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

AG RECORDS SEC.

18 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 35

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:

THOMAS A. ROCHE, 01310763, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 8 and 9 December 1944 in France. During an attack against an important enemy stronghold, Company A suffered heavy casualties and its commanding officer was evacuated. Lieutenant Roche, 1st Battalion S-3, immediately assumed command and led the company forward in the attack. Braving incessant artillery, mortar and small arms fire, he skillfully maneuvered the unit into a temporary defensive position and, moving forward alone, located an enemy tank which was firing on his troops from an open field. He adjusted accurate mortar fire on the tank, scoring two hits and forcing it to withdraw. On the following morning Lieutenant Roche led the company, seriously depleted by casualties, in continuing the attack. Driving forward in the face of determined enemy resistance, he directed his men in eliminating numerous hostile strong points and in attaining the company's objective on the outskirts of town. Entered the Service from Bridgeport, Connecticut.

BERNARD LIEB, 01184254, Second Lieutenant, 131st Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 21 November 1944 in France. Lieutenant Lieb was assigned as artillery forward observer with Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, during an attack against stubbornly defended enemy positions on high ground. Courageously braving heavy artillery, machine gun and sniper fire, he observed the hostile positions and adjusted effective artillery concentrations in support of the infantry attack. As Company A advanced toward its objective, the enemy began sweeping the area with rapid bursts of machine gun fire. Instantly cognizant of the serious threat to the success of the assault, Lieutenant Lieb again exposed himself in order to direct artillery fire on the hostile weapon. Although severely wounded by a machine gun bullet, he valiantly mastered the intense pain of his injury and, displaying outstanding determination and devotion to duty, continued firing his mission until the enemy gun was destroyed. By his skill and daring, he enabled Company A to attain its objective without suffering a single casualty. Entered the Service from Newark, New Jersey.

WALTER R. GONZALES, 20801389, Technical Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 June 1944 in Italy. During a savage enemy attack, the 1st Battalion positions were subjected to heavy small arms, artillery and mortar fire, and two riflemen were seriously wounded. A nearby truck, loaded with ammunition, received a direct hit and burst into flames. Ignoring the dangers from the hostile fire and the ammunition exploding on the blazing truck, Sergeant Gonzales volunteered to rescue the two men. Creeping and crawling under the incessant shellfire, he reached the nearer soldier and carried him to a place of cover. Then, again braving the hurtling

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shell fragments and small arms fire, he worked his way to the second casualty and carried him to safety. After saving the two soldiers from almost certain death, Sergeant Gonzales, although untrained in firing the mortar, acted as observer and No. 2 man in a mortar squad. Working in the face of heavy enemy fire, he directed effective mortar shelling on the hostile attackers, contributing materially to the repulse of the assault. Entered the Service from San Antonio, Texas.

JAMES L. TANNER, 19048779, Staff Sergeant, Company M, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 26 August 1944 in France. Sergeant Tanner, forward observer for his mortar platoon, established his observation post on the exposed right flank of the battalion. Enemy troops, in danger of being trapped by the friendly forces, launched a series of savage counterattacks against the battalion positions. Courageously exposing himself to small arms and artillery fire, Sergeant Tanner adjusted effective artillery and mortar shelling on the hostile attackers, successfully repelling the assault in his sector. He then moved under direct sniper fire to the battalion's left flank and established a new observation post. From his exposed position, he directed accurate shellfire on the enemy, contributing materially to the repulse of another attack. When his radio failed to function and hostile shelling shattered his wire line, Sergeant Tanner crawled from his observation post and, in the face of heavy fire, repaired the line and reestablished communications. By his skill and determination, he inflicted numerous casualties on the enemy and was largely responsible for the repulse of a series of hostile assaults. Entered the Service from Maywood, California.

RICHARD H. WALLACE, 12082132, Staff Sergeant, Company M, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2 October 1944 in France. As forward observer for his mortar platoon, Sergeant Wallace was assigned the mission of establishing an observation post with a forward rifle company. Upon reaching the designated position, he discovered that his observation was limited. Acting entirely on his own initiative, he crawled forward to within 50 yards of the enemy positions and reached a spot on the forward slope of a hill which was exposed to direct small arms fire. Still not satisfied, he climbed a tree and, from this vantage point, adjusted effective mortar fire on the hostile force. Several times his communication line was shattered by the enemy shelling, and each time he braved heavy small arms and artillery fire to repair the line. When the enemy launched a savage counterattack, the situation became so critical that Sergeant Wallace opened fire with his sub-machine gun, inflicting numerous casualties on the hostile troops. As the enemy approached the friendly lines, he courageously adjusted mortar fire to within 40 yards of his own position, thereby delaying the attackers at the risk of his own life. As a result of his quick-thinking, courage and skill, he was largely responsible for the repulse of a determined assault. Entered the Service from Watertown, New York.

WILLIAM B. TURNER, 36761551, Staff Sergeant, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 24 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Turner was assigned the mission of leading a combat patrol to ascertain enemy positions and strength. He led his men aggressively forward and was moving through hostile territory when the enemy suddenly opened fire with three machine guns and several machine pistols. Swiftly deploying his men and directing them to a place of cover, he located one of the gun emplacements 50 yards to his front. Crawling forward alone under the incessant small arms fire, he reached a spot within 10



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yards of the machine gun nest and ordered the three crew members to surrender. The hostile soldiers swung their gun around, but, before they could open fire, Sergeant Turner killed all three with accurate bursts of fire from his sub-machine gun. He then signalled his patrol to join him and continued on his mission. His determination and daring enabled the remainder of his company to advance and secure its objective. Entered the Service from La Salle, Illinois.

HENRY A. HERA, 33609908, Staff Sergeant, Company I, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 16 December 1944 in France. When Company I launched an assault against a strategically important hill recently lost to an enemy counterattack, the attackers were almost immediately subjected to heavy machine gun, rifle and mortar fire which temporarily delayed their advance. Aware of the importance of capturing the hill, Sergeant Hera, platoon sergeant of the base platoon, valiantly led his men directly into the face of the hostile fire. Although he could locate the enemy only by the sound of firing, he pressed dauntlessly forward and directed his men in overrunning two machine gun positions and killing the gun crews. The platoon suffered heavy casualties, but Sergeant Hera still led his men forward, killing and wounding a large number of enemy riflemen and securing his objective on the hill. Largely as a result of his aggressive leadership and personal courage, an important hill was retaken by the friendly troops. Entered the Service from Plymouth, Pennsylvania.

GEORGE S. CRUMB, JR., 33610547, Sergeant, Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 September 1944 in France. Advancing across an open field, Company E moved forward behind its supporting tanks in an attack against a well-defended enemy town. Rapid bursts of machine gun fire pinned the assault platoon to the ground as it approached the edge of town. Leaving the protection of the tank which he had followed, Sergeant Crumb dodged from doorway to doorway and, by crawling and creeping under direct enemy observation and heavy small arms fire, outflanked the machine gun position. He crept to within 25 yards of the hostile weapon and attained a spot from which he could direct effective fire on the emplacement. Taking careful aim, he fired his rifle into the midst of the enemy strong point, wounding one of the crew members and forcing the other two to surrender. By his resourcefulness and daring, he silenced a hostile machine gun which was delaying the advance of his platoon and enabled his unit to continue its attack. Entered the Service from Danville, Pennsylvania.

JOHN T. HARTWELL, 42012399, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 December 1944 in France. Private First Class Hartwell, acting communication sergeant of Company F, was checking his radio equipment at the company command post when a large group of enemy soldiers attacked the command post group with machine guns and automatic pistols. Aware of the seriousness of the situation, Private First Class Hartwell bravely crawled from one fighting hole to another, distributing ammunition and directing the fire of his comrades. In spite of the large volume of fire directed at the hostile force, one machine gun continued firing into the friendly positions. Private First Class Hartwell exposed himself to the hostile fire in order to secure hand grenades. He moved into position and hurled the grenades into the machine gun emplacement, killing three of the enemy soldiers and silencing the weapon. As a result of his courage and aggressiveness, six more of the enemy were killed and 12 were captured. Entered the Service from Caldwell, New Jersey.

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BERNARD FISHSTEIN, 32814825, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Detachment, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 October 1944 in France. Tec 5 Fishstein, a company aid man, advanced with a platoon of Company F as it moved across 150 yards of fire-swept terrain to a wooded slope where enemy machine guns were emplaced. Upon reaching the edge of the wooded area, he was severely wounded by the machine gun fire. At the same time, a bullet severed an artery in the platoon leader's leg. Although weakened by a loss of blood and by the intense pain of his wound, Tec 5 Fishstein valiantly crawled under the incessant bursts of machine gun fire to the side of the injured officer. He swiftly applied a tourniquet to the leg of his platoon leader, stopping the profuse bleeding which, if unchecked, would have caused almost instant death. Then, exerting a final effort, he dragged the officer from the field of fire to a covered position. Only then would he attend to his own severe wounds. As a result of Tec 5 Fishstein's heroic and unselfish action, the life of the platoon leader was saved. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

PAUL C. MONTGOMERY, 35277207, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. The mortar squad in which Private First Class Montgomery was an ammunition bearer was assigned the mission of protecting the 3d Platoon's defensive positions in a recently captured town. The enemy launched a savage counterattack, and a large hostile force moved into a house 200 yards to the left front of the mortar position. In order to direct fire on the house, the squad was forced to move the mortar to a new position which afforded almost no cover or concealment. As the squad put the mortar into action, a sniper opened fire on the position. His companions ran to cover, but Private First Class Montgomery valiantly remained with the weapon. He began operating it alone, adjusting accurate mortar fire on the house. Although he was the target for small arms fire, he calmly directed 33 rounds at the building and stopped firing only when the enemy waved the white flag of surrender. By his skill and daring, Private First Class Montgomery captured 23 hostile soldiers, wounded six and killed two, eliminating a serious threat to the safety of his comrades and contributing materially to the repulse of the counterattack. Entered the Service from Cleveland, Ohio.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

*Vincent M. Lockhart*  
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Major, Adjutant General's Department  
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