

Audie Murphy's
Decorations
and
Miscellaneous Photos



*June 20, 1924 - May 28, 1971
Buried at Arlington National Cemetery*





Medal of Honor

General Orders No. 65 WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D.C., 9 August 1945

I. MEDAL OF HONOR. - By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), a Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty was awarded by the War Department in the name of Congress to the following-named officer:

Second Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy,
01692509, 15th Infantry, Army of the United States, on 26 January 1945, near Holtzwihr, France, commanded Company B, which was attacked by six tanks and waves of infantry. Lieutenant Murphy ordered his men to withdraw to a prepared position in a woods while he remained forward at his command post and continued to give fire directions to the artillery by telephone. Behind him to his right one of our tank destroyers received a direct hit and began to burn. Its crew withdrew to the woods. Lieutenant Murphy continued to direct artillery fire which killed large numbers of the advancing enemy infantry. With the enemy tanks abreast of his position, Lieutenant Murphy climbed on the burning tank destroyer which was in danger of blowing up any instant and employed its .50 caliber machine gun against the enemy. He was alone and exposed to the German fire from three sides, but his deadly fire killed dozens of Germans and caused their infantry attack to waver. The enemy tanks, losing infantry support, began to fall back. For an hour the Germans tried every available weapon to eliminate Lieutenant Murphy, but he continued to hold his position and wiped out a squad which was trying to creep up unnoticed on his right flank. Germans reached as close as 10 yards only to be mowed down by his fire. He received a leg wound but ignored it and continued the single-handed fight until his ammunition was exhausted. He then made his way to his company, refused medical attention, and organized the company in a counterattack which forced the Germans to withdraw. His directing of artillery fire wiped out many of the enemy; he personally killed or wounded about 50. Lieutenant Murphy's indomitable courage and his refusal to give an inch of ground saved his company from possible encirclement and destruction and enabled it to hold the woods which had been the enemy's objective. * * * * *

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL: G.C. MARSHALL
EDWARD F. WITSELL
Chief of Staff

Distinguished Service Cross Orders

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Distinguished-Service Cross is awarded by the Army Commander to the following named individuals:

AUDIE L. MURPHY, 01 692 509, Second Lieutenant, (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "B", 15th Infantry Regiment, for extraordinary heroism in action. Landing near Ramatuelle, France, with the first wave of the assault infantry, at 0800 hours, 15 August until halted by intense machine gun and small arms fire from a boulder-covered hill to his front.

Leaving his men in a covered position, he dashed forty yards through withering fire to a draw. Using this defiladed route, he went back toward the beaches, found a light machine gun squad and, returning up the rocky hill, placed the machine gun in position seventy-five yards in advance of his platoon. In the duel which ensued, Lieutenant Murphy silenced the enemy weapon, killed two of the crew and wounded a third. As he proceeded further up the draw, two Germans advanced toward him. Quickly destroying both of them, he dashed up the draw alone toward the enemy strongpoint, disregarding bullets which glanced off the rocks around him and hand grenades which exploded fifteen yards away. Closing in, he wounded two Germans with carbine fire, killed two more in a fierce, brief fire-fight, and forced the remaining five to surrender. His extraordinary heroism resulted in the capture of a fiercely contested enemy-held hill and the annihilation or capture of the entire enemy garrison. Entered military service from Farmersville, Texas.

By command of Lieutenant General PATCH:

ARTHUR A. WHITE,
Major General, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. G. CALDWELL
Colonel, AGD - Adjutant General.



Legion of Merit Orders

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

GO 100 UNITED STATES ARMY 25 MAY 1945

LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Legion of Merit is awarded, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the respective periods indicated, to:

First Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy (then Staff Sergeant and Second Lieutenant) (Army Serial No 01692509), Infantry, United States Army — 22 January 1944 to 18 February 1945.



BY COMMAND OF GENERAL
EISENHOWER:

T.B. Larkin,
OFFICIAL: Major General
USA, Deputy Chief of Staff.

/s/ R.B. LOVETT
Brigadier General, USA, Adjutant General.

Citation For Legion of Merit

”First Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy (then Staff Sergeant, and Second Lieutenant) (Army Serial No 01692509), Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Italy and France, as Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Leader and Company Commander of Company “B”, 15th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, from 22 January 1944 to 18 February 1945. First Lieutenant Murphy has always carried out his missions, no matter how hazardous, with marked ability. He often assumed leadership of his platoon in the absence of sufficient commissioned personnel and so intelligently and courageously led his men that he was commissioned an officer during the French campaign and commanded his company in a superior manner during the obliteration of the Colmar Pocket. First Lieutenant

Murphy's personal bravery, his skill in imparting his own knowledge of enemy tactics to his men, and his voluntary assumption of hazardous patrols and missions have benefited his unit to an immeasurable degree." Entered military service from Texas.

Silver Star Orders

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Silver Star is awarded each of the following named individuals:

AUDIE L. MURPHY, 01 692 509, First Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "B", 15th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On the morning of 2 October 1944, near CLEURIE QUARRY, France, First Lieutenant MURPHY inched his way over rugged, uneven terrain, toward an enemy machine gun which had surprised a group of officers on reconnaissance. Getting to within fifteen yards of the German gun, First Lieutenant MURPHY stood up and, disregarding a burst of enemy fire delivered at such close range and which miraculously missed him, flung two hand grenades into the machine gun position, killing four Germans, wounding three more and destroying the position. Residence: Farmersville, Texas.



By command of Major General O'DANIEL:

CHARLES E. JOHNSON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:
/s/ S.J. Rogers
Major, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General



**Silver Star, First Oak Leaf Cluster
Orders**

GENERAL ORDERS)
HEADQUARTERS
THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

Number 83)
A.P.O. #3 3 March 1945

AWARD OF 1ST OAK LEAF CLUS-
TER TO THE SILVER STAR. Under the
provisions of Army Regulations 600-45,
as amended, a 1st Oak Leaf Cluster to the
Silver Star previously awarded, is awarded
each of the following named individuals:

AUDIE L. MURPHY, 01 692 509, First Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "B", 15th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On the afternoon of 5 October 1944 near LE THOLY, France, First Lieutenant MURPHY, carrying an SCR 536 radio, crawled fifty yards under severe enemy machine gun and rifle fire, to a point 200 yards from strongly entrenched enemy who had prevented further advance. Despite machine gun and rifle bullets that hit as close as a foot to him, First Lieutenant MURPHY directed artillery fire upon enemy positions for an hour, killing fifteen Germans and inflicting approximately thirty-five additional casualties. His courage, audacity and accuracy enabled his company to advance and attain its objective. Residence: Greenville, Texas.

By command of Major General O'DANIEL:

CHARLES E. JOHNSON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ S.J. Rogers
Major, A.G.D. - Adjutant General

Bronze Star Orders

GENERAL ORDERS)
HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

Number 84)
4 March 1945

A.P.O. #3

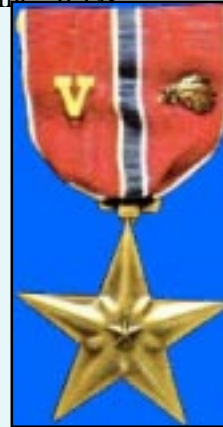
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded each of the following named individuals:

AUDIE L. MURPHY, 01 692 509, First Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "B", 15th Infantry Regiment. For valorous conduct in action against the enemy on 2 March 1944 on the Anzio Beachhead, in Italy. Residence: Greenville, Texas

By command of Major General O'DANIEL:

CHARLES E. JOHNSON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:
/s/ S.J. Rogers
Major, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.



Citation For Bronze Star

Audie L. Murphy, 01 692 509, First Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "B", 15th Infantry Regiment. For valorous conduct in action against the enemy. On the night of 2 March 1944, on the ANZIO BEACHHEAD in Italy, First Lieutenant MURPHY crept 100 yards over flat, open terrain during a fire fight between his small patrol and a group of Germans, to a point 50 yards from a partly disabled enemy tank. Taking careful aim, he fired several rifle grenades at the tank, hitting and completely destroying it. Then, when a great many enemy machine guns in the sector opened up, he led his men through bullet swept area to safety. Residence: Greenville, Texas.

JOHN W. O'DANIEL Major General, U.S. Army Commanding

Bronze Star Orders - First Oak Leaf Cluster
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

AGAPO-AD-S Murphy, Audie L.
01 692 509 (11 Dec 54)

SUBJECT: Letter Orders - Bronze Star Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster)

TO: Captain Audie L. Murphy, NGUS

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944, (Sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), you have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) for exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy while assigned to the 15th Infantry Regiment, on or about 8 May 1944, as Staff Sergeant, European Theater of Operations.

2. Authority for this award is contained in paragraph 18, AR 600-45, and Special Orders Number 39, Headquarters, 15th Infantry Regiment, dated 8 May 1944, which awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

Verne L. Bowers
Adjutant General

FILE: Beard/src/SAD-SA
/—Initialed SRC—/



Purple Heart



**National Association of the Croix de
Guerres
of the T.O.E. and of Military Valor
Hotel des Invalides, Paris**

CROIX DE GUERRE 1939-1945 CITATION

NAME CAPTAIN AUDIE L. MURPHY

BY ORDER OF THE ARMY

“COMMANDER, B COMPANY, 15TH
INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3D INFANTRY
DIVISION, AN ELITE UNIT THAT
FOUGHT WITHOUT INTERRUPTION

FOR 169 DAYS FROM THE BEACHES OF THE MEDITER-
RANEAN TO THE BANKS OF THE RHINE. PLACED
UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE COMMANDING
GENERAL, 1ST FRENCH ARMY, AT THE TIME OF THE
OPERATIONS TO REDUCE THE ALSACE POCKET, IT
PLAYED A LARGE PART IN THE VICTORIOUS BATTLE
OF COLMAR. ON THE NIGHT OF 23-24 JANUARY 1945,
IT SUCCEEDED IN CROSSING THE FECHT THEN THE
ILLEL AND TO TAKE THE PRIMARY ENEMY POSITION

IN SPITE OF A SNOW STORM AND HAZARDOUS TERRAIN. IT GAVE NO RESPITE TO THE ADVERSARY, CROSSED THE COLMAR CANAL TO SURROUND, THEN CONQUER, AFTER A FIERCE FIGHT, THE VILLAGE OF NEUF-BRISACH, CUTTING IN THIS WAY ONE OF THE TWO LONE AVENUES OF RETREAT OF THE GERMAN TROOPS. DURING THE COURSE OF THESE ACTIONS MORE THAN 4000 PRISONERS WERE CAPTURED.”

THIS CITATION AUTHORIZES THE AWARD OF THE CROIX DE GUERRE WITH PALM.

Order #508

Paris, 15 March 1945

Signed: C. De Gaulle

Belgium Croix de Guerre



The War Cross was awarded to Belgian military personnel (and in some cases to civilians, e.g. Resistance members) for valour in action against the enemy.

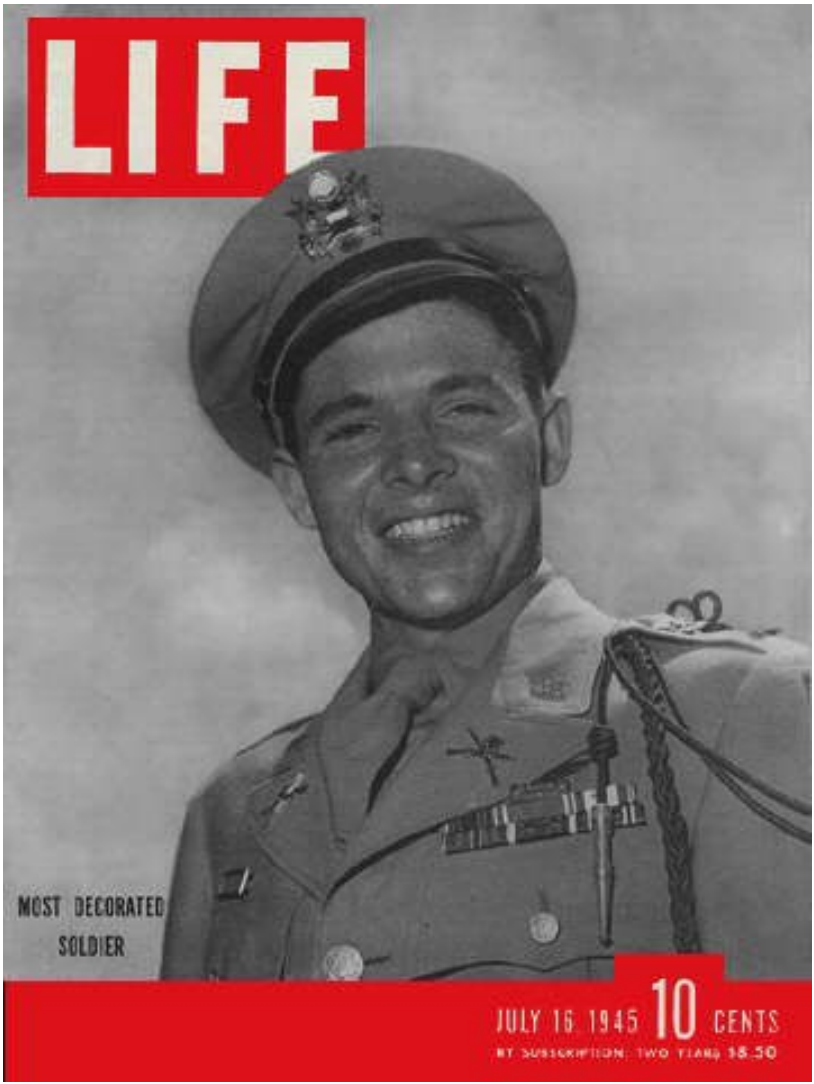
The obverse medallion of this bronze decoration depicts a rampant lion, the reverse the royal monogram of King Leopold III.

On 20 July 1941, the Belgian government in exile in London, instituted this bravery award which, like its WWI counterpart, could be embellished by a number of emblems placed on the ribbon : bronze or silver

lions for mentions in despatches on regimental or army level resp., a bronze palm for mentions by the War Office, etc.

Other Awards

U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal
Good Conduct Medal
Distinguished Unit Emblem (w/oak leaf cluster)
American Campaign Medal
Euro/Africa/Middle Eastern Campaign Medal
World War II Victory Medal
Army of Occupation Medal (Germany)
Armed Forces Reserve Medal
combat Infantry Badge
Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar
Expert Badge with Bayonet Bar
French Fourragere in Colors of the Croix de Guerre
French Legion of Honor
Medal of Liberated France



*Edwin
Murphy*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Edwin Murphy'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long tail on the 'y'.





















Frank Thompson

1769-2440



