

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 335017

~~RESTRICTED~~

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

AG RECORDS SEC.

6 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 165

Award of Silver Star.....I
Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct.....II

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual for gallantry in action:

JOHN R. HERRERA, 37343409, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. On being summoned from the aid station with two litter bearers, Private First Class Herrera, a jeep driver, found an injured officer being treated in a minefield by an aid man. He immediately picked up the litter and made his way alone through the minefield to the injured man. Here, with the help of the aid man, he attempted to spread the litter on the ground, but the thickly strewn mines made this operation too dangerous. Private First Class Herrera then picked up the wounded officer; but the most comfortable position for the wounded man prevented Private First Class Herrera from seeing the ground ahead of him. Undaunted, he led the way out of the minefield, with the aid man guiding him in placing his feet. By his gallant act he assisted in saving the life of the wounded officer. Entered the Service from Delta, Colorado.

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:

PETER C. MCKEVITT, 32173236, Sergeant, Company M, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 March 1945 in France. While attacking a town, Company M suffered several casualties, but the aid man was engaged in caring for the wounded of another company a distance away. Undaunted by heavy enemy machine gun and artillery fire, Sergeant McKevitt voluntarily crossed 200 yards of open terrain to find the aid man and bring him back to the company position. As a result of Sergeant McKevitt's courageous act, the wounded received prompt medical treatment. Entered the Service from The Bronx, New York.

JAMES L. ARMER, 37338959, Sergeant, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 March 1945 in France. During a night attack Sergeant Armer, a squad leader, led his men under machine gun fire safely across a river and into a forest. When the company became separated in the dark into two groups, he immediately moved to the lead of his group. Although subjected to intense machine gun and rifle fire, he reconnoitered the area and, on returning, again led his men safely through the dense woods until contact was

- 1 -
(over)

~~RESTRICTED~~

336-1.13

36th INF DIVISION

1945

1945

36th INF Division

36-1.13

RESTRICTED

(GO 165, Hq 36th Inf Div, 6 May 1945, contd)

made with the remainder of the company. As a result of Sergeant Armer's courage and skillful leadership, his company was able to reorganize and advance to its objective. Entered the Service from Brighton, Colorado.

LEIGHTON J. BRAYLEY, 42093576, Sergeant, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 11 February 1945 in France. During an attack on a town Sergeant Brayley, a radio operator, moved forward with his company commander under intense small arms fire. After the company had reached its objective and set up a command post, he remained at his radio continuously for 48 hours. Although the building was subjected to heavy artillery fire which demolished its walls, he steadfastly remained in position keeping communication open with the battalion command post. By his courageous devotion to duty Sergeant Brayley materially aided his company in maintaining its position. Entered the Service from Hartland, New York.

RICHARD D. WARNER, 39177867, Private First Class, Company E, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 22 March 1945 in Germany. Private First Class Warner, with a companion, was guarding a captured Siegfried Line pillbox, when he observed a force of Germans advancing up the hill toward his position. In the face of intense machine gun and rifle fire, he opened fire with his M-1 rifle and began throwing hand grenades at the advancing foe. While bullets struck all around him, he steadfastly maintained his position, killing two of the hostile force, and holding the remainder off until reinforcements arrived. As a result of Private First Class Warner's courageous and determined actions, his company was enabled to hold the position. Entered the Service from #1 Lewis Co., Washington.

WILLIAM H. WEBBER, 42066917, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 11 February 1945 in France. While carrying a message as platoon runner, Private First Class Webber was wounded in the leg by an enemy shell fragment. Although walking with difficulty, he continued forward with shells bursting around him, and delivered his message. He then assisted in the evacuation of three wounded comrades and several prisoners. Not until five hours later, when ordered by his commanding officer, did he leave for the aid station to secure treatment for his wound. Private First Class Webber's courageous devotion to duty was an inspiration to the members of his company. Entered the Service from Yonkers, New York.

LEWIS B. JONES, 33610260, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 March 1945 in France. After his company had entered a town, Private First Class Jones was placed on guard in a building on a street which the enemy was using as an escape route. His position was soon discovered by the enemy, and they opened fire on the house with a 40mm antitank gun. Undaunted by the hostile fire, Private First Class Jones fired his carbine at the enemy weapon until the intense shell fire had demolished a large portion of the house. He then moved outside the building to an exposed position from which he observed two enemy horse-drawn vehicles moving along the street. He quickly opened fire on the Germans, forcing them to flee in disorder. By his courageous and aggressive actions, Private First Class Jones materially aided his company in holding its position. Entered the Service from Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 25017

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735017

RESTRICTED

(GO 165, Hq 36th Inf Div, 6 May 1945, contd)

WILLIAM E. FELT, SR, 34834199, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Jackson, Georgia.

JONATHAN E. WOFFORD, 35812384, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Benton, Kentucky.

for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 20 March 1945 in Germany. The 1st Battalion, while temporarily in reserve, received a request from the attacking battalion for a much-needed supply of rifle ammunition. These men immediately volunteered to secure the ammunition. Displaying outstanding calmness in the face of danger, they crossed 500 yards of hilly terrain under heavy enemy machine gun fire, reached the ammunition dump and returned to their company positions with the rifle ammunition. They then advanced 300 yards to the 2d Battalion and, exposing themselves to heavy small arms fire from enemy-held pillboxes, delivered the ammunition to the front line elements. By their heroic actions they contributed materially to the success of the attacking battalion.

CHARLES M. JOHNSON, 34826697, Private First Class, Company C, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 19 March 1945 in Germany. During a motorized attack on an enemy-held town, the 1st Platoon was riding on tanks at the head of the column when the enemy suddenly directed heavy mortar, artillery and nebelwerfer fire on the area. The soldiers jumped from the tanks and, finding no cover in the open field, were scattered by the heavy fire. Private First Class Johnson ran across 300 yards of shelled terrain in search of cover for the men. Locating several empty fighting holes, he swiftly ran back and, still under the hostile barrage, led his comrades to the covered positions. His outstanding courage and disregard for personal safety prevented casualties and enabled his platoon to reorganize and continue the attack. Entered the Service from Athens, Georgia.

CONRADO JARAMILLO, 20841906, Private First Class (then Private), Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 23 March 1945 in Germany. When an adjacent unit asked the 1st Battalion for bazooka ammunition, Private Jaramillo volunteered to go to the battalion dump approximately 500 yards away to procure the ammunition. Although the area was subjected to heavy enemy rocket and artillery fire, he covered the dangerous route, secured the ammunition and, again braving the hostile fire, retraced his steps, delivering the ammunition to a detail from the other unit. By his courage and initiative he materially aided the adjacent battalion in repelling an enemy counterattack. Entered the Service from Chapelis, New Mexico.

RUSSELL P. ADAMS, 38036456, Private First Class, Cannon Company, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Dallas, Texas.

EARNEST F. HOSTETTER, 33212780, Private, Cannon Company, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Lexington, Virginia.

for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 6 March 1945 in France. The Cannon Company was engaged in a fire mission when enemy counterbattery fire cut all communication between the fire direction center and the battery position. These men, wiremen, immediately set out from a house near the fire direction center to repair the breaks in the line. While shells burst at times within 20 yards of them, they valiantly crossed 300 yards of open ground and made the necessary repairs. As a result of the courage and initiative of the above men, the vital communications were restored and the battery enabled to complete its mission.

(over)

RESTRICTED

336-1,13

36th INF Division

1945

1945

36th INF Division

336-1.13

RESTRICTED

(GO 165, Hq 36th Inf Div, 6 May 1945, contd)

CHARLES A. CASTANIA, 33947154, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

JACK W. WORDLEMAN, 37746029, Private, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Jamestown, Missouri.

for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 10 February 1945 in France. These men were scouts leading an attack on a town. As they advanced behind a row of buildings, an enemy machine gun opened fire on them, mortally wounding the squad leader. The men dropped to the ground and although they were exposed to the heavy fire, they immediately began firing at the hostile position. Their accurate fire neutralized the enemy gun, permitting an aid man to remove the squad leader to a nearby building, and enabling the platoon to continue its advance. The courageous and aggressive act of the above men was an inspiration to all members of their platoon.

2. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following named individual, missing in action, is commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

ORVILLE L. MOSHER, 36983895, Private, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 23 January 1945 in France. Private Mosher and seven others were manning an outpost at night, approximately 300 yards beyond the company position, when they observed a platoon of the enemy approaching. They immediately left their protected positions and, crawling to where they could secure a better field of fire, waited for the Germans to come nearer. When the hostile force was about 40 yards away, the eight men opened fire on them. Although they received intense rifle and machine pistol fire, they held their position and delivered such accurate fire into the enemy group that it was disorganized and forced to withdraw. As a result of the courageous devotion to duty of Private Mosher and his comrades, the hostile force was routed after suffering three killed and several wounded. Private Mosher was reported missing in action from a subsequent engagement. Next of kin: Mr. Ray G. Mosher (Father), 716 Garden Road, De Kalb, Illinois.

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

DISTRIBUTION "E"

- 4 -

RESTRICTED

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND735017