

R E S T R I C T E D

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

GENERAL ORDERS

6 May 1944

NO. 120

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

SECTION I -- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

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

HENRY C. BRAGAW, 0366581, Captain, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Captain Bragaw commanded an infantry company ordered to establish a bridgehead across the \*\*\* River. The company was intended to approach the river on pathways cleared through heavy mine fields, but dense fog and blinding darkness soon hid the markings of the safeways. Putting his men in column with intervals between them, Captain Bragaw courageously led the way through the perilous field. During this passage eight men were severely wounded by mines and each time the commander went back among his men, bolstering their courage by his own brave actions and inspiring words. Reaching the river he led his men across under violent artillery, mortar and small arms fire, and attacked the formidable enemy positions on the steep opposite bank. Through bands of enemy wire he led his company into the foe's outer defenses. While heavy fire pinned his troops to the ground, he fearlessly exposed himself to make a personal reconnaissance, seeking to improve his positions. In so doing he was killed by enemy fire. Next of kin: Mrs Helen G. Bragaw, (wife) Southport, North Carolina.

KENNETH (NMI) HUDSON, 35267891, Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. When the enemy attacked his company with an intense concentration of artillery, rifle and machine gun fire, Sergeant Hudson led his squad across open terrain in an attempt to flank an enemy machine gun nest. He placed his men in excellent firing positions on one side of the emplacement, then crept to the opposite flank alone and opened fire, cleverly tricking the enemy gunners into believing themselves surrounded. Quick to take advantage of an opening, Sergeant Hudson threw a hand grenade into the machine gun nest, destroying it completely. He then fired on enemy snipers, killing or wounding several, until a machine gun opened fire and killed him. By his daring initiative and outstanding courage Sergeant Hudson was instrumental in removing a serious threat to the security of his unit. Next of kin: Mrs Bertie Hudson (Mother), Lexington, Kentucky.

SECTION II -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR, MISSING IN ACTION

Under the provisions contained in Army Regulations AR 600-45, as amended, a Silver Star is awarded the following named individuals, missing in action:

KERMIT (NMI) MURRAY, 35267642, Private First Class, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*,

- 1 -  
(over)

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

Italy. During a strong enemy counterattack which threatened the company's positions, Private First Class Murray, leader of a machine gun squad, fearlessly directed telling fire against the enemy. When his gunner was killed, he operated the gun himself, headless of the danger from exploding artillery and mortar shell and small arms fire. With remarkable intrepidity Private First Class Murray kept his gun in constant action against the enemy until he was severely wounded by artillery fragments. His dauntlessness in the face of great danger materially assisted in the retention of valuable positions. From this engagement he has been reported missing in action. Next of kin: Mrs Nancy Murray (Mother), Burning Springs, Kentucky.

SECTION III -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Pursuant to authority contained in Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Silver Star is awarded the following named individuals for gallantry in action:

JOHN N. GREEN, 0333369, Lieutenant Colonel, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 6 December 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Troops of the Second Battalion, 142d Infantry, defending Mount \*\*\* were subjected to heavy effective artillery fire from enemy guns in the \*\*\* Valley. Because best view of the enemy's emplacements in the valley could be obtained from an observation point in advance of an infantry company on Hill \*\*\*, Lieutenant Colonel Green on his own initiative went forward through intense mortar, nebelwaffer and artillery fire and observed from that extremely hazardous vantage point. With information obtained at this great personal risk he directed such effective counter-battery fire that the subsequent enemy attack failed. While with the front line infantrymen during doubtful phases of the battle, Lieutenant Colonel Green deliberately exposed himself to go among the junior officers and enlisted men, encouraging them and bolstering their bravery by his own inspiring valor, helping them to resist enemy infiltrations and counterattacks. Entered the Service from Acilene, Texas.

JAMES M. HUMPHRIES, 0432691, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15-16 December 1943 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Lieutenant Humphries commanded his company in four assaults within eighteen hours on strong enemy positions in the mountains around \*\*\*. After casualties sustained in the first three attacks had depleted his command to forty enlisted men and no officers other than himself, he reorganized his scant force and with skillful aggressive leadership inspired them to penetrate eight hundred yards into enemy territory against heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. While so advancing he was seriously wounded by enemy fire, but he refused to be evacuated and ordered his men to continue the attack, setting an example of courageous fortitude that made them press on against the foe. For two days he lay wounded on the battle field before he was evacuated. Entered the Service from Jacksonville, Florida.

CHARLES R. MATTIS, 01296554, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 10-14 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. When his platoon was surprised by the enemy while moving through hostile territory, Lieutenant Mattis was wounded in the initial fire fight which ensued. Maintaining a steady calmness in spite of his painful wounds, he daringly continued to expose himself to the hazardous fire while organizing an encouraging battle. Leading a fierce resistance to the numerically superior enemy, he stoutly defended his position on Hill \*\*\* for five torturing days of concentrated artillery, mortar, machine gun and small arms fire. Lieutenant Mattis' aggressive leadership and

R E S T R I C T E D

magnificent courage inspired his men to bravely repulse the repeated enemy assaults. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

JAMES (NMI) STEWART, 0411895, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 - 12 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Lieutenant Stewart was assigned the mission of taking a patrol and trying to make contact with friendly troops to the right of the company's position. Leading his men forward, they surprised a superior enemy counterattacking force who made a savage attack with intense small arms fire and hand grenades, one of which struck Lieutenant Stewart in the chest but failed to explode. Being greatly outnumbered he successfully withdrew his men to the company's defensive positions where he dauntlessly and courageously led his men in fighting off for five hours the savage attacking thrusts of the enemy. His great fortitude, outstanding leadership, and calmness under fire were an inspiration to all members of his command. Entered the Service from Boston, Massachusetts.

CHARLES N. HERGENRATHER, 01171187, Second Lieutenant, Battery A, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 24 January 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. As artillery forward observer with the First Battalion, Lieutenant Hergenrath directed effective fire against enemy positions across the \*\*\* River until intense shelling forced him to seek shelter behind a dug-in tank. When he spotted a wounded soldier exposed to artillery fire, he unhesitatingly deserted his position of safety and made his way toward the man. Lieutenant Hergenrath carried the profusely bleeding soldier to shelter and administered first aid, obtained a stretcher and started carrying him to an aid station. When he had proceeded thirty yards, a shell exploded nearby and severely wounded him. Heedless of personal danger, Lieutenant Hergenrath ordered his party to carry the wounded soldier to the aid station first and send help back to him. His self-denial and outstanding courage greatly inspired all who witnessed the deed. Entered the Service from Towson, Maryland.

GEORGE C. MILLS, 01299778, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11-12 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. When a powerful enemy counterattack, following a terrific enemy artillery and mortar barrage, broke through friendly positions and threatened his company's lines, Lieutenant Mills fearlessly braved the concentration of fire to reorganize the defense of the area. Moving determinedly through the hazardous fire and disposing his platoon in positions from which an effective defense could be maintained, he rallied his comrades and led a fierce resistance to the enemy assault. Although painfully wounded in the struggle, Lieutenant Mills continued his daring task until ordered back for medical attention. His aggressive leadership and magnificent courage inspired his men to bravely repulse the repeated enemy assaults. Entered the Service from Boston, Massachusetts.

ABRAHAM (NMI) NUNEZ, 12059780, Private First Class, Company G, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21-23 January 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Private First Class Nunez was his company commander's orderly during the attack across the \*\*\* River. As the troops approached the river, he helped the company officers neutralize mines that separated them from the crossing points and guide the men through. As they approached the river the enemy laid down a deadly barrage of mortar and artillery fires. An exploding shell severely wounded the company commander. With courageous loyalty Private First Class Nunez carried the wounded officer several hundred yards through the heavy concentration, back through the perilous mine field, to the battalion command post. There he reported to the

R E S T R I C T E D

battalion commander. He then guided the battalion commander back over the hazardous route to the troops in contact with the enemy, the way now made more difficult by fog and darkness that had settled, hiding the cleared way through the mines. This all accomplished, Private First Class Nunez joined his company in their bitter battle. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

CLAUDE E. ROBOLD, 35144016, Private, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11-12 February 1944 in the vicinity of \*\*\*, Italy. Private Robold, an inexperienced replacement, volunteered for duty as an assistant machine gunner with a squad protecting his company's left flank in a defense of Hill \*\*\*. The enemy attacked and of the machine gun crew all but Private Robold were casualties. Though only slightly familiar with the operation of a machine gun, he immediately took over the firing of the weapon. Moving the machine gun to a more exposed position that offered a better field of fire, he single-handedly caused heavy casualties among the enemy. Intense mortar and artillery fire on his position after the initial assault had been repelled did not deter him from effective operation of the weapon. His courageous and capable performance was a major factor in thwarting the foe's efforts to wrest from our forces the strategically important hill. Entered the Service from Muncio, Indiana.

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

DISTRIBUTION "A" PLUS

- 3 - The Adjutant General
- 1 - NATOUSA
- 1 - Pub Sec, G-1, NATOUSA (30S)
- 1 - AG Awards, Fifth Army
- 1 - Each individual concerned
- 1 - AG Files

