

HEROISM OF OFFICERS OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.

The department takes pleasure in awarding medals of honor to the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps named in this general order for deeds of extraordinary heroism and for distinguished conduct during the seizure of Vera Cruz, April 21 and 22, 1914.

For distinguished conduct in battle, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 21 and 22, 1914:

Admiral FRANK F. FLETCHER, U. S. Navy.

Captain HARRY McL. P. HUSE, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) GEORGE M. COURTS, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant FRANK J. FLETCHER, U. S. Navy.

The above-named officers were under fire and were eminent and conspicuous in the performance of their duties. Admiral Fletcher (then rear admiral) was senior officer present at Vera Cruz, directing the landing, and the operations of the landing force were carried out under his orders and directions. In connection with these operations he was at times on shore and under fire. Captain Huse was indefatigable in his labors of a most important character both with the division commander in directing affairs and in his efforts on shore to get in communication with the Mexican authorities to avoid needlessly prolonging the conflict. Lieutenant Courts had well qualified himself by thorough study during his years of duty in Mexico to deal with the conditions of this engagement, and his services were of great value. He twice volunteered and passed in an open boat through the zone of fire to convey important orders to the *Chester* then under a severe fire. Lieutenant Fletcher was in charge of the *Esperanza* and succeeded in getting on board over three hundred and fifty refugees, many of them after the conflict had commenced. This ship was under fire, being struck more than thirty times, but he succeeded in getting all the refugees placed in safety. Later he was placed in charge of the train conveying refugees under a flag of truce. This was hazardous duty, as it was believed that the track was mined and a small error in dealing with the Mexican guard of soldiers might readily have caused a conflict, such a conflict at one time being narrowly averted. It was greatly due to his efforts in establishing friendly relations with the Mexican soldiers that so many refugees succeeded in reaching Vera Cruz from the interior.

For extraordinary heroism in battle, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 22, 1914:

Captain EDWIN A. ANDERSON, U. S. Navy.

Captain Anderson commanded the Second Seaman Regiment, and in marching his regiment across the open space in front of the Naval Academy and other buildings he unexpectedly met a heavy fire from riflemen, machine guns, and 1-pounders, which caused part of his command to break and fall back, many casualties occurring amongst them at the time. His indifference to the heavy fire, to which he himself was exposed at the head of his regiment, showed him to be fearless and courageous in battle.

Lieutenant JAMES P. LANNON, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant Lannon assisted a wounded man under heavy fire, and after returning to his battalion was himself desperately wounded.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) HUGH C. FRAZER, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (then Ensign) Frazer ran forward to rescue a wounded man, in which act he was so exposed that the fire of his own men was temporarily suspended for fear of hitting him. He returned at once to his position in line.

Surgeon CARY D. LANGHORNE, U. S. Navy.

Surgeon Langhorne showed extraordinary heroism in battle by carrying a wounded man from the front of the Naval Academy while under a heavy fire.

For distinguished conduct in battle, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 21 and 22, 1914:

Captain WILLIAM R. RUSH, U. S. Navy, commanding Naval Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel WENDELL C. NEVILLE, U. S. M. C., commanding Second Regiment Marines.

Lieutenant Commander ALLEN BUCHANAN, U. S. Navy, commanding First Seaman Regiment.

The above-named officers were in both days' fighting and were almost continually under fire from soon after landing, about noon on the 21st, until we were in possession of the city, about noon of the 22d. Their duties required them to be at points of great danger in directing their officers and men and they exhibited conspicuous courage, coolness, and skill in their conduct of the fighting. Upon their courage and skill, more than that of any others, depended success or failure. Their responsibilities were great and they met them in a manner worthy of commendation.

Major RANDOLPH C. BERKLEY, U. S. M. C.

Lieutenant Commander RICHARD WAINWRIGHT, U. S. Navy.

Major GEORGE C. REID, U. S. M. C.

Lieutenant Commander GUY W. S. CASTLE, U. S. Navy.

The above-named officers were eminent and conspicuous in command of their battalions, were in the fighting of both days, and exhibited courage and skill in leading their men through action. Lieutenant Commander (then Lieutenant) Wainwright and Lieutenant Commander (then Lieutenant) Castle in seizing the custom house encountered for many hours the heaviest and most pernicious concealed fire of the entire day, but their courage and coolness under trying conditions were marked. The cool judgment and courage of Major Berkley and Major Reid and their skill in handling their men in countering and overcoming the machine gun and rifle fire down Cinco de Mayo and parallel streets accounts for the small percentage of the losses of marines in their command.

Captain JOHN A. HUGHES, U. S. M. C.

Captain WALTER N. HILL, U. S. M. C.

Captain ELI T. FRYER, U. S. M. C.

Captain JESSE F. DYER, U. S. M. C.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) THEODORE S. WILKINSON, Jr., U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) GEORGE M. LOWRY, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) OSCAR C. BADGER, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) PAUL F. FOSTER, U. S. Navy.

The above-named officers were in both days' fighting at the head of their companies, and were eminent and conspicuous in their conduct, leading their men with skill and courage.

Surgeon MIDDLETON S. ELLIOTT, U. S. Navy.

Surgeon Elliott was eminent and conspicuous in the efficient establishment and operation of the base hospital, and in his cool judgment and courage in supervising first-aid stations on the firing line and removing the wounded.

Commander WILLIAM A. MOFFETT, U. S. Navy.

Commander WILLIAM K. HARRISON, U. S. Navy.

Commander HERMAN O. STICKNEY, U. S. Navy.

Commander Stickney covered the landing of the 21st with the guns of the *Prairie*, and throughout the attack and occupation ren-

dered important assistance to our forces on shore with his 3-inch battery. Commanders Moffett and Harrison brought their ships in the inner harbor during the night of the 21st and 22d without the assistance of a pilot or navigational lights and were in a position on the morning of the 22d to use their guns at a critical time with telling effect. The skill of Commander Moffett in mooring his ship at night was especially noticeable. He placed her nearest to the enemy and did most of the firing and received most of the hits.

For extraordinary heroism in battle, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 21 and 22, 1914:

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) EDWARD O. McDONNELL, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (then Ensign) McDonnell, posted on the roof of the Terminal Hotel and landing, established a signal station there, and day and night, maintained communication between the troops and the ships. At this exposed post he was continually under fire. One man was killed and three wounded at his side during the two days' fighting. He showed extraordinary heroism and striking courage and maintained his station in the highest degree of efficiency. All signals got through, largely due to his heroic devotion to duty.

For distinguished conduct in battle and extraordinary heroism, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 22, 1914:

Chief Boatswain JOHN McCLOY, U. S. Navy.

Chief Boatswain McCloy led a flotilla of three picket launches, mounting 1-pounders along the sea front of Vera Cruz in front of the naval school and customhouse. The launches drew the combined fire of the Mexicans in that vicinity, and thus enabled the cruisers to shell them out temporarily and save our men on shore. The conduct of Chief Boatswain McCloy was eminent and conspicuous, and, although shot through the thigh during this fire, he remained at his post as beachmaster for 48 hours until sent to a hospital ship by the brigade surgeon.

For distinguished conduct in battle, engagement of Vera Cruz, April 22, 1914:

Lieutenant Colonel ALBERTUS W. CATLIN, U. S. M. C.

Major SMEDLEY D. BUTLER, U. S. M. C.

Commander RUFUS Z. JOHNSTON, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant FREDERICK V. McNAIR, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant JULIUS C. TOWNSEND, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant Commander ADOLPHUS STATON, U. S. Navy.

The above-named officers in command of their battalions and Commander (then Lieutenant Commander) Rufus Z. Johnston, U. S. Navy, regimental adjutant, were eminent and conspicuous in their conduct. They exhibited courage and skill in leading their men through the action of the 22d and in the final occupation of the city.

Lieutenant JOHN GRADY, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant CHARLES C. HARTIGAN, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) JONAS H. INGRAM, U. S. Navy.

During the second days' fighting the service performed by the above-named officers was eminent and conspicuous. Lieutenant Grady, in command of the Second Regiment, Artillery, from necessarily exposed positions, shelled the enemy from their strongest positions. Lieutenant Hartigan was conspicuous for the skillful handling of his company under heavy rifle and machine-gun fire, for which conduct he was commended by his battalion commander. Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Ingram was conspicuous for skillful and efficient handling of the artillery and machine guns of the Arkansas Battalion, for which he was specially commended in reports.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS,
Secretary of the Navy.