

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #36, U. S. Army

ORIGINAL ORDER - CH
DEK

10 May 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 128

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SECTION I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations.

HERBERT E. MacCOMBIE, 0205730, Lieutenant Colonel, Chaplain's Corps, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 3 December 1943 in Italy. Chaplain MacCombie landed in the invasion of Italy in the uncertain hours of D day, and in addition to his duties as Division Chaplain voluntarily assisted in the establishment of the first American cemetery in Italy, working tirelessly conducting rites and assisting in the burial of the dead. His indefatigable efforts throughout this period inspired and directed the chaplains of the Division to a higher degree of efficiency and materially contributed to the spiritual welfare and morale of the troops. Entered the Service from Lynn, Massachusetts.

GEORGE D. SMITH, JR, 0411567, Major, (then Captain) Headquarters Company, 36th Infantry Division for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations in Italy from 9 September 1943 to 1 March 1944. As Headquarters Commandant, Major Smith maintained a high standard of discipline in the face of great operational difficulties. He exerted every effort to assist the Division Staff Officers and to relieve them of troublesome details, and his careful planning accomplished the movement of Division Headquarters to new bivouac areas with a minimum of interference to the work of the Staff. Major Smith's experience and intelligence were fully demonstrated in his reorganization of Headquarters and Headquarters Company in conformity with a new Table of Organization. By skillfully utilizing the many military specialties involved, he achieved the necessary curtailment and reallocation of enlisted personnel without detriment to the efficiency of any staff section, or to the administrative functions of Headquarters Company. His outstanding service contributed in a great measure to the efficiency of his command. Entered the service from San Antonio, Texas.

ERNEST S. PRANGE, 20800958, Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant), Medical Battalion, 142nd Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 3 December to 8 December 1943 in Italy. When an enemy artillery shell landed in his battalion aid station, Sergeant Prange, heedless that his back was severely injured, worked all night helping a medical officer administer to the wounded. Next morning he refused to be evacuated but helped carry other wounded back and then went forward to help set up the battalion aid station. Only on direct orders of the battalion surgeon was Sergeant Prange evacuated, five days after he was wounded. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

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JACK L. PRICE, 20848688, Technical Sergeant, Anti-Tank Company, 142nd Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 28 January to 26 February 1944 in Italy. Sergeant Price was placed in charge of a platoon of men from his company on special assignment with the Medical Detachment as litter bearers. During the operations in rugged mountain terrain casualties were extremely heavy. To speed up evacuation, Sergeant Price devised and established a litter post and shuttle system for carrying back the wounded with least practicable delay. By untiring personal supervision he maintained a well coordinated and efficient service that materially aided in saving the lives of many wounded. Entered the Service from Santa Anna, Texas.

FRANK T. NEUTTS, 33057600, Technician Third Grade, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 7 August 1943 to 3 February 1944 in Italy: Tec 3 Neutts, secretary to the Chief of Staff, intensively applied himself to the maintenance of exact records, guardianship of many highly secret and important matters, and assistance in operating the office of Chief of Staff. During the period of preparation of the Division for the invasion of Italy, he maintained a complete record of the multitudinous changes that took place and worked long hours day and night assisting in the most secret details of planning and administration. His loyalty, unselfishness and exemplary devotion to duty were of material assistance in the accomplishment of the intricate duties of the office. Entered the Service from Corbendale, Pennsylvania.

TED R. MILLER, 39326103, Private First Class, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 16 to 28 December 1943 in Italy. Private First Class Miller was assigned to carry vital ammunition, water and food to our troops in defensive positions on a mountain height overlooking the road to Rome. Each trip over the rocky cliff faces, made terrifically hazardous by sleet and rain and enemy fire, required nine hours of almost superhuman effort, but Private First Class Miller carried on with his body-breaking task for six days, and then joined his company in scaling the mountain and attacking a vital ridge. Entered the Service from Myrtle Point, Oregon.

JAMES W. SEALS, 37429367, Private, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 18 to 29 December 1943, in Italy. Private Seals was assigned to carry supplies up the rugged slopes of a vital mountain to defensive positions occupied by Company D. Under extreme conditions of rain, sleet and snow, he exerted almost superhuman effort carrying these vitally needed supplies over icy trails which zigzagged up the almost vertical slopes of the tremendous mountain. His actions over a period of eleven days materially contributed to the maintenance of our positions on the mountain and the success of a subsequent attack on a vital ridge. Entered the Service from Centerville, Iowa.

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THOMAS L. SUEHDOFF, 13129379, Private, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 16 to 28 December 1943 in Italy. Private Suedhoff was assigned to carry vital ammunition, water and food to our troops in defensive positions on a mountain height overlooking the road to Rome. Each trip over the rocky cliff faces, made terrifically hazardous by sleet and rain and enemy fire, required nine hours of almost superhuman effort, but Private Suedhoff carried on with his body-breaking task for six days, and then joined his company in scaling the mountain and attacking a vital ridge. Entered the Service from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

SECTION II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the following named individual is awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Italy.

ROBERT E. SWART, 20804429, Staff Sergeant, Company A, 142nd Infantry Regiment, 7 December 1943. Entered the Service from Elanket, Texas.

SECTION III -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the following named individual is awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Italy.

ROBERT L. MURPHY, 01305462, First Lieutenant, 142nd Infantry Regiment, 16 February 1944. Entered the Service from Brookline, Massachusetts.

SECTION IV -- COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following named individual is commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

FRANK (NMI) GIAMPA, 32221882, Private First Class, Company I, 141st Infantry Regiment for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 3 December 1943 in Italy. Private First Class Giampa saw a cave where two soldiers were sleeping collapse from weight of water-soaked ground and the concussion of enemy artillery shells and immediately went to the rescue of his trapped comrades. With his bare hands he dug away the rocks and mud, continuing to work indefatigably even when his fingers were cut and bleeding. Not until he had uncovered the two men, one of whom was still alive, did he rest. His

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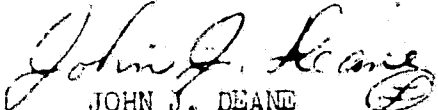
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undespairing efforts indicate a zealous devotion to fellow soldiers that reflects great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

By command of Major General WALKER:

STEWART T. VINCENT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:


JOHN J. DEANE
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

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