

PURPLE HEART

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NOTE: THE PURPLE HEART
 A Working Bibliography

Conferred upon individuals wounded in action while serving with the armed forces after 5 Apr 1917. The medal descends from the Badge of Military Merit established by George Washington in 1782 but disused until reestablished and revised in 1932. Eligible, at that time, were those WWI veterans awarded wound chevrons or meritorious service citations.

Arnold, Louise A. A White Cloath and a Purple Heart: Vignette of Military History No 207, USAMHI, 2 Aug 1982. 1 p.
BibFile(Awards).

Collier, Rex. "Rare Award for A.E.F. Heroes." Clipped article from Wash, DC, Sunday Star Magazine (25 Jan 1931). 2 p.
MiscFiles(Awards).
Includes accounts of first and other early awards of the medal.

"For Valor." Clipped article from the Wash, DC, Times Herald (25 Apr 1942). 2 p. MiscFiles(Awards).
Details on the three soldiers who received the Badge of Military Merit, 1783.

Hughes, Rupert. "The Purple Heart." Pennsylvania Guardsman 38 (Apr 1935): pp. 4-5 & 31. Per.
Fictional account of Rev War origins of PH.

Kerrigan, Evans E. American War Medals and Decorations. NY: Viking, 1971. pp. 43 & 63. RefColl.

Ludvigsen, Eric C. "Bicentennial for Purple Heart." Army 32 (Aug 1982): pp. 14-15. Per.
Origins & later details.

Purple Heart Magazine. 4 issues, 1967 & 1970. Per.

Sapienza, Madeline. Peacetime Awards of the Purple Heart in the Post-Vietnam Period. Wash, DC: U.S. Army Cent of Mil Hist, 1987. 31 p. UB433S36.

Lists in chronological order the dates, individuals, and incidents of each award by all armed services.

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Sauve, N.B. Memoirs. Arch.
Officer awarded PH for meritorious service.

U.S. Army Center of Military History. "200th Anniversary of Awarding the Purple Heart - Information Memorandum." Photocopy of typescript, 29 Jan 1982. 2 p. BibFile(Awards).

U.S. Dept of Army. Military Awards: Army Regulation 672-5-1, 3 Jun 1974. Chap 2, pp. 9-10. ARs.
And earlier eds.

U.S. War Dept. Circular No 6, 22 Feb 1932. 5 p. Circs, LevA.
Procedures for pre-1932 wounds appear on p. 3.

_____. General Orders Nos 6, 53, and 64, 1918. GO, LevA.
Prescribed WWII wound chevrons.

_____. General Order No 3, 22 Feb 1932. 1 p. GOs & BibFile(Awards).
Authorized & named the modern version of the award.

Wensyel, James W. "The Badge of Military Merit." American History Illustrated XVII (May 1982): pp. 26-31. Per.

Westcott, Allen Pennell. "For Military Merit." Military Affairs V (Fall 1941): pp. 211-214. Per.
Origins and early history.

Willey, W.L. The Order of Military Merit: The Badge of Military Merit of the Continental Army. Exeter, NH: Society of the Cincinnati, NH, 1925. 25 p. (photocopy of booklet).
MiscFiles(Awards).

Wright, Donald C. "Wearing the Purple." Soldier 29 (Apr 1974): pp. 18-19. Per.
Concise survey.

See also: - AWC Curricular Materials, Arch.
 Esp G-1 course, 1920-1940, and material on relationship of awards to morale.

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NOTE: MOST PURPLE HEARTS AWARDED

Army Sergeant Raymond F. Tirva reputedly holds a record for the most clusters on a Purple Heart medal. Official Army policy precludes our determining any such superlative. Regardless, individual service records of military personnel are not on file here, but in the custody of the National Personnel Records Center, (Mil Per Records), 9700 Page Boulevard, St Louis, MO 63132.

Furthermore, search in pertinent holdings here did not locate any information on Sergeant Tirva or on Purple Heart record-holders. Direct inquiries to Headquarters, Dept of the Army, DAPC-PAP-B, 200 Stovall St, Alexandria, VA 22332, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A., PO Box 1901, Wash, DC. 20013.

Incidentally, Sergeant Tirva's entry for having received nine clusters does not appear in the 1972 ed of the Guinness Book of World Records, although it does appear in the 1976 ed. Presumably, Tirva's record involved the Vietnam War.

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WOUND CERTIFICATE, WWI

NOTE: Issued to soldiers of AEF wounded in action. A wound chevron was then authorized on their jacket sleeve. For those soldiers who died of their wounds (or were killed in action), the modified certificate went to their next-of-kin. See:

Shultz, Paul, et al. World War One Collector's Handbook. Vol 2.
 Missoula, MT: GOS, 1977. pp. 46 & 49. UC483S38.

U.S. Army. General Staff. Statistics Branch. Some Accomplishments of the Services of Supply, A.E.F. Wash, DC, 1919. p. 35.
 D570.75A5.

_____. Ordnance Dept. Untitled pamphlet on United States and Allied Insignia. n.p., 1918. p. 20. UC530U57.

U.S. War Dept. General Order 6, 12 Jan 1918; GO 53, 27 May 1918; and GO 64, 3 July 1918. GO.

Wyllie, Robert E. Orders, Decorations and Insignia: Military and Civil. NY: Putnam's, 1921. Photo opposite p. 16. UC530W98.