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

AG RECORDS SEC.

19 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 38

Posthumous Award of Silver Star.....I
Award of Silver Star, Missing in Action.....II
Award of Silver Star.....III

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:

THOMAS B. GAUTIER, JR., 0461111, Captain, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 7 December 1944 in France. When the bridge spanning a creek was demolished, Captain Gautier was assigned the mission of selecting a new site for a vehicle bridge to be erected over the creek. Given the choice of making the reconnaissance by plane or by vehicle, he decided to travel by vehicle because, although it was more hazardous, he could obtain more detailed and accurate information by this means. Upon nearing the creek bank, he dismounted and started across an open field toward the site of the blown bridge. Aware that that the terrain might be mined, he unselfishly refused to let his two men accompany him to the creek. As he reached the bank, he stepped on a hidden anti-personnel mine. Instantly cognizant of the danger, he crouched close to the ground as the mine exploded. Captain Gautier was mortally wounded by the explosion of the mine. His heroic sacrifice inspired his men to complete the mission and obtain the vital information. Next of kin: Mrs. Carrie P. Gautier (Mother), 135-A Broad Street, Charlestown, South Carolina.

LESLIE A. WOLFF, 20803605, First Sergeant, Company L, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 August 1944 in France. Sergeant Wolff was advancing with the assault platoon of his company during an attack against an important enemy stronghold when the officer leading the 2d Platoon was wounded by the hostile fire. Sergeant Wolff immediately assumed command of the platoon. As he approached the town, he was seriously wounded in the leg. Mastering the intense pain of his injury, he continued to press forward at the head of the platoon, leading his men toward their objective. Upon reaching the edge of town, he was confronted by a high stone wall. As he rounded a corner of the wall, he encountered a group of eight enemy soldiers. Moving with lightning swiftness, he hurled a hand grenade into their midst, wounding several of the enemy and forcing the remainder to take cover. He immediately became the target for heavy fire and was mortally wounded by a burst from a hostile machine gun. His heroic sacrifice saved his men from being ambushed by the hostile force. Next of kin: Mr. Alious Wolff (Father), Moulton, Texas.

JAMES C. JONOSHA, 13073016, Technical Sergeant, Company G, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 November 1944 in France. During an attack against well-defended enemy positions, Sergeant Jonosha, platoon sergeant

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of the weapons platoon of Company G, advanced with the leading rifle platoon in order to locate positions for his machine guns. A large hostile force launched a violent counterattack with concentrated mortar, machine gun and rifle fire in an effort to drive the company back. Valiantly exposing himself to the hostile fire, Sergeant Jonosha raised himself on his hands in order to direct accurate mortar fire on the charging enemy, successfully delaying the attackers. Realizing the importance of bringing his machine guns forward, he left his position, ran back to his machine gun section and, facing direct small arms fire, led it into position beyond the most advanced rifle elements. Throughout the engagement, he conducted himself with outstanding courage and aggressiveness, skillfully directing his mortars and machine guns in repelling a second hostile assault. When the enemy troops approached his position during a third counter-attack, he opened fire with his carbine, killing two of the hostile soldiers. While crawling from his machine gun positions to his mortar observation post, Sergeant Jonosha was killed by a sniper's bullet. Next of kin: Mr. Jacob C. Jonosha (Father), Poplar Street, Westernport, Maryland.

OWEN F. ZIMMERMAN, 37163656, Staff Sergeant, Company A, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 30 November 1944 in France. While attempting to remove a mined enemy road block of felled trees, an officer of Company A, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and one of his men were seriously wounded by mortar fragments. Fully aware of the dangers involved, Sergeant Zimmerman, acting on his own initiative, courageously led a tank to the road block to remove the remaining five trees. The area was subjected to heavy artillery, mortar and sniper fire. Realizing the urgency of clearing the strategically important road, he pressed dauntlessly forward on foot, guiding the tank into positions. As he approached the first felled tree, Sergeant Zimmerman stepped on a hidden mine and was mortally wounded by the explosion. Next of kin: Mr. Frank L. Zimmerman (Father), 1617 Princeton Street, St. Louis Park, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

TRUMAN L. KILLINGSWORTH, 37501740, Private First Class, Company G, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 December 1944 in France. A patrol from Company G was assigned the mission of clearing a group of houses which were being used by the enemy as observation posts. As the patrol moved up a level, exposed road, it was suddenly subjected to heavy machine pistol fire directed from hostile positions in the houses. While their companions sought cover, Private First Class Killingsworth and a comrade, automatic rifleman supporting the patrol, moved aggressively forward in the face of the enemy fire and, putting their weapon into action, forced the hostile group to surrender. As the patrol continued forward along the road to clear nearby enemy vantage points, a large hostile force opened fire with machine guns and rifles. Acting entirely on their own initiative, Private First Class Killingsworth and his comrade swiftly moved to the center of the road and, standing directly in the enemy's line of fire, delivered effective bursts of automatic rifle fire into the well-concealed positions. Contemtpuous of personal safety, they attracted the hostile fire to themselves, enabling their companions to seek places of cover. The patrol members reached advantageous firing positions from which they routed the hostile force, but Private First Class Killingsworth was mortally wounded by the small arms fire. Next of kin: Mr. Leonard G. Killingsworth (Father), Route #1, South, Greenfield, Missouri.

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HARK STONE, 35432763, Private, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 November 1944 in France. When Company G attacked hostile positions on a barren hillside, the enemy, firing from a wooded sector on the crest of the hill, inflicted heavy casualties with machine guns and artillery. Private Stone, an aid man, courageously moved about the exposed terrain, calmly administering emergency treatment to the members of his platoon. Crawling under direct small arms fire to reach the injured soldiers, he worked tirelessly in caring for the many casualties. When the company attacked its second objective, all the other aid men were wounded, and Private Stone assumed the responsibility for treating all the casualties of Company G. Although he was subjected to direct sniper fire, he never faltered in performing his important duties. Hearing a cry for aid from his wounded platoon sergeant, he worked his way forward through heavy small arms fire and began administering first aid. While treating the wounds of his injured comrade, he was killed by a sniper's bullet. His heroic sacrifice was a source of inspiration to all who witnessed his deed. Next of kin: Mr. William Stone (Father), Route #1, Louisa, Kentucky.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR, MISSING IN ACTION. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual, missing in action, for gallantry:

HILBURN BUNCH, 34833437, Private, Company G, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 December 1944 in France. A patrol from Company G was assigned the mission of clearing a group of houses which were being used by the enemy as observation posts. As the patrol moved up a level, exposed road, it was suddenly subjected to heavy machine pistol fire directed from hostile positions in the houses. While their companions sought cover, Private Bunch and a comrade, automatic riflemen supporting the patrol, moved aggressively forward in the face of the enemy fire and, putting their weapon into action, forced the hostile group to surrender. As the patrol continued forward along the road to clear nearby enemy vantage points, a large hostile force opened fire with machine guns and rifles. Acting entirely on their own initiative, Private Bunch and his comrade swiftly moved to the center of the road and, standing directly in the enemy's line of fire, delivered effective bursts of automatic rifle fire into the well-concealed positions. Contemptuous of personal safety, they attracted the hostile fire to themselves, enabling their companions to seek places of cover. The patrol members reached advantageous firing positions from which they routed the hostile force, but Private Bunch was seriously wounded by the small arms fire and was reported missing in action from this engagement. Next of kin: Mrs. Catherine H. Bunch (Mother), Route #2, Ranger, Georgia.

III. 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:

D. C. BYERS, 01692574, Second Lieutenant (then Technical Sergeant), 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 6 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Byers volunteered to lead a four-man reconnaissance patrol into hostile territory to determine the enemy's strength and disposition. He directed his men toward the hostile defenses, leading them across exposed terrain, through mine fields and past numerous enemy outposts and machine gun positions. From a vantage point within the hostile lines, he carefully observed enemy strong

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points, machine gun positions and mortar emplacements, accurately marking them on his aerial photograph and map. After completing his assignment, he had started leading his patrol back toward his unit when he spotted a well-concealed enemy observation post which could be recognized only from the rear. Aware that this position presented a serious threat to the safety of the friendly troops, he crept cautiously forward with his sub-machine gun and, crouching only a few feet from the entrance to the hostile dug-out, commanded the hostile soldiers to surrender. As they reached for their weapons, Sergeant Byers swiftly opened fire with his sub-machine gun, mortally wounding two of the soldiers and capturing the third. Then, moving through direct small arms fire, he led his men back to the safety of the friendly lines. He immediately made his way to the artillery and mortar observation post and helped direct accurate shellfire on the hostile positions which he had observed. Entered the Service from Chickamauga, Georgia.

WILLIS G. YARBROUGH, 34827957, Private First Class, Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 7 October 1944 in France. As Company K approached a clearing near the foot of a wooded hill, the enemy opened fire with artillery, mortars and small arms. Heavy machine gun fire directed from a nearby house threatened to inflict numerous casualties on the unit. Private First Class Yarbrough, a first scout, was guiding his squad down a draw toward the clearing. Instantly cognizant of the critical situation, he fearlessly dashed from the cover of the woods across a stretch of open, fire-swept terrain to a fighting hole near the enemy-held house. He skillfully hurled three hand grenades in rapid succession through a window. Although he became the target for grenade fire from the house, he charged the building, kicked the door open and sprayed the room with rapid bursts from his light machine gun, killing two of the startled soldiers. Swiftly reloading, he killed two more of the enemy as they attempted to escape. After clearing the rest of the house, he returned to his squad. By his quick-thinking and aggressiveness, Private First Class Yarbrough smashed an enemy strong point single-handedly. Entered the Service from Slocomb, Alabama.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart
VINCENT M. LOCKHART

Major, Adjutant General's Department
Asst Adjutant General

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