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**R E S T R I C T E D**

HEADQUARTERS 10TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO #36, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS

21 March 1944

NO. 83

Posthumous Award of Silver Star.....I  
Award of Silver Star.....II  
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster.....III

SECTION I — POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded each of the following named individuals:

CHARLES E. BOSTON, 38195098, Private First Class, Company H, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 January 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. Private Boston was a member of a machine gun section attached to one of the forward rifle companies of the Second Battalion in the attack across the \*\*\* River. This attack was launched under intense artillery, nebelwerfer and mortar fire and over approaches almost devoid of cover and through ingeniously prepared defensive fires of the enemy. Disregarding the danger of the enemy fire and the dense mine field through which he had to travel, Private Boston crossed the swift flowing \*\*\* River on a hazardous foot bridge and assisted in setting up a machine gun on the battalion's right flank. In the bitter fight that ensued he was of great assistance in keeping the right flank of the battalion clear until the intensity of the enemy attack made the entire position untenable. His great calmness, fortitude and devotion to duty under enemy fire inspired all who witnessed his deeds. He subsequently died of wounds received in later action. Next of kin: Mrs. Phyllis Boston (Mother), Route No 2, Box 186-G, Houma, Louisiana.

AUSTIN R. GREGORY, 35267354, Private First Class, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. Private Gregory advanced with Company C inland from Blue Beach in the invasion of Italy. When they reached a point about two hundred and fifty yards inland, two enemy machine guns pinned the group to the ground with intense fire. Private Gregory dauntlessly took his automatic rifle and dashed across open ground to secure a better field of fire. The enemy concentrated their fire on him and he engaged in a bitter duel against the two guns. While so doing he was killed, but the delay of enemy fire which he caused enabled the company to secure better positions and ultimately to advance on to their objective. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mr. Eli Gregory (Father), Route 3, Box 852, Morehead, Kentucky.

SECTION II — AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded each of the following named individuals:

FRANK S. CONVERSANO, 32223068, Technician Grade 5, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 27 January 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. Technician Grade 5 Conversano voluntarily accompanied a group of

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four other soldiers and two civilians on a hazardous reconnaissance mission for a distance of about one thousand yards along the \*\*\* River. The party, all disguised as peasant shepherds, herded 261 sheep through enemy mine fields near the river bank, being, at many points, in full view of enemy observation posts just across the river. Even though they were under constant threat of fire at comparatively short range, the party executed the mission with admirable calmness and efficiency. Upon reaching a small branch creek, the sheep refused to advance further, and, instead, turned about and headed back over the route by which they had come. This act aroused the suspicion of the enemy observers, who opened fire on the reconnaissance patrol with several machine guns. Through their courageous and determined action the patrol accomplished a threefold result. They cleared the mine fields of trip wires and booby traps, they noted possible approaches for infantry advances to the river, and observed, at close range, enemy positions on the opposite bank. This information made possible an effective artillery barrage upon enemy positions, and was of great value in formulating plans for subsequent operations by our own troops. The magnificent initiative and devotion to duty displayed by Technician Grade 5 Conversano and his comrades was an inspiration to all who witnessed their acts. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

JAMES HILL, 35635502, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 January 1944, in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. Private First Class Hill was messenger and guard for the Second Battalion commanding officer during the attack across the \*\*\* River. The attack was launched under terrific enemy artillery, mortar, nebelwerfer and small arms fire across the deep, fast-flowing river and over ground further protected by mine fields, booby traps and barbed wire. Cover was negligible in the last seven hundred yards of the river approaches but Private First Class Hill made numerous trips across this open terrain to deliver command messages to the rifle company commanders. He crossed the river with the battalion commander and continued his hazardous duties until the battalion commander was wounded by sniper fire. With utter disregard for his personal safety, Private First Class Hill went to the aid of his battalion commander, although subjected to almost incessant mortar, machine gun and sniper fire. He physically carried his battalion commander to a point on the east bank of the river where normal evacuation could be accomplished. He then returned to the front lines to contribute his fire power to the attack. His gallant actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Columbus, Ohio.

EUGENE B. ANDERSON, 35608159, Private, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 February 1944 on \*\*\* Italy. During a strong attack on the First Battalion, a number of enemy soldiers infiltrated the right flank of Private Anderson's platoon and began setting up machine guns in their most advantageous position. In the face of intense enemy rifle and machine gun fire, Private Anderson dauntlessly stood erect so as to be able to bring more effective fire on the enemy. With outstanding calmness and unerring accuracy, he killed four enemy machine gunners with his rifle and continued to fire despite enemy hand grenades bursting all around him. By his intrepid courage and devotion to duty, Private Anderson repulsed the enemy in his vicinity and materially aided his battalion in repelling the determined enemy counterattack. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Youngstown, Ohio.

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ROCCO J. ANTONELLI, 31358213, Private, Company F, 162d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. After Company F had successfully attained its objective southeast of Hill \*\*\*, the enemy laid down a terrific concentration of mortar and machine gun fire and followed swiftly with a determined counterattack. The fire-swept position became untenable but Private Antonelli, automatic rifleman, steadfastly maintained his position in advance of his platoon and rendered effective fire support while his platoon withdrew and organized new defenses. He inflicted heavy casualties upon the on-rushing enemy with deadly accurate fire, and rejoined his platoon only when his ammunition was exhausted. His devotion to duty and utter disregard for his personal safety in the face of overwhelming odds materially aided in stemming the enemy counterattack, and gave his platoon urgently needed time for organization and evacuation of the wounded. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Revere, Massachusetts.

ARTHUR H. BERKOBEN, 33671753, Private, Medical Detachment, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. As Company C moved out to the attack against Hill \*\*\*, heavy concentrations of artillery and small arms fire caused many casualties among the men, disabling them in the midst of the area of greatest impact of the enemy fires. Private Berkoben rushed into this fire-swept area to aid the wounded men, even though they were not from his company. Private Berkoben's courageous actions in the midst of enemy fire, performed while snipers were deliberately shooting at him, saved the lives of many wounded and set an inspiring example for all who witnessed his performance. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

SECTION III — AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second Silver Star is awarded the following named individuals:

JOHN W. BAUM, 01299668, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944, in the vicinity of \*\*\* Italy. Just prior to the time his company was to attack Hill \*\*\*, the enemy launched a strong counterattack against the company positions. In the face of heavy concentrations of artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Lieutenant Baum constantly exposed himself in placing his men individually and directing their fires against the attacking enemy. While so doing, he was seriously wounded in the leg by shell fragments. Disregarding his wounds, he continued to supervise the construction of an effective defense, refusing to allow himself to be evacuated until the maximum fire power of his platoon was being utilized. Lieutenant Baum's skillful work, with utter disregard for his personal safety, was materially responsible for crushing the enemy counterattack. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

JOE W. GILL, 01702996, Second Lieutenant (then First Sergeant), 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1943 on \*\*\* Italy. After having taken part in his unit's successful advance on \*\*\*, Sergeant Gill volunteered to lead an important three man patrol to locate enemy defenses deep

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in enemy occupied territory. He stealthily advanced through the darkness and rain, over steep, slippery trails in the rugged mountains, encountering hostile as well as friendly artillery fire along the way and enemy patrols which he skillfully evaded. With utter disregard for his own safety, he remained in this hazardous area during most of the night to observe enemy movements and to secure valuable information, with which he later successfully returned to his unit, thereby materially aiding the security of the positions held by Company F. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Canyon, Texas.

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL:

*John J. Deane*  
JOHN J. DEANE  
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department  
Adjutant General

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