

First Lieutenant John C. Snyder (Class 51-43)

Distinguished Service Cross

Headquarters, Third U.S. Army

General Orders No. 32 (February 7, 1945)

CITATION: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Field Artillery) John C. Snyder (ASN: 0-1177644), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Battery B, 775th Field Artillery Battalion, in action against enemy forces on 21 December 1944.

Lieutenant Snyder displayed conspicuous bravery while leading a reconnaissance patrol of the 5th Ranger Battalion near Ludweiler, Germany, which distinguishes him as an outstanding leader. With complete disregard for his own safety, he preceded his patrol to within fifty yards of a strongly defended enemy position and called for supporting artillery fire. Then, although wounded by the friendly fire he was directing, Lieutenant Snyder courageously remained in his exposed position directing effective fire which destroyed one pillbox, damaged another, and killed and wounded many of the enemy. Lieutenant Snyder's heroic determination, courage, and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.