

Sears

The Navy Book of Distinguished Service

An official compendium of the names and citations
of the men of the United States Navy, Marine
Corps, Army and foreign governments who
were decorated by the Navy Depart-
ment for extraordinary gallantry
and conspicuous service
above and beyond the
call of duty in the
World War

WWI

With a foreword by
JOSEPHUS DANIELS

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SAMPSON, J. C. *Sea.*

U. S. N. While serving as member of the Armed Guard of the *S. S. Tyler*, when that ship was torpedoed on May 1, 1918, he proceeded to hoist the ship's colors and was almost immediately killed by the explosion of a second torpedo which struck the ship.

SAVIN, Robert S. *Lt. (J. G.)*

U. S. N. He rendered valuable service at the front with the 14-inch Naval Batteries which were sent to France.

SCHEIBLA, Louis C. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. He rendered meritorious service as officer in charge of the Crown Optical Co. at Rochester, N. Y., which, when it failed in its deliveries of binoculars was commandeered by the government. Immediately after he took charge, the deliveries of binoculars commenced and were continued at such a rate that the demands of the Navy were properly met.

SCHOLZE, Ernest A. *Ens.*

U. S. N. He rendered conspicuous and meritorious service on board the *U. S. S. Yarnall*, when he went to the assistance of a man who had been thrown down by a heavy sea and was helpless, and by his quickness and complete disregard of personal safety, helped save the life of this man.

SCHOPPE, Samuel. *C. B. M.*

U. S. N. He rendered meritorious service as commander of the Armed Guard of the *S. S. Joseph Cudahy*. On Aug. 17, 1918 a torpedo was sighted but the attempt to avoid it was unsuccessful and a second torpedo also struck the ship and exploded. Both guns were put out of commission and the ship sank rapidly.

SCHWEIKERT, Albert M. *C. B. M.*

U. S. N. On March 23, 1917 when the *U. S. S. Terry* went to the assistance of the *U. S. S. Manley*, following an explosion on that vessel, he showed courage and excellent seamanship in handling a boat of which he was in charge while engaged in receiving men from the *Manley* and transporting them to the *Terry*. The fire which was raging on the *Manley* at the time made this operation dangerous as well as difficult.

SCOTT, George C. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. R. F. He performed meritorious service as Senior Assistant to the Public Works Office at the U. S. Naval Gun Factory, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.

SCOTT, Norman. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. As Executive Officer of the *U. S. S. Jacob Jones* on the occasion of the

torpedoing of that vessel on December 6, 1917, he showed marked energy, zeal and coolness and displayed excellent seamanship in getting life belts and splinter nets from the bridge into the water, encouraging and helping the men in general, doing everything possible demanded by the emergency in the short time available.

SCOTT, Thomas A. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. R. F. He performed exceptionally valuable service in organizing the salvage operations undertaken by the Navy as a consequence of special conditions resulting from submarine warfare.

SEARS, Samuel P. *Lt. (J. G.)*

U. S. N. R. F. He rendered highly meritorious service as one of the officers on the Staff of the Commander Newport News Division, Cruiser and Transport Force.

SEED, Charles R. *Lt. (J. G.)*

U. S. N. R. F. As one of the officers of the *U. S. S. Wakiva*, he participated in an engagement with an enemy submarine on November 28, 1917 as a result of which the submarine was severely damaged, if not actually destroyed.

SEKOWSKI, Frank. *Cox.*

U. S. N. While serving on the *U. S. S. Balch* on the occasion of a collision between that vessel and the *U. S. S. Paulding* on Oct. 20, 1918, he with two other men seeing a collision imminent placed the depth charges on safe.

SERAFINI, Louis. *C. B. M.*

U. S. N. R. F. While serving on the *U. S. S. Wakiva* in an engagement with a submarine on Nov. 28, 1918, he was on lookout watch and the first to sight the enemy periscope and report it.

SHAFFNER, Fred C. *Ph. M., 3c.*

U. S. N. While serving with the 6th Regiment U. S. Marines, he rendered highly commendable service in caring for the wounded, particularly on the morning of April 13, 1918, in caring for and evacuating a large number of casualties following a gas shell bombardment, though himself gassed, from the effects of which he afterwards died.

SHARP, Alexander, Jr. *Comdr.*

U. S. N. He rendered meritorious service in command of the *U. S. S. Downes* from Sept. 22, 1918, until the end of the submarine campaign.

SHERMAN, Edward C. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. R. F. As officer in charge in the Bureau of Yards and Docks, of the designing and planning of all public works,

features of radio stations, fuel oil installations, marine barracks and of many routine projects at various yards and Naval Stations, he displayed unusual energy, zeal and ability in the execution of his duties.

SHIRK, Elbert Walker. *Lt. (J. G.)*

U. S. N. R. F. He displayed marked heroism on June 23, 1918 in jumping overboard from the *U. S. S. Lorraine* and saving the life of a Belgian soldier who had fallen overboard and was unconscious and helpless.

SIMMERS, Clayton M. *Comdr.*

U. S. N. He rendered meritorious service in connection with the design of the Eagle Class of patrol vessels and numerous other devices of small craft required to meet the special conditions of the war.

SIMPSON, Edward R. *C. E.*

U. S. N. While serving on the *U. S. S. N-5*, on Aug. 23, 1918, his arm was badly fractured in an accident, notwithstanding this, three days later he volunteered to repair the hydroplane system which had become inoperative.

SLIFER, George A. *Lt. (J. G.)*

U. S. N. He performed highly meritorious service in the administration of the Naval Clothing Factory in South Brooklyn, N. Y.

SMALL, Francis. *Lieut.*

U. S. N. R. F. As an administrative and technical assistant to the Officer-in-Charge of the Accounting division, he rendered highly meritorious service and showed marked ability, unwavering loyalty and individual and remarkable executive and business ability.

SMEAD, Walter A. *Comdr.*

U. S. N. As the Officer-in-Charge of the Repair Division of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, he performed highly meritorious service. His energy, ability and initiative resulted in an efficient, and well-handled method of caring for engineering supplies.

SMITH, Arthur St. Clair. *Capt.*

U. S. N. He rendered highly meritorious service as head of the Department of Electrical Engineering at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

SMITH, Emmet C. *Ph. M., 3c.*

U. S. N. While serving with the 6th Regiment, U. S. Marines, he rendered highly commendable service in caring for the wounded, particularly at Bouresches, on June 6, 1918.

SMITH, Frank G. *C. B. M.*

U. S. N. While serving on the *U. S. S. Conyngham*, when a heavy storm was encountered on Nov. 7, 1918, and several depth charges had broken loose, he aided in securing the depth charges under dangerous circumstances.

SMITH, Frank M. *Lt.*

U. S. N. He rendered meritorious service in connection with the production of spruce for aircraft at a time when the situation with regard to the construction of this craft was critical and immediate development of a large supply necessary.

SMITH, Frederick M. *Ens.*

U. S. N. R. F. He performed highly meritorious service at the Fleet Supply Base, South Brooklyn, N. Y. and showed great tact in handling business problems which confronted him.

SMITH, George. *Cox.*

U. S. N. While serving as a member of the armed guard of the steamer *Howick Hall* in a large convoy, on May 17, 1918, he sighted the wake of a torpedo with such promptness that there was time to allow the ship's course to be changed and avoid the torpedo, thereby saving the ship from destruction.

SMITH, H. R. *Q. M., 2c.*

U. S. N. While serving as member of the Armed Guard of the *S. S. Tyler*, when that ship was torpedoed on May 1, 1918, he went to his gun station in charge of the after gun, fired a shot and was unfortunately killed by the explosion of a second torpedo which struck the ship.

SMITH, James Downing. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. While serving at the Navy Yard, Cavite, P. I., he rendered valuable service in connection with the reconditioning of seized German steamers.

SMITH, James O. *Sea., 2c.*

U. S. N. While serving on the *U. S. S. Chestnut Hill* on the occasion of a gasoline explosion and fire on that vessel on Oct. 9, 1918, he went into a wing tank containing leaky case gasoline in search of burning waste.

SMITH, Karl F. *Lt. Comdr.*

U. S. N. As Aide to Train Commander, Atlantic Fleet, he rendered meritorious service and displayed great industry, zeal and efficiency, and as liaison officer of the Train, with the Supply Base at Norfolk, he performed efficient and excellent work.