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AG RECORDS SEC.

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

6 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 164

Posthumous Award of Silver Star.....1  
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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:

OTVERN C. TUTTLE, 34893513, Sergeant, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1945 in France. When the enemy launched a strong counterattack and overran a friendly outpost, wounding a soldier, Sergeant Tuttle rushed forward to his aid. Firing his rifle and throwing hand grenades in the face of heavy enemy small arms and mortar fire, he reached the wounded man and carried him back to the safety of friendly lines. Later, when the company withdrew from its position, he carried a wounded soldier back with him, and then voluntarily returned to the formerly-held position to evacuate still another casualty. He had almost succeeded in reaching safety with the third wounded soldier, when he was himself seriously wounded and had to be evacuated. By his gallant acts he assisted in saving the lives of three comrades. Sergeant Tuttle was killed in action during a subsequent engagement. Next of kin: Mr. Clady T. Tuttle (Father), Route #1, Box 86, Walnut Cove, North Carolina.

WALTER W. CUNNINGHAM, 37642257, Private First Class, Company D, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945 in France. After accompanying his commanding officer on a forward reconnaissance to select positions for the two machine gun platoons, Private First Class Cunningham had the mission of returning and bringing the platoon leaders forward. It was necessary to reach the platoon leaders with the utmost speed, but the shortest way back to them, which would mean the saving of hours of delay, was across open ground subjected to small arms, mortar and self-propelled gun fire. Without hesitation Private First Class Cunningham chose this hazardous route. When he had proceeded half way, the enemy opened fire on him but, instead of seeking cover, he continued forward. As he approached a place of comparative safety, a shell landed directly in front of him, killing him instantly. Private First Class Cunningham's gallant sacrifice was an inspiration to all who witnessed it. Next of kin: Mrs. Emma L. Brookshire (Mother), RR #2, Mountain View, Missouri.

MORTEN J. TVETEN, 17142793, Private First Class, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 March 1945 in Germany. During an attack on positions in the Siegfried Line, the 1st Platoon was halted by intense machine gun fire coming from a pillbox about 100 yards away in an open field. Private First Class Tveten, an automatic rifleman, immediately worked his way around to the flank and rushed toward the position, firing his weapon from the hip. He advanced in the face of the enemy fire to within 30 yards of the pillbox, when

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he was hit and instantly killed by an enemy bullet. Private First Class Tveten's gallant sacrifice diverted the enemy's attention long enough to permit his platoon to attack from the other flank and seize the position. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary Tveten (Mother), 1916 Rankin Street, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

JOE L. ALLEN, 38068489, Private First Class, Battery C, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action from 12 to 14 December 1944 in France. Private First Class Allen was serving as wireman and telephone operator for the forward artillery observer. For two days the enemy directed a heavy volume of small arms and mortar fire into the position and, when communication with friendly units became impossible, the observation post was converted into a strong point under the command of the artillery observer. During this period Private First Class Allen voluntarily served with the infantry as a rifleman. On the afternoon of the third day an American tank was sighted on the crest of a hill 600 yards away and Private First Class Allen, despite the fact that the route was under enemy observation and fire, insisted on being allowed to make contact with it. When he had courageously advanced across the open terrain to within 50 yards of the tank, he was hit and mortally wounded by the enemy fire. Next of kin: Mrs. Georgia Annie Allen (Mother), Motor Route B, Lamesa, Texas.

II. 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:

LEON J. KALKUT, 01310257, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 and 10 December 1944 in France. Lieutenant Kalkut was serving as observer for his 81mm mortar section. Although the house in which he was stationed was subjected to heavy artillery barrages and suffered several direct hits, he steadfastly remained throughout two days and one night, directing mortar fire on the enemy positions. On the night of 10 December 1944, when a powerful enemy attack made a short withdrawal necessary, he remained in his exposed position directing fire to cover the withdrawing forces. When a group of the enemy attempted to storm his house with hand grenades, he called for mortar fire on his own position to drive them off. By his courageous devotion to duty, Lieutenant Kalkut inflicted many casualties on the enemy force, permitting friendly units to reorganize and repel the attack. Entered the Service from Bronx, New York.

ALFRED S. HAWKINSON, 0547945, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. Leading his platoon as right flank security for Company I, Lieutenant Hawkinson skillfully directed his men in infiltrating strong enemy defenses along a river. After the company had seized an important bridge site, he established a defense of the area. When the Germans launched a determined counterattack with tanks, Lieutenant Hawkinson, exposing himself to the hostile fire, moved among his men and, by directing their fire on the tanks, forced the enemy to withdraw. His personal intrepidity and outstanding leadership greatly inspired his men and materially aided the company in completing its mission. Entered the Service from McPherson, Kan.

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BARTON L. ZABIN, JR., O1328440, Second Lieutenant, 11261 Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. When Company I was ordered to infiltrate enemy defenses and seize an important town, Lieutenant Zabin led his platoon in spearheading the night attack. While approaching a wooded area across open terrain, the platoon was subjected to heavy enemy machine gun fire, but Lieutenant Zabin managed to move all of his squads into the woods. Despite enemy machine gun and mortar fire, he skillfully led his platoon in bypassing the German positions and occupying the objective without firing a shot. Spotting an enemy soldier attempting to escape from the town with a horse and personal belongings and aggressive leadership were largely responsible for the success of the operation. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

VERNON DIXON, 6912182, First Sergeant, Company C, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945 in France. First Sergeant Dixon voluntarily led one of the platoons of his company during an attack. When the platoon was halted by a hostile machine gun and subjected to fire from a self-propelled weapon, he moved out alone to assault the machine gun. While bullets struck around him he worked his way forward, firing his rifle as he advanced. When he was within 50 yards of the machine gun, he exposed himself to fire directing the weapon. Sergeant Dixon then led his men forward to a point from which they could fire on strongly-held enemy positions. His skillful direction of mortar fire and the fire of his men resulted in the final taking of those positions and the capture of 32 prisoners. Entered the Service from St. Louis, Missouri.

HAROLD H. HAVLIN, 36680978, Staff Sergeant, Company E, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 13 to 15 March 1945 in France. When Company E moved out in attack on 13 March 1945, Sergeant Havlin, guide of the 3d Platoon, frequently exposed himself to concentrations of enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire to repair communication lines, carry messages and obtain ammunition and supplies. When the platoon sergeant was killed during a strong enemy counterattack, Sergeant Havlin immediately assumed command of the platoon, reorganized the men and skillfully directed them in repulsing the hostile force. On the following day he successfully directed the defense of the area against repeated counterattacks; and on the third day he led his men forward in an attack. He dashed into a house and struck a German who resisted, capturing all three occupants. Then, gallantly exposing himself to the heavy machine fire, Sergeant Havlin led his men in seizing their objective, capturing 35 prisoners and killing many of the enemy. Entered the Service from White Hall, Illinois.

THOMAS C. HOLMAN, 19118611, Staff Sergeant, Company C, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 December 1944 in France. As Sergeant Holman led his squad across open terrain to attack an enemy pillbox, they were pinned down 25 yards away by heavy machine gun fire coming from the position. Sergeant Holman immediately ordered his men to pass all their hand grenades forward to him. He then rushed the position and, while the enemy directed small arms fire and threw hand grenades at him, he threw 14 hand grenades at

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the hostile emplacement, three of which fell directly into the position and killed one of the defenders. The remaining hostile soldiers withdrew in disorder. After deploying his men in defense of the position, he exposed himself to mortar and small arms fire and returned 200 yards to a man who had been wounded. While shells burst around him, Sergeant Holman carried the wounded man to a covered position, and administered first aid. Entered the Service from Nyssa, Oregon.

A. J. KNIGHT, 35038305, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. Private First Class Knight had the mission of placing a demolition charge against a pillbox in the Siegfried Line. As he advanced with his heavy burden, the enemy concentrated intense machine gun and rifle fire on him, and bullets were striking within a few feet of him, but he pressed on until he reached the pillbox. He placed his charge against the door of the emplacement. The explosion blew open the door, killed one of the Germans inside, wounded two, and forced the other five to surrender. Private First Class Knight's gallant act enabled the rifle units to continue their advance and seize their objective. Entered the Service from Indianapolis, Indiana.

ROBERT T. MAHER, 33811840, Private First Class (then Private), Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 November 1944 in France. Company K had fought its way through a series of obstacles, when it was subjected to a severe counterattack which threatened the forward platoons with encirclement. When the intense mortar and self-propelled gun fire severed wire communications, Private Maher, a radio operator, voluntarily worked his way through the heavy fire to the endangered position to reestablish contact. He then remained in the forward area exposed to the enemy fire and for several hours, while the fierce fight continued, maintained communications. When a withdrawal finally became necessary, he was among the last to leave the untenable position, permitting orders for supporting fire to be transmitted until the others had moved back; and, as he ran to safety, he carried his burdensome radio with him. As a result of Private Maher's courageous devotion to duty, vital communications were maintained at a critical time. Entered the Service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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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