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George F. Abel

AWARDS AND CITATIONS



Silver Star

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Awarded for actions during the World War II

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Corporal George F. Abel (MCSN: 390515), United States Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action on 19 February 1945, as a fire team leader with a rifle platoon of a Marine Rifle Company of the Second Battalion, Twenty-Fifth Marines, FOURTH Marine Division, on Iwo Jima. This company had moved some two hundred yards inland. At this point they received heavy artillery, mortar, rocket, machine gun and small arms fire. Heavy casualties were being inflicted on this company. This platoon was unable to move forward due to withering machine gun fire from an enemy emplacement some one hundred yards to the left front. It was necessary that this enemy position be destroyed. Corporal Abel, realizing this fact, coordinated an assault on the position. He did this, under fire, by moving this group into positions from which they could fire on the target with more facility. He personally directed fire from atop a knoll in this immediate area. The enemy located his position and brought mortar fire to bear on it. As a result, Corporal Abel, without regard for his own personal safety, gave first aid to these men as the enemy mortar shells continued to fall in this immediate area. After successfully treating these casualties he found that his supply of ammunition had been depleted. His wounds were extremely serious and he was bleeding profusely, nevertheless, he crawled under fire twenty-five yards in order that he might replenish this supply. He was successful in bringing up the much needed ammunition and continued the mission. Corporal Abel being satisfied that this position was entirely destroyed, bound up his own wounds and was evacuated. When the platoon finally moved through the sector in which this enemy emplacement was located, it was found that two machine guns and a light mortar had been destroyed and five enemy killed. As a direct result of his initiative, outstanding leadership and courage, the assault was continued at a critical time. His courage and conduct throughout were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

General Orders: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific: Serial 41646 (June 8, 1945)

Action Date: February 19, 1945

Service: [Marine Corps](#)

Rank: Corporal

Battalion: 2d Battalion

Regiment: 25th Marines

Division: 4th Marine Division

[Print this citation](#)

George F. Abel, USMC, Iwo Jima Survivor

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