

HEADQUARTERS 6TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 826, U. S. Army

3 February 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

N. 24

SECTION I - POSTHUMOUS COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following named enlisted man is posthumously commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

CHARLES E. GEORGE, 33292734, Private, Company A, 88 Engineer Combat Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the vicinity of **, Italy, on the afternoon of 5 December 1943. Private George was a member of a working party assigned the task of repairing the main supply road between ** and **. Enemy artillery shells were landing along the roadway, but despite great personal danger, Private George and his comrades continued their work. He displayed outstanding vigor and initiative in the performance of his duty and, remaining calm throughout the continuing artillery barrage, he encouraged his fellow soldiers to stand by their posts and carry out their assignment. His remarkable display of devotion to duty continued until he was fatally wounded by fragments of an enemy artillery shell. His determination and calmness while under enemy artillery fire were a great inspiration to his comrades and contributed, in a large measure, to the successful completion of his platoon's mission. His courage, initiative and aggressiveness reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Next of kin: Mrs. Laura George, (Mother), 130 Water Street, Niles, Ohio.

SECTION II - COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following are commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

ROGER L. GUTTERMAN, 01030247, First Lieutenant, 88 Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 25 December 1943 in the vicinity of **, Italy. Lieutenant Gutterman having heard a cry for help coming from under a half track that had been set afire by a direct artillery hit, assisted in removing an injured soldier. He then returned to the burning vehicle and single-handedly attempted to extinguish the fire. Realizing that other vehicles in the area were in danger of being destroyed, he drove them to a place of safety. Assured of their safety, he returned to the fire and left the blazing vehicle only when it became evident that the gas tanks were about to explode. The courage, determination and devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Gutterman reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the service from New York, New York.

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Infantry, 1st Reg.
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BRADLEY R. BLOTT, 11440608, Private First Class, 4th Cavalry, Reconnaissance Troop, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 25 December 1943 in the vicinity of, Italy. Private First Class Blott, hearing a faint cry for help, and with no regard for his own safety, went to the aid of a soldier who had been wounded under a burning half-track by a direct hit from an enemy artillery barrage. Private First Class Blott, with the aid of another soldier, then carried the wounded man to an aid station from which he was evacuated. The deed reflects great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the service from Berlin, New Hampshire.

WILLIAM B. SMITH, 2856434, Private, 4th Cavalry, Reconnaissance Troop, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 25 December 1943 in the vicinity of, Italy. Smith went to the aid of the wounded man mentioned in the first paragraph who was struck by an enemy artillery shell and burst into flames. With no regard for his personal safety, and despite the hazards of a concentrated artillery barrage, he assisted in removing the injured soldier to a nearby position. The courage, determination, and devotion to duty displayed by Smith reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the service from Boston, Massachusetts.

WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN, 3400774, Private, Company C, 4th Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 7 December 1943 on, Italy. A company runner during the attack on 7, Private O'Brien was sent out many times to check the outpost positions when these positions had been shelled by the enemy. Prior to an expected counterattack, Company C was subjected to an extremely heavy artillery and mortar barrage. Private O'Brien was in a dugout, which was being used as the company's command post, when the communication lines were broken by the enemy shelling. On his initiative, under the intense barrage, he immediately left the dugout to find the break in the line. Although without previous experience or training in communications or wire maintenance, he found and effectively repaired the break. His courage and devotion to duty assured his company of constant telephone communication at a time when it was of paramount importance. These deeds reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the service from St. Lawrence, New York.

By command of Major General WALKER:

CLAYTON F. SMITH,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN

WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN,
Lieutenant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN
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