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MG RECORDS FILE

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

24 May 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 194

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:

AVILA R. SAWYER, 31464614, Private First Class, Company .., 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 and 17 March 1945 in France. Company .., attacking stubbornly defended enemy positions, was subjected to intense mortar and self-propelled gun fire. When the enemy shell-fire cut the wire communications with the forward platoons, Private First Class Sawyer, a runner, volunteered for the hazardous task of carrying messages. As shells burst around him and machine gun bullets struck within inches of him, he made six trips across 400 yards of exposed terrain, maintaining contact at a critical time and contributing materially to the success of the attack. On 17 March 1945 he was again delivering a message in the face of enemy fire when he was hit and mortally wounded. Next of kin: Mrs. Cecile Sawyer (wife), Lowell Road, New Hampshire.

RENE H. DE ROSIER, 31288266, Private First Class, Company H, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 December 1944 in France. Private First Class DeRosier was assigned as radio operator for a forward mortar observer who was moving up to support a rifle company. The unit had been subjected to a fierce German attack; and, before Private First Class DeRosier and his companion reached their objective, enemy infantry troops infiltrated between them and the rifle company. Although fully conscious of the dangers involved, they continued forward in the face of hostile small arms fire in an effort to reach the company and furnish the much-needed mortar support. Both Private First Class DeRosier and his comrade were killed by the hostile fire. The valor and devotion to duty displayed by these men greatly inspired all the members of their unit. Next of kin: Mrs. Coran DeRosier (mother), 6 Franklin Street, Exeter, New York.

ELVIN L. KELLER, 37724100, Private First Class, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 4 October 1944 in France. Private First Class Keller, acting as first scout during his company's advance, had moved to within a few yards of the enemy positions when he was fired on. He immediately began delivering such effective fire that the enemy weapons were temporarily neutralized and the remainder of his platoon was able to move up into position. As his comrades took up the fight, Private First Class Keller continued to fire until an enemy hand grenade landed in his position and killed him instantly. His courageous action enabled the members of his platoon to drive off the enemy force.

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Next of kin: Mr. Logan Keller (Father), Flemington, Missouri.

ISREAL A. DYKES, 6922857, Private First Class, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1944 in France. Private First Class Dykes, a rifleman in the 3d Platoon, was occupying an outpost in an open field when the enemy directed a heavy artillery and mortar barrage on the area preparatory to launching an attack. Although shells were crashing all around him, he calmly directed artillery and mortar fire on the hostile troops which were massing for the attack. Completely disregarding his personal safety, he remained at his exposed vantage point and continued to direct accurate fire on the enemy until he was killed by a direct mortar hit on his position. As a result of Private First Class Dykes' outstanding heroism and skillful fire direction, friendly artillery inflicted heavy losses on the German troops and completely disorganized the attack. Next of kin: Mrs. Sandella P. Dykes (Wife), 232 Anderson Street, Rosebank, New York.

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:

LEBAN E. REID, JR., 01308752, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. During a night attack, the men of Company I were subjected to heavy machine gun fire and became disorganized as they attempted to cross 200 yards of open terrain. Captain Reid, the commanding officer, called to his men to advance and, courageously exposing himself to the hostile fire, moved from man to man, encouraging them and directing them forward to the cover of a nearby forest. He then led his men through the wooded area, directing their fire so effectively that they destroyed several machine gun positions. He courageously advanced at the head of his company across an open field into a town, seizing the company's objective, a bridge site, before the enemy was aware of his presence. When a counterattack developed, Captain Reid dashed to the second floor of a building and, although an enemy self-propelled gun opened fire on the building, scoring several direct hits, he valiantly remained in position, directing accurate artillery fire which materially aided his men in repulsing the attack. Entered the Service from New Haven, Connecticut.

HARRY G. HUBERTH, JR., 01031564, Captain, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 19 March 1945 in Germany. Company B, under the leadership of Captain Huberth, was assigned the mission of probing the Siegfried Line defenses and breaking through a sector of dragon's teeth. When his company's advance was stopped by heavy enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Captain Huberth moved from one platoon to another and, courageously exposing himself to intense enemy fire, urged his men to press forward. After he had succeeded in moving one platoon through the dragon's teeth, he was ordered to withdraw his company. Displaying outstanding skill and courage, he withdrew two of his platoons from their untenable positions. Although painfully wounded, he refused to be evacuated and continued to direct the withdrawal of the remainder of his company until he was ordered back by the battalion commander. His personal aggressiveness and dauntless intrepidity were a source of great inspiration to all the members of his command. Entered the Service from Scarsdale, New York.

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MARION B. FINDLAY, 01182570, First Lieutenant, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 16 March 1945 in France. In order to secure a clear field of vision Lieutenant Findlay, the artillery forward observer, set up his observation post in the roof of a barn. As he exposed himself at a hole in the roof to adjust fire on enemy positions, sniper bullets struck the roof tiles over his head and an enemy self-propelled gun opened fire on his building, hitting it twice and demolishing one wall. In the face of the enemy fire he steadfastly remained in position, directing more than 1000 round of artillery fire on the hostile emplacements. As a result of Lieutenant Findlay's outstanding courage and determination, the enemy was forced to abandon its prepared positions, suffering more than 30 casualties, and the friendly troops were able to advance with little opposition. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

RUFUS M. VAAGE, 01327688, First Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 March 1945 in Germany. Lieutenant Vaage had the mission of leading his platoon to clear a strongly defended sector of pillboxes in the Siegfried Line. In attacking the first pillbox he sent one squad in a flanking maneuver to the right, but the men were fired on from another pillbox further to the right. Lieutenant Vaage observed that one aperture of the second pillbox, facing away from the direction of fire, seemed to be unmanned. He courageously dashed across open terrain to the side of the emplacement and hurled two hand grenades into the aperture, killing one of the occupants, wounding the other two and silencing their fire. He then rallied his squad and led the men in assaulting the first pillbox from the rear. As a result of Lieutenant Vaage's magnificent courage and aggressive leadership, the two pillboxes were cleared of the enemy, one German was killed, four were wounded and five captured. Entered the Service from Newman Grove, Nebraska.

STANLEY A. RODNEY, 33687390, Technical Sergeant, Company F, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. During the attack on the Siegfried Line defenses Sergeant Rodney, the platoon sergeant, worked in close cooperation with his platoon leader, helping to plan and direct the operations of the men. On frequent occasions he braved small arms, mortar, rocket and artillery fire to crawl to the blind side of a pillbox and fire into the emplacement, enabling his comrades to assault and clear the position. Largely as a result of his magnificent courage and outstanding leadership, the platoon cleared 10 pillboxes and an observation post, killed six Germans and captured 65 prisoners. Entered the Service from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

CHARLEY A. DIETRICH, 38036520, Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. Sergeant Dietrich was assigned the mission of leading a demolition team in knocking out a Siegfried Line pillbox. Despite intense enemy small arms fire, he courageously led his men across trenches, over felled trees, and through barbed wire entanglements to within 40 yards of the emplacement. He then crawled forward alone, cradling the heavy charge in his arms. Although exposed to machine gun and rifle fire from other pillboxes, Sergeant Dietrich courageously advanced to the door of his objective and set off his charge. By his gallant act, three of the Germans were wounded, all eight occupants were forced to surrender and the pillbox was captured. Entered the Service from Brownwood, Texas.

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CARL H. ROST, 32813232, Private First Class, Battery B, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 10 February 1945 in France. Despite enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, the artillery forward observation party set up its observation post with the rifle elements. Shortly after they chose a position that afforded good observation and some concealment, a nearby soldier was seriously wounded by the enemy fire and required immediate medical treatment. When litter squads were unable to come forward across the exposed terrain, Private First Class Rost, a member of the artillery group, volunteered to evacuate the wounded man. In the face of the intense enemy fire he carried him across 300 yards of open ground, placed him in the hands of a litter team and returned by the same hazardous route. By his heroic act, Private First Class Rost was responsible for saving the life of the wounded soldier. Entered the Service from Clifton, New York.

HAROLD E. DAUGHERTY, 33392154, Private First Class (then Private), Battery C, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 3 and 4 December 1944 in France. When friendly troops were halted by an enemy road block about 400 yards from a town, Private Daugherty, a radio operator with the artillery forward observation party, set up his radio and started to transmit fire missions. The enemy immediately began delivering a heavy concentration of mortar, artillery and rocket fire on the friendly troops, forcing them to seek cover, and Private Daugherty became separated from the artillery observer. Undaunted by the shells bursting around him, he continued to direct fire on the hostile emplacements. Upon entering the town the following day, he set up his radio in an exposed location and, despite mortar and artillery fire, remained steadfastly in position to transmit fire missions. Private Daugherty's outstanding courage and initiative contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered the Service from Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL DAHLQUIST:

JESSE B. MITLACK
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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