

~~RESTRICTED~~

HEADQUARTERS III CORPS
Office of the Commanding General
A.P.O. 303, U. S. Army

5 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
:)
NO.....20)

PUB. DIV. FILE

- I - AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR
- II - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS)
- III - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
- IV - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

I - AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

By direction of the President and under the provisions of Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to:

First Lieutenant JOHN S. HATCH, O1115624, Corps of Engineers, Company C, 178th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action. On 7 January 1945, Company C, in which Lieutenant HATCH was a platoon leader, was preparing defensive positions near * * *, Belgium, when suddenly it was subjected to intense enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. A furious enemy counter-attack developed. Capture or annihilation of the platoon seemed certain, but Lieutenant HATCH, recognizing the need for quick action, repeatedly moved among the isolated groups, directing them to positions of safety. He courageously aided in the evacuation of the wounded and by his calm demeanor instilled confidence in his men. At the risk of his life he exposed himself the greater part of the time to enemy fire, and successfully extricated his platoon from the hazardous situation. The cool and courageous manner in which he conducted himself, oblivious to his own danger, was an inspiration to his men and was responsible for the saving of many lives. The gallantry of Lieutenant HATCH is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Private JOHN T. KEEL, 39207960, Field Artillery, Battery C, 77th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action. On 30 December 1944 in Belgium after Private KEEL and other personnel of his battery had been forced to take cover from attacking enemy planes, he noticed a half-track nearby with an unmanned fifty calibre machine gun. With complete disregard for his own safety he dashed from his fox-hole and put the gun in action, delivering continuous fire until wounded by bomb fragments. The unhesitating, courageous delivery of fire by Private KEEL drove the attacking planes from the battery position. His conspicuous courage and gallantry exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

- 1 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

II - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS)

By direction of the President and under the provisions of Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded posthumously to:

Private First Class WILLIAM C. PARKER, JR., 20324122, Cavalry, Troop B, 28th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in Belgium on 29 December 1944. Private First Class PARKER's unit, when advancing against the enemy in the vicinity of * * *, Belgium, passed two previously abandoned American light machine guns and a bazooka. Due to intense enemy action his unit shifted to more favorable ground. Upon his own initiative and with utter disregard for his personal safety, Private First Class PARKER returned through the enemy artillery and mortar fire and successfully recovered the abandoned weapons. His cool determination and courageous efforts increased his unit's fire power and prevented use of the weapons by the enemy against his own troops. The loyal devotion to duty and fearless action of Private First Class PARKER reflect great credit upon him and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

III - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President and under the provisions of Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Corporal HARRY D. ABRAM, 36117928, Field Artillery, 177th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France on 1 September 1944. Corporal (then Private First Class) ABRAM, with a warrant officer and another enlisted man, while enroute in a one-quarter ton truck to the Battalion Air Section, temporarily bivouaced near a Military Police Post in * * *, France. The enemy attacked the town just before dawn. Machine gun fire riddled the vehicle in which the warrant officer and enlisted man were sleeping, blowing out a tire and shattering the windshield. Corporal ABRAM, who had been sleeping on the ground, remained motionless and silent until the machine gun fire temporarily lifted. Seeing that his comrades were seriously wounded, he started the vehicle which immediately drew more fire. Nevertheless, he fearlessly and skillfully drove the partially disabled vehicle to the nearest aid station in an effort to secure prompt medical attention. However, they had been fatally wounded. Corporal ABRAM's heroic effort to save the lives of his comrades reflects the highest credit upon him and the armed forces of the United States.

IV - AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President and under the provisions of Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Bronze Star Medal, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the respective periods indicated, is awarded to:

- 2 -

~~RESTRICTED~~

R E S T R I C T E D

Major CHARLES A. SCHANCK, K100034, Field Artillery (United States Coast and Geodetic Survey), Headquarters 288th Field Artillery Observation Battalion, United States Army, 22 December 1944 to 27 January 1945.

Captain OLEO F. KING, O401650, Field Artillery, Headquarters 203rd Field Artillery Group, United States Army, 22 December 1944 to 25 January 1945.

First Lieutenant DONALD M. PARKER, O1175529, Field Artillery, 177th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, 21 July 1944 to 21 January 1945.

Master Sergeant DALTON H. BAGGETT, 34338991, Infantry, Headquarters III Corps, United States Army, 15 September 1944 to 15 January 1945.

Master Sergeant THOMAS M. CONNELL, 14139699, Infantry, Headquarters III Corps, United States Army, 15 September 1944 to 17 January 1945.

Master Sergeant GUSTAV W. STADIG, 6822157, Infantry, Headquarters III Corps, United States Army, 15 September 1944 to 13 January 1945.

Technical Sergeant JAMES G. HOLLANDSWORTH, 35773507, Corps of Engineers, 178th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, 2 October 1944 to 23 January 1945.

Staff Sergeant STOCKTON M. JONES, 34504544, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters III Corps, United States Army, 15 September 1944 to 9 January 1945.

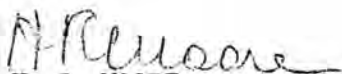
Technician Fourth Grade CHESTER D. PERRY, 35774058, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters and Service Company, 178th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, 28 September 1944 to 22 January 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade LEON GILREATH, 34885554, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters and Service Company, 178th Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, 28 September 1944 to 22 January 1945.

By command of Major General MILLIKIN:

J. H. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, U.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


H. R. MOORE,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION: "F"

6 FEB 1945

- 3 -

R E S T R I C T E D