

RESTRICTED

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

GENERAL ORDERS

4 July 1944

NO. 225

Award of Bronze Star Medal..... I  
Commendation For Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct..... II  
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SECTION I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations.

WILLIAM T. STEGER, W-2110392, Chief Warrant Officer, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 16 June 1944, in Italy. Mr. Steger, chief clerk of the Division Adjutant General's Section, landed at noon on D-Day in the invasion of Italy and immediately upon coming ashore proceeded to assist in assembling the Adjutant General's Section and allied personnel sections, and in getting them established for duty on the scarcely won beachhead. His sound judgment, perseverance and calmness in carrying out these duties within easy range of enemy guns and under bombing and strafing attacks on the beachhead are most praiseworthy and deserving of emulation. Throughout the campaign in Italy from 9 September 1943 to 16 June 1944 he has not missed a single day of duty for any reason and his manner of duty performance during this period has been superior, despite unfavorable weather and poor working conditions. Entered the Service from Dallas, Texas.

OTTO H. ANDERSON, W- 2109910, Warrant Officer Junior Grade, Headquarters, 36th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 16 June 1944, in Italy. Warrant Officer Anderson, in charge of the Officer's Section, Adjutant General's Office, landed on D-Day in the invasion of Italy and materially assisted in the speedy set-up of the administrative units. His conscientious application to study and assimilation of the ever-changing rules of officer administration, working faithfully for long hours in adverse conditions, coupled with his cheerful personality, have been an inspiration to his section and the the officers and men with whom he has come in contact. Throughout the campaign in Italy from 9 September 1943 to 16 June 1944 he has performed all manner of duties assigned him in a superior manner with a modicum of supervision by his immediate superior officer. In accomplishing his duties, he was frequently subjected to artillery fire and aerial bombardment and strafing. In this period he has not missed a single day of duty through leave, sickness or any other reason. Entered the Service from Muskegon, Michigan.

SECTION II -- COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, each of the following named individuals is commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

GEORGE T. MERRITT, 20809713, Sergeant, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Gatesville, Texas.

JAMES W. WEEKS, 34806233, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Crews, Alabama.

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CLAUD W. CALHOUN, 18193943, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Duncan, Oklahoma.

EDWARD G. CAMPBELL, JR, 32752924, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Gibbsboro, New Jersey.

HUBERT J. CARR, 34800261, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Geneva, Alabama.

WILLET J. KEEFE, 32797799, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

ANTHONY S. KWAK, 32595836, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Garfield, New Jersey.

CAREY H. MANER, 14074488, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Wadesboro, North Carolina.

CHARLES M. LEE, 31321432, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from South Portland, Maine.

BERTRAND N. CORMIER, 31267660, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Rochester, New Hampshire.

HAROLD L. CRAGGS, 33396136, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Brownsville, Pennsylvania.

MERLIN M. COOPER, 34764616, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Cedartown, Georgia.

REUBEN H. LITTLE, 34714928, Private, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Moodyville, Tennessee.

CIPRIANO CASTILLO, 38439739, Private, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from El Paso, Texas.

CHARLES L. CRAVENER, 33687520, Private, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Dayton, Pennsylvania.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 20 January 1944 in Italy. Ordered to attack the strongly fortified, well concealed positions on a hostile bank of a strategic river in an attempt to push a spearhead into the enemy defenses, these men advanced fearlessly in the face of heavy artillery and mortar shelling and intense machine gun fire. When the increased tempo of the enemy fire stopped most of the attackers, inflicting many casualties and threatening the organization of the troops, they courageously continued on to cross the river, braving the holocaust of enemy opposition, and stormed the hostile positions on the opposite bank.

WAYNE L. BOCIAN, 37675723, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Sioux City, Iowa.

JOHN A. BOULAY, 20111171, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

ARTHUR A. BLATCHORD, 37572340, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Crookston, Minnesota.

WALTER P. BLAMIRE, JR, 33745873, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Washington, D. C.

ARTHUR L. COX, 36680304, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Hillview, Illinois.

EDWIN W. CURLEY, JR, 36680604, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

HAROLD B. COX, 37675513, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Des Moines, Iowa.

ROSS B. CORNELIUS, 36680753, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Peoria, Illinois.

VINCENT J. BLACHAE, JR, 36829373, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Tomah, Wisconsin.

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CONNELLY W. BIRMES, 38555035, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Austin, Texas.

CHARLES L. CROW, 38470273, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Muldrow, Oklahoma.

HOUSTON L. BONNETTE, 38497306, Private, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

EDWARD H. STREINICH, 36604505, Private, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct from 14 to 25 February 1944 in Italy. These men were assigned to a mule pack train that carried vitally needed supplies over trails through flat, muddy, exposed ground, and then steep, treacherous mountain paths. Braving constant artillery and mortar harassing fire that caused many casualties and much disorganization, they repeatedly made their way to the front line fighting men. Many times the pack train was caught in the open at daylight and subjected to aimed enemy fire, but despite all hazards they carried on and kept a continuous flow of ammunition, food, water, and equipment to the battlefield.

WILLIAM E. BURDETTE, 35267990, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 141st Infantry. Entered the Service from Mount Vernon, Kentucky.

ROBERT O. MCWILLIN, 37181644, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Brownington, Missouri.

LOWELL H. HARPER, 35461163, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Loveland, Ohio.

JAMES R. BARBOUR, 35266504, Private First Class, Company G, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Queen Shoals, West Virginia.

CASSIDE J. CRISLIP, 35268007, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Kerz, Kentucky.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 18 December 1943 in Italy. As litter bearers, assigned the task of evacuating casualties to the forward aid station, the above named enlisted men, after removing all the wounded from the front line positions, voluntarily advanced 700 yards beyond the friendly outposts to search for wounded soldiers. Although constantly threatened by artillery and mortar shelling and small arms fire, they continued on until they found a wounded officer who had lain, unattended and weak from loss of blood, in an exposed position for 56 hours. Acting calmly and efficiently, they placed the officer on a litter and successfully evacuated him.

VINCENT S. VENDA, 36856065, Private, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Ecorse, Michigan.

WILLIAM G. PICKERING, 35729620, Private, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Evansville, Indiana.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 21 January 1944 in Italy. When the personnel of the communications platoon was depleted by the heavy enemy shelling and sweeping machine gun fire which met an attack on well fortified enemy positions across a strategic river, these men, although they were assigned as messenger and runner, volunteered to carry wire and other communications equipment to the platoon. After crossing the river in the face of intense opposing fire, they advanced fearlessly to the most forward line of the attacking troops and delivered the vital equipment.

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**SECTION III -- RESCISSION OF AWARDS**

So much of General Orders No. 188, as, this headquarters, awards a Commendation For Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct to each of the following named individuals is rescinded, these being erroneous duplications of previously announced awards.

NOLAN L. DE FORD, 38038502, Sergeant (then Corporal), Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Gordon, Texas.

CLARENCE N. CLEMONS, 36066818, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Marion, Ohio.

ALEX GUDANIEC, 36319118, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

WILLARD F. HYDE, 35547632, Private, Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Oak Harbor, Ohio.

DANIEL MAROWITZ, 32304564, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Newark, New Jersey.

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL:

*Vincent M. Lockhart*

VINCENT M. LOCKHART  
Captain, Adjutant General's Department  
Assistant Adjutant General

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