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HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO #36, U. S. Army

AG RECORDS SEC.

6 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 21

AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action:

A. WARD GILLETTE, 018883, Lieutenant Colonel, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 7 November 1944 in France. Two companies of the 3d Battalion were attacking well-defended hostile positions on a strategically important hill when the enemy suddenly opened fire with rifles, machine guns and mortars. The heavy mortar shelling inflicted several casualties on the assaulting units and threatened to disorganize the attackers. Instantly cognizant of the critical situation, Lieutenant Colonel Gillette courageously braved the incessant hostile fire in order to move from his forward observation post to the company positions. While mortar shells crashed around him, he calmly directed friendly troops out of the shelled area and led them in flanking the enemy defenses. Inspired by their leader's example of courage and intrepidity, the men of the attacking companies drove forward and seized the battalion objective. Entered the United States Military Academy from the United States at large.

FRED S. ROSSLow, 01313134, First Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 10 November 1944 in France. Company G drove forward to the top of a strategically important hill and there established a defensive position. The enemy launched a savage counterattack in an attempt to regain the advantageous area. During the intense fire fight, Lieutenant Rosslow personally directed the fire of his platoon members, determinedly holding his sector in the face of the hostile onslaught. One of the platoons was forced to withdraw to a new position, and, as a result, enemy soldiers pressed forward to a spot below a 15 foot cliff from which they hurled hand grenades into the friendly positions, inflicting several casualties. After one attempt to dislodge the enemy had been frustrated, Lieutenant Rosslow volunteered to lead a squad against the hostile group. He acquainted his men with the plan of attack, then led them forward in the face of heavy automatic weapons fire. Moving cautiously to a position overlooking the enemy soldiers, he directed his men in delivering accurate fire on the position, forcing the hostile group to flee. As a result of his skillful and aggressive leadership, the platoon was able to regain its former position, thereby strengthening the defense of the area. Entered the Service from Spokane, Washington.

NORMAN ROSENTHAL, 01038816, First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant), 83d Chemical Battalion, for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. Company C relieved elements of a friendly unit and established a strategically important road block in a French fort. Lieutenant Rosenthal volunteered to

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make a hazardous reconnaissance of an enemy strong point. He scouted all the approaches and fearlessly advanced to within 50 yards of the hostile position at the mountain top. When, on the following morning, the enemy launched a savage attack against the road block, he skillfully directed effective mortar fire on the assaulting troops. The enemy adjusted heavy artillery and mortar fire on the position and launched a surprise attack on the company's right flank. Moving in the face of the incessant artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Lieutenant Rosenthal swiftly organized hasty defenses to counter the hostile move. Displaying unusual courage and aggressiveness, he maintained the defenses until the order to withdraw was given. Aware that the only known exit from the fort was covered by hostile machine gun fire, Lieutenant Rosenthal, with a French soldier, conducted a dangerous reconnaissance to locate another route of withdrawal. He guided his men to the newly discovered exit and, while they withdrew, fighting their way down the precipitous mountain side, he valiantly helped carry a wounded enlisted man down the slope to a place of safety. Entered the Service from Pennington, New Jersey.

ROBERT A. LANG, O1178222; First Lieutenant, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 24 September 1944 in France. When Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, was ordered to reinforce a road block occupied by 20 men from the Antitank Company, Lieutenant Lang, forward observer with the unit, voluntarily advanced ahead of the infantry so that he could adjust artillery fire in support of the friendly troops. When he arrived at the road block he found that it was being subjected to a savage counterattack by a numerically superior enemy force. Ignoring the heavy mortar and small arms fire, he swiftly set up his radio in the vicinity of the road block and began directing artillery fire on the hostile attackers. The stubborn enemy drove forward and threatened to overrun the position. Aware of the necessity for immediate, decisive action, Lieutenant Lang valiantly directed his own artillery fire on the coordinates that he was occupying. Although he was the target for incessant hostile fire and was endangered by hurtling shell fragments from the friendly artillery, he courageously remained in position, successfully delaying the enemy until Company I arrived to repel the assault. Entered the Service from Maplewood, New Jersey.

HENRY L. HODES, O1015411, Second Lieutenant, 753d Tank Battalion, for gallantry in action on 25 November and 2 December 1944 in France. On 25 November, a task force was advancing toward an important enemy stronghold when it encountered a well-defended road block. Immediately, hostile antitank guns opened fire on the friendly tanks and tank destroyers. Lieutenant Hodes swiftly moved his tank into position and organized the remainder of the tanks and tank destroyers so that continuous fire was directed on the block. In spite of heavy artillery and mortar shelling and direct fire from the antitank guns, Lieutenant Hodes continued firing into the road block, enabling the infantry troops to flank the hostile position and seize it, killing several of the enemy and capturing 30. On 2 December, a platoon of tanks, ordered to support an infantry battalion in attacking an enemy-held town, advanced in the face of heavy tank and self-propelled weapons fire until it encountered a strong hostile road block. Direct fire from an 88mm gun knocked out the lead tank. Lieutenant Hodes immediately moved into the position of lead tank and drove forward to engage the enemy weapon. He directed several rounds at the gun, destroying it, and enabled the remainder of the tanks to continue their advance. Entered the Service from Allentown, Pennsylvania.

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CURVIN R. FOWLER, 34763504, Technical Sergeant, Company D, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 25 October 1944 in France. The 1st Platoon of Company D and one platoon of Company A were assigned the mission of protecting an isolated observation post and guarding the battalion rear. When the enemy was spotted digging in on the flank of another friendly unit, the rifle platoon of Company A was sent to rout the hostile force, and Sergeant Fowler asked permission to accompany the platoon in the assault. An intense fire fight ensued, and, after an hour of fighting, the platoon's ammunition was almost exhausted. Aware that his comrades were pinned to the ground and were unable to replenish their supply, Sergeant Fowler, acting on his own initiative, made a dash through heavy machine gun and rifle fire to secure the vitally needed ammunition. Loading himself with bandoleers, he valiantly returned through the deadly hail of bullets and began distributing the ammunition. Constantly exposed to direct small arms fire from the hostile positions, he fearlessly ran along the entire length of the firing line, tossing a bandoleer to each rifleman as he passed. By his quick-thinking and daring aggressiveness, he enabled his comrades to inflict heavy casualties on the enemy and frustrate the flank attack. Entered the Service from Rockmart, Georgia.

DALTON THOMAS, 20804431, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. The 1st Battalion's Antitank Platoon was assigned the mission of establishing a road block and protecting Company B against a mechanized assault. Before daylight the enemy infiltrated the friendly positions and launched a savage counter-attack. In the ensuing fire fight, Sergeant Thomas, leader of the 1st Squad, was painfully wounded by machine pistol fire. Although his movements were hindered by his wound, he valiantly continued performing his duties as squad leader, moving fearlessly among his men to check their positions and direct their fire on the enemy. Throughout the morning he exposed himself to the hostile fire in order to command his squad and, when the intense pain of his wound prevented him from moving about, issued orders to his assistant squad leader. He determinedly refused to be evacuated and courageously remained with his men until late in the afternoon. Only when he was certain that the enemy attack had been repelled and his own positions were secure would he leave the area. Entered the Service from Brownwood, Texas.

DONALD W. BLAKEBOROUGH, 31069898, Staff Sergeant, Company L, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Monson, Massachusetts.
FREDERICK R. NEWMAN, 39200675, Sergeant, Company L, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Port Townsend, Washington.

for gallantry in action on 15 November 1944 in France. These men were ordered to lead a 12 man patrol in clearing a well-fortified house approximately 1000 yards beyond the friendly lines. As the patrol approached the house, it was subjected to heavy fire from an enemy machine gun and rifles. Retaining their coolness in the face of hostile fire, they swiftly split the patrol and, leading one of the groups, surrounded the house. After a short but intense fire fight, they assaulted the building, destroyed the machine gun and captured seven prisoners. Almost instantly a hostile force in a nearby house opened fire on the patrol, inflicting three casualties on the group. Valiantly braving the heavy fire, they skillfully maintained organization within the patrol and

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succeeded in evacuating the wounded. They then led the patrol, with the seven prisoners, back to the safety of the friendly lines.

GLEN F. DAVIS, 34713666, Sergeant, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 26 November 1944 in France. During an attack against an enemy-held town, the 3d Platoon effected a flanking maneuver to cut off the enemy's route of escape, and one squad was ordered to hold two houses and provide covering fire for the remainder of the platoon. Sergeant Davis, the squad leader, swiftly established defenses within the house. As the platoon began its flanking movement, an enemy machine gun opened fire from a well dug-in position and delayed the unit's advance. Spotting the hostile emplacement from a window on the second floor of his house, Sergeant Davis delivered fire on the position with his rifle. Although he became the target for direct machine gun and rifle fire, he remained at his post by the window and continued firing until he killed the enemy gunner. Each time a new gunner attempted to operate the weapon, Sergeant Davis would open fire, and he killed four of the hostile soldiers and wounded three. As a result of his determination and daring, the enemy machine gun was neutralized and the platoon was able to complete its mission. Entered the Service from Clifton, Tennessee.

ALBERT B. WAGNER, 36320055, Technician Fifth Grade, Battery D, 443d Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion (SP), for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. Tec 5 Wagner was standing guard at his antiaircraft half-track, which was assigned the mission of protecting an artillery unit, when hostile troops launched a savage attack from positions on a hillside within 50 yards of the half-track. He immediately stepped behind his gun and fired all of his carbine ammunition, aiming at the machine gun flashes. When his supply of ammunition was exhausted, he crawled 30 yards over exposed terrain to alert the other members of the antiaircraft crew and get covering fire while he carried out his plan of action. Although flares were falling continuously, illuminating the entire area, and the terrain was swept by automatic pistol and machine gun fire, Tec 5 Wagner crept back to his half-track, mounted it, cautiously removed the bulky canvas cover and opened fire with the machine guns at the enemy positions. In spite of direct hostile fire, he courageously remained with his weapons and continued firing until the hostile force was completely routed. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

JOHN J. ALBRIGHT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart
VINCENT M. LOCKHART

Major, Adjutant General's Department
Asst Adjutant General

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