

MANEUVER GENERAL ORDER)

11 March 1944

NUMBER

4)

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SECTION I - AWARD OF MANEUVER BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Private Robert W. Cowan, 36583690, "B" Battery, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, Army of the United States, is awarded the Maneuver Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself by heroic and meritorious services during Operation 5, Second Army Maneuver Number 5. On the afternoon of 28 February, Private Cowan was on duty as a sentinel. The battery was firing on the enemy from a position vulnerable to infiltration or motorized attack, when an armed truck with four enlisted men approached. Private Cowan, with the assistance of another soldier, succeeded in surprising and capturing the truck and its occupants. The pre-arranged message code of the enemy, which was of great value to our forces, was secured in addition to a radio and a .30 Calibre machine gun. Private Cowan's devotion to duty contributed materially to the successful conclusion of an important mission. Residence at induction: Detroit, Michigan.

Private William L. Bratten, 17175564, "B" Battery, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, Army of the United States, is awarded the Maneuver Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself by heroic and meritorious services during Operation 5, Second Army Maneuver Number 5. On the afternoon of 28 February, Private Bratten was on duty as a sentinel. The battery was firing on the enemy from a position vulnerable to infiltration or motorized attack, when an armed truck with four enlisted men approached. Private Bratten, with the assistance of another soldier, succeeded in surprising and capturing the truck and its occupants. The pre-arranged message code of the enemy, which was of great value to our forces, was secured in addition to a radio and a .30 Calibre machine gun. Private Bratten's devotion to duty contributed materially to the successful conclusion of an important mission. Residence at induction: Olathe, Kansas.

SECTION II - AWARD OF MANEUVER SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Private First Class Calvin E. Lambert, 34608597, "C" Battery, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, Army of the United States, is awarded the Maneuver Soldier's Medal for displaying an act of heroism involving voluntary risk of life during Operation 5, Second Army Maneuver Number 5. On the night of 29 February, Private First Class Lambert, by quick thinking and without regard to his own personal safety, kept his section's howitzer from turning over while being placed in position for firing. As the piece was being un-coupled, it began to roll down an embankment. Private First Class Lambert immediately secured a small log, and without thought of his personal safety, placed it in under one wheel, preventing the piece from over turning. His conduct in this emergency revealed a total disregard of personal safety which reflects great credit on the military service. Residence at induction: High Point, North Carolina.

SECTION III - CITATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Technical Sergeant Hugh D. Griffis, 20402178, Company "D," 422d Infantry, is cited for exceptional accomplishments in the performance of his duty while engaged in Operation 5, Second Army Maneuver Number 5. On 29 February, when the leader of his platoon became a casualty, Sergeant Griffis took command and continued in that capacity during the remainder of the problem. On 1 March he covered the withdrawal of Company "C," using one section of machine guns to hold up the enemy advance, allowing Company "C" to withdraw with fewer casualties than they otherwise would have suffered. Sergeant Griffis stayed with his platoon until supporting fire from other companies of the battalion covered its withdrawal. His conduct in this emergency demonstrated exceptional qualities of leadership and initiative. Residence at induction: Baring, Maine.

SECTION IV - CITATION OF UNITS

The following units are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action on the night of 21 - 22 February 1944:

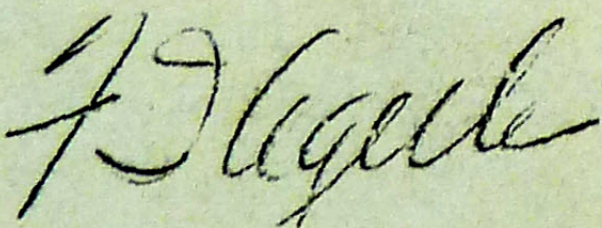
1st Platoon, Company I, 424th Infantry
3d Platoon, Company I, 424th Infantry

These platoons, completely cut off from the remainder of their battalion, made an extremely difficult march during the night of 21 - 22 February. Despite adverse weather conditions, continual presence of the enemy, and without food, they completed a forced cross-country march. During this period, they captured several enemy troops and materiel including an outpost radio which was immediately silenced. The action of these platoons was marked by gallantry, fearlessness, and devotion to duty.

By command of Major General JONES:

WILLIAM C. BAKER, JR.,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



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

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