

C I T A T I O N

For Award Of The

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

GRADY E. DUKE, 34 351 636, First Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, 2832nd. Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroism not involving actual conflict with the enemy on 24 November 1944, near Blainville, France. While training on Infantry Assault Boats on the Meurthe River, one of the assault boats got out of control and was dashed against some concrete bridge piling, throwing all of the occupants into the icy water. Observing this, Sergeant Duke, with complete disregard for his own safety, dove out of a nearby boat and swam to the aid of one of the drowning men. With the aid of another soldier he was able to pull the stricken soldier to an iron pole protruding out of the water. Before sufficient aid had arrived, the surging current tore the helpless man from his grasp and carried him downstream, out of sight. The courage and disregard for personal safety displayed by Sergeant Duke during this action are in accord with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Hamilton, Georgia.