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

22 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 226

Award of Silver Star.....I
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster - Silver Star.....II

I. 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:

JEAN BOURGIN, Colonel, Commandant le 1^{er} Chasseurs d'Afrique, for gallantry in action from 17 to 19 December 1944 in France. A unit of the 5th Division Blindée, designated Combat Command 5 les Chasseurs d'Afrique, spearheaded the Allied attack on an important enemy stronghold. Colonel Bourgin was responsible for the planning and execution of the critical operation. Braving artillery and antitank gun fire, he directed armored elements across rugged terrain to the town, overrunning the hostile positions and killing, wounding or capturing the entire enemy garrison. Almost immediately he directed the tanks toward another enemy-held town and, by firing into the rear of the hostile defenders, contributed materially to the capture of more than 400 prisoners. Despite heavy casualties, Colonel Bourgin led his men in the face of stubborn resistance to overwhelm the enemy in a third town.

FRANK L. TURNER, 01998724, Second Lieutenant, Medical Administrative Corps, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 13 to 15 March 1945 in France. In order to speed the evacuation of wounded personnel, Lieutenant Turner voluntarily joined the advance elements and set up a forward aid station on a small bridgehead which had been established across a river. During the next two days fierce fighting raged all around him, and enemy tanks and artillery directed heavy fire at the position, hitting his building several times and wounding him with shrapnel. Despite great personal danger Lieutenant Turner remained in position and worked without rest, skillfully supervising the evacuation of the wounded. By his courage and determination, he was responsible for the prompt evacuation of more than 100 wounded soldiers. Entered the Service from Bayside, New York.

HUGH T. MC LAURY, 6257723, Staff Sergeant, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 and 16 March 1945 in France. Sergeant McLaury was leading his squad in spearheading his unit's attack on a strongly fortified enemy town when a shell explosion wounded him and six of his companions. Despite intense pain, he bravely exposed himself to administer first aid to his men and direct their evacuation. He then led the remainder of his squad aggressively forward to clear enemy-held houses and, for two days of intense fighting, distinguished himself by his daring leadership and his personal courage. When contact with the adjoining platoon was lost, he braved hostile fire to locate this unit and clarify the situation. On another occasion, he

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directed tank fire on a group of snipers delaying his platoon's advance and, with accurate rifle fire, wounded one of the Germans. His gallant actions, performed in spite of a painful wound, inspired his men and contributed greatly to clearing the town. Entered the Service from Denver, Colorado.

JOHN D. MARCIANO, 31331512, Staff Sergeant, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. When the enemy launched a surprise attack in great strength against the 1st Battalion positions, Sergeant Marciano led his machine gun squad to a position which afforded a favorable field of fire on the edge of town. Exposing himself to the enemy fire, he succeeded in inflicting heavy casualties on the hostile troops. Observing a squad of Germans attempting to flank his machine gun, he left his position and, dashing toward them, hurled several hand grenades, killing six of the enemy and wounding a number of others. When an enemy bazooka inflicted casualties on the friendly troops, he moved his machine gun to another position and succeeded in putting the hostile weapon out of action. Although wounded during the engagement by a bursting mortar shell, Sergeant Marciano courageously refused to be evacuated until the enemy attack had been repelled. Entered the Service from Stamford, Connecticut.

SIE S. PILLOW, 20808247, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. When enemy forces were caught in a trap in the Rhone River valley, Private First Class Pillow and seven comrades were manning a self-propelled 105mm cannon placed near a highway with the assigned mission of halting a breakthrough by an enemy armored division. The enemy attacked in great strength, cutting them off from contact with other friendly units, but they remained steadfastly in position. Although bullets and shrapnel were striking the self-propelled mount, Private First Class Pillow valiantly exposed himself at the turret to point out targets with t. cers fired from the 50 caliber machine gun. So effective was the fire of these men that a German tank and twelve vehicles were destroyed, over 100 Germans were killed and many more were wounded. By their gallantry and determination, they withstood the full force of the enemy attack and caused the surrender of many Germans to friendly troops who arrived in support. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

GEORGE P. PENGRESSI, 36173722, Sergeant, Company B, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. During an attack, armored elements were delayed by a mined road block. The mines had to be removed before the obstacle could be cleared; and, because of their nature and condition, it was necessary to remove them by hand. Sergeant Pengressi was given the hazardous mission of clearing the mines. Although he was the target for enemy small arms fire and mortar shells were exploding in the vicinity, he worked calmly and steadily until most of the mines were cleared. As he neared the end of his task, one of them exploded and Sergeant Pengressi was severely wounded. His skill and courage enabled the armored elements to continue forward in support of the infantry troops. Entered the Service from Pontiac, Michigan.

JOHN F. BONER, 35277497, Sergeant (then Corporal), Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1945 in France. The 3d Battalion was defending hard-won positions in a town;

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and Corporal Boner was assigned the mission of guiding tanks forward to support the rifle elements. Riding on the foremost vehicle, he courageously exposed himself to intense small arms and tank fire to lead the tanks across 300 yards of open terrain. On his return, he was assigned to guide two companies of reinforcements forward; and he again valiantly crossed the exposed area to lead them to the forward positions. That night he was given the mission of leading forward another friendly unit relieving the 3d Battalion. Skillfully choosing a different route to avoid the enemy fire, he led the troops safely to their objective. By his courage and resourcefulness, Corporal Boner materially aided his unit in maintaining its position against strong enemy pressure. Entered the Service from Mansfield, Ohio.

BAILEY F. MC COMMON, 38417754, Corporal (then Private First Class), Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Chester, Texas.

LARL F. PHILLIPS, 38037477, Technician Fifth Grade, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Mount Pleasant, Texas.

LESLIE W. ENSLOW, 37355022, Private First Class, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Lakin, Kansas.

for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. When enemy forces were caught in a trap in the Rhone River valley, these men and five comrades were manning a self-propelled 105mm cannon placed near a highway with the assigned mission of halting a breakthrough by an enemy armored division. The enemy attacked in great strength, cutting them off from other friendly units, but they remained steadfastly in position. While some of the group protected the flanks of the position, these men and one comrade operated the 105mm cannon and, as bullets and shrapnel ricocheted from their mount, delivered heavy and effective fire, destroying a German tank and twelve vehicles, killing over 100 Germans and wounding many more. By their gallantry and determination, they withstood the full force of the enemy attack and caused the surrender of many Germans to friendly troops who arrived in support.

CHARLES R. DE FUE, 35219091, Private First Class, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. When enemy forces were caught in a trap in the Rhone River valley, Private First Class De Fue and seven comrades were manning a self-propelled 105mm cannon placed near a highway with the assigned mission of helping to halt a breakthrough by an enemy armored division. The enemy attacked in great strength, cutting them off from other friendly units, but they remained steadfastly in position. Private First Class De Fue moved to the right flank and, exposing himself to the enemy fire, held off the hostile soldiers with a rifle, a borrowed carbine and hand grenades, killing a two-man machine gun crew and inflicting many additional casualties. By his gallantry and determination, he protected the flank while his comrades manned the self-propelled gun and, by their effective fire, destroyed a German tank and twelve vehicles, killed over 100 Germans and wounded many more. Entered the Service from McArthur, Ohio.

JOHN J. ROSE, 32239294, Private First Class, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. When enemy forces were caught in a trap in the Rhone River valley, Private First Class Rose and seven comrades were manning a 105mm self-propelled cannon

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placed near a highway with the assigned mission of halting a breakthrough by an enemy armored division. The enemy attacked in great strength, cutting them off from contact with other friendly units, but they remained steadfastly in position. Private First Class Rose moved to the left flank and, exposing himself to the intense hostile fire, found an abandoned 50 caliber machine gun that was jammed, cleared it, and opened fire, killing the members of a machine gun crew and repeatedly driving the enemy back with many casualties. By his gallantry and determination, he kept a group of approximately 60 Germans pinned down, forcing their surrender to friendly troops who arrived in support, and he materially aided his comrades in maintaining their position and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Entered the Service from Rutherford, New Jersey.

II. AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER - SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of the second Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual for gallantry in action:

PHILLIP F. STROM, 20808679, Staff Sergeant, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 and 29 August 1944 in France. When enemy forces were caught in a trap in the Rhone River valley, Sergeant Strom was in charge of a group of seven men manning a self-propelled 105mm cannon placed near a highway with the assigned mission of halting a breakthrough by an enemy armored division. The enemy attacked in great strength, cutting them off from contact with other friendly units, but they remained steadfastly in position. Sergeant Strom sent men to the flanks to protect his weapon from enemy infantry and, as bullets and shrapnel struck the self-propelled mount, he courageously moved about and supervised the defense. So skillful was his direction of the fire of the self-propelled cannon and its mounted 50 caliber machine gun that a German tank and twelve vehicles were destroyed, over 100 Germans were killed and many more were wounded. By his aggressive and determined leadership, he inspired his crew to withstand the full force of the enemy attack and caused the surrender of many Germans to friendly troops who arrived in support. Entered the Service from Houston, Texas.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL DAHLQUIST:

JESSE B. MATLACK
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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