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GO 40

GENERAL ORDERS }

No. 40

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 26 April 1946

| | Section |
|--|---------|
| GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL—Authority to appoint granted..... | I |
| GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL—Revocation of authority to appoint..... | II |
| LEGION OF MERIT—Awards..... | III, IV |
| BATTLE HONORS—Citation of unit..... | V |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TYPHUS COMMISSION MEDAL—Awards..... | VI |

I. GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL.—By direction of the President, the commanding officer, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, is empowered, pursuant to the eighth article of war, to appoint general courts martial.

[AG 250.4 (1 Apr 46)]

II. GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL.—By direction of the President, the authority empowering the commanding officer, Eastern Signal Corps Training Center, to appoint general courts martial, granted in section I, WD General Orders 59, 1942, is rescinded.

[AG 250.4 (1 Apr 46)]

III. LEGION OF MERIT.—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officers and enlisted man:

Technician Third Grade *Geraldine S. Buchanan* (Army Serial No. A315575),
Women's Army Corps, Army of the United States. May 1944 to
September 1945.

Lieutenant Colonel *Bradford Cannon*, O518161 (then major), Medical
Corps, Army of the United States. March to December 1945.

Brigadier General *Philip S. Gage*, O2623, United States Army. March
1944 to January 1946.

Lieutenant Colonel *Sterling L. Larrabee*, O410351, General Staff Corps,
Army of United States. December 1943 to November 1945.

IV. LEGION OF MERIT.—1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942), and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officer:

Brigadier General *Jacques Delmas*, French Army. January to September 1944.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officers:

General de Brigade *Michel Albert Berges*, French Army. September 1944
to May 1945.

Captain *A. L. Besant*, British Royal Navy. February 1944 to May 1945.
Commandant (Chef d' Escadron) *Pierre Jean Michel Bouchez*, French
Army. September 1944 to January 1945.

AGO 3553B—Apr. 688781°—46

GO 40

2

Brigadier *Geoffrey K. Bourne*, British Army. January to May 1945.
Colonel *Ralph E. Brook*, British Army. December 1943 to July 1944.
Brigadier *M. Carr*, British Army. August 1943 to August 1944.
Wing Commander *John W. Davies*, Royal Air Force. 20 July 1942 to April 1945.
Commandant *Pesson Didion*, French Air Force. 20 July 1942 to May 1945.
Lieutenant Colonel *John N. V. Duncan*, British Army. 25 February 1943 to 15 January 1944.
Brigadier *W. C. A. Hanney*, British Army. September 1944 to June 1945.
Colonel *Charles E. M. Hardie*, British Army. August 1944 to July 1945.
Lieutenant Colonel *Henry Lacy-Scott*, British Army. November 1943 to August 1944.
Lieutenant Colonel *André Manuel*, French Army. November 1942 to September 1944.
Colonel *Henri Zeller*, French Army. August 1943 to September 1944.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942), and Executive Order 9280, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Legionnaire, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the periods indicated, was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officers:

Captain *Jean C. Aron*, French Army. August 1944 to February 1945.
Lieutenant *Cesar Clais*, French Army. 1 March to 9 May 1945.
Captain *Jean M. Dupertuis*, French Army. August 1944 to February 1945.
Colonel *Jacques Longuetot*, French Army. January to April 1945.

V. BATTLE HONORS.—As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943) superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following unit is cited by the War Department under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

The *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)*, consisting of *Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 6th Cavalry Group, 6th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron; 28th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron; Company B, 293d Engineer (C) Battalion; Company C, 602d Tank Destroyer Battalion, and Battery C, 253d Armored Field Artillery Battalion*, is cited for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action from 9 to 13 January 1945 in the reduction of an enemy pocket in Belgium and Luxembourg, southeast of Bastogne. After having performed an exacting mission under difficult conditions for a period of nearly 2 weeks, the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)* was committed the night of 8-9 January 1945 on a 5,000-yard front along the general line Villers-la-Bonne-Eau—Betlange—Farm Furhman with the mission of aggressive patrolling to follow up any enemy attempts to withdraw. When it became apparent on the morning of 9 January that the Germans had so organized the ground that it was impossible for the infantry on both flanks to advance, the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)* attacked on its own initiative and over and above the requirements of its own mission, but in furtherance of the corps mission. In order to make this attack successful against a numerically superior and well-dug-in enemy, a special task force was constituted, composed of elements of the various components of the group. This task force spearheaded the attack, and the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)*, making full use of its mobility and fire power, captured the towns of Betlange and Harlange. The

GO 40

3

attack continuing through the night, despite bitter cold and deep snow, was delayed only by serious obstacles, including mines and blown bridges in the vicinity of Watrange. At daylight, 10 January, these obstacles were quickly bypassed and the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)* drove on. Taking finely calculated risks, all leaders made maximum use of mobility and fire power in relentlessly seeking out and destroying the enemy. Open flanks were ignored by small units in the interest of speed. This speed, plus the aggressive fighting spirit of all personnel, made possible the capture of the towns of Lutremange, Watrange, and Tarchamps, and the zone assigned to the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)* was cleared quickly. Having completed its mission, and by doing so, making possible the advance of the units on its flanks, the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)*, in furtherance of the corps plan, requested and was granted permission to advance far beyond its original objective. The group drove on and assisted in the capture of Sonlez. The outstanding action of the *6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced)* broke the back of the German resistance in the Harlange pocket, which had held up the corps advance for a period of 11 days. The determination and indomitable fighting spirit of these courageous officers and men exemplify the finest traditions of the military service.

VI.—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TYPHUS COMMISSION MEDAL.—By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9285, 24 December 1942 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1943) and AR 600-45, the United States of America Typhus Commission Medal for exceptionally meritorious services in connection with the work of the Commission during the periods indicated was awarded by the War Department to the following-named officer and enlisted men:

Technician Third Grade *Robert O. Belcher* (Army serial No. 34899871), Medical Department, Army of the United States, rendered meritorious services in connection with the work of the United States of America Typhus Commission in the investigation of scrub typhus fever in Assam and Burma from June to November 1945. After assisting in the organization of the botanical section of the field headquarters of the Commission at Myitkyina, he was in charge of that section from September to November 1945. Technician *Belcher* developed techniques of study and made large collections of botanical specimens. His work contributed to increasing the understanding of the epidemiology of scrub typhus and to botanical science.

Technician Fourth Grade *Lyndahl E. Hughes* (Army serial No. 39927486), Medical Department, Army of the United States, rendered meritorious services in connection with the work of the United States of America Typhus Commission in the investigation of scrub typhus fever in Assam and Burma from April to November 1945. Technician *Hughes* contributed with skill and ability to the isolation of rickettsiae from mites and rodents and to the securing of scientific information on the extent and spread of the disease in Assam and Burma.

Lieutenant Commander *Hollis S. Ingraham*, Medical Corps, United States Naval Reserve, rendered exceptionally meritorious services in connection with the work of the United States of America Typhus Commission from December 1944 to August 1945. In villages in Egypt, in Saudi Arabia, and in French Morocco, he made extensive surveys of the typhus situation and participated in the application of control measures to prevent the spread of the disease. By scientific studies, he added to the knowledge of delousing by the use of DDT and of protection by

GO 40

3

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GO 40

4

vaccination. As an epidemiologist, Lieutenant Commander *Ingraham* contributed direct to the control of typhus fever.

Technician Fourth Grade *Edgar W. Sundermeyer*, (Army serial No. 37615195), Medical Department, Army of the United States, rendered meritorious services in connection with the work of the United States of America Typhus Commission in the investigation of scrub typhus in Assam and Burma from November 1944 to November 1945. His identification and classification of mites made it possible to determine the vector of the disease in the area examined. Technician *Sundermeyer* participated in the development of a method for the assessment of the risk of contraction of scrub typhus by troops entering a particular area. His contributions were of value to scientific knowledge and the practical control of scrub typhus.

Technician Fifth Grade *Paul J. Weber* (Army serial No. 37562024), Medical Department, Army of the United States, rendered exceptionally meritorious services in connection with the work of the United States of America Typhus Commission in the investigation of scrub typhus fever in Assam and Burma from November 1944 to November 1945. He demonstrated outstanding ability in the rearing of mites in the laboratory. Technician *Weber* contributed direct to the final identification of the mite which transmits the infection and to the first experimental proof that the infectious agent is transmitted from one generation of mites to the next. This demonstration of transovarial transmission of the agent of scrub typhus constitutes one of the most important stages in the advancement of new knowledge of the disease.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL

Major General

The Adjutant General

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Chief of Staff

AGO 3553B

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