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HEADQUARTERS 36th INFANTRY DIVISION

APO #36, U. S. Army

31 December 1943

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 54

COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, the following are commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

MARION P. BOWDEN, 0407022, Captain, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Captain Bowden commanded the left sector of the 3rd Battalion position which was attacked five times by a determined enemy force employing heavily concentrated artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire. Twice the enemy broke through his sector, but Captain Bowden, displaying unusual qualities of leadership and demonstrating masterful determination, swiftly organized and inspired his men and personally led them, repelling both penetrations and restoring his lines. He worked without rest or food, improving each position by personal supervision. From an observation post, dangerously exposed to direct enemy small arms fire, he accurately directed mortar fire. His determined aggressiveness and outstanding leadership reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Belton, Texas.

KILIAN H. MAUZ, 0413791, First Lieutenant, Battery B, *** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Lieutenant Mauz in command of four DUKWS carrying howitzers from an LST to the beach and successfully landed his battery in the face of heavy enemy artillery fire. He was then placed in charge of the unloading of seven howitzers and one 57mm Anti-Tank Gun and six of the howitzers were immediately put into action under his supervision. During the time of this action he was constantly exposed to enemy artillery fire. Lieutenant Mauz then acted as Executive Officer of the six gun battery delivering effective artillery support for our attacking infantry. His coolness under fire and his ability to perform his assigned task efficiently, materially aided in the establishment of the beachhead and also reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Denver, Colorado.

JESSE M. NOBLES, 20808043, First Sergeant (then Sergeant), Company D, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on the morning of 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. During the initial phase of the landing of the 1st Battalion, *** Infantry, on the beach, Sergeant Nobles personally took command of the unloading of all transportation for the 1st Battalion. As the landing crafts arrived with their cargos, he directed traffic efficiently and skillfully so that each driver was able to leave the beach without delay, thus avoiding congestion. During the operations he was subjected to constant enemy artillery and mortar fire. So commendable was his performance of duty

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that not a single vehicle was lost due to enemy action. His courage and determination were an inspiration to his command and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Milleen, Texas.

JOHNNIE A. ROGERS, 20809426, Staff Sergeant, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Sergeant Rogers organized a platoon into a defense of the right flank position of his company. At all times, in the presence of a numerically superior enemy, he remained calm and was able to direct successfully the defense against numerous enemy attacks. He designated targets by firing into enemy positions and carefully controlled the firing of his platoon, demoralizing the enemy and contributing materially to the successful defense of the position. His superior performance of duty, courage, and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Hillsboro, Texas.

JOHNNIE C. BURCH, 38037349, Staff Sergeant, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Assisting in locating an ammunition dump which had been abandoned by an American battalion which had previously held the position, Sergeant Burch, while under intense enemy fire, and without rest or food, carried mortar and small arms ammunition to Company L and Company M throughout the night. The ammunition was urgently needed on the front line positions, and by this determined and courageous action, he materially assisted these two companies in successfully repelling the enemy. His courage and physical stamina reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Terrell, Texas.

KAYLOND C. RAINWATER, 20805666, Sergeant, Company G, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 8 October 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. A soldier wearing full combat equipment entered a swollen stream in search of a crossing. The force of water immediately swept him off his feet and down the stream. Sergeant Rainwater, seeing the stricken soldier, immediately discarded his equipment and leaped into the stream to rescue him. As both men were being carried along by the current, Sergeant Rainwater managed to catch a bush on the side of the bank which enabled him to help both climb to safety. His alertness and courage, with utter disregard of his own life, reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Snyder, Texas.

SAMUEL D. FLORENCE, 38037328, Sergeant, Company H, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Sergeant Florence, under heavily concentrated enemy machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire, with the aid of his platoon sergeant, maneuvered his rocket launcher to a position where he could fire upon oncoming tanks. After the withdrawal of his section, he voluntarily remained at his position the remainder of the day, later withdrawing under cover of darkness. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Royce City, Texas.

JAMES D. FLEMING, 34087748, Corporal, Battery C, *** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of * * *, Italy. Corporal Fleming continued to serve his piece while exposed to constant shelling by enemy artillery and heavy machine gun fire during the landings on the beach, and delivered effective artillery fire in support of the attacking infantry, materially contributing to the destruction of two enemy machine guns,

neutralization of two separate artillery pieces and causing four enemy tanks to retreat. The landing was made voluntarily in spite of advice and warning by Navy personnel to delay on account of severe enemy resistance on the beach. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Wilmington, North Carolina.

LARRY V. FANTO, 32301790, Corporal, Company F, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. With complete disregard for his own safety, Corporal Fanto constantly exposed himself to intense enemy fire to repair telephone lines between the company command post and the platoons, and from the observation post to the command post. These duties were performed without orders and under extremely dangerous conditions. His initiative and aggressiveness were an inspiration to all who witnessed his acts and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Newark, New Jersey.

TRAVIS D. BISHOP, 18192912, Corporal, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Corporal Bishop, runner for Company L, volunteered to fire a 105mm Howitzer which had been deserted by its crew because of the intense enemy artillery fire. In the face of an oncoming mechanized tank attack and with utter disregard for his own safety, although under continuous enemy fire, he aided in destroying an enemy tank. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Lawton, Oklahoma.

WILLARD S. WILLIAMS, 20806446, Corporal, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Corporal Williams, a 60mm Mortar Squad Leader, whose squad was employed as a rifle squad against a counterattack saw mechanized enemy tank forces approaching, and without orders, and under heavy artillery fire, left his position of concealment to help repair a deserted M-10 Tank Destroyer. With utter disregard for his own safety, he assisted an officer in putting the gun back into action, served the weapon and thus contributed to the destruction of an enemy half-track. His courage and leadership reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Brackenridge, Texas.

WAYNE F. DRISKILL, 20813434, Corporal, Battery B, *** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Despite severe enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Corporal Driskill helped in unloading seven 105mm Howitzers and one 57mm Anti-Tank Gun from DUKWS. He then served his piece constantly throughout the morning, materially assisting his unit in rendering effective artillery support to the infantry. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Conway, Texas.

HARVEY J. WILLIAMS, 32234350, Technician Grade V, Company D, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on the morning of 25 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Technician Grade V Williams with his company pinned to the ground by a heavy concentration of enemy mortar and artillery fire, heard a companion cry for help and without regard for his own safety, left the position to administer first aid to the wounded man. He applied an accurate knowledge of first aid which was instrumental in saving the injured man's life. His courageous and self-sacrificing action reflects great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Spring Glen, Pennsylvania.

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MANUEL I. MADRID, 20802280, Technician Grade V, Company E, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Technician Grade V Madrid, company artificer, while moving forward toward the assault platoons, discovered one of the company sergeants seriously wounded. On his own initiative and with complete disregard for his own safety, he crossed an open stretch of ground under enemy fire, and after obtaining help, secured a stretcher. Returning over the same dangerous terrain, he found that medical aid men had arrived. He assisted them in evacuating the wounded man. His bravery and determination under fire were an inspiration to all who witnessed his act and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from El Paso, Texas.

RAFAEL (MI) CAMANO, 20808810, Technician Grade V, Cannon Company, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Technician Grade V Camano, driver of a 75mm Self-Propelled Gun Mount, demonstrated unusual courage and determination in the presence of numerically superior enemy forces. His gun crew was called upon to repel an attack of thirteen enemy tanks which were seriously threatening the Division Command Post and the beachhead. Despite constant fire from the approaching tanks, he remained at his position, calmly and deliberately moving his vehicle to give his gunner the maximum advantage, thus materially contributing to the repelling of the attack. His courage, coolness, and determination reflect credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Galveston, Texas.

CLARENCE H. LEWIS, 20309450, Technician Grade V, Company L, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Assisting in locating an ammunition dump, which had been abandoned by an American Battalion which had previously held the position, Technician Grade V Lewis, while under intense enemy fire, and without rest or food, carried mortar and small arms ammunition to Company L and Company M throughout the night. The ammunition was urgently needed on the front line positions, and by this determined and courageous action, he materially assisted these two companies in successfully repelling the enemy. His courage and physical stamina reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Hillsboro, Texas.

CHARLES A. KENNEDY, 20309820, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Despite intense enemy machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire, Private First Class Kennedy exposed himself courageously in order to render first aid to the wounded men of Company L. Remaining in position on the front line, he was able to render aid quickly and effectively to the men immediately after they were wounded. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Abott, Texas.

EDWARD O. HORTSMANN, JR., 37196644, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, *** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Although previous attempts had failed due to intense enemy artillery fire and tank action, Private First Class Hortsmann and his crew succeeded in laying a line for a distance of about one mile, from Headquarters 2nd Battalion to Company F, over terrain which offered little or no natural protection. While the detail was laying the line across a ridge covered by enemy tank fire, several hits from enemy artillery broke the

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line necessitating repairs before they could proceed. His courageous action in laying and repairing the line resulted in establishing communication with Company F. Private First Class Hortsman's determination and his bravery under fire were an inspiration to the men of his company and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered the service from Big Rock, Iowa.

WAYNE A. HUMPHRIES, 34077041, Private First Class, Battery C, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Humphries continued to serve his piece while exposed to constant shelling by enemy artillery and heavy machine gun fire, during the landings on the beach, and delivered effective artillery fire in support of the attacking infantry, materially contributing to the destruction of two enemy machine guns, neutralizing two separate artillery pieces and causing four enemy tanks to retreat. The landing was made voluntarily in spite of advice and warning by Navy personnel to delay on account of severe enemy resistance on the beach. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Lee, South Carolina.

BULLESS C. CYLER, 34160021, Private First Class, Battery C, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Cyler continued to serve his piece while exposed to constant shelling by enemy artillery and heavy machine gun fire, during the landings on the beach, and delivered effective artillery fire in support of the attacking infantry, materially contributing to the destruction of two enemy machine guns, neutralizing two separate artillery pieces and causing four enemy tanks to retreat. The landing was made voluntarily in spite of advice and warning by Navy personnel to delay on account of severe enemy resistance on the beach. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Fort Payne, Alabama.

HENRY M. WILSON, 34170516, Private First Class, Battery C, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private First Class Wilson continued to serve his piece while exposed to constant shelling by enemy artillery and heavy machine gun fire during the landing on the beach, and delivered effective artillery fire in support of the attacking infantry, materially contributing to the destruction of two enemy machine guns, neutralizing two separate artillery pieces and causing four enemy tanks to retreat. The landing was made voluntarily in spite of advice and warning by Navy personnel to delay on account of severe enemy resistance on the beach. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Wilmington, North Carolina.

JOHNIE LANE, 35106420, Private First Class, Battery C, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private First Class Lane continued to serve his piece while exposed to constant shelling by enemy artillery and heavy machine gun fire during the landings on the beach, and delivered effective artillery fire in support of the attacking infantry, materially contributing to the destruction of two enemy machine guns, neutralizing two separate artillery pieces and causing four enemy tanks to retreat. The landing was made voluntarily in spite of advice and warning by Navy personnel to delay on account of severe enemy resistance on the beach. His courage and determination reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Boston, Kentucky.

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WELTON R. BRASULLI, 20815995, Private First Class, Service Battery, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 11 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private First Class Brasulli manned his .50 caliber machine gun as three enemy planes attacked, dropping bombs and strafing the bivouac area. As the second enemy plane came in range, he fired until the plane came overhead, burst into flames and crashed. His courage and determination were an inspiration to the battery and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from New Braunfels, Texas.

ANDRE A. HATH, 32334125, Private First Class, Battery B, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Despite severe enemy artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire, Private First Class Hath helped in unloading seven 105mm Howitzers and one 57mm Anti-Tank Gun from DUK'S. He then served his piece constantly throughout the morning, materially assisting his unit in rendering effective artillery support to the attacking infantry. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from New York, New York.

EDWARD J. WALSH, 36247613, Private First Class, Battery B, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Despite severe enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Private First Class Walsh helped in unloading seven 105mm Howitzers and one 57mm Anti-Tank Gun from DUK'S. He then served his piece constantly throughout the morning, materially assisting his unit in rendering effective artillery support to the attacking infantry. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Lannon, Wisconsin.

JOHN R. URIE, 31115260, Private, Battery B, ** Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 9 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Despite severe enemy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Private Urie helped in unloading seven 105mm Howitzers and one 57mm Anti-Tank Gun from DUK'S. He then served his piece constantly throughout the morning, materially assisting his unit in rendering effective artillery support to the attacking infantry. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Barton, Vermont.

GARLAND C. SMITH, 20304579, Private, Company B, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 12 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Smith was ordered to leave a hill position when it was being heavily shelled by enemy artillery and swept by small arms fire. At this time a comrade was seriously wounded by shrapnel and was unable to withdraw with the unit. Private Smith, the last to leave the location, with utter disregard for his own life, rendered first aid to his wounded comrade and then carried him to a position of cover. His courageous and self-sacrificing action reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Coleman, Texas.

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PAUL G. KUBIK, 33274022, Private, Company L, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Kubik, a rifleman in Company L, on seeing seven enemy tanks threatening to break through the left flank, voluntarily left his concealment to contact our artillery. He crawled through heavy enemy machine gun and artillery fire, with little cover, to a point where he contacted our artillery and directed their fire upon the enemy. Through these actions the tank attack was checked, allowing our forces to strengthen the lines. His courage and attention to duty reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Mercer, Pennsylvania.

JOHN J. GOLABIEWSKI, 33270869, Private, Medical Detachment, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Golabiewski, medical aid man, without awaiting orders and at great personal risk, went to the aid of two wounded men during an enemy artillery barrage. While he was treating these men, five more soldiers were seriously wounded. Despite the intensity of the fire, he attended the wounds of these men. His prompt action and efficiency in giving comfort and aid to the wounded were an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Erie, Pennsylvania.

JULIAN C. DILLARD, 33532719, Private, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Dillard demonstrated courage while a member of a crew laying a line from the 2nd Battalion to Company F over terrain which offered little or no natural protection from continuous enemy artillery and tank fire. As he crossed a ridge under enemy tank fire, several hits broke the line, necessitating repairs before Private Dillard could continue on his original mission. As a result of his courageous action, communication with Company F was established immediately. His determination to accomplish the mission and his bravery under fire were an inspiration to the men of his company and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Salem, Virginia.

JOHN (NMI) ZAK, 33271156, Private, Company L, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Private Zak assisted in locating an abandoned ammunition dump, which had been left by the previous American battalion holding this position, and then, despite intense enemy fire, helped to carry mortar and small arms ammunition throughout the night, without food or rest, to Company L and Company M. His courage, physical stamina and devotion to duty resulted in materially assisting his unit in withstanding severe enemy attacks and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Hampden Park, Pennsylvania.

STEVE (NMI) MIZERAK, 32239153, Private, Company L, ** Infantry, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 13 and 14 September 1943, in the vicinity of **, Italy. Assisting in locating an ammunition dump which had been abandoned by an American battalion which had previously held the position, Private Mizerak, while under intense enemy fire, and without rest or food, carried mortar and small arms ammunition to Company L and Company M throughout the night. The ammunition was urgently needed on the front line positions, and by this determined and courageous action, he materially assisted these two companies in successfully repelling the enemy. His courage and physical stamina reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered service from Cliffside Park, New Jersey.

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By command of Major General WALKER:



CLAYTON P. KERR,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

John J. Deane
JOHN J. DEANE,
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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