

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 26

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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	Section
DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS—Award	I
DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE MEDAL—Award	II
SILVER STAR—Awards	III
SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Awards	IV
BRONZE STAR MEDAL—Awards	V
COMMENDATION RIBBON—Awards	VI
COMMENDATION RIBBON—Correction in general orders	VII

**I. DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Staff Sergeant *Harry R. Shirey* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_), Air Corps, Army of the United States, a member of the 339th Bombardment Squadron, 96th Bombardment Group (H), displayed extraordinary heroism in action near Bremen, Germany, on 8 May 1944. As tail gunner of a B-17, which was crippled by fighter attacks, he refused to bail out, although painfully wounded in both legs, but remained at his guns to keep the attacking enemy at bay until the rest of the crew could safely leave the airplane. Sergeant *Shirey* continued to return the enemy fire until the B-17 exploded, when he barely escaped with his life.

**II. DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE MEDAL.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Medal (second Oak-Leaf Cluster), for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

General *Lucius D. Clay*, United States Army. As United States Military Governor in Germany and Commander in Chief of United States Forces in Europe. 15 March 1947 to 15 May 1949.

**III. SILVER STAR.**—1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Staff Sergeant *Bernhard A. Stensler* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_) (then private first class), Infantry, Army of the United States, displayed gallantry in action against the armed enemy at Leyte, Philippine Islands, on 28 February 1945. A party of eight men sent out to secure water from a nearby stream was fired on by the enemy. Three members of the group were wounded, two were killed, and the remainder sought cover. Sergeant *Stensler*, who was leading a carrying party close by, immediately, upon witnessing the action and with total disregard for his personal safety, rushed to the aid of the wounded men, necessitating his crossing 300 yards of open terrain which was under continuous enemy fire. Upon reaching one of the wounded men, he dragged him approximately 100 yards to a covered position, where he administered first aid. Sergeant *Stensler's* heroism was instrumental in saving his comrade's life and greatly inspired those who witnessed his action.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918) the Silver Star (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for gallantry in action during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Captain *James O. Piper*, (then second lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army, a member of the 12th Infantry Regiment, displayed gallantry in action against an armed enemy near Mortain, France, during the period 8 to 11 August 1944. The 12th Infantry Regiment, attached to the 80th Infantry Divi-

sion, was engaged in stopping the German drive to break out to the Normandy beaches, and was heavily engaged with the enemy in a further effort to relieve an infantry battalion of the division surrounded in Mortain. The 2d Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, of which Captain *Piper* was a member, became virtually isolated during its attacks to reach the St. Barthelmy-Mortain road. Captain *Piper*, perceiving the seriousness of the situation and despite intense enemy artillery and small-arms fire, volunteered to make frequent trips, both day and night, throughout the period to the main lines of resistance on reconnaissance and to the various company strong points in order to bring in urgently needed ammunition, replacements, food, and water. Captain *Piper* was an outstanding example to the officers and men of the battalion and his ingenuity and heroism were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

**IV.—SOLDIER'S MEDAL.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (WD Bul 8, 1926), the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted men:

Corporal *Ben C. Bailey* ( ), United States Air Force, displayed heroism at the risk of his life while participating in the rescue of four survivors of a United States Navy PB4Y2 aircraft which crashed and burned in Argentinia Harbor on 21 October 1947. With utter disregard for his safety, he swam to the burning wreckage in icy cold water and successfully rescued one of the survivors. Corporal *Bailey's* disregard for personal safety, and his courage, fortitude, initiative, and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the United States Air Force.

Private First Class *Howard L. Brown* (Army serial No. ), Corps of Military Police, United States Army, displayed heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy on 20 February 1948. While on duty in a Tokyo, Japan, elevated railway station, he saw a soldier climb down from the platform to the train tracks. He shouted to the soldier to get off the tracks, but the soldier apparently failed to hear the order. A train was rapidly approaching on the same track. When the train was approximately 50 feet from the soldier, Private *Brown*, with disregard for his safety, leaped from the platform onto the tracks and pulled the soldier to a position of safety against the railing on the far side. His quick thinking saved the soldier from being crushed between the moving train and the concrete station platform. Private *Brown's* heroic action is worthy of the highest commendation and reflects great credit on the military service.

Master Sergeant *Harold L. Mitchell* ( ) (then warrant officer, junior grade), United States Air Force, displayed heroism at the risk of his life while participating in the rescue of four survivors of a United States Navy PB4Y2 aircraft which crashed and burned in Argentinia Harbor on 21 October 1947. He swam out in the icy cold water to the scene of the blazing crash, although there was imminent danger from exploding gasoline. Sergeant *Mitchell's* utter disregard for his personal safety and his initiative, fortitude, and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the United States Air Force.

**V.—BRONZE STAR MEDAL.**—1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Staff Sergeant *Ernis G. Laney, Jr.* (Army serial No. ) (then sergeant), Air Corps, Army of the United States. 15 December 1944 to 30 June 1945.

Major *Byron C. Smith*, , Medical Corps, Army of the United States. January to August 1945.

Captain *Maynard F. Tinkham*, (then second lieutenant), Air Corps, Army of the United States. December 1942 to February 1943.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers, warrant officer, and enlisted men:

- Squadron Leader *G. Simpson Barron*, Royal Air Force. September 1943 to April 1945.
- Sergeant *Spencer J. Bird*, Royal Air Force. August 1943 to April 1945.
- Wing Commander *H. Desmond Bisley*, Royal Air Force. October 1944 to May 1945.
- Squadron Leader *Ronald P. Burrows*, Royal Air Force. October 1943 to February 1945.
- Squadron Leader *Charles P.A. Carr*, Royal Air Force. March to November 1944.
- Wing Commander *Frederick R. Cook*, Royal Air Force. 20 February to 10 September 1944.
- Flight Lieutenant *Guy P. Farley*, Royal Air Force. September 1942 to September 1944.
- Flight Lieutenant *C. H. Frost*, Royal Air Force. February to May 1944.
- Wing Commander *Alan A. Gawith*, Royal Air Force. April to December 1944.
- Squadron Leader *Edward B. Joynson*, Royal Air Force. August 1943 to March 1945.
- Squadron Leader *Ian B. K. MacGregor*, Royal Air Force. January 1944 to January 1945.
- Warrant Officer *Carl J. McClure*, Royal Air Force. March to July 1944.
- Squadron Leader *Gordon O. Murray*, Royal Air Force. January to June 1944.
- Sergeant *John S. Murray*, Royal Air Force. September 1944 to May 1945.
- Squadron Leader *Thomas F. Neil*, Royal Air Force. February to November 1944.
- Squadron Leader *Oecil Rhodes*, Royal Air Force. February to May 1944.
- Squadron Leader *V. E. Robinson*, Royal Air Force. May 1942 to March 1944.
- Wing Commander *George Talbot Wilcox*, Royal Air Force. January 1943 to March 1945.
- Squadron Leader *W. S. Wigglesworth*, Royal Air Force. April 1942 to April 1945.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Major *Russell J. Wildey*, Infantry (then captain), Army of the United States. March 1944 to January 1945.

**VI.-COMMENDATION RIBBON.**—1. By direction of the Under Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

- First Lieutenant *Leslie H. Austin*, Corps of Engineers, Army of the United States. July to September 1948.
- Sergeant *Merrill S. Brown* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_), Cavalry, United States Army. 17 November 1948.
- Corporal *James J. Carhill* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_), United States Army, 20 January 1949.
- Sergeant *Joseph A. Crayton* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_) (then recruit), Cavalry, United States Army. 17 November 1948.

- Major *Duff Green, Jr.*, Cavalry, United States Army. July to November 1948.
- Private First Class *Molder M. Grubbs* (Army serial No. ), Transportation Corps, United States Army. July to December 1948.
- Master Sergeant *Thomas V. Huggins, Jr.* (Army serial No. ), Quartermaster Corps, United States Army. November 1947 to January 1949.
- Captain *Harold E. Kent*, Infantry, United States Army. April to September 1948.
- Sergeant First Class *Bjorne J. Nelson* ( ), United States Air Force. July through August 1948.
- Sergeant First Class *Ignatius A. Ormanowski* (Army serial No. ), Infantry, United States Army. October to November 1948.
- First Lieutenant *Robert W. Porter*, Signal Corps, Army of the United States. April 1947 to March 1948.
- First Lieutenant *Francois A. Richter*, Infantry, United States Army. 20 January 1949.
- Sergeant First Class *Harold C. Rollins* (Army serial No. ), United States Army. 17 November 1948.
- Sergeant First Class *James G. Toole* (Army serial No. ), United States Army. July to September 1948.
- Corporal *Agozio Valento* (Army serial No. ), Transportation Corps, United States Army. July to December 1948.
- Master Sergeant *Jerry B. Verhovec* (Army serial No. ), Transportation Corps, United States Army. July to September 1948.
- First Lieutenant *Charles J. Webb*, Infantry, Army of the United States. July 1946 to December 1948.

2. By direction of the Under Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious achievement during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted men:

- Corporal *Wayne C. Munson* (Army serial No. ) (then private first class), Signal Corps, United States Army. 23 August 1948.
- Sergeant *Ellis Scott* (Army serial No. ), Infantry, United States Army. 18 December 1948.
- Sergeant *David R. Stone* (Army serial No. ), Medical Department, United States Army. 11 October 1948.
- Corporal *Milton B. Travis* (Army serial No. ), Corps of Military Police, United States Army. 2 November 1948.

**VII. COMMENDATION RIBBON.**—So much of section V, WD General Orders 48, 1947, as pertains to Major *Howard D. Jorgenson* as reads "Commendation Ribbon" is amended to read "Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)."

BY ORDER OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

OMAR N. BRADLEY  
Chief of Staff, United States Army