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

MTCUSA ORIGINAL ORDER

CENTER L ORDERS

20 December 1944

NO.

478

SECTION I - POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is posthumously awarded to each of the following named individuals for gallantry in action.

JOSEPH R. RANDICK, 36685093, Sergeant, Company L, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 august 1944 in France. During Company L's attack against an important enemy stronghold, Sergea: t Randick, a squad leader, was assigned the mission of clearing several houses on the company's left flank. As his squad approached the buildings, the enemy suddenly opened fire, wounding Sergeant Randick and several of his men. He immediately ordered his squad to take cover behind a wall and, in spite of the pain of his wounds, helped the other injured soldiers to a place of comparative safety. He then directed his men to positions from which they could deliver fire on the hostile force. When the battalion commander ordered Company L to withdraw, Sergeant Randick instructed his squad to remain in position and cover the withdrawal of their comrades. After the company had withdrawn, he waited until dark before leaving the exposed position. While leading his squad along the route of withdrawl, he died of his wounds. Next of kin: Mrs. Jennie Randick (Mother), 7208 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

GEORGE D. COX, 34491400, Corporal, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalian, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in amtion on 27 august 1944 in France. The antitank platoon of the 3d Battalian was part of a task force assigned the mission of establishing a road block along the enemy's route of withdrawal. When the antitank guns went into action, the enemy determined to destroy this formidable road block and launched a savage attack with tank and infantry elements. Although the platoon was partially isolated from other friendly troops and incessant hostile fire rendered the position almost untenable, Corporal Cox, gunner in the first squad, valiantly remained at his post and continued delivering effective fire on the attackers, finally forcing the hostile group to withdraw. The studion enemy directed a barrage of heavy explosives on the area, but Corporal Cox courage asly maintained his position, delaying the hostile troops with his accurate fire, until he was mortally wounded by a hurtling shall fragment. His valor and determination were largely responsible for repelling the enemy assault. ...xt of kin: Mrs. Bertha E. Cox (Mother); Route #1, Moshoim, Tennessee.

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SECTION II - AWARD OF GILVER 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.

JOHN D. WILBOLDT, 01183449, First Lieutenant, 133d Field Artillery Hattalion, for gallantry in action on 15 August 1944 in France. On D-day in the invasion of Southern France, Lieutenant Wieboldt was attached to Company E, 143d Infantry Rogiment, as forward observer for his artillery battalion. After effecting a successful landing, the company advanced along the coast until it encountered an energy strong point. This position, protected by machine guns and mortars, was well dug in behind a stone well. As the friendly infantry troops deployed behind the wall in preparation for an assault, the enemy directed a heavy mortar parrage on the area. Acting entirely on his own initiative, Lieutenant Wieboldt brave-Ly made his way through a hole in the wall and, exposing himself to direct machine gun fire, calmly determined the location of hostile emplacements. Aware that friendly troops would be endangered if he adjusted artillery fire on the enomy, Licutement Wieboldt skillfully led an infantry platoon, whose leader had been wounded, into position on the left flank of the hostile force and directed small arms fire on the strong point. He then braved the mortar shelling to reach a group of tanks and lead them into an advantageous firing position. As a result of Lieutenant Wieboldt's quick thinking, sound judgment and aggressiveness, the hostile group was forced to surrender and the company was able to continue its advance. Entered the Service from New York, New York.

THOMAS A. LEWIS, 01309159, First Lieutenant, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 august 1914 in France. Lieutenant Lewis was leader of the left leading platoon during Company L's attack against an enemy stronghold. He led his platoon to within 400 yards of the company objective when the enemy suddenly opened fire with mortars and machine guns, wounding Lieutenant Lewis and several members of his platoon. Lieutenant Lewis, lying in an open field subjected to the incessant hostile fire, shouted orders to his men, directing them forward to destroy the enemy positions. When some of his men tried to evacuate him, a steadfastly refused to leave his exposed position. He unselfishly ordered the evacuation of the other wounded in his platoon and remained with his unit, valightly braying the incessant fire, until the following platoon had passed through the area. Only when the company commander ordered his evacuation would he allow himself to be removed. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

FLOYD R. RHODES, 35760405, Staff Sergeant, Company F, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 October 1944 in France. Sergeant Rhodes, lending the right assault squad of his platcon, was assigned the mission of knocking out an enemy scrong point composed of two machine guns and a number of riflemen. Then the squad's advance was delayed by rifle granade and machine gun fire, Surguant Rhodes left his riflemen with the assistant squad Reader and led his automatic rifle team in a flanking movement across an open field. He had almost reached his objective when the enemy sudderily opened fire, forcing the automatic riflemen to withdraw. Sergeant Rhodes valiantly remained to face the hostile troops alone. Firing clip after clip from his sub-machine gun and hurling hand gronades into the enemy position, he pressed dauntlessly forward in the face of the heavy fire. As he neared the emplacements and engaged the machine guns at close range, the hostile soldiers fled, leaving one of their dead behind. After smashing this strong point, he reorganized his squad and seized a second machine gun position, enabling his company to advance and take its objective. Entered the Service from Widen, Mest Virginic.

JOSEPH F. CHICKNOCKY, 33463634, Staff Sergeant, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 30 October 1944 in France. The members of Sergeant Chicknosky's squad were occupying outpost positions in front of Company C, protecting the unit and covering the route of approach. When a large hostile force suddenly launched a savage attack, Sergeant Chicknosky unhesitatingly left the safety of his dug-in position and moved forward to engage the enemy. Inspired by their leader's example of intrepidity, the squad members left their fighting holes and followed nim. Working swiftly in the face of heavy hostile fire, Sergeant Chicknosky organized his squad and moved it across open, fire-swept terrain to a spot which afforded better observation and fields of fire. Then the enemy troops had advanced to within 40 yards of his position, he opened fire, killing and wounding several of them. The unexpected resistance disorganized the attackers, and Sorgeant Chicknosky, firing rapidly into the midst of the enemy, repelled the assault. His quick-thinking and aggressiveness prevented a brank-through into the batt lion defenses and dispelled a threat to the safety of his comrades. Intered the Service from Breslau, Pennsylvania.

GOVLY E. TURNER, 35267603, Staff Sergeant, Company A, 141st Infantry Regiment, for collantry in action on 24 August 1944 in France. One of the platoons of Company A was ordered to withdraw from its position and move to high ground on the company's left flank. Sergeant Turner had directed all but four of his men out of position when a large hostile force suddenly attacked. An intense fire fight ensued, and the enemy used rifles and hand grenades at very close range. Although Sergeant Turner and his four men were confronted with hostile troops of approximately company strength, they fought valiantly to repel the attackers. Two of the men were killed and one wounded, but Sergeant Turner, fearlessly exposing himself to the enemy fire, succeeded in delaying the assault. He called for men from another squad and put them into position just in time to repel another attack. As a result of his courageous and inspiring leadership, a large hostile force was disorganized and a threat to the safety of his company dispelled. Intered the Service from Munition, West Virginia.

FOSTER R. SCAIES, JR., 33050998, Sergeant, Company C, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 18 October 1944 in France. Antitank mines form d a road block which prevented friendly tanks from advancing in support of infortry elements in an attack. The block was well-defended by enemy mortar, small arms and artillery fire, and the approaches afforded almost no cover or concoalment. Fully aware of the dangers involved, Sergeant Scales volunteerd to go forward and attempt to clear the block. He crawled cautiously along a ditch until he reached a spot from which he could remove the mines. When he left the ditch and moved onto the road, he instantly became the target for direct enemy fire. Although the hostile fire prevented him from checking the mines for booby traps, Sergoent Scales, working colaly and fearlessly, attached a piece of communication vire to the mines and pull. them from the road. Then, in spite of the increased tempo of enemy small arms and shellfire, he crawled forward 50 yards to search for other obstacles which might impede the tanks' advance. ... iter completing his reconnuissance, he returned and reported the situation to the tank commander, enabling the tanks to continue in close support of the infantry elements. Entered the Service from Houston, Texas.

MERNER LEISER, 32990622, Private First Class, Company I, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 28 august 1944 in France. Company I was supporting an attack against an important enemy stronghold. When the enemy directed a heavy artillery and mortar barrage on the company command post area, the shell

explosions inflicted heavy casualties on the group and shattered all wire and radio communications. It was vital that contact between the company and bat-talion command posts be maintained and Private First Class Leiser, company runner, was used to carry information between the two points. Although constantly subjucted to the incessant shellfire, he made ten trips over an exposed route, determe nedly performing his duties in spite of all dangers and difficulties. He worked indefatigably relaying the urgent messages and on one trip carried muchneeded ammunition to his company. He was frequently forced to crawl forward on his stomach under the heavy barrage, but he always accomplished his missions and contributed materially to the success of the operation. Intered the Service from Now York, New York.

SECTION III - CORRECTED AWARD OF SILVER STAR

So much of Section II, General Orders Number 444, cs, this Headquarters, as awards a Silver Star to James R. 107ERY, 01101/301, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, is rescinded and the following substituted therefor.

"Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual for gallahtry in action.

"JAMES R. LOWERY, Ollo1301, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 22 to 26 September 1944 in France. Company K was assigned the mission of protecting the left flank of the 3d Battalion during an attack against a well-defended enemy stronghold. In the approach march, the company was delayed by heavy machine gun and rifle fire. Captain Lowery, battalion S-3, had joined Company K in the assembly area and now, exposing nimself to the small arms fire, halted the column and reconncitered the area to his front in an attempt to locate the enemy positions. When the order was given to continue the advance, Captain Lowery led his men forward through a densely wooded area until sunset, then, with the battalion halted for the night, prepared his plan of attack for the follow-ing morning. He personally led the company in the assault and was successful in scizing a hill which overlooked the Mostile stronghold. Later, while accompanying the battalion commander on a reconnaissance to the outskirts of the endayhold town, he was wounded by the hostile fire. Ignoring the pain of his wounds, captain Lowery assisted in establishing defenses within the town when it was liberated by the friendly troops. On 26 September he led the battalion to a new larca and, while supervising the organization of the defenses, was seriously wounded during a heavy artillery barrage and was evacuated to the rear. Entered the Service from Cheboygan, wichigan."

By command of major General DaHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:

Mr. Jor, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

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