

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH INFANTRY
A. P. O. #3 U. S. ARMY

201-MURPHY, AUDIE L. (Off)

17 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Award of Medal of Honor.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D. C.

THROUGH: Commanding General, Third Infantry Division, APO #3, U. S. Army.

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, it is recommended that AUDIE L. MURPHY, O-1692509, Infantry, Second Lieutenant, Company "B", Fifteenth Infantry, be awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, in action involving actual conflict.

2. a. AUDIE L. MURPHY, O-1692509, was a Second Lieutenant, Commanding Officer, Company "B", Fifteenth Infantry, at the time of the action for which he is cited herein. He holds the same rank and commands the same organization at present.

b. Previous Awards: Distinguished Service Cross (GO #21, Headquarters Seventh Army, 28 January 1945). No similar recommendation has been previously submitted.

c. The service of Lieutenant MURPHY, since the action upon which this recommendation is based, has been honorable.

d. I was not an eyewitness to the action upon which this recommendation is based; however, attached hereto are the statements of First Lieutenant WALTER W. WEISPFENNING, Private First Class ANTHONY V. ABRAMSKI, and Sergeant ELMER C. BRAWLEY. Personal knowledge statement of Lieutenant Colonel KEITH L. WARE in re effect of deed is also attached.

3. a. Complete Description of Action: See attached statements and sketch.

b. Pertinent Data:

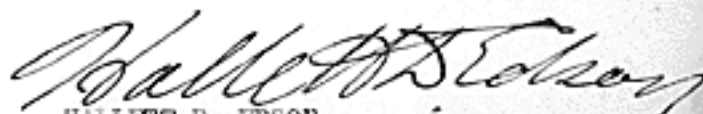
- (1) Character of terrain: Open country beyond a patch of woods.
- (2) Character of enemy fire during period in which deed was performed: 88 mm, machine gun, machine pistol, rifle fire and hand grenades.
- (3) Visibility: Excellent. Time of day: 1400 hours. Atmospheric conditions: Clear and cold.
- (4) Character of hostile observation: Excellent.
- (5) Proximity of enemy: 10 yards.
- (6) Morale: Of our forces, Excellent. Of the enemy, Excellent.
- (7) Casualties sustained: 20 wounded in action, 6 killed in action, and one injured in action.

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(3) Effect of deed: Held off two companies of German infantry, killing and wounding an estimated 50 and shattering the assault force with directed artillery fire.

4. Proposed Citation:

AUDIE L. MURPHY, O-1692509, Infantry, Second Lieutenant, Company "B", Fifteenth Infantry, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, in action involving actual conflict. At 1400 hours on 26 January 1945, near HOLTZWILHR, FRANCE, when his Company was savagely counterattacked by six heavy tanks and two German infantry companies, Lieutenant MURPHY remained at an advanced outpost, braving furious tank and automatic fire, to direct artillery concentrations on the enemy assault force. When a tank destroyer was set afire at his side, he climbed on the turret of the burning vehicle and, despite a painful shell wound, fired his 50 caliber machine gun, killing or wounding approximately 50 Germans, some of them at 10 yards range, and beating back every enemy assault. Residence: FARMERSVILLE, TEXAS.



HALLETT D. EDSON
Lt. Col., 15th Infantry
Commanding

Inclosures:

- (1) Certificate of Lt Col Ware
- (2) Certificate of 1st Lt Weispfenning
- (3) Statement of Pfc Abramski
- (4) Statement of Sgt Brawley
- (5) Sketch

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