

HEADQUARTERS
HEAVY INFANTRY DIVISION
U. S. ARMY

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MILITARY ORDERS

No.

25

SECTION I - POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded each of the following named officers and enlisted men:

JAMES W. EVANS, CHICAGO, Second Lieutenant, Company C, 2d Engineer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 1 December 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Commanding his platoon on a mission of repairing road for military traffic, Lieutenant Evans performed his assignment under continual actual artillery fire throughout the morning. At 1200 the working party was subjected to a severe bombing and strafing attack by enemy aircraft. With outstanding coolness, Lieutenant Evans caused the men near him to take cover in an ordinary bunker, and with utter disregard for his own life, he marshaled the remaining troops to a place of safety. Due to his necessarily exposed position he was fatally wounded by a fragment from an aerial bomb. By his significant courage under heavy artillery fire and air attack, Lieutenant Evans undoubtedly saved many lives. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and upon the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Grace Ruth Evans, (Wife) 1017 Indiana Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

WILLIAM G. STRONG, 288160, Staff Sergeant, Company B, 2d Infantry, for gallantry in action on 25 December 1943 in the vicinity of **, Italy. Sergeant Strong, having acquired accurate knowledge of enemy emplacements on hills ** and the best covered routes to the enemy positions, by detailed liaison he acquainted the regimental commander, 2d Special Service Force, with a description of enemy situation, terrain and better routes of approach. Despite the fact that he was suffering from exposure, fatigue, swollen and painful feet, he voluntarily conducted a reconnaissance for all company commanders over the terrain. He then conducted a similar reconnaissance for the platoon leaders and during this action was killed by enemy small fire. His self-sacrifice and devotion to duty materially aided in the success of the mission. His gallantry reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Elizabeth Holmes, (Mother), 2705 S. Pres. St., San Antonio, Texas.

JOHN A. BETTIS, 38052102, Sergeant, Company B, 2d Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 4 December 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Sergeant Bettis was part of a patrol, made up of his platoon leader, two other sergeants and himself, making a reconnaissance along the northern slopes of ** M. in search of a route for a supply trail to frontline troops that would

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be least susceptible to enemy artillery fire. In spite of continuous enemy artillery fire, the men scouted across the barren face of the mountain which afforded little cover while rapidly as the terrain and artillery barrage would permit and imperilized the whole time by shells landing all about them. With utter disregard for his own life, and thinking only of the success of his assigned mission, Sergeant Bettis continued his hazardous advance until killed by the direct hit of an enemy artillery shell. The dogged determination, display of outstanding aggressive vigor, and magnificent courage of Sergeant Bettis were an inspiration to his comrades. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: John C. Bettis, (Father), 301 East Fayle Avenue, Goose Creek, Texas.

JACK D. MCPHERSON, 20808090, Corporal, Company D, 76 Infantry, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1943, on Mount #*, Italy. On the morning after Mount #* was taken by our forces, the safety of the 1st Battalion was threatened by the enemy who tried to overrun our positions. Corporal McPherson observed the enemy trying to scale the left, heights. Alerting his company, he moved forward from rock to rock in order to secure better observation, working his way cautiously to within eight yards of an enemy rifleman to his left. Corporal McPherson threw two hand grenades, wounding the enemy. He observed two more of the enemy crawling up the hill to his right. His rifle fire upon them was so accurate that they were forced to surrender. On the next day, while standing his post during a heavy enemy artillery barrage, he was killed by a direct hit. Corporal McPherson's courage, calmness under fire and devotion to duty was an inspiration to all who witnessed the deed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Isaac D. McPherson, (Father), Route 11, Troy, Texas.

JOAQUIN (JIM) ANTILL, 34399913, Corporal, Company D, 76 Infantry, for gallantry in action on 27 November 1943 in the vicinity of #*, Italy. Corporal Antill volunteered to undertake the duties of the signal and recommissioned sergeant who had been wounded the previous day. In order that the battalion commander might have vital information he advanced to the forward slope which was subjected to enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire and established an observation post. Using a sound power phone he sent valuable information to the company command post which permitted the battalion commander to place artillery fire on enemy concentrations and force a withdrawal inflicting many casualties. Despite heavy enemy fire he continued to relay valuable information and while performing this duty was killed by a direct hit. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Dor. Antell, (Mother), 670 Williams Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

FRANK L. SHARP, 36054381, Corporal, Company D, 76 Infantry, for gallantry in action on 27 November 1943, in the vicinity of #*, Italy. Corporal Sharp volunteered to maintain an observation post which was subjected to enemy artillery and small arms fire. Shortly after dawn, he pressed forward along a ridge constantly under enemy observation and established communication with the mortar position by means of a sound power telephone. For seven hours he directed accurate and effective mortar fire on enemy troop concentrations inflicting many losses and forcing the enemy to withdraw. He was killed as a result of enemy fire while performing this deed. This gallant action reflects great credit upon him himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Lucy Sharp, (Mother), Villa Ridge, Illinois.

ROBERT J. E. HOMMELDER, 3024434, Private First Class, Company C, 43rd Infantry, for gallantry in action on 12 November 1944, in vicinity of **, Italy. Private First Class Hommelder was ordered to repair the telephone line after the enemy had broken it. Realizing that under circumstances he could not get the command that was vital to his unit's defense, he did not wait for the wire to repair; instead, after disregarding for his personal safety, immediately set about on his mission. He located and repaired the wire reestablishing communication. He subsequently was killed in action. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Army Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Elmer Hommelder, (Mother), P. O. Box #4, Montello, Wisconsin.

PAUL GUY GUES, 33251690, Private First Class, Company C, 43rd Infantry, for gallantry in action on 12 November 1944, in the vicinity of **, Italy. As a member of a Forward Post, engaged in clearing the road for military traffic, Private First Class Gues was exposed steadily to enemy fire, subjected to artillery fire and enemy bombing and strafing attacks. Under disregard for his own safety and with outstanding courage and skill, Private First Class Gues fought through his assigned task, although enemy artillery shells frequently landed within fifty feet of him. At least two hours' neither enemy air unit bombed nor strafed the Forward Post, killing Private First Class Gues at his post. The outstanding valor and magnificent example displayed by Private First Class Gues was an inspiration to his comrades. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Army Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Guy Gues, (Mother), Hwy 700 Hwy 14, Windsor, Pennsylvania.

JESSE W. DUCKWELL, 3520641, Private First Class, Company A, 43rd Engineer Battalion, for gallantry in action on the afternoon of 9 September 1944 in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private First Class Duckwell was assaulting the enemy lines in close combat, when, separated from his comrades, he fought single-handed against three members of an enemy tank crew. With outstanding valor in action under actual small arms fire at short range, he killed the three enemy with fire of his rifle, receiving a fatal gunshot wound himself and falling dead near the bodies of his victims. The magnificent courage displayed by Private First Class Duckwell was an inspiration to all his comrades who learned of his heroic deed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Army Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mr. and Mrs. Duckwell, (Mother), Charles, West Virginia.

SECTION II - AWARDS OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-20, Command, a Silver Star is awarded to all of the following Army officers and enlisted men:

EDWARD R. MARTIN, 4335428, Colonel, 43rd Infantry, for gallantry in action on the night of 21 to 22 January 1944, in the vicinity of ** in **, Italy. After issuing orders for a renewed attack against strongly fortified enemy positions on the west bank of the ** river on the afternoon of 21 January, 1944, Colonel Martin proceeded from his command post to the river crossing site in order to direct personally the course of the attack. At the crossing site, under direct fire from enemy machine gun, rifle fire, and heavily concentrated mortar and artillery fire, Colonel Martin displaying outstanding vigor and magnifi-

and courage, with a disregard for his own life and the safety of the effectiveness of his command, and in spite of the perils and issuing instructions to direct his troops to cross the river in despite of the fire. He did not fear death or hardship, the loss of life or limb or loss of the command. During the engagement he was exposed by the cessation of his own rifle, which bursting about him, caused him to drop a number of rounds from his belt to the troops and guides, who in consequence became master mind of the situation. His presence on the front lines inspired confidence and courage in the troops to the greatest effort. The greatest action reflects upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Dated service 10 days, 1944.

John J. KELLY, Captain, Lieutenant Colonel, 3d Infantry, for gallantry and skill in Captaining on the beach at Iwo Jima. General Price, General Commander of the 3d Infantry, and performing his duty with daring in the most difficult hours of battle. Despite the perils of the greatest danger, imposed upon him, he kept moving forward. Several times he was forced to leave the beach of the Rosselka River, because separated from his men, but again, with coolness and coolly exposing their fire, he would return to his men occupied by the forward. By coolly exposing their own squads, he would encourage, save the courage of his forces. After being severely wounded, he was again in the fire, under fire, organizing an anti-aircraft unit in helping those who were unable to form an organization. With utter disregard for his personal safety, he was able to open up with his own gun and in the result had covered his own mortars, artillery and machine gun fire. His heroic action contributed greatly to the success of the assault and capture of Mount Suribachi, which served as inspiration to all who witnessed the action. The greatest action reflects upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Major John J. Kelly, serving from Fort Worth, Tex. 6.

John J. KELLY, 3d, Captain, Lieutenant Colonel, 3d Infantry, for gallantry and skill in Captaining on the beach of Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima. After his regimental attack had been stalled, he offered his troops to cross the river in the most dangerous of circumstances, Lieutenant Colonel Kelly organized the river crossing site in order to direct properly the course of the men, at the crossing site, under direct fire from enemy, he came under fire, dropping water cooling vigor and magnificence and cool, without regard for his own safety but thinking only of the effectiveness of the command, moved quickly across the river banks issuing instructions and directing the action. The first major heroic action in displaying of command presence, commanding, the men of the regiment crossed the treacherous river successfully. During this period of time, he commanded the destruction of fort nests, artillery, tanks, mortars, about him, and continued to lead in waves of encirclement to the troops and guide groups. The men were disorganized by the artillery of the Japanese. His presence on the front lines inspired confidence, and courage and his troops to the greatest effort. The greatest action reflects upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Major John J. Kelly, serving from Fort Worth, Tex.

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Frank B. Burgher, Captain, First Lieutenant, and Gunners - Infantry Division
Awards - Chaplain General William H. Wilbur, For gallantry in action on
November 19, 1918 in the vicinity of St. Etienne. Lieutenant Burgher volunteered to
be an operations officer in Executive Officer on the staff of the 1st Battalion
Infantry, while that Battalion was engaged in operations on Nov. 19. The permanent
operations officer and executive officer of that Headquarters had become
disabled. With other officers, for his assistance he went about his duties while
subject to periodic bursts of enemy machine gun fire. For the
period of 100 times a sergeant named Paul, and at the risk of his own life, made
reconnaissance of untraversed ground in front of which was swept by enemy machine
gun and artillery fire. Under cover of darkness he delivered a vital message
from the 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry, at night when the trail and his object-
ive were subjected to intense machine gun fire. His determination and
courage in the face of such fire demonstrated the highest and gallant spirit and
the greatest disregard for personal safety of which he is capable. His valiant record
and self-sacrifice in the cause of his country and the realization of the high honor in action in
the result of which he was killed in the course of his mission.

Colonel W. A. Smith, 1st Cavalry, Texan Legion Fourth Dragoons, Company C, took his outfit, his cavalry in battle at 7 June, 1861, in the vicinity of San Jacinto. While in position, a shell exploded over him, and took off both his incisor teeth. He had a son and another son, a corporal, who was also hit. Shortly afterwards he left the field. He then went to the rear and remained in the rear until the fire had started again. Texan Legion Dragoons were engaged in the rear dismounted from their horses, and took up a position in front of the Texan Legion Dragoons and Artillery fire. Major, commanding the men of the other crew, was killed and dismounted, he left his gun and gunner alive, but after disengaging from the gun's side, in the face of the Texan Legion fire, he would not return to it, nor engage in the bay of the tank and Texan Legion gun, and exposing a vulnerable part of the crew. His major and gunner, and two of his fellow soldiers, six of twelve in follow soldiers. His major reflected much credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the Texan Legion, and fighting bravely from Linneus, Texas.

Major J. E. COOPER, First Lt., arrived at combat, in engineer unit plane, forty miles to the west, on 10 December 1945, in the vicinity of Pusan, Korea. Major COOPER was the sole survivor and attached to Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Engineers, which had been employed in repairing roads for several days. A Japanese aircraft bombed and strafed the strafing attack by one of the planes which had been working party, including Private First Class COOPER, the sole survivor, subject of present article, shielding. Although severely wounded, he continued to repair his position, private first class COOPER, skillfully administered first aid to all the wounded and assisted in preparation for self extraction. The display of coolness and calmness in action under如此 difficult circumstances was of the utmost benefit to his wounded comrades in securing their recovery. His militant action reflects great credit upon him. IP and the armed forces of the United States. Entered the service from Kansas, Kans.

FRANCIS J. VANCE, Private First Class, Company C, 3rd Infantry, was captured in action on the afternoon of 24 November 1943, in Italy. Private Francis Jerry Vance, was a combat medic in combat patrol, drove forward and

Journal of the American Statistical Association, Vol. 33, No. 191, March, 1938.

On July 11, 1944, at 10:50 P.M., Standard, a large silver P-51B fighter, serial number 44-7414, was shot down in the vicinity of the first point of impact of the second fire. The pilot, Captain W. E. Miller, was killed. The aircraft had been flying at approximately 10,000 feet above ground level, coming from the direction of the city of Bremen, Germany, when it was struck by a single bullet from a machine gun. The bullet passed through the engine nacelle, through the left wing, through the fuselage, and through the right wing, finally hitting the ground about 100 yards from the point of impact of the second fire. The aircraft was flying at approximately 10,000 feet above ground level when it was struck by the bullet. The aircraft was flying at approximately 10,000 feet above ground level when it was struck by the bullet.

JOHN J. MULHAN, Private, Company E, 3d Infantry, was Infantry in Company D, December 1944, in the vicinity of w Italy. Private Mulhan's squad, which he was in attacking riflemen, after crossing exposed and hazardous terrain, was suddenly fired upon by an enemy machine gun. As the squad moved to the flanks of the position, they came under intense fire from other positions and machine gun. Private Mulhan, with utter disregard for his own life, moved to cover himself, immediately crawled over the rocky, muddy terrain to a position from which he could be most effective and deadly fire from the enemy's position in such a manner that the enemy turned their fire upon him. Despite the terrific air attack and heavy continuous firing his automatic rifle was launched at the machine gun, enabling his squad to infiltrate the position undetected in their division, carrying it to completion. His gallant action in such difficult conditions himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Ireland, Maine.

EDWARD F. O'LEARY, Private, Cavalry, Cavalry Ambulance Unit, 1st Cavalry, November 1944 in the evening of 10 November 1944, in the vicinity of w Italy. Private O'Leary had been sent from his company to a medical post in the rear, and while en route to the front lines to report to another unit of his company, while waiting to reassemble, was for the second time hit and wounded in the forward area of his division, by a squad of Hitlerites. Private O'Leary was mortally wounded due to heavy enemy mortar fire. The squad of Hitlerites who were so bold as to do this, completely failing to realize that the lives of the other members of the company were in jeopardy, took advantage of their position and continued their advance, the other members of the company being unable to move from their positions due to the intense fire. Private O'Leary, however, was able to crawl to safety, but he did not stop until he reached a soldier who remained at once to give him a number of bandages to bind his wounds. In spite of the continuing mortar fire, and with utter disregard for his personal safety, he remained by the side of his comrade and rendered first aid treatment. After he had stopped the rapid flow of blood, he went in search of transportation and returned to evacuate his comrade to safety. The courageous and gallant command of Private O'Leary saved the man's life. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Ireland, Maine.

JOHN J. MULHAN, Private, Company E, 3d Infantry, was Infantry in Company D, November 1944 in the vicinity of w Italy. Private Mulhan's squad, which he was in attacking riflemen, objective in the vicinity of w Italy, was suddenly fired upon by an enemy machine gun. Private Mulhan, disregarding fire from friendly and his advancing trench, as it approached him, crawled to the right of his position and crawled through the mud and debris of that trench with his rifle. His gallant action reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the service from Ireland, Maine.

CHARLES W. RICHARDSON, Private, Company C, 3d Tank Battalion, for gallantry in action 17 January 1944 in the vicinity of w Italy. While their company was attacking the enemy, one of 3d Tank Battalion, Richardson, either by mistake or accident, fired upon an American anti-tank gun. This brought a tremendous amount of concentrated fire upon the tank, which was proceeding. Private

He was a man of great personal magnetism and a brilliant friend. He had a fine sense of humor and a ready wit. He was a good speaker and a good writer. He was a good teacher and a good student. He was a good husband and a good father. He was a good son and a good brother. He was a good citizen and a good neighbor. He was a good friend and a good companion. He was a good teacher and a good student. He was a good husband and a good father. He was a good son and a good brother. He was a good citizen and a good neighbor. He was a good friend and a good companion.

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