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

28 January 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 11

SECTION 1 - POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

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

CLYDE W. COUCH, Sergeant, 38035513, Company C, *** Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 14 September 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Sergeant Couch, company weapons sergeant, chose his machine gun positions and assisted his gun crews in preparing their emplacements. During the course of defensive preparations, an enemy attack, supported by fire from tanks, pinned his company to the ground with intense fire. Determined in developing the most formidable defense possible with the limited armament available, despite intense fire and without regard for his own safety, Sergeant Couch continued to crawl from one gun to another inspecting their positions and checking his men to ascertain that they were in protected positions. While returning to his observation post he was killed by enemy tank fire. His courage, determination and unselfish devotion to duty were an inspiration to his entire company. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Clyde W. Couch, (Wife), 2302 Mesquite Street, Vernon, Texas.

JOHN (NMI) GEDNEY, Corporal, 32236398, Company G, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. The platoon to which Corporal Gedney was assigned moved cautiously forward over rugged, wet, and slippery terrain on this cold morning against the well fortified and defended positions of the enemy in * * *. The enemy opened up with machine gun fire. With utter disregard for his own life, Corporal Gedney immediately detached himself from his platoon and, cleverly using a wall for cover, crawled to the flank of the enemy emplacement. As he opened fire with his grenade launcher the enemy quickly diverted their fire from the platoon to him fatally wounding him. His aggressiveness, devotion to duty, and calmness under direct fire materially assisted the platoon on their mission. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, (Grandmother), 712A Monroe St, Brooklyn, N.Y.

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Checked for posthumous award. 12/3/44

R-E-C-O-R-D-I-N-G

Citation Amend by 404 218 June 30, 1944

* PHILLIP O. DAVIS, 11054412, Private First Class, Company B, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action on 22 November 1943, on * * *, Italy. The outpost of Company B had reported an enemy patrol active in their sector. Private First Class Davis volunteered to go on a three man patrol to intercept the enemy. Under cover of darkness the patrol moved down the steep, rugged mountain in very inclement weather. Because of the darkness the only means of determining the enemy's location was by sound. With utter disregard for his own safety, Private First Class Davis went forward covered by the other two soldiers of the patrol. He located the enemy and opened fire with his rifle, firing until he fell, fatally wounded. His aggressive and courageous deed routed the enemy patrol. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Evelyn Harper (Mother), 105 Main Street, North Plymouth, Massachusetts.

JAMES G. JOHNSON, Private First Class, 32358208, Battery C, *** Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 11 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. The anti-aircraft gun crew of which Private First Class Johnson was a member, while protecting Battery A, *** Field Artillery Battalion, engaged a formation of 12 FV-190 enemy fighter bombers flying to attack their positions. Plane after plane dived over the area firing machine guns and automatic cannon and dropping personnel bombs. Although bullets, shells, and bombs rained around them, five bombs exploding in the immediate vicinity of their anti-aircraft gun, Private First Class Johnson, who was lateral gun pointer, and his comrades continued to engage the diving planes until a bomb exploded directly behind them, instantly killing Private First Class Johnson and wounding the others. As a result of this action, three enemy aircraft were accounted for as probably destroyed. Private First Class Johnson's unflinching courage and devotion to his duty in the face of intense and devastating enemy fire and under duress of a bombing attack, without thought for his own personal safety or welfare, inspired all who witnessed his heroic deed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Alice Johnson, (Mother), 8 Douglas Street, Richmond, New York.

SECTION II - AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, the following named individuals of the * * * Tank Destroyer Battalion are awarded the Silver Star:

2nd Lt ALMOND W. BRYAN, 01301601	Company C
Sgt WILLIAM H. COLE, 6879005	Company J
Sgt ROBERT L. CAMPBELL, 38025542	Company C
Cpl ALBERT L. BARTLEY, 34335325	Company C
Cpl JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, 37163668	Company C
Cpl CHARLES E. GORDON, 20814458	Company C
Cpl ROBERT E. GORDON, 13031340	Company C
Cpl JACK T. GORDON, 38025925	Company C
Tec 5 G. D. STANLEY, 34177848	Company C
Tec 5 ROBERT C. GORD, 38037014	Company C
Pvt CHESTER C. GORD, 37224290	Company C

For gallantry in action on 14 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. When an enemy artillery shell set fire to an ammunition dump near their concealed position wounding several soldiers, these men left their shelter to render first aid and to extinguish the fire which was rapidly spreading and threatening to also reveal their position to the enemy. The courage and promptness which these men displayed reflect credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

SIXTH MI - AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

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

PALL H. KENDALL, Brigadier General, 012199, *** Infantry Division, for gallantry in action on 20 to 22 January 1944 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. General Kendall, attached to the *** Infantry Division, accompanied the assault elements of the *** Infantry on the night of 20-21 January, actively aiding, directing and energizing the attack across the *** River. Throughout the night, the day and the next night, with utter disregard for his personal safety, he organized boat groups and directed and organized engineer groups despite intense enemy artillery and mortar fire. Although he suffered a minor but painful wound, he completely disregarded it and remained in the dangerous area. He set an excellent example of outstanding leadership, courage and devotion to duty which inspired all officers and men who saw him. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the United States Military Academy from Wyoming.

AUBREY (WLI) GOLDMAN, Captain, 0466048, Medical Detachment, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action 15 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Captain Goldman was in command of the 2nd Battalion Aid Station, well forward, when the enemy laid heavy machine gun and mortar fire so close to the aid station that casualties could not be admitted. With complete disregard for his own life, while under heavy machine gun and mortar fire, he left his place of security and reconnoitered for a new position. Locating the position, he returned to the aid station and moved it to the new location, making it possible to render efficient medical aid to our casualties. His courage, aggressive leadership, and calmness under fire were an inspiration to all who witnessed his deed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Detroit, Michigan.

JOHN L. COWAN, 206173/2, Corporal, Company B, *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 22 November 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Corporal Cowan, a reconnaissance corporal, was on duty at an observation post on a mountain overlooking the eastern slope of * * * near * * *, Italy. While the observation post was being heavily shelled by the enemy, Corporal Cowan was wounded. With utter disregard for his own safety and in spite of his wound, he carried two more severely wounded soldiers through shell fire to a position of safety where medical aid could be rendered. His example of bravery and disregard for his suffering and safety was an inspiration to his comrades. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Kingsville, Texas.

A-T-T-A-C-H-M-E-N-T

ROYD D. DOWD, Corporal, 2209277, Company F, 888th Infantry, for gallantry in action from 10 to 14 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Corporal Dowd was given a mission of taking a patrol into the town of * * *, Italy, in enemy territory to observe and secure information on the enemy's movements. He carried out this mission with utter disregard for his personal safety, remaining in the town three nights and four days, securing valuable information which he sent back to his commanding officer by runner. On one occasion his patrol was driven out of the town into the British lines by an enemy patrol but he returned to the town to carry on until relieved. On several occasions the patrol encountered hostile as well as friendly artillery barrages. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Criders, Virginia.

JOHN L. J. DEDALL, Corporal, 20804844, Company G, 888th Infantry, for gallantry in action on 15 December 1943 during the night attack on * * *, Italy. Corporal Dedall was in command of the squad that was leading the battalion during the advance. After crossing a stream, they came upon a heavily mined open field. Notifying his platoon leader, Corporal Dedall and a scout went forward without further orders, in an effort to clear a route through the mine field. Corporal Dedall, crawling, eliminating mines and removing wires, with the aid of his scout succeeded in clearing a route for the advance. His initiative and courage contributed materially to the success of the battalion in gaining its objective. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Billinger, Texas.

RICHARD (DAN) CONLEY, 3584143, Private First Class, Company F, 888th Infantry, for gallantry in action on 12 and 13 November 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. After the 2nd Battalion, 888th Infantry, had relieved the 3rd Battalion, 888th Infantry, on * * *, Italy, communication wires connecting the platoons of his company and the enemy post were knocked out by enemy artillery fire. Private First Class Conley, although he did not know the exact positions of the platoons on the opposite side of the hill, worked all night of 12 November 1943 in the rain, mud, and total darkness, under heavy artillery fire, to lay new wires and establish communications as vital to the defensive position of his company. He exercised superior initiative and demonstrated great courage, effectively laying a serviceable line under hazardous conditions. Again on 13 November 1943, after the communication wires had been destroyed by the enemy, he undertook to lay new wires up the mountain to the platoons, over steep, rocky and heavily wooded terrain, with a layer of mud impeding his advance. The route which he was forced to use was in view of an enemy observation post, but he worked all day establishing the communication network. When his work was almost completed, a heavy artillery barrage was placed on the hill. With shells bursting about him and with complete disregard for his own safety, Private First Class Conley, thinking only of the necessity of communication, continued to test the line all along the fire back up to the platoons. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Six, West Virginia.

A-L-L-I-E-D F-E-E-D

LAWRENCE F. DOUGLAS, Private First Class, 33232460, Medical Detachment, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action 3 December 1943, on * * * in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. During heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire, which had pinned down the entire platoon, Private First Class Douglas was wounded but continued to administer first aid to other wounded members of the platoon. Although the platoon was ordered to leave the shelled positions, Private First Class Douglas remained with an injured soldier and, with very little cover and protection, he continued to administer first aid, despite enemy sniper, mortar and artillery fire. Private First Class Douglas did not leave his post until all of the casualties had been evacuated. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

ALFRED J. KUMECKI, Private First Class, 16110116, Company I, *** Tank Battalion, for gallantry in action on 16 to 18 December 1943 in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. During an attack on * * *, Italy, and while in enemy territory, the tank of which Private First Class Kumecki was crew gunner was hit twice by enemy anti-tank shells and caught fire. Private First Class Kumecki dismounted from the tank and observed that the turret was burning. With complete disregard for his personal safety in the face of the continued enemy fire, he climbed to the top of the tank to aid his comrades in the turret. On discovering the tank commander dead and the gunner seriously wounded, burned and semi-conscious, he dragged the gunner out of the turret, onto the ground, and into a nearby ditch. During this action Private First Class Kumecki received a flesh wound from enemy small arms fire. For two nights and one day he, rather than surrender to the enemy, remained with his comrade, nursing him to the best of his ability, hiding in enemy territory. On the second day, the enemy having withdrawn, he went for medical aid for himself and his comrade. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Detroit, Michigan.

JOSEPH (M.I.) HABERTO, Sr., Private First Class, 35725452, Company F, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action on 8 December 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Private First Class Haberto was a messenger in the company headquarters during the attack on * * *. Upon crossing the line of departure the entire battalion came under intense enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire and was able to advance only a few hundred yards before it ran into enemy fire and grenades thrown from nearby strongly held positions. During this attack communications were of paramount importance; wire lines between the company and the battalion command post were being shot out as rapidly as they could be repaired or laid. On his own initiative, and with utter disregard for his life, Private First Class Haberto left the forward position of the company, exposing himself under constant enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, over rugged terrain and in inclement weather. He repaired the damaged lines and laid new ones when the old were hopelessly damaged beyond repair. Many soldiers were severely wounded on each side of him, but Private First Class Haberto courageously remained at his task until it was completed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered service from Bicknell, Indiana.

ALBERT B. ANDERSON, Private, 32767048, Company B, *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 20 November 1943 in the vicinity of *** , Italy. While carrying a message from his company command post to his platoon command post during an operation at the foot of *** , Private Anderson was severely and painfully wounded by a large shell fragment which almost severed his arm from his shoulder. In spite of this wound, and with utter disregard for his personal suffering and safety, he continued on his mission and delivered the message. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Iselin, New Jersey.

JOHN R. SMITH, Private, 34607140, Company C, *** Infantry, for gallantry in action on the afternoon of 12 December 1943, on *** , Italy. Private Smith, automatic rifleman, was assigned a mission on a combat patrol to move forward and contact the enemy, determine the positions of gun emplacements, and capture prisoners. The patrol had advanced some 400 yards over ground terrain and through inclement weather when the enemy opened fire with artillery, mortar and small arms. Very little cover was available. Private Smith, on his own initiative and with complete disregard for his personal safety, detached himself from the patrol and engaged the machine guns with such intense and accurate fire that the enemy could not adjust their fire on the patrol. This permitted the patrol to go forward and carry their mission through to completion. The courage, calmness under fire, and devotion to duty displayed by Private Smith was an inspiration to the patrol, materially aiding the success. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Charlotte, North Carolina.

By command of Major General WALKER:

CLAYTON F. KERN,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

HARRY S. KELTON,
Major, Adjutant General's Department,
Asst Adjutant General.

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