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HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION
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GENERAL ORDERS

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NO. 511

Posthumous Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct.....I
Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct, Missing in Action....II
Commendation for Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct.....III

SECTION I -- POSTHUMOUS COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following named individual is posthumously commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

HAROLD E. RADATZ, 36643603, Private First Class, Company K, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 12-13 February 1944 in Italy. A reinforced battalion was fighting against a strong enemy attack. Their ammunition was nearly exhausted. Private First Class Radatz's company, in a reserve position, was directed to furnish a carrying detail to bring ammunition to the harried battalion. Private First Class Radatz volunteered for this assignment. Struggling across snow covered mountains, his every move observed by enemy in the towering cliffs ahead, he made repeated trips from the ammunition dump to the fighting troops. Constant artillery fire fell on the route. Delayed action fuses caused the enemy shells to fall into the boulders before they burst so that flying rock fragments multiplied their destructiveness. Each time the detail crossed the crest of a hill they received a high volume of accurate machine gun and sniper fire that killed or wounded fifteen men. Overcoming all hazards and difficulties Private First Class Radatz and the other brave members of the carrying party delivered ammunition that enabled the battalion to repel the enemy attack. He was later killed in another engagement. Next of kin: Mrs. Emma Radatz (Mother), Linden, Illinois.

SECTION II -- COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT,
MISSING IN ACTION

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following named individual, missing in action, is posthumously commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

HENRY L. FORD, 34592494, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 12-13 February 1944 in Italy. A reinforced battalion was fighting against a strong enemy attack. Their ammunition was nearly exhausted. Sergeant Ford's company, in a reserve position, was directed to furnish a carrying detail to bring ammunition to the harried battalion. Sergeant Ford volunteered for this assignment. Struggling across snow covered mountains, his every move observed by enemy in the towering cliffs ahead, he made repeated trips from the ammunition dump to the fighting troops. Constant artillery fire fell on the route. Delayed action fuses caused the enemy shells to fall into the boulders before they burst so that flying rock fragments multiplied their destructiveness. Each time the detail crossed the crest of a hill they received

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a high volume of accurate machine gun and sniper fire that killed or wounded fifteen men. Overcoming all hazards and difficulties Sergeant Ford and the other brave members of the carrying party delivered ammunition that enabled the battalion to repel the enemy attack. He has been reported missing in action from a later engagement. Next of kin: Mrs. Iris S. Ford (mother), Belmont, N. C.

SECTION III -- COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-35, the following named individuals are commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

EARL T. WATSON, JR., 20801147, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

MARSH A. MCCOY, 33493479, Private, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

EDWARD M. SALAS, 38025586, Private, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 12 February 1944 in Italy. They were detailed to help install and maintain wire lines between the rear and forward command posts. A heavy night barrage of enemy artillery and nebelwerfer fire broke all wires and disrupted all communication. The radio was also destroyed. While the shelling continued, they went into the open and repaired the breaks in the lines. By their brave action they restored communications in a minimum of time.

HADAMMIGH PROSNAIL, 38036393, Sergeant, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 9 September 1943 to 20 July 1944 in Italy. On numerous occasions Sergeant Prosnail has operated the Special Service Section without the supervision of a commissioned officer, always maintaining a high standard of efficiency in his work. During this period he handled the distribution of Post Exchange rations and the soldier's newspaper, the Stars and Stripes, to the front line troops. Although he was frequently exposed to enemy fire, he never faltered in performing his duties and, by his initiative and foresight, contributed materially to the morale and comfort of the combat soldiers. Entered the Service from Olney, Texas.

ROBERT A. ROCCHIO, 32337215, Technician Fourth Grade, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 15 May 1943 to 20 July 1944 in North Africa and Italy. During this period Tec 4 Rocchio has been cashier of the Division Post Exchange, supervising all cash and financial transactions in a highly efficient manner. He installed the cash book system which, because of its simplicity and accuracy, was copied by the Post Exchanges of other divisions in Italy. He also organized the cross check distribution system which insured complete accuracy in all the Post Exchange accounts. He was frequently subjected to enemy fire while furnishing the front line troops with Post Exchange supplies, and, in the absence of officers, he often supervised the entire activities of the Special Service Section. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

EARLE K. SEITZ, 32267375, Technician Fourth Grade, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 22 January 1944 in Italy. Tec 4 Seitz was assigned to set up radio communications at a battalion command post established beside a river that marked the front lines. He carried the heavy equipment forward through mine-sown terrain, under heavy artillery, mortar and nebelwerfer fire, and set it up at the command post. Under

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the most adverse and dangerous conditions he established radio communications. Once, while the command post was being shelled, he crawled twenty-five yards under machine gun and sniper fire to deliver a message to the battalion commander. During a barrage a shell fragment hit his set and Tec 4 Seitz made unsuccessful efforts to repair it. Entered the Service from Collingswood, New Jersey.

JAMES L. PRIDEMORE, 20816483, Corporal, Battery B, 155th Field Artillery battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 9 September 1943 to 12 July 1944 in Italy. Corporal Pridemore, battery clerk, landed on D-day in the invasion of Italy. During ten months of combat and rigid training, he creditably performed his administrative assignments. When necessary to accomplish his duties, he went forward to the front lines to gather information. During one engagement he took over the duties of corporal gunner to fill in a shortage of personnel. Much of his work, especially when it required him to visit forward positions of the battery, was done under enemy artillery fire. Although frequently pinned down by concentrations, he always managed to reach the men of his battery, however inaccessible their posts and make sure they were promptly paid every month. Entered the Service from Fort Worth, Texas.

JOHN A. STABLE, 12059701, Technician Fifth Grade, Company G, 141st Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 21 November 1943 in Italy. He was mail orderly for his company, took over the job of telephone orderly when his unit was hard pressed in a defensive position. Remaining determinedly on duty throughout a heavy mortar barrage, he kept communications open and advised the company commander of changes taking place during the enemy's attack, relaying information and instructions without regard for the concentrated fire. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

HOWARD K. SIMPSON, 33643301, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 21 January 1944 in Italy. Although he was assigned to operate a radio in the rear of his company, Technician Fifth Grade Simpson volunteered to go forward with his battalion commander and head of the attacking troops to carry a portable radio to the hostile bank of a strategic river. He advanced through intense enemy fire over rough ground cut by ditches filled with water. He successfully carried his radio across the river to the new position; and, although enemy shelling made radio action almost impossible, he continued his efforts to contact the rear command post. When the radio became inoperative, he volunteered to carry wire equipment across the river. Entered the Service from Cedar Grove, West Virginia.

WILLIAM WAHLERT, 32323003, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 9 September 1943 to 20 July 1944 in Italy. Tec 5 Wahlert has served as motion picture projector radio and generator technician and operator, performing his duties in a highly efficient manner. No new motion picture equipment was received during this period but Tec 5 Wahlert by his initiative and adeptness at improvisation, serviced and repaired the movie equipment of the entire division, keeping it in excellent condition. He also planned and effected the construction of a mobile entertainment unit which made it possible to show motion pictures to front line troops under blackout conditions. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

SAMUEL B. SNYDER, JR., 32266795, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 9 September

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1943 to 20 July 1944 in Italy. During this period Tec 5 Snyder has been a member of the Special Service Section, serving as bookkeeper for the division Post Exchange. Through diligent study and application of accounting principles, he devised and organized the double entry system now being used by the division and by the Post Exchanges of other divisions in Italy. As a result of his superior work, he facilitated the issuance of Post Exchange supplies to the front line troops, thereby contributing to the morale of the combat soldiers. Entered the Service from Atlantic City, New Jersey.

By command of Major General DANQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart

VINCENT M. LOCKHART
Captain, Adjutant General's Department
Assistant Adjutant General

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