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AG RECORDS SEC

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

20 April 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 130

- 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:

EDWARD S. SUNEGA, 02006112, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. Lieutenant Sunega and his platoon had the mission of clearing a hill and taking several pillboxes in the Siegfried line. As they advanced he skillfully directed the fire and movement of his men so that they captured five of the enemy, killed two and wounded three others. Later he saw another officer in an exposed position hit by a sniper and unable to move to help himself. Undaunted by the enemy fire, Lieutenant Sunega rushed to the wounded man's aid, but as he carried him back he was instantly killed by the same sniper. By his courageous act, at the sacrifice of his life, he assisted in saving the life of a fellow officer. Next of kin: Mrs. Margaret Sunega (mother), Box 112, RFD 2, Rockville, Connecticut.

PHILLIP R. SMITH, 15304092, Private First Class, Company E, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 January 1945 in France. A strong enemy attack cut off a platoon of Company E, and Private First Class Smith and four others were sent to cover a wide gap between the company position and the friendly unit on the right. When Private First Class Smith reached his position, his fire against the advancing enemy was so effective that the hostile troops were prevented from exploiting their breakthrough. The enemy began to adjust mortar and artillery fire on his position but he remained, firing his weapon until mortally wounded by the burst of a shell. Private First Class Smith's gallant act, at the sacrifice of his life, was largely responsible for halting the enemy attack. Next of kin: Mr. Phillip J. Smith (Father), 1652 Indianapolis Boulevard, Whiting, Indiana.

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:

NORMAN A. WEBSTER, 0263319, Major, (then commanding 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment), for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in Italy. Major Webster, commanding the 2d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, landed with the assault echelons of his battalion in the invasion of Italy. Calmly reorganizing his companies under heavy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire,

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he pressed inland with the forward elements. When the enemy launched a strong counterattack, he valiantly moved about among his men, encouraging them and re-directing their disposition and fire. Under his inspiring leadership they repelled several hostile infantry and armored thrusts during the day. After dark he led his men through the enemy lines to seize the battalion objective. His courage and aggressiveness contributed materially to the success of his regiment on this critical day. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

WILLIAM V. CHURCH, 0439225, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 September 1944 in France. When Company C's advance was halted by fire from enemy machine guns and self-propelled weapons, Lieutenant Church deployed his mortars and then moved to an observation post in a house near the forward elements. From here, in spite of machine gun bullets which came through the windows and shells which burst around the house, he directed effective fire against the hostile force. A shell from a self-propelled gun finally hit the room he occupied, wounding him and forcing his evacuation to the aid station. He refused to go to the hospital and returned to the scene of action where, establishing another observation post, he continued to support the attack. By his courageous devotion to duty Lieutenant Church was of material aid to his battalion in seizing its objective. Entered the Service from Lenoir, North Carolina.

GENE E. JAMESON, 0199872, Second Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 February 1945 in France. Lieutenant Jameson and his platoon had the mission of holding the right flank of the regimental defense line. When an outpost informed him that a strong enemy patrol was attempting to infiltrate, Lieutenant Jameson went to the area alone to investigate. A friendly flare suddenly revealed seven enemy soldiers only a few yards from him. He immediately called on the Germans to surrender, but they answered by throwing two hand grenades and opening fire with a rifle. Undaunted by the hostile fire, Lieutenant Jameson himself threw a grenade and opened fire on the patrol, killing one enemy soldier, wounding another and forcing the remaining five to surrender. Entered the Service from Temple, Texas.

PAUL J. DELANEY, 12067446, First Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant), Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 23 January 1944 in Italy. Sergeant Delaney volunteered for the mission of bringing a new mine detector to a group clearing mines from the bank of an important river in preparation for an attack. Starting alone in complete darkness, he passed the friendly outposts and moved out into a heavily mined area. While he passed a burning haystack, he was under observation and machine gun fire from across the river, but he valiantly pushed on. In spite of shells which burst all around him, he pressed forward across the exposed terrain to the banks of the river and located the engineers to deliver the mine detector. With his mission accomplished he returned by the same hazardous route. As a result of Sergeant Delaney's courage and determination, the friendly troops were able to clear the approaches to the river. Entered the Service from Albany, New York.

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JESSIE M. MORENO, 38035634, First Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 August 1944 in France. When machine gun fire was heard coming from the area where Company C held a road block, First Sergeant Moreno started down the road to investigate. Suddenly, two enemy vehicles which had broken through the block, came toward him. Although the occupants fired at him with a machine pistol and other small arms, he opened fire with his rifle. His rapid and effective fire disabled one of the vehicles immediately, killing one of the occupants and wounding another. The other vehicle, with a dead officer inside, was surrendered by its driver a short distance down the road. By his courage and aggressiveness Sergeant Moreno killed two Germans, wounded one and put two enemy vehicles out of action. Entered the Service from Dallas, Texas.

JOSEPH T. TRDENIC, 33230565, Technical Sergeant, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 4 January 1945 in France. While the company was moving into a wooded assembly area, it came under intense mortar and artillery fire. The 4th Platoon was in open terrain, closed in on two sides by minefields. Sergeant Trdenic, the platoon sergeant, valiantly exposed himself to the concentrated shellfire and moved about among his men, calming them and directing them to safer positions. When one of his men was seriously wounded and lying helpless in the open, Sergeant Trdenic braved the shells bursting all around to administer first aid and carry him to a place of safety. His courageous leadership and consideration for the safety of his men were a source of inspiration to all who witnessed his deeds. Entered the Service from Stealton, Pennsylvania.

CHESTER W. JONES, 31374966, Staff Sergeant (then Private), Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 October 1944 in France. As Private Jones' squad was clearing a patch of woods, it was halted by small arms fire from the front and left. At the same time an enemy machine gun opened fire from a house at the edge of the woods to the right. While 3 of his comrades delivered covering fire, Private Jones moved forward along the edge of the woods towards the machine gun. Though he was completely exposed to the intense enemy fire, he succeeded in reaching a position 50 yards from the house. From here he fired rifle grenades into the building and put the gun out of action. Private Jones' gallant deed permitted his squad to continue its advance and secured the right flank of his company. Entered the Service from Bingham, New Hampshire.

ANDREW LACHOWETZ, 31466820, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company K, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1945 in France. While the company was moving from one position to another, an enemy machine gun opened fire from the flank and inflicted casualties on the friendly troops. Private First Class Lachowetz voluntarily undertook to destroy the hostile gun. He opened fire with his rifle and then crawled forward under the hostile fire to a point from which he could fire directly into the gun position. His accurately placed shots killed or wounded most of the crew and silenced the gun. His valiant act permitted his company to continue its movement without suffering further casualties. Entered the Service from Williamsett, Massachusetts.

GUY E. ROWLAND, JR., 32283796, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France.

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When the enemy attacked the town which housed the regimental command post, Private First Class Rowland and a comrade, acting on their own initiative, proceeded to the threatened part of town. They engaged a group of the enemy and, despite heavy hostile small arms fire, succeeded in killing five and wounding two. Although in danger from the fire of both sides, Private First Class Rowland took the two wounded Germans back as prisoners, and returned with a fresh supply of ammunition. He then moved out beyond his first position, and continued to fight even after his comrade had been killed by the hostile fire. As a result of his courageous and aggressive action, Private First Class Rowland contributed materially to the repulse of the enemy attack. Entered the Service from Jamestown, New York.

ARTHUR P. RODGERS, JR., 38372694, Private First Class, Company D, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 November 1944 in France. Private First Class Rodgers was in a building with a number of other friendly troops, when a large force of enemy infantry attacked. Despite heavy small arms fire directed at the house, he slipped out and crawled 150 yards to a fox-hole. Hearing a machine gun firing nearby, he worked his way toward it and opened fire, killing two of the crew and forcing the other three to surrender. With the machine gun eliminated, other friendly troops were enabled to leave the building, which was now ablaze from enemy fire. Private First Class Rodgers returned and aided in removing eight wounded men from the cellar. By his magnificent courage he broke the force of the hostile attack, and assisted in saving the lives of many of his comrades. Entered the Service from Brownwood, Texas.

VERN R. CUNNINGHAM, 36896929, Private First Class, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 8 February 1945 in France. Company A was engaged in a house-to-house attack on a town, when one platoon became surrounded by the enemy. Private First Class Cunningham, a machine gunner, brought his squad forward in an attempt to relieve the beleaguered platoon. Unable to find a covered position that offered a clear field of fire, he cradled the gun in his arms and exposed himself at an open window to fire it. Even though seriously wounded by a shell fragment, he dauntlessly continued to fire his weapon, inflicting many casualties on the enemy and enabling all the members of the surrounded platoon to withdraw to a safe position. Private First Class Cunningham's gallant act was an inspiration to all who witnessed it. Entered the Service from Bay City, Michigan.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

*Vincent M. Lochhart*  
VINCENT M. LOCHART

Major, Adjutant General's Department  
Asst Adjutant General

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