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

GENERAL ORDERS

2 November 1944

NO. 425

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SECTION I -- POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is posthumously awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroic achievement in combat.

DONALD H. WITTMAN, 36805799, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 23 June 1944, Italy. Next of kin: Mrs. Viola Wittman (mother), 313 North John Street, Mayville, Wisconsin.

LESLIE C. GIBA, 33292867, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 9 September 1944, France. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary Giba (mother), 1145 Washington Street, Braddock, Pennsylvania.

SECTION II -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroic achievement in combat.

JOHN D. BENNETT, 0380489, Captain, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, 28 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Corsicana, Texas.

WILLIAM P. LEWIS, 01305801, First Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, 26 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Cumberland, Kentucky.

BENJAMIN B. BONGIOVANNI, 01308913, Second Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, 26 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Arnold, Pennsylvania.

ROY CHRISTENSEN, 37478669, Technical Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 17 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Yankton, South Dakota.

LICE J. BYLAWOWICZ, 38030616, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 5 June 1944, Italy. Entered the Service from Bremond, Texas.

GEORGE I. MERRITT, 20809713, Staff Sergeant, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment, 27 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Waco, Texas.

PAUL J. FRACHYL, 38036833, Staff Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 22 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Weatherford, Texas.

FRANK L. DELISLE, 31322973, Sergeant, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 22 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Lewiston, Maine.

RALPH E. CAIN, 35750633, Sergeant, Company D, 142d Infantry Regiment, 26 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Clarksburg, West Virginia.

SILVE J. RUZICKA, 36152969, Sergeant, Battery C, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, 15 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Muskegon, Michigan.

HARLAN A. SHELLEY, 6860915, Technician Fourth Grade, Headquarters Battery, 93d Ammunition Field Artillery Battalion, 1 to 8 July 1944, Italy. Entered the Service from Anamosa, Iowa.

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KNOX PAINE, 20814547, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Detachment, 132d Field Artillery Battalion, 15 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Cleburne, Texas.

FRANK F. CALLAWAY, 34049273, Technician Fifth Grade, Service Company, 142d Infantry Regiment, 1 October 1944, France. Entered the Service from Vicksburg, Mississippi.

DENNIS O. NORTON, 32939150, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, 29 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Endwell, New York.

CHARLES E. DAVIS, 33093223, Private First Class, Company I, 142d Infantry Regiment, 15 August to 10 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Lynville, Virginia.

MURRAY SOLOMONITZ, 32699118, Private First Class, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, 20 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

PAUL MAGY, 35277564, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 142d Infantry Regiment, 16 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Akron, Ohio.

PHILIP B. BELT, 34814597, Private First Class, Company F, 142d Infantry Regiment, 30 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Birmingham, Alabama.

VERNON D. FRIEND, 35760324, Private First Class, Company F, 142d Infantry Regiment, 30 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Clarksburg, W. Va.

DONALD SKARRUP, 32747905, Private First Class, Company K, 142d Infantry Regiment, 10 February 1944, Italy. Entered the Service from Troy, New York.

JOHN W. ADLEBURG, 34725048, Private First Class, Headquarters Battery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 1 to 8 July 1944 in Italy. Entered the Service from Surgoinsville, Tennessee.

JOHN VANDITTI, 33435181, Private, Medical Detachment, 142d Infantry Regiment, 26 August 1944, France. Entered the Service from Ellwood City, Tennessee.

PETE O. SAUCEDO, 38543892, Private, Company A, 142d Infantry Regiment, 9 September 1944, France. Entered the Service from Wharton, Texas.

WILLIAM C. RIVETT, 34256101, Private, Headquarters Battery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 1 to 8 July 1944, Italy. Entered the Service from Liberty, North Carolina.

FREDERICK G. MILLER, 15103091, Private, Headquarters Battery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 1 to 8 July 1944, Italy. Entered the Service from Marion, Indiana.

SECTION III - AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of a second Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for heroic achievement in combat in France.

HENRY FILARO, 36065165, Staff Sergeant, Company D, 142d Infantry Regiment, 26 September 1944. Entered the Service from Alpine, Texas.

HOWARD B. ALEXANDER, 32428540, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Detachment, 142d Infantry Regiment, 29 September 1944. Entered the Service from Orangeburg, New York.

ANTHONY D. ELIA, 32309428, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Detachment, 141st Infantry Regiment, 24 August 1944. Entered the Service from Bayonne, New Jersey.

SECTION IV - COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS CONDUCT, MISSING IN ACTION

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-55, each of the following named individuals, missing in action, is commended for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

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WILLIAM J. JONES, 16062631, Sergeant, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, Next of kin: Mrs. Mary I. Jones (Mother), 770 Bundy Avenue, Flint, Mich.
DAVID C. WRAY, 34038460, Private, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, Next of kin: Mrs. Hattie B. Wray (Mother), Box 169, Bessemer City, North Carolina

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 16 January 1944 in Italy. The above named soldiers and three comrades were assigned the mission of taking an infantry patrol across a strategic river in rubber reconnaissance boats. The patrol, landing on the hostile bank of the river, was discovered by the enemy, and two of the boats were sunk, several men killed and two others wounded. Braving intense small arms and mortar fire, the above named soldiers and their companions returned the remaining boats to the opposite shore and summoned aid for the two injured soldiers. While preparing to return to their bivouac area, they heard the cries of infantrymen who had been wounded in an uncleared minefield. In spite of heavy enemy shell fire which blasted the terrain, the above named soldiers unhesitatingly made their way into the mined area and, with the assistance of their comrades, carried the wounded men to safety, secured medical aid and assisted in their evacuation. The above named soldiers have been reported missing in action from a subsequent engagement.

SECTION V -- 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.

ALBERT G. KUDZIA, 01306287, First Lieutenant, 147th Infantry Regiment, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 2 June 1944 in Italy. While infiltrating through a densely wooded area in order to move into position behind an enemy stronghold, the battalion was warned that an enemy combat patrol was approaching its left flank. Lieutenant Kudzia was assigned the mission of leading a patrol in an attempt to smash the resistance. He placed two squads in advantageous defensive positions and there waited for the enemy. When the hostile soldiers neared the position, they encountered a deadly hail of fire which killed two of them and forced the rest to withdraw. As a result of Lieutenant Kudzia's skillful leadership the battalion was able to continue its advance toward its objective. Entered the Service from Kalamazoo, Michigan.

JACK A. HEARN, 20815146, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Battery, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct from 6 June to 29 September 1944 in Italy and France. As chief of his battalion's survey detail, Sergeant Hearn performed his duties with such efficiency that, when the survey office was evacuated to a hospital on 6 July, he was given complete charge of all the surveys of his battalion. Working under enemy artillery fire and adverse weather conditions, Sergeant Hearn has completed his surveys with unusual accuracy and has contributed materially to the continuous support which his battalion has rendered to the infantry. Entered the Service from Italy, Texas.

CHARLEY R. WEAVER, 20818180, Sergeant, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Victoria, Texas.

IRVIN D. KNUTH, 36218183, Private, Company A, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion. Entered the Service from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

For exceptionally meritorious conduct on 16 January 1944 in Italy. The above named soldiers and three comrades were assigned the mission of taking an infantry

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patrol across a strategic river in rubber reconnaissance boats. The patrol, landing on the hostile bank of the river, was discovered by the enemy, and two of the boats were sunk, several men killed, and two others wounded. Braving intense small arms and mortar fire, the above named soldiers and their companions returned the remaining boats to the opposite shore and summoned aid for the two injured soldiers. While preparing to return to their bivouac area, they heard the cries of infantrymen who had been wounded in an uncleared minefield. In spite of heavy enemy shellfire which blasted the terrain, the above named soldiers unhesitatingly made their way into the mined area and, with the assistance of their comrades, carried the wounded men to safety, secured medical aid and assisted in their evacuation.


LEON D. HOWARD, 20815367, Private First Class, Battery A, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 August 1944 in France. On D-day in the invasion of Southern France, Private First Class Howard was assigned as a radio operator with the forward observer party attached to Company B of the 143d Infantry Regiment. When the company advanced in an assault on a hostile town the enemy opened fire with machine pistols and machine guns, and Private First Class Howard was wounded. Instead of seeking safety and medical aid for himself, he thought first of protecting his radio. Aware that without the radio the accuracy of the fire missions would be greatly impaired, he braved the heavy small arms fire to move the instrument to a covered position where it was of inestimable value in furnishing effective artillery support. Entered the Service from Corsicana, Texas.

HUBERT T. KEEBLE, 20815395, Private, Battery A, 133d Field Artillery Battalion, for exceptionally meritorious conduct on 15 August 1944 in France. On D-day in the invasion of Southern France, Private Keeble was assigned as a radio operator with the forward observer party attached to Company B of the 143d Infantry Regiment. When the company advanced in an assault on a hostile town, the enemy opened fire with machine pistols and machine guns. Headless of personal safety, Private Keeble immediately moved his valuable radio to a covered position, then, in the face of direct, heavy small arms fire, returned to assist a wounded comrade. Fearlessly exposing himself to enemy observation, he helped the injured soldier to a place of safety and there administered effective first aid treatment. Entered the Service from Corsicana, Texas.

By command of Major General DANHAUST:

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

OFFICIAL:


HARRY B. NELSON
Major, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

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