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

MG RECORDS SEC.

2 March 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO . 58

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:

MICHAEL M. SWEENEY, O1285661, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 4 January 1945 in France. During an attack against stubbornly defended enemy positions, Lieutenant Sweeney's platoon was assigned the task of protecting the left flank of Company G. As the friendly troops pressed forward toward their objective, a hostile machine gun suddenly opened fire on the platoon. Boldly exposing himself to rapid bursts of fire, Lieutenant Sweeney stepped forward to engage the weapon. Although he could easily have withdrawn to a covered position, he courageously held his ground and opened fire with his rifle. With bullets kicking up dirt around him, he calmly fired into the midst of the enemy emplacement, killing the three soldiers who were operating the machine gun. He then moved forward and captured the weapon. By his aggressiveness and intrepidity, he relieved the pressure on his platoon, enabling his men to continue the attack. Entered the Service from White Butte, South Dakota.

CLARENCE F. BRADBERRY, O1315774, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 6 December 1944 in France. The 3d Platoon of Company C was assigned the mission of crossing a canal and capturing an area which had been converted into an island by flooding. Lieutenant Bradberry, the platoon leader, proceeded on a hazardous daylight reconnaissance to select the most advantageous spot for crossing the canal. He led his men to the designated crossing point under cover of darkness and, in spite of harassing artillery and small arms fire, established a shuttle system with a single rubber boat, skillfully directing his entire platoon across the canal. On the hostile bank, Lieutenant Bradberry swiftly reorganized his group and assigned a mission to each of his squads. He remained with the 1st Squad and, courageously moving in front of his men, advanced toward a strategically important road on the opposite end of the island. Driving relentlessly forward in the face of artillery, machine gun and rifle fire, he skillfully maneuvered the squad in smashing hostile strong points in a burned factory and an air raid shelter along the route of advance. He directed his men in wounding several of the enemy soldiers and in capturing 26 prisoners. When a hostile group opened fire with a machine gun emplaced in the last house to be cleared, he led his men in destroying the weapon. Upon reaching the squad's objective, Lieutenant Bradberry organized a strong defense of the area, successfully completing his difficult assignment. Entered the Service from Netro, West Virginia.

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GEORGE W. ISBELL, 20808235, First Sergeant (then Private), Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 September 1943 in Italy. Company E was occupying a defensive position when the enemy launched a savage tank attack, overrunning the friendly positions. Many soldiers were captured, and the remainder were threatened with disorganization. Aware of the necessity for aggressive action, Private Isbell, acting on his own initiative, assumed command of a squad and swiftly reorganized it. He skillfully directed his men into advantageous positions and selected fields of fire for them. Under his inspiring leadership, the men of his squad repelled a determined assault by enemy infantry elements supported by tanks. By nightfall hostile troops, infiltrating the friendly defenses, had almost surrounded Private Isbell's squad. Cognizant of the perilous situation, he made a reconnaissance of the shell-blasted area to search for a possible route of escape. After covering a distance of approximately two and a half miles, he returned to his men and skillfully guided them from the enemy trap back to other friendly troops. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

ALBERT W. ROBERSON, 20802688, First Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 7 to 12 October 1944 in France. Prior to an important attack against an enemy stronghold, it was decided that every available man would be used in the engagement. Sergeant Roberson volunteered to organize and lead a group of men from the Ammunition and Pioneer Platoon, the command post guard and the kitchen personnel. He skillfully maneuvered his force of approximately 30 men into a designated position, filling a gap between two line companies, and placed each man in a favorable firing position. He directed his men in delivering small arms fire on the hostile emplacements to the front and, from his vantage point, adjusted artillery shelling on enemy installations. On one occasion, when the company on his right flank was subjected to direct fire from a self-propelled weapon, Sergeant Roberson crawled forward over exposed terrain under heavy mortar fire and, from an exposed position, directed an effective artillery barrage on the hostile weapon, forcing it to withdraw. During this engagement, he displayed outstanding initiative and courage in removing anti-personnel mines from a minefield. Later, he personally captured four enemy soldiers hiding in the cellar of a house. As a result of his splendid leadership, an important gap in the friendly defenses was successfully filled. Entered the Service from Robstown, Texas.

WENDELL E. TANKERSLY, 20803599, First Sergeant (then Sergeant), Company L, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in Italy. Landing on D-day in the invasion of Italy, Sergeant Tankersly led his squad in the first assault wave against the hostile defenses. He and his men were assigned the mission of advancing across a canal several hundred yards beyond the beach and delaying enemy infantry elements. Skillfully leading his squad through intense small arms and artillery fire, he directed his men to advantageous positions and, with his effective fire, retarded the advance of the hostile troops. During the savage fighting, one of the squad members was killed, and Sergeant Tankersly and two of his men were seriously wounded. With the fire power of the squad materially reduced, it became necessary to withdraw from the untenable positions. Ignoring the severe pain of his injury, Sergeant Tankersly led his men back along the canal, frequently directing them to submerge themselves in the water in order to avoid the heavy machine gun fire. Determinedly refusing

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medical attention, he led his squad safely to the friendly lines where he collapsed from loss of blood. Entered the Service from Waelder, Texas.

VERNON COLEMAN, 37677176, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Coleman was assigned the mission of protecting the battalion rear with his platoon. A large hostile force launched a determined attack from both flanks, threatening to cut off his platoon and overrun his positions. Aware of the necessity for aggressive action, Sergeant Coleman made a hasty reconnaissance under heavy small arms and artillery fire. In spite of the enemy's numerical superiority, he determined to lead his platoon in a counterattack. He skillfully executed a bold maneuver, fearlessly braving direct fire, and drove the hostile troops back. He then organized a defensive position and repelled a series of violent assaults, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. He directed his men in holding their positions against overwhelming odds until his platoon was reinforced by another unit. By his personal courage and outstanding leadership, he prevented a hostile breakthrough and saved the regimental command post from capture by the enemy. Entered the Service from Waterloo, Iowa.

ELMER J. EGGE MEYER, 36055056, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 25 November 1944 in France. During the 1st Battalion's advance toward an important enemy-held town, the motorized elements of the organization, moving in a column, followed closely behind the infantry troops. Because of a painful foot injury, Sergeant Eggemeyer, sergeant of the Weapons Platoon of Company A, was riding in a jeep. The motorized column was suddenly subjected to heavy fire from a large group of enemy soldiers who had been by-passed by the leading elements of the battalion. Realizing that the vehicles were in danger of being cut off from the main body of friendly troops, Sergeant Eggemeyer, ignoring his painful wound, swiftly organized the truck drivers into a fighting unit and led them in counter-attacking the hostile force. Fearlessly exposing himself to heavy machine gun and small arms fire, he skillfully directed his men in firing on the hostile soldiers. As a result of his expert leadership and daring resourcefulness, three of the enemy were killed, 30 captured and the remainder forced to withdraw. Entered the Service from Chester, Illinois.

JOHN P. BURKE, JR., 32733687, Technical Sergeant, Company L, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 December 1944 in France. Sergeant Burke, Weapons Platoon sergeant, was occupying a position near his company command post when a large hostile force infiltrated the right flank of the company's line and launched a surprise attack on the command post. Aware that the friendly riflemen were too far forward to assist in repelling the assault, he immediately left his covered position and moved among the fighting holes of the command post group, encouraging his comrades and directing their fire on the attackers. Braving direct small arms and machine gun fire, he travelled back and forth to collect extra ammunition from the fighting holes of the dead and seriously wounded, redistributing it where it was needed most. When the enemy opened fire with several machine guns, Sergeant Burke courageously advanced through a hail of small arms fire to a spot near one of the gun emplacements. Hurling grenades into the midst of the hostile position, he destroyed the gun and killed its entire crew. After obtaining a resupply of grenades, he again worked his way

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forward and wounded a crew member of a second machine gun. Largely as a result of his aggressiveness and daring, heavy casualties were inflicted on the hostile force, and the attack was frustrated. Entered the Service from Geneva, New York.

MARK SCHNEIDER, 33645207, Corporal, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Paterson, New Jersey.

RAYMOND E. DAILY, 33455555, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Washington, D. C.

FERDINAND ZURAWSKI, 31261194, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Lowell, Mass.

PAUL W. GUTHRIE, JR., 34678116, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Burlington, North Carolina.

For gallantry in action on 11 September 1944 in France. When over 75 enemy soldiers were spotted preparing a road block on a nearby hill, these men, members of the Intelligence Section, volunteered to advance under supporting fire from tanks, tank destroyers and machine guns in an attack on the hostile force. They drove to within 200 yards of the road block in two jeeps and then, dismounting, ran to the top of a hill over which the enemy had withdrawn. Reaching the crest of the hill, they opened fire against hostile troops on a sunken road below them. As approximately 60 enemy soldiers fled down the road into a nearby town, the above named men followed them, courageously advancing under heavy antitank fire to the outskirts of town. Pressing their advantage, they began clearing the buildings of hostile resistance. When they had exhausted their supply of ammunition, they seized weapons abandoned by the enemy and continued fighting from house to house. Moving dauntlessly forward in the face of direct fire, they completely routed the hostile force and successfully cleared the town.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

JOHN J. ALBRIGHT  
Colonel, General Staff Corps  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*Vincent M. Lockhart*  
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