

Recommendation for award of Bronze Star Medal

Dean S. Knight serving as 1st Lieutenant, F.A. (Field Artillery) Headquarters, 771st Tank Destroyer Bn.

For Bronze Star Medal: Dean S. Knight, while serving with the Army of the United States, distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy, during the period from 7 February 1945 to 30 April 1945.

During the period prior to the crossing of the Roer River, First Lieutenant Dean S. Knight, as liaison Officer, while under continual enemy observation and although under Enemy small arms and mortar fire, reconnoitered areas and supervised the emplacement and firing of destroyers and capture field pieces from position in advance of the infantry outposts.

On the drive from the Roer River to the Rhine, he was largely instrumental by efficient liaison with the two tank destroyer battalions on the left in keeping the Battalion fully informed day and night of enemy disposition and tactics. Because of the tactical situation, he was forced to travel at night through unfamiliar territory and never once was the required information delayed.

After the Battalion move from Krefeld across the Rhine River, the rapid advance to the Elbe made extremely difficult the problem of liaison with the companies and higher headquarters, but through the resourcefulness and initiative of First Lieutenant Dean S. Knight, contact was maintained throughout the operation, even though much of the area had been by-passed by friendly armored and cavalry forces and had not been cleared of enemy troops by the infantry. The Battalion was kept fully informed of the situation regarding its units at all times.

Proposed Citation:

First Lieutenant Dean S. Knight (Army Serial Number 01823610), Field Artillery, 771st Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, while serving with the Army of the United States in Germany, distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy, during the period from 7 February 1945 to 30 April 1945 in connection with military operations against the enemy. First

Lieutenant Knight , under small arms fire, mortar fire, and continual army observation reconnoitered areas and supervised the emplacement and firing of destroyers from positions in front of the infantry outposts. From the Roer to the Elbe, he maintained effective liaison with two tank destroyer battalions and higher headquarters in an extremely rapidly-moving situation and kept his headquarters fully informed of all developments. The initiative, resourcefulness and devotion to duty shown by First Lieutenant Knight, reflect the highest credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

David DeG. Smith
Lt. Col., F.A.,
Commanding.

Sent to: Headquarters 102d Infantry Division Artillery

Approved 30 June 1945

Signed: James P Harrigon

Lt. Col., F.A.,
Commanding