

HEADQUARTERS 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION
Fort Jackson, South Carolina

"D" EXERCISES)
:
GENERAL ORDERS NO 2)

7 January 1944

SECTION I - CITATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT
SECTION II - "D" SERIES LEGION OF MERIT
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SECTION I - CITATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

1. BERNARD D. CONWAY, 31215791, Private First Class, 106th Quartermaster Company, is cited for exceptional accomplishments in the performance of his duty while engaged in "D" Exercises, 106th Infantry Division. When the truck he was driving under black-out conditions in a blinding sleet storm on the night of 14 December 1943 turned over, Pfc Conway being freed from the wreck, completely disregarded his own condition and assisted in removing the men trapped beneath the over-turned truck.

2. JOSEPH (NMI) ST. LAWRENCE, 31246934, Private First Class, 106th Quartermaster Company, is cited for exceptional accomplishments in the performance of his duty while engaged in "D" Exercises, 106th Infantry Division. For outstanding accomplishments and demonstration of professional skill in moving trucks from the company bivouac area during the night of 27 December 1943. Pfc St. Lawrence, in black-out conditions and heavy fog, displayed leadership and initiative when he took charge and directed the company trucks through treacherous terrain to form a convoy.

3. JOSEPH M. LUKOWIAK, 32771238, Staff Sergeant, 591st Field Artillery Battalion, is cited for exceptional accomplishments in the performance of his duty while engaged in "D" Exercises, 106th Infantry Division. S/Sgt Lukowiak supervised the laying of wire through adverse weather conditions of rain, sleet, cold and deep mud. Wire was serviced and communication was maintained due to the excellent handling of his men and his devotion to duty beyond and above the call of his officers. When S/Sgt Lukowiak discovered other wires were being cut by exceptionally heavy traffic, he under difficult conditions and cover of darkness, strung overhead wire at both stream crossings to insure maintenance of the line. By 1045, 29 December 1943, S/Sgt Lukowiak had not only maintained communications during these difficult conditions, but had also installed a forward switching central within 1000 yards of the front lines and maintained a wire head one ridge behind the Infantry front line.

4. Lewis A. Babbitt, 33589658, Corporal, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, is cited for exceptional accomplishments in the performance of his duty while engaged in the "D" Series, 106th Infantry Division. For meritorious service as acting Battery Reconnaissance Officer and Forward Observer during the delaying action on Friday, 31 December 1943. The officer strength of the Battery had been reduced to two, both of whom were occupied. Corporal Babbitt advanced, established contact with the Infantry outpost line, and adjusted and delivered effective artillery fire on the enemy.

Capture was imminent on several occasions, but Coporal Babbitt remained with the outpost line, keeping himself in position to observe and bring artillery support to the Infantry at all times.

SECTION II - "D" SERIES LEGION OF MERIT

The "D" Series Legion of Merit is awarded to the following named enlisted men:

S/Sgt Walter S. Wheeler	15020261	81st Engineer Battalion
S/Sgt Alfred E. Ailstock	33128057	81st Engineer Battalion

At 1500, 31 December 1943, the two sergeants were sent on a mission to destroy a bridge crossing. Due to the large number of enemy in the area, the sergeants were unable to accomplish their mission. Using guerilla tactics, they held the advance of an entire company by forcing them to deploy along a highway. The sergeants then advanced a few hundred yards, took up new positions, and again forced the enemy foot troops to deploy when they approached.

SECTION III - CITATION OF UNITS

1. Company B, 81st Engineer Battalion is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action on 28 December 1943. A bridge over a **small** stream was destroyed by enemy action and Company B, 81st Engineer Battalion, was ordered to construct a by-pass. Construction of the by-pass, made entirely of timber procured within the immediate vicinity, **started** at 1015, 28 December 1943 and the first vehicle crossed it at 1500, 28 December 1943. The approach from either end of the by-pass was extremely hazardous, **necessitating** constant maintenance and supervision until 1030, 29 December 1943.

2. The Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon of Headquarters Company, 424th Infantry, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action on 28 December 1943. By removing anti-tank and personnel mines, this platoon seized the only remaining bridge enroute of the advance and prevented a disastrous delay of the combat team.

By command of Major General JONES:

F. I. Agule
F. I. AGULE
Lt. Colonel, A.G.D.
Adjutant General

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