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AG RECORDS SEC.

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

30 April 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 153

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:

HENRY G. ABRAHAMS, 01328211, Second Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. Lieutenant Abrahams was crossing an opening between two houses, when an enemy soldier, firing from close range, wounded him and knocked his carbine from his hand. Despite the pain of his wound, Lieutenant Abrahams drew his pistol, but it failed to fire. He quickly threw his pistol at the German and, dashing forward in the face of his fire, grappled with the hostile soldier and threw him to the ground, taking him prisoner. He then courageously led his platoon forward in an attack, materially aiding his company in taking its objective and capturing 73 prisoners. Not until the objective had been secured did he allow himself to be evacuated for medical treatment. Lieutenant Abrahams' gallant act was a source of inspiration to the members of his platoon. Entered the Service from East Orange, New Jersey.

JAMES L. HEDDEN, 34828873, Staff Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Hiawassee, Georgia.

ARTURO S. DE SANTOS, 38675105, Private First Class, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Corpus Christi, Texas.

for gallantry in action on 23 March 1945 in Germany. When the 1st Platoon's advance against Siegfried Line positions was halted by machine gun fire from a trench, these men voluntarily moved out on the hazardous mission of destroying the hostile weapon. Undaunted by machine gun bullets striking around them, they crawled to the trench and tossed two hand grenades in, destroying the gun and killing its crew of three. They then jumped into the zigzag trench and threw two more grenades at enemy riflemen in another part of the emplacement. Crawling to one end, they captured a machine gun that had been set up there. As a result of the magnificent courage displayed by the above men in eliminating the hostile weapons, their platoon was able to advance and, after taking 24 prisoners from the trench, assault and seize two pillboxes.

MANUEL MARTINEZ, 42063256, Sergeant, Company F, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 in France. During an attack on a town, an enemy tank, which had been harassing the company's line of communication, withdrew a short distance, and Sergeant Martinez moved out to locate it. He worked his way down a street under intense machine gun and rifle fire, taking advantage of the cover of ruined buildings. Suddenly, he observed the

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tank with its crew standing around it only 25 yards from his position. He rushed forward and opened fire with his rifle, killing one of the crew and wounding another. The remaining members of the crew moved behind the tank and opened fire on him, forcing him to take cover behind a building. As a result of Sergeant Martinez's gallant and aggressive actions, the German tank then withdrew and the advance was resumed. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

JOHN A. PARKER, 38052025, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company G, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 March 1945 in France. When his platoon was surrounded by the enemy, and was without communication, Private First Class Parker volunteered to make contact with the rear elements and secure help. As he crossed the exposed area, machine gun fire struck within inches of him, but he pressed on. Even when stunned by the concussion of exploding shells, he continued until he reached the friendly troops. As a result of Private First Class Parker's gallant deed, the friendly troops laid down a smoke screen which enabled the remaining members of his platoon to withdraw safely. Entered the Service from Houston, Texas.

CHARLES HICKLY, JR., 16067541, Corporal, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Harvey, Illinois.

ROY D. MARTIN, 35759407, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Vesuvius, West Virginia.

for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. These men and the other members of their squad advanced with the forward infantry platoons in an assault against a strongly fortified sector of the Siegfried Line. Despite intense small arms fire from the enemy pillboxes and heavy artillery and mortar shelling, they continued dauntlessly forward, carrying a 40 pound beehive charge. Although painfully wounded during this action, they succeeded in placing their charge and demolishing a strong pillbox which was still occupied by the enemy. The gallant and aggressive actions of those men and their companions enabled the infantry troops to destroy a series of German strong points and penetrate the Siegfried defenses.

EDWARD L. PREININGER, SR., 33921659, Private First Class, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. While clearing enemy positions in the Siegfried Line, Private First Class Preininger's squad was halted by unusually heavy machine gun fire coming from a pillbox. Private First Class Preininger moved forward alone in an attempt to neutralize the emplacement. Crawling through heavy underbrush with machine gun bullets striking all around him, he suddenly came upon two of the enemy and quickly killed them. He then resumed his advance through the hostile fire until he was within speaking distance of the pillbox. Private First Class Preininger succeeded in convincing the occupants of the hopelessness of their situation, and secured the surrender of a German captain and eleven enlisted men. Entered the Service from Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

SALVATORE F. GARIBALDI, 31404994, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2 December 1944 in France. Company I's advance across flat open ground was being delayed by an 88mm gun and heavy machine gun fire. Private First Class Garibaldi, the company runner, immediately started across an open area, exposing himself to the intense hostile fire, to point out the targets to a nearby tank commander. As he advanced he observed two Germans in a fox hole, and quickly opened fire with his

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rifle, killing one of them and taking the other prisoner. On reaching the tank Private First Class Garibaldi directed its fire so skillfully that the 88mm gun and the machine gun were destroyed, and the crews of the hostile weapons were killed. His courageous and aggressive act enabled his company to continue its advance. Entered the Service from New Haven, Connecticut.

ARTHUR E. BONE, 34813992, Private First Class, Company F, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 February 1945 in France. When hostile troops infiltrated the friendly defenses, Private First Class Bone, occupying a position on the second floor of a house, began firing his rifle at an enemy self-propelled gun at a road junction 100 yards away. Realizing the futility of this fire, he and a companion left the house with a bazooka and worked their way to within 25 yards of the German gun. Courageously exposing himself to the hostile fire, Private First Class Bone loaded the bazooka while his comrade fired. They silenced the self-propelled gun and forced its crew to withdraw. Then, spotting an enemy tank attempting to escape from the town, he and his companion knocked out the tank with two direct hits. Private First Class Bone's gallant actions contributed materially to the repulse of the enemy attack. Entered the Service from Shawmut, Alabama.

JAMES HAMILTON, JR., 36985723, Private First Class (then Private), Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 5 January 1945 in France. During an enemy artillery barrage, a shell exploded near the entrance to a dugout and wounded four men who had sought shelter inside. Panic-stricken, the wounded men attempted to crawl out into the open. Private Hamilton threw himself across the entrance and, remaining in this exposed position for ten minutes, while 50 to 75 shells burst in the company area, prevented the men from leaving the dugout and shielded them from the shell explosions. His pack was torn and his back seared by shell fragments. The heroic action of Private Hamilton probably saved the lives of four men. Entered the Service from Lucas, Michigan.

MELVIN C. BERG, 36987214, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. During its advance through the Siegfried Line defenses, Company B was halted by intense machine gun fire coming from a pillbox. Private First Class Berg, an assistant squad leader, immediately began crawling forward through the heavy fire over trenches, felled trees and barbed wire to a position approximately 40 yards from the pillbox. From here, with bullets striking all around him, he valiantly exposed himself and fired a rifle grenade which burst open the door of the pillbox. As a result of Private First Class Berg's gallant deed the ten occupants of the pillbox surrendered, enabling his company to continue its advance. Entered the Service from Birch Run, Michigan.

STEVE BORECZKY, 35302989, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Cleveland, Ohio.

MARK D. CURTIS, 18128606, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Panama, Oklahoma.

FRANKLIN E. MARTIN, 20344128, Private First Class, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Baltimore, Maryland.

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for gallantry in action on 22 March 1945 in Germany. These men and the other members of their squad advanced with the forward infantry platoons in an assault against a strongly fortified sector of the Siegfried Line. Despite intense small arms fire from the enemy pillboxes and heavy artillery and mortar shelling, they continued dauntlessly forward, carrying a 40 pound beehive charge. Although they were frequently the target for hostile machine gun fire, they succeeded in placing their charge and demolishing a strong pillbox which was still occupied by the enemy. The gallant and aggressive actions of the above men and their companions enabled the infantry troops to destroy a series of German strong points and penetrate the Siegfried defenses.

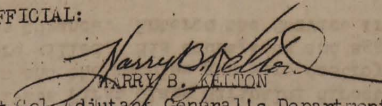
PERCY SNELL, 34815063, Private First Class, Company E, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13-14 March 1945 in France. A small bridgehead across a river had been established, and Private First Class Snell had the mission of maintaining communication between the 2d Platoon and the company command post. During these two days, the enemy directed frequent heavy concentrations of artillery fire into the area, and Private First Class Snell made repeated trips through the shellfire to repair the lines. Ten times, exposing himself to shells which burst within a few yards of him, he crossed the area to string a new wire. On a number of occasions he called for and directed artillery and mortar fire during enemy counterattacks, and he remained steadfastly at his observation post although the house was several times hit by bazooka fire. By his courage and initiative, Private First Class Snell materially aided his company in maintaining its bridgehead. Entered the Service from Pine Apple, Alabama.

BUNK W. MYERS, 35808403, Private First Class, Company H, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2-3 January 1945 in France. Private First Class Myers was in a defensive position, with his machine gun placed in the window of a house, when the enemy launched a strong attack. He immediately opened fire on the hostile troops as they formed for the attack across a steep draw to his front; and he continued to fire until they had almost overrun his position. He then left the cover of the house and, completely exposed to the hostile small arms fire, threw hand grenades and fired his carbine at the advancing foe. His bold action disorganized the hostile force, and they withdrew. On the following morning Private First Class Myers again courageously stopped an enemy attack with his machine gun and carbine, holding his position secure against the full force of the hostile effort. Entered the Service from Murray, Kentucky.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:


HARRY B. KELTON
Lt Col, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

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