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HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION
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ORIGINAL ORDER

GENERAL ORDERS

21 June 1944

NO. 195

Award of Bronze Star Medal..... I
Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct.....II

SECTION I — AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individuals for gallantry in action.

✓ L. A. CRENSHAW, 20805607, First Sergeant, Company G, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 29 November 1943 in Italy. While his men were assembled in a forward area awaiting instructions, an enemy shell fell nearby wounding First Sergeant Crenshaw and several of the others. Despite his painful wounds and the continuing hazardous barrage, he immediately went for medical assistance. Upon obtaining help, he courageously led the way back to his wounded comrades and assisted in their treatment and evacuation before permitting himself to be attended. Entered the Service from Snyder, Texas.

✓ CYRIL E. CARMICHAEL, 36481658, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company B, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 January 1944 in Italy. Private First Class Carmichael, leader of a light machine gun squad, oriented his men, almost exhausted from a preceding engagement, as to their mission in a second assault on stubbornly defended enemy positions across a strategic river. He led his squad across flat, open terrain, swept by long range machine gun fire and blasted by artillery shelling, toward the river crossing point. When one of his men was wounded, he rendered effective first aid and ordered him to the rear. Continuing his advance across the river, he organized his men and directed them to places affording cover from the intense shelling and small arms fire, constantly encouraging and calming them by his own example of intrepidity. Entered the Service from Monticello, Illinois.

✓ ROBERT A. BARFIELD, 20813147, Sergeant, Company B, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1944 in Italy. Although instructed to wait for the cessation of a heavy artillery barrage before attempting to repair the vital communications line between the observation post and the command post, Sergeant Barfield, aware of the urgency of his mission, voluntarily braved the intense fire to repair the line. Moving across terrain which afforded very little cover, he followed the line, dashing forward for short distances, then hitting the ground when warned by the whistle of an artillery shell. He continued to work tirelessly and fearlessly until the line was intact and communications had been reestablished. Entered the Service from Buffalo Gap, Texas.

GEORGE E. HARRISON, 35267331, Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944 in Italy. When the enemy stopped his unit's assault with a fierce counterattack, Sergeant Harrison put his mortar into action and delivered accurate fire on the onrushing enemy troops, forcing them to take cover and delaying them until the riflemen could reach better firing positions. When the supply of ammunition was almost depleted, he crawled across the snow covered ground under continuous enemy machine gun fire, making several trips in order to

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insure ample ammunition for his weapon. Entered the Service from Elihu, Kentucky.

SANTIAGO CASAREZ, 38026507, Corporal, Company L, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action during the period 9 September 1943 to 23 February 1944 in Italy. Throughout operations during this period, Corporal Casarez has undertaken numerous patrols through enemy occupied territory under extremely hazardous conditions. His courageous and determined performance of such missions has made him the mainstay in his unit for vital reconnaissances preceding the advance against strong hostile positions; and the accurate information obtained by him has contributed materially to the successful planning and execution of these assaults. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

JOHN H. STACY, 20824894, Private First Class, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 23 January 1944 in Italy. During the stubbornly contested attempts to establish a beachhead across a strategic river, Private First Class Stacy volunteered to carry smoke pots into a shelled area near the river bank to lay a smoke screen over the exposed terrain. Crawling forward for 200 yards, constantly imperilled by sweeping machine gun fire, mortar shelling, and sniper fire, he placed the pots in the designated positions and started back. The concussion from a mortar shell explosion nearby stunned him, but he continued determinedly on and reached the friendly lines safely. Entered the Service from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

RUDOLPH F. CEBULA, 35213471, Private First Class (then Private), Battery A, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 4 March 1944 in Italy. Private Cebula was a cannoneer with a battery located in a position which was under direct enemy observation. When the enemy began blasting the battery with mortar fire, six personnel casualties resulted from the intense shelling. Thoughtless of personal danger, Private Cebula left his place of comparative safety and went to the aid of the wounded men. He carried them to places of cover and, still exposed to the enemy fire, guided an ambulance to the wounded soldiers and helped load them for evacuation. Entered the Service from Weirton, West Virginia.

AUGUST F. BERTRAM, 38205153, Private First Class, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in Italy. As acting sergeant of a machine gun section, Private First Class Bertram advanced with his unit in an attack against strongly fortified, strategically placed enemy defensive positions, across a treacherous river. When the intensity of artillery and mortar concentrations and machine gun fire threatened the organization of the attackers, he continued fearlessly and with the few men who were able to follow him, crossed the river. Rallying the soldiers around him, he quickly reorganized them and led them in the attack. Entered the Service from West Columbia, Texas.

CLAY A. BRADY, 37672569, Private, Company L, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 10 and 11 February 1944 in Italy. Ordered to man a heavy machine gun in the point of a small salient projecting into enemy territory, Private Brady fired his weapon with great skill and effectiveness in the face of heavy artillery and mortar shelling and blasts from enemy machine guns. Even when painfully wounded he refused to be evacuated and continued to operate his gun until ordered by an officer to withdraw to an aid station. Entered the Service from Greeley, Iowa.

HARRY BURLISON, 34593638, Private, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in Italy. Private Burlison, as ammunition bearer in a machine gun platoon ordered to support the riflemen in an attack across a strategic river, advanced with his unit until intense machine gun fire and well

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directed artillery mortar concentrations halted attack. Because of the confusion engendered by the heavy fire from strategically placed enemy positions, the organization of the unit was threatened and the number of casualties was large. Continuing dauntlessly, refusing to let the continuous enemy fire stop him, Private Burleson was among the few who crossed the river and stormed the enemy positions. Entered the Service from Hughes, North Carolina.

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

WARREN W. AUSLAND, 0358695, Captain, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 16 February 1944 in Italy. As commander of Company A, Captain Ausland performed his many duties tirelessly and efficiently, inspiring his men to exert themselves to the utmost in accomplishing their tasks. Working under constant threat of enemy artillery shelling and sometimes exposed to intense small arms fire, he personally supervised the clearing of mine fields, the construction of bridges, and the repairing and maintaining of roads for military vehicular traffic. By his successful accomplishment of his many missions he greatly facilitated the movements of the infantry troops. Entered the Service from Grants Pass, Oregon.

BRYAN G. CHICK, 01293550, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 12 to 27 February 1944 in Italy. Lieutenant Chick was charged with the responsibility of getting supplies of all kinds to the troops in position on a hill. The supply routes from the regimental dump to the battalion positions were long and difficult, under enemy observation and exposed to artillery and mortar fire. Lieutenant Chick performed his duties with efficiency and intelligent judgment, often making the hazardous trip with the carrying parties and mule pack trains, constantly insuring the troops an adequate supply of ammunition and other vital equipment and rations. Entered the Service from Fort Worth, Texas.

CLAYTON L. BUTTERFIELD, 0342316, First Lieutenant, Service Company, 142d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 November to 3 December 1943 in Italy. As supply officer for the 2d Battalion, Lieutenant Butterfield personally supervised the transportation of equipment and supplies over extremely hazardous mountain terrain to the combat units of the battalion. When the muddy, precipitous trails precluded the use of vehicles for supply, he directed the operation of large mule pack trains so well organized and coordinated that at no time were the vital supplies delayed. He continued performing his tiring duties with aggressiveness and resourcefulness, in spite of inclement weather and constant danger from enemy shelling, until he was wounded by artillery shell fragments and evacuated. Entered the Service from Rusk, Texas.

JAMES L. BURDETTE, JR, 01311478, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 28 February 1944 in Italy. Lieutenant Burdette, as regimental S-4, organized battalion mule trains and reequipped his battalion for mountain fighting. During this period he disdained comfort and rest, working day and night loading and packing the mule trains and leading them over valleys, across rivers and up steep mountain trails in the most inclement weather in order to maintain a steady flow of supplies to his unit. He continued performing his duties calmly and efficiently even when exposed to heavy enemy artillery fire and successfully fulfilled the responsibilities of his position. Entered the Service from Anderson, S.C.

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SECTION II -- COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army regulations 600-55, the following named individuals of the 143d Infantry Regiment are commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

✓ GERARD J. FINSEY, 01299716, First Lieutenant. Entered the Service from Jersey City, New Jersey.

✓ ALBERT C. HOLCY, 01298540, Second Lieutenant. Entered the Service from Paterson, New Jersey.

✓ WILLIAM R. CALDWELL, 20848277, Staff Sergeant, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Crawford, Texas.

✓ FRANK J. STEC, 36319165, Sergeant, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

✓ HERMAN M. COCHRAN, 38037335, Corporal, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Rosser, Texas.

✓ WILLIAM E. ROBERTS, 35321274, Technician Fifth Grade, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Warren, Ohio.

✓ RICHARD H. HOWELL, 34380355, Private First Class, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Green Mountain, North Carolina.

✓ RAY H. COLLINS, 34497981, Private First Class, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Sneedsville, Tennessee.

✓ ERWIN E. KRATZ, 36320534, Private First Class, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.


✓ ERNST BIER, 32540691, Private First Class, Antitank Company. Entered the Service from Little Neck, New York.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 December 1943 in Italy. Assigned the task of carrying ammunition, food, water and clothing to front line troops, these men climbed a steep, precipitous trail to the top of a mile-high mountain, subjected to almost constant enemy artillery and mortar fire, sometimes crawling on their hands and knees, to achieve their objective. In spite of all difficulties and hazards, they succeeded in reaching the mountain top without losing a single load of the vital supplies.

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL


HARRY B. KELLTON
Major, Adjutant General's Department
Assistant Adjutant General

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