

R E S T R I C T E D
HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER (5)

APO 339
6 January 1945

- I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.
- II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR.
- III. AWARD OF AIR MEDAL.
- IV. AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS.

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:

Major John H. Wohner, 023142, Infantry, 407th Infantry Regiment, 102nd Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 1 December 1944, near Flossdorf, Germany, Major Wohner assumed command of his battalion when it was pinned down by intense enemy fire and was unable to advance for twenty-four hours. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he courageously moved to the head of his unit, faced the enemy across the open terrain and through his bravery and heroic actions inspired his men to follow him in the attack. Not once did he falter in his mission, even though a radio operator was shot down at his side. His unexcelled display of leadership and determination in the face of enemy machine-gun fire inspired his men to new heights and to push on to secure their objective. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Major Wohner reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Mississippi.

Sergeant John J. Kelly, 6947062, Coast Artillery Corps, 459th AAA AW Battalion, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 6 June 1944, upon landing at Omaha Beach, France, Sergeant Kelly saw an enemy machine gun firing into troops that were trying to get ashore. Hoodless of intervening mine fields, he quickly organized a party to lead against the enemy gun emplacement. Despite a serious hand wound he had received and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, he advanced ahead of his attacking party and hurled a hand grenade into the enemy nest, killing the entire gun crew. When enemy snipers directed fire against engineers who were clearing the mine fields, Sergeant Kelly voluntarily and courageously led an assault which cleared the snipers from the sector. Through his inspiring example and at the risk of his own safety, he played a large part in establishing the beachhead. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Sergeant Kelly 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 SILVER STAR. 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 Silver Star is awarded to:

~~RESTRICTED~~

OO 3, Hq Ninth U. S. Army, 6 January 1945, cont'd.

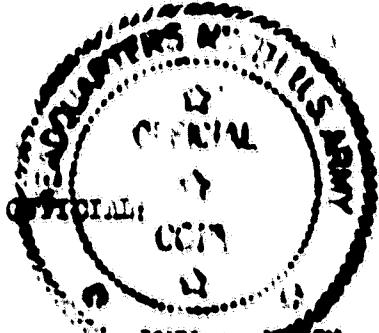
Technician Fifth Grade Howard W. Neitzay, 33538524, Medical Department, 123rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, United States Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy in Germany. From 27 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 as troop aid man, Technician Neitzay reportedly rendered first aid and evacuated wounded men despite constant enemy artillery and mortar fire. On two occasions, in full view of the enemy, he left his foxhole and under direct small arms fire from an enemy pillbox, evacuated seriously wounded men, thereby probably saving their lives. The gallantry and courage of Technician Neitzay reflect much credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Virginia.

III. AWARD OF AIR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-15, 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:

First Lieutenant Charles K. Whitman, 01178667, Field Artillery, 265th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight from 6 September 1944 to 5 December 1944. Entered military service from Indiana.

IV. AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of General Orders No 81 this headquarters, 30 December 1944, as pertains to award of Bronze Star Medal as reads: "Lieutenant Colonel Robert D. Hardeastle, 0294045, Ordnance Department, Headquarters Ninth United States Army", is amended to read: "Lieutenant Colonel Robert D. Hardeastle, 0294045, Ordnance Department, Headquarters Ninth United States Army."

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:



Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

J. B. MOORE,
Brigadier General, QSC, Chief of Staff

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