

GENERAL ORDERS)

10 May 1945

NO. 40)

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I -- ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMBAT INFANTRY BATTALION -- A minimum of sixty-five percent (65%) of the Table of Organization strength of the First Battalion, 424th Infantry Regiment, having been awarded the individual Combat Infantryman Badge for satisfactory performance of duty in ground combat against the enemy in Belgium and Germany, under the provisions of War Department Circular Number 408, 17 October 1944, as amended, the First Battalion, 424th Infantry Regiment is hereby announced a Combat Infantry Battalion.

II -- ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMBAT INFANTRY COMPANY -- A minimum of sixty-five percent (65%) of the Table of Organization strength of Company "E", 424th Infantry Regiment, having been awarded the individual Combat Infantryman Badge for satisfactory performance of duty in ground combat against the enemy in Belgium and Germany, under the provisions of War Department Circular Number 408, 17 October 1944, as amended, is hereby announced a Combat Infantry Company.

III -- AWARD OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE (106TH INFANTRY DIVISION BAND) - Under the provisions of War Department Circular 345, 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded to the 106th Infantry Division Band, United States Army, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 16 December 1944 to 13 February 1945.

IV -- AWARD OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE (106TH SIGNAL COMPANY) -- Under the provisions of War Department Circular 345, 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded to the 106th Signal Company, United States Army, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 1 February 1945 to 1 April 1945.

V -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Silver Star is awarded to the following enlisted man:

Staff Sergeant David F. McErlane, 32 807 336, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 25 January 1945, in Belgium. When accurate shelling from an 88mm gun halted a company attack, Staff Sergeant McErlane, defying the devastating fire, crawled stealthily to within a short distance of the hostile weapon and opened fire on the crew with a carbine. Although completely exposed, he routed the enemy and directed supporting tanks, until the position was destroyed. When, after a slight advance, another 88mm gun pinned down the company,

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Staff Sergeant McErlane again crawled to an exposed position near the gun and, disregarding the imminent personal danger, poured a deadly hail of bullets into the emplacement, forcing the enemy to take cover. Although wounded and under small arms fire, he remained steadfast, until tanks for which he had shouted arrived and neutralized the installation. Entered military service from New York.

VI -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (MISSING IN ACTION) -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following enlisted men who are now missing in action:

Technician Third Grade Albert W. Rehorn, 32 825 519, Medical Detachment, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from New York.

Sergeant Robert W. Perkins, 39 552 910, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from California.

VII -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following enlisted men:

Staff Sergeant John C. Adams, 32 900 488, (then Technician Fifth Grade), 424th Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 13 January 1945, in Belgium. Entered military service from New York.

Corporal Marshall Q. Gowland, 38 500 534, (then Private First Class), 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 19 December 1944 and 20 December 1944, in Belgium. Entered military service from Louisiana.

Private First Class Melvin A. Moss, 36 519 648, Medical Detachment, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 10 February 1945, in Germany. Entered military service from Michigan.

Private First Class Jack A. Pellicano, 32 988 745, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 10 February 1945, in Germany. Entered military service from New York.

Private Richard H. Allen, 35 149 081, Medical Detachment, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 10 February 1945, in Germany. Entered military service from Indiana.

VIII -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following enlisted man for wounds received in action against the enemy in North-west Europe, on the date shown:

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Staff Sergeant David F. McErlane, 32 807 336, 424th Infantry, United States Army, on 25 January 1945. Entered military service from New York.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL STROH:

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

OFFICIAL:

F. I. Agule

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

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