

VALOR OF ORION

Volume II

January 2023

1917 - 1919

Dickebush Sector

Mount Kemmel

Vierstraat Ridge

East Poperinghe Line

Hindenburg Line

LaSelle River St. Souplet

Meuse-Argonne St. Mihiel



1940- 1945

Makin

Majuro

Eniwetok

Saipan

Okinawa

2001 - Present

Noble Eagle

Iraqi Freedom

Enduring Freedom,

(Afghanistan)

Distinguished Service Cross

106th Infantry Regiment (WWI)



The Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army (or in the Air Force, before 1960), distinguishes themselves by extraordinary heroism not justifying the award of a Medal of Honor; while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing/foreign force; or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. The act or acts of heroism must have been so notable and have involved risk of life so extraordinary as to set the individual apart from their comrades.

The 106th Infantry regiment saw their fair share of combat in the Ypres-Lys sector and the Somme Offensive. Half of their awarded Distinguished Service Crosses went to officers, most of them being lieutenants. The notable exception was when high casualty rates among the battalion officers forced the 106th Commander to put his Judge Advocate, LTC Kincaid in charge of one of the infantry battalions. Of note, is the 106th's actions in the "Breaking of the Hindenburg Line" as depicted in the regimental distinctive unit insignia (above).

**THE ORION
GALLIVANTER**

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DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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All communications pertaining to the Gallivanter, membership dues, and contributions should be sent to the 27th Division Association ATTN: Secretary/Editor at the address above or

27thDivisionAssociation@gmail.com

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From the Editor,

Last year I inaugurated a new document series with the “Orion In Memoriam” publications, volumes I through VI. This year, I have focused on the acts of valor by members of the 27th Division in the two World Wars. This series will consist of volumes for each of the infantry regiments and then the remaining units.

I will be posting these documents on the website in the newly created “Hall of Valor” subpage (<https://27thdivisionassociation.com/history-of-the-27th/hall-of-valor/>) which is part of the “History of the 27th” main page (<https://27thdivisionassociation.com/history-of-the-27th/>). The Hall of Valor already hosts the citations of all the Medal of Honor recipients of the 27th from both World Wars.

I will also try to document as many of the Silver Star recipients as possible, but I have yet to explore that project fully. As I note on the cover page, the Silver Star medal was created by Congress well after the First World War and in World War Two this medal was awarded in lieu of a Distinguished Service Cross in many instances.

I hope that you the reader get a sense of history as you review these citations and become familiar with the place names and dates. They certainly helped me put the major actions of the 27th into the context of each war. I have also discovered that the gravesites of several of these personnel are within a short driving distance from my home in Western New York. I plan to visit them when I can.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Hujer

Editor

VALOR ROLL

ANDERSON, LANE S. (P)
ARMSTRONG, THOMAS
BIGDA, EUGENE J.
BLOMGREN, ERNEST W.
BOUGIE, JAMES
CLOSE, HARRY L.
COGHILL, MONROE (P)
DE LOISELLE, HAROLD C.
HADLEY, LEE A.
HOOK, ALFRED J. (P)
IRELAND, RUTHERFORD
JACKSON, FRANKLIN J. (P)
JOHNSON, CHRISTIAN A.
KINCAID, JAMES LESLIE
KLEIN, ARTHUR (P)
LYNK, HARRY E.
RAWLINSON, JOHN W.
REYNOLDS, EUGENE C.
SCANLON, HORACE B.
SPENCER, ERIC W.
WALSH, HERBERT E.
WARD, THOMAS F., JR.
WEBSTER, WILLARD M. (P)

WORLD WAR ONE



Somme American Cemetery and Memorial

ANDERSON, LANE SCHOFIELD (P)

Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Lane S. Anderson, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action in the attack on the Hindenburg Line in France, September 27, 1918. Shortly after reaching his objective his detachment was attacked and almost encircled by the enemy, who were covering the position with sweeping machine-gun fire. In the face of this fire, Lieutenant Anderson, with a grenade in each hand, jumped up from the cover of his position and attacked the enemy by bombing. He had advanced but a short distance when he was struck several times by machine-gun shots. He was dragged back to his trench and died shortly after.

General Orders No. No. 10, W.D., 1920

Home Town: Charleston, WV

ARMSTRONG, THOMAS

Sergeant, U.S. Army

Company H, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Thomas Armstrong, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action east of Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. During the operations against the Hindenburg line, Sergeant Armstrong alone, attacked and drove back an enemy patrol. Later, when his captain was wounded, Sergeant Armstrong remained with him and killed two Germans who attacked them.

General Orders No. No. 142, W.D., 1918

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

BLOMGREN, ERNEST W.

Private First Class, U.S. Army

Sanitary Detachment, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Ernest W. Blomgren, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. During the operations against the Hindenburg Line, east of Ronssoy, on September 27, 1918, Private Blomgren displayed unusual courage and bravery by going forward through the terrific shell and machine-gun fire to rescue wounded comrades.

General Orders 64, W.D., 1919

Home Town: New York, NY

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Preserving our Legacy, Teaching our History, & Honoring the Fallen

(Continued from page 4)

BOUGIE, JAMES

Private, U.S. Army

Sanitary Detachment, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to James Bougie, Private, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. During operations against the Hindenburg line Private Bougie went forward under a heavy shell and machine-gun fire and brought in wounded comrades, continuing his work even after he himself had been wounded.

General Orders No. 37, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

CLOSE, HARRY L.

Corporal, U.S. Army

Company D, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Harry L. Close, Corporal, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. During operations against the Hindenburg line, Corporal Close, single handed, attacked a group of 13 of the enemy. By hard fighting he succeeded in killing three and taking the remainder as prisoners, marching them to the rear under heavy fire of machine guns and shells. When returning to his command he was wounded.

General Orders No. 37, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

DE LOISELLE, HAROLD C.

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Harold C.

De Loisselle, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. Lieutenant De Loisselle twice voluntarily went forward under heavy shell and machine-gun fire to reconnoiter the enemy positions. While leading the second of these patrols the officer who accompanied him was killed. Notwithstanding, with but one other man, he continued in his reconnaissance until almost surrounded by the enemy. He succeeded in outmaneuvering the enemy and returned with valuable information.

General Orders No. No. 39, W.D., 1920

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

HADLEY, LEE A.

First Lieutenant (Medical Corps), U.S. Army

106th Infantry (Attached), 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Lee A. Hadley, First Lieutenant (Medical Corps), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. Under observation of the enemy and with complete disregard for his own safety Lieutenant Hadley ran and crawled 200 yards to a shell hole where eighteen of his men had been killed or wounded by shellfire. Dressing the wounds of twelve of the surviving men, he carried each of them 100 yards to a place of safety under intense enemy machine-gun and artillery fire; from this point they were evacuated by members of a sanitary detachment. Two of the wounded men were killed by enemy fire while being carried in the arms of this officer. The undaunted bravery of Lieutenant Hadley was an inspiration to every member of his organization.

General Orders No. No. 14, W.D., 1923

Home Town: Lacona, NY

(Continued on page 6)



Captain Alfred J. Hook, Distinguished Service Cross, 106th Infantry, Brooklyn. Killed in action.



Somme American Cemetery and Memorial

HOOK, ALFRED JOHN (P)

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Alfred J. Hook, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action east of Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. Lieutenant Hook exhibited great courage and gallantry in taping off the line of departure for his company under a heavy shell and machine-gun fire, later in the attack this daring officer was killed at the head of his company.

General Orders No. No. 139, W.D., 1918

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

IRELAND, RUTHERFORD

Captain, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: October 18, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Rutherford Ireland, Captain, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near St. Souplet, France, October 18, 1918. Captain Ireland continued to lead his battalion in attack, although suffering great pain from a wound caused by shell fire. After being ordered to the dressing station, he had his wound dressed without waiting to have the shrapnel removed, returning to his battalion, and remaining on duty for two days.

General Orders No. 37, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

JACKSON, FRANKLIN J. (P)

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Franklin J. Jackson, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action east of Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918.

(Continued on page 7)

Preserving our Legacy, Teaching our History, & Honoring the Fallen

(Continued from page 6)

During the operations against the Hindenburg line Lieutenant Jackson, trench-mortar officer of his regiment, twice volunteered to go forward under heavy shell and machine-gun fire on a personal reconnaissance. While gallantly and courageously engaged in the second reconnaissance he was killed.

General Orders No. No. 142, W.D., 1918

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

JOHNSON, CHRISTIAN A.

Private First Class, U.S. Army

Headquarters Company, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Christian A. Johnson, Private First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. When a strong force of the enemy had cut off his company from the advance units of our troops, Private Johnson volunteered to accompany two officers on a hazardous patrol to ascertain the exact location of the enemy and our advance troops. They came under terrific enemy fire, by which one of the officers was killed, but Private Johnson continued forward until he was completely surrounded by the enemy. He succeeded in working his way back and made his report, which was of great value in meeting the critical situation.

General Orders 78, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Rapid City, MI

KINCAID, JAMES LESLIE

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army

Judge Advocate General's Department, 106th Infantry (Attached), 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to James Leslie Kincaid, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. Because of a shortage of officers and

after additional officers had been requested, Colonel Kincaid volunteered to command one of the battalions of the 106th Infantry. He commanded the battalion throughout the engagement of September 27, 1918, with great courage and forcefulness and without regard to his personal safety, thereby setting a splendid example to all ranks.

General Orders No. No. 59, W.D., 1921

Home Town: Syracuse, NY

LYNK, HARRY E.

Sergeant, U.S. Army

Company G, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Harry E. Lynk, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. While suffering from severe wounds he organized several small groups from other companies, consolidated them, and led them into effective combat, continuing with this splendid example of courage and fearlessness until wounded a second time.

General Orders No. 23, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

RAWLINSON, JOHN W.

Private, U.S. Army

Company K, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 28, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to John W. Rawlinson, Private, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action at Quinmont, France, near Ronssoy, France, September 28, 1918. After assisting in repulsing a strong enemy counterattack, Private Rawlinson, with two other soldiers, became separated from his company, due to the heavy fog.

(Continued on page 8)

Preserving our Legacy, Teaching our History, & Honoring the Fallen

(Continued from page 7)

Seeing a superior force of the enemy in a trench, they unhesitatingly attacked, and after killing and wounding several of the enemy, they captured numerous prisoners and brought them back to our lines.

General Orders No. 68, W.D., 1920

Home Town: Kingsville, TX

REYNOLDS, EUGENE C.

Private, U.S. Army

Company K, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 28, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Eugene C. Reynolds, Private, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action at Quinmont Farm, near Ronssoy, France, September 28, 1918. After assisting in repulsing a strong enemy counterattack, Private Reynolds, with two other soldiers, became separated from his company, due to the heavy fog. Seeing a superior force of the enemy in a trench, they unhesitatingly attacked, and after killing and wounding several of the enemy, they captured numerous prisoners and brought them back to our lines.

General Orders No. 68, W.D., 1920

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

SCANLON, HORACE B.

Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Horace B. Scanlon, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27, 1918. Gathering about 49 men from various units in a forward trench Lieutenant Scanlon organized them into an attacking party and led them forward under heavy machine-gun fire, repulsing an enemy counterattack. While in the performance of this exploit he was mortally wounded, but attempting to push forward with his men, he called out: "Go on fighting! Never mind what hap-

pened to me."

General Orders No. 44, W.D., 1919

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

SPENCER, ERIC W.

Sergeant, U.S. Army

Machine-Gun Company, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: October 17, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Eric W. Spencer, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near St. Souplet, France, October 17, 1918. During the fording of the La Selle River and the heights beyond, Sergeant Spencer advanced against a nest of enemy snipers under heavy machine-gun and shell fire, and by his courage and bravery succeeded in killing four of the enemy.

General Orders No. 37, W.D., 1919

Home Town: New York, NY

WALSH, HERBERT E.

Sergeant, U.S. Army

Company H, 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 27 - 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Herbert E. Walsh, Sergeant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 27 - 29, 1918. On September 27 Sergeant Walsh assumed command of his company after other officers and noncommissioned officers had been killed or wounded and led it forward through heavy fire to its objective. He then organized his position for defense. He later made a personal reconnaissance in advance of our lines and returned with valuable information. The courageous conduct of this noncommissioned officer was an important factor in the success of the operations of the company.

General Orders No. 60, W.D., 1920

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY

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Preserving our Legacy, Teaching our History, & Honoring the Fallen

(Continued from page 8)

WARD, THOMAS F., JR.

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

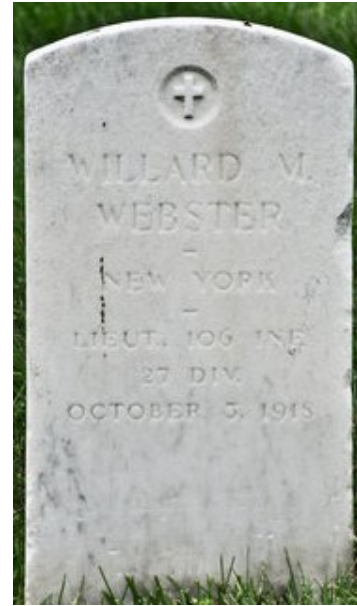
Date of Action: September 27, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Thomas F. Ward, Jr., First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Bony, France, September 27, 1918. Severely wounded by enemy fire, Lieutenant Ward learned that an officer of his company, Lieutenant Boullee, was seriously wounded and lying in a shell hole some distance away. Dragging himself to the side of Lieutenant Boullee, he laboriously rendered first aid to the latter, who could not be moved on account of his wounded condition. Refusing to be evacuated to hospital, Lieutenant Ward chose to remain with his brother officer. The enemy having recaptured the territory in which the wounded officers were lying, the American officers remained concealed in their place of comparative shelter for 48 hours, when the enemy was repulsed and the ground regained, when the wounded men were sent to the rear.

General Orders No. No. 14, W.D., 1923

Home Town: Brooklyn, NY



Arlington National Cemetery

WEBSTER, WILLARD McMULLEN (P)

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, A.E.F.

Date of Action: September 29, 1918

Citation:

The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Willard M. Webster, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Ronssoy, France, September 29, 1918. Lieutenant Webster received a painful wound in the face shortly after leading his company to the attack, but he refused to be evacuated until he suffered additional wounds, which eventually caused his death.

General Orders 70, W.D., 1919

Home Town: New York, NY

QUARTERMASTER ITEMS

2018 Reunion Badge/Coin set: we have some badge/coin sets remaining- the badge is a very special item in the traditions of the 27th Association and you'll want to get one before they are gone! [Available here on eBay](#).



Life members, lapel pins. Available at all meetings and the Reunion. See the Secretary for yours! These are free of charge with your life



membership. Roughly half dollar sized.

27th Association Tie bars. Available at meetings and Reunion from the Secretary. Cost is \$13.



Association coffee mugs for sale at our events. Cost is \$15



CALLING FOR SUBMISSIONS!

If you have a story or photo(s) that you want to submit to the Gallivanter here are our publication guidelines.

1. Must relate to the 27th Infantry or Armored Brigade/Division, or the 27th Division Association.
2. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, typographical errors, and length. When time permits we will send you an advance copy of what you material will look like.
3. Items may not appear in the very next Gallivanter published after you submitted. We will try to notify you in advance of when it will be published!
4. Lastly, all content should be something that serves to inform our readership about the training, combat service, and dedication of our Soldiers.
5. Send to 27thDivisionAssociation@gmail.com. Subject line should read “For Gallivanter”. Thank you.



27th Division Association



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