

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION

ARO #36, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS

27 June 1944

NO. 212

Award of Bronze Star Medal..... I
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster..... II
Commendation For Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct..... III

SECTION I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

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

JERRY JACOBS, 01171611, First Lieutenant, (then Second Lieutenant), 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 17 January 1944 in Italy. Lieutenant Jacobs was ordered to establish and prepare during daylight hours, a command post for occupation by his battery to be effected under cover of darkness. He skillfully directed his men in setting up the post in spite of the danger from intermittent artillery fire, then, realizing that the road leading to his position was impassable, he started down the road to secure a bulldozer a half mile away. Although he was caught in an intense artillery barrage and three times knocked to the ground by the concussions from exploding shells, he continued dauntlessly forward, secured the vehicle and supervised the clearing of the road for the battery movement that night. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

Revoked by ARO # 255-7423 1944
FRANK B. JACKSON, 38035932, First Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant), Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 December 1943 in Italy. Staff Sergeant Jackson, supply sergeant for his company, voluntarily remained at a forward position with his unit when an important assault was launched against a strong enemy objective. When his comrades became pinned down behind a stone wall and their ammunition began running short, he courageously organized and led a detail to carry ammunition to them. Moving forward determinedly in the face of the heavy enemy fire, he made several trips to their line and kept them supplied until the engagement was ended. Entered the Service from Fort Worth, Texas.

JULIAN C. JONES, 38066113, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 January 1944 in Italy. When his unit was pinned down after reaching the hostile bank during the bitterly contested crossing of the *** River, Staff Sergeant Jones voluntarily moved forward over heavily mined terrain under heavy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire in an attempt to reconnoiter possible routes of approach toward the enemy emplacements. After determinedly crawling 200 yards on his dangerous mission, he and a comrade who had accompanied him were wounded by mortar fragments. Despite his painful injury, he assisted the other soldier back to friendly positions and delivered the important information which he had obtained by his courageous action. Entered the Service from Lakessa, Texas.

KENNETH A. MOX, 35277335, Staff Sergeant, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 1 February 1944 in Italy. Sergeant Mox, assigned as forward observer for an 81mm mortar section supporting a rifle unit in an attack, advanced in the face of continuous enemy fire with the forward elements of the rifle company. Although the concussion from enemy mortar shells exploding around him rendered him partially deaf, he refused to permit a substitute to do his job and

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took up a position in a shallow draw from which he could direct effective fire against the enemy. Sergeant Mox repeatedly exposed himself to gain observation on enemy emplacements in order to deliver defensive fire when the riflemen dug in and to support the unit when it was attacking. Entered the Service from Zanesville, Ohio.

OWEN C. DAHL, 20807325, Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Clifton, Texas.

LEONARD E. RICE, 20807859, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Beaumont, Texas.

JACK SINOVOI, 32238034, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Bronx, New York.

MICHAEL J. OWSIANIAK, 36319041, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

For gallantry in action on 16 September 1943 in Italy. At a time when it was imperative to supply, as quickly as possible, ammunition for the mortars and machine guns supporting the assault units, these soldiers chose the shortest route through an intense concentration of artillery fire, to reach the gun emplacements. Time after time they crossed the shell blasted terrain, running through a hail of enemy shells, to carry the vital ammunition which was used effectively in support of the assaulting infantrymen.

SATURNINO MARES, 38025747, Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944 in Italy. During a severe enemy assault against a position which he and his machine gun crew were defending, Sergeant Mares directed a fierce resistance against the numerically superior enemy. When the gun which he was firing became too hot for effective use, he courageously risked the heavy hostile fire which was sweeping the area in order to obtain another machine gun whose crew had been knocked out. Resuming his aggressive defense at his position, he contributed materially to the successful repulsion of the enemy in the sector. Entered the Service from San Benito, Texas.

RAYMOND MOORE, 20804660, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 September 1943 in Italy. Ordered to lead a squad of men in manning an important outpost, Private First Class Moore established and maintained his post in advance of the company defensive position through out the night. When the enemy launched an attack and the outpost was ordered back to the main line of resistance, Private First Class Moore discovered that one of his men was suffering from an attack of acute appendicitis and was unable to move. After covering the withdrawal of his men with his fire, he picked up the sick man and, stopping every few yards to fire at the onrushing enemy, carried him to the safety of friendly lines. Entered the Service from Coleman, Texas.

H. C. TIDWELL, 20818934, Sergeant, Company C, 111th Medical Battalion, for gallantry in action during the period 10-21 December 1943 in Italy. Aggressively supervising litter squads in their evacuation of casualties from hazardous mountain positions to a battalion aid station, Sergeant Tidwell repeatedly exposed himself to the heavy enemy barrages sweeping these positions in maintaining the organization and operation of his men. Encouraging them by his calm example under fire and assisting them through the most dangerous periods of their work, he insured the continuous prompt medical aid to the wounded in this sector during the successful defense of this sector. Entered the Service from DeKalb, Texas.

FELIX F. PETROWSKI, 31316653, Sergeant, (then Private), Company B, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in Italy. As assistant leader of a rifle squad in an assault on strongly fortified enemy positions on the

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bank of a strategic river, Private Petrowaki maintained control within the squad during the perilous river crossing and advanced into hostile territory until his company was pinned to the ground by intense machine gun and small arms fire. He volunteered to attempt a reconnaissance of the area and locate the enemy positions. With three other men he moved across the flat, exposed terrain, covering a machine gun nest and silencing it with an expertly thrown hand grenade. Then, while attempting to return to his unit, he killed an enemy sniper who had fired on him. Entered the Service from Norwich, Connecticut.

VICTOR L. CROWELL, 20803891, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Detachment, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in Italy. During a fiercely contested beachhead landing, Tec 4 Crowell was ordered to supervise the evacuation of the wounded from the 2d Battalion aid station to the rear beach area and to keep the aid station furnished with ample medical supplies. Heedless of the danger from artillery shelling and sniper fire, he personally led the litter squads to the medical personnel caring for the wounded on the beach; and, on each trip, after delivering the wounded to the aid men, he would pick up medical supplies for the aid station. Entered the Service from Lockhart, Texas.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named soldiers for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations.

C. A. ROBERSON, 38037220, Private First Class, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Bulcherville, Texas.

JAMES H. FEEVES, 34208736, Private First Class, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Laurel Hill, Florida.

RALPH E. WETZBARGER, 38038487, Corporal, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Lowland, Colorado.

For meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 8 to 18 December 1943 in Italy. Aware that every available man was needed to maintain the gun positions during operations on a strategic mountain, these drivers volunteered to haul ammunition and supplies up a steep mountain trail and deliver them directly to the gun emplacements. Although the trail was subjected to heavy artillery and mortar shelling, they performed their job unfalteringly, keeping the guns well supplied with ammunition and enabling the gun crews to remain in position with their weapons.

SECTION III — 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.

WARREN A. OETJEN, 37147002, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Entered the Service from Auburn, Nebraska.

VAUGHN J. LARSON, 37146523, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Entered the Service from Yankton, South Dakota.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 18 March 1944 in Italy. As radio operators in an armored car assigned to traffic control duty at a strategic crossroad, they were subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire. When, after a particularly heavy barrage, the vehicle burst into flame, they fought the fire with everything available. Realizing the imminent danger to the ammunition and gasoline in the car, they resorted to pulling at the burning net with their bare hands until the fire was extinguished. In this way they saved an invaluable piece of equipment from being destroyed.

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KIMMER RUNNER, 35267662, Private First Class (then Private), Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious service on 24 February 1944 in Italy. As a member of a six man night patrol ordered to reconnoiter enemy territory for locations of outposts, gun positions, and the strength of the hostile forces, Private Runner advanced beyond the enemy lines and observed the emplacements and the disposition of troops. When the patrol was discovered, the soldiers opened fire on the enemy and killed five of them. Private Runner immediately began firing his grenade launcher with deadly accuracy, and he silenced a machine gun which had been harassing the patrol. Freed by the elimination of the enemy machine gun, the group returned to their unit with their invaluable report. Entered the Service from Pine Hills, Kentucky.

LEE R. BOWLES, 35266535, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 18 December 1943 in Italy. A litter bearer, assigned the task of evacuating casualties to the forward aid station Private First Class Bowles, after removing all the wounded from the front line positions, voluntarily advanced 700 yards beyond the friendly outposts to search for wounded soldiers. Although constantly threatened by artillery and mortar shelling and small arms fire, he continued on until he found a wounded officer who had lain, unattended and weak from loss of blood, in an exposed position for 56 hours. Acting calmly and efficiently, he placed the officer on a litter and successfully evacuated him. Entered the Service from Undada, West Virginia.

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart

VINCENT M. LOCKHART

Captain, Adjutant General's Department
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