


## PHASE VII – RIMLING



### INTRODUCTION

*“The foe! They come! They come!”*

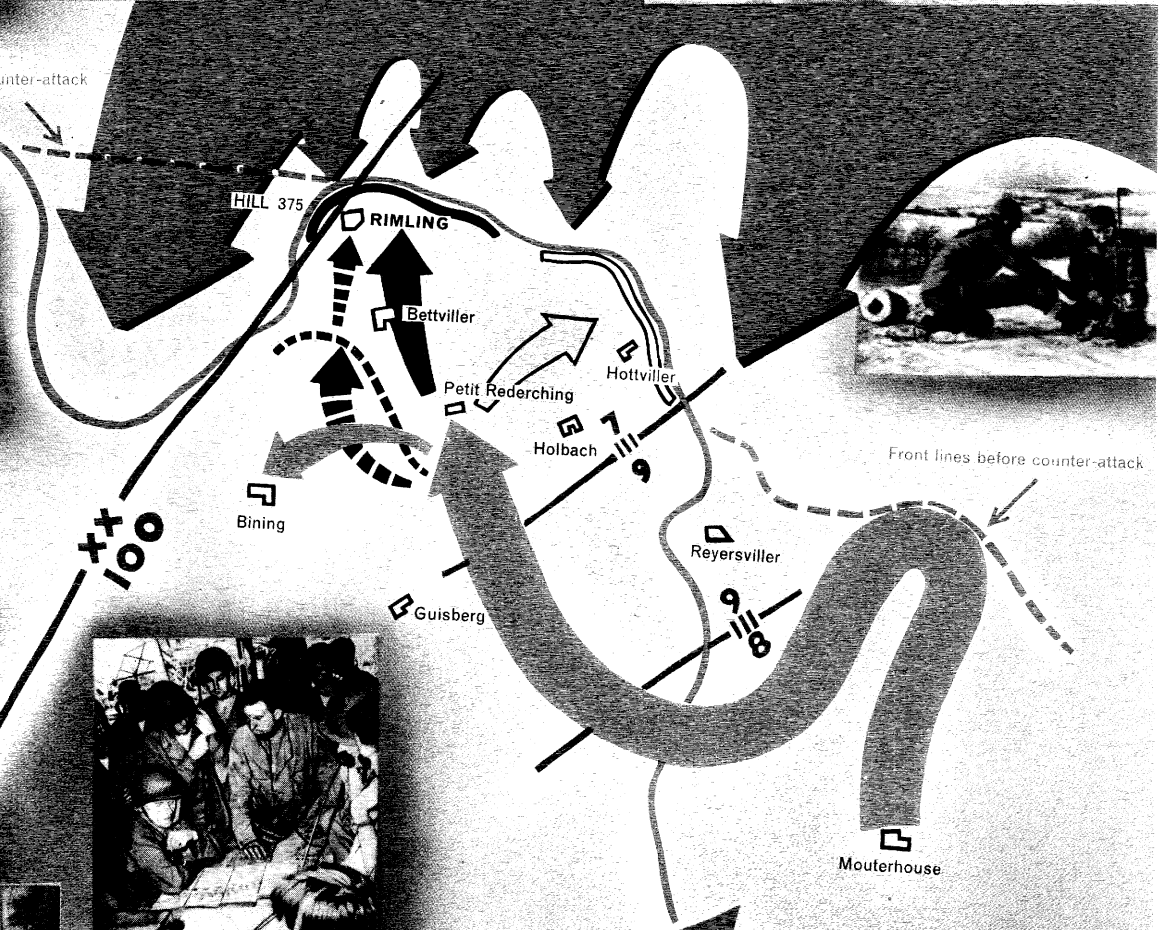
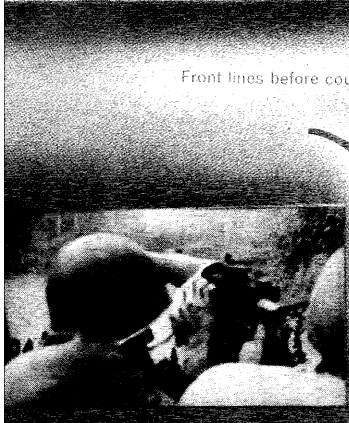
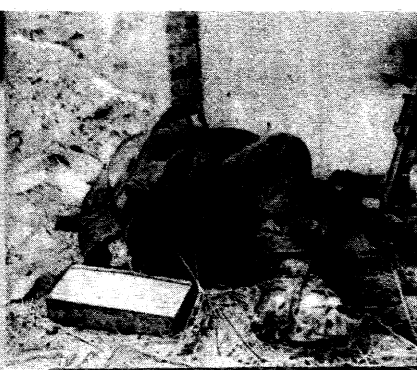
They used everything they had and they had plenty. Their attacks were ceaseless, night and day, and with each offensive the frenzy grew. They had the strength of superior numbers and weapons and the weakness of a mad fanaticism that drove them headlong into our guns. Their casualties were high but they came on and on, beating at our open flank, chewing at the gaps, infiltrating, fighting with their air-force, tanks, artillery, mortars, nebelwerfers, flame throwers, potato mashers, rockets. Their job was to take Rimling; our job was to hold it, and though outnumbered we were never outclassed. Attack after attack was repulsed until, by the sheer weight of men and materiel, we were surrounded, trapped with no communication to the rear, without the chance for getting food, without ammunition supply, and the most horrible of all, the feeling of final desperation, that we must stay here to die. But before that happened we would make sure everything we did, counted; that the foe too would share and share alike our sorrow, and so instead of a frantic retreat there was a calm and deliberate defense. Everyone seemed to sense that now, more than ever before, we had to work together, create as much as we could, take over strange jobs — jeep drivers fired M-Is, riflemen fired BARS, BAR men handled machine guns, and when those ran out we fired German weapons. In all this apparent confusion there was a plan, a plan based on mutual support allowing a few helpless men to regroup and reform a torn defense spot while another equally helpless few engaged the main attack. Three men and a machine gun, wounded and shocked, repaired and reloaded, adjusted and relayed; a stark heroism that had to end in death, and did, but not until there were many German dead, abandoned tanks, and frustration of an attack that would otherwise have overrun the controlling elements of the total defense. Hill 375 was defended for days denying the enemy

the best terrain advantage he might have held. Soldiers, alone, absolutely without aid or contact, remained at their position fighting a greater force and nature and who can say which was worse. And the slow treacherous snake-like advance from house to house compelling you to become part of the wall, to sink into plaster and brick, to hide yourself in shadows and defeat the sun and what could possibly be there, another man who was certain that that would be the last corner. Then the building would suddenly disappear leaving you naked and alone, but you clung and pressed closer and edging nearer to the turn saw the other man crouching, more terrified than you and he was yours.

The defense, however gallant, could not be enough; the heroism, however magnificent, could not withstand the tremendous odds. Finally, we withdrew from our positions. Bearded infantryman, exhausted in the final battle, fell down and slept. Enemy infantry walked around the town and could be seen taking our measure and we not able to do anything about it. One TD against a host of tanks that fired directly at our positions, into windows and into our faces, broken wire lines, and more men and more men, a never ending procession of German infantry with new weapons and tons of ammunition. It was a nightmare and yet no dream. It was stark realism.

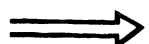








**THEY COME!**  
*They come! They come!*

LEGEND

- 1st Battalion 
- 2nd Battalion 
- 3rd Battalion 

SCALE: 1/100,000

*ET Bonbieri*

## RIMLING



*F*or the second time in as many months we were hauled from one front and immediately committed to another. On such occasions we had to feel out the new enemy, arrange new positions and accustom ourself to different terrain. One thing only remained changeless, and that was the weather. The snow and rain and ice played important parts in our lives at the time. The bitter memory of numb and freezing extremities happily becomes more vague with the passage of time.

When we took our new positions on December 21st and 22nd, we were primarily occupied with consolidating and strengthening our lines and improving our fields of fire by making minor shifts. The defensive fires of the infantry with the cannons and field artillery were closely coordinated. The enemy threw in various calibres of artillery fire and smoke, and the character of this fire indicated that newly-committed artillery or artillery that had moved forward to new positions was doing the firing. Our observers noted at one time about 90 Krauts in camouflaged hats occupying prepared positions. We heard heavy mortars firing from Nussweiler.

There was an ominous silence on December 23. We extended our front by relieving elements of the 44th Infantry Division at 2000, as well as the front lines of the 12th Armored Division in the zone. This called for regrouping, as it now appeared that one of our battalions was defending a front which previously had been the province of an entire regiment. A comparatively large group of reinforcements joined us, filling in some vacant spots and bringing our regiment almost up to full strength again.

December 24th was still another day on which we changed positions somewhat. The First Battalion assumed a defensive position on the Regimental Reserve Line near Guising. The move was made during the hours of darkness, leaving the old positions at 1600 and closing in on the RRL at 2300. Two rifle companies of the Second Battalion were dug in on the Outpost Line and

the other was in Guderkirch. The Third Battalion was relieved by elements of the 398th Infantry around Hottviller and assembled in Maierhoff. From there it went into Rimling and prepared defense positions. Company I moved from Petit Rederching to Bettviller by foot, and Company K made a road-march from Maierhoff to Rimling in the course of the morning. Antitank Company had two platoons in Rimling and one in Guising.

The first indication we had of things to come was on Christmas Day when the enemy attacked the Second Battalion OPL and forced a withdrawal to the MLR about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles behind Guising. Christmas dinner and all the fixin's had to be delayed as the kitchen jeeps followed along with the troops when we made our move. The more ambitious kitchens undertook to serve it up while we took a break on the march. Meanwhile the First Battalion moved into an assembly area in Guising, while the Third Battalion remained close by in Rimling and vicinity. We received a PX issue of beer and peanuts which brought us more cheer than our November pay.

The enemy overran the OPL so quickly that two jeeps had to be abandoned. The vehicles happened to be parked the wrong way for a quick take-off. The complete Christmas dinner of Company F and 25 of the new fleece-lined overcoats were our bitter holiday contribution to the enemy. The attack, while not of tremendous proportions and unsupported by artillery, was merely the evidence we needed that the enemy had aggressive ideas.

About 100 Jerries, again without support of the artillery and with automatic weapons and small arms, moved south through the woods to attack our Third Battalion on December 26th; but with the help of the 23rd Tank Battalion and artillery we repulsed this effort, dispersing the foe to Guiderkirch and Utweiler. There was also an attack made on the First Battalion in some sectors, accompanied with artillery which peppered the forward positions and caused some casualties. It was an odd situation, the way small groups of enemy made these attacks. We could only surmise that he was feeling us out, trying to determine our strength and disposition.

We remained comparatively static for the next two days, improving our positions and patrolling to gain some information as to the enemy's potential ability and purpose. Patrols managed to penetrate Guiderkirch and Urbach, but found them, as well as the surrounding







*"We were hauled from one front . . ."*



woods, free of Krauts. The Second Battalion was in Regimental Reserve in Rohrbach, Petit Rederching and Guising. The Third Battalion had its positions protected by 700 mines laid in front of it by Company A of the 325th Engineers. Company I moved from Bettviller to positions nearer Rimling.

This period of slight activity and watchful waiting was hard to endure. We knew that things were going pretty badly for us in Belgium, and some of us thought we might end up by going to Belgium ourselves to get into the fight. We were on a 24-hour alert, making us even more jumpy, and had been told that a severe enemy attack on our positions was in the cards. We would stand in the cold darkness, our rifles under our arms, and peer into the night in search of some indication that this night was it. Some of us may even have thought that it would be just like the bastards to pick New Year's Eve.

We provided a little excitement on our own account, December 30th, when a task force composed of a platoon of medium tanks and a platoon from Company C took off on a raid of enemy positions in the vicinity of the open and hilly terrain around Bettviller. We killed 12 and captured 19, thereby effectively destroying plans the enemy might have had for organizing and occupying defensive positions in that area. This achievement also enabled us to get vital information of present and future movements. The captured foe was the source of our enlightenment. We also grabbed an additional 5 prisoners from other sectors, bringing our grand total since combat up to 619. An especially ironic note in the day's activity, however, was the bombing of our Regimental CP by four American-marked P-47's, killing 6 and wounding 8.

A combat patrol of 12 men was sent into Erching that same night to knock out some known Kraut mortars. The patrol set out and strung its wire lines behind it as it progressed. When the hamlet was reached, the patrol established itself in two houses on opposite sides of its only



street and saw a half dozen enemy coming. The resultant firing attracted the attention of a combat patrol of 35 in the vicinity. Our patrol was trapped. Meanwhile, each little move was being described to a tense battalion headquarters over the phone. "There's one over there, ... no, don't shoot yet ... wait until he exposes himself more ... OK, now — let him have it!" That went on all night, and headquarters noted every word. The



patrol held out against 3 to 1 odds, until morning, when relief was able to get through with twenty men who made short shrift of the enemy and captured 30 prisoners.

All movement was at a minimum and time dragged as we planned a little celebration to welcome in the New Year that night. That was about the extent of our activity. Somehow we found chickens and other edibles in our positions and those of us lucky enough to be in houses fried them. French fries stimulated many a cheerless meal. In a ceremony, the Division Commanding General presented several Silver Star Awards for gallantry in action around Mouterhouse and Raon L'Etape.

A few minutes after midnight, a machine gunner on guard in Company M on one of the hills outside of Rimling thought he noticed some movement to the front. "Another enemy

patrol", he muttered. There was bright moonlight, and the ground was covered with snow, and just a few minutes before, this man had been remarking to himself about the beauty and tranquillity of the scene spread before him. Looking close he saw that the movement was more than an enemy patrol — that in fact it was a large group of enemy. He noted that they were wearing the recently captured white parkas, probably for camouflage, but the moonlight caused black shadows to cut across the snow.

The next moment all hell broke loose! It was the expected attack! It may have been that we expected an attack, but never this. It was the most vicious and determined German assault with which we had ever been faced, and those first few minutes gave clear signs that Rimling was going to be a hot town, and that New Year's Eve, after all, was not to be so drab or dull. There were four or five companies operating against the Third Battalion in Rimling, and enough enemy forces against the rest of our Regiment to keep things humming for all the troops.

They had not used any artillery preparations in trying to get us by complete surprise. The lack of artillery and other heavy weapons for the initial attack was more than made up for during the remainder of the fight. We were faced by a foe who was determined to capture the key strategic city, come what may, and until we were ordered otherwise by higher headquarters we knew we would hold those positions. We were occupying a high ridge line running north and south along our left flank, and the flat ground which surrounded the vital terrain feature. In these positions we bore the brunt of a brutal push. Anchoring the left flank of the entire division, we had a double responsibility.

The first enemy attack succeeded in infiltrating about a company into the town itself, but by noon most of them had either been killed or captured, and we were ready for another stand. During that period, however, there were many things all happening at the same time. Many harrowing situations had arisen. Two men from Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, had also seen the original enemy forces approaching and had been firing their M-1's at the foe trying to infiltrate past their positions and ducking small arms. At one time there was a slight





pause, and with one man covering, the other left his hole to crawl out for a wounded Jerry. While he was out there, another enemy surrendered to the startled man, and for the remainder of the fight the foxhole was occupied jointly by two of our men and the two prisoners.

Throughout the entire operations, each enemy drive was made by numerically superior forces, with tanks, with self-propelled weapons, and limitless amounts of artillery and mortar barrages which eventually reduced the entire town to ruin, forcing us into the deep damp cellars. These cellars, which became the homes of us fortunate enough to be in the town and not on one of the hills or in the foxholes, were also peopled with civilians taking refuge from the deadly shells.

A new height in curiosity was attained by a doughboy when a huge dud landed next to his foxhole and he crept out to measure it. What he used is a mystery; but he reported that the girth of the dud was 8.6 inches. A box of K rations in a man's field jacket breast pocket saved his life, when a bullet failed to penetrate the biscuits.

The enemy seemed to come and come. The machine gunner in Company M had already accounted for a large number, but there were always new men to take the places of the fallen. That this attack was well-planned far in advance, became apparent. The strategy was not hard to detect, as large groups made suicidal frontal attacks, while others kept the flanks busy and tried all manner of infiltration tactics to destroy our supply lines and communication wires.

Continuing its efforts to break through our lines in the second day of the operation, the foe manifested an excellent morale or pure fanaticism in its fierce attack across the open ground and into small arms fire. There were repeated assaults of infantry armed with the conventional infantry weapons together with artillery, mortar, direct tank, automatic weapons and self-propelled gun fire. Hostile airmen, flying captured P-47's, bombed and strafed our positions again and again. With all this going on around us we were prisoners in our foxholes.

The Third Battalion Aid Station was in a real hot spot in a cold cellar. The men worked five days and nights without stopping for anything. The bombarded civilians kept them quite busy with the delivery of two babies christened "Halizone" and "Eighty-eight." These were babies number two and three brought into the world by this versatile crew, another one having come during the Bitche campaign.

The civilians were evacuated along with our own casualties by means of the trucks which

endeavored to bring chow to us at night via the "Skyline Drive", a bit of road along the ridge of a hill, under direct enemy observation because of the silhouette. Two of the medic jeeps were shot up — one right outside the station, inducing the pill-rollers to put the other inside a garage, where it, too, was hit. In the cellar with the aid men was a small group of shivering natives.

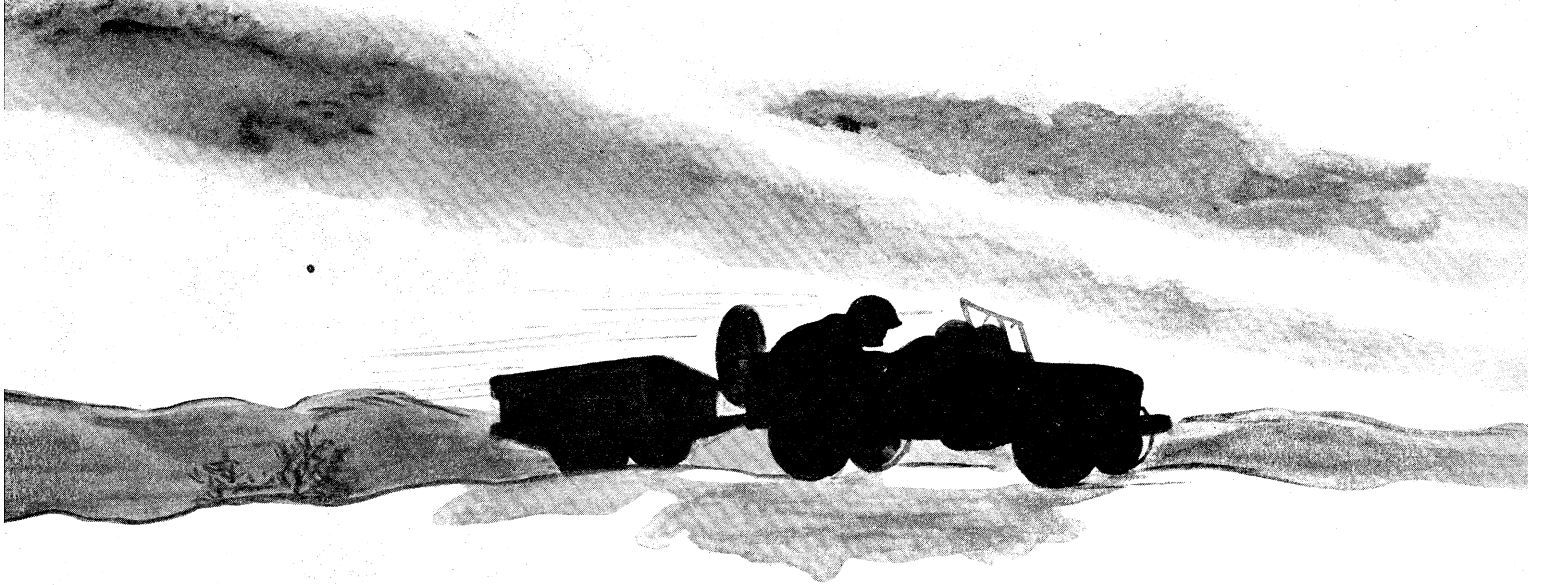
On the third day a small nine year old boy ran into the cellar and pantingly gestured for us to follow him. A short distance away was a house with one side completely blown in. The boy led the way to a frigid cellar. The child's father was dead. His mother bore many shrapnel wounds and his grandmother had a bleeding head. They were huddled in the center around a shrivelled old man who weighed about sixty pounds. He was the grandfather, apparently blind and shellshocked. The medic patched up the family while the old man sat trembling and asking what was going on. The living were evacuated that night.

Still another night one of the medics awoke a buddy and said "There's a Jerry upstairs!" He called out but there was no response. Five minutes passed-ten-fifteen. There was nothing to do as there was only one exit and the men had no weapons. The unmistakable sound of hob-nailed boots continued. Suddenly the roar of a motor and the screech of brakes were heard. The new arrivals called out. Good down-to-earth GI noise disclosed a search was being made for the aid station. Although no sign was found of the unknown intruder that night, early the next morning a Heinie sniper was discovered dead in the immediate vicinity.

Hill No. 375 was the key slope on the main approach to Rimling and one of the important targets for the enemy fire and movement. Hill 391, right opposite 375, was held by the Krauts. Tanks frequently took position there to fire directly at us. They used the combined fire-power of 10 to 15 armored vehicles to dislodge us in our defenses.

When the first surprise attack came some of us were cut off and some frozen into positions between our own troops and the enemy. Our leaders crawled about under this unrelenting fire to encourage and bring up ammunition and point out targets and fields of fire. Because of the wiremen being over-worked we oftentimes had to repair our own communication wires, creeping under machine gun and shell fire until we found the breaks. Many remained in the holes, all but completely surrounded by the enemy.





The Regimental I & R Platoon, located in Bining, was utilized 24 hours a day. The counter-offensive resulted in numerous minor break-throughs causing gaps in our lines. These gaps were filled partially by the I & R Platoon until finally taken over by a company. While communications were at breaking-point, the platoon made contact between our own and adjacent units under the intense aerial and artillery action. They also maintained an air observation post throughout the entire period.

The openings in our lines caused a lot of trouble. They were there, and we knew it. On one occasion, there were two things needed to fill them — two tanks — and we had no communication to them. Someone had to contact those tanks. A second lieutenant and a sergeant volunteered to attempt the dangerous assignment. They knew the area was filled with Krauts: but they knew, too, the importance of contacting those tanks. They followed the broken wire line stealthily through the friendless woods, and headed toward Company I sector when there was a sudden hail of fire. The officer was killed but the sergeant hit the ground unhurt. After he had waited for what seemed like an eternity, he started out again, slowly inching his way along the snowy ground and holding to the piece of wire. It was morning before he got to his objective and remedied the situation.

We keep saying that maybe it wouldn't have been so bad if that division on our left hadn't pulled out so unexpectedly and left us holding the bag. None of us can deny that it would have been at least easier if we hadn't had to assume the sudden responsibility of an exposed flank. When they did withdraw, without a word to anyone, we found ourselves in a position that stuck out from the rest of the front line like a sore thumb, with the foe attacking from three sides and on occasion from behind.



Several attacks were directed by the foe at our left flank, trying to reinforce and widen the bulge which had been formed, but all of these we managed to throw back, routing the groups, forcing them to leave behind scores of dead and wounded. He massed his strength in the bulge during the night of 2—3 January, and in that way broke the weakened defense line of the division to our left, driving southward. Although we could only attempt to fill this tremendous gap partially, by throwing in the reserve battalion, we held our ground.

Company G received a counterattack at 0200 on January 3rd, with the enemy again displaying his partiality for night fighting. This too was driven off. They continued active throughout the early morning, however, until by 0500 the battle had reached such an intensity that two platoons were overrun. The men in these platoons fought their way back to their company and artillery fire was brought to bear on the Krauts forcing them to dig in and just hold. A lieutenant from Company G, determined to win back the position, led 32 riflemen and a platoon of tanks in an attack. There were about 100 Jerries on that hill at 1700 when the coordinated attack was launched. Although this maneuver was not entirely successful most of the enemy was driven from its positions and the way was paved for a stronger push the following day.

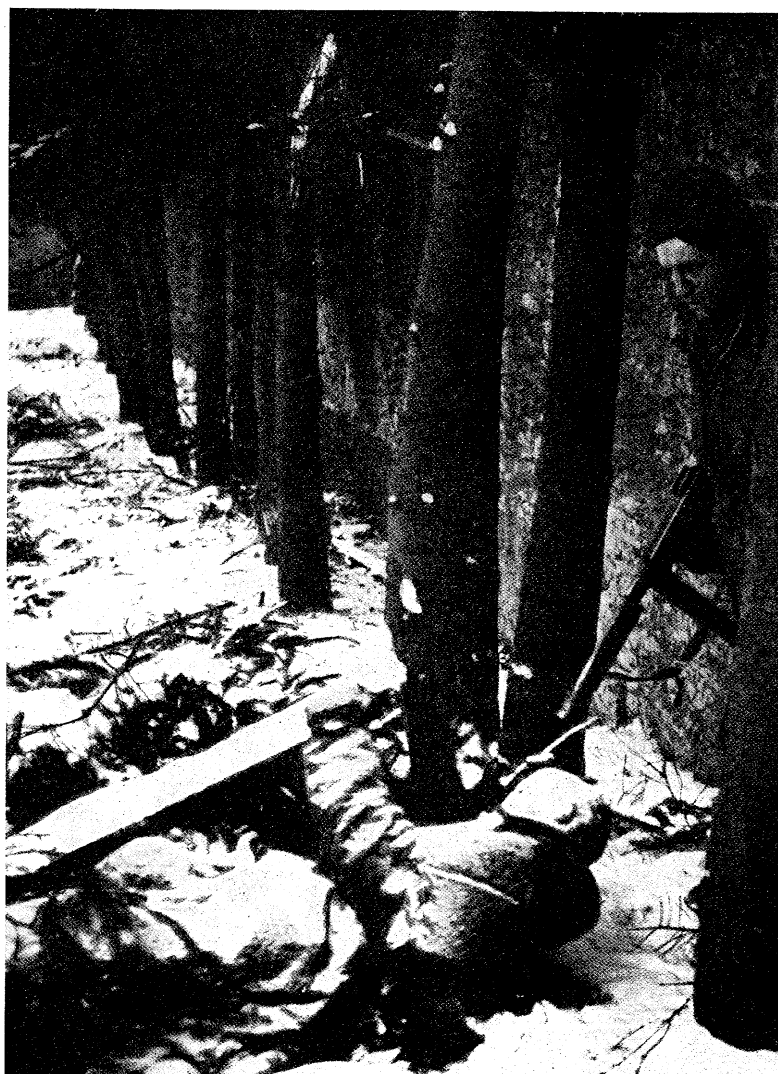
By the time night came a mortar barrage started falling in and it began to snow. The lieutenant expected that there would be a counterattack, and he readied his men for it. He set out to locate those who were occupying the hastily evacuated Heinie foxholes. Since there were scattered defenders left on the hill, he could not know when he went up to a foxhole whether

he'd find friend or foe. Through a stroke of good fortune all went well, and when the counterattack finally did come at dawn the next day, his men held.

We were almost surrounded and actually fighting on three sides. But we retained our positions, though thoroughly exposed to ceaseless fire and assaults, for the third successive day. The enemy pounded us with an unrelenting fierceness. The artillery we had with us proved of inestimable help, spotting attempted enemy attacks and blasting them, causing heavy losses of personnel and equipment. Two companies of Heinies had advanced directly into a normal barrage and were virtually annihilated. We felt pretty sure that the zealous foe had been doped in some way because of the foolhardiness he displayed by running toward us, yelling American obscenities and brandishing his weapon. Skillful fire direction brought the fire that halted columns, burned or demolished vehicles, raked the areas into which the personnel dispersed, and broke up attempts to reinforce the severely crushed units.

Everyone in Headquarters Company of the Third Battalion will remember the message center corporal who was intent on firing his bazooka. He had lugged it all through France and was at least a little bit trigger happy. It was in Rimling that he thought he saw his chance. A single Jerry had been spotted about thirty yards from the Battalion Command Post, running desperately from a building in an attempt to get out of the town. He was being observed by a group of our men when this corporal came crashing into the room, with a bazooka under his arm. "Now can I fire, huh?" It took a lot of convincing to assure him that an M-1 bullet would do the trick. It was just enough of a break in the tension to provide us all with a good laugh, and did much to lift our spirits.

For two days there was little action except for the enemy shelling to which we had become as accustomed as we had to the weather conditions. Jerry was getting reinforcements.





We were taking a breather, effecting inter-regimental relief in the most hazardous positions. Except for Company L, the Third Battalion was relieved by the Second Battalion on January 5th. Company F took over for Company K, but Company G was forced to remain in Guising because of mortar fire falling to the flanks and rear. Company H moved from a reserve position to the Main Line of Resistance. Observers from the remnants of a church steeple, in the now completely razed town, noted masses of tanks and infantry moving into the enemy territory directly to our front, preparing for yet another try. A threat of a break-through on this day made it necessary for Company A of the 325th Engineers Bn. to secure the high ground in the vicinity of Binning by digging emplacements, manning machine guns, taking rocket launcher positions and patrolling roads. Our entire Combat Team was on a constant alert throughout this nine-day period, ready to move in any direction if necessary. All the battalions had records and valuable papers packed and loaded in vehicles. The Regimental Command Post, located in the protective cellars of the French Garrison, was operating on bare essentials.

Our aid station found captured German aid men of much help, for when the enemy medic was captured by troops of the battalion, he was dispatched to augment the overworked staff. He was immediately put to work caring for the German wounded who were brought in. He seemed delighted to be in our hands. He hadn't eaten for three days and he looked as if he hadn't slept in as long a period. He was dirty, hungry, and tired, and just seeing him boosted our morale. He expressed amazement at seeing blood plasma and sulfa drugs so near the front. These precious medicants were reserved only for the hospitals way behind the lines in the German Army, he revealed.

We had been in our torrid positions for five, going on six days, with no relief in sight. The enemy counter-offensive in Belgium had reached the breaking point, and was almost stopped: however, it was obvious to us that we could not expect help from any other unit. This was our show and we were going to have to play all the parts.

Six Kraut snipers opened up on the building where one of our squads was located. With some knowledge of the German language, a buddy, located in a barn next to the sniper-infested house, interrupted his chow to sing out for the snipers to surrender. They didn't move. He fired

a burst from his sub-machine gun into the adjoining building through the doorway. Six meek and frightened Krauts came filing out one by one. This same soldier was carrying food the following morning for two squads, unable to leave their positions, when he saw two enemy soldiers in a doorway. He stopped and made still another try at the language by calling for them to give themselves up. To his amazement, they did.

At the beginning of the entire attack Company K was on Hill 375. It held the critical hill, preventing the enemy from getting the high ground overlooking the city. It can be said that they clung tenaciously, as did the entire Regiment, in the face of overwhelming odds and terrific enemy fire. Let it be said, above all, that they were a team, working together, winning together — typifying the entire Regiment, but on a smaller scale.

They were on the left flank of the division line, where they had been since December 24th, leading a very quiet existence. They felt secure as they did their dreaming on New Year's Eve. Then came 1945 and the Jerries, counterattacking in force. During that first night the men of the company repelled every fiercely attempted advance of the enemy. One sergeant observed and directed fire for the artillery when the artillery observers found it impossible to reach the position. It was a superb example of two outfits working together for the ultimate good of both. At dawn, by sheer overpowering numbers, the Jerries overran the first platoon, which had to fight its way to alternate positions prepared 700 yards to the rear. Later in the day, on its own initiative, the platoon counterattacked and reoccupied their positions.

On the second day the enemy had let up some, and the Commanding Officer was wounded by a direct hit on the Company Command Post. The job was taken over by an officer who had received his commission on the battlefield. Many of the exploits of the company after that were the culmination of a series of individual acts of heroism and valor that all added up to the composite gallantry of the company. The determined enemy here, too, tried everything in the book to take the position. From direct frontal attacks to the old standby of infiltration, they continued battering the company for five days. The infiltrations got so bad one night that special patrols had to be sent out — almost on suicide missions — to locate and silence the snipers. The







"Skyline Drive", ran from the kitchen in Guising to the hard-hit town of Rimling, dubbed so by those who used it because for too long a period of time any vehicle on it was clearly silhouetted against the sky.

They held until they were officially relieved of the positions. As a team, the company had retained the ball, and had carried it safely-no fumbles or passing. The best way to see the enemy of course was to see him piled up dead in front of our guns. A sergeant had his light machine gun section occupying a key position in this defense, and when the attack came on New Year's Eve

he waited until just the right moment before giving the order to fire. In the fire fight, when he saw one of his gunners crumble behind the gun, he dashed over and took the position. The next day this same sergeant grabbed a rocket launcher to knock one enemy machine gun out of action and shoot a rocket at a tree near a second emplacement. The splinters from the tree coupled with the shrapnel from the rocket silenced this second gun.

There was a final massing of enemy troops, weapons, and armored vehicles on the seventh day. We sent vigorous patrols behind the enemy lines to determine his strength and dispositions. It became obvious that this great large-scale assault would be the most determined of all. The foe kept its infiltration attempts at a high peak, especially at night, forming in the town such large forces at times that we felt the city was jointly occupied by both the Heinie and us. It was in combatting these that one of the men so distinguished himself that he was awarded posthumously

the highest honor our country can bestow, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

During that day in Rohrbach the German patrol found out that we do not surrender so easily. One of our men had set up his machine gun in a barn pretty much off by itself from the rest of the town, and was firing through a hole in the side of the building. He had, besides his machine gun, several riflemen as security. The Kraut had slipped in all through the town, and one of the patrols stopped outside the barn in which our men sat. Then a



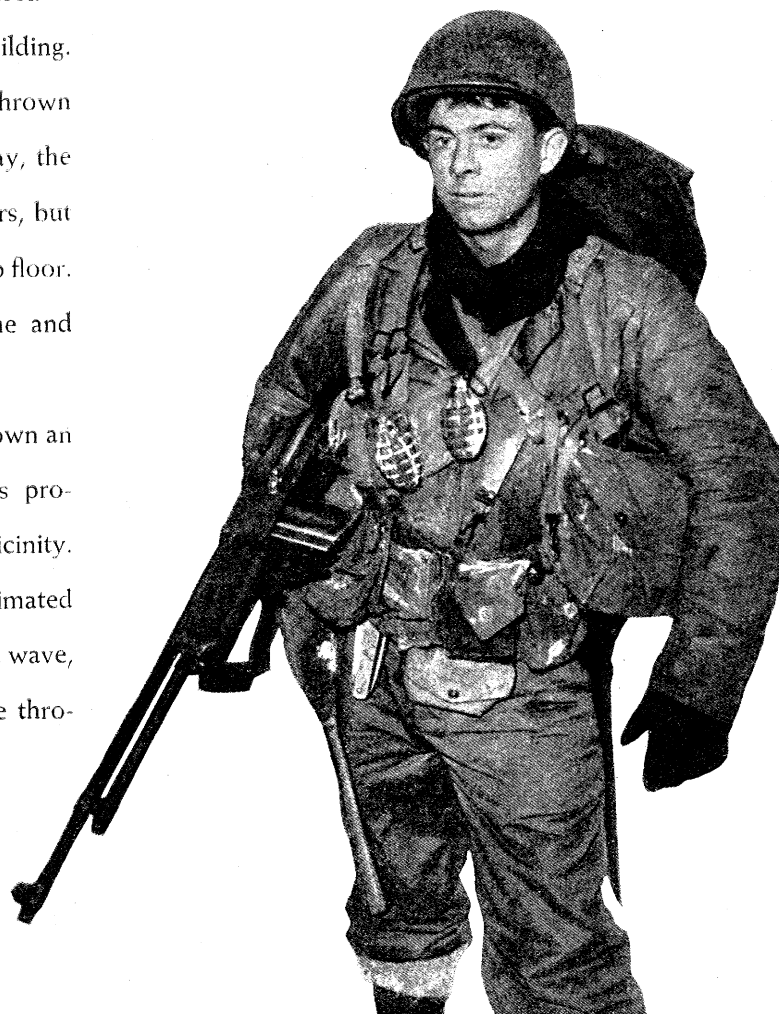


voice in perfect English demanded that they lay down their arms and come out of the barn with their hands up . But we had different ideas. The machine gunner, a Pfc., stepped aside, picked up his carbine, and waited. A moment later the leader of the Heinie patrol started to enter through the half-opened door. The Pfc. squeezed the trigger and the enemy fell. Capitalizing on the surprise and alarm he had created by this fast move, the machine gunner let several other shots fly and the rest of the patrol was driven away.

The support we got all this time from the artillery and our own cannons helped materially to keep the enemy at bay and boosted our morale high. The forward observers lived with us and took our risks. During the action they holed up on the church steeple in the town, a choice and only place for observation. Naturally, the enemy made it a particular point to concentrate a lot of fire on the spot but that was no deterrent to our men.

The Cannon Company observer attached to the Second Battalion, awarded a Distinguished Service cross for his achievements, held his important spot throughout almost the entire action. When his Commanding Officer radioed in to him that the guns were running out of ammunition, this Corporal continued on by firing our Regimental Artillery. His only interest was directed at causing the enemy the greatest possible harm. When the house he was living in became surrounded by infiltrating Jerries one night, he refused to surrender himself and eleven other men in the building. When three enemy "potato mashers" were thrown toward the house, one landing right in the hall-way, the men with him decided it would be safer downstairs, but the observer was determined to defend from the top floor. He made a one-man stand with his carbine alone and killed two of the enemy, driving the others away.

At 0300 on January 8, 1945, the enemy laid down an artillery and rocket concentration of tremendous proportions on Rimling, Hill 375, and the entire vicinity. Exactly one hour later the attack came — an estimated 200 infantry supported by 10 to 14 tanks in the first wave, with self-propelled guns, and engineers with flame thro-





wers. This grand drive was in two prongs, one east from Moronville Farms, overrunning positions of Company E with its mass, and the other across the high ground west of Rimling, overrunning positions of Company F. The ferocious foe charged on a run, firing its weapons and shouting madly.

We sensed at once that this was it; that this was the final big push and that all possible enemy strength and weapons would eventually be used. We were combat-worn and tired, cold and hungry, but we stood our ground even when the entire west end of town was taken, Hill 375 fell, and virtually a complete encirclement of our positions made. Bitter and bloody fighting continued until daylight. By continual probing, the enemy knew the weakness of our thinly-held left flank and attacked again, this time with strong tank support and in an easterly direction, just south of the town. It got to the point where the observers, adjusting artillery and cannon fire, were directing fire of their weapons between

themselves and the guns. They continued to hold to their positions and finally the enemy was sent reeling back once more.

By dawn the foe had worn out his terrific efforts and fell back to re-group. There were surprisingly few casualties among our forces when compared with our adversary's unbelievable losses. Although the enemy had fallen back, actual pressure on us was not lessened throughout the entire day, and not even a brief respite was allotted us. Jerry had cut the Rimling-Guising Road, occupied Hill 370 south of the city, and taken the west portion of the city.

After one of the worst days of the siege, and another night of constant bombardment, we faced the last all-out effort on the 9th of January. The best-trained SS troops, especially-schooled assault battalions and huge quantities of supporting weapons were used for this great drive. With an amazing display of stamina we stopped even this tremendous drive, but all knew that we could never stop another. It would have been a physical impossibility. We were dazed and shocked and weary.

Plans were made for a withdrawal that night. So successful was the plan and the laying down

of a terrific artillery protective curtain of fire around the town that our entire Combat Team was able to leave without further losses. Prepared positions were taken north of Guising. With the lines consolidated and the main threat reduced, we settled down to routine missions and began a gradual recuperation from our heroic efforts of the past nine days.

The defense of Rimling, more than any other engagement in which we were involved, was a tribute to our courage and tenacity. If we hadn't been so dogged it never could have happened that way. The complete coordination of every man in holding his position in the face of intense small arms, mortar, artillery, rocket, and direct fire from tanks, as well as enemy infiltration through and behind the lines, marked our successful action.

During the initial stage of the engagement, and where the terrain east of the Bettviller-Rimling road was favorable, the tanks attached to us were effectively utilized to drive the Krauts from the wooded area to the right front. However, subsequent adjustments of the right flank, and the unfavorable terrain west of the Bettviller-Rimling road made it inadvisable to employ tanks in a mass. Under these conditions, we used them as mobile pillboxes for counterattack purposes. On numerous occasions groups of tanks were used to good purpose by moving them from a defiladed position to the front lines and thus dispersing enemy forces which were about to attack or which had infiltrated close to the front lines.

Maintaining communications with the rear and the entire network from Regiment to battalion to company to platoon and outposts, to artillery and other adjacent units, was manifestly of the utmost importance. We all knew how awful it was to be marooned on an outpost or even as a platoon from the rest of the company and to have no way of telling any friendly units of the situation. We knew the hell of seeing a large group of Jerries and being unable to get word to the artillery for fire. We knew that those thin wire lines could mean the difference between life and death, victory or defeat.

The main thing that the Rimling defense taught was that when we were in a defensive position, the enemy couldn't blast us off except at a tremendous cost in personnel and materiel. That was the memory that clung most vividly as we fought our way the rest of the distance to Germany and then all the way down to Stuttgart. Whenever we attacked, we felt ourselves in the place of the enemy and knew what his reactions were. What was the first thing he would do? We knew the gripping in our stomach when we ourselves were approached by a deadly enemy

with determination and fanaticism. But most of all, if we ever had doubted it, we knew that we were far superior to these "supermen" and each of the actions in which we engaged thereafter this fact was brought home more realistically.

After the last shell was fired and after the last attempt was made by Company F to re-take its overrun CP, we withdrew, thus terminating the "Rimling Operation." Our new positions were 1,500 meters to the south. Other than suffering intermittent light shelling, we spent January 10th without much by way of action. Some awarded themselves the luxury of a few breaths of clear air while most just slept around the clock. It was all over and we felt as if a great load had been lifted from us. The enemy was regrouping and consolidating his gains, and we had the grim satisfaction of knowing that there were a lot of Krauts around Rimling who would never fight anymore.

The First Battalion line companies pressed through Bettviller. Direct enemy sniper fire caused light casualties. Company H reorganized and picked up stragglers who had escaped from Rimling. It enjoyed billets in Rohrbach. That last day the company virtually experienced hand to hand fighting with the foe, as large hostile groups approached to within 150 yards of the mortars. Mortarmen were firing their 81's at as small an angle as was possible, but the enemy still came on. It was then that the men, armed only with carbines and pistols, engaged in gun duels with singular success, killing and capturing large numbers. The Regimental total for prisoners taken now came to 773. 152 of these had been captured in the past few day, whereas the total enemy casualties was estimated at close to 100 men, an average of 62 % casualties inflicted on all enemy units. These facts were culled from captured documents and PW reports. Our casualties, including killed, wounded and missing, did not exceed 350.

The Third Battalion had taken over positions held by the 398th. Company K went from Bining to Etting, as did Company L. Company M held positions near that town in Regimental reserve. Company G was on the outskirts of Guising.

For the rest of the month nothing of special moment happened except that on 25 January Lt. Colonel Gordon Singles assumed command of the Regiment coming to us from the famous 100th Jap-American Infantry Battalion. Patrolling and artillery marked the extent of the action. Inclement weather prevented us from indulging in large-scale operations. Warmer weather, coupled with rain, played havoc with icy roads, threatening to wash away the more fragile

structures that were around us, and we had to constantly guard against flooded bridges and low roads. The I & R platoon and the battalions, during this static period, dispatched a number of reconnaissance patrols into enemy lines. Rear area security patrols were maintained and many routes in the area were reconnoitered, looking to future operations.

We saw a movie, the first in a long time, except for those of us who had been fortunate enough to get to the Regimental or Division Rest. We caught up on our correspondence. Training schedules made their appearance and also an ingenious system of rotating units to the rear areas. We worked on improving, securing and consolidating our positions to such an extent that many of us had developed minor under-earth homes, with stoves to cook on, lights, and all the comforts that could possibly have been expected under such conditions. Outposts were kept and we had certain listening stations every night. A lot of new men came in as reinforcements and it was primarily for them that the training was conducted. Such chores as familiarization with weapons and test firing were conducted for their exclusive benefit. By having us join in, better teamwork was thereby effected.

On January 18th the First Battalion was alerted for a move. The Second Battalion had become attached to the 398th, and remained in its positions there. Company I was alerted and marched from Aachen to Holbach, relieving the Third Battalion of the 255th Infantry. Company L, with two platoons of Company M, took up new positions in the vicinity of Hottviller. Company K, meanwhile, had been selected to go to the rear area and guard the XV Corps Headquarters. We completed relief of the 255th on January 19th. The First Battalion went from Etting to Hoelling, with its forward CP in Kleinmuehl and the rear CP in Petit Rederching. The rifle companies were in Neumuhl, Kappellenhoff and Urbach. Our Second Battalion was released from the 398th and moved from Rohrbach to Petit Rederching and Frohmuhle, but the largest part of the Battalion was billeted in the picturesque town of Holbach, with units manning pillboxes and road blocks right in the town. This Battalion was firmly imbedded in a line of the Maginot Forts.

During this period of quiet, American women, Red Cross Girls, brought us coffee and doughnuts and generally helped take our minds off the more sordid duty at hand. These travelling morale lifters made the rounds of the battalions and special units. The end of the month brought little change in the situation. There was increased enemy artillery and mortar fire, but it seemed to be, for the most part, unobserved. A little excitement came on January 29th, when, at

noon, three aircraft, later identified as an ME 109, a P-47 and a P-51, strafed the Regimental Command Post in Guisberg while the men were returning from chow.

In February we settled down in defensive positions of more than temporary duration and, accordingly, improved them so as to present a formidable line of defense, thus keeping us in a constant state of planning. The supposed best was wrested from every terrain feature and positions were prepared after much juggling and careful zoning. With increasingly warmer weather and the advent of thaws, soundings made by one of the companies revealed that the mud was no less than six inches thick in places. We were able to take more showers and were issued more frequent changes of clothing which the shower unit carried at all times. The term, "shower room promotion," came into being as Pfc.'s would be issued shirts with sergeant's stripes, and by that same token there was the term, "shower room break."

In garrison we had employed the trite but meaningful motto "The difficult we do at once, the impossible takes a little longer." Under the influence of combat conditions, that had been altered to read, "The impossible we do at once, miracles take a little longer." And so it had been. We began taking several German deserters each day, as the enemy situation on other fronts became increasingly untenable. There was one spot where we could pick up a deserter or two each night. March rolled around and twelve days of it passed before things began happening again. Our reprieve from violence was at an end.







"By direction of the President..."

HEADQUARTERS 100TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 447, U.S. Army

27 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 183 )

BATTLE HONORS - CITATION OF UNIT

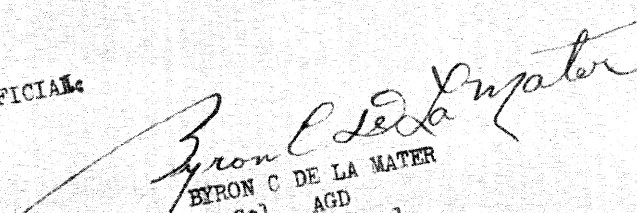
By direction of the President, under the provisions of Section IV, Circular Number 833, War Department, 1943, and with the approval of the Army Commander, the following named organization is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action:

The 3D BATTALION, 397TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, is cited for outstanding and exceptional accomplishment in combat during the period 1 January 1945 to 5 January 1945 in the Bitch sector, near Rimling, France. The 100th Division was assigned the mission of defending against an expected enemy attack in force, which had as its objective the capture of Severne Pass, a vital terrain feature in the Seventh Army front. The 3d Battalion, 397th Infantry Regiment, occupied a defensive position on the left flank of the Division. Suddenly, at midnight on New Year's Eve, the enemy (17th SS Pz Gren Div) launched a heavy and fanatical attack, the main effort of which encompassed the 3d Battalion and units on its left. The unit on the left of the 3d Battalion was driven back during the course of the day some five thousand (5,000) yards. Because of the width of the front, reserves were not available to fill the gap. A platoon of the left company was overrun by the enemy Tank-Infantry assault, and the enemy infiltrated in force into Rimling, behind the lines of the battalion. Notwithstanding the exposed and tactically disadvantageous position in which the battalion found itself, it succeeded in restoring its lines, capturing or killing all of the infiltrating enemy. For five (5) days the battalion, in this exposed position, was subjected to repeated attacks from the front, flank and rear, by enemy tanks and infantry, accompanied by mortar and artillery fire. Repeated attacks by troops of this Division and the Division on the left to reestablish the line and make contact with the left flank of the 3d Battalion failed. The 3d Battalion, nearly surrounded, still held on, despite heavy losses and a disadvantageous tactical situation, which warranted withdrawal. However, in doing so, it inflicted such heavy losses upon the enemy and impressed upon him so successfully the will of our troops to hold on, that further offensive action on this part of the front by the enemy was discontinued. The action of this battalion, therefore, played a decisive role in thwarting the enemy from attaining his vital objective of Severne Pass and enabled the Division to hold its position without a serious change in dispositions. The extraordinary heroism and determination, esprit-de-corps and effective fighting displayed by this unit in successfully accomplishing this unusual and rugged task was an inspiration to other troops in the sector, and reflected the greatest credit upon the armed forces of the United States.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MURPHY:

J. O. KILGORE  
Colonel GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

  
BYRON C. DE LA MATER  
Lt Col AGD  
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION  
"A" & "BB"

Copy of the award of the Distinguished Unit Citation to the Third



Copy of the award of the Distinguished Unit Citation  
to H Company for action at Rimling, France.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 100TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General  
APO 447, U.S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS )  
NUMBER 155 )

9 June 1945

BATTLE HONORS - CITATION OF UNIT

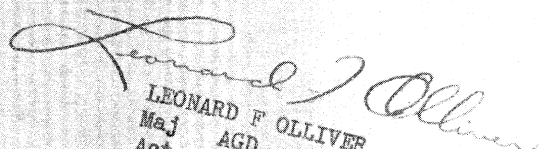
By direction of the President, under the provisions of Section IV, Circular Number 333, War Department, 1943, and with the approval of the Army Commander, the following named organization is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action:

COMPANY H, 397TH INFANTRY REGIMENT is cited for outstanding accomplishment in combat on 8 January 1945 and 9 January 1945, in the vicinity of Rimling, France. Under the pressure of a savagely-prosecuted attack by numerically-superior hostile forces which forced back adjacent elements, Company H staunchly held its ground, threw back assault after assault and by its gallant and unyielding defense prevented the encirclement of the battalion by the enemy. The initial hostile attack in the night by infantry mounted on tanks and dispersed by the deadly fire of the company's heavy machine guns and mortars, and subsequent daylight tank-infantry attacks were also repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. Attempts at infiltration by hostile soldiers wearing American parkas were thwarted and the opposing riflemen killed or forced to withdraw. Sixty-three prisoners were captured by the company and an estimated four hundred casualties inflicted upon the attackers in the heroic action in which every member of the organization reflected great credit upon himself, his company and the Army of the United States.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MURPHY:

OFFICIAL:

JOHN O KILGORE  
Colonel GSC  
Chief of Staff

  
LEONARD F OLLIVER  
Maj AGD  
Actg Adj Gen

DISTRIBUTION  
"A" & "BB"

Headquarters 100th Infantry Division

General Orders No. 54

26 February 1945

"By direction of the President, and under the provisions of Section 1, Circular Number 345, War Department, 23 August 1944, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded to the Service Company, 397th Infantry Regiment, for superior performance of duty and the achievement of a high standard of

# CENTURY DIVISION

## Commendation

Headquarters



One-Hundredth Infantry Division

For outstanding and especially meritorious service, this certificate of commendation is awarded to:

Third Platoon, I Company, 337th Infantry Regiment.

### Citation:

On 30 December 1944, this platoon, with the assistance of friendly tanks, executed a daring raid upon an enemy position. Though it was necessary in many cases to literally dig the enemy out of his foxhole, not a single casualty was suffered, and the platoon succeeded in capturing nineteen prisoners and killing twelve of the enemy force.

*C. C. Swine*  
Commanding

Commendation of a platoon of C Company by the Commanding General.



*"For conspicuous gallantry and  
intrepidity in action..."*

T/SGT. CHARLES F. CAREY JR.

Awarded CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR (posthumously) for action on 8 and 9 January 1945, in the vicinity of Rimling, France. When an enemy tank-infantry attack in strength penetrated our defenses in the town of Rimling, Sergeant Carey upon his own initiative assembled and led a patrol with the objective of clearing and holding off the enemy from the town. While covered by fire from his companions, he advanced upon a building known to be occupied by hostile troops, killed two snipers by rifle fire as he moved forward, hurled a grenade into the structure and then entered to emerge a few moments later with sixteen prisoners. He subsequently directed his patrol's assault upon adjacent buildings which were likewise held by the enemy, and as a result forty-one additional prisoners were captured. On the afternoon of the same day, Sergeant Carey advanced under the covering fire of his comrades to within a few yards of a hostile tank, immobilized it with rocket fire and, seizing a rifle, killed three and wounded another of the enemy as the four-man crew attempted to escape from the burning vehicle. On the following day, when he learned that four members of his platoon had escaped to the attic of a building, and their position encircled by the enemy, Sergeant Carey advanced alone to the vicinity and by manipulating a ladder against the side of the structure enabled his men to escape. Later in the day, while attempting to rescue other members of his platoon, he was hit by enemy sniper fire. The intrepid leadership, indomitable courage, and fearless aggressiveness displayed by Sergeant Carey in the face of overwhelming enemy forces, serve as an inspiration to his comrades and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States. Next of kin Mrs. Eva Carey, (wife). 1622 O'Neil Ave, Cheyenne, Wyoming.







“For extraordinary heroism in action....”

PFC. ROBERT L. GORELL

(Posthumous)

and

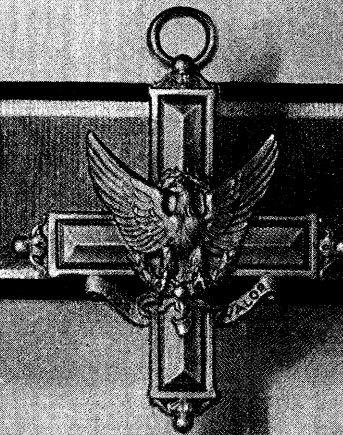
PFC. ELLIS J. HALL



*Awarded Distinguished Service Cross for deeds on 8 January 1945 in Rimling, France.*

*Pfc. Gorell, a bugler, and Pfc. Hall, a driver, were manning a machine gun guarding the command posts within the town when a savagely-prosecuted enemy attack overran our positions to the north and west and hostile tank-infantry forces entered the town itself. An armored vehicle bearing enemy riflemen approached their emplacement and they opened fire, forcing the infantrymen to seek cover and halting the progress of the tank. An enemy grenade which buried their weapon under debris and killed a third comrade, enabled the hostile vehicle to pass the position, but these two men courageously refused to withdraw and reestablished their gun to engage a second infantry-bearing tank. This time their accurate fire not only drove rifle troops to cover but also forced the tank to turn back. Another grenade struck their position, bringing a heavy door down upon the two gunners, but they again put their weapon back into operation and with accurate fire eventually forced the remaining tank to withdraw. Hostile infantry remained active, and a rocket burst killed Pfc. Gorell instantly, but the opposing troops, discouraged by the fanatical and unyielding resistance which they had encountered, eventually withdrew. By the heroism and unflinching courage displayed by these men in the face of almost certain death or capture, twenty of the enemy were killed, three wounded, and our forces held the town.*

*Next of kin: Anthony Gorell (Father) Chemeketo Park, Alma, California. Pfc. Hall entered military service from Granite Falls, North Carolina.*

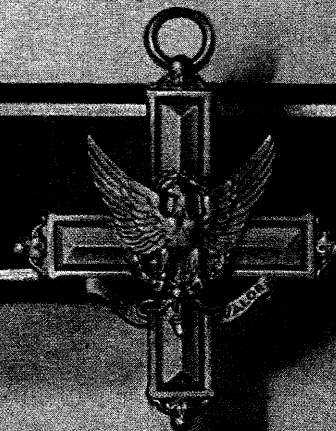




“For extraordinary heroism in action...”

*Awarded Distinguished Service Cross for deeds on 1 January 1945 to 8 January 1945  
in Rimling, France.*

*While acting as a forward observer during the defense of Rimling, France, 2nd Lt. Senser (then Cpl.) manned his observation post under intense direct shelling from the enemy and, when his own company's ammunition was expended, directed the fire of regimental artillery. When an enemy force attacked with grenades and automatic weapons, Lt. Senser refused to surrender himself and eleven other men in a building, and while others sought refuge in the basement from anti-personnel grenades, he maintained a guard above the stairs and by accurate fire from his carbine killed two of the enemy, one of whom was firing into the building with an automatic weapon. On the following morning he again manned his observation post despite incessant sniper and artillery fire, and registered a battery of friendly artillery upon a group of hostile tanks, destroying one and disabling another of the armored vehicles. He then refused relief because the approach to his position was too hazardous an undertaking, and remained at his post until the battalion withdrew. Entered military service from Mount Ranier, Maryland.*

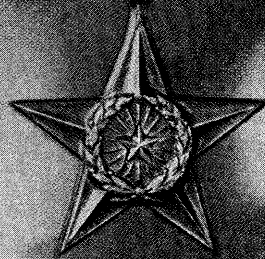




# *Silver Star Medal*

*for Gallantry in action*

AWARDED



*Pfc. RALPH D. BAKER, on 25 December 1944, was a member of a light machine gun section attached to a rifle company, taking a position sacrificing cover and concealment for a good field of fire. When the enemy advanced, he held his fire with perfect timing, ultimately causing many casualties and allowing the rifle company to withdraw.*

*Pvt. JOHN L. BEEBE, on 12 March 1945, while a member of a night patrol, crawled forward into enemy territory to knock out a machine gun emplacement. He got close enough to throw in two hand grenades killing the gunner and wounding three others. While advancing forward to determine if there were more enemy he set off a mine and was fatally wounded.*

*Cpl. MARLAND E. BENNER, on 9 January 1945, during an enemy counterattack, remained upright in an exposed position in full view of the enemy and adjusted mortar fire upon the enemy so effectively that the opposing troops were unable to put any of their three light machine guns into action.*

*Pfc. DOCK B. BENNETT, on 6 January 1945, a driver, started out to relieve a platoon which was cut off from the company and in dire need of ammunition and supplies. Noting a five-man enemy patrol he took position behind his mounted machine gun, wounded two of the enemy and captured the others.*

*Pvt. TOM H. BLOCK, on 5 January 1945, upon hearing calls for medical attention, ran approximately two hundred yards across a ridge from his own position to the vicinity of the wounded men. He administered aid to several in full view of the enemy, continuing such aid until he was seriously wounded by sniper fire.*



Pfc. CALVIN D. BROWN, on 17 December 1944, while serving as scout in a reconnaissance patrol, advanced deep into enemy territory. When intense sniper and rifle fire forced the patrol to withdraw, he courageously covered the retirement of his comrades, engaging the enemy so effectively that the patrol reached safety without a casualty. When attempting to withdraw, he was killed by a hostile sniper.

T/Sgt. DONALD L. BUTCHER, on 1 January 1945, although painfully wounded, crawled from one member of the platoon to another controlling and coordinating their fire thus forcing an attacking enemy group to withdraw. He continued for three days and nights, despite infiltration tactics, direct tank fire, intense artillery and mortar shelling, to successfully resist all attempts to overrun our positions.

Pfc. TROY R. CARROLL, on 30 December 1944, when the combat patrol of which he was a member was engaged by a hostile force four times its strength, voluntarily advanced to a forward position and by his accurate delivery of covering fire afforded his comrades an opportunity to reorganize. Although seriously wounded he maintained his position until the enemy was routed.

1st Lt. DOMINIC S. CUCCINELLO, on 1 March 1945, although seriously wounded while leading a combat patrol on a night mission, refused to permit his comrades to approach him because of the presence of additional mines and succeeded in reaching his way back to the remainder of the patrol. He continued to direct operations until the mission was successfully completed before allowing himself to be carried back to friendly lines.

1st Sgt. LEO N. DUPRE, on 9 January 1945, when the command post was encircled by the enemy, armed only with a carbine, held off the enemy inflicting heavy casualties upon the attackers. When forced to retire to the cellar where other personnel had taken refuge, he maintained a position on the stairs and delayed the enemy until his comrades could escape by a rear exit.

S/Sgt. EDMUND S. FLESZAR, on 9 January 1945, adjusted his mortar and single-handedly fed and fired the weapon with such accuracy at range of 150 yards as to kill and wound 30 enemy, part of a force of over 60 which attempted a surprise attack. He continued firing, despite three machine guns trained on his position, until the rest of the enemy was killed or captured.

Sgt. DONALD J. GEBHARDT, on 2 January 1945, when the first and second gunners of his squad were wounded, left the position from which he had been directing fire and removed the less seriously wounded men to the rear. Returning with an aid man he manned the machine gun from an exposed position. As he was delivering fire he was himself wounded, but his courageous action prevented capture of our emplacement.

Pfc. ALBERT W. GERLACH, on 25 December 1944, was a member of a light machine gun section attached to a rifle company. When the enemy advanced, he held his fire with perfect timing, ultimately causing many casualties and allowing the rifle company to withdraw. Two more times this strategic delaying movement was made, saving many lives of the withdrawing company and inflicting many casualties on the enemy.

Pvt. DELBERT C. HALEY, on 15 March 1945, during an attack on enemy positions when two men in his platoon were wounded by enemy snipers and his comrades immobilized from the intense hostile sniper and mortar fire, made his way to one casualty, swiftly and calmly administered first aid and turned to go to the remaining casualty when he himself was severely wounded. He succumbed to his wounds shortly thereafter on the field, but by his heroic action he had saved the life of another.

Pfc. CARL B. HARRINGTON, on 3 January 1945, remained behind as an aid man when his platoon was forced to withdraw due to an enemy counterattack. Moving from one man to another, he administered first aid and moved his comrades to sheltered positions. He was himself mortally wounded.

S/Sgt. CLAY R. HAYS, on 1 January 1945, during a hostile attack in strength, directed mortar fire upon enemy forces from an observation post within the town itself. He remained at this post for four days despite heavy attacks of all types. By his courageous conduct he contributed greatly to the defense of Rimling.



*Pfc. DONALD L. HILDENBRAND, on 8 January 1945, when all wire connections were severed during an enemy attack, volunteered to infiltrate to the company's CP. for orders. He was captured by the enemy while on this mission but was later returned to military control by friendly troops.*

*Lt. Col. JOHN M. KING, on 15 March 1945, with the leading elements, constantly searched for routes to circumvent the numerous shu-mine fields which were causing heavy casualties. He led his battalion in a brilliant advance which overran rocket guns and captured many rocket gun personnel. He gallantly walked up and down the front line while sniper firing was going on thus inspiring the officers and men under his command.*

*2nd Lt. S. E. LAND, on 9 January 1945, volunteered to lead an eight-man patrol to cut off the enemy route of withdrawal. He so skillfully and aggressively directed the action of his men that, although armed only with carbines and pistols, they killed and wounded many of the hostile force and took prisoner its commanding officer and twenty-one enlisted men.*

*Pfc. ROBERT D. MATEER, on 2 January 1945, was manning a light machine gun when a number of the enemy converged on a flank of his section neutralizing one friendly machine gun. He picked up his weapon, ran through intense hostile fire to the weakened flank and directed a steady, devastating stream of bullets into the German ranks with such effect that the attack temporarily paused. When attacked again, he destroyed his weapon and led his men to safety.*

*T/Sgt. ALPHONSO J. MYERS, from 1 to 5 January 1945, directed the fire of his heavy machine gun crew against attacking troops with great effectiveness, inflicting heavy casualties upon the enemy. He himself located and repaired breaks in the communication lines. Despite almost constant attempts at infiltration and direct tank fire, he not only refused to withdraw but utilized his advantageous position to direct punishing artillery fire on the enemy.*

*Pfc. WILLIAM J. OSTROWSKI, on 25 December 1944, was a member of a light machine gun section attached to a rifle company, taking a position sacrificing cover and concealment for a good field of fire. When the enemy advanced, he held his fire until he could inflict maximum casualties and allow the rifle company to withdraw. Many lives in the withdrawing company were saved and many casualties were incurred by the enemy.*

*T/Sgt. JOHN S. OTRUBA, on 8 January 1945, when an enemy tank and infantry force attacked our positions, stepped to the open doorway of the CP. and in full view of the enemy aimed and fired a rocket shell at the approaching armored vehicle. While reloading his weapon in preparation to fire a second round, he was seriously wounded by hostile machine gun fire.*

*2nd Lt. PETER P. PETRACCO, on 9 January 1945, by his inspiring example and inflexible strength of will, when his platoon found itself attacked by tanks on flank and rear and lacking communication with the company CP., not only preserved his platoon at great personal risk but also prevented encirclement of the battalion by attacking forces.*

*Pfc. JOHN M. QUALLS, on 1 January 1945, during a hostile attack transmitted vital mortar fire direction from an advanced observation post within the town itself. Despite intense mortar, rocket artillery shelling and direct fire from 88mm guns attempting to destroy his vantage point, he remained at his post for four days and nights, contributing greatly to the defense.*

*Pfc. ROBERT J. ROBERTSON, on 25 December 1944, was a member of a light machine gun section attached to a rifle company, which was in position where cover and concealment were sacrificed for a good field of fire. He held his fire until the enemy was in full view. Twice more this strategic delaying movement was made, saving many lives in the withdrawing company and inflicting many casualties on the enemy.*

*2nd Lt. FRANK J. ROSSE, on 5 January 1945, and his platoon were hemmed in by the enemy after relieving another unit. Pinned down for two days he controlled his men and sent back fire missions for our artillery. On the third day, while leading a masterful withdrawal in the face of a heavy attack, he was seriously wounded.*

*Tec. 4 THEODORE R. RYLEY, on 8 January 1945, ferreted out a large number of concealed enemy located in a building and took them prisoner, and in so doing liberated a group of five American soldiers who had been imprisoned in the building.*

*Sgt. WADE P. SANDERS, on 25 December 1944, was member of a light machine gun section attached to a rifle company, and took a position sacrificing cover and concealment for a good field of fire. By strategic delaying movement he saved many lives in the withdrawing company and inflicted many casualties on the enemy.*

*2nd Lt. JOSEPH SHOVLANSKY, on 29 and 30 December 1944, led a patrol into a town which was attacked by about 50 of the enemy. He skillfully directed mortar fire by phone to within 24 yards of the building where he was located and succeeded in repelling the attack.*

*S/Sgt. LORIN C. SPEAKER, on 23 February 1945, after directing his squad through a mine field in a raid upon positions in which two machine guns were destroyed, two enemy killed and two captured, was returning with a wounded comrade and two prisoners when he was halted by two hostile infantrymen. He killed one and was struck in the stomach by answering fire, after which he killed the second.*

*Sgt. JULIUS THEODORE, on 15 March 1945, was attached as an aid man when a mortar platoon entered a mine field and incurred numerous casualties. Sgt. Theodore entered the mined area and worked tirelessly to administer first aid to each of the injured men. While so engaged, he detonated a mine and the explosion resulted in his own death.*

*Sgt. ENNIS E. THOMAS, on 1 January 1945, directed the fire of a machine gun section during an enemy counterattack and killed thirty-five Germans. Although the next day three enemy machine guns directed fire against his position and Sgt. Thomas, grabbing a rocket launcher, destroyed two of them with accurate fire, and then knocked out the third with effective fire from his own machine gun.*

*T/Sgt. SEBASTIANO TIMPANARO, on 8 and 9 January 1945, when a rifle company was in great need of mortar support, as section leader, placed his guns and then laying wire, advanced to a house on the MLR from which he directed mortar and artillery fire for the two days. His accurate fire killed all fifteen members of a German patrol.*

*Pfc. MAX E. TOOLE, on 30 December 1944, when his patrol was attacked by a force four times greater, voluntarily took a position forward and by his rapid delivery of covering fire enabled the other members of the group to organize defensive positions. He was seriously wounded in this action. His stand enabled the patrol with support of artillery to route the opposing infantry.*

*T/Sgt. CHARLES O. VAN PATTTER, on 15 March 1945, neutralized an enemy machine gun emplacement by running across an open clearing and crawling close enough to throw a hand grenade into the hostile nest, killing one and wounding two others without his platoon sustaining a casualty.*

*T/4 JAMES T. WHEELER, on 15 March 1945, as two men were crossing an open area were wounded by sniper fire and an aid man was killed by fire from the same enemy, proceeded to the wounded men, treated their wounds and carried them to a place of safety, all this time fully aware that he was under the same observation that had felled the three.*



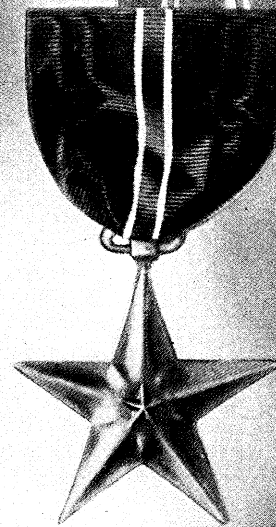
# Bronze Star Medal

for Heroic achievement in action

AWARDED

Pfc. James E. Akers . . . . . 11 Mar. 45  
Pfc. William J. Akers . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
S/Sgt. Guy E. Allen\* . . . . . 12 Feb. 45  
Pvt. Ralph I. Allen . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
Cpl. Sam F. Amitrano . . . . . 29 Jan. 45  
Sgt. George F. Anderson\* . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Albert J. Arkenbent . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
Sgt. Charles O. Ayer . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
Tec. 5 Eugene A. Bahr . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
Pvt. Ralph D. Baker . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
Pfc. Howard L. Balgley . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Donald A. Balter . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
S/Sgt. Joseph J. Bellavia . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
Tec. 5 William O. Bellows . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
Pfc. James E. Benke . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
Pvt. David Berezin . . . . . 29 Dec. 44  
Pfc. Kenneth E. Best . . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Wilborn G. Bingham . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
Pvt. Orvin H. Birkholder . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Robert E. Blackwell . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Roy E. Bloomer . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
S/Sgt. Robert J. Bohigian\* . . . . . 2 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Dennis C. Boyd, Jr. . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
Sgt. Joseph S. Boyer . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Frank Boyko, Jr. . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Gerald V. Britt . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
Pfc. James E. Brinkley . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
Pfc. George E. Brockway, Jr. . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Allen B. Brown, Jr. . . . . 7-8 Jan. 45  
Tec. 5 George Brown . . . . . 29 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Howard N. Brown . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Louis J. Brusca . . . . . 22 Jan. 45  
1st Lt. Sidney M. Bunson . . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Harold J. Buoy . . . . . 25 Feb. 45  
Pfc. Sherman K. Burke . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
S/Sgt. Frank T. Burns, Jr. . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
S/Sgt. Robert M. Burns . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
Pfc. Lloyd O. Burtner . . . . . 8 Jan. 45

2nd Lt. Thomas I. Busbee . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
2nd Lt. Thomas I. Busbee\* . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Donald B. Cantrell . . . . . 25 Feb. 45  
Pfc. David Chernick . . . . . 1-2 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Vercell M. Chestnut . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
Cpl. Arthur C. Clifton . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
Pvt. John C. Coletti . . . . . 6 Jan. 45  
Pfc. Robert A. Coligan . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
Pfc. J. C. Collins . . . . . 8 Jan. 45



Sgt. Stephan L. Comi . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Sgt. David G. Hurt . . . . .	8 Mar. 45
Pfc. John C. Comstock, Jr. . . . .	6-9 Jan. 45	Pfc. Leland R. Hutchins . . . . .	6-9 Jan. 45
1st Lt. Leonard E. Copen . . . . .	26 Feb. 45	Pfc. Nelson H. Ireland . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
2nd Lt. William M. Corey . . . . .	26 Jan. 45	T/Sgt. Robert J. Isola . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pvt. Clezon M. Dalabo . . . . .	7 Feb. 45	Pvt. Carlos M. Jacott . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
S/Sgt. Rufus M. Dalton . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	Sgt. Theodore D. Jennings . . . . .	6-9 Jan. 45
Pvt. Michael Delia . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Sgt. Clifford H. Jimison . . . . .	29 Dec. 44
Pfc. Arthur T. DeLuca . . . . .	1 Mar. 45	Pfc. Lawrence O. Jock . . . . .	1 Jan. 45
Pvt. James DeLuca . . . . .	6 Jan. 45	Sgt. Charles C. Johnson . . . . .	1-7 Jan. 45
Cpl. Walter S. DeWitt . . . . .	25 Dec. 44	S/Sgt. Kenneth Joiner* . . . . .	2 Jan. 45
Cpl. Emerson V. Dexter . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Edward C. Jones . . . . .	30 Jan. 45
Pfc. Norman Diety . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Willie E. Jones . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
Pfc. James DiLorenzo . . . . .	29 Dec. 44	Pfc. Thomas E. Joyner . . . . .	7-8 Jan. 45
1st Lt. William M. Dinming . . . . .	23 Feb. 45	Pfc. Stephen P. Kabana . . . . .	3 Jan. 45
Sgt. William M. Ditto . . . . .	8 Jan. 45	Pvt. John P. S. Keelan . . . . .	4 Jan. 45
Pfc. Carl T. Douai . . . . .	30 Dec. 44	Sgt. John P. Keen . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
T/Sgt. John W. Dougher . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pfc. John L. Koelme, Jr. . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45
Pvt. Maynard A. Dovel . . . . .	8 Jan. 45	Pfc. Raymond W. Kraft . . . . .	1 Jan. 45
Pfc. Richard P. Drury . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	Pfc. Robert A. Kressler . . . . .	8 Feb. 45
Sgt. John R. Duffy . . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45	Pvt. August A. Lauzon . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pfc. William F. Dugan . . . . .	8-9 Jan. 45	Pfc. Richard D. Laycock . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Sgt. Howard S. Dumhart . . . . .	6 Jan. 45	1st Sgt. Oscar Leistyna . . . . .	2 Jan. 45
Pfc. Albert A. Duzzie . . . . .	5 Jan. 45	Pfc. Earl H. Leland . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
Pfc. Robert E. Dwyer . . . . .	1-8 Jan. 45	Pvt. LeRoy A. Lemon . . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45
S/Sgt. William M. English . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pfc. Richard P. Lenski . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
S/Sgt. Edward S. Eylander . . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45	Pfc. David R. Leher . . . . .	6-9 Jan. 45
Pfc. Joseph P. Fennell, Jr. . . . .	26 Jan. 45	Pfc. Edmund L. L'Hautrec . . . . .	30 Dec. 44
Pfc. Vincent R. Ferrell . . . . .	8 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Bronislaw Lis . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
S/Sgt. George H. Fucillo . . . . .	31 Dec. 44	Pfc. Joseph Lopez . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pfc. Roger H. Fulton . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pfc. Joseph A. Lofgren . . . . .	21 Feb. 45
Pvt. Albert W. Gerlach . . . . .	25 Dec. 44	Pfc. James B. Lozary . . . . .	1 Jan. 45
Pvt. Ramon D. Gernhart . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	S/Sgt. Eleth M. Luker . . . . .	5 Jan. 45
Pfc. Jesse H. Gillmore . . . . .	8 Feb. 45	Sgt. George H. Luther . . . . .	26 Dec. 44
Pfc. Paul J. Globig . . . . .	23 Feb. 45	Pfc. John A. Maher . . . . .	1 Jan. 45
S/Sgt. Albert C. Goodwin . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. John W. Mallory, Jr. . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pvt. Howard E. Gordon . . . . .	24 Dec. 44-5 Jan. 45	Pvt. James E. Malone, Jr. . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pvt. Joseph W. Graham . . . . .	3 Jan. 45	Pfc. Matteo M. Mancini . . . . .	3 Jan. 45
Pvt. Cecil E. Griffin . . . . .	8 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. William M. Marshall . . . . .	30 Dec. 44
Pfc. Charles J. Gulino . . . . .	21 Feb. 45	Pfc. Silas P. Martin . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
1st Lt. Herbert E. Gunn . . . . .	24 Dec. 44-5 Jan. 45	T/Sgt. Charles Martinotti . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pvt. John W. Gunn . . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45	Pfc. Archibald R. Mayes . . . . .	1 Mar. 45
Pfc. John F. Gwillim . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Sgt. John L. McClead . . . . .	6-9 Jan. 45
Pfc. Thomas O. Ham . . . . .	8 Mar. 45	Pfc. Hartley F. McCloud . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pfc. Richard B. Harris . . . . .	1-5 Jan. 45	Pvt. Hermann D. McGray . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pvt. Louie W. Hart, Jr. . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pfc. Nelson T. Meckel . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
Cpl. Franklin J. Herrmann, Jr. . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Cpl. Turner C. Menefree . . . . .	8-9 Jan. 45
Cpl. Wesley M. Hill . . . . .	1-8 Jan. 45	Pfc. John A. Michna . . . . .	8 Jan. 45
Pvt. Orville K. Hilliard . . . . .	24 Dec. 44-3 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Benjamin J. Miller . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
Pvt. Edward G. Hofstetter . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Edgar R. Miller . . . . .	17 Jan. 45
1st Lt. Ray L. Holland . . . . .	26 Jan. 45	Cpl. John A. Milone . . . . .	10 Mar. 45
Pfc. William T. Hollis, Jr. . . . .	9 Jan. 45	Pfc. Robert L. Mings . . . . .	3 Feb. 45
Tec. 5 Robert E. Horne . . . . .	2-4 Jan. 45	Tec. 5 Harry F. Mitchum . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Sgt. Wilfred B. Howsmon, Jr. . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pvt. Alberto Morales . . . . .	2 Mar. 45
Pvt. Grady Hulett . . . . .	1 Jan. 45	Pfc. Preston O. W. Morphew . . . . .	17 Jan. 45



Pfc. Edward T. Mucha . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Rade H. Mullins . . . . . 6-7 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Earl S. Mussino . . . . . 7 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. James R. Nance . . . . . 7-8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. John F. Nolan, Jr. . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Albert Nowlan . . . . . 17 Jan. 45  
 1st Lt. William F. Nugent . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 Sgt. Richard C. Olsen . . . . . 3 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Eric Olson, Jr. . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Capt. James F. X. O'Rourke . . . . . 26 Feb. 45  
 Tec. 4 Joseph E. Orsak . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. William J. Ostrowski . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
 T/Sgt. Frank Outslay\* . . . . . 8 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. Joseph Owaski . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert J. Parkin . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
 Tec. 5 John H. Pauling . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. Joseph S. Pazik . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 T/Sgt. Roy G. Pender . . . . . 1-4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Charles F. Pessina . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Francis Pexton . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Ferdinand Picula . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Richard R. Polhemous\* . . . . . 7-9 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Edward C. Porn . . . . . 7 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Yvan A. Rechz . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. James D. Rembert . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Ronald C. Riddle . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert W. Riedmatten . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Clarence M. Rincker . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Balis W. Ritchie . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Robert J. Robertson . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
 Cpl. Fred E. Rollins . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Jack Rubel . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Frank G. Rutger . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Tec. 4 Joseph F. Salerno . . . . . 26 Dec. 44  
 S/Sgt. Raymond R. Salsman . . . . . 2 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. Wade P. Sanders . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
 2nd Lt. Carl W. Sanderson . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Daniel G. Scheuermann . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 S/Sgt. Robert A. Schmieders . . . . . 9 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Walter E. Scribner, Jr. . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 S/Sgt. Edward J. Shannon . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Stanley Shapiro . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Johnny L. Sheets . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Tec. 4 Floyd R. Sherbino . . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Julius Shocko . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Julius Shocko\* . . . . . 26 Feb. 45  
 2nd Lt. Joseph Shovlowsky . . . . . 29-30 Dec. 44

Pfc. Charles F. Singer . . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. Benjamin A. Skinner, Jr. . . . . 1-8 Jan. 45  
 2nd Lt. Harry L. Skinner . . . . . 30 Jan. 45  
 T/Sgt. John H. Slade\* . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Arville Stone . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Donald G. Smith . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Jim T. Smith . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Orla E. Smith . . . . . 7-8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Benjamin M. Snyder . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Joseph A. Snyder . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Walter O. Stallard . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert J. Stamp . . . . . 2-4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Clayton Standifer . . . . . 21 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. George F. Steffen . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Ben T. Stephens . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Stanley J. Stetz . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Rex R. Stevens . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. James T. Stewart . . . . . 1-10 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. John R. Strauss . . . . . 3 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Charles T. Suski . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Joseph Tarantino . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Charlie G. Taylor . . . . . 5 Mar. 45  
 1st Lt. Stanley A. Teiser . . . . . 9-10 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Robert H. Thena . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Robert H. Thena\* . . . . . 1 Mar. 45  
 S/Sgt. Buddy G. Thomas . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Clarence B. Thomas . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 1st Sgt. Frank A. Thichacek . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Tec. 5 Salvatore R. Uccello . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Richard L. Van Deusen . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Theodore Vocht . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Donald D. Wagner . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. William H. Wagner . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert B. Wagoner . . . . . 6 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Stanley J. Walenski . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Tec. 4 T. Lucien G. Wargula . . . . . 1-5 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. William E. Wells . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Gerald B. Westlund . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Ben Williams . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Harold E. Wilson . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Wymon L. Wiitt . . . . . 2 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. John C. Wright, Jr. . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. Thomas J. Wright . . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Charles Young . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Samuel R. Young, Jr. . . . . 6-9 Jan. 45  
 2nd Lt. Frank C. Zalewski . . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Stanley M. Zinman . . . . . 24 Dec. 44-5 Jan. 45

\* OAK LEAF CLUSTER

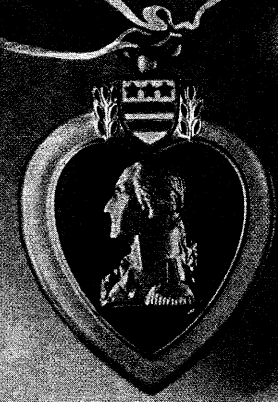
# 

AWARDED



Pfc. James E. Ward, West Virginia  
 Pvt. James A. Anderson, Cleveland, Ohio  
 Sgt. John I. Bate, W. Berlin, N.J.  
 Pfc. Frank E. Beal, Jr., Springfield, Mass.  
 Pvt. John L. Beebe, Chincoteague, Va.  
 Pfc. Sidney Beitchman, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Sgt. Frank Bielecki, Midvale, Ohio  
 Pvt. Steve Bodner, S. Greensburg, Pa.  
 Pvt. Joseph L. Breedlove, Needmore, N.C.  
 Pfc. Robert D. Burlison, Edmeston, N.Y.  
 Pvt. Lloyd B. Cagle, Denison, Texas  
 Pfc. Alvin D. Cantor, Buffalo, N.Y.  
 T/Sgt. Charles F. Carey, Jr., Cheyenne, Wyoming

Pfc. Carroll  
 Chapman, Jr.  
 Pfc. Freeman  
 Dallas, Texas  
 Pfc. Raymond H. Cook, Hartford, Vermont  
 Pfc. Vincent A. Cudia, Rockford, Ill.  
 Pfc. Peter C. De Young, McBain, Michigan  
 Pfc. Harold M. Brace, Lee, Mass.





*Pfc. Willard H. Eagle*  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Cpl. Robert J. Edmunds*  
*Detroit, Michigan*

*Pfc. George L. Eiscnise, Jr.*  
*Norristown, Pa.*

*Pvt. James E. Fozzard*  
*Cartersville, Ill.*

*Pvt. Ramon D. Gernhart*  
*Pierson, Iowa*

*Pfc. Marvin J. Gewecke*  
*Omaha, Nebraska*

*Pvt. Everett M. Gibson*  
*Oklahoma City, Okla.*

*Pfc. Robert L. Gorrell*  
*Alma, Calif.*

*Pfc. Fred W. Graff*  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

*Pvt. Joseph W. Graham*  
*Curley, Alabama*

*Pfc. Carl B. Harrington*  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Pfc. Howard W. Hennigar, Jr.*  
*New Rochelle, N.Y.*

*Pvt. Carl D. Hockaday*  
*Stantonville, Tenn.*

*Pvt. Edward P. Holsapple*  
*Albany, N.Y.*

*Cpl. Frank Huff*  
*Oneida, Wisconsin*

*Pfc. Robert R. Hulquist*  
*Laclede, Idaho*

*Pfc. Edward S. Johnson*  
*Tampa, Florida*

*Pfc. Curtis C. Jones*  
*Detroit, Michigan*

*Pfc. Martin C. Klamm*  
*Rogers City, Michigan*

*2nd Lt. Murray Lancer*  
*Brooklyn, N.Y.*

*Pvt. James E. Malone, Jr.*  
*Gary, Indiana*

*Pfc. Matteo M. Mancini*  
*Worcester, Mass.*

*Pvt. William E. Martin*  
*Kenefic, Oklahoma*

*Cpl. John J. McCann*  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*

*Pvt. Herman D. McCray*  
*Lincoln Park, Michigan*

*Pfc. Charles R. McGough*  
*Trenton, N.J.*

*Pfc. James I. McGovern*  
*Chicago, Ill.*

*Pvt. Harold E. Mitchell*  
*Chrisman, Ill.*

*Pvt. Odell S. Myers*  
*Fort Mill, S.C.*

*Pvt. Leo D. Nolan*  
*Davenport, Iowa*

*Sgt. Frank R. Oberly*  
*Easton, Pa.*

*Pfc. Joseph F. O'Boyle*  
*Scranton, Pa.*

*T/Sgt. John S. Otruba*  
*Little Neck, N.Y.*

*Pfc. Robert J. Parkin*  
*Weneta, Ill.*

*S/Sgt. Richard R. Polhemus*  
*Old Greenwich, Conn.*

*Pvt. Ishmael Roybal*  
*Sacramento, Calif.*

*S/Sgt. Gordon A. F. Roberts*  
*West Roxbury, Mass.*

*2nd Lt. Frank J. Rosse*  
*New York, N.Y.*

*Pfc. Richard J. Scheerer*  
*Washington, Ill.*

*Pfc. Frederick Schmeiser*  
*Asbury Park, N.J.*

*Pfc. William A. Schroeder*  
*Yonkers, N.Y.*

*Pfc. John R. Speier, Jr.*  
*Louisville, Kentucky*

*S/Sgt. Joseph W. Spooner*  
*Wayland, Mass.*

*Pfc. Harold E. Sternberg*  
*Elkton, Michigan*

*S/Sgt. Charles T. Suski*  
*Reading, Pa.*

*Tec. 4 Woodrow W. Swofford*  
*Chesnee, S.C.*

*Sgt. Julius Theodore*  
*New Britain, Conn.*

*Pfc. Max E. Toole*  
*Yale, Michigan*

*Pfc. Harold E. Valleau*  
*Dearborn, Michigan*

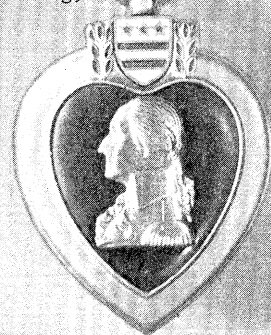
*Pfc. John Vinson*  
*Phoenix, Arizona*

*Pvt. Eugene E. Walczak*  
*Jersey City, N.J.*

*Pfc. Norman Weidman*  
*Brooklyn, N.Y.*

*Pvt. Ben Williams*  
*Neeses, S.C.*

*S/Sgt. Edwards D. Williams*  
*Wellsburg, W.V.*





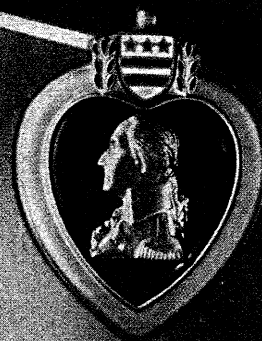
# Purple Heart Medal

*These men sustained wounds due to enemy action*

AWARDED

Pfc. Richard C. Acosta . . . . . 22 Jan. 45  
 2nd Lt. Donald E. Adams . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 S/Sgt. Norman R. Adolph . . . . . 11 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Pedro Aguilar . . . . . 17 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. William T. Amerson . . . . . 13 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Albert J. Arkenbout . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Paul W. Arthur . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Charles R. Ayer . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 2nd Lt. John M. Bacos . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 T/5 Nicholas Bartzokas . . . . . 21 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Joseph A. Bassett . . . . . 23 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. William J. Bates, Jr. . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Andrew J. Beale . . . . . 9 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Allen C. Beck . . . . . 7 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Harvey J. Beerens . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. David Berezin . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Paul Bickley . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. Kenneth J. Blackwell . . . . . 27 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. Thomas N. Blake . . . . . 20 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Tom H. Block . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Edward J. Borboa . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Herbert L. Bornstein . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Ralph Borodofsky . . . . . 29 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Francis M. Bosak . . . . . 10 Mar. 45

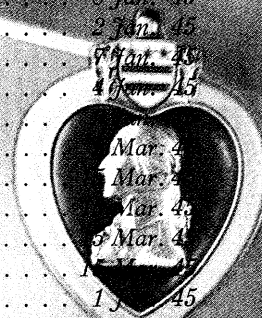
Pfc. Thomas E. Bosse, Jr. . . . . 25 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Donald L. Bowker . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Clyde R. Boyer . . . . . 12 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. James E. Brinkley . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Donald S. Broshears . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Victor E. Burgey . . . . . 2 Feb. 45





Sgt. William J. Burke . . . . . 26 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Robert M. Burns . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Howard E. Butler . . . . . 20 Feb. 45  
 Sgt. Robert V. Butts . . . . . 19 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Benjamin Campese . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. Leonard J. Carney . . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Leo P. Caron . . . . . 30 Dec. 45  
 Pfc. Luther Carswell . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Carroll G. Chase . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Charles C. Clark . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Eugene W. Clark . . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. George J. Clifford . . . . . 27 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Herbert D. Coe . . . . . 8 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. John C. Comstock, Jr. . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 T/5 John F. Corcoran . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 2nd Lt. William M. Corey . . . . . 26 Jan. 45  
 T/Sgt. Kemper J. Cridland . . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Alton L. Crutcher . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 1st Lt. Dominic S. Cuccinello . . . . . 5 Jan. 45, 1 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. John J. Cunningham . . . . . 26 Dec. 44  
 Sgt. L. D. V. Curtis . . . . . 8 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. Albert H. Delcher . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Howard H. Delcour . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Jerry A. Depaoli . . . . . 16 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. John DeSilva, Jr. . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Max L. Diel . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Vincent C. Dimtrone . . . . . 23 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Alfred F. DiPrimio . . . . . 23 Dec. 44  
 S/Sgt. Edward J. Dougherty . . . . . 19 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Robert R. Douglass . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Richard F. Duly . . . . . 22 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. George Dzurisin . . . . . 30 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. John E. Eggeling . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Nathan Eisenberg . . . . . 29 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Clayton F. Elliott . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Earl Evans . . . . . 26 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Michael W. Farawell . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 T/4 Montgomery Fawcett . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 S/Sgt. John W. Fears . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Henry F. Feezor . . . . . 2 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. Joseph P. Femell, Jr. . . . . 26 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Vincent R. Ferrell . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert J. Findley . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Walter E. Flinch . . . . . 29 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Burley J. Francois . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Alfonzo Gallo . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Donlad J. Gebhardt . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Deward W. George . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Antonio J. Gentile . . . . . 28 Dec. 44  
 S/Sgt. Arcangelo N. Giulianelli . . . . . 19 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Joseph E. Glaze . . . . . 30 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Paul J. Globig . . . . . 23 Feb. 45  
 2nd Lt. Gerald S. Godwin . . . . . 6 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. William F. Goodwin . . . . . 3 Feb. 45

Pvt. Edward S. Gould . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Carl E. Hamann . . . . . 20 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Clarence B. Hamper . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Rayner B. Hancock . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Grady R. Harden . . . . . 19 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Stanley C. Haworth . . . . . 6 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert S. Hayes . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. John C. Hazen . . . . . 22 Feb. 45  
 Cpl. Franklin J. Herrmann, Jr. . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Cpt. John A. Hine, Jr. . . . . 3 Mar. 45  
 1st Lt. Ray L. Holland . . . . . 26 Jan. 45  
 2nd Lt. Charles H. Holt . . . . . 23 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Merle L. Hunter . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Sgt. Richard J. Hurley . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. James V. Ippolito . . . . . 25 Dec. 44  
 Pvt. Anthony F. Jankowski . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 Pfc. Joseph J. Jasinski . . . . . 10 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Douglas K. Johnson . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. Edward C. Jones . . . . . 30 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Lemuel J. Jones . . . . . 30 Dec. 44  
 Pvt. Paul A. Kerr . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Richard J. Kiichen, Jr. . . . . 12 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Julius Klein . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. William J. Kment . . . . . 16 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. George E. Koontz . . . . . 9 Feb. 45  
 Pvt. Joseph J. Layou . . . . . 29 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. Gaetano J. Leone . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Joseph Liga . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Gus W. Lindquist . . . . . 6 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Leslie S. Lockart . . . . . 3 Mar. 45  
 S/Sgt. George R. Locker . . . . . 8 Jan. 45  
 Capt. Mercer P. Longino . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Pvt. Gerald J. Lowe . . . . . 7 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Joseph F. Lydon . . . . . 4 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Charles J. Lyman . . . . . Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Edmond B. Lynn . . . . . Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Robert D. Magee . . . . . Mar. 45  
 Pvt. Richard J. Malloy . . . . . 5 Mar. 45  
 T/5 Francis A. Mansur . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. Frank S. Marko . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Louis W. Marolt . . . . . 1 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Abner C. Mason . . . . . 27 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Archibald R. Mayes . . . . . 2 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Julius D. McAlpin, Jr. . . . . 10 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Hartley F. McCloud . . . . . 10 Jan. 45  
 T/Sgt. Jack I. McGee . . . . . 25 Jan. 45  
 S/Sgt. James A. McGinty . . . . . 15 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. William E. McKay . . . . . 15 Mar. 45  
 Pfc. Nash D. McKee . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Robert R. McLane . . . . . 7 Jan. 45  
 Pfc. Robert B. McTarnaghan . . . . . 9 Jan. 45  
 Sgt. Donald W. Miller . . . . . 9 Feb. 45  
 Pfc. Isadore J. Miller . . . . . 5 Jan. 45  
 Cpl. John A. Milone . . . . . 15 Mar. 45





Pfc. Paul R. Moll . . . . .	10 Jan. 45	Pvt. August R. Smith . . . . .	6 Jan. 45
T/Sgt. Charles R. Moore . . . . .	2 Jan. 45	Sgt. Donald G. Smith . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
T/4 Christopher A. Muske . . . . .	30 Dec. 44	Pvt. Larkin V. Smith . . . . .	12 Feb. 45
T/Sgt. Alphonso J. Myers . . . . .	7 Jan. 45	Pvt. Roy A. Smith . . . . .	2 Feb. 45
Sgt. Clifford J. Naquin, Jr. . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pfc. Benjamin M. Sander . . . . .	30 Dec. 44
Pfc. James R. Naughton . . . . .	1 Feb. 45	S/Sgt. Lorch G. Spearber . . . . .	23 Feb. 45
Pvt. Allan S. . . . .	5 Jan. 45	Pfc. Walter C. Stallard . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
T/Sgt. Gerard J. . . . .	8 Jan. 45	Pfc. Morton S. Steckler . . . . .	2 Jan. 45
Pfc. Albert . . . . .	2 Jan. 45	Pvt. Willard Stone . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
1st Lt. William P. . . . .	11 Mar. 45	Sgt. Richard L. Strife . . . . .	23 Jan. 45
Pvt. Norman Olsen . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	Cpl. Roman M. L. Stuczynski . . . . .	3 Jan. 45
Pfc. Raymond A. Oren, Jr. . . . .	Feb. 45	Cpl. Robert C. Stuler . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
Pvt. Leon D. Outlaw, Jr. . . . .	Feb. 45	Pfc. Ralph E. Sullivan . . . . .	9 Jan. 45
T/Sgt. Frank Outslay . . . . .	Jan. 45	Pfc. Frank S. Sutton . . . . .	5 Jan. 45
Pvt. Charles A. Perrenod, Jr. . . . .	23 Jan. 45	Sgt. John M. Taris . . . . .	19 Feb. 45
Pvt. Steve F. Pleska . . . . .	Jan. 45	Pvt. Raymond L. Templeton . . . . .	6 Jan. 45
Pfc. Stanley Possess . . . . .	19 Jan. 45	Pfc. Charles J. Thomas . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
2nd Lt. Charles F. Preston, Jr. . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Sgt. Ennis E. Thomas . . . . .	9 Feb. 45
Pfc. Martin J. Quinlan . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pvt. Edward W. Throne, Jr. . . . .	30 Dec. 44
Pvt. Dalton J. Raymond . . . . .	45	Pvt. Arturo G. Trijo . . . . .	3 Feb. 45
Pvt. Edmund Rebello . . . . .	45	Pfc. Herman K. Valine . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pvt. William C. Reedy . . . . .	27 Jan. 45	S/Sgt. Joseph J. Ventimiglia . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pfc. Terry K. Reszczenski . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pfc. George A. Vincent . . . . .	2 Jan. 45
Pfc. Rolla D. Robinette . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pvt. Donald D. Wagner . . . . .	25 Jan. 45
Cpl. Cedric W. Rodgers . . . . .	9 Jan. 45, 15 Mar. 45	Sgt. . . . .	5 Jan. 45
Pfc. Nicholas Rodriques . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pfc. . . . .	23 Feb. 45
S/Sgt. Martin F. Rust . . . . .	2 Jan. 45	2nd Lt. . . . .	29 Jan. 45
Pfc. Frank G. Rutger . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pfc. . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pfc. Saul B. Saila . . . . .	3 Jan. 45	Pfc. . . . .	15 Mar. 45
2nd Lt. Carl W. Sanderson . . . . .	15 Mar. 45	Pfc. Clarence . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pfc. Ernest L. Saunier . . . . .	6 Jan. 45	Pfc. James Wilson . . . . .	10 Jan. 45
Pvt. Irving L. Schweiger . . . . .	26 Dec. 44	Sgt. Richard T. Woodsworth . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
Pfc. Ronald D. Shaver . . . . .	10 Jan. 45	Pfc. John C. Wright . . . . .	15 Mar. 45
S/Sgt. William W. Shirley . . . . .	20 Jan. 45	Pvt. Samuel R. Young, Jr. . . . .	18 Jan. 45
T/Sgt. Frank C. Sikorski . . . . .	9 Jan. 45	Pvt. Stanley Zaremba . . . . .	15 Mar. 45

