

# R E S T R I C T E D

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

21 March 1944

## GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 81

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### SECTION I -- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded each of the following named individuals:

✓ RUSH S. WELLS, JR., 023191, Major (then Captain), 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 15 November 1943 to 19 December 1943 in the vicinity of Mount \*\*\* and Mount \*\*\*, Italy. Captain Wells, commanding the 3d Battalion, personally led his men in the holding of Mount \*\*\* and in the subsequent capture of Mount \*\*\* which enabled an expansion of the entire divisional front. Although operating for intensively long periods over rocky terrain ingeniously mined and booby-trapped, and in constant artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Captain Wells moved determinedly among his front line troops, encouraging them and directing them on to their ultimate achievement. Throughout the operations, where difficult trails were made tortuous by severe weather, he worked day and night with little or no rest and with complete disregard for his personal safety, leading, supervising and directing his force to the utter defeat of a well entrenched and determined enemy. He was later killed by an artillery shell while leading his battalion. His gallant actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Rush S. Wells, Jr., (Wife), Rosedale, Mississippi.

LEANDER (NMI) HOLLOWAY, 322208 1, Sergeant, Company H, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 14 November 1943 on Mount \*\*\*, Italy. Sergeant Holloway was assigned command of a machine gun section defending a vital point on the main line of resistance. Despite heavy enemy artillery and mortar fires falling intermittently day and night in the vicinity, he constantly visited the men at the gun positions, encouraging them and making certain that the weapons were ever ready and the men alert at all times. During a particularly heavy concentration of enemy mortar fire he calmly took out his compass to determine the direction of the source of the fire and then visited each gun position to warn the men that the concentration might be a preliminary to an attack and to personally check the weapons and determine that they were properly placed on the final protective line. Although he well knew the great dangers to his own safety that would result from so exposing himself, Sergeant Holloway deliberately braved the storm of steel loosed on the area by the heavy enemy artillery and mortar concentrations so that he might accomplish the mission assigned him. While

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thus courageously serving he was killed by an artillery shell. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Minnie Holloway (Mother), Portland Bonavista South, Newfoundland.

SECTION II — AWARD OF SILVER STAR

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

✓ EDWARD N. HARRIS, JR., 0205238 Lieutenant Colonel, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Lieutenant Colonel Harris was division liaison officer with the 3d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment which landed in the assault waves on the \*\*\* beaches south of \*\*\*, in the face of withering artillery, machine gun and mortar fire from organized and fortified enemy positions. Throughout the intense battle and despite repeated tank attacks and severe enemy fires, Lieutenant Colonel Harris moved among the most forward troops assisting in the attack. On one occasion, while well in advance of the attacking riflemen, he killed an enemy soldier with pistol fire. His calm leadership and cool determination inspired the attackers to increase their efforts to continue the battle to its ultimate success. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the military service from El Paso, Texas.

EDWARD D. McCALL, 0274810, Lieutenant Colonel, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Lieutenant Colonel McCall was battalion commander of the 3d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment which landed in the assault waves on the \*\*\* beaches south of \*\*\*, in the face of withering artillery, machine gun and mortar fire from organized and fortified enemy positions. When the battalion was severely disorganized by repeated tank attacks and severe enemy fires, Lieutenant Colonel McCall, with utter disregard for his personal safety, moved about the battalion area directing the attack of individual units. His calm leadership and cool determination inspired his battalion to increase their efforts to continue the attack to its ultimate success. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the military service from San Antonio, Texas.

4 ERRLD L. WALKER, JR., 020293, Lieutenant Colonel, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, (then Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment), for gallantry in action on 3 October 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Walker, the 1st Battalion, less Company B, was assigned the mission of seizing and holding the town of \*\*\*. Company A, the assault company, while approaching the town was halted and pinned down by intense and accurate enemy rifle, machine gun and mortar fire. Due to the absence of close artillery support and the limited fields of fire for the battalion's heavy weapons Lieutenant Colonel Walker sensed the urgent necessity for mobile gun support to accompany the riflemen in their assault. He temporarily left his voluntary post with the assault company and returning to his battalion command post, secured the assistance of two British tanks. He personally led these tanks to previously selected positions, through intense aimed small arms fire and under direct enemy observation. Upon arriving at the selected positions he directed a coordinated attack by the tanks and infantry supported by his battalion heavy weapons. This attack knocked out several machine gun positions and caused immediate

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forces confronting Company A, thus enabling his battalion successfully. Lieutenant Colonel Walker's fearless behavior while under enemy fire, together with his sound tactical decision and rapid action at a critical time were an inspiration to the command. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the U. S. Military Academy from the United States at large.

✓ JOHN W. BAUM, 01299668, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21-22 January 1944, in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Lieutenant Baum was assigned to lead a rifle platoon of Company C across the swift-flowing \*\*\* river and seize enemy held territory. The attack was launched under terrific enemy artillery, nebelwerfer, mortar and small arms fire and over ground further protected by mine fields, booby traps and barbed wire. Cover was negligible in the last seven hundred yards of the river approaches but Lieutenant Baum pressed forward and led his platoon across the river. When the intense fire halted the attacking forces he moved among his men personally placing them in proper fighting positions and directing their efforts against the enemy. When the position became untenable Lieutenant Baum exposed himself to almost continuous enemy fire and so effectively directed the evacuation that there were no additional casualties. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Force of the United States. Entered the military service from East Chicago, Indiana.

SECTION III -- AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Soldier's Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

✓ PETER P. BRUNETTA, Private, 32932281, Company B, 141st Infantry Regiment, for heroism on 4 January 1944 in Italy. Private Brunetta was standing with a group of soldiers around a fire when a can of gasoline was accidentally spilled over the head and body of one of the men. The gasoline instantly became ignited and covered the soldier with flames. Private Brunetta instantly seized a blanket and, wrapping it around the body of the burning soldier, beat out the flames. In so doing Private Brunetta suffered severe burns on his hands, face and head. His prompt and heroic actions, with utter disregard for his personal safety, undoubtedly saved the burning soldier from death. Entered the military service from Buffalo, New York.

SECTION IV -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

In accordance with Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following individuals for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations against the enemy:

✓ MITCHELL C. TACKLEY, 0455833, First Lieutenant, 36th Quartermaster Company, from 15 December 1943 to 2 April 1944 in Italy. Entered the service from Malone, New York.

✓ FRANK F. WALKER, 20804353, Private, Headquarters Company, 36th Infantry Division, from 5 September 1943 to 30 March 1944 in Africa and Italy. Entered the service from Levelland, Texas.

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SECTION V — COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following are commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:


JACK (NMI) WEINER, 32304626, Technician Grade 4, 36th Signal Company, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 1 October 1943 to 15 December 1943 in Italy. Technician Grade 4 Weiner was placed on detached service with the British 10 Corps on staff information service. He performed duties normally accomplished by an officer and rapidly grasped the tactical situation and mastered the British method of routine. Despite numerous obstacles he accomplished his tasks so capably and efficiently as to evoke nothing but praise from members of the Corps Staff. His superior performance of duty relieved the staff information service of the necessity of placing an officer on that position. His tact, intelligence and outstanding accomplishments reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the Service from Newark, New Jersey.

SAM Z. TENEYUCA, 20801325, Technician Grade 4, Service Company, 111st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct during the period 1 to 6 June 1943 in Africa. A soldier of unusual abilities, Technician Grade 4 Teneyuca repeatedly has demonstrated his superior talents as a welder and mechanic above and beyond the call of duty. He modified the M-32 gun mount of a 2½-ton truck by a unique design of mounting plates so that transportation of the spare barrel of the .50 caliber machine gun could be more readily accomplished. His outstanding ability and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the military service from San Antonio, Texas.

By command of Major General WALKER:

STEWART T. VINCENT  
Colonel, General Staff Corps  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

  
JOHN D. DEANE  
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department  
Adjutant General

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