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

AG RECORDS SEC.

23 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 45

Award of Soldier's Medal.....I
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Award of Bronze Star Medal.....III
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster - Bronze Star Medal.....IV

I. AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Soldier's Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroism:

PAUL A. BROOKS, 15076823, Technician Fourth Grade, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for heroism on 13 December 1944 in France. The area occupied by the supply and maintenance elements of the Cannon Company was subjected to a heavy enemy artillery barrage, and one of the shells ignited gasoline and ammunition stored in front of the supply building. Artillery shells began exploding, and the building burst into flames. Fire and shell fragments forced personnel stationed in the house to escape from the back windows. Aware that the company would suffer a severe loss in maintenance equipment, Tec 4 Brooks, transportation sergeant, courageously braved the flames and the exploding ammunition to guide the driver of the maintenance truck in removing his vehicle to a place of safety. He then ripped off pieces of burning canvas from the top of the truck and helped to extinguish the fire. Returning to the building, he saved tools and equipment from an adjoining garage. Then, returning a third time, he forced his way into the rooms of the house and rescued items of personal equipment. Only when the roof and walls began collapsing would he desist from his heroic efforts. As a result of his daring and determination, much valuable equipment was saved from destruction. Entered the Service from Woodsfield, Ohio.

CHARLES R. MINNS, 31262440, Corporal (then Private First Class), Company M, 141st Infantry Regiment, for heroism on 22 September 1944 in France. A mortar platoon, ordered to support rifle elements in establishing a bridgehead across a strategically important river, forded the swift-flowing stream under cover of darkness. The platoon members, each loaded with at least 50 pounds of equipment, struggled across the river under incessant artillery and mortar shelling with only a cable stretched across the stream for support. In the middle of the river, where the current was most rapid, one of the soldiers lost his grip on the cable and slipped beneath the surface of the water. Risking his own life to save his comrade, Private First Class Minns let go of the cable and, struggling against the swirling currents, pulled the drowning man from the water. Although he could have been swept away by the treacherous rapids, he ignored personal safety to assist his comrade across the stream. By his quick-thinking and selfless courage, he saved the life of a fellow soldier. Entered the Service from Gardner, Massachusetts.

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(GO 45, Hq 36th Inf Div, 23 Feb 1945, contd)

II. POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is posthumously awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroic achievement in combat:

JACOB F. SOVIK, 32944264, Private First Class, Company M, 141st Infantry Regiment, 25 August 1944, France. Next of kin: Mr. Stephen Sovik (Father), 8 Canal Street, Johnstown, New York.

CLAUDE R. HOWELL, 36973219, Private, Company C, 142d Infantry Regiment, 6 December 1944, France. Next of kin: Mrs. Letha Howell (Mother), 186 North 6th Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. 1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroic achievement in combat:

CLIFFORD A. RISTOW, 16154707, Technician Fourth Grade, (then Private), Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, 23 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Genoa, Wisconsin.

LEO L. LEONARDI, 32638800, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 141st Infantry Regiment, 16 December 1944, France. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

WILLIS R. WEBSTER, 38060842, Private, Company A, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 30 November 1944, France. Entered the Service from Texola, Oklahoma.

JOHN P. AKERS, SR., 33921581, Private, Company G, 141st Infantry Regiment, 10 and 11 December 1944, France. Entered the Service from Youngstown, Ohio.

SAVERINO F. GLISCI, 32686626, Private, Battery A, 155th Field Artillery Battalion, 2 and 3 January 1945, France. Entered the Service from Bronx, New York.

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

PAUL EDOUARD JOSEPH LEFORT, Captain, French Army, Mission Francaise de Liaison, 15 August to 1 November 1944, France. Home Address: La Nadeleine-lez-Nord, Lille, France.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart

VINCENT M. LOCKHART
Major, Adjutant General's Department
Asst Adjutant General

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