

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY

APO 758

US Army

GENERAL ORDERS)

28 January 1945

NUMBER 21)

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Award of the Distinguished-Service Cross II

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II - AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.

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.

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By command of Lieutenant General PATCH:

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

OFFICIAL:

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