

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 38

ORIGINAL ORDER - STOUSA

AGO 339
2 November 1944.

- I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.
- II. AWARD OF AIR MEDAL.
- III. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS).
- IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS. 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 awarded to:

Second Lieutenant Vincent E. McKenna, 01168815, 484th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 10 September 1944, near Dornot, France, when advancing allied troops were subjected to heavy losses caused by enemy mortar, artillery and small-arms fire, Lieutenant McKenna voluntarily moved to a forward observation post to direct fire from his own artillery. Completely disregarding his own personal safety, he exposed himself to the enemy to adjust his fire upon the enemy positions. So close was the contact with the enemy that some of his own shells burst within a few yards of his observation post. So efficient was his adjustment of fire that a grave situation for the advancing infantry elements was alleviated. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant McKenna reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

II. AWARD OF AIR 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 Air Medal is awarded to:

award revoked by G.O. # 42-12 Feb 45
First Lieutenant Alfred W. Johnson (then Second Lieutenant), 01167921, 30th Infantry Division Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. On 8 August 1944, Lieutenant Johnson repeatedly offered himself as a target for enemy antiaircraft fire in order to ascertain the most feasible route for supplying an isolated infantry battalion by air. Through his heroic actions, Lieutenant Johnson was able to supply information regarding location of the enemy antiaircraft installations. The meritorious achievement of Lieutenant Johnson while participating in aerial flight is in keeping with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Texas.

award revoked by G.O. # 42-12 Feb 45
First Lieutenant Robert E. Trigg, 0545265, 30th Infantry Division Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. On 8 August 1944, near Merville, France, Lieutenant Trigg repeatedly offered himself as a target for enemy antiaircraft fire in order to ascertain the most feasible route for supplying an isolated infantry battalion by air. Through his heroic actions, Lieutenant Trigg was able to supply information regarding the location of the enemy antiaircraft installations. The meritorious achievement of

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0038, Hq Ninth U.S. Army, 2 November 1944, cont'd.

Lieutenant Trigg while participating in aerial flight is in keeping with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Texas.

III. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL (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 Soldier's Medal is posthumously awarded to:

Private First Class Robert H. Lear, 36449974, 553rd Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion (Mobile), United States Army, for distinguishing himself by heroism and courageous action. On 21 October 1944, near Bastogne, Belgium, Private Lear, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, courageously attempted to save the life of a fellow soldier. When the mobile antiaircraft weapon on which they were riding was forced to suddenly slow down due to traffic, a soldier lost his balance and fell. Private Lear, with no thought of personal injury, desperately tried to prevent his comrade from falling off the mount. In so doing, Private Lear fell under the wheels of the gun mount which passed over his body, taking his life. The heroism and courageous action of Private Lear reflect much credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

IV. 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:

Sergeant Alexander Benzo, Jr. (then Corporal), 35255098, 17th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy near St. Nic, France, on 30 August 1944. Entered military service from Indiana.

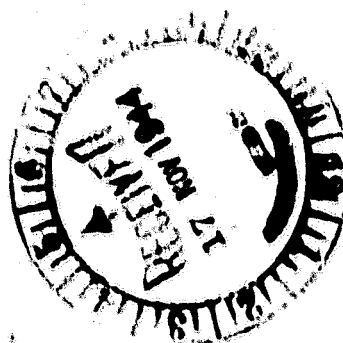
By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:



JOHN A. KLEIN,
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