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Authority NND 235017

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

AG RECORDS SEC.

7 April 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 122

- Posthumous Award of Silver Star.....I
- Award of Silver Star.....II
- Award of Oak Leaf Cluster - Silver Star.....III
- Commendation For Exceptionally Meritorious Conduct.....IV
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I. POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded to the following named individual for gallantry in action:

ROY F. CHAMPINE, 36899392, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1945 in France. Private First Class Champine was a litter bearer during an infantry attack on a town. Casualties were heavy; and for five hours he worked without pause, although the road was often under enemy small arms, mortar and tank fire. Each trip it was necessary for him to carry his heavy burden across an icy, waist-deep river. He made repeated trips, and was returning for another patient when he was killed by an enemy shell. By his courageous devotion to duty, at the sacrifice of his life, he assisted in saving the lives of many others. Next of kin: Mrs. Pauline Champine (Wife), 3021 Campau Road, Route 4, Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

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:

ROBERT J. MAREK, 02055064, First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant), 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20-21 January 1945 in France. Lieutenant Marek was executive officer for Company H. The company was in defensive positions in woods near an important town. When the enemy attacked in strength, supported by a heavy artillery barrage, Lieutenant Marek voluntarily assumed command of the 2d Platoon, which was then without a leader. He advanced to a front line position and there supervised the emplacement of the company machine guns and the disposition of his men. Moving from position to position, although exposed to heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire, he directed the fire of his men and gave them words of encouragement. As a result of his aggressive leadership and gallant actions, the hostile attack was repulsed with severe losses to the enemy. Entered the Service from Terrell, Texas.

JOHN E. ELLROD, 34768657, Technical Sergeant, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 19 June 1944 in Italy. Company F was leading an attack when it was subjected to a heavy artillery barrage and became

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Classified. Sergeant Liron, leader of the squad which was the forward element of the company and out of the shelter area, suddenly left his place of defensive safety and entered the area which was under fire. Urging himself forward, he then led them forward until they were under cover on a steep hill. Sergeant Liron's courage and aggressive leadership saved his company from suffering many casualties and enabled it to continue with its attack. Entered the Service from Hartwell, Georgia.

CLIFFORD L. DAVIS, July 26, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Detachment, 133d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 25 August 1944 in France. Company F sector, and three men in an exposed location are seriously wounded. The remaining shelter was so concentrated that officers present would not order medical personnel to aid the wounded soldiers. Ted J Davis, an aid man attached to the company, without hesitation ran to the injured men. Then, despite the continuing barrage, he carried them to a place of greater safety, and administered first aid until litter bearers arrived. Ted J Davis' prompt and courageous act saved the wounded soldiers from further injury and brought them immediate medical attention, assisting in saving their lives. Entered the Service from Adams, Texas.

JOHN F. MC LEOD, 2807430, Private First Class, Antitank Company, 133d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 September 1944 in France. Private First Class McLeod was helping man a road block with his platoon, when the enemy attempted to break through with a force of infantry supported by a tank gun. Without hesitation, Private First Class McLeod drew a jeep, mounted with a 50 caliber machine gun, up an exposed hill and opened fire on the hostile troops. Although subjected to enemy small arms and 20mm fire, he delivered such effective fire on the enemy that they were forced to withdraw, leaving a number of dead. As a result of Private First Class McLeod's courageous act, his platoon was enabled to maintain its road block position. Entered the Service from Adams, Texas.

III. ALBERT OF OAK LEAF CLIFF - Major. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-43, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of the second Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual for gallantry in action:

RONALD T. GOODLIEB, 0227073, Captain (then First Lieutenant), 1stst Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 25 August 1944 in France. While his company's position was being overrun by a vastly superior enemy force supported by heavy artillery fire, the executive officer remained in his fox hole directing artillery fire. Although the company had been ordered to withdraw and enemy tanks were firing into his position from 100 yards on his flank, he continued to maintain fire efforts until the last man had moved to the new positions. By his courage and determination he saved the enemy advance, inflicting many casualties, and permitted his company to reorganize in strong defensive positions. Entered the Service from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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IV. COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, each of the following named individuals is commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct:

CECIL L. EDWARDS, 36071653, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 753d Tank Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 21 October 1944 in France. A battery of tanks was engaged in a fire mission in support of attacking troops. Enemy counter-battery fire was very heavy, and shells of large caliber were falling in the area. When ammunition was needed Tec 5 Edwards drove a loaded half track to the guns and replenished their supply. Although enemy shells landed within 10 yards, piercing his vehicle in many places, he dismounted and handed ammunition to the loaders in the tanks. Later, despite the fact that the area was still under heavy fire, he returned and distributed another load to the guns. His courageous devotion to duty enabled the battery to deliver heavy supporting fire. Entered the Service from Pleasant Plains, Illinois.

MELTON W. BLAGDEN, 39098660, Technician Fifth Grade, Company C, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 2 December 1944 in France. Tec 5 Blagden was assigned the mission of clearing a road block from an important mountain road with his bulldozer. With a tank following to furnish fire protection, he skillfully maneuvered his dozer into position and successfully moved the block, which consisted of 12 tree trunks, from the road. The enemy immediately directed heavy artillery and mortar fire on the area, imperilling both the tank and the dozer. The tank withdrew to safety, leaving the dozer without fire protection. Aware that the loss of the dozer would hinder future operations, Tec 5 Blagden remained with his vehicle, swiftly turned it around and drove it back to a covered position. His heroic action saved a valuable piece of equipment from destruction. Entered the Service from San Francisco, California.

V. CORRECTED AWARD OF SILVER STAR. So much of Section IV, General Orders 98, this Headquarters, dated 24 March 1945, as awards a Silver Star to CHARLES M. O'BRIEN, 02055984, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, is rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual for gallantry in action:

"CHARLES E. O'BRIEN, 02005984, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1945 in France. When enemy troops started to close in on the factory building occupied by his platoon, Lieutenant O'Brien spotted five hostile soldiers behind a shed preparing to rush the platoon's position. As the enemy soldiers started forward, Lieutenant O'Brien moved to an exposed position under small arms fire and threw a fragmentation grenade into their midst. This aggressive action killed one of the enemy, wounded another and forced the other three to surrender. By his splendid courage, Lieutenant O'Brien discouraged other enemy troops in the vicinity and broke up a hostile counterattack. Entered the Service from Des Moines, Iowa."

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2. So much of Section II, (General Orders 99, this Headquarters, dated 25 March 1945, as awards a Silver Star to HUGH W. ROBERTS, JR., 0368746, major, 142d Infantry Regiment, JOSEPH BELLONTE, 01273787, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, is rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action:

"HUGH W. ROBERTS, JR., 0368746, Major, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1945 in France. When his task force encountered enemy troops advancing in an attack, Major Roberts swiftly established a defense. From an exposed position he spotted two German self-propelled guns only 50 yards away. He skillfully reorganized his task force and led a bold counterattack, destroying one of the guns and forcing the other to withdraw. He then directed an encircling maneuver and, exposing himself to hostile fire, led his men in clearing the stubbornly resisting enemy from all the houses in the area. As a result of his daring and aggressive leadership, 45 hostile soldiers were killed and 150 were captured. Entered the Service from Tuscaloosa, Alabama."

"JOSEPH BELLONTE, 01283897, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 27 November 1944 in France. During a night attack, Company G encountered an enemy road block protected by riflemen and was temporarily held up. Captain Bellonte ordered a tank dozer to remove the debris while he led his rifle elements in clearing the wooded area on both sides of the road. Upon observing an enemy armored vehicle, he made his way to his supporting tanks and ordered the tank commander to open fire on the vehicle. Then, moving back across the dangerous area, he directed his riflemen in engaging an enemy bazooka team. As a result of his bold and aggressive personal leadership, the enemy vehicle was destroyed, the bazooka team was forced to flee in disorder, and his company was able to continue forward to its objective. Entered the Service from Niagara Falls, New York."

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lochhart
VINCENT M. LOCHART
Major, Adjutant General's Department
Asst Adjutant General

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