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NUMBER 18 )

APO 339  
22 January 1945.

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS).  
II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Distinguished-Service Cross is posthumously awarded to:

First Lieutenant James K. Fitzpatrick, 01290056, Infantry, 121st Infantry Regiment, 8th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 28 November 1944, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick led his company in an attack against a heavily fortified town in Germany. After he had led his men toward strong enemy positions at the outskirts of the town, they were pinned down by an intense enemy artillery barrage. Realizing that disastrous losses would result if the men remained in their positions, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick moved across the entire company front, encouraging his men and urging them to follow him. His men, inspired by the courageous action of their leader, launched an attack which overran the enemy positions and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy forces. After entering the town, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, still leading his men, was fatally wounded. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant Fitzpatrick reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

First Lieutenant John Olsen, 01289308, Infantry, 415th Infantry Regiment, 104th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On the night of 2 - 3 November 1944, in Germany, the company commanded by Lieutenant Olsen was assigned the mission of capturing a strongly defended town. As the attack moved forward, the company was pinned down by intense machine-gun fire. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Lieutenant Olsen, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, moved to the head of the attack, exposing himself to the enemy fire and shouted encouragement to his men. Following his lead, his men surged forward to fight their way to the edge of the town. Though Lieutenant Olsen was seriously wounded in performing this heroic act, he maintained his position in leading his men until a firm foothold had been established in the town. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant Olsen reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Private First Class James V. Polio, 33299628, Infantry, 413th Infantry Regiment, 104th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 28 November 1944, in Germany, when elements of an advancing company were pinned down by enemy fire, Private Polio voluntarily crawled from his covered position, exposing himself to mortaring enemy fire, to batter locate the positions of the enemy. After ascertaining the enemy's disposition and relaying the information to his commanding

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officer, Private Polio continued his advance to wipe out an enemy machine-gun nest with a rifle grenade. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he moved on to wipe out another machine-gun nest with rifle fire and hand grenades before an enemy sniper fired a shot that took his life. Though his heroic actions cost his life, Private Polio undoubtedly saved the lives of many of his comrades and enabled his unit to advance. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Private Polio reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

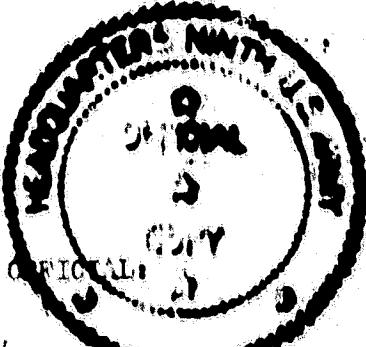
II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Colonel Rudolph Bloom, 0166802, Medical Corps, 31st Medical Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 18 June 1944 to 11 January 1945. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Colonel Joe Harrell, 018929, Medical Corps, 41st Evacuation Hospital, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 1 July 1944 to 11 January 1945. Entered military service from Texas.

Colonel Paul Hayes, 017809, Medical Corps, 91st Evacuation Hospital, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 1 July 1944 to 11 January 1945. Entered military service from New York.

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:



J. E. MOORE,  
Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.

JOHN A. KLEIN,  
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

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