade Christopherson's aggressiveness and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Private First Class Raymond G. Clapp, 34435318, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kakazu Ridge on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When an enemy artillery round landed in one of the adjoining foxholes and although Private First Class Clapp was severely shaken and suffering from the force of the blast, he discovered that one of his comrades was dead and two other wounded. Ignoring his own condition and the continued enemy fire, he rushed from his foxhole for help, returned, and speedily removed the two wounded men, thus enabling them to be evacuated. Private First Class Clapp's courage and quick thinking reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

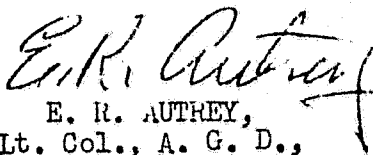
Private First Class Manuel N. Cruz, 37537682, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During the attack made by Private First Class Cruz's company on a heavily fortified enemy position, the company came under heavy machine gun, mortar and rifle fire of such intensity that it suffered heavy casualties, and the entire company, after being pinned down, was forced to withdraw. Under heavy machine gun and mortar fire, Private First Class Cruz, along with two other men of the company, saw a wounded man lying on the side of the hill fully exposed to the enemy fire. Disregarding his own personal safety, he and the other two men crawled up the side of the hill under the withering machine gun and mortar fire to give first aid to the wounded man. As the rest of the company was withdrawing, Private First Class Cruz improvised a litter and aided in carrying the wounded man down a ravine to safety. When he had gone only a few yards, the casualty died from loss of blood. Seeing that he was of no further use to the man who died of wounds, Private First Class Cruz went back into the field to help evacuate the rest of the wounded. Only after all the casualties had been carried from the field, did he himself leave.

Private First Class Clyde M. Eneix, 39218119, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon was cut off from all friendly troops on Kakazu Ridge, and was subjected to a murderous barrage of enemy high angle fire, Private First Class Eneix, although wounded in the shoulder, continued to fire his weapon into the enemy lines and aided greatly in the repulsing of an enemy counter attack. Private First Class Eneix's disregard for his wounds and personal safety, and willingness to carry on in the face of grave danger reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

18 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 350

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL II

SECTION

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Captain Willard G. Bollinger, 01286430, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Captain Bollinger at the head of his almost decimated command, led his troops for almost eight hours in an assault on Kakazu Ridge, over one thousand yards of difficult terrain swept by enemy artillery, machine gun and small arms fire. He then, with but twenty men, cleared the enemy infested caves by throwing hand grenades into each one. This enabled the rest of the battalion to move to the ridge, secure, and hold the only commanding piece of terrain protruding into the enemy lines. His vigorous and courageous leadership and gallant actions reflect highest credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Tyrus G. Harbert, 17125840, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action during military operations against the enemy near Tanabaru, Okinawa Shima, on 23 April 1945. Private First Class Harbert acted as a platoon leader in the attack on the Gate to Tanabaru. During the attack, he noticed a member of the flank platoon wounded while leading a tank upon an enemy position. Private First Class Harbert ran to the position and directed the tank on the attack on the enemy position. When his company was forced to withdraw, Private First Class Harbert remained with his wounded comrade until the following morning, at which time, the sector was retaken. He then rejoined his company and led his platoon in the attack which resulted in securing the battalion objective. His coolness and his dauntless, daring courage while risking his life to save a comrade had an inestimable effect on his comrades, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States.

First Lieutenant Harry J. Kline, 01297901, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island from April 25 to April 27, 1945. Assuming command of the company when the company commander was wounded, Lieutenant Kline led it skillfully in an attack on a strong, well organized position, gaining the ridge line, this gain being largely due to his personal courage, initiative and leadership. Despite being wounded, he refused evacuation because of the tense situation, depleted strength of the company and the presence of only one other officer. Then again wounded by an artillery shell that landed in the company command post killing six and wounding four, Lieutenant Kline remained to reorganize the company, encourage and aid his men, and assure himself that the situation was under control before going to the aid station for treatment. He refused evacuation and had to be ordered to leave because of multiple shrapnel wounds to the face and body. His gallantry, courage and leadership were inspirational to all who served with him. - 1 -



Private First Class Ralph Milton Phillips, 36293451, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy during military operations on 5 April 1945 near Nakasusaki, Okinawa Island. Private First Class Phillips, on finding himself and the forward elements of his company pinned down by accurately aimed enemy fire, coming from high ground overlooking his unit's positions as they advanced on Nakasusaki, fearlessly, without order, charged toward the direction of the enemy fire. He moved over one hundred and fifty yards to close with the enemy, of which one hundred yards was in full view of the enemy and under extremely heavy fire. On locating the enemy in a cave, he sprayed the enemy position with his BAR, killing two snipers that had delayed our progress and had caused casualties due to their strategic location. His gallant action, great demonstration of courage and unswerving bravery not only permitted the unit to continue their advance and eventually seize their objective, but undoubtedly helped avert a number of American casualties. This heroic act will ever serve as an inspiration to the men of his unit and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

## SECTION II

### AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 3, War Department, 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class Andrew M. Molnar, 6883783, Infantry, United States Army. For heroism displayed on Leyte on 19 March 1945. When another soldier was seriously endangered while swimming and was unable to remain afloat, Private First Class Molnar, although himself unable to swim, procured a lifebelt and at great risk to his own life, waded out to his comrade and assisted him to shore almost drowning himself in the attempt. As a result of Private First Class Molnar's heroic action, his comrade was saved from certain drowning.

Corporal George E. Pruitt, 32143775, Infantry, United States Army. For heroism displayed on Leyte, Philippine Islands on 19 March 1945. When two soldiers were seriously endangered while swimming and were unable to stay afloat any longer, Corporal Pruitt swam fifty yards to rescue one and without pause returned to save the other, as the latter was going under. As a result of Corporal Pruitt's heroic action, two men were saved from certain drowning.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

18 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 351

ORIGINAL ORDER  
SECTION  
POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Staff Sergeant Jesse L. Woodruff, 34577946, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Woodruff, although seriously wounded by rifle fire from a concealed enemy position, continued to direct his squad in the obliteration of the position. The courage and coolness of Staff Sergeant Woodruff in continuing to direct his squad despite the seriousness and painfulness of his own wounds, served as an inspiration to his men. Such un-deviating determination to destroy the enemy does honor to himself and the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Sarah M. Woodruff, Mother, Rural Route #1, Kennesaw, Georgia.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to them in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Private First Class Jerome E. Connolly, 32904192, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Private First Class Connolly, a medical aid man, on hearing the cry for "Medic", with utter disregard for his own safety, crawled across an open field under full enemy observation to treat the wounded men. Throughout Private First Class Connolly's action, the enemy laid down a devastating artillery barrage but he continued on his mission. After administering first aid, Private First Class Connolly moved each of the three men to what cover was available. When all were comparatively secure, Private First Class Connolly took up a guard post over them and remained with the men until they could be evacuated. Private First Class Connolly's daring courage and profound devotion to duty undoubtedly saved the lives of these men. His every action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 70, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 December 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 351 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 18 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

First Lieutenant Lyle C. Ellis, Jr., 01324323, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Volcano Hill, Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. When a rifle unit of his Regiment was isolated and rations and ammunition supply almost exhausted, and a number of casualties in need of medical attention, and when heavy enemy counter attacks were impending, Lieutenant Ellis gallantly volunteered to lead two M-7's through a torrent of enemy small arms and artillery fire in order to bring the critical items to this unit. At 2100, Lieutenant Ellis led the first trip through and evacuated sixteen wounded men. He then led a second trip through at 2300, braving the continued enemy fire. After delivering sufficient quantities of ammunition, rations and water, Lieutenant Ellis boldly exposed himself to the enemy by crawling out on the rear of the M-7 on the last trip, recut telephone wire in order that ceramic mines might be detonated. The gallant and intrepid actions on the part of Lieutenant Ellis, his display of great courage and bravery, not only saved the lives of a number of wounded men, but were instrumental in aiding the company to hold the ground they had gained for 48 hours against three heavy enemy counter attacks, at the end of which time all the ground in the vicinity was consolidated and key terrain taken. Previous award per General Orders No. 268, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 May 1945.

Private First Class Norman Flanders, 16119921, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. When an infantry battalion pushed forward to secure Sawtooth Ridge, two men from the heavy weapons company were lying seriously wounded in advance of the troops. Volunteers were called and Private First Class Flanders, with three other men, gave his services. The four men advanced under enemy observation and fire to locate the men. One man was already dead, and the other was seriously wounded making it necessary to get him back immediately. Without regard for their personal safety, they carried the man back across two hundred yards of open terrain while the enemy fired upon them. As a result of the heroic actions of these men, the wounded man was evacuated safely to the aid station, thus saving his life. Previous award per General Orders No. 293, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 6 June 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 352

19 May 1945

AWARD OF EXECUTIVE ORDER  
THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in Act 60045 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Paul B. Hamrick, 3459646, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. In order to silence a machine gun pinning down his company, Sergeant (then Private First Class) Hamrick, a mortar gunner, acting upon his own initiative and without orders, moved his mortar from a position of safety through heavy enemy mortar fire to a precarious position on a rocky ridge exposed to the enemy fire. As a direct result of his actions, the enemy machine gun was silenced and his company was enabled to take the remainder of Kakazu Ridge.

Sergeant Elmer J. Higgins, 35293875, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his platoon leader was wounded early in the day, Sergeant Higgins, a squad leader, assumed command of the platoon and performed the duties with diligence and outstanding ability. He held his unit in their precarious positions for a period of ten hours while they were subjected to a tremendous barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire and when counter-attacks began to develop, his platoon was the mainstay in successfully repulsing all of them. The intelligent placing of his men led directly to their being able to throw back the enemy. When it became expedient to withdraw, Sergeant Higgins contributed greatly to the organization and evacuation of the wounded. His fore-sightedness, initiative, and adeptness at organization are exemplary of great leadership and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Rudolph S. Hoffman, 36700424, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Tombstone Ridge, Okinawa Island on 18 April 1945. After being wounded in a withering barrage of mortar fire, Private First Class Hoffman, courageously crawled to the aid of his squad leader, who was seriously and painfully wounded himself, carried his squad leader to a place of comparative safety. His heroic action saved the life of his fellow soldier. This display of great courage and devotion to his comrades, were a lasting inspiration to the men of his unit and was exemplary of the finest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Ralph Humphrey, 37061047, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 14 April 1945. When one of the enemy threw a hand grenade into the hole which was occupied by Private First Class Humphrey and two other men, he grabbed the grenade and threw it out of the hole, saving the lives of his two comrades although being seriously wounded himself. Private First Class Humphrey's heroic action is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service.

*to be read*  
Private First Class Travis E. Keller, 39932033, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When the first runner of his mortar squad was seriously wounded, Private First Class Keller took over the firing of the gun and was instrumental in knocking out two enemy machine guns and one enemy mortar emplacement. When his ammunition was completely spent, Private First Class Keller took up a rifle and performed the duties of a rifleman, in which capacity he helped to suppress a strong enemy counter attack. Private First Class Keller's initiative and ingenuity and courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Wilbur D. Kinsinger, 36534738, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. While his platoon was isolated and cut off from all friendly aid, and threatened gravely by the imminence of enemy counter-attacks, Staff Sergeant Kinsinger kept his men in their positions and, exposing himself to enemy fire, moved about them continuously keeping up their morale and fighting spirit. Due to his foresightedness in the placing of his men, all enemy counter attacks upon the positions were successfully thrown back. When it became expedient, late in the day, for the troops to withdraw, Staff Sergeant Kinsinger worked feverishly in the organization and evacuation of the wounded. His coolness under fire, initiative and aggressiveness are exemplary of great leadership and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Eddie W. Koerbel, 6911083, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 26 April 1945 to 29 April 1945. While his company was under continuous enemy rifle and machine gun fire from hidden cavernous fortifications it had attacked and was holding with great difficulty, Staff Sergeant Koerbel voluntarily led demolition crews to eliminate the enemy positions, and though exposed to enemy fire, entered the caverns to investigate them and retrieve enemy equipment and to supervise demolition work. During these days in this position, Staff Sergeant Koerbel on repeated occasions performed similar service and on one occasion, accompanied by a covering patrol, ascended the rocky ledge above the position under most adverse conditions of approach in an attempt to eliminate the strongest of the enemy positions. Staff Sergeant Koerbel's initiative and courage in performing this meritorious service were in the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
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OFFICIAL:

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

19 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 353

ORIGINAL ORDER 3 SECTION  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL III

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the Provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named Enlisted Man per General Orders No. 301, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 7 June 1945, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

Private First Class Manuel O. Hernandez, 38254474, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an advance on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Hernandez discovered a cave from which an enemy machine gun was firing. The cave was approximately two hundred yards to his front and, although he could not advance upon it because of another enemy gun covering the approach to the cave, he set up in a position and remained there for eight hours shooting at the enemy as they attempted to evacuate the cave one at a time. Private First Class Hernandez killed nine of the enemy in this fashion, maintaining his position steadfastly although it was subjected to a particularly heavy barrage of enemy artillery, mortar and sniper fire. Late in the day when it was found necessary to withdraw, Private First Class Hernandez rendered valuable aid in the treatment and evacuation of the wounded. His constancy, devotion to duty and courage reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944, (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Eugene W. Derr, 36876455, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 and 14 April 1945.

Major Paul E. Edson, O23349, Dental Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 5 June 1945.

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Technical Sergeant John P. Estill, 3E152252, Finance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 15 September 1944 to 31 May 1945.

*Rec. by No # 433 - July 2, 1945*  
\* ~~Private Edgar Davis, 3E227525, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 20 April 1945 to 26 April 1945.~~

Private First Class Norman H. Gelfan, 32655155, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 20 April 1945 to 22 April 1945.

Sergeant Oscar T. Huff, 3E223109, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945.

Private First Class Norman Hognin, 52694203, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 and 11 April 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade Nolan P. Paschal, 3E329177, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 11 April 1945.

Private First Class Rob D. Rose, 36009421, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Albert Strand, 01319234, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Samar Islands from 20 October 1944 to 30 January 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. E. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
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Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 354

19 June 1945  
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AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant John B. Downes, 0521189, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Uchitomari, Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. First Lieutenant Downes, a platoon leader, was assigned the mission of reconnoitering and clearing a mine field immediately behind the Infantry front lines. Although handicapped by a previous injury, he led a twelve man clearing party to the site and expeditiously cleared the area. First Lieutenant Downes worked at the head of the party, and because of his technical knowledge and skillful leadership the mission was accomplished without a casualty. Although forced to withdraw four times due to an enemy mortar concentration on the area, First Lieutenant Downes succeeded in clearing the area in record time thus making it possible for tanks to advance and support the Infantry. The courage and steadfastness of purpose exhibited by First Lieutenant Downes reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Peter R. Dix, 37586604, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. During the attack on Kakazu Ridge on 9 April 1945, when the company came under heavy enemy machine gun, mortar, and artillery and rifle fire, Private First Class Dix was seriously wounded in the right hip by flying shrapnel. The entire company suffered heavy casualties many of which were wounded so seriously that evacuation was necessary immediately. Rather than allow himself to be evacuated, Private First Class Dix, even though his hip was giving him almost unbearable pain, placed the welfare of his comrades unselfishly above his own and insisted upon remaining with the other wounded, giving first aid and assisting in their evacuation. The wounded were under heavy machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire to such a great extent that smoke was necessary in order to get the wounded across the open terrain. With utter disregard for his own safety, and ignoring his own wound, Private First Class Dix fearlessly continued his hazardous task through the devastating enemy fire until all the wounded were evacuated.

Staff Sergeant Lawrence M. English, 36383437, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) English observed that the platoon runner had been injured. Exposing himself to intense enemy machine gun and mortar fire, Sergeant English, with utter disregard for his own safety, rushed to the injured man, dragged him to a position of safety, and resumed his duties as observer for his mortar squad. His heroic action is a credit to himself and the military service.



Private First Class Allen J. Fabre, 38657929, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was cut off from all friendly aid and was subjected to a heavy barrage of enemy high angle fire, Private First Class Fabre, despite a shoulder wound, continued aggressively to engage the enemy, and after having his wound treated returned immediately to the fray, determined to add to his total of the six Japs he had killed that day. Private First Class Fabre's aggressiveness, fighting spirit and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Sergeant Ernest J. Gerstner, 37232331, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island. On 9 April 1945 First Sergeant Gerstner's company was serving as a reserve company during the battalion's assault on Kakazu Ridge. When the assault companies were forced to withdraw due to the intense opposition from which they suffered too heavily to proceed in their advance, his company was called upon to cover the withdrawal of the assault companies and to aid in the evacuation of the wounded. First Sergeant Gerstner took charge of the mortar section and, in spite of the intense enemy fire, moved fearlessly about directing the mortar fire and aiding in the evacuation of the wounded. First Sergeant Gerstner's courage, fearless leadership, and spontaneous reaction to a difficult situation served as an inspiration to his men and was instrumental in the saving of many lives.

Captain Karl V. Koops, 01304914, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. During the occupation by his unit of high ground in front of Kakazu Ridge, two powerful counter attacks were attempted by the enemy to force our troops from their positions. Captain Koops, a Heavy Weapons Company Commander, with utter disregard for his personal safety, exposed himself to direct enemy fire and observation in order to direct effective mortar fire on the enemy positions. During the action he was wounded but refused to be evacuated until the enemy counter attack had been repulsed and then, only after he was confident that the company had set up good defensive positions for the night, did he report for medical treatment. Captain Koops' unfaltering courage and self-sacrificing devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL HADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Aubrey*  
E. R. AUBREY,  
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Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

19 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 355

ORIGINAL ORDER -  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Brown L. Tate, 37225367, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Although wounded, Private First Class Tate refused to be evacuated and elected to remain behind with his squad, thus affording more fire power. Private First Class Tate played a prominent part in the repulse of three enemy counter attacks. Late in the day when it became expedient that our troops withdraw, Private First Class Tate aided considerably in the evacuation of the wounded, despite the fact that he himself was in pain from his own wound. His physical stamina, steadfastness and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class John H. Theriot, 38312390, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Theriot received a serious wound in his leg but despite the fact that the pain was great, he refused evacuation, electing instead, to remain behind with his squad, thus affording them badly needed fire power. With his BAR, he was instrumental in the turning back of three enemy thrusts. When it became expedient that our troops withdraw, Private First Class Theriot refused to be carried on a litter, declaring that there were other men more seriously wounded and managed to get to the battalion aid station on his own power. Private First Class Theriot courage, steadfastness, unflinching devotion to duty and great physical stamina reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Roy L. Tinsley, 34578216, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Private First Class Tinsley, at the risk of his life, braved heavy enemy mortar and small arm fire as he crawled more than seventy yards to aid in the evacuation of three of his wounded comrades. Private First Class Tinsley moved over almost impassable terrain, oftentimes exposed to direct enemy fire. His heroism, calm courage and bravery will stand as a shining example to the men of his unit. His exemplary devotion and loyalty to his fellow soldiers reflects great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Julius E. Vanis, 37461670, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. During a night attack by the enemy, Sergeant Vanis crawled from his own protected position to an exposed one forward of his

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lines to ward off the attack in order that casualties might be removed and an orderly withdrawal of his company might be effected. His courage and heroism were an example to his men, a factor in the successful evacuation of casualties and a credit to himself and the military service.

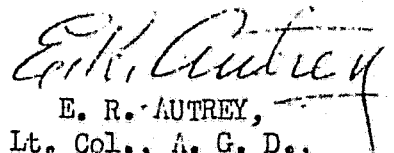
Private First Class Dale G. Walton, 39282527, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. Private First Class Walton and five other soldiers were advancing in the assault on the right flank of their platoon when they spotted seven Japs, armed with six rifles and one light machine gun, firing on friendly troops to their right. Private First Class Walton and the others immediately opened fire on the Japs killing two with their initial volley. At this time, all took cover with the exception of Private First Class Walton who remained in an exposed position that he might better deal with the enemy. Three Japs in turn exposed themselves and were killed by Private First Class Walton. The remaining two charged him simultaneously firing as they came. Private First Class Walton, standing his ground, shot and killed the leading Jap while the other jumped in a nearby foxhole. He then unhesitatingly charged the one remaining Jap, killing him in his hole. Private First Class Walton, by his actions, displayed aggressive courage, coolness, and tenacity and eliminated a serious threat to that part of the line.

Major William L. Wissman, 0411237, Medical Corps, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy at Futoma, Okinawa Island on 4 May 1945. During a heavy enemy shelling of the Division Command Post in which two men were instantly killed and three others wounded, Major Wissman left the security of his foxhole to care for the wounded. While he was engaged in his tasks, shells continued to come into the area exploding in the immediate vicinity where he was treating the casualties, but with complete disregard for his personal safety, he continued to care for the wounded, seeking shelter only after he was certain that all of the men were cared for and in a position of safety. Major Wissman's courageous action and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 356

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AFO 96  
ORIGINAL ORDER

19 June 1945.  
7/20/45  
B. H. ...  
Rev. ...

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant John L. Linville, C1166117, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. During an attack on a heavily fortified ridge on 4 April 1945, Lieutenant Linville, attached to the leading assault company as a forward observer for the supporting artillery, moved forward with the leading elements in the assault in order to place more effective fire on enemy positions. Despite intense enemy sniper and machine gun fire he deliberately exposed himself to the enemy fire in order to maintain observation posts from which effective fire could be brought on the enemy, often times to within seventy five yards of our attacking troops. From an exposed position Lieutenant Linville directed fire and laid down smoke screen over the entire enemy positions enabling the successful evacuation of twenty one wounded men. His indomitable spirit, skillful application of artillery fires and aggressiveness were an inspiration to all members of his command and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Francis H. Lohr, 32796867, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. As lead scout for his platoon, Private First Class Lohr was one of the first men to reach the crest of Kakazu Ridge. When the positions atop the ridge were blasted by a heavy barrage of enemy high angle fire for a period of ten hours, and were subjected to intermittent enemy counter attacks, in one of which enemy troops tried to creep into the perimeter, Private First Class Lohr discovered them, put our troops on the alert, and killed three of the enemy force. Later in the day, when it became expedient that his unit withdraw, Private First Class Lohr aided immeasurably in the care and evacuation of the wounded. His courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fifth Grade Marvin L. Lucas, 33555711, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy at Futema, Okinawa Island on 4 May 1945. When two men were killed and three others wounded during a heavy enemy shelling of the Division Command Post Technician Fifth Grade Lucas left his shelter to assist in caring for the wounded. Although shells continued to come into the area and explode in the immediate vicinity where the casualties were being treated, Technician Fifth Grade Lucas with complete disregard for his personal safety continued to assist in caring for the wounded, seeking shelter only after the completion of this task. Technician Fifth Grade Lucas's courageous action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Private First Class Buil E. Martin, 38293799, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 22 April 1945 during the Okinawa campaign. When the company was engaged in the advance on Tanabaru, the platoon for which Private First Class Martin was the radio operator was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun fire. It was necessary to report the seriousness to the next higher command. Upon call, Private First Class Martin managed to crawl to where his wounded platoon leader and three other wounded enlisted men were under partial cover, here he remained exposed to enemy fire in an attempt to transmit the messages given to him by the platoon leader. His radio failed but realizing that the message was vital to the success of the operation, he then crawled across exposed ground to his Platoon Sergeant's position, giving the sergeant an account of the situation. He then volunteered to take the message back to the battalion. Through continuous enemy machine gun cross-fire, he crawled over open terrain to the Battalion Observation Post, where he delivered the message. His clear thinking under hazardous conditions and his courageous devotion to duty with utter disregard for his own welfare served as a lasting example to all of those about him.

Technician Fifth Grade Bernie L. McClaskey, 37247137, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy at Futoma, Okinawa Island on 4 May 1945. When the Division Command Post was shelled by enemy artillery and two men were killed and three others wounded, Technician Fifth Grade McClaskey left his shelter to assist in caring for the wounded. While he was engaged in the task, shells continued to come into the area exploding in the immediate vicinity where the casualties were being treated, but with complete disregard for his personal safety, he continued to assist in caring for the wounded, seeking shelter only after the completion of this task. Technician Fifth Grade McClaskey's courageous action, his profound devotion to duty and loyalty to his comrades reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Louis A. Novak, 15109145, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Despite the fact that the enemy were hitting his machine gun position particularly hard with high angle fire, Private First Class Novak kept his gun functioning, protecting the company's left flank from numerous enemy counter attacks, and when mortars fired into his position for eight hours without a pause, he exposed himself on numerous occasions to observe the enemy positions. As a result of this, his squad was able to knock out two enemy mortars and a machine gun nest. Private First Class Novak's coolness under fire, his courage and steadfastness reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

CENTRAL OFFICE  
NUMBER 357

19 June 1945

GENERAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AF 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class James R. Corley, 38300946, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. Private First Class Corley, ammunition bearer in a machine gun squad, during the hours of darkness under enemy mortar and machine gun fire, crawled to the ammunition dump to resupply his gun which was trying to ward off an enemy counter attack. In doing so he was wounded, but, refused medical aid and evacuation, continued to carry ammunition until the ridge had been secured and the counter attack had been repulsed. Private First Class Corley's courage and devotion to duty were inspirational to his comrades and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Leo J. Gorenz, 16120696, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. When an infantry battalion pushed forward to secure Sawtooth Ridge and two men were lying seriously wounded in advance of the troops, Private First Class Gorenz, with three other men, voluntarily advanced under enemy observation and fire to locate them. Having found the men, one of whom was already dead, Private First Class Gorenz assisted in dressing the wounds of the other and succeeded in carrying him back across 200 yards of open terrain while the enemy fired upon them. As a result of the heroic actions of Private First Class Gorenz, the wounded man was evacuated safely to the aid station.

Private First Class Troy E. O'Neal, 38320166, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Private First Class O'Neal repeatedly exposed himself to enemy observation in order to draw their fire and allow the remainder of his platoon to maneuver into position to knock out the enemy emplacements. Such coolness and courage in the face of enemy fire are a credit to himself and the military service.

Technician Fifth Grade William Palmer, 36655496, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa on 22 April 1945. During the fight for Tombstone Ridge, Technician Fifth Grade Palmer, a switchboard operator, established wire communications to the front line companies, heedless of mortar and artillery fire, rocket bombs, and snipers that had pinned the companies down during the day. Descending the draw and making his way up the ridge he was clipped through the sleeve of his jacket by a sniper but continued on his mission. Through his courage and utter disregard of personal safety, he made it possible to maintain vital communications with the companies.

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Staff Sergeant Emil Pecha, 38272512, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April and 14 April 1945. Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class) Emil Pecha, machine gunner in a rifle company, during the hours of darkness under enemy mortar fire and hand grenades crawled forward to an exposed position from a protected one in order to obtain a better field of fire and obtain the maximum use of the weapon. His heroic service was a contributing factor in the subsequent defense against the enemy. His courage and coolness are a credit to his organization and the military service.

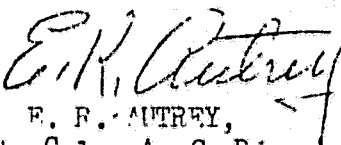
Second Lieutenant Kenneth F. Peterson, 01690753, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. When his company's valuable defensive position was attacked by the enemy in a determined effort to overrun the battalion sector and was under intense mortar, grenade, and small arms fire for three hours, Lieutenant Peterson displayed superior leadership, moving among his men exposed to the ferocity of the enemy attack, instilling courage and confidence in his men, directing them for most effective resistance and contributing materially to his company's ability to repel the threatening enemy penetration. His courageous action was in the highest tradition of the military service.

Private First Class Billy W. Stubbe, 37265432, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When Private First Class Stubbe's squad was given the mission of protecting the company's left flank from any possible enemy counter attack, he had set up the gun in a position which afforded a good field of fire but which was easily observed by the enemy and consequently drew a particularly heavy barrage of enemy high angle fire. Despite the hostile fire, Private First Class Stubbe kept up a steady volume of fire into the enemy positions, destroying one enemy mortar emplacement which was a contributing factor in the repulse of two enemy counter attacks. Private First Class Stubbe's steadfastness, courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

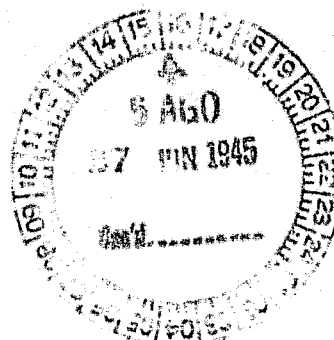
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL HADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR.,  
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Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

19 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 358

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Charles P. LaFitte, 39563482, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. When, during an assault on Sawtooth Ridge, two men were seriously wounded, Private First Class LaFitte and three other men voluntarily advanced forward of the front lines under enemy observation and fire and locating the men, one of whom had died, they carried the other man back across two hundred yards of open terrain which was under constant enemy fire. As a result of the heroic actions of Private First Class LaFitte, the wounded man was successfully evacuated to the aid station. Private First Class LaFitte's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Earl C. Lee, 37644502, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire on the side of a hill, Private First Class Lee, with three other men, maneuvered to the right flank of the hill and laid down a base of fire to cover the evacuation of the wounded holding their positions under enemy mortar fire. They continued firing against heavy odds until the wounded had been removed to cover in a ravine. Private First Class Lee's heroic act reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Paul Petrillo, 32992635, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 24 April 1945. When an Infantry Battalion pushed forward to secure Sawtooth Ridge, two men from the heavy weapons company were lying wounded in advance of the troops. Without hesitation, Private First Class Petrillo, along with three other men, volunteered to go to the aid of their comrades. Upon locating the men, one of whom had died, they evacuated the other over two hundred yards of open terrain which was under constant enemy fire. Private First Class Petrillo's devotion to duty and loyalty to his comrades reflect the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Lee C. Roberts, 39594685, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an assault on enemy hold Kakazu Ridge, when his platoon was under heavy enemy fire, Private First Class Roberts, despite being wounded, remained at his position where he was badly needed, acting in the capacity of a riflemen. He held his ground unyieldingly in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service.



Private First Class Elton E. Scott, 38253829, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When his company was assigned the mission of clearing enemy resistance from caves and positions on the reverse slope of a ridge about one thousand yards south of Nishi-Baru, Private First Class Scott, ammunition bearer in a machine gun squad, left a protected position to expose himself to enemy small arms fire in order that he might come to the assistance of his comrades who were pinned down by enemy fire. As he moved forward to close with the enemy, he was wounded and evacuated for treatment. His intrepid desire to exterminate the enemy, devotion to duty and loyalty to his comrades does honor to and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

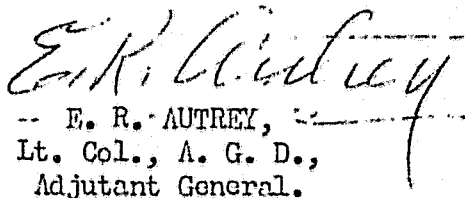
Private First Class Raymond R. Screws, 38300151, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. While his company was defending a sector of a high ridge one thousand yards south of Nishi-Baru, Private First Class Screws completely ignored murderous enemy mortar and artillery fire and stayed in his position as gunner to deliver mortar fire which eliminated a machine gun that was keeping our forces from commanding the ridge. Despite the fact that the enemy had full observation of his position and had already knocked out the mortar section of an adjoining company, Private First Class Screws kept firing his mortar until severely wounded. His display of courage and coolness under withering enemy fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

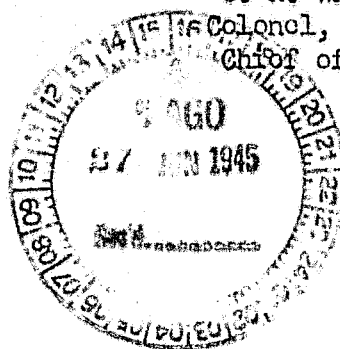
Private First Class Kenneth E. Swenson, 36323804, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Despite the fact that his unit's radios failed to function properly, Private First Class Swenson maintained exceptionally good communications between the various platoons of his company and when the company was threatened by imminent enemy counter-attacks, he took up a rifle and was instrumental in the repulsing of the thrusts. When it seemed possible to contact a friendly unit some seven hundred yards to the rear, Private First Class Swenson volunteered to get in touch with them, knowing that he would have to cross an open field upon which the enemy were laying heavy machine gun and sniper fire. He made contact with the force and finding it impossible to move such a large body of troops through the enemy machine gun fire, he returned to the company alone and when the time came for the troops to withdraw, he helped with the evacuation of the wounded. Private First Class Swenson's courage and unflinching devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.



DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 359

19 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
ORIGINAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department, 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private Samuel E. Russell, 39864889, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When heavy casualties were sustained by his platoon when it was pinned down by enemy machine gun and mortar fire during an assault on Kakazu Ridge, and it became necessary to evacuate them immediately, Private Russell volunteered to go in search of a covered route to the battalion aid station, and although he was under constant observation and continuously fired upon by the enemy he succeeded in reconnoitering a route by which the casualties could be evacuated with a degree of safety. Returning to his unit he led the litter parties to the aid station, again exposing himself to enemy fire without regard for his own safety. Private Russell's fearless actions, courage, and his untiring efforts in the welfare of his comrades reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Harvey Shissler Jr., 33511270, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Private First Class Shissler, a rifleman, crawled over a hundred yards in advance of his squad to knock out an enemy machine gun position. Although he was under heavy mortar and machine gun fire constantly, Private First Class Shissler succeeded in knocking out the entire enemy position with grenades and rifle fire. Private First Class Shissler's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Louis G. Sirianni, 33271623, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. When his unit was attacking key terrain, which commanded all approaches to Kakazu Ridge. Private First Class Sirianni, an ammunition bearer, volunteered to brave a heavy rain of enemy fire to bring forward critically needed ammunition. The terrain over which he had to pass was entirely devoid of cover. In spite of enemy mortar and small arms fire flooding the area, Private First Class Sirianni reached the ammunition supply point. At the risk of his life, Private First Class Sirianni unflinchingly moved forward with his burden. Although pinned down innumerable times, with great tenacity of purpose and unsurpassed courage, Private First Class Sirianni reached the gun positions in time for them to continue effective supporting fires to our advancing troops, and aid in covering evacuees. Private First Class Sirianni's dogged courage, bravery, and devotion to duty were in keeping with highest military traditions.

Staff Sergeant James L. Sober, 36534053, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Sober directed his men to safety without a casualty when his mortar position received a direct hit

GENERAL ORDERS 359 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 19 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

from enemy artillery. His cool courage and inspirational leadership contained the men when they were on the verge of panic. As soon as the men were under cover, Staff Sergeant Sober, with utter disregard for his life, returned to the position and attempted to extinguish the fire, with ammunition exploding all around him. As soon as the fire was out, he disposed of the unexploded ammunition, and salvaged all useable equipment which was used the following day, to support the attack of a rifle platoon. Staff Sergeant Sober's cool courage and exemplary leadership, coupled with his deep devotion to duty, served as an inspiration to his men and averted many possible casualties. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Private First Class Walter R. Speyers, 37392685, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. When his unit assaulted Nishi-Baru Ridge and many casualties were sustained while under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, Private First Class Speyers, upon noticing a wounded BAR man forward of the line, dashed forward, exposing himself to enemy fire and with complete disregard for his own life, carried the wounded man to cover and administered first aid. Later when an aid man was not available to treat the wounded, Private First Class Speyers voluntarily treated them, continuing his task even after being wounded by both shrapnel and sniper fire. Private First Class Speyers courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

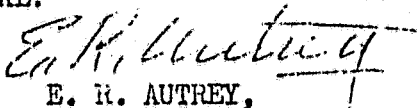
Private First Class Milton N. Tage, 38631787, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Although his platoon had been cut off on Kakazu Ridge and isolated from all friendly aid and had been subjected to a heavy sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire and numerous counter attacks, Private First Class Tage maintained his precarious position and was instrumental in the repulse of three of the enemy's thrusts. He personally killed four of the enemy. Late in the day, when it was found expedient to withdraw, Private First Class Tage gave considerable aid in the evacuation of the wounded. Private First Class Tage's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Edwin Ugelstad, 37318207, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an attack on Kakazu Ridge, Staff Sergeant Ugelstad performed the duties of platoon guide despite being seriously wounded, and helped to keep organization in his unit. He also assisted in directing fire and in the movement of the platoon and was responsible for the destruction of three of the enemy force. Staff Sergeant Ugelstad's display of leadership and courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "F" & "X"

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 360

19 June 1945

ORIGINAL ORDER	SECTION
POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	I
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR	II
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL	III

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Walter J. Kwitkowski, 35242865, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 15 April 1945. Next of Kin: Frances Kwitkowski, Mother, 3667 East 63rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Private First Class Robert L. Simboli, 37707142, Medical Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 26 April 1945 to 29 April 1945. Next of Kin: Angeline C. Simboli, Mother, 6613 Jackson Street, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Second Lieutenant William O. Ward, 01175693, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 19 April 1945. Next of Kin: Kathryn C. Ward, Wife, 300 Avenue C, Bismark, North Dakota.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named enlisted men:

Sergeant Frederick A. Pfeiffer, 37627464, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. During an assault on Nishi-Baru Ridge, when his unit was stopped by a hail of enemy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire, Sergeant (then Private First Class) Pfeiffer acting on his own initiative, advanced to the left flank of the hill and although exposed to the heavy enemy fire, succeeded in knocking out an enemy pillbox and killing three of the enemy. Later in the day, when his unit was forced to withdraw, Sergeant Pfeiffer remained with the wounded men for two hours administering first aid and offering a protecting fire when they were evacuated. Sergeant Pfeiffer's courage under fire and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Arthur F. Hilty, 38516304, Medical Department, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April to 29 April 1945. Private First Class Hilty, an aid man, attached to a rifle company, with utter disregard for his own life while under intense enemy mortar, machine gun, and artillery fire, gallantly and untiringly administered first aid to a vast number of wounded men. On one occasion on 28 April 1945, Private First Class Hilty and five other men advanced under appalling heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire to within twenty five yards of the objective and at great risk to his life, administered first aid to the many wounded men. Private First Class Hilty's quick thinking, devotion to duty and courage under fire are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant George G. Randall, 16149073, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. When his company was holding a two hundred yard front on an escarpment south of Nishi-Baru and suddenly after two days of silence, an enemy pill box in the center of the company section opened up with grenades and rifle fire. Staff Sergeant Randall, immediately grasping the seriousness of the situation, edged his way to the pill box's aperture by clinging to the rock escarpment, and threw four fragmentation and two smoke grenades into the enemy position. He then called for assistance and covered the aperture with rocks. Through his gallant and aggressive actions Staff Sergeant Randall liquidated the enemy in their advantageous position and uncovered a cleverly concealed system of observation posts, pillboxes and tunnels in the hillside. Staff Sergeant Randall's actions were in keeping with the highest military traditions.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

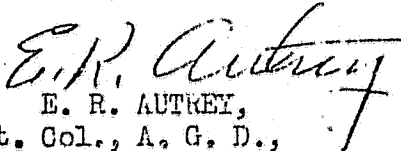
By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 630-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class George L. Olds, 39283610, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Private First Class Olds, a messenger, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, exposed himself to heavy enemy machine gun fire in keeping continuous communications between his platoon and company. In the absence of aid men, Private First Class Olds rendered immediate first aid to the wounded of his platoon, continuing his work even after being wounded himself. Private First Class Olds' courage under fire and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AI O 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 361

19 June 1945

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

ORIGINAL ORDER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Robert W. Akin	38601066	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Carl G. Alvis	38581396	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Albert Amundson	38501129	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Richard J. Anderson	36241579	MD	31 May 45
Pfc	Robert G. Anderson	38426304	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Joseph L. Armstrong	38378093	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Jack E. Atmore	39730553	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Swenson Aucutt	38835138	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Wilbur H. Ayres	39730625	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	William T. Baker	37712145	Inf	20 May 45
S Sgt	Minor W. Baurh Jr	38281328	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Lloyd M. Blake	39346631	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	Eldon J. Borders	36915539	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Edwin A. Borowski	36907383	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	George M. Boselo	35850334	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Thomas Brashear	39866447	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Harold G. Brinkley	44017216	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Antonio G. Chavez	39866691	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Morris Cutler	36703744	Inf	18 May 45
Cpl	Casimir F. Czubat	36720933	MD	23 May 45
Pfc	Thomas E. Dick	37712334	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	John L. Dunlap	39425171	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Edwin D. Eaton	37647111	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	George L. Eberly	37711843	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Samuel W. Evans	39728494	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Karl C. Everman	37751032	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Melbourn Farr	39729040	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Edward L. Farritor	37752695	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Raymond J. Farrow	37752738	Inf	21 May 45
S Sgt	James B. Fitzpatrick	36539455	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Wilburn O. Gamble	39723316	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Joe A. Garcia	38701731	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	James B. Garrison	39728117	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Chester H. Gazinski	36700769	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Doyan C. George	38573162	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Calvin E. Goss	39425130	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Alton R. Green	38582582	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Benjamin H. Griffin	37100474	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	John L. Happs	37438148	Inf	19 May 45
Tec 3	Clifford H. Jack	35572544	MD	20 May 45
Pfc	Albert J. Johnson	36499102	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Gilbert H. Johnson	34934310	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Hershel A. Johnson	38227675	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Julian F. Johnston	38635023	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Manuel Johnson	38352579	Inf	14 May 45

GENERAL ORDERS 361 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 19 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Pfc	Frank Julius	33926080	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Nick A. Karmanoff	35561679	MD	12 Apr 45
2d Lt	Clinton D. Keeler Jr.	01111742	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Jack W. Kerns	35221336	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Samuel E. Klopp	36585710	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	John Knopick	33926036	Inf	20 May 45
<i>From command log 45</i> *Pfc	Elnor W. Koestler <i>Aug 26, 45</i>	35908649	Inf	15 May 45
S Sgt	Stanley R. Korstanty	36381519	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Arnold O. Kuhlman	37774154	Inf	12 May 45
Pfc	William J. Landi	31118753	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Charles R. Lawless	34839684	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Lloyd J. Legendre	38497188	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Claude L. Lewis	39049227	Inf	21 May 45
Fvt	William J. Manners	32939788	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Christopher R. McKinnon	36466610	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	Michael Koroz	42004617	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	William R. Miller	38657930	Inf	20 May 45
Sgt	James C. Norken	37572856	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Edwin J. Norris	38635396	Inf	30 May 45
Pfc	Albert E. Morrison	39425110	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Lee O. Morton	38569307	Inf	15 May 45
Sgt	James D. Mouser	38521372	Inf	13 May 45
S Sgt	Earl C. Nye	37576018	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	William W. Ogden	36466908	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Louis F. Ojeda	39425081	Inf	21 May 45
1st Lt	William S. Ouderkirk	01101607	OE	15 Jun 45
Pfc	Victor B. Pack	38635114	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Louis E. Fadilla	42033571	MD	25 May 45
Pfc	Kenneth L. Patton	37647114	Inf	19 May 45
Pfc	Harold G. Pendergraft	38582973	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Lawrence H. Painter	39424208	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	James R. Robinson	38670691	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	John Roth	37335372	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Melvin H. Rouse	38550901	MD	30 May 45
Pfc	Henry T. Shempert	34630143	MD	20 May 45
Pfc	Philip R. Shepherd	39730210	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	William R. Sisk	41032559	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Ira A. Small	31402405	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Bruce N. Sparks	39425572	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	William C. Woodruff	37752501	Inf	21 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "F" & "X"

AGRS-DA 201 Nye, Earl C.  
37 576 018 (4 Nov 49)

14 December 1949

WITHDRAWAL OF GENERAL ORDERS

So much of General Orders 361, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, dated 19 June 1945 and General Orders 60, Headquarters Army Garrison Force, dated 30 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Purple Heart to Earl C. Nye, 37 576 018, is withdrawn.

The Purple Heart was previously awarded to subject individual by General Orders 14, Headquarters 204th General Hospital, dated 20 May 1945.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*W. A. Leary*  
Adjutant General

Copies Furnished  
Strength Accounting Branch, AGO  
D & A Section, OPRB, St. Louis, Mo.

*D. J. Wells*



33

7/11/45  
7/11/45

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 362

20 June 1945

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART I  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER II

SECTION

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Pfc	Edwin O. Daniels	38711384	Inf	22 May 45
Pfc	William T. Evans	42185304	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Jesse G. Fletcher	34265199	CE	12 Jun 45
Pfc	Valentine S. Herrera	39865747	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Guy Jones	35815946	Inf	21 May 45
1st Lt	Hederith J. Larson	01101559	CE	14 Jun 45
Sgt	Jack T. McCurry	38211470	CE	14 Jun 45
Pfc	Cecil E. Purdy	37266979	SigC	4 Jun 45
Sgt	Ray E. Richard	38260629	Inf	15 May 45
S Sgt	Louis O. Rice	38339550	Inf	14 May 45
Pfc	Delmer E. Schriever	37775295	Inf	23 May 45
S Sgt	R. L. Sharp	38230243	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Raymond G. Shinkie	37616954	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Clarence A. Skiles	39287341	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Rodolfo Vargas	38253268	Inf	19 May 45
Pvt	Raymond A. Webber	32759129	Inf	20 May 45
Pfc	Conrad K. Werner	42008470	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Leon J. Whitlow	38669001	Inf	14 May 45
Sgt	Hollan T. Woolsey	36139003	Inf	21 May 45
Pfc	Richard L. Yoder	39590602	Inf	24 May 45

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Private First Class George R. Dooley, 38230284, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 13 May 1945 near Yonabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 32, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 26 November 1944.

Staff Sergeant Roy Holmes Jr., 34502524, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 10 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 178, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 8 May 1945.

Private First Class Howard F. Fulmer, 42024750, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 24 May 1945 near Yonabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 126, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 27 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS 362 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 20 JUNE 1945 CONTD

Private First Class John J. Howard, 34907738, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 30 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 346, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 June 1945.

Private First Class Charles H. Lewis, 3439604, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 21 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 361, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 June 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade John P. McJarty, 36569464, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 25 May 1945 near Yonabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 279, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 June 1945.

First Lieutenant Billy S. Parham, C527848, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 19 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 7, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 8 January 1945.

Private First Class Stanley C. Fresco, 39051752, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 15 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 108, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 17 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Clarence J. Walker, 38260726, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 19 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 47, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 December 1944.

Private First Class Paul R. Westman, 37365094, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 15 May 1945 near Shuri, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 97, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 April 1945.

Sergeant Warren W. Winslow, 37440926, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 23 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 36, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 28 April 1945.

Private First Class Richard L. Yoder, 39590602, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 28 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per Section I, General Orders 362, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 20 June 1945.

2. Under the provision of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to Staff Sergeant Jeff W. Brooks, 38230053, Infantry, United States Army, per General Orders 21, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 3 November 1944, a second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on 15 May 1945 near Shuri, Okinawa Island.

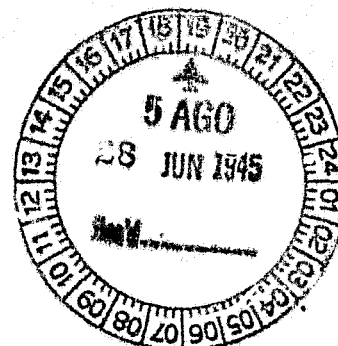
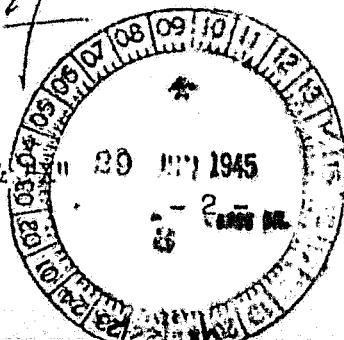
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "C" "F" &



AGRS-DC-3 201 Eroska, Jeff W.  
38 230 083 (

4 January 1952

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Amendment of General Orders

So much of General Orders 862, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division dated 20 June 1945, as pertains to the award of the Second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart to Staff Sergeant Jeff W. Eroska, 38 230 083, is amended to read, "Third Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart".

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*E. C. Voge*  
Adjutant General

GO F, 12

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 363

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

AGO 95

20 June 1945

SECTION

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART  
AWARD OF THE DISTRICT CLUSTER

I

II

ORIGINAL ORDER  
NO. OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AGO 45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa Ryukyu Islands, or dates indicated:

Pfc	Melvin L. Anderson	37774282	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Tommy Aguirre	39423376	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Benjamin W. Wigham	34914536	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Earl W. Bevins	39728127	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Mark F. Bosley	35519464	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Edwin J. Bunka	36615620	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Morris S. Burt	33127688	Inf	30 May 45
Pfc	Winifred J. Core	38732379	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Dent S. Davis	39934964	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	William O. Davis	38732448	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Robert C. Dormitzer	36677752	ID	13 Apr 45
Pfc	Edward S. Faulk	38373254	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Clarence O. Fontenot	38260606	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Irwin L. Foster	30414539	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Antonio L. Garcia	32578396	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Lee J. Guillot	38260660	Inf	10 May 45
S Sgt	Weldon G. Hester	38283162	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Marvin K. Holvey	39345255	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Robert E. Hoffman	36914422	Inf	17 May 45
Sgt	William K. House	39327576	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Gordon W. Jenson	39934429	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Clarence G. Johnson	37747288	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Leon Krantz	32308141	MD	9 Apr 45
S Sgt	Floyd H. Looper	38292665	In	15 May 45
Pfc	Melvin L. Lorince	38568171	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Samuel M. Montoya	30591367	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	Donald A. Nordgren	36724061	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	James W. O'Leary	36615485	Inf	16 May 45
2d Lt	William A. Palmer	01313121	Inf	8 Apr 45
Pfc	Hester L. Riddle	38591780	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Benjamin R. Roberson	38516122	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	George B. Roth	39143021	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Roland A. Sargent	42895572	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Antonio S. Servera	39730523	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Chalmers L. Shifler Jr.	33956715	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Robert J. Smith	37609105	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	George W. Stephens	39591310	Inf	10 May 45
Cpl	William T. Thomas	32915095	Inf	10 May 45
S Sgt	Herman A. Wilkes	33210142	Inf	10 May 45
Pfc	John W. Youngman	36903408	Inf	15 May 45

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Act 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

First Lieutenant Gerald H. Ellis, 01297514, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 15 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 35, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 11 December 1944.

Staff Sergeant Roy A. Evans, 36431906, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 23 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 January 1944.

*name amended by G.O. 45- Aug 24 1945*  
\* Private First Class Elmer W. Koester, 35908649, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 May 1945 near Yonabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 361, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 June 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade Maurice L. Mudd, 36431753, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 13 June 1945 near Shindawka, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 79, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 26 December 1944.

Private First Class Kay J. Ramsey, 34723394, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 11 June 1945 near Shindawka, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 12, Headquarters 27th General Hospital, 12 November 1944.

Private First Class Hugh Ross, 36705199, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 9 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 160, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 5 May 1945.

First Lieutenant James R. Young, 0524416, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 16 May 1945 near Yonabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 111, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 April 1945.

Private Carl R. Silva, 39054509, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 10 May 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 179, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 8 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

5  
GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 364

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

20 June 1945

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR  
AWARD OF THE SOLDIERS MEDAL

SECTION  
I  
II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Captain Robert J. Antonelli, 0396181, Field Artillery, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When his unit assaulted Kakazu Ridge, the enemy launched a terrific artillery and mortar barrage which pinned the Battalion down and caused many casualties. Captain Antonelli voluntarily crawled alone through the barrage to an observation post covered by enemy mortar fire but which gave him better observation of the enemy gun position. Here he adjusted a counter artillery barrage which successfully destroyed many enemy gun positions and enabled the Battalion to reorganize its advance and evacuate its casualties. During his adjustments Captain Antonelli was seriously wounded by an enemy mortar shell but in spite of the pain from his wound and the realization that he faced almost certain death to remain in this position, he continued observation until relieved and evacuated. Captain Antonelli's feats undoubtedly saved the lives of many men and contributed greatly to the eventual capture of Kakazu Ridge. Captain Antonelli's courage, fortitude, fighting spirit, gallantry and complete devotion to duty were a source of inspiration to all who witnessed this action and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant John C. Arends, 3736756, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. When his unit received a counterattack on Sawtooth Ridge, Sergeant Arends secured an automatic rifle and ran over the crest of the ridge, firing into the advancing enemy, killing fifteen. All of this action was performed in spite of the fact that he was fully exposed and under heavy enemy fire. The heroism and courage as displayed by Sergeant Arends reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Joe E. Coffelt, 38319762, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. During a fierce fight on the slopes of Hacksaw Ridge, two rifle companies found their positions untenable and had to withdraw, leaving many wounded. Private First Class Coffelt, BAR man in reserve company, moved out on his own initiative to evacuate the wounded. Twice he moved out across enemy infested territory to bring back litter cases over ground which was covered by the cross fire of enemy machine guns and by mortar fragments. The heroic actions of Private First Class Coffelt saved the lives of two men and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, War Department, 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

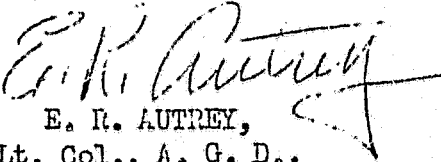
Private First Class Fay E. Adams, 39622081, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroism displayed in extinguishing a fire within a gun position of a Field Artillery Battery near Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When enemy counter-battery fire falling in and around the gun positions of an Artillery Battery started a dangerous fire within the powder increments of the ammunition, Private First Class Adams, in complete disregard to his own personal safety, instantly seized a shovel and began covering the blaze with dirt. With the aid of two other men of the section, Private First Class Adams extinguished the blaze without casualty or loss of equipment of the Battery. Since large quantities of ammunition were being moved into the Battery position at the time of the fire, and were not yet placed under cover, Private First Class Adams' courageous and speedy action saved his Battery from possible disaster. The heroism displayed by Private First Class Adams on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Max E. Borton, 39230674, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroism displayed in extinguishing a fire within a gun position of a Field Artillery Battery near Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When enemy counter-battery fire falling in and around the gun positions of an artillery battery started a dangerous fire within the powder increments of the ammunition, Private First Class Borton, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, instantly seized a shovel and began covering the blaze with dirt. With the aid of two other men he extinguished the blaze without loss of men or equipment. Since large quantities of ammunition were being moved into the Battery position at the time of the fire, and were not yet placed under cover, Private First Class Borton's courageous and speedy action saved his Battery from disaster. The heroism displayed by Private First Class Borton on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE Jr.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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4  
HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

20 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 365

ORIGINAL ORDER - 236

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION

II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class Albert C. Firestone, 38227534, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. On 9 April 1945, in extremely rugged hill country, where the earth's surface was so hard that digging in was almost impossible and where the enemy had fortified himself to a marked degree, both with pillboxes and caves, Private First Class Firestone found himself, together with two platoons of his company, cut off from all friendly troops. The position occupied by his unit was subjected to murderous high angle fire by the enemy whose installations completely encircled the terrain. For ten hours, enemy shells, some of which were of a calibre as high as 240mm, rained down upon him. Despite these many impediments to safety, Private First Class Firestone remained at his post and fought gallantly and heroically until mortally wounded. This profound devotion to duty, coolness and courage under withering enemy fire and steadfastness reflect highest credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Fatima McCuin, Mother, Route #1, Wilnot, Arkansas.

Private First Class Walter M. Burske, 37317590, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Despite the fact that he had been subjected to a heavy sustained barrage of enemy mortar and artillery fire, Private First Class Burske maintained his position and as a result was instrumental in the stopping of two enemy charges. Then he saw a third enemy attack developing far to his right flank, he attempted to shift his position so that he could lend the effective fire of his BAR to the platoon's defense. He was in the process of making the shift when he was mortally wounded by an enemy mortar shell, but not before he had succeeded in killing six of the enemy attackers. Private First Class Burske's courageous actions and his devotion to duty were a source of inspiration to all of his comrades and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Minnie Burske Mother, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.



GENERAL ORDERS NO. 365 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 20 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Staff Sergeant Robert Abernathy, Jr., 37391076, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. When his company was assigned the mission of advancing beyond the crest of Kakazu Ridge, shortly after the initial assault was made, the leading platoon of which Staff Sergeant Abernathy was a squad leader, received heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire. Realizing that the enemy fire was preventing any further advance, Staff Sergeant Abernathy volunteered to go to the Company Observation Post and direct mortar fire on the enemy. His mission was accomplished so effectively that the wounded could be evacuated without any further loss and his platoon was enabled to withdraw to a more advantageous position without casualties. Staff Sergeant Abernathy's gallantry in action and heroic efforts under enemy fire cost him his life, but will serve as a lasting inspiration to all the men of his unit and does honor to the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Robert Abernathy, Father, Route #1, Monroe, Missouri.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

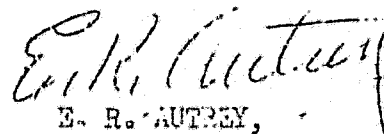
By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Stanley E. Allured, 16174681, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. Private First Class Allured, hearing a call for help from a wounded man in another company, disregarded the danger of his action and crawled across a fireswept field to administer first aid. He further crawled under fire to retrieve a first aid packet and bandaged the wounded man, by necessity, from a prone position. The heroic and aggressive actions of Private First Class Allured saved the life of another soldier; were inspirational to all who witnessed them and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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4  
GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 366

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
AFO 96

AWWS  
20 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I  
AWARD OF THE SOLDIERS MEDAL II

ORIGINAL

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Second Lieutenant Donald M. Burrill, 01175659, Field Artillery, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. During an assault on Sawtooth Ridge near Kaniku, when our troops pushed forward until they reached the summit of a steep slope where they were halted by intense enemy mortar, machine gun, and sniper fire, Second Lieutenant Burrill, without regard for his own safety, worked his way up to the crest of the hill through the intense enemy barrage to get into a position where he could observe and direct fire on the enemy installations. He succeeded in reaching a position which afforded good observation and silenced the enemy mortar fire. While moving to a more advantageous position, he was hit by a sniper bullet, but, although seriously wounded, he continued to give fire commands upon the enemy targets. By his outstanding courage and ability to operate under tremendous pressure and when wounded by refusing to be evacuated until his mission was completed, he was instrumental in breaking up an enemy counterattack and was directly responsible for reducing three enemy fortifications. It was his determination to give the Infantry troops the best artillery support available which cut down considerably the number of casualties and which enabled them to hold the summit of the slope. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Technician Fifth Grade Melvin C. Friesenhahn, 38254853, Medical Department, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 19 April 1945 to 24 April 1945. Technician Fifth Grade Friesenhahn, a medical aid man attached to a front line rifle company, which was receiving intense enemy small arms and artillery fire, repeatedly and without regard for his own safety, moved about in the front lines aiding the wounded, which made it necessary for him to be exposed constantly to enemy observation and fire. On one occasion when another battalion suffered several casualties about seventy five yards to the left flank of the company to which he was attached, Technician Fifth Grade Friesenhahn, with three litter bearers, rushed to the adjacent battalion and aided in the evacuation and treatment of the wounded. Through the timely and expert first-aid administered by Technician Fifth Grade Friesenhahn several lives were saved. Again on 24 April when his company pushed ahead to secure a high rocky ridge, both flanks became exposed, and the company suffered several casualties. Technician Fifth Grade Friesenhahn unhesitatingly exposed himself to enemy fire in order to aid and evacuate the wounded. Technician Fifth Grade Friesenhahn's heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Lawrence A. Kelly, 12220786, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Kelly, moving with his unit in a dawn attack against the enemy bastion on Kakazu Ridge on 9 April 1945 displayed intrepidity and gallantry, when after being seriously wounded in the early hours of the attack, gallantly continued on his mission, remaining with his unit, he was highly instrumental in turning back an enemy counter-attack. He made the most of his wit, cheering the men, who were constantly under a deluge of enemy fire, and when after ten hours of furious and unrelenting combat, in which his unit was the only one to take and hold their sector of the ridge, it became necessary to withdraw, Private First Class Kelly painfully dragged himself to new positions and helped the other wounded before accepting treatment and evacuation himself. This shining example of great courage and gallant and intrepid actions on the part of Private First Class Kelly will ever serve as an inspiration to the men of the entire command and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

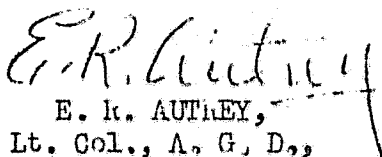
By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, War Department, 1926), a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Sergeant Glen F. Niendick, 36382970, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroism displayed in extinguishing a fire within a gun position of a Field Artillery Battery near Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When enemy counter battery fire falling in and around the gun positions of an Artillery Battery started a dangerous fire within the powder increments of the ammunition, Sergeant Niendick, in complete disregard to his own personal safety, instantly seized a shovel and began covering the blaze with dirt. With the aid of two other men, he extinguished the blaze without loss or casualty of men or equipment. Since large quantities of ammunition were being moved into the battery position at the time of the fire, and were not yet placed under cover, Sergeant Niendick's courageous and speedy action saved his battery from possible disaster. The heroism displayed by Sergeant Niendick on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. K. AUTHEY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

20 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 367

ORIGINAL ORDER -  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Private First Class Ewalt H. Bartsch, 37586955, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Bartsch, seeing wounded men lying in the field and exposed to withering enemy machine gun fire, voluntarily stopped and rendered first aid and aided in their evacuation to a position of cover. During the time he was engaged in treating the wounded, Private First Class Bartsch was constantly under enemy fire and continued to fire his automatic rifle at the enemy. His coolness under fire and his untiring efforts in aiding his fellow soldiers at the risk of his own life, exemplifies the highest tradition of the military service.

Private First Class James J. Boyce, 32838619, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Despite the fact that his unit had been subjected to a heavy sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire for a period of ten hours and had received numerous enemy counterattacks, Private First Class Boyce maintained his open position on the right flank of the platoon, affording them protective fire against any enemy thrusts from that side. When the enemy attempted to infiltrate our lines, Private First Class Boyce was the first to discover them. He alerted the other men and together, they were easily able to suppress the attack. When subsequent counterattacks developed from the left flank, Private First Class Boyce shifted his position under heavy enemy fire in order that he might be better able to lend extra fire power. As a result of his moving, he aided considerably in the successful repulse of the enemy. His resourcefulness, initiative and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Clark Brown, 39525349, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was forced to withdraw from position on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Brown voluntarily remained behind to assist in rendering first aid to the men who had been wounded in the attack. In order to get to the wounded men, it was necessary for him to go out into an open field fully exposed to the enemy. During the period of time he was exposed to the enemy, he was wounded by machine gun fire, but disregarded his own wounds until all the other wounded had been given first aid and evacuated to the aid station. Private First Class Brown's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Harvey E. Constable, 37230992, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Constable, although under constant enemy fire, performed his duties with total disregard for his own personal safety. He cared for the wounded, organized them and directed their evacuation. His performance of duty in the face of withering enemy fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Joseph L. DeMolle, 38651152, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class DeMolle, although seriously wounded, remained steadfast and did not waver in the face of the enemy. He continued his duties as a rifleman courageously and without regard for his own personal safety. His courage and unflinching devotion to duty and to his comrades reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.


Private First Class John W. Dewey, 34792275, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Dewey was on the move continually, assisting the wounded and caring for their evacuation. In so doing, he often exposed himself to enemy fire with complete disregard for his own personal safety. Private First Class Dewey's aggressiveness, devotion to duty and comrades and his courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Richard W. Dohra, 36381636, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Dohra, when his unit was cut off from all aid by a murderous barrage of enemy high angle fire while attacking enemy positions in a rugged hill country, took over the leadership of his squad upon the death of the squad leader and performed his duties aggressively and with great courage, moving his squad into position and caring for the wounded. Private First Class Dohra's aggressiveness and devotion to duty was an inspiration to the men of his unit and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, U. S. G.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 368

21 June 1945

~~GENERAL ORDER~~  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant John H. Donzo, 17012332, Infantry, United States Army. (For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Donzo, finding his rifle platoon leader and platoon sergeant seriously wounded by enemy fire, reorganized the platoon, evacuated the wounded, and without regard for his personal safety, led the platoon to its objective on the summit of a rain drenched, slippery ridge which was under constant fire and observation by the enemy. He was largely instrumental in inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy while holding his own casualties to a minimum. Staff Sergeant Donzo's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Paul R. Eastin, 36382966, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private Class Eastin, although wounded in the shoulder, showed aggressiveness and leadership in his capacity of acting squad leader. He kept his unit well organized and firing until it was necessary to withdraw. His display of courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Lawrence E. Friedman, 39931920, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was cut off from all aid by a murderous barrage of enemy high angle fire from encircling positions, Private First Class Friedman worked diligently as a member of a mortar squad, continuing at his task under almost constant enemy fire. After this he voluntarily took up the duties of a rifleman and helped to repulse a fierce enemy counter attack. Private First Class Friedman's resourcefulness and courage under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant Everett B. Hanson, 37315759, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When an avalanche of enemy mortar, artillery and small arms fire stopped his unit's advance, and numerous casualties were being suffered, Sergeant Hanson at great risk to his own life, elected to remain with the wounded and to do all in his power to aid and evacuate them. As the rest of the unit withdrew, Sergeant Hanson heroically administered aid and assisted his comrades. Through the hail of enemy machine gun fire, Sergeant Hanson labored and did not leave the area until the last wounded man had been carried to safety. Sergeant Hanson's utter disregard for his own personal safety, his unflinching courage and profound devotion to duty were an inspiration to all concerned. His every action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 368 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 21 JUNE 1945 COMTD.

*Recd. by Ho# 397 - June 27, 1945*  
~~\*Private First Class~~ Reuben L. Johnson, 37586381, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 15 April 1945. As a machine gunner in a Heavy Weapons Company, Private First Class Johnson was responsible for the repulse of enemy counter attacks and our success in holding strategic terrain and the saving of many lives. Although his machine gun position was under constant enemy mortar and artillery fire, Private First Class Johnson personally manned his gun in the face of great odds so successfully during the enemy counter attacks that altogether his gun accounted for twenty enemy dead. Private First Class Johnson's courage and devotion to duty resulted in accomplishments that were of great importance in the success of our holding hard gained terrain and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant George R. Jones, 34435517, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) Jones, hearing a call for blood plasma for a wounded man in another company, procured the plasma and started forward with it, completely disregarding the danger of his action in crawling across a fire-swept field to the location of the wounded soldier and in helping administer first aid. He then crawled back, still under enemy fire to obtain a litter. Seeing a tank some distance away he proceeded to the spot and was in the process of loading the tank to the location when he discovered that an M-7 was evacuating the wounded soldier. The heroic and aggressive actions of Sergeant Jones to save the life of another soldier were inspirational and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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4  
HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 96

ORIGINAL ORDER

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 369

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR SECTION I  
AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

First Lieutenant Roy F. Layer, 01038215, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 May 1945. During the night of 1 May 1945 when First Lieutenant Layer was acting as Forward Observer for his battery of guns, the Infantry Battalion which he was supporting was relieved from the line. During the change-over of troops, First Lieutenant Layer's position in the forward observation post was vacated by the Infantry men who were detailed to cover him. First Lieutenant Layer remained at his post throughout the night, alone directing the fire of his mortars and in so doing, repulsed what might have been a large scale enemy counterattack. Throughout the night many of the enemy infiltrated through our lines and several of these were killed by First Lieutenant Layer with hand grenades. On several occasions First Lieutenant Layer unhesitatingly occupied extremely dangerous and exposed positions in order to observe and direct fire, thereby contributing greatly to the advance of our troops. First Lieutenant Layer's initiative, skill, and devotion to duty which cost him his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. Dorothy Winterhalter, Sister, 279 Berkshire Avenue, Buffalo, New York.

Sergeant James S. Pritchard, 34596856, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy, on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island, on 9 April 1945. Sergeant Pritchard, on gaining knowledge that an enemy counterattack was imminent just after his unit had taken new positions on Kakazu Ridge, realizing the importance of his weapon and the destructive power it possessed, and consequently moved it to a hazardous position, but from a position from which it could cover his entire unit and sweep the enemy lines. With enemy artillery and mortar fire cascading down on his position, Sergeant Pritchard further exposed himself to gain information and knock out an enemy machine gun. With unabated fury the enemy rained fire down on the position, and Sergeant Pritchard again crawled out of the position to locate an enemy gun which was causing casualties in our lines. Upon locating the gun, Sergeant Pritchard was mortally wounded by an enemy mortar shell but he gallantly struggled back to the position with the information, and the enemy gun was silenced. This shining example of gallantry and self sacrifice will ever serve as an inspiration for the men of his unit, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Next of Kin: Mrs. James S. Pritchard, Wife, 1101 East Seventh Street, Charlotte, North Carolina.



SECTION II

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

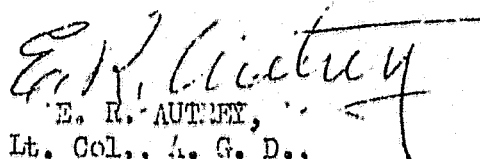
By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Paul E. Jones, 36429583, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. When his unit received a counterattack, the heavy machine gun emplacement where he was located was rushed by a Japanese officer swinging his saber. Private First Class Jones ducked the swinging saber and the officer jumped into the emplacement on top of him. In the ensuing battle Private First Class Jones killed the officer with his bare hands. He then immediately manned his machine gun and killed five more of the enemy who were rushing his position from the front. Private First Class Jones' complete disregard for his personal safety and his devotion to duty is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Captain Joseph E. Montgomery, III, 01175248, Field Artillery, United States Army. For gallantry in action on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Captain Montgomery, Intelligence Officer of a Field Artillery Battalion, was in an Observation Post on the forward slope of a hill under direct observation of the enemy who were less than five hundred yards away, when the Observation Post was subjected to intense enemy artillery, mortar and rocket barrages, some of the heavy shells landing within fifteen feet of Captain Montgomery's position, wounding several men in the vicinity. In order to complete his mission Captain Montgomery had to leave the depression from which he was observing and move back to the radio. On the way he was knocked down by an enemy shell which landed within five feet of him. Despite the constant threat to his life, he continued the remaining distance of twenty five yards and reported the locations of enemy installations, enabling the supporting artillery to effectively silence those positions. Through his heroic work and gallant actions under enemy fire, Captain Montgomery materially aided the attack and set an example of the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 370

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Officers:

Captain Jack A. Royster, O375814, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an advance on a heavily fortified enemy bastion, Captain Royster, leading his rifle company in the assault, received serious wounds from enemy mortar fragments. Despite his personal injuries and the increasing enemy fire, he continued leading the assault. When his company became pinned down while crossing an open cultivated field by overwhelming enemy machine gun and mortar fire, he called for and directed artillery fire on the enemy positions. The enemy began counter-attacking in fanatical, numerically-superior forces. Further progress being utterly impossible, withdrawal to cover one hundred fifty yards to the rear was ordered. After completion of the withdrawal, he set about to rescue those of his men still under direct enemy fire but unable to withdraw because of wounds. The enemy then commanded the highest terrain. He returned to his wounded men, oblivious to the intense enemy artillery fire, completely disregarding his own personal pain and safety, making four trips across the open field to evacuate his men. He, himself, refused evacuation until all casualties were brought to safety. His supreme courage, gallant and self-sacrificing devotion to duty and complete disregard for his personal pain was instrumental in the saving of many lives and will long serve as an inspiration to the men of his command.

First Lieutenant Harry V. Smith, O295630, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 27 April 1945. When his company was subjected to an enemy counterattack during an assault on Sawtooth Ridge, First Lieutenant Smith led his platoon forward to the reverse slope in an effort to stop the enemy. Deploying his men in a position from which they could best stop the counterattack, First Lieutenant Smith directed fire on them. A terrific exchange of hand grenades was made and several Japs were killed. When some of the enemy moved into a pillbox directly to the front, manning a machine gun which swept the platoon area, First Lieutenant Smith himself threw several grenades in an attempt to knock out their position. He then picked up a bazooka and standing up in full view of the enemy fired three rounds which neutralized the fire of the enemy gun. To the left rear some snipers and a machine gun opened up on the platoon causing several casualties. Under fire Lieutenant Smith left his position and brought back one of the wounded. While performing this action he was lightly wounded but he organized a carrying party to evacuate the wounded and moved the platoon to a covered position from the flanking fire. The gallant efforts of First Lieutenant Smith and his superior tactical direction inspired the men of his platoon to greater efforts in throwing back an enemy counterattack and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO, 370 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 21 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

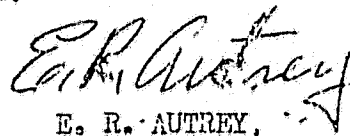
First Lieutenant Albert Strand, 01319234, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Assuming command of his company when the company commander had been killed and the second in command wounded, First Lieutenant Strand led the company up Nishi-Baru Ridge and despite intense machine gun cross fire from right and left rear and both flanks, and heavy barrages of mortar, grenade, and satchel charges from the reverse slope of the ridge, encouraged his men to maintain position by exposing himself in moving from man to man. For nearly eight hours, despite heavy losses, Lieutenant Strand through his gallantry, courage, and leadership, maintained his advanced position, withdrawing only on order when it became apparent that units on his flanks could not come abreast.

Captain Alvin E. Von Holle, 01286742, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy near Parasos Den Ridge, Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Captain Von Holle, displayed great personal courage, leadership, and an unflinching devotion to duty, when in the face of withering enemy fire from sheer cliff-like positions, he gallantly went to the head of his men, and moving over two hundred yards of open terrain in full view of the enemy and the withering fire that swept the field around him, he charged into the enemy stronghold. His men inspired by his intrepid actions, immediately followed up the steep escarpment, destroying the enemy. Not content with attaining a portion of the enemy position, Captain Von Holle, personally continued to spearhead the attack and crawling to top of the ridge, he dropped two grenades and a satchel charge into one of the largest enemy positions, at great risk to his own life, since the resultant explosion of enemy munitions hurled him some fifteen feet. Captain Von Holle's actions so inspired the men of his unit, that his company took the strategic enemy ridge, and thus neutralized the enemies entire left flank in that zone of action. This unsurpassed display of courage, bravery, and intrepid actions served as an inspiration to the men of his command, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 371

ORIGINAL ORDER #

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 7419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 2, 25 April 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Robert E. Kenney, 37572957, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island, on 11 April 1945. When another member of his rifle squad was seriously wounded by enemy machine gun fire, Private First Class Kenney, under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, voluntarily crept and crawled to the wounded man's position and removed him to cover. After administering first aid he started to the rear after a litter team and when told that all litters were being used, he proceeded to the wounded man and despite terrific enemy mortar fire dragged him to the rear. Private First Class Kenney's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Otto Murphy, 38038217, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April, 1945. When the regular gunner and assistant gunner of his machine gun squad were seriously wounded, Private First Class Murphy, an ammunition bearer, after rendering first aid and relieving their suffering to the best of his ability, took over the firing of their gun. With the machine gun he was able to bring heavy fire upon the enemy and was a mainstay in repulsing two of the enemy counterattacks. Then, it became necessary for our troops to withdraw, Private First Class Murphy voluntarily remained behind until the last moment, giving our troops protective fire for our withdrawal. His dexterity, courage, and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class George E. Otto, 37587832, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April, 1945. In the performance of his duties as a rocket launcher operator, Private First Class Otto on numerous occasions, exposed himself to enemy machine gun fire in order to observe the enemy positions. As a result of his observations and skill with his weapon he was able to blast three enemy cave positions from which had previously emanated heavy machine gun fire. While engaged in the firing of the rocket launcher, Private First Class Otto assumed the duties of a rifleman and as such, contributed greatly in stopping several enemy counterattacks. Private First Class Otto's aggressiveness and courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 371 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 21 JUNE 1945 COMD.

\* *Recd by HQ # 397 - June 27, 1945*  
First Lieutenant Charles F. Reynolds, 01304948, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 15 April 1945. As platoon leader of an 81mm Mortar Platoon of a Heavy Weapons Company, First Lieutenant Reynolds was greatly instrumental in the gaining and holding of strategic high ground in the drive southward on Okinawa. In pursuance of a normal mission, First Lieutenant Reynolds' platoon so placed their mortar fire that the objective was quickly gained with a minimum of casualties. Once the objective was gained, First Lieutenant Reynolds established his observation post far in advance of our lines and in such a position that he was constantly under enemy observation and mortar and rifle fire and from his position so directed his mortar fire with complete disregard for his own safety that three heavy enemy counterattacks were broken up. First Lieutenant Reynolds' devotion to duty, and the result of work done by the platoon under Lieutenant Reynolds' resourceful leadership resulted in accomplishments which proved of importance in both the saving of many lives and the success of our unit in holding coveted terrain.

Private First Class William H. Smith, 38292664, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island, on 9 April, 1945. On numerous occasions, Private First Class Smith exposed himself to heavy enemy fire to bring up ammunition so that his gun could continue to function. His gun position was subjected to a particularly heavy barrage of enemy high angle fire for a period of ten hours, but despite this, he maintained his post and continued to fire, contributing to the repulse of three enemy counterattacks. Late in the day, when a serious lack of ammunition and manpower made our positions untenable and it was found expedient to withdraw, Private First Class Smith aided greatly in the evacuation of the wounded and after rendering aid, he returned to his gun and offered protective fire for the withdrawing troops. Private First Class Smith's steadfastness, unflinching devotion to duty and courage under fire reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Norman E. Wadsworth, 39933650, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When the BAR man, to whom he was assistant, was killed by enemy machine gun fire Private First Class Wadsworth took over the duties of BAR man, and although he himself was seriously wounded by shrapnel, he materially aided the stemming of an enemy Banzai charge. Private First Class Wadsworth's heroism and disregard for personal safety in the face of the enemy reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 372

21 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Robert T. Amundson, 37582034, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When during an assault on Kakazu Ridge, his unit was forced to withdraw, Private First Class Amundson, although wounded by enemy sniper fire, refused evacuation and administered first aid to himself. He then assisted in rendering aid to the other wounded men. After all the casualties had been taken care of, Private First Class Amundson helped carry them to the battalion aid station. Private First Class Amundson's courage and coolness under the heavy enemy fire, the utter disregard for his own welfare even after being wounded, exemplifies the highest traditions of the military service. As a result of his untiring and courageous efforts, he undoubtedly saved the lives of many men.

Technical Sergeant Homer H. Bass, 38290719, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. Technical Sergeant Bass, a machine gun platoon sergeant, constantly exposed himself during front line reconnaissance work in an effort to locate targets for his machine guns. Upon evacuation of his platoon leader, he assumed command of the platoon and proved most capable in leadership and efficiency. On 7 April 1945, Technical Sergeant Bass went forward with front line riflemen to locate enemy positions and when he saw an enemy soldier carrying ammunition forward to a gun emplacement, he maneuvered into position and immediately killed him. Technical Sergeant Bass constantly risked his life for the safety of others. His extended knowledge of his work was instrumental in the silencing of several enemy machine guns and knee mortars. On one occasion while directing his fire, he spotted an enemy sniper who had been delaying the advance of our troops and again with precision and exemplary maneuverability, killed the sniper and made it possible for the troops to continue on their mission. Technical Sergeant Bass' actions of coolness and bravery, his untiring devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Virgil C. Bell, 38545091, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. While his company was withdrawing during an attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Bell volunteered to remain on the ridge and cover the evacuation of the wounded. He remained with the casualties, continuously engaging the enemy with his rifle until all men had been evacuated. He then started to withdraw and was pinned down by enemy fire. After about three hours of creeping and crawling, constantly under fire, he was able to reach a covered position and rejoin his unit. His courage and utter disregard for his own life, and his untiring devotion to duty saved many lives and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

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Private First Class Charles J. Bialas, 36405197, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company attacked heavily fortified enemy held Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Bialas was one of the first men of his company to reach the top. When, as his company was digging in, they were subjected to heavy artillery mortar and withering machine gun fire, and the area became untenable, the unit was forced to withdraw. Private First Class Bialas was one of the last to leave the ridge, and as he was withdrawing through a gorge, came upon a wounded man left on the trail. He administered first aid and in spite of the enemy mortar fire which was falling into the gorge, he carried the wounded man to a nearby cave. Upon reaching the cave, he found a small group of men, one of whom was wounded. Seeing that evacuation of the wounded men was of great importance to their welfare, Private First Class Bialas voluntarily went out into the heavy artillery and mortar fire two different times and found a covered route to friendly lines. Private First Class Bialas' courage and aggressiveness reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Leonard R. Burton, 38328377, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 22 April 1945. Private First Class Burton, a BAR man, distinguished himself by superior aggressiveness in the hard fight for Sawtooth Ridge when he provided accurate fire from an exposed position for the rifleman in his platoon. When his position became untenable and two platoons had to withdraw, Private First Class Burton again went to an exposed position to deliver covering fire on enemy machine gun positions that were inflicting heavy casualties on our troops. On several occasions Private First Class Burton aided in the evacuation of many wounded and carried water, rations, and ammunition through intense sniper, machine gun, and mortar fire to his unit.

Private First Class J. W. Carter, 38291293, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Carter, first gunner of a light machine gun squad, was giving supporting fire to the front-line rifleman. Withering enemy machine gun and heavy enemy mortar fire pinned down the front line troops, and a withdrawal was ordered. With utter disregard for his own safety, Private First Class Carter voluntarily moved forward to a position from which he could deliver more effective supporting fire to cover the evacuation of the wounded. Private First Class Carter, when he was ordered to withdraw, assisted in removing the wounded to cover, and further assisted in carrying them to the aid station. Private First Class Carter's courage under fire and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

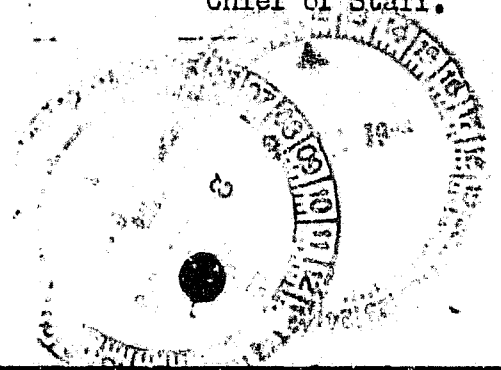
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General,

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" "C" "X" & "Y"



HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 373

**ORIGINAL ORDER**  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Billie W. Newton, 39143913, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During an assault on Kakazu Ridge, when Private First Class Newton was wounded and went to the aid station for treatment, he returned to his unit with a litter party and finding that his squad leader had been wounded and lay in an exposed area under enemy fire, he took a litter and alone crawled to the wounded man. Unassisted, he successfully evacuated him to safety through a hail of enemy fire. Private First Class Newton's act of courage and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class John P. Kwasnik, 36252374, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company was under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, Private First Class Kwasnik volunteered his assistance in evacuating the wounded from a hazardous sector. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Private First Class Kwasnik made his way across difficult terrain which was under heavy enemy fire to the casualties, whom he successfully removed to a position of safety. Private First Class Kwasnik's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Royce N. Harper, 17146616, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Private First Class Harper exposed himself to heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire to go thirty yards out into an open field to pick up the platoon radio when the operator was wounded. Had it not been for the courage and determination displayed by Private First Class Harper, the radio would have been lost, and his platoon would have been cut off from all assistance. Private First Class Harper's clear thinking and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain Samuel H. Brown, 0467041, Medical Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 23 October 1944 to 15 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Frederick S. Green, 01286475, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.



Private First Class Herschel L. Gruver, 36617350, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 5 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

Captain Clarence F. Hauber, 0364336, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 15 May 1945.

Major Albert Kaye, 0374451, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands from 1 August 1944 to 30 November 1944.

Staff Sergeant Merrill J. Lawler, 3731771, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

Private First Class Helesio Martinez, 38254957, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Thomas F. McLarty, Jr., 01312783, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 12 April 1945.

Private First Class Alfred E. Meaux, 38261233, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

Private First Class Reid N. Parker, 36572185, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 5 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

Private First Class John P. Stueve, 37391165, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

Sergeant Clarence A. Ticklund, 37318694, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 374

AWARDS OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department, 1944) and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Charles J. McGee, 17391192, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was pinned down by concentrated enemy machine gun and sniper fire, Private First Class McGee with total disregard for his own safety, crawled to a forward position, administered first aid to a wounded man and then evacuated him to safety. After completing his task, Private First Class McGee again went forward to aid another man, this time under heavy artillery fire and successfully removed him to a position of safety. Private First Class McGee's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Edward C. Milkie, 39845605, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Private First Class Milkie carried out his duties as an ammunition bearer for an 81mm mortar with courage and determination throughout the entire attack on Kakazu Ridge, making repeated trips for ammunition through areas covered by enemy machine gun and sniper fire and along routes that afforded him little cover. At one time when his section was caught in an intense artillery barrage, and the pack and ammunition he was carrying was riddled beyond use by shrapnel from an artillery shell which landed near his position, regardless of the fact that he had narrowly escaped death, and was still under heavy artillery fire, Private First Class Milkie assisted in evacuating those who had been wounded. Later in the day, he evacuated a soldier suffering from battle fatigue and stayed with him all night. On his return to the front lines the following morning, he carried rations and ammunition to his unit through concentrated enemy sniper fire. Private First Class Milkie's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Clarence E. Plotner, 36384349, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company was pinned down by heavy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire, during an assault on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Plotner, a radio operator, kept in contact with the commanding officer and other platoons and when the order was given to withdraw, he volunteered to remain behind to help carry the wounded to safety. After all of the wounded men had been evacuated, Private First Class Plotner returned to the unit still in possession of the radio and all other equipment. Private First Class Plotner's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 374 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 21 JUNE 1945 CONT'D.

Private First Class John J. Schriener, 35917514, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 3 April 1945. Private First Class Schriener performed his duties as an assistant rifle squad leader in a superior, alert and aggressive manner at all times. In the assault on Hill 165, Private First Class Schriener performed his duties courageously in the face of heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire. After being wounded by intense enemy fire directed against the determined advance of his squad, he permitted his evacuation only after the removal of his more seriously wounded comrades.

Private First Class John S. Skala, 3690869, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. During an assault on White Hill, Private First Class Skala continually, and without regard for personal safety, crossed an open area under enemy sniper fire to supply his machine gun with ammunition which was sorely needed during the attack. The courage and self sacrificing devotion to duty displayed by Private First Class Skala was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

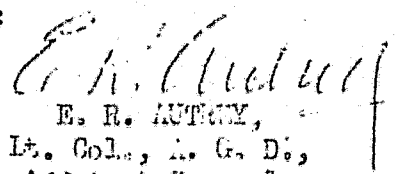
Private First Class Harold H. Smith, 37621772, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. In a dawn attack on a heavily fortified enemy position, when his unit was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun, mortar and sniper fire, and was forced to withdraw to a position almost four hundred yards to the rear, Private First Class Smith took command of his squad and although fully exposed to the fury of the enemy fire, he rendered immediate first aid to two of his men who were wounded and assisted in their evacuation. Private First Class Smith's cool leadership and courage reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technical Sergeant John J. Summers, 6584872, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Nakasu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Technical Sergeant Summers, a platoon sergeant, was directing his men in the preparation of a defensive perimeter, when they were brought under heavy enemy artillery fire. The enemy artillery landed in Sergeant Summers' area and seriously wounded five of his men. He, himself, was knocked down by one of the explosions, but upon seeing his wounded men, he and his platoon guide volunteered to evacuate the five men to the aid station and with utter disregard for his own life, crossed open terrain which was under enemy fire, and removed the men to a position of security. Technical Sergeant Summers' courage under fire and his aggressive actions reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 375

21 June 1945.

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section 11, Bulletin No. 5, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Descriptions), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Matthew Duma, 32039418, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire, and suffered heavy casualties, Private First Class Duma, seizing the initiative, took three other men and maneuvered to the right flank where they laid down a base of fire to cover the evacuation of the wounded. In order to gain a position from which he could get a good field of fire, he had to move one hundred and fifty yards over open terrain in the face of heavy enemy machine gun cross fire and an occasional mortar barrage. During the entire time that Private First Class Duma was covering the evacuation of the wounded, he was under continual enemy observation and fire. After all the casualties had been removed to a ravine, he led the other men in covering the withdrawal of the wounded. Private First Class Duma's aggressive and courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Wilson L. Gilmore, 38313131, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kochi, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. While directing mortar fire in support of his Battalion during an attack on an enemy position, Staff Sergeant Gilmore's observation post came under enemy artillery fire. Remaining cool throughout the time the artillery was falling, he remained at his post and continued to direct the mortar fire. By his determination, the mortars were able to silence an enemy machine gun which had the troops of his battalion pinned down and by his actions the battalion was able to advance and secure their objective. During this time the communications lines between the observation post and the gun positions had been severed, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, Staff Sergeant Gilmore went to search for the damaged wire. In this he was successful and through his efforts the communications were once again resumed. Staff Sergeant Gilmore's courageous actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Robert C. Jones, 15334118, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 and 28 April 1945. Acting with great initiative and calm courage under enemy fire, Private First Class Jones, an ammunition bearer for an 81mm mortar, on seeing his first gunner wounded by enemy artillery fire, voluntarily took command of the gun and kept it on its fire mission, while the heavy enemy artillery fire continued. From that time on, though repeatedly under heavy enemy fire, Private First Class Jones never left his post. His coolness at the gun inspired and gave confidence to the other men of the group, and kept them operating as a team when the rifle units were in need of support. Private First Class Jones' calm courage and exemplary leadership are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

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Corporal Eugene M. Holman, 37233429, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 23 April 1945. While acting as a squad leader of a heavy machine gun squad, Corporal Holman and his men were pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun fire from their right flank. Keeping excellent control of his men, Corporal Holman remained cool and by his example restrained his men from becoming excited. At a grave personal risk, he gained a position whereby he could communicate with his section leader and receive orders and upon being ordered to withdraw, he displaced his men to the rear in a skillful manner resulting with no loss of men or equipment. On reaching a point of safety, Corporal Holman reorganized his squad and unhesitatingly led them out to their initial objective by a different route. This continual devotion to duty and cool courage on the part of Corporal Holman was instrumental in the final taking of the objective.

Private First Class William Leonchik, 36615606, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his company was receiving heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire, Private First Class Leonchik volunteered his assistance in evacuating wounded men from a hazardous sector. With full realization of the danger involved, and without regard for his own personal safety, Private First Class Leonchik made his way across difficult terrain under intense enemy fire to the wounded men whom he successfully evacuated to safety. His concern for the welfare and safety of his comrades is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant Arthur L. Long, 36536165, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 10 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Long, a rifle squad leader, by his untiring efforts kept the morale and efficiency of his men at a high level. On numerous occasions, Sergeant Long voluntarily aided in the evacuation of the wounded and carried water, rations and ammunition over rugged terrain, that was covered by accurate enemy sniper fire. On 10 April 1945, when Staff Sergeant Long's company was subjected to an extremely heavy enemy artillery barrage, and several severe casualties were inflicted, he left the comparative safety of his foxhole and rushed to the aid of his platoon leader who was seriously wounded. After he had administered first aid, Staff Sergeant Long secured the help of another man in evacuating the wounded man, carrying him approximately one hundred yards. Staff Sergeant Long's courage and aggressiveness reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

*E. R. AUTREY*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

21 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 376

**ORIGINAL ORDER**  
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Sgt	Walton R. Anderson, Jr.	38244870	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Ralph R. Andree	36474175	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Albert M. Appel	38380695	Inf	7 Jun 45
Pfc	James R. Barbec	44036282	Inf	17 May 45
Pfc	Joseph E. Barrett	42133249	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Homar Beard	38618738	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Andrew Beshirs	39723512	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	John Billy	32926351	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Ralph N. Bingham	36912325	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Stanley D. Blum	33941788	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Robert L. Bridgewater	35909660	Inf	24 May 45
Sgt	James W. Brown	16148409	FA	2 Jun 45
Pfc	Virgil R. Buchta	37753378	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Burton G. Bundy	37772344	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Daniel T. Carnes	35909432	Inf	27 May 45
Tec 4	John A. Carothers	33167795	Inf (Armed)	16 Jun 45
Pfc	Kenneth F. Case	36404055	Inf	2 Jun 45
Pfc	Secondo Casita	39726948	Inf	6 Jun 45
Lt Col	John G. Cassidy	0309923	Inf	2 Jun 45
Pvt	Joe C. Chavez	39555277	MD	20 May 45
Pfc	George W. Clark	37753027	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Oscar R. Clark	44040935	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Allen H. Crosby	39934722	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Alfred B. Coble	37645379	Inf	7 Jun 45
Pfc	Clyde C. Cole	39346869	Inf	18 May 45
Pfc	Victor Curran	39728317	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Frank J. Dravetsky	33920920	Inf	6 Jun 45
Tec 5	Charles J. Dvorak	37725934	MD	23 May 45
Pfc	Eugene B. Edwards	33659623	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Howard J. Eldridge	38250720	Inf	26 Apr 45
Pfc	Sequoyah C. Falling	38712284	Inf	15 May 45
WOJG	Frank R. Gately	42131972	USA	8 Jun 45
Pfc	David H. Gutierrez	39505789	Inf	15 May 45
S Sgt	Harold N. Hatch	36539610	Inf	24 May 45
Pfc	William Hill	37662202	Inf	9 Apr 45
Pfc	Lester H. Holden	38732393	Inf	17 May 45
2d Lt	William G. Honorst	01545561	Inf	7 Jun 45
S Sgt	Denton D. Jackson	38319703	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	William B. Joe	39477995	Inf	17 May 45
S Sgt	Chester A. Kaminsky	35389942	FA	9 Apr 45
Sgt	Colin A. Keefe	20849139	Inf (Armed)	10 Jun 45
Pfc	William R. Lahvic, Jr.	16120453	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Willie P. Lanford	38292417	Inf	29 Apr 45

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Pfc	Albert H. Lauc	16119991	Inf	23 Apr 45
T Sgt	Kirtley P. LeBlanc	38260299	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Frank J. Liska	38557217	MD	8 Apr 45
Tec 5	Robert G. Livingston	36728895	MD	8 Apr 45
S Sgt	Kenneth D. Mason	36431765	Inf	10 Jun 45
Pfc	Charles D. Mayer, Jr.	35319302	MD	19 Apr 45
Sgt	Cleo W. McDowell	36534246	Inf	12 Jun 45
Pfc	Joseph C. Mercurio	35798195	MD	19 Apr 45
Pfc	Harry L. McGill	39217035	Inf	15 May 45
Tec 4	John E. McGrath	33156413	Inf (Armd)	19 May 45
Pfc	James R. Middlebrooks	38146688	Inf	8 Apr 45
Pfc	Donald L. Miller	38696233	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Roland J. Morales	38261313	Inf	16 May 45
Sgt	Herman Nilsson	37313188	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	Johnnie M. Pedroza	39859425	FA	2 Jun 45
Pfc	Arthur H. Petit, Jr.	31185815	Inf	15 May 45
S Sgt	Richard W. Roehl	36703016	FA	6 Jun 45
Cpl	William A. Romero	20849165	Inf (Armd)	11 Jun 45
Cpl	Walter L. Rompala	36700160	FA	5 Jun 45
Pfc	Leonard A. Roth	37644001	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Bernard L. Sadoski	35931527	MD	30 May 45
T Sgt	Samuel Sargis	31191069	Inf	11 May 45
Sgt	Robert J. Schain, Jr.	37392694	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Royce H. Scott	38688953	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Woodrow W. Schoonmaker	37596274	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Floyd I. Shadle	33483262	Inf (Armd)	21 May 45
Sgt	James L. Simpson	36431789	Inf	23 May 45
Pfc	Gerard J. Stack	37438134	Inf	16 May 45
Pfc	Charles M. Starr	38292590	Inf	29 Apr 45
Pfc	John W. Stevens	35464458	Inf	13 May 45
Pfc	Eugene K. Stewart	37229217	Inf	26 Apr 45
Sgt	Lloyd V. Taylor	18128631	Inf (Armd)	13 Jun 45
S Sgt	James A. Thompson	37570419	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Clifford E. Tschoepe	38234879	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	Donal J. Tunnoll	39470418	Inf	11 May 45
Pfc	Robert H. Van Zanten	36914762	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Gerald E. Vaughn	35783505	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Oscar Vaughn, Jr.	37646754	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	Carris J. Wadley	39480312	Inf	6 Jun 45
Pfc	James H. Walker	35815861	Inf	7 Jun 45
S Sgt	Robert R. Wertz	33760378	Inf	16 May 45
Sgt	Chester A. Wicichowski	35343422	Inf	15 May 45

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 377

21 June 1945

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class William J. Kane, 35517734, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 29 April 1945. During an assault on Nishibaru Ridge Private First Class Kane established communications by sound power phone from the mortars to the hazardous position of the forward observer but upon discovering that the line was being repeatedly severed and that messages must be delivered over the precarious route by runner, he ignored the enemy fire, making himself a target for enemy snipers and mortars and ran back and forth over exposed ground to deliver the messages and fire directions which enabled his section to put an enemy machine gun out of action. Private First Class Kane continued his hazardous ventures until wounded by enemy mortar fire. His courageous actions and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant John A. Murrah, Jr., 38281786, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island, on 9 April 1945. Although he had only eight men in his section by the time he reached the ridge, Staff Sergeant Murrah kept both of his machine guns functioning throughout the entire day, offering strong fire power and protection to our troops. When the squad leader of one of his squads was killed, Staff Sergeant Murrah took over the gun personally, and at the same time kept control of his other squad. When it became necessary for our troops to withdraw, Staff Sergeant Murrah contributed greatly to the treatment and evacuation of the wounded. His coolness under fire, aggressiveness and outstanding qualities of leadership reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Walter A. Nelimark, 37573646, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945. Private First Class Nelimark bravely and tirelessly evacuated casualties under heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire and personally administered first aid to two wounded men. On one occasion during an enemy counter attack, Private First Class Nelimark maintained a precarious position atop a prominent boulder and pointed out targets to men below. In an assault on Nishibaru Ridge, Private First Class Nelimark covered the withdrawal of five men who were cut off from their company and personally killed two of the enemy. When he withdrew himself, he carried a wounded comrade to safety in spite of heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire.



Sergeant Melvin H. Staggs, 35423815, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Although he had received a serious head wound early in the day, Sergeant Staggs remained with his squad directing its movement and fire. On numerous occasions he exposed himself to heavy enemy machine gun fire in order to shift his squad's positions and to aid the wounded men of his unit. Twice during the day the positions occupied by his men were subjected to strong enemy counter attacks, but due to the intelligent posting of the men, they were easily able to repel the foe. When it became expedient for our troops to withdraw, Sergeant Staggs, still disregarding his own wounds aided superbly in the evacuation of the other wounded. His initiative, physical stamina under severe pain and his devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Clifford Tabadisto, 39279939, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Private First Class Tabadisto was platoon runner of a rifle platoon. During a fierce fight on the south slope of Sawtooth Ridge his platoon found its position untenable when an enemy machine gun and snipers opened fire from the rear, causing several casualties. When the platoon withdrew Private First Class Tabadisto, two wounded men, and a company aid man saw the withdrawal but were unable to move themselves because they were pinned down by enemy fire. Private First Class Tabadisto, realizing the seriousness of the situation, crawled while under fire and secured a 536 radio which had been left in the area, and contacted his company commander and explained the desperate situation. He gave instructions as to how to reach their positions and asked that a rescue party be arranged using a smoke barrage to cover them. He then gave instructions as to where to lay the smoke barrage and adjusted the fire until it was in the correct place. When the smoke barrage fell, he gave the signal through the radio for the rescue party to come forward, and assisted in moving the wounded back to a covered spot. Due entirely to the efforts of Private First Class Tabadisto, the lives of three men were saved. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Casper G. Wolf, 37586593, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 7 April 1945. When his platoon was out off and isolated from all aid and subjected to a heavy, sustained barrage of enemy high angle fire, and numerous counter attacks, Private First Class Wolf's position with his B.M. was an open one which offered no protection against shrapnel. Given an opportunity to pull back to a safer position, he refused, choosing instead to maintain his old one where he had an excellent field of fire and where his weapon would be of more value in case of an enemy charge. He held his position for a period of ten hours and as a result of his steadfastness, he was able to lend immeasurable aid to his unit in fending off three subsequent enemy thrusts. Private First Class Wolf, later in the same day, aided greatly in the evacuation of the wounded. His courage, constancy and profound devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., U. S. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
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*9/21*  
*1945*

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 378

22 June 1945  
SECTION

- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR I
- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II
- AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS III
- AWARD TO THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER IV

**ORIGINAL ORDER**

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, War Department, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded Posthumously by the the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Ellis L. Kile, 38230807, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action against the enemy near Tabontabon, Leyte, Philippine Islands on 28 October 1944. When one of our tanks, attempting to locate and destroy an enemy pillbox, was in need of outside guidance, Private First Class Kile, entirely on his own initiative, assumed the hazardous task, although his course carried him across terrain continually swept by fire from enemy machine guns and snipers. Shortly before he reached his goal, Private First Class Kile was killed, but his heroic action continued long enough for the tank to spot and eliminate the pillbox. The gallant example set by Private First Class Kile was an inspiration to all who witnessed his act of unflinching courage and is keeping with the highest military traditions. Next of Kin: Jimis J. Kile, Wife, Covington, Texas.

SECTION II

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class T. J. Truitt, 38272269, Infantry, United States Army.. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 20 April 1945. Private First Class Truitt, hearing a call for help from a wounded man in another company, disregarded the danger of the situation and crawled across a fire-swept field to administer first aid. He then crawled back still under fire to get blood plasma for the wounded man. Seeing an M-7 several hundred yards away Private First Class Truitt crawled and ran across the field and brought it back to evacuate the wounded man. The courageous actions of Private First Class Truitt reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Jela Truitt, Mother, Route 1 Altus, Oklahoma.

SECTION III

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

So much of General Orders No. 341, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 17 June 1945, as pertains to First Lieutenant Frederick H. Dilg, 01324618 is rescinded.

*Posted*

SECTION IV

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Act 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named Officer per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded to him/her by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division,

*\* Recd. by No 385 - June 26, 1945*  
~~First Lieutenant Frederick H. Dilg, 01324616, Infantry, United States Army.~~  
For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. During an attack on the heavily fortified ridge four hundred yards north of Nishi-Baru, when heavy casualties were sustained from enemy guns placed on high ground to the front and both flanks, First Lieutenant Dilg, assisted by six other men, took it upon himself to aid and help evacuate the wounded. Disregarding all danger to himself from enemy spigot mortars, machine gun and rifle fire, First Lieutenant Dilg remained in this untenable area until the last of the men had been removed to the aid station, despite the fact that darkness was falling, and his small group was alone and separated from the rest of the battalion. First Lieutenant Dilg's heroic action in the face of withering enemy fire, devotion to duty and loyalty to his men in this time of great need, reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 81, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 December 1944.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

22 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 379

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Joseph R. Kail, 33682172, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was caught under heavy enemy machine gun fire and was ordered to withdraw to a more covered area, Private First Class Kail, with utter disregard for his own safety, stayed behind with the wounded giving them first aid and moving them back on litters which he improvised from ponchos. When his group of wounded was trapped in a gulch in enemy territory covered by enemy fire, Private First Class Kail remained cool and tended the wounded. Not until the last man was returned to safety did he take cover himself.

Private First Class Perry O. Pederson, 37482277, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Kochi, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When the mortar platoon of which Private First Class Pederson, as acting communication corporal, was furnishing supporting fire for a battalion in an assault, an enemy artillery barrage cut all communications lines between the forward observers and the mortar positions. As this occurred during a critical point of the attack, it was imperative that communications be reestablished as soon as possible. Without hesitation, Private First Class Pederson, at the risk of his life, moved forward in search of the breaks in the line and, displaying great courage and determination, he repaired the lines while the enemy artillery continued to fall about him. Enemy fire repeatedly disrupted the communications during the attack and on each occasion, Private First Class Pederson ventured forth and repaired the damage. By his efforts, the 81mm mortar proved of the greatest value in the final success of the attack. Without the proper communications, this support may not have been fully realized. Private First Class Pederson's unselfish devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Paul E. Rowe, 39339046, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. During the fierce fight for Sawtooth Ridge, two platoons had to withdraw in the face of murderous enemy fire, leaving several seriously wounded men behind. A smoke screen was called for, and Private First Class Rowe grabbed a litter and raced to the nearest wounded. At this time, it was discovered that the man was in an extremely grave condition. Placing him gently on the stretcher, Private First Class Rowe started the slow trip back while the enemy fired blindly into the smoke screen. After the man was safely evacuated, Private First Class Rowe returned and carried three more wounded men

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 379 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 22 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

a distance of two hundred yards back to the aid station over extremely rough terrain. The courageous acts of Private First Class Rowe reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

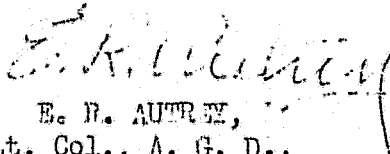
Private First Class Manuel V. Salazar, 38679923, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. During, out in the attack on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Salazar was one of the first men to be wounded. Despite his wound, he elected to remain with his comrades realizing their great need for manpower. In his capacity of assistant BAR man, he aided immeasurably in the repulse of three enemy counterattacks. On one occasion, Private First Class Salazar exposed himself to enemy machine gun fire in order to observe the emplacements from which the fire was emanating. He located the position, informed the machine gun squad, and as a result of the information, the squad was able to destroy the enemy gun position. Private First Class Salazar's courage, resourcefulness and physical durability reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private George B. Sandoe, Jr., 38836983, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 11 April 1945. From "D" day on, Private Sandoe was lead scout in locating enemy strongholds which held up the advance of his company. On 4 April 1945, when he found a command car fifty yards south of Chiyunna mounted with a machine gun, he exposed himself to heavy enemy fire and fired three chests of ammunition at point targets to his front and flank. In the main attack that day, he led the way of his platoon into the town and helped to organize positions of attack. While not scouting, he volunteered in bringing up vital supplies to the front line troops of his company. On 6 April 1945, Private Sandoe continued his bold and aggressive work by leading another attack with complete disregard for his own safety. On 10 April 1945 and in the absence of all Noncommissioned officers, Private Sandoe unhesitatingly and with thorough knowledge, assumed the duties of a squad leader, and led his squad in an attack on the ridge to his front and on the left flank of an adjoining Regiment. In this engagement and when his squad as well as the platoon was forced to withdraw, he was wounded and evacuated. His example of diligent and dangerous work and his devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

OFFICIAL:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, C. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

  
E. N. AUBREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "B" "C" "F" & "X"

*Signed by  
Office of Personnel*  
Jan. 25  
23 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 380

ORDER AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Frank Boucher, 37316010, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte, Philippine Islands, on 21 October 1944. When, as platoon scout, Private First Class Boucher led the way for his platoon which had been ordered to attack a hill in the vicinity of Labiranan Head, he was fired upon by heavy enemy machine gun cross fire of such density that it caused the entire platoon to become pinned down. The platoon leader gave orders for panels to be displayed to get Naval Gun fire support. Securing the panels, Private First Class Boucher advanced under heavy enemy fire, over rough and stubborn terrain for approximately one hundred yards. Later in the day, Private First Class Boucher went to a forward position over open terrain and reaching high ground, reconnoitered a nearby hill. While on the mission when he was fired upon by the enemy, he returned fire immediately in spite of his exposed position, thus enabling the platoon to locate the enemy position. Private First Class Boucher's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Daniel N. Joaquin, 39421649, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When near a village on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Joaquin, gunner on an 81mm mortar, displayed extraordinary bravery and devotion to duty in his task of preparing ammunition under a heavy concentration of enemy artillery and mortar fire. His job, the preparation of powder charges, was made especially difficult by the incessant pounding of rain. With enemy artillery hitting frequently within fifty yards of his position and shrapnel flying in his immediate vicinity, Private First Class Joaquin calmly went about his work, thus making it possible to knock out an enemy machine gun position and to repulse in its early stages an enemy counter-attack. Private First Class Joaquin's courage and fearless actions reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant Herbert B. Klapow, 39245673, Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 15 May 1945. When the Forward Observer party of which Sergeant Klapow was a member and which was furnishing direct supporting fire for the advancing Infantry, was pinned down by intense enemy mortar and machine gun fire, Sergeant Klapow arose from his comparatively safe position and advanced through the barrage to a position from which he could observe and adjust his own fire. By shouting to his radio operator who was about fifty yards to his rear, Sergeant Klapow was able to relay his commands back to the mortar crew, which, by their accurate fire, scored direct hits on several enemy emplacements, thereby contributing greatly to the successful advance of our troops. The skill, courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Klapow in his outstanding action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Major Arthur R. Shaw, 01165334, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945. Major Shaw, a Field Artillery Battalion S-3, voluntarily accompanied an Infantry company in an attack on a key terrain feature. He gained a position on the peak of a crest which enabled him to observe the maximum amount of enemy territory, but which was exposed to the enemy and offered little protection from mortar and small arms fire. Undaunted by repeated barrages from enemy mortars and withering small arms cross fire, Major Shaw clung tenaciously to his Observation Post and evaluated the enemy positions beyond the hill mass. By his heroic actions Major Shaw obtained for the artillery, a working knowledge of enemy key positions which later proved invaluable during the relief of front line troops by another unit. Major Shaw's display of courage and determination reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class George Solis, Jr., 38254928, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Private First Class Solis went forward alone under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire fifty yards ahead of his Battalion's lines to put his heavy machine gun into action. By his courageous act, Private First Class Solis brought accurate harassing fire on the enemy positions, thus lessening their fire and materially aiding his Battalion's advance.

Sergeant John L. Zugenbuehler, 20625601, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. Sergeant Zugenbuehler displayed great initiative, courage, and attention to duty while discharging the duties of reconnaissance sergeant. He frequently crossed open terrain under heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire to reconnoiter for machine gun positions. His selection of positions were so good and timely that the machine guns of his company were greatly speeded into action against the enemy. His efficient and courageous work in the face of the enemy reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

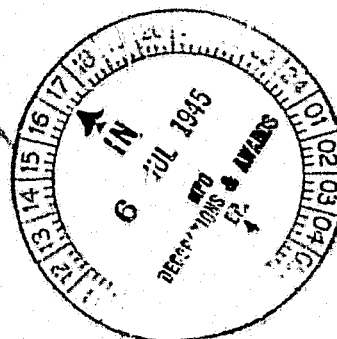
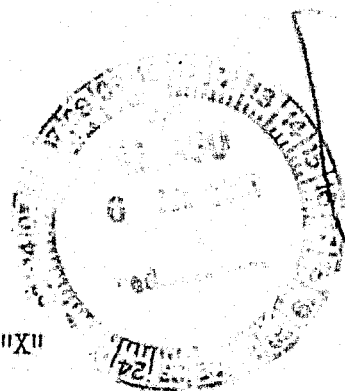
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

48  
GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 31

16145  
Theisner  
8/16  
23 June 1945

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

SECTION  
I  
II

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel for wounds received in action against the enemy on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on dates indicated:

Tec 5	Gilbert Ballard	38290605	FA	9 May 45
Pvt	Henry L. Barker	39422348	Inf	15 May 45
Pfc	John P. Bogigian	31261559	FA	26 Apr 45
1st Lt	Raymond W. Bugaro	01183253	FA	8 Apr 45
Pfc	Charles F. Carmack	34735191	CWS	9 Jun 45
Tec 5	Phillip K. Collins	33920921	FA	6 Apr 45
Tec 5	Leslie C. Crocker	32597207	SigC	18 Jun 45
Pfc	Joseph E. DeLeeuw	36523804	FA	30 Apr 45
Pfc	Thomas C. Earwood	38582696	Inf	15 Jun 45
Pfc	William G. Ford	6959607	CE	6 Jun 45
1st Lt	Kenneth K. Gruver	01172475	FA	9 Apr 45
Tec 5	Stanley J. Gush	36617305	FA	9 Apr 45
Pfc	Edwin E. Hakanen	36540394	FA	2 Jun 45
Cpl	Gale H. Hanson	37439443	FA	9 May 45
Pfc	Ambrose P. Hermann	37435354	FA	9 May 45
Pfc	Bernard V. Hillyer	39700299	MD	19 Jun 45
Pfc	Robert H. Ivy	37721425	Inf	15 Jun 45
Pfc	Ernest E. Janssen	36431676	MD	1 Jun 45
Pfc	Foster C. Johnson	39725071	FA	21 Jun 45
2d Lt	Julian Johnson	0517542	FA	14 Jun 45
Cpl	Robert J. Krebs	33372523	FA	9 May 45
Pfc	David M. Langston	38572800	Inf	15 Jun 45
Tec 5	Harold A. Lovas	36270964	FA	14 Jun 45
Pfc	William J. Lucero	37336595	FA	9 May 45
1st Lt	John J. McCarthy Jr	01181367	FA	28 Apr 45
Pfc	Merlin J. Meier	37439544	FA	26 Apr 45
Tec 4	Henry J. Mikulencak	36294292	FA	8 Apr 45
Pfc	Walter R. Miller	33763955	Inf	17 Jun 45
1st Lt	John Morton	01173720	FA	9 Apr 45
Cpl	Jack P. Podbevsek	37304273	FA	25 May 45
Pfc	Marvin J. Pruitt	38300974	FA	9 Apr 45
Cpl	Dean E. Quarney	39912612	FA	8 Apr 45
1st Lt	Philip M. Rubins	0422373	FA	8 Apr 45
Cpl	George M. Slocomb	39295282	FA	1 Jun 45
Pfc	Edward W. Sorg	38291312	FA	9 May 45
Cpl	James J. Sperakos	36610667	FA	7 Jun 45
Cpl	George N. Tiner	38271771	FA	7 Jun 45
Pfc	Jake C. Turpin	38271445	FA	7 Jun 45
Pfc	Thadis M. Wheeler	38318888	FA	8 May 45
Cpl	John E. Williams	37229159	FA	4 Apr 45



SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, Purple Heart having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, for wounds received in action against the enemy on dates indicated:

Corporal Arthur G. Goers, 36853599, Field Artillery, United States Army, wounded 21 April 1945 near Kaniku, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 97, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 12 April 1945.

Second Lieutenant Clifford B. Keener, 02012514, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 June 1945 near Ozato, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 42, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 2 December 1944.

First Lieutenant Francis J. Lacey, 01182167, Field Artillery, United States Army, wounded 26 April 1945 near Tanabaru, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 111, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 19 April 1945.

Private First Class James A. Meredith, 36439801, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 26 May 1945 near Onaga, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 7, Headquarters McCaw General Hospital, 9 September 1943.

Technical Sergeant Harry R. Peterson, 36271706, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 27 April 1945 near Omeda, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 26, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 January 1945.

Private First Class Leonard E. Rygalski, 35553206, Medical Department, United States Army, wounded 31 May 1945 near Shuri, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 194, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 10 May 1945.

Private First Class Virgil M. Simmons, 39336889, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 6 June 1945 near Iwa, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 257, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 28 May 1945.

Staff Sergeant Orville T. Young, 15111221, Infantry, United States Army, wounded 17 May 1945 near Kochi, Okinawa Island. Previous award per General Orders 6, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 5 January 1945.

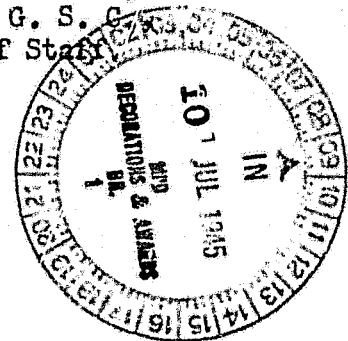
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

G. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APC 96

GENERAL ORDERS  
SER 382

23 June 1945

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL,  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Man:

Private First Class Edward R. Healy, 36383474, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 19 April 1945. Next of Kin: Ruth Healy, Mother, Route 2, Norris City, Illinois.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant John B. Bruno, 19063283, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 13 April 1945.

Captain George F. Brewer, 01295164, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

Technician Third Grade James A. Brown, 18186549, Finance Department, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 15 September 1944 to 31 May 1945.

Private First Class Karl L. DeHaven, 33606178, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Charles E. Fletcher, 01286627, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 1 March 1945.

First Lieutenant Maurice J. Fried, 01325982, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS 382 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 23 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

Staff Sergeant George W. Hansen, 6555655, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Technical Sergeant W. D. Horn, 6273706, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945.

Private First Class George Kuczynski, 36536077, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 26 April 1945.

First Lieutenant H. J. Johnson, 0527808, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant Dominic H. Mordell, 19012732, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

Technical Sergeant Bobbie L. Rozell, 37227638, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

Technical Sergeant Hilton Stults, Jr., 36534779, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 9 April 1945.

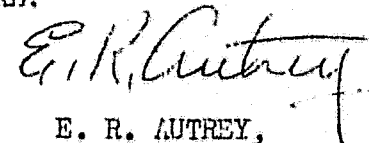
Private First Class James E. Vestal, 39587514, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 25 April 1945.

Corporal Gordon L. Endsley, 34525279, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

26 June 1945  
7/30/45  
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 385

ORIGINAL ORDER -

26 June 1945.

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS  
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

SECTION  
I  
II  
III

7

SECTION I

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ORDERS

1. So much of General Orders 278, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 1 June 1945, as pertains to Second Lieutenant Atlas B. Windham Jr., 02012482, is rescinded.

2. So much of General Orders 378, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 22 June 1945, as pertains to First Lieutenant Frederick H. Dilg, 01324618, is rescinded.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal having been previously awarded to the following named military personnel per authority indicated, a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu thereof by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division.

First Lieutenant Frederick H. Dilg, 01324618, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 21 April 1945. During an attack on the heavily fortified ridge four hundred yards north of Nishi-Baru, when heavy casualties were sustained from enemy guns placed on high ground to the front and both flanks, First Lieutenant Dilg, assisted by six other men, took it upon himself to aid and help evacuate the very wounded men. First Lieutenant Dilg remained in this untenable area until the last of the men had been removed to the aid station, despite the fact that darkness was falling and his small group was alone and separated from the rest of the battalion, First Lieutenant Dilg's heroic action in the face of withering enemy fire, devotion to duty and loyalty to his men in this time of great need, reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Previous award per General Orders No. 81, Headquarters 96th Infantry Division, 30 December 1944.

Second Lieutenant Atlas B. Windham, Jr., 02012482, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. In preparation for a pre-dawn attack by his company on heavily fortified enemy positions on Kakazu Ridge, Second Lieutenant Windham, a rifle platoon leader, voluntarily reconnoitered for a route through enemy-held territory under cover of darkness and finding a satisfactory route, led his assault company in the attack which was successful in catching the enemy off-guard. Later in the assault, Second Lieutenant Windham received serious wounds in the leg, but despite his painful wound, he remained at the head of his platoon until forced to be evacuated. His utter disregard for his own personal safety and pain, and aggressive leadership contributed vastly to the success of his company in accomplishing their mission with the least possible delay and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

GENERAL ORDERS 385 HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION 26 JUNE 1945 CONTD.

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Leonard J. Ellermann, 38312783, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 5 April 1945.

Staff Sergeant James J. Jordan, 36214781, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Corporal Garvin LaGrango, 38271520, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Sergeant Basil W. Privitt, 20741260, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 13 April 1945.

Captain Lauren K. Soth, 0296409, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 23 June 1945.

Corporal William T. Ulmer, 38291258, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 14 April 1945.

Private First Class Nelson J. Verrett, 38260374, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 5 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Ignatius C. Veracco, 01307890, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945.

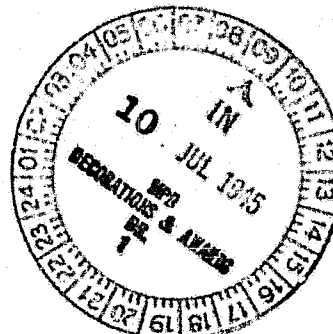
BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

26 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 386

ORIGINAL ORDER

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II

SECTION

II

SECTION I.

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded Posthumously, by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named Enlisted Men:

Technician Fifth Grade Frederick R. Miller, 36563343, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island on 12 November 1944. Technician Fifth Grade Miller, while acting as a leader of a litter squad evacuating casualties, discovered the presence of a casualty thirty yards ahead of the front lines. Due to heavy enemy small arms fire, the squad was compelled to withdraw to cover. Technician Fifth Grade Miller then advanced alone without thought of personal safety, to the injured man. While administering first aid and attempting the evacuation of the casualty, he was mortally wounded. By his courage and devotion to duty in the face of great personal danger, Technician Fifth Grade Miller was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and a credit to the military service. Next of Kin: Jennie Miller, Wife, 624 Elizabeth Street, Potoskey, Michigan.

Private First Class Richard J. Moane, Jr., 12218952, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 23 April 1945. Private First Class Moane led a patrol into enemy territory to discover the location of enemy positions which had pinned down a tank company. In order to gain the necessary information, Private First Class Moane went out ahead of his patrol in the face of enemy machine gun and rifle fire. Upon returning to his patrol, he was seriously wounded, but managed to pass on the valuable information gained from his observation. Private First Class Moane's coolness and courage in advancing in the face of enemy fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Next of Kin: Richard J. Moane, Sr., Father, 134 Halo Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Staff Sergeant Burt L. Colwell, 37318466, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 28 April 1945. On 8 April 1945, Staff Sergeant Coldwell emplaced his mortar section in a position to support his company's attack on the town of Uchitomari. During the assault of the town, Staff Sergeant Coldwell skillfully directed the fire of his section on several enemy strong points so that they were effectively neutralized until the rifle platoons closed on them and destroyed them. Then, showing great leadership and courage, he led his section over twelve hundred yards of open ground through an enemy mortar and artillery barrage. While the company held the town from 8 April through 11 April, Staff Sergeant Coldwell directed the fire of his section in knocking out many enemy outposts and killed and wounded a large number of enemy soldiers. While the company was holding positions in the vicinity of Kakazu, his planned defensive fires were instrumental in breaking up several attempts at infiltration by force of the enemy. In another position in the vicinity of Nishi-Baru Ridge, his planned defensive fires again resulted in killing and wounding several of the enemy. On the morning of 19 April when his company was ordered to attack Nishi-Baru Ridge, Staff Sergeant Colwell supported the attack and then led his section across an open field swept by mortar, machine gun and sniper fire. On arriving at the front line positions, he emplaced his section in action and by continued fire successfully neutralized several enemy knee mortars, pillboxes and rifle positions that were causing his company heavy casualties. His courage and leadership were a source of inspiration to his men and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Blann T. Dawson, 38293647, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Dawson vigorously and courageously led his squad in forceful and successful action against enemy pillboxes, thus enabling his platoon to gain commanding ground. On one occasion, during an attack on Hill 165, when his squad was cut off by an enemy machine gun, Staff Sergeant Dawson successfully withdrew his men to safety. He performed ably and bravely, exposed to all types of enemy fire until seriously wounded, and even then, continued his duties for three hours before his injury and loss of blood forced him to withdraw to the aid station.

First Lieutenant Robert J. Davis, 01275180, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 1 March 1945.

First Lieutenant George L. Marquis, 01314805, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 1 March 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

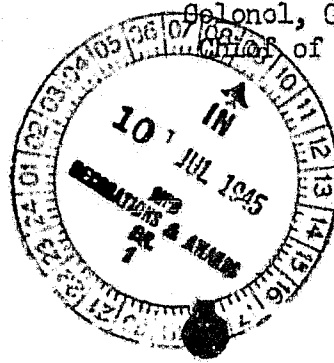
C. H. WHITE JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*E. R. Autrey*  
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Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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- 2 -



HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

26 June 1945

GENERAL ORDER  
NUMBER 387

ORIGINAL ORDER

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

SECTION  
I  
II

SECTION I

POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded posthumously by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Sergeant Ernesto R. Garcia, 37353531, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 19 April 1945. Next of Kin: Anita Garcia, Mother, Box 85, Conejos, Colorado.

First Sergeant Peter J. Katkauskas, 6841019, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 8 June 1945. Next of Kin: Angela Jermy, Sister, 483 Tremont Street, Rochester, New York.

Private First Class William Mitchell, 37439526, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 19 April 1945. Next of Kin: Mildred Mitchell, Wife, 1222 10th Avenue, Oakland, California.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class William C. Breshears, 37145496, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 20 April 1945.

First Lieutenant William A. Buskirk, 01304015, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 10 April 1945 to 28 April 1945.

Sergeant John J. Oesch, 35423512, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.



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Private First Class Raymond M. Pfister, 36703372, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 29 April 1945.

Private First Class J. B. Rosson, 38272629, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 20 April 1945.

First Lieutenant Herman R. Stiles, 01307556, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 20 October 1944 to 3 March 1945.

First Lieutenant Frank B. Wallace, 01252027, Infantry United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 14 April 1945.

First Sergeant James G. Browning, 39226854, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte and Okinawa Islands from 20 October 1944 to 7 May 1945.

Technical Sergeant Robert Z. Hazard, 17107055, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 20 April 1945.

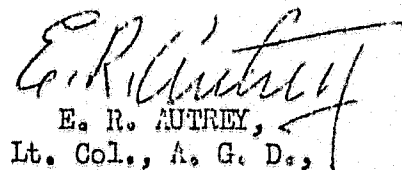
Private First Class Joseph Shultz, 37461713, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 5 April 1945 to 10 April 1945.

Technical Sergeant Wilbur T. Varah, 37256515, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island from 1 April 1945 to 7 May 1945.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

C. H. WHITE JR,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
E. R. AUTREY,  
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

26 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 388

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Derry J. Donetz, 36272370, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 19 April 1945. When a BAR man was wounded by enemy fire during an attack on Nishi-Baru Ridge, Private First Class Donetz bravely and unselfishly exposed himself to enemy fire in order to take over the firing of the gun to lay down a covering fire so that the wounded could be evacuated. When his unit was forced to withdraw, Private First Class Donetz held his position and covered the withdrawal, moving himself only after the last man had moved back. Private First Class Donetz's heroic action, which neutralized enemy fire and prevented further casualties, reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant Thomas P. Hart, 01182378, Field Artillery, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. First Lieutenant Hart, seeing the assault companies pinned down and suffering severe casualties from enemy machine gun and mortar fire, during an attack on Kakazu Ridge, left his observation post and made three trips of about five hundred yards across open terrain which was covered by heavy enemy machine gun fire and intermittent enemy artillery concentrations, to obtain information from the assault companies of available targets. As a result of these trips forward, First Lieutenant Hart was able to adjust upon and destroy or neutralize several enemy pillboxes, two machine gun emplacements, and a mortar position enabling the assault companies to move forward to take their objective. The courage and determination displayed by First Lieutenant Hart reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant Harry J. Kline, 01297901, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Leyte Island from 28 October 1944 to 25 November 1944. During an assault by his unit on enemy positions near Kiling, First Lieutenant Kline, a rifle company platoon leader, exposed himself to enemy fire to observe their strength and then led his platoon in an attack in which fourteen of the enemy were killed and the remainder driven across the Binahan River. On another occasion, when his company was attacking enemy positions in the foothills near Mt. Lobi, First Lieutenant Kline, upon discovering an enemy force infiltrating around the flank, maneuvered his platoon into position and drove the enemy back. On 25 November 1944 when his platoon was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire, First Lieutenant Kline moved to the right flank and informed his company commander of the situation, after which he withdrew the remainder of the company and evacuated the dead and wounded. First Lieutenant Kline's aggressive leadership and courage under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

First Lieutenant Amerigo O. Morrone, 01304933, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. While a rifle company was advancing inland from its beachhead, an artillery position interlaced with spider holes and a network of trenches blocked the forward movement, First Lieutenant Morrone immediately led his platoon in an assault on the artillery position and then directed his men in outflanking the remainder of the Jap force. The platoon was under constant fire and a rain of hand grenades met them from the enemy holes. As a result of First Lieutenant Morrone's courageous and aggressive leadership, the dangerous artillery position threatening the beachhead was neutralized and the company was able to continue its advance.

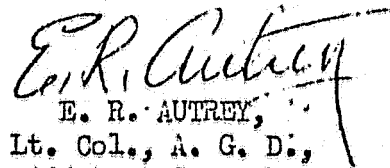
Private First Class William E. Schwening, 37620680, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. Rather than withdraw with the rest of the company from a hazardous position on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Schwening volunteered to remain and assist in administering first aid to the wounded. Even though he was fully exposed to the enemy and was subjected to heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire, he stayed with the wounded until they had all been given first aid and evacuated. Private First Class Schwening's calm and courageous actions at the risk of his own life saved the lives of many of the wounded and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Staff Sergeant Lewis J. Tucker, 38292141, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy near Ginowan, Okinawa Island on 6 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Tucker, on seeing his platoon leader seriously wounded by enemy sniper fire coming from the rear of his positions, voluntarily searched out the enemy and killed him. He then searched the remainder of the area as a precautionary measure and returned to his unit. Staff Sergeant Tucker's courage, profound devotion to duty, courage and aggressive actions in the face of deadly enemy fire, were an inspiration to the men of the unit and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BRADLEY:

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Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96 .

26 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER 389

ORIGINAL ORDER  
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Section II, Bulletin No. 3, War Department 1944), and pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 (Decorations), 22 September 1943, as amended by Change No. 3, 25 April 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, 96th Infantry Division, to the following named military personnel:

Private First Class Cody Baker, 39466785, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Throughout the attack by his unit on heavily fortified Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class (then Private) Baker, an ammunition bearer for an 81mm Mortar Section, made repeated trips through heavy enemy sniper and machine gun fire, and most of the time, exposed to the enemy, to deliver vital ammunition to the front lines. On one occasion, he voluntarily assisted in the evacuation of wounded from the village of Kakazu and during the evacuation, was continuously under heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire. Private First Class Baker's courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Markes Beasley, 38319104, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 10 April 1945. When the enemy counterattacked on Kakazu Ridge, which had just been taken by his company, Private First Class Beasley moved out in front of his platoon and held off the enemy with his BAR despite the fact that enemy grenades were thrown into the area. He maintained his position until an adequate defensive position could be taken by the remainder of his platoon. As he was forced to withdraw, his BAR was destroyed by enemy small arms fire. Nevertheless, picking up an M-1 rifle, he continued the fire fight. Private First Class Beasley's heroism and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Edgar J. Bryant, 34895006, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was heavily hit by a barrage of enemy artillery, machine gun, mortar and sniper fire on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Bryant volunteered to help evacuate the wounded and at the risk of his life, moved over two hundred yards of rough terrain under the hail of enemy machine gun and mortar fire. On the way back to the rear lines with one of the wounded men, Private First Class Bryant was wounded by enemy machine gun fire but continued on the mission and succeeded in getting the wounded man and himself to safety. Private First Class Bryant's courage and aggressive actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Sarkis S. Cherkinian, 36286775, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 13 April 1945. During the defense of a rocky sector of Kakazu Ridge by his company, Private First Class Cherkinian, on his own

initiative, selected the most exposed position of his squad sector for his own and instilled courage in his men. In the morning, while it was still dark and following a heavy mortar barrage, the enemy attacked and drove directly toward Private First Class Cherkinian's position. With rifle fire and the use of hand grenades, he effected the disorganization of the attackers and caused them to run. His squad leader was wounded in the fire fight, and without orders, Private First Class Cherkinian took over the position with ease and confidence, bolstering the morale of his men. His actions under fire were a credit to the military service and saved the lives of numerous men of his platoon.

Private First Class Eugene D. Connell, 36534732, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 11 April 1945. Private First Class Connell, during an attack on heavily fortified enemy held Kakazu Ridge, serving as gunner in an 81mm Mortar Squad, was wounded while carrying the base plate of his mortar to a new position. Rather than leave his equipment behind, he moved forward under heavy enemy machine gun, small arms and artillery fire, to the new position, and then received first aid. His wounds being of a serious nature, he was evacuated the following morning. Private First Class Connell's devotion to duty and courage under fire reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

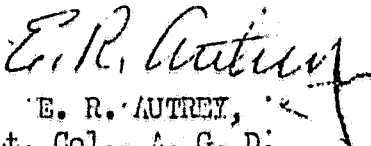
Private First Class Joseph D. Curzi, 33811927, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 9 April 1945. When his unit was forced to withdraw, under fire, from positions on Kakazu Ridge, Private First Class Curzi volunteered to remain behind and assist in administering first aid to those who had been wounded during the attack. In order to get to the wounded, he was compelled to expose himself to withering enemy machine gun fire but thoroughly disregarding his own personal safety, he made several trips into the open area and rendered first aid before aiding the litter bearers in evacuating the men to safety. Private First Class Curzi's heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Martin G. Deggs, 38254790, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 28 and 29 April 1945. Private First Class Deggs, a machine gunner in a weapons platoon of a rifle company, on his own initiative, crawled forward with his machine gun under darkness to ward off an enemy counterattack and to allow our casualties to be removed to safety. In the face of enemy machine gun fire and hand grenades, he left a protected position for an exposed one. His courage and conduct were an example to his crew and reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

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HEADQUARTERS 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 96

26 June 1945

GENERAL ORDER  
NUMBER 390

ORIGINAL ORDER

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

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Corporal Vincent J. Fazio, 32694208, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 12 April 1945. Corporal Fazio, in order to support a dawn attack, exposed himself to heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire to move an anti-tank gun into the most effective position from which supporting fire could be given. Although the position was exposed to heavy enemy mortar fire, Corporal Fazio, serving as gunner, remained at his post and maintained his fire during the entire advance of the troops. Corporal Fazio's courageous deed was instrumental in knocking out many enemy pillboxes and installations and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Private First Class Edward J. Hogan, 38312720, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 1 April 1945. When his rifle platoon ran into a strong enemy outpost, Private First Class Hogan, on his own initiative, took two men, crawled fifty yards down a ditch to flank the enemy, killed a Jap officer, intelligently sized up the situation, promptly informed his platoon leader of the action, and pinned the enemy resistance in a pocket until it was wiped out by a squad with a flame thrower. Six more Japs were killed and a Jap 75mm gun and three caches of ammunition destroyed because of Private First Class Hogan's aggressive action against the enemy.

Private First Class John T. Long, 33437856, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations near Kochi, Okinawa Island on 28 April 1945. When, during an attack on a heavily fortified enemy position, Private First Class John T. Long, first gunner of an 81mm Mortar Platoon, after being twice wounded by enemy shell fragments and knowing the platoon was under strength, held his position and supported the attack. He utterly disregarded his wounds and continued his mission although he was constantly under heavy enemy machine gun, sniper, mortar and artillery fire. Private First Class Long's courage and marked devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Captain Clarence R. Luton, 01286517, Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on Okinawa Island on 4 April 1945. Captain Luton, commanding a heavy weapons company in support of advancing Infantrymen, was directing supporting fire from a forward observation post when, as two assault companies advanced, they were showered by deadly accurate enemy automatic fire. The enemy controlled the commanding terrain southwest of the attacking units and Captain Luton observed enemy artillery and mortar fire be-