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HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION.
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GENERAL ORDERS

18 December 1944

NO. 472

Posthumous Award of Silver Star..... I
Award of Silver Star..... II

SECTION 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.

ABE M. FUJI, 19064756, Staff Sergeant, 232d Engineer Combat Company (Sep), for gallantry in action on 15 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Fuji was leading a mine sweeping crew when he and his men were suddenly subjected to heavy small arms fire from an enemy road block. He immediately ordered his men to leave the road and seek cover. Aware that the road had to be cleared and used as a supply route for his organization, Sergeant Fuji fearlessly crawled from his concealed position and started removing a bobby trap trip wire attached to one of the branches of the road block. While he was working in an exposed position, a burst of machine gun crossfire killed him instantly. As a result of his valiant deed, four enemy machine gun positions were disclosed and subsequently destroyed, and a vital supply route was opened. Next of kin: Mrs. Thelma H. Fuji, 3112 Lawrence Street, Denver, Colorado.

RUSSELL A. HINDENACH, 36878694, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company I, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 6 September 1944 in France. Prior to an attack against enemy defenses, Private First Class Hindenach volunteered to act as first scout during the hazardous approach march. The enemy suddenly directed heavy machine gun fire on the column, and the platoon leader was seriously wounded. When the company was ordered to withdraw from the exposed position, Private First Class Hindenach disdained personal security and braved the hostile fire to remain with the injured officer. He calmly administered expert first aid treatment, then attempted to carry his platoon leader back toward the friendly lines. A heavy mortar barrage wounded Private First Class Hindenach and prevented him from removing the officer from the area. Although he became the target for direct tank fire, he steadfastly refused to leave his exposed position and seek safety for himself although urged to do so by the officer. After remaining with his platoon leader under fire for two hours and a half, Private First Class Hindenach worked his way back to his unit, secured a litter and several men, and returned to evacuate the wounded officer. He was killed in action during a later engagement. Next of kin: Mrs. Dorothy Hindenach (Mother), Paw Paw, Michigan.

VOLNEY B. SIMPSON, JR., 37077060, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Next of kin: Mr. Volney B. Simpson, Sr., (Father), RR #3, Eldon, Missouri.

CHARLES P. REMENY, 16062665, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Next of kin: Mrs. Julia Remeny (Mother), 7808 W. Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan.

EPHRAIM F. WATSON, 34016297, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Next of kin: Mrs. Susan I. Watson (Mother), Route #1, Falkland, North Carolina.

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✓ JOSEPH A. CALVARI, 12088509, Private, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Next of kin: Mr. Gustave Calvari (Father), 35-25 100th Street, Corona, New York.

✓ LOUIS F. RULLO, 32235537, Private, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Next of kin: Mrs. Carmela Rullo (Mother), 90 Wallace Street, Newark, New Jersey.

for gallantry in action on 25 August 1944 in France. Three platoons of the 111th Engineer Combat Battalion were assigned the mission of establishing a line of defense on the outskirts of an important town. When a numerically superior enemy force launched a savage attack with infantry troops and tanks, these men were manning a machine gun in an outpost position. When the enemy charged, they remained determinedly in position, braving the heavy small arms fire directed at them, in order to retard the hostile advance. Only when the enemy soldiers had almost reached the position would these men withdraw. They took up a more advantageous position on the other side of the road and continued to harass the attackers with rifle fire. Aware that their suicide stand would enable their comrades to withdraw and establish a more favorable defense, they valiantly remained behind, delaying the enemy with effective small arms fire. When the hostile troops finally succeeded in overrunning their position, these men were killed by the hail of rifle and machine gun bullets. Their magnificent courage and unselfish devotion to the welfare of their fellow soldiers enabled other elements of the platoons to withdraw and establish a stronger defense.

✓ RICHARD W. CONRAD, 13115524, Private, Company C, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 16 August 1944 in France. A strong enemy road block was delaying the progress of an infantry attack supported by tanks and tank destroyers. A working party was sent forward to clear the block. After one attempt had failed, Private Conrad was assigned the mission of reconnoitering the enemy position. As he approached the left flank of the road block, he was seriously wounded by direct fire from a hostile machine gun. Although he was in great pain and able to move himself only by exercising the utmost determination, Private Conrad continued his reconnaissance until he had secured the required information, then crawled back under incessant machine gun and rifle fire. The vital information which he obtained enabled the infantry troops to attack and overrun the hostile position. Private Conrad died of his wounds on the following day. Next of kin: Mrs. Miriam A. Conrad (Mother), 7309 Palmetta Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SECTION 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.

✓ WILLIAM A. BIRD, 0280648, Lieutenant Colonel, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 and 16 August 1944 in France. On D-day in the invasion of Southern France, Lieutenant Colonel Bird, commanding the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, was assigned the task of landing on an isolated, narrow beach in order to seize high ground which commanded the landing beach designated for the remainder of the Division. Displaying unusual personal courage, he led the foremost elements of his battalion and directed his men in overrunning the enemy defenses and capturing many prisoners. After the initial assault, he swiftly reorganized his command and pressed forward, clearing the coast road of enemy resistance. Although portions of the battalion were scattered, Lieutenant Colonel Bird led his men forward, never hesitating and never giving the enemy an opportunity to recover from the shock of the attack. In spite of heavy mortar, ma-

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chine gun and rifle fire, he remained with his leading elements, inspiring the men by his dauntless intrepidity and brilliant leadership. He led the battalion straight to its objective and captured more than 1000 prisoners during the attack. Entered the Service from Barberton, Ohio.

✓ HERBERT KIRCHMAN, 0425304, Captain, Medical Corps, 111th Medical Battalion, for gallantry in action on 4 June 1944 in Italy. The 2d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment, had neared the outskirts of an important enemy stronghold when sudden fire from well-concealed snipers inflicted a number of casualties on the forward elements. While attempting to evacuate the injured soldiers, an aid man was wounded, and other personnel in the area was pinned down by the incessant hostile fire. As casualties were not being brought to his aid station at the rear of the column, Captain Kirchman, battalion surgeon, courageously left his covered position and led litter bearers forward in the face of the heavy small arms and artillery fire to locate the wounded. He administered emergency first aid treatment to the casualties and helped carry them to a nearby ditch. Although he was the target for enemy snipers, Captain Kirchman calmly administered blood plasma to two of the men. While the remainder of the forward elements were unable to move, he walked fearlessly about the battlefield, treating the wounded and encouraging them by his example of intrepidity. Because of his selflessness and devotion to duty, all the casualties were successfully evacuated and the lives of many men were saved. Entered the Service from Germantown, Ohio.

✓ EDWARD F. GUY, 32804230, Technical Sergeant, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 23 August 1944 in France. When an enemy force launched a determined counterattack with machine pistol and rifle fire, a machine gunner in Company A was wounded and his weapon damaged. Sergeant Guy, acting leader of the machine gun platoon, was occupying a comparatively secure position 75 yards behind the gun. Aware that immediate, aggressive action was necessary to stop the assault, he began crawling toward the machine gun. Although he was wounded in the left hand by hostile fire, he pressed forward to the weapon and put it back into action. He calmly directed effective bursts of machine gun fire into the midst of the attackers, killing three of the enemy soldiers, wounding two and completely frustrating the counterattack. Sergeant Guy refused medical aid and remained with his platoon until he was certain that the enemy threat had been dispelled. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

✓ JACK F. CLECK, 37013509, Sergeant, Company C, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 18 October 1944 in France. When infantry troops attempted to occupy an enemy-held village, harassing fire from two self-propelled guns delayed the attack. Tanks were unable to direct accurate fire on the guns because two road blocks stopped their advance. Sergeant Cleck volunteered to attempt to remove the blocks. He ran and crawled from building to building until he was in position to remove the first block, which was booby-trapped with four hand grenades and consisted of wagons, hay rakes and cord wood. Although he was the target for direct enemy fire, Sergeant Cleck calmly removed the hand grenades and enough of the block to permit the tanks to pass through. He then moved forward to the second block and cleared it in the same way. His quick-thinking and cool daring enabled the tanks to move into position and destroy the two enemy guns. Entered the Service from Kansas City, Missouri.

✓ LUTERIO GARCIA, 38001440, Technician Fifth Grade, Company A, 111th Medical Battalion. Entered the Service from Phoenix, Arizona.

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MARIO RUBINO, 12038968, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Medical Battalion. Entered the Service from New York City, New York.
CURTIS HISEY, 38065804, Private, Company A, 111th Medical Battalion. Entered the Service from Dickens, Texas.
CONWAY S. FOSTER, 20453851, Private, Company A, 111th Medical Battalion. Entered the Service from Concord, North Carolina.

for gallantry in action on 23 October 1944 in France. These men and 16 other litter bearers were on duty near the command post of the 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, when they were informed of the location of a number of casualties in need of immediate evacuation. As they started out to aid the wounded soldiers, the enemy directed a heavy artillery barrage over the area and most of the litter bearers sought cover from the heavy shellfire. Only these four men continued up the slippery mountain trail to the spot where the casualties were lying. Ignoring the incessant artillery and mortar shelling, they made several hazardous trips over the difficult terrain. They carried the two most seriously wounded men to the aid station and assisted eight walking wounded over the treacherous trail. After successfully evacuating the ten injured soldiers, these men, although fatigued by their exertions, refused to rest and remained on duty.

ROY W. BROWN, 36598433, Private, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 August 1944 in France. A machine gun platoon of Company H supported Company G's attack against an enemy stronghold on D-day in the invasion of Southern France. The assaulting troops were subjected to heavy, direct fire from enemy pillboxes and other fortifications. Company G and the supporting machine gun platoon suffered heavy casualties. Although he had been painfully wounded, Private Brown, aid man with the platoon, remained in the area of the attack and attended the casualties from both the platoon and the company. Disdainful of personal comfort and security, he worked tirelessly throughout the night, steadfastly refusing to leave his patients until several aid men arrived to relieve him. Entered the Service from Flint, Michigan.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

JOHN J. ALBRIGHT
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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