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

2 July 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 223

Award of Bronze Star Medal.....I
Corrected Award of Oak Leaf Cluster.....II

SECTION I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individuals for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations.

HARRY B. KELTON, 0377166, Major, Adjutant General's Department, Headquarters 36th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 1 July 1944 in Italy. Since landing in the invasion of Italy on D-Day, Major Kelton has worked indefatigably during more than nine months of combat, frequently under artillery fire and aerial bombardment. He has maintained constant close touch with the personnel needs of the fighting units, accomplished requisitions, and made personal and tactful contacts with the replacement depots, which insured the receipt in the division of the highest type combat soldiers available. His sound judgment and profound insight into the intricacies of administration under battle conditions have relieved commanders of a multitude of details and thus materially contributed to the success of operations. He has cheerfully worked long hours, often under adverse conditions and while in poor health, but has, despite these handicaps, always performed his duties in a superior manner. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

LLOYD M. SOUTHWICK, 0344229, Captain, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 17 November 1943 to 26 February 1944 in Italy. During this period Captain Southwick performed his duties as battalion surgeon with extraordinary skill and coolness under the most hazardous conditions. Although often subjected to heavy enemy fire, he assisted in the expert surgical care of large numbers of patients and constantly inspired the men of his unit by his resourcefulness, ingenuity and fearlessness. Largely because of his tireless efforts in treating his patients, the mortality from illness and battle injuries were kept at a minimum. Entered the Service from Edinburg, Texas.

FRANK POLITZER, 01285296, First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant), 143d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 6 to 26 February 1944 in Italy. During this period Lieutenant Politzer performed his duties as battalion communications officer with tireless efficiency, insuring almost unbroken communication between the battalion commander and all the units of his command. One occasion, he made a personal reconnaissance over trails constantly under enemy observation to select the best route of communications to the front line companies. During a heavy enemy artillery and mortar barrage which disabled the wire lines, he led wiremen forward across the shell torn terrain to repair the breaks and reestablish the vital communications. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

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JAMES R. CROCKER, 01289051, First Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 4 to 15 December 1943 in Italy. When all the communication lines from the regimental command post to the battalions were disrupted by heavy enemy artillery shelling, Lieutenant Crocker carried a vital message concerning an attack to the units, traversing precipitous, muddy trails, advancing under intense artillery and mortar fire. Later, when a battalion staff officer in charge of supplies was wounded, Lieutenant Crocker assumed his duties and worked tirelessly supervising the supply functions for the battalion. He personally reconnoitered the shell torn area, constantly threatened by enemy small arms fire, to determine the best routes for the supply trains to reach the battalions. Entered the Service from Petaluma, California.

JOHN J. WICKHAM, 01170601, First Lieutenant, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 November 1943 to 12 March 1944 in Italy. As forward observer for his battery during this period, Lieutenant Wickham performed his duties with unusual skill and efficiency. Although often subjected to hostile fire, he always maintained his position and directed deadly accurate fire on enemy emplacements, thus supporting the infantry troops and aided them in attaining their objectives. Entered the Service from Quincy, Massachusetts

HERBERT S. MASKEW, 02055838, First Lieutenant (then Master Sergeant and Second Lieutenant), 143d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 28 February 1944 in Italy. Because of his faithful and efficient performance of duty, Sergeant Maskew was promoted to battalion staff officer charged with the responsibility of supplying his unit. By carefully reconnoitering the approaches to the battalion positions, he selected the safest and most maneuverable routes of supply. During the action on the banks of a strategic river, he supervised the carrying of a two days supply of food and ammunition to a point accessible to the troops; and, when the battalion withdrew from the hostile bank of the river to reorganize, he moved about over the shell torn terrain personally checking all companies to determine what equipment and supplies were vital for a maximum fighting efficiency. Entered the Service from Galveston, Texas.

CLYDE E. BURTON, 20813425, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Battery, 131st Field Artillery Battalion, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 28 March 1944 in Italy. During this period, by his diligent and tireless supervision of his motor section, he made certain that the vehicles of his battery suffered no mechanical failures. On one occasion, the battery motor pool was shelled by the enemy artillery and direct hits enflamed the vehicles and equipment. Immediately assuming command, Sergeant Burton restored order, directed the extinguishing of the fire and prepared to repair the damaged vehicles. Entered the Service from Amarillo, Texas.

ARTHUR KAUPPINEN, 31005965, Staff Sergeant, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 14 to 25 February 1944 in Italy. Sergeant Kauppinen was assigned to a mule pack train that carried vitally needed supplies over trails through flat, muddy, exposed ground and then over steep, treacherous mountain paths. Braving constant artillery and mortar harassing fire that caused many casualties and much disorganization, he repeatedly made the trip to front line fighting men. Many times the pack train was caught in the open at daylight and subjected to aimed enemy fire, but despite all hazards he carried on and kept a continuous flow of ammunition, food, water, and equipment to the battlefield. Entered the Service from Athol, Massachusetts.

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JAMES E. CARTER, 20809732, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 143d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 6 to 26 February 1944 in Italy. Sergeant Carter, while still performing his duties as mess sergeant and feeding 300 men daily, volunteered to work with mule trains which brought supplies to the fighting troops every other night. Through rain and snow, often subjected to enemy artillery shelling, he dauntlessly guided the pack train up the muddy, rugged, treacherous trails to the battalion area. During this period Sergeant Carter performed his double duties tirelessly and efficiently, facing the dangers of his arduous tasks uncomplainingly and fearlessly. Entered the Service from Waco, Texas.

Amended by 20269, 2 Aug. 44 to read Silver Star (see citation 20269)
 WILFRED LANGLOIS, 31245906, Technician Third Grade, Medical Detachment, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 to 18 December 1943 in Italy. Assigned as aid man to Company G when that unit moved in an attack on enemy positions, he advanced with the assault forces until he was stopped by intense mortar shelling and deadly machine gun fire. The company was forced to withdraw, but he remained in the hazardous area to help collect the wounded and remove them to a protected ravine. He refused to leave his patients for three days and nights, continually administering effective first aid treatment, and he made perilous trips to the forward aid station to guide litter bearers to the ravine and evacuate the wounded men. Entered the Service from Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

OSIE MOORE, 20808264, Technician Fourth Grade, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

LOSS R. WARLICK, 20808215, Technician Fourth Grade, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

EDWARD J. MAREK, 20808267, Technician Fifth Grade, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

STEVE R. PRAZAK, 20808211, Technician Fifth Grade, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Caldwell, Texas.

FRED V. DAVIS, 33093199, Private First Class, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Buckingham, Virginia.

MARTIN L. WERT, 33245564, Private First Class, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Lakemont, Pennsylvania.

FRANK J. JOHNSON, 32330181, Private First Class, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from New York City, New York.

For meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 11 to 15 December 1943 in Italy. These men, members of the kitchen personnel of their company, volunteered to carry supplies to the 1st Battalion forces fighting against strong enemy troops on a strategic mountain. Day after day they courageously braved the furious artillery and mortar fire, struggling up the mountainside over trails too rocky and steep for the use of mules, to furnish the battle-weary soldiers with food, clothing and ammunition. By their determined performance of their duties, these men greatly raised the morale of the fighting men and relieved some of their hardships.

MICHAEL KNOPIC, 35160742, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 to 21 September 1943 and from 12 to 20 November 1943 in Italy. As mail orderly for his organization, Tec 5 Knopic often braved enemy artillery and small arms fire to bring the mail which he knew was vital to the men's morale from the rear area to the front line positions. On numerous occasions he volunteered to serve guard duty and perform other duties of a rifleman although he

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could have returned to the safety of the rear. In addition, he made many trips to carry rations, water, and clothes to the fighting troops; and he consistently executed every new task with efficiency and fearlessness. Entered the Service from Gary, Indiana.

CLARENCE E. JAROSZEWSKI, 20803555, Technician Fifth Grade (then Private), Medical Detachment, 141st Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations on 14 February 1944 in Italy. When the battalion command post in which Private Jaroszewski was serving as an aid man was blasted by an enemy mortar shell, the explosion killed one man and wounded many more. Although he was himself painfully wounded by the shell burst, Private Jaroszewski left the command post and braved the inferno of enemy shelling to enlist aid from a medical station further down the road. He led the aid men back to the shattered building and directed them in evacuating the wounded. Only when all the men had been cared for would he consent to be removed. Entered the Service from Moulton, Texas.

SECTION II — CORRECTED AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER

So much of General Orders No. 210 as awards a Bronze Star Medal to JESSE M. NOBLES, 20808043, First Sergeant, Company D, 143d Infantry Regiment, is rescinded and the following substituted therefor.

"Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following named individual for gallantry in action.

"JESSE M. NOBLES, 20808043, First Sergeant, Company D, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1943 in Italy. When communications to his company's observation post were knocked out during a heavy enemy artillery barrage and several repairmen had been wounded in attempting to reestablish the important lines, First Sergeant Nobles voluntarily undertook the dangerous mission despite the continued intense fire. Courageously moving forward over the hazardous terrain, he successfully replaced the damaged lines and reopened communications through which accurate friendly artillery fire was directed at the enemy batteries, destroying them. Entered the Service from Kileen, Texas."

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lookhart

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

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