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

AG RECORDS SEC.

26 April 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 139

Posthumous Award of Silver Star.....I
Award of Silver Star.....II

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:

RICHARD M. WADE, 35218284, Private First Class, Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Elizabeth Wade (Mother), 619 E. 4th Street, Chillicothe, Ohio.

EDWIN G. BLONIGAN, 37431256, Private First Class, Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mr. William Blonigan (Father), 219 Utica Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. During a night attack two platoons of Company K entered a large minefield and suffered numerous casualties. Despite intense mortar and artillery fire falling in the area, these men volunteered for the hazardous task of evacuating the wounded. They made five trips into the minefield; and as they worked the enemy used flares and the mortar and artillery fire increased in intensity. Undaunted, they worked throughout the night. As they entered the minefield for the fifth time, they were killed by the burst of a mortar shell. By their magnificent courage, at the sacrifice of their own lives, the above men assisted in saving the lives of many others.

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:

MICHAEL WARNOCK, 01315878, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 9 to 11 December 1944 in France. When an enemy tank opened fire on his platoon in a town, Lieutenant Warnock ordered the men to take cover and went on reconnaissance with two men, to locate the tank. In making this reconnaissance they became isolated when another enemy tank opened fire and wounded them, forcing them to take cover. Lieutenant Warnock attempted to contact the company but found that he was surrounded by enemy infantry. During the next two days, Lieutenant Warnock led reconnaissances to discover a route of escape and was finally successful. The 3 men moved out after dark, but on the way were challenged by a hostile sentry. Lieutenant Warnock quickly overpowered and killed the guard, but he could not avoid alerting the enemy, who opened fire with a machine gun. Evading the hostile fire and eluding two enemy searching parties, Lieutenant Warnock, wounded, hungry and exhausted, early on the third day led his men safely back to friendly lines. Entered the Service from Yonkers, New York.

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FLAVIO R. TORRES, 20802292, First Sergeant (then Technical Sergeant), Company E, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 August 1944 in France. When an enemy attack, supported by heavy tank and automatic weapons fire, drove his platoon from its positions, Sergeant Torres reorganized the men and led them in a counterattack which regained the lost ground. When the enemy attacked a second time in greater strength, he supplemented his small force with stragglers from other units, and in the face of 20mm and mortar fire again drove back the hostile force. When a third powerful enemy attack made a withdrawal necessary, Sergeant Torres moved courageously into the hostile fire to locate and carry back a seriously wounded comrade. As a result of Sergeant Torres' valor and determination, his battalion was able to withdraw to strong defensive positions, and he assisted in saving the life of a wounded comrade. Entered the Service from El Paso, Texas.

GLEN E. FISHELL, 36877690, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. Company A was attacking a pillbox in the Siegfried line. After several frontal assaults had been halted by machine gun crossfire and heavy artillery fire, Sergeant Fishell led his platoon to the flank of the position. Crawling forward across the exposed ground, while bullets struck within a foot of him, he led his men close to the pillbox. Then, firing into the position at close range, he killed three of the defenders and forced the remaining 11 to surrender. By his gallant and aggressive leadership, Sergeant Fishell reduced the enemy strongpoint and enabled his company to continue its advance. Entered the Service from Lansing, Michigan.

WILLIAM J. WOLEK, 36320463, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. During a strong enemy counterattack, a machine gun, firing from the flank, made it impossible for the antitank platoon to answer the hostile fire. Private First Class Wolek volunteered to deliver covering fire as a comrade assaulted the gun. He worked his way forward about 150 yards to within 20 yards of the hostile positions. Even though bullets cut through his clothes and splattered dirt in his face, he stood upright in a fox hole and fired his rifle and rifle grenades at the hostile troops. As a result of his covering fire Private First Class Wolek's comrade was able to assault the enemy machine gun and put it out of action. With the machine gun destroyed, the Antitank Platoon repulsed the hostile attack. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

ADOLPH T. HENCHEL, 36288853, Private First Class, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. Private First Class Henchel and two comrades had the mission of searching two houses across a 200 yard clearing. While the two men covered him, he ran across the exposed area to the first house, in spite of sniper fire coming from the second building. When he opened the door, an enemy machine gun inside opened fire at him. As bullets splintered the door, he jumped to the side and dashed around the corner of the house. A few moments later he heard the machine gun firing again, and observed his two comrades, who were attempting to come to his aid, forced to take cover in a ditch. Private First Class Henchel then crawled back to the door and threw in a hand grenade, silencing the gun. As a result of his courageous act, the three men were able to return safely to their squad position. Entered the Service from Hayward, Wisconsin.

ALFRED DE STEPHANO, 32939367, Private First Class, Company E, 142d Infantry

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Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 March 1945 in Germany. Private First Class De Stephano's platoon was advancing on an enemy pillbox in the Siegfried defenses, when it was halted by intense machine gun fire. Private First Class De Stephano immediately began crawling toward the hostile machine gun position. While bullets struck within a few feet of him, he advanced approximately 100 yards through barbed wire entanglements and over ditches. When he was within 20 yards of the enemy machine gun, he quickly threw two hand grenades, and then charged into the position. As a result of Private First Class De Stephano's magnificent courage and aggressiveness, the enemy machine gun was destroyed, two Germans were killed and one captured, and the platoon was enabled to continue and successfully accomplish its mission. Entered the Service from Syracuse, New York.

WILLIAM W. MUNRO, 37482317, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. The 2d Platoon was crossing an open field at night, when it was subjected to intense machine gun fire. One man was hit by a phosphorous grenade which ignited his clothing and lit up the area. The enemy immediately concentrated heavy machine gun fire on his position, forcing the others to seek cover. Undaunted by the hostile fire, Private First Class Munro crawled approximately 30 yards to the soldier whose clothes were on fire and, while bullets struck within a yard of him, dragged the wounded soldier about 20 feet to a creek and extinguished the flames. In the darkness that followed Private First Class Munro's gallant act, the platoon was able to move forward and gain its objective. Entered the Service from Lincoln, Nebraska.

CLINTON E. WIDEN, 35882422, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Medical Battalion, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. Private First Class Widen was a member of a litter squad sent to evacuate a wounded soldier. When the squad reached the designated spot, they found two wounded men, and Private First Class Widen volunteered to carry one of them, an officer, on his back. On the return trip they were subjected to a heavy mortar barrage, and began to run. Private First Class Widen quickly fell behind but, with shells crashing all around him, he valiantly struggled on with his heavy burden. About 150 yards from the aid station a bursting shell severely wounded him in the leg and threw him to the ground. Private First Class Widen dauntlessly regained his feet and lifted his patient. Although suffering intense pain and walking only with great difficulty, he labored on the remaining distance to the aid station, where both received immediate aid and were evacuated to the hospital. Entered the Service from Yonkers, New York.

KEITH H. ANDERSON, 39922451, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 7 March 1945 in France. Private First Class Anderson volunteered to make a one-man night reconnaissance to determine the condition of both banks of an important river. His task was rendered extremely hazardous by enemy flares which illuminated the area, by harassing rifle fire, and by the presence of hostile machine gun positions and German patrols in the vicinity. Although fully conscious of the dangers involved, he waded across the icy, swift flowing stream, secured the necessary information concerning the terrain, and returned, swimming most of the way back. By his daring initiative and outstanding bravery, he furnished

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information which contributed materially to the success of future operations. Entered the Service from Tremonton, Utah.

WILLIAM E. NAPP, 33502031, Private First Class, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 February 1945 in France. Private First Class Napp was a member of a combat patrol attacking a railroad station. After firing a bazooka round, the patrol rushed the building. Private First Class Napp heard a noise to his right in the smoke filled room, and ran in that direction just as a group of Germans came up from the cellar stairs. The enemy soldiers opened fire on him, but he returned their fire with his sub-machine gun and forced them back into the cellar, where they surrendered. By his courageous and aggressive action Private First Class Napp captured ten of the enemy. Entered the Service from Winfield, Pennsylvania.

ROBERT DIERKER, 35323309, Staff Sergeant, Company D, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1944 in France. Sergeant Dierker was a machine gun squad leader. His section had just repulsed a strong enemy attack and the area was being subjected to a hostile artillery barrage, when he was informed that the ammunition supply was almost gone. The only available ammunition was 40 yards away in an exposed position. Although shells were still falling in the area, Sergeant Dierker started to run across the open space. Enemy machine gun and rifle fire forced him to drop to the ground, but he succeeded in crawling the remaining distance. Securing five boxes of ammunition, he rushed back to the position through the heavy enemy fire. As a result of Sergeant Dierker's courage and determination, he was able to put his gun back into action with an adequate supply of ammunition and repulse a second attack with severe losses to the enemy. Entered the Service from Cleveland, Ohio.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Harry B. Dalton
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

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