

MEDAL OF HONOR

SMITH, Albert Joseph
Private, U.S. Marine Corps
G. O. Navy Department, No. 72
September 29, 1921

CITATION:

At about 7:30 a. m. on the morning of 11 February 1921, Private Smith, while on duty as a sentry, rescued Plen M. Phelps, late machinist's mate, second class, United States Navy, from a burning seaplane which had fallen near his post, gate No. 1, Marine Battacks, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. Despite the explosion of the gravity gasoline tank, with total disregard of personal safety, he pushed himself to a position where he could reach Phelps, who was pinned beneath the burning wreckage, and rescued him from the burning plane, in the performance of which he sustained painful burns about the head, neck and both hands.