



HEADQUARTERS 359TH INFANTRY  
APO 90, U.S. Army

GENERAL ORDER )

28 October 1944

NUMBER 33 )

Infantry Badge

1. Paragraph 3, Circular 136, WD, May 1944, prescribes the following qualifications, which may be applicable to members of this Regiment, for Expert Infantryman and Combat Infantryman Badges; quote:

"a. Expert Infantryman Badge.

(1) \*\*\*\*

(2) By satisfactory performance of duty in action against the enemy.

b. Combat Infantryman Badge. - By exemplary conduct in action against the enemy."

2. The Commanding Officer believes that in some instances in the past, the Combat Infantryman award has been recommended by Company Commanders, and the award has been made, based upon an insufficiently high standard of performance. He believes that in many such cases, the performance of duty in action against the enemy should have been termed satisfactory rather than exemplary, and that the Expert Infantryman award should, more appropriately, have been given. This statement of fact is not intended to nor does not reflect in the least upon those numerous individuals, commissioned and enlisted, who have been and are ever an example to their comrades, who, feeling the same fears, have displayed the moral courage to overcome those fears, and, remembering only the job to be done have gone forward or held the position with the fixed purpose of destroying the enemy in spite of all odds. However, due to the difficulty of review of previous awards, all heretofore made in orders will stand unless individually withdrawn per paragraph 4 below.

3. Commencing at once, the following provisions will govern the recommendations for Infantry Badges:

a. Expert Infantryman. - It is the duty of every soldier to obey. Therefore, the soldier who merely obeys his orders in action against the enemy, and who controls his fears, but without the exercise of any particular initiative, may be recommended for the Expert Infantryman Badge.

b. Combat Infantryman. - The soldier who, in action against the enemy, by display of initiative or other exemplary conduct furthers the accomplishment of his unit's combat mission, may and should be recommended for the Combat Infantryman Badge. In each case a brief description of the exemplary conduct will accompany the recommendation, such as, "organized counterattack", "repelled attack", "on initiative killed (wounded)(captured) - enemy." "On initiative continuously maintained wire (radio) communication under

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heavy fire", or brief similar expressions describing exemplary conduct.

c. No individual can be both Expert Infantryman and Combat Infantryman at the same time.

4. Revocation of Infantry Badge benefits.

For misconduct, brought to the attention of the Commanding Officer, the award of Combat Infantryman or Expert Infantryman will be withdrawn. Misconduct will include unsoldierly conduct, inattention to orders, lack of alertness, or any other failure which indicates a decrease in the individual's effectiveness as a combat soldier.

5. The following with respect to Infantry Badges will be entered on Service Records:-

a. Paragraph, Special Order Number, Headquarters and date of award.

b. Date of issue of Badge.

c. Paragraph, Special Order Number, Headquarters and date of withdrawal of award, if any.

d. Date of turn in of badge if award is withdrawn, or increased from Expert Infantryman to Combat Infantryman.

6. It will be the duty of the Personnel Officer to procure and issue to the nearest of kin of a deceased soldier or officer the appropriate Infantry Badge together with a copy of his order of award.

7. This order will be read to all Infantry individuals before 10 November 44, Battalion and Separate Unit Infantry Company Commanders will so certify on or before that date.

By Order of Col BACON:

CHARLES B. CROCKETT  
 Capt, Inf,  
 Adj.

OFFICIAL:

*Charles B. Crockett*  
 CHARLES B. CROCKETT  
 Capt, Inf,  
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