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

AG RECORDS SEC.

1 March 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 57

Award of Silver Star - Missing in Action.....I  
Award of Silver Star.....II  
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster - Silver Star.....III

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

HOWARD P. AULT, 37703946, Staff Sergeant, Company M, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2 January 1945 in France. Sergeant Ault was section sergeant of a heavy machine gun section assigned the mission of supporting a forward rifle platoon in defending the outskirts of a tactically important village. A large hostile force launched a violent attack with infantry troops supported by artillery and tanks. In spite of incessant artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Sergeant Ault calmly manned his post, directing deadly bursts of machine gun fire into the midst of the attackers. By maintaining his effective fire support, he enabled the rifle elements to withdraw from the untenable area and reorganize in a more advantageous position. Displaying outstanding intrepidity and selflessness, he continued firing, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy and delaying the onslaught. Faced with almost certain death or capture by the enemy, he determinedly remained in position until his supply of ammunition was exhausted and his position was overrun by the hostile troops. Sergeant Ault was reported missing in action from this engagement. Next of kin: Mr. Perry Ault (Father), McCoy, Colorado.

TIMOTHY E. LONG, 39104509, Sergeant, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Ida F. Fitzgerald (Sister), 734 38th Avenue, San Francisco, California.

CHARLES E. KNIGHT, 37506065, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Arcell Knight (Wife), Route #3, Richland, Missouri.

ERNEST M. ETHRIDGE, 34204291, Private, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Ernestine Ethridge (Wife), Route #2, Box 394H, Jacksonville, Florida.

HENRY B. REED, JR., 13032459, Private, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment. Next of kin: Mrs. Ethel Virginia Reed (Mother), 125 West Hampton St, Staunton, Virginia.

for gallantry in action on 13 and 14 December 1944 in France. The 3d Battalion established a defensive position in a recently captured town in preparation for an expected enemy counterattack. The above named litter bearers were on duty at the battalion aid station when several serious casualties were reported at the command post of one of the rifle companies. They immediately left the

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aid station and proceeded by jeep to the outskirts of the town. Although their progress was impeded by the darkness and by intermittent artillery fire, they continued determinedly forward on foot, advancing along the streets of the town until they reached the company area. They were informed that evacuation was impossible because the enemy had launched a savage assault and the route of withdrawal was severed. At daybreak, these men realized that the lives of two of the casualties depended on their immediate evacuation. Unhesitatingly risking their lives in an attempt to save two injured comrades, they left the company area with their two patients. Although faced with death or capture by the enemy, they pressed forward on their hazardous mission and were last seen as they passed another company approximately 600 yards away. From this engagement they were reported missing in action.

HILERY RHOADES, 35697654, Private First Class, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 7 January 1945 in France. Private First Class Rhoades, an acting squad leader in Company A, was assigned the mission of leading a four-man reconnaissance patrol into hostile territory to determine the enemy strength and disposition. After orienting his patrol as to the purpose of the assignment, he led his men along the route designated by his company commander. While advancing across an open field, the small group was suddenly subjected to heavy automatic weapons fire. Aware of the importance of reporting the enemy's position, he immediately ordered his men to withdraw. At the same moment, he opened fire with his rifle. While his companions withdrew from the fire-swept area, he remained in his exposed position to cover them, and his accurate fire minimized the effectiveness of the hostile weapons. The members of his patrol were able to return to the friendly lines, but Private First Class Rhoades was reported missing in action from this engagement. His magnificent courage was a source of great inspiration to the members of his company, inspiring them to fight with renewed aggressiveness against the hostile troops. Next of kin: Mrs. Maude E. Farmer (Mother), Route #1, Coral Ridge, Kentucky.

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:

GARLAND B. TAYLOR, 01691713, Second Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 29 August 1944 in France. When a large hostile force, led by tanks, by-passed friendly units and approached the assembly area of the Antitank Company, Lieutenant Taylor swiftly placed the antitank weapons into positions which afforded maximum fields of fire. He then directed a bazooka team in firing on the charging tanks and, by crippling one of them, slowed the advance of the hostile troops. He immediately ordered that 17 machine guns be put into action and, when the enemy renewed the assault, fought beside his men, firing his sub-machine gun and hurling hand grenades into the midst of the attackers. After repelling a flank assault, he directed antitank gun fire on an enemy tank and troop carrier, destroying them both. Entered the Service from Rock Wall, Texas.

FRED COSTILLA, 01998721, Second Lieutenant (then Private), 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 February 1944 in Italy. When enemy infantry elements, supported by artillery and mortar fire, launched a powerful

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counterattack, the left flank of Company C's defenses was threatened by the hostile troops. The platoon occupying the left flank suffered heavy casualties; the platoon leader was killed, and all the non-commissioned officers were either killed or wounded. Acting entirely on his own initiative, Private Costilla immediately assumed command of the platoon. Braving heavy small arms, artillery and mortar fire, he swiftly reorganized his men and encouraged them to hold their ground in the face of the enemy onslaught. Although he was painfully wounded by hurtling shell fragments, he valiantly led his platoon in stopping the assault and driving back the hostile troops. His valor and aggressiveness inspired his men to fight with renewed aggressiveness and repel the enemy thrust. Entered the Service from Beaumont, Texas.

III. AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER - SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of the second Silver Star is awarded to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action:

CLAUDE D. ROSCOE, O367264, Major (then Captain), 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 2 June 1944 in Italy. Captain Roscoe was going forward to inspect the positions of an antitank platoon which he had ordered to support a rifle platoon on the Regiment's left flank. He encountered three tank destroyers moving toward the rear and was informed that hostile troops had surrounded friendly elements in the area. Ordering the tank destroyer crews to return to their original position, he continued forward, in spite of a second warning, to contact the antitank platoon. He instructed the platoon to withdraw from the untenable position and then proceeded to reorganize the supported rifle platoon. Captain Roscoe braved heavy mortar and small arms fire to cover the withdrawal of the rifle elements. Then, rejoining the tank destroyer, antitank and rifle units, he organized a strong defense, thereby securing the threatened flank of the Regiment. By his valor and quick-thinking, he frustrated an enemy attempt to break through the friendly line. Entered the Service from Brownwood, Texas.

JOHN D. WIEBOLDT, O1183449, First Lieutenant, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 6 December 1944 in France. Lieutenant Wieboldt was in charge of an artillery forward observer party assigned the mission of supporting Company F in holding a strategically important hill. When a numerically superior force launched a determined attack, his exposed position was subjected to heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. Ignoring the dangers which confronted him, Lieutenant Wieboldt valiantly maintained his post and skillfully adjusted accurate artillery fire on the hostile troops. Even when the attackers penetrated a sector of the friendly line and approached his observation post, he remained dauntlessly in position, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy force with effective artillery fire. When the enemy threatened to overrun the company defenses, he courageously adjusted fire to within 50 yards of his own position, halting the assault and enabling the infantry elements to reestablish the lines. Entered the Service from Jamaica, New York.

O'DEAN T. COX, O2055220, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 6 November 1944 in France. Because of enemy shifts of personnel near the friendly lines, it was necessary to send a daylight patrol through a mined area under direct hostile observation in order to determine

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enemy dispositions in the vicinity. Lieutenant Cox volunteered to lead a six-man patrol on the hazardous mission. Moving aggressively across the mined terrain, he led his men forward to an enemy-held house. By skillfully maneuvering his patrol, he surprised the sentry and captured 11 prisoners. With information obtained from the hostile soldiers, he directed his men in capturing a second strong point manned by six soldiers. After securing sufficient information concerning enemy positions in a nearby town, he returned to his unit with the 17 prisoners. Reinforcing his small group with a light machine gun, he led his men in an assault on the town. Engaging the hostile troops in a brief but fierce fire fight, he directed his patrol in killing four of the enemy and capturing ten. After leading his men forward to secure the town, he organized a strong defense and held it until his patrol was relieved on the following day. By his personal aggressiveness and daring leadership, he was responsible for the capture of a strategically important town. Entered the Service from Waco, Texas.

KENNETH H. SAUL, O510188, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. Lieutenant Saul, executive officer of Company F, was with the rear elements of his unit arranging for supplies when enemy troops who had infiltrated the friendly lines launched a surprise assault. Spotting the attackers, he swiftly contacted higher headquarters and warned them of the enemy onslaught. Fearlessly exposing himself to the hostile fire, he placed all available men in the most advantageous positions for repelling the charging enemy soldiers. Remembering the location of an extra light machine gun, Lieutenant Saul immediately secured it and placed it in a firing position. Although he became the target for heavy small arms fire, he valiantly operated the weapon, directing rapid, accurate bursts of fire into the midst of the hostile force. An enemy patrol worked its way forward in an attempt to silence the machine gun, but Lieutenant Saul determinedly maintained his position until he was seriously wounded by the hostile fire. His quick-thinking and aggressiveness were largely responsible for the quick repulse of the attack. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

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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