

R E S T R I C T E D

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

11 March 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 70

Posthumous Award of Silver Star I
Award of Silver Star..... II
Posthumous Award of Oak Leaf Cluster III

SECTION I — POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded each of the following named individuals:

JOHN R. LLOYD, 33318186, Private, Headquarters Battery, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 12 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. When radio communications were knocked out during an engagement with the enemy, Private Lloyd and other members of an artillery liaison section were detailed to obtain a radio set in a vehicle which had been left in the town. Upon approaching the vicinity, they were informed that friendly troops had evacuated and that the road leading to this vehicle was under heavy enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the importance of obtaining the radio set, Private Lloyd volunteered to attempt to reach it under such cover as the remainder of the detail could provide with rifle fire. With dauntless courage and outstanding determination, he dashed into the immediate presence of the enemy and snatched the important vehicle, successfully returning with it. His cool aggressiveness and daring leadership were an inspiration to all who witnessed his deed. Private Lloyd was later killed by enemy artillery. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Emma R. Lloyd, (Mother), 1145 Harding Drive, Llanerch, Pennsylvania.

GEORGE D. BAIRD, 36253685, Private, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Private Baird was a member of a mortar squad who were advancing to an assigned objective when he was ambushed by enemy snipers. Since time was of paramount importance and the snipers constituted a grave threat to the successful accomplishment of the mission, Private Baird exposed his position by firing tracer ammunition at the targets so that his squad could discern and engage the enemy. With utter disregard for his own life he then left his position and dauntlessly charged the enemy sniper nest. He succeeded in wiping out this pocket of resistance but in doing so was killed. His magnificent courage and devotion to duty in the face of bitter enemy opposition inspired all who witnessed his heroic deed. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Margaret Baird (Mother), 1414 Isabella Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin.

WOODROW (NMI) MORGAN, 35267524, Private, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. While advancing as the point for his squad during the establishment of a beachhead, Private Morgan spotted an enemy tank in a position which threatened the lives of his comrades. With magnificent courage, he moved forward single handedly against this

- 1 -

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R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

formidable objective attacking it furiously with grenades and his rifle at close range. His determined assault warned his comrades of the danger and successfully prevented the tank from pressing an attack against them. The outstanding alertness, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty displayed by Private Morgan undoubtedly saved the lives of members of his squad and were an inspiration to all who witnessed his deed. During this encounter, he was fatally wounded. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary Morgan (Mother), Baileysville, West Virginia.

LARRY R. BAYHA, 15012302, Private, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. While advancing with his company during the establishment of a beachhead, Private Bayha, a member of his platoon's bazooka team, spotted an enemy tank in a position which threatened the lives of his comrades. With magnificent courage, he moved forward single-handedly against this formidable objective, drawing the tank's machine gun fire but enabling him to engage it at close range with a clear field of fire. By his alertness and skillful use of his weapon, he successfully disabled the tank and undoubtedly saved the lives of many of his comrades. His outstanding calmness and valiant aggressiveness were an inspiration to all who witnessed his deed. Private Bayha was fatally wounded during this encounter. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Catherine Bayha (Mother), 1327 Lind Street, Wheeling, West Virginia.

SECTION II — AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded each of the following named individuals:

WENDELL C. PHILLIPPI, 01288114, Captain (then First Lieutenant), 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 8 December 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Lieutenant Phillippi was the communications officer of the 2d Battalion during the attack on the high ground Northwest of ***. The assault companies had been stopped northwest of the village by a line of pill boxes protected by mines and barbed wire. The enemy laid down terrific artillery, mortar, and small arms fire and the severe shelling knocked out the radio communications with the assault companies. Lieutenant Phillippi, on his own initiative and with utter disregard for his own life, personally led the wire group and assisted in laying wire to each assault company. Due to the importance of these communications, it was necessary to constantly inspect the lines, which he did, making numerous trips at all times exposed to severe enemy artillery, mortar, and sniper fire. The enemy fire was so severe that the entire repair squad was either killed or wounded. Lieutenant Phillippi himself received a shell fragment wound in the foot, but realizing the necessity of communications, stoutly refused to be evacuated and continued with his duties until the following day, at which time the Battalion Commander ordered him to the rear. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Indianapolis, Indiana.

ZERK O. ROBERTSON, 02055839, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. On the night of 20 January 1944, Company I had the mission of attacking the well prepared enemy positions across the *** river. The attack was launched under terrific artillery, nebelwerfer, machine gun and rifle fire. The last 700 yards afforded scant cover and were ingeniously mined and booby trapped. The company moved forward guided

R E S T R I C T E D

by engineers who, prior to the attack, had cleared and marked a trail to the river crossing site. A low hanging fog caused poor visibility and the company entered a heavily mined area and became disorganized and dispersed. With utter disregard for his own life, Lieutenant Robertson, displaying unusual leadership ability and calmness, personally took command of detached units and exposed himself to the heavy mortar and artillery fire to rally his men into an effective fighting unit. Crossing the flat, exposed, and heavily mined area he moved from man to man, giving encouragement and skillfully leading them to the crossing sites. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Hillsboro, Texas.

THOMAS E. MCCALL, 20530711, Staff Sergeant, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 December 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Sergeant McCall was a section sergeant of the machine gun section of Company F during the fierce attack against enemy positions of ***. On his own initiative he moved forward with the leading elements of the company under intense machine gun and mortar fire, to locate desirable positions for his machine guns. When the company met the enemy's main line of resistance, Sergeant McCall, exposing himself to the intense fire, obtained an automatic rifle and placed effective fire on the enemy until his machine gun section made contact with him. He then personally placed his men in positions and organized carrying parties for ammunition. Although wounded at this time, he stoutly refused to be evacuated and despite the continued fire and his painful wound, moved from position to position distributing vitally needed ammunition and giving encouragement to his men. His aggressiveness, calmness under fire and devotion to duty materially assisted in the successful accomplishment of his company's mission. His gallant actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Accica, Indiana.

RICHARD N. STANSELL, 33060392, Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 17 to 21 December 1943 on ***, Italy. Sergeant Stansell was given a mission of establishing an outpost on the crest of ***. Picking three men, he moved forward over the rough, rocky and precipitous mountain, over wet and slippery trails, through artillery, mortar, machine gun and rifle fire, laying wire from the Regimental Command Post to the point where the outpost was established. The lines were almost immediately blown out by artillery fire. Instructing his men to observe enemy activities and report as quickly as the line was in, he left the comparative safety of the outpost and proceeded to repair the line. The enemy continually laid artillery and mortar shells in the area, blowing out the lines, but Sergeant Stansell, realizing the importance of communications between the outpost and the command post, went alone up and down the rugged, nearly mile-high mountain keeping the line in repair. He pluckily continued this Herculean task continuously for five days and nights, and then, suffering from complete physical exhaustion, he was evacuated. His keen sense of duty, aggressive leadership and dogged determination under the most trying conditions greatly inspired his comrades and contributed materially to the regiment's ultimate accomplishment. His gallant actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Littlefield, Texas.

CHARLES O. CUMBERLAND, 33689540, Private, Company L, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. During the approach march to an assembly area, Company L, the leading element of the 3d Battalion, became subjected to an intense enemy artillery barrage, wounding Private Cumberland and several other members of his company. Despite his painful

R E S T R I C T E D

wound, he refused medical attention and evacuation in order to assist in aiding the more serious casualties. With utter disregard for his own safety as the enemy shelling continued, he administered aid to his stricken comrades and helped to carry litter patients to the aid station. Only after the other casualties had been cared for did he submit himself to medical treatment. His display of outstanding aggressive vigor and devotion to duty inspired all who witnessed his actions and undoubtedly saved the lives of several of his comrades. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Wick Haven, Pennsylvania.

SECTION III -- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, an Oak Leaf Cluster, in lieu of the Second Silver Star, is posthumously awarded the following named individual:

SHONA K. ALDRIDGE, 01286754, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. The 3d Battalion was moving forward in an attack in a route march formation under cover of darkness. Lieutenant Aldridge was at the tail of the column with other battalion staff officers when the column was subjected to heavy artillery and mortar fire. They immediately took cover and when the concentration lifted, Lieutenant Aldridge noted that the tail of the column failed to move forward. He walked on toward the head of the column and discovered that contact had been broken, the leading elements were lost and a rifle platoon and stretcher bearer detail had become disorganized and scattered. On his own initiative, he reorganized the group. A second concentration of fire was placed into the area, but he steadfastly continued his work until the task of reorganization was accomplished. He then led the units forward to rejoin the battalion and while so doing, the column was twice again subjected to severe enemy fires. On each occasion, Lieutenant Aldridge, with commendable calmness and outstanding diligence, maintained complete control of the groups he had brought together. In a later action, he was killed in the performance of his duties. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of kin: Mrs. Linvine Aldridge (Mother), Banner Elk, North Carolina.

By command of Major General WALKER:

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

OFFICIAL:

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

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