



Service: Army

Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

Unit: 35th Tank Battalion of the 4th Armored Division

GENERAL ORDERS:

Headquarters, Third U.S. Army, General Orders No. 245 (1945)

CITATION:

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Lieutenant Colonel (Cavalry) Delk McCorkle Oden (ASN: 0-20805), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving as Commanding Officer, 35th Tank Battalion, 4th Armored Division, in action against enemy forces on 28 March 1945, in Germany. During operations near Guissen, Germany, Colonel Oden fearlessly maintained position at the head of his armored task force although suffering from a wound received a few days previously. When blown out of his tank by a direct hit from an enemy 88-mm. gun which killed his gunner and set fire to the tank, this dauntless officer mounted another tank and continued to lead the attack. Inspired by his intrepid gallantry, the task force drove forward to inflict tremendous losses of men and material upon the enemy. Colonel Oden's heroic leadership and indomitable fighting spirit exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States and reflect great credit upon himself, the 4th Armored Division, and the United States Army.