For gallantry in action in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 20 December 1944, while serving as Company Commander, one of Captain PETRIE'S platoons was defending the \*\*\* bridge at \*\*\*. Rearing small arms in the woods southeast of the bridge. Captain PETRIE personally led a patrol to determine enemy strength and position. That night, under enemy mortar, machine gun and artillery fire, the enemy attacked, but Captain PETRIE. by superior strategy personally and without regard to his own safety, directed his fire so as to conceal the weakness of his defense, while meneuvering one captain PETRIE, while meneuvering one of his guns was severely wounded. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. Captain PETRIE entered the military service from New Jersey.