

S E C T I O N I V

HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION
AFD 456, U.S. Army

MEMORANDUM

15 September 1944

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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 to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action.

~~JOHN W. ZINK~~, 33231043, Sergeant, Company L, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Emily M. Zink (mother), 561 East Merchant Street, Saint Albans, Pa.

~~DAVID W. BELL~~, 37460310, Sergeant, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Eveline M. Bell (mother), 429½ East Burkett, Sheridan, Wyoming.

~~JOSEPH R. HOLLAND~~, 33779430, Private First Class, Company L, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Margarette Holland (mother), 310½ West 9th Street, Chester, Pennsylvania.

~~EDWARD M. ANDERSON~~, 36649647, Private First Class, Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Sylvia Doris Anderson (mother), Route #2, Allentown, Iowa.

~~WILLIAM W. KING~~, 33596328, Private First Class, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Bella M. King (mother), Marion Street, Pittensill, Ind.

~~DAVID F. MOLONGOSKI~~, 31347347, Private, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary Molongoski (mother), 86 South High Street, Montague City, Michigan.

~~WILLIAM J. SENSABAUGH~~, 34733082, Private, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Jessie H. Sensabaugh (mother), Route #1, Church Hill, Tenn.

~~JOHN V. FURLO~~, 36523561, Private, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Velia Furlo (mother), 1002 South Washington Avenue, Saginaw, Michigan.

~~ROBERT H. DORNAN~~, 34657789, Private, Company L, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mr. Luther Stanley Dornan (father), Box #62, Conway, South Carolina.

~~ROBERT H. DORNAN~~, 34657789, Private, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mr. Robert Dornan (father), Route #1,ayess, Miss.

~~JOHN J. MOLINARO~~, 36823045, Private, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Anna Mongau (mother), Grosse Ile, Michigan.

For gallantry in action on 21-22 January 1944 in Italy. The 143d Infantry Regiment was ordered to attack the enemy entrenched beyond a strategic river. The enemy had dug-in strongly, in culverts, houses and small arms fire positions, with anti-aircraft weapons, booby traps, and barbed wire. Cover was difficult and at close range. Numerous yards of the river approaches. Many sites were destroyed by hand grenades, and others were destroyed in the river by short bursts of machine gun fire. Some companies of the units lost in the river were hit, and all were unable to get out. In the face of all obstacles, the above named soldiers attacked the position site, without regard to personal safety and penetrated deep into the enemy's lines. They drove the Germans back across the river, however, succeeded in capturing many prisoners. This was accomplished over a twenty period, which

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over the enemy enormous casualties in killed and wounded, the above named soldiers lost their lives. Their tenacity of purpose and devotion to duty against vastly superior enemy forces has created an enduring example of fighting courage.

ALFRED W. LAMMERS, 35744501, Private, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, First Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 1 June 1944 in Italy. Private Lammers volunteered to carry hand grenades from the battalion supply dump to the front line units. Aware of the urgency of his mission, he crawled through enemy lines and reached his destination. Undaunted by the many perilous civilian roads in his hands and knees to avoid contact with the enemy and, when this was impossible, remained the hostile fire and continued forward toward the front line. Unconscious in delivering the vitally needed grenades, he opened his return fire on the German Corp. When he encountered a large enemy patrol, he unhesitatingly engaged them and inflicted casualties on the hostile force. Ignoring the danger of his position, he directed accurate fire into the midst of the enemy until he was killed by a sniper. Next of kin: Mrs. Alexander Lammers (Mother), 1000 Block, 1st Street, Beckley, West Virginia.

SOLIDER II -- Award of Silver Star

In accordance with provisions of Army regulations 600-5, a Silver Star is awarded to a soldier in the following named individuals for gallantry in action.

JOHN C. PRUITT, 40604443, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 143d Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry in action on 12 February 1944 in Italy. When his platoon was surrounded during a strong enemy counterattack, Sergeant Pruitt immediately assumed command of the platoon. He exposed himself fearlessly in the face of intense and accurate enemy fire to help his men to meet the assault and repel it. Although he faced a fierce resistance against the hostile forces, skillfully detected and took advantage to set up a machine gun position which threatened the safety of his platoon, he courageously moved forward through the heavy fire and wiped out the machine gun crew single-handedly. Entered the Service from Froomey, Indiana.

BENJAMIN HAMILTON, 34574433, Private First Class, Company A, 143d Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry in action on 30 May 1944 in Italy. Private First Class Hamilton was putting his light machine gun into position when the enemy launched a determined counterattack. It was the first man in his section to run across a bank from which he could direct fire on the enemy, and he began firing, at first a long, rapid burst of machine gun fire into the ranks of the hostile attackers. Although he became the target for heavy, direct enemy fire, he disregarded the danger and moved forward at every opportunity; the brave, fiery young comrade of the 143d Infantry, did not leave his gun or fail to engage any target in his sector. By his great coolness and calm determination he contributed materially to the repulse of the assault in his sector. Entered the Service from Atlanta, Georgia.

JOHN J. FORD, 284516, Private First Class, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry in action on 22 January 1944 in Italy. Throughout the night of darkness, mortar and machine gun fire during the bitterly contested attack across the river, Private First Class Ford, an automatic rifleman, courageous, determined, tremendous warrior and pressed the assault against well prepared, numerically superior enemy organizations. Daringly charged to the objective, he fired his automatic weapon effectively as he moved forward. At the end of his short life, notwithstanding, the arduous task of capturing the objective and capturing it. After performing this dangerous task, he again attacked the objective, captured it, but was hit and slain and pursued by the Germans. Lieutenant Private First Class Ford nobly sacrificed his life for his country.

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Entered the
service from Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

J. L. FERGUSON, 30773092, Private, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2 June 1944 in Italy. Private Ferguson was instructed to patrol out in the flank of his squad outpost against enemy action. When a hostile force of approximately 100 men launched a furious counterattack, they struck at his position before encountering any other. In spite of the overwhelming size of the attacking troops, he retained his calm judgment and maintained his position in the face of the advancing enemy soldiers. He killed four of the enemy with his automatic rifle fire, and he accounted for two more with hand grenades. When the action shifted to another sector, he crawled under the sweeping hostile fire to a new position from which he again directed fire against the enemy. Entered the service from Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

G. ALLEN D. MURKELL, 20803793, Private, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in Italy. Private Murkell, first gunner of a 37mm antitank crew, became separated from his unit in the confusion of the landing on a strategic beachhead. When he spotted six enemy tanks directing intense machine gun fire at Company F, he moved forward in the face of the heavy tank fire and started to put his gun into action. Although the approaching tank added to the difficulty of his task, he succeeded in hitting fire on the enemy tanks and, with the assistance of an officer, fired 11 rounds into the two leading tanks. He knocked out the first tank which served as an effective road block and forced the rest to withdraw. In addition, Private Murkell called the tank commander and the driver of the leading tank and assisted in the capture of two prisoners. Entered the service from San Benito, Texas.

DAUGHERTY *Name amend by 60-399- Oct. 16, 1944*

F. J. DAUGHERTY, 37610442, Private, Company E, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 5 June 1944 in Italy. Private Daugherty was automatic rifleman of 1st platoon, Company E, as it moved by motor convoy toward a strategic objective. An enemy force attacked and engaged the platoon in a fire fight. From his forward position, Private Daugherty saw an enemy machine gun crew taking positions. Realizing the gravity of this threat and the casualties it would cause, he left his place of safety and advanced headlong into the machine gun fire, firing with deadly blasts from his automatic rifle. By his courageous action, he repelled the gun crew and materially aided his platoon to defeat the enemy, killing twelve, wounding thirteen and capturing fifteen. Entered the service from St. Louis, Missouri.

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SEC. 10. 111 - AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-40, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second Silver Star is awarded to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action.

E. A. COLE, 3473177, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 27 and 28 May 1944 in Italy. During an attack against stubbornly defended enemy positions, Tech 5 Cole was attempting to lay a wire line from rear elements to the forward observation post. Although a heavy enemy artillery barrage forced personnel in the area to take cover, Tech 5 Cole continued dauntlessly forward, running between snipers and mines to complete the line to the observation post. When he reached his destination, he discovered that there was no phone at the post. Unhesitatingly, he ran back to the rear trailer to secure a phone. The concussion from a

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A shell explosion threw him to the ground, and a shell fragment slashed his left arm, inflicting bleeding profusely, he quickly bandaged the wound and continued to fulfill his mission. After recrossing the stalled area, he instilled the men on observation post. He had his wound properly dressed at the aid station and refused to be evacuated, and continued performing his hazardous duties.

John F. Phelan, 307124, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 May 1944, in Italy. Major Phelan, went naked against his battalion's positions, Private First Class Phelan observed that three machine guns and several anti-machine guns had exhausted their supply of ammunition. He immediately left his place of cover and carrying the urgently needed ammunition and grenades to the gun positions. Under the strafes of open terrain under constant artillery, mortar and machine gun fire. Although he was wounded several times and was almost blinded by smoke, he disregarded evacuation and continued furnishing his comrades with ammunition. Mastering the pain of his wounds, he called the guns to fire continuously, and he contributed materially to the final repulse of the Germans. Entered the Service from Asbury Park, Ohio.

Section IV - 60th Field Artillery Of Our Line Cluster

In view of the full Orders Number 14, to this Army, it is, as follows: In view of the award in lieu of a second Silver Star to Major Charles A. Phazis, 307124, 14th Infantry Regiment, is rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

In accordance with the provisions of Army Regulations 600-4, an Our Line Cluster in lieu of a Silver Star is awarded to the following named officer for gallantry in action:

Major Phelan, 307124, 1st Co, 14th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Jun. 1944 in Italy. Major Phelan, commander of Co. 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, went to the front of his unit when it was exposed under a barrage. An enemy force had advanced nearly 200 yards to the front. He immediately ordered an attack and led his combat platoon in assaulting the enemy positions. In a heavy barrage, Phelan threatened to disorganize the leading company, Major Phelan, displaying unusual intrepidity and aggressiveness, moved alone and calmly, calling upon his platoon, shouting orders in the face of intense enemy fire. He forced the enemy to retreat in complete disorder, capturing many and killing retreating elements. In a few moments time the entire 1st Platoon was completely routed. This resulted in the capture of 20 prisoners, while 30 of the enemy soldiers were killed. Entered the Service from Asbury Park, Ohio.

By command of Major General Edward G. Corlett:

EDWARD G. CORLETT
Colonel, U.S. Cavalry Corps
Commander

Edward G. Corlett

Major General Edward G. Corlett

Commander Cavalry Corps

Commander Cavalry Division

Commander Cavalry

Commander Cavalry Division

Commander Cavalry

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