

RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 48

APD 339
23 November 1944.

- I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.
- II. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL.
- III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. ORIGINAL ORDER - ITOL 1A
- IV. AWARD OF AIR 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:

First Lieutenant Mario J. Fortuna, 0378127, 38th Armored Infantry Battalion, 7th Armored Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 16 August 1944, in an attack near Lave, France, Lieutenant Fortuna was given the mission of clearing the town of enemy resistance. Having available only men inexperienced in battle, Lieutenant Fortuna elected to lead the assault party. Displaying great intrepidity and heroic leadership, he led his men from building to building, repeatedly exposing himself, purposely drawing enemy fire to ascertain their positions. During this assault six machine guns were silenced, ten prisoners were captured and many of the enemy were killed or wounded. After the main street of the town had been cleared of organized enemy resistance, Lieutenant Fortuna worked his way back to his unit through sporadic enemy sniping to lead the forward elements of his battalion through the town and on toward their objective. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant Fortuna 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 SOLDIER'S 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 Soldier's Medal is awarded to:

First Lieutenant Thomas H. Townsend, 01583776, 3965th Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army, for heroism and courageous action. On 26 August 1944, when an American airplane was hit by antiaircraft fire and crashed, Lieutenant Townsend was the first person to arrive on the scene. Completely disregarding the danger of an imminent explosion and the intense heat from the burning plane, Lieutenant Townsend courageously approached the burning plane and removed the injured pilot to safety. The heroism and courageous action of Lieutenant Townsend reflect credit upon himself and uphold the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

III. 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:

Captain William C. Souther, 01556678, 130th Ordnance Company, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 30 June 1944 to 30 October 1944. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

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OO 48, Hq Ninth U.S. Army, 23 November 1944, cont'd.

Staff Sergeant Joseph W. Rysar, 32600080, 3965th Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 8 August 1944, in Mayenne, France. Entered military service from New Jersey.

Sergeant Philemon T. Wickliffe, 37230837, 3965th Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 8 August 1944, in Mayenne, France. Entered military service from Missouri.

Technician Fourth Grade Meyer Ewitin, 32519101, 130th Ordnance M Company, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 11 August 1944 to 2 November 1944. Entered military service from New York.

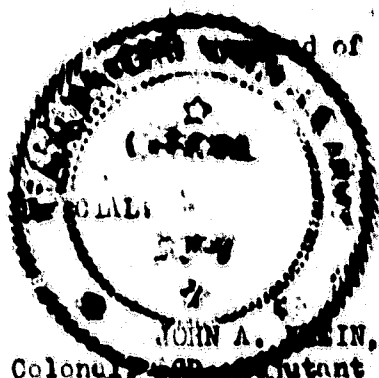
Technician Fourth Grade Albert M. Logan, 32661172, 3965th Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 8 August 1944, in Mayenne, France. Entered military service from New York.

IV. 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:

Technical Sergeant Archie H. Schwehr, 36428073, Air Corps, 125th Liaison Squadron, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight from 24 August 1944 to 7 November 1944, over continental Europe. Entered military service from Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Samuel D. Brose, 19147314, Air Corps, 125th Liaison Squadron, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight from 24 August 1944 to 8 November 1944, over continental Europe. Entered military service from Washington.

Staff Sergeant John H. Miller, 19033116, Air Corps, 125th Liaison Squadron, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight from 25 August 1944 to 23 October 1944, over continental Europe. Entered military service from Washington.



of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

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