

DECORATIONS and AWARDS

FOR VALOR and SERVICE of OUR MEN in the ARMED FORCES



Army Awards



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR
America's highest award for valor. Takes precedence over all others. Oak leaf cluster added for each presentation.



ORDER OF PURPLE HEART
America's oldest medal. Now awarded those wounded or posthumously to those who died in battle.



SOLDIER'S MEDAL
Awarded for heroism reflecting credit to the Service in Peace or War, to officers or enlisted men.



SILVER STAR
Awarded for gallantry in battle. Recently adopted also by the Navy.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
Awarded those whose judgment in responsibility made it possible for American arms to overcome enemy effort.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS
Awarded by or in the name of the President for extraordinary heroism in battle.

Navy Awards



MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
Awarded Navy and Marine for meritorious service other than battle.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
Awarded when judgment and performance reflect credit on Navy.



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR
America's highest award for heroism above call of duty. Ribbon is worn about the neck. Precedes all others.



NAVY CROSS
Awarded for heroism, ranks next to Medal of Honor. Gold star indicates 2nd award.



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL
New award extended to officers as well as enlisted men of Navy and Marines for gallantry at risk of life beyond call of duty.

Special Awards



AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL
Issued for service of 1 yr. or longer between Sept. 8, 1938 and Dec. 7, 1941.

LEGION OF MERIT
Awarded to men of U.S. armed forces or friendly foreign nations for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of



GOOD CONDUCT
for Army enlisted men who after Aug. 1940 completed 3 yrs., or after Dec. 1941 complete 1 yr. of continuous Honorable Service.



Air Service Awards



DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
Awarded for heroism in the air. Identical for all services.



AIR MEDAL
Awarded for meritorious achievement while participating in Aerial Flight.

Marine Award

BREVET MEDAL
Awarded those who led men in battle or landing parties after higher officers had become casualties.



Merchant Marine Award

MERCHANT MARINE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
Awarded for heroism