

OFFICE OF THE SURGEON
HIGH UP APO#230
U.S. ARMY

20 APRIL 1945.

SUBJECT : Recommendation for the "Award Of The Bronze Star".

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, HIGH UP, APO#230, U.S.ARMY.

1. I recommend that Technician Grade 5, SMATLAK, PAUL (NMI), ASN 33 569 094, have his name submitted for the "Award Of The Bronze Star", for meritorious service during the period from 10 December 1944 to 20 April 1945.
2. Tec 5 Smatlak has performed his duties in an excellent manner, often beyond the call of duty, and has shown outstanding heroism on several occasions in the evacuation of the wounded in the face of constant enemy fire.
3. While his company was stationed in the town of Hurtgen, Germany, Tec 5 Smatlak, and the aid men under his command, cleaned out a basement of a deserted house and erected a small, but efficient hospital, to care for the minor illnesses and battle casualties. Bunks were erected, a stove salvaged to supply heat and bathing facilities installed to aid in their patients recovery and comfort. He was commended by the Battalion Commander for this outstanding work.
4. When his company moved to a new station at Kleinbau, Germany, Tec 5 Smatlak supervised and helped with the excavation and erection of an underground hospital, which was in use for a period of forty four days. Bunks, heat and washing facilities were furnished by him and his aid men, and a total of twenty seven patients were treated and cared for by them during this period. This was in addition to the daily routine trip that was made by him to all company gun positions to care for the men who were unable to leave same for medical care.
5. Tec 5 Smatlak was called on the 2nd February 1945, at approximately 1600 to evacuate one of our men, namely Cpl Edward H. Myers, who was wounded by enemy action, and under constant shelling he performed the evacuation after administering first aid to Cpl Myers. He, also, assisted in the evacuation of the five wounded men and the one man who was killed by enemy action on 30 January 1945. This was also under constant enemy fire.
6. Tec 5 Smatlak has performed his various duties in an excellent and outstanding manner and has been commended by the Battalion Commander, Company Commander and the Battalion Surgeon for this splendid work.

True Copy
Barbara Anderson

R. R. Licker
R.R. LICKER, CAPT, M.C.
Battalion Surgeon
High Up



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING: THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, 24 AUGUST 1962 HAS AWARDED

THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PAUL SMATLAK

TO

(THEN) TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE, ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

FOR exceptionally meritorious achievement while assigned to the Medical Detachment, 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion during the period 10 December 1944 to 20 April 1945 in the European Theater of Operations. Technician Fifth Grade Smatlak under constant shelling, administered first aid and evacuated several wounded men and one man who was killed in action. Technician Fifth Grade Smatlak's expertise and outstanding performance of duty reflect distinct credit upon himself, the 817th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and the United States Army.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS 26TH DAY OF JULY 2001



THE ADJUTANT GENERAL



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY