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

AG RECORDS SEC.

15 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 30

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:

RUSSELL S. KIDDER, JR, 0407165, Captain, Medical Corps, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 16 August 1944 in France. The 3d Battalion, mounted on tanks, was continuing its pursuit of the enemy through a small town when it suddenly encountered heavy machine gun and tank fire which disabled the two leading tanks and inflicted several casualties. Upon hearing the cries of the wounded, Captain Kidder, the battalion surgeon, unhesitatingly left his position of comparative safety and advanced in the face of direct machine gun and tank fire to care for the injured soldiers. He removed two wounded men from the first tank and carried them across 150 yards of fire-swept terrain to a place of cover. He again braved the heavy fire to press forward to the leading tank and carry two more seriously wounded soldiers to his place of safety. After administering expert emergency treatment, he left the building and proceeded under harassing tank fire to a rifle company near the rear of the column. He swiftly led a rifle platoon forward to the building which housed his patients and skillfully supervised their evacuation. As a result of his resourcefulness and personal courage, the lives of four wounded men were saved. Entered the Service from Buffalo, New York.

KENNETH W. HAND, 01112195, First Lieutenant, 111th Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 20 November 1944 in France. Lieutenant Hand was assigned the mission of leading a reconnaissance patrol along the bank of a river to locate a crossing site for an infantry battalion. Although the terrain was planted with mines, he did not wait until mine detectors could be secured but, aware of the urgency of his mission, immediately led his patrol forward to reconnoiter the river bank. He and his men were in plain view of the enemy entrenched across the river and were continuously subjected to long range machine gun and mortar fire, but Lieutenant Hand kept his coolness and determination, skillfully maintaining control of his party. After advancing for a mile, the patrol was subjected to a particularly heavy concentration of mortar shells. As Lieutenant Hand moved toward cover, he stepped on a mine, detonating it, and was seriously wounded in the explosion. Although he was suffering almost unbearable pain, he called his patrol members to him and issued instructions for completing the mission. He insisted that they proceed with the important reconnaissance while he waited alone until he could be evacuated. Entered the Service from Louisville, Kentucky.

JOHN T. LACHENMEYER, 01293072, First Lieutenant, 142d Infantry Regiment, for

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gallantry in action on 1 December 1944 in France. During an attack against an important enemy stronghold, Lieutenant Lachenmeyer led the 2d Platoon of Company I across an open area at the edge of town. The terrain was blasted by heavy artillery shelling and was subjected to machine gun fire from a house surrounded by a high wire fence. While waiting for an opening to be cut in the fence, Lieutenant Lachenmeyer was seriously wounded by a shell explosion. Ignoring the intense pain of his wound, he courageously led his platoon through the fence in an assault on the house. He swiftly neutralized the hostile machine guns and then assisted in locating the enemy artillery pieces which were destroyed by tank fire. With hostile resistance eliminated, Lieutenant Lachenmeyer continued leading his platoon, pressing dauntlessly forward to his objective. After successfully accomplishing his mission, he collapsed from weakness and exhaustion. Entered the Service from Norristown, Pennsylvania.

ALLEN PHILLIPS, 35258124, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company E, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 10 November 1944 in France. The 1st Platoon of Company E was assigned the mission of clearing a group of four houses along a strategically important road. As the platoon advanced across rough, wooded terrain toward its objective, it was suddenly subjected to heavy machine gun, mortar and rifle fire which inflicted numerous casualties and threatened to disorganize the group. The platoon leader and all the non-commissioned officers were wounded and evacuated. Acting entirely on his own initiative, Private First Class Phillips, an acting squad leader, swiftly assumed command, skillfully reorganized the platoon and led the men forward toward the houses. Halting his platoon on the slopes overlooking the group of buildings, he went forward alone to investigate and discovered that the houses were unoccupied. While he returned to his men and led them toward the objective, a hostile patrol crept up to the houses and, as the platoon advanced, opened fire with small arms and a 20mm gun. Private First Class Phillips ordered his men to withdraw while he covered them with fire from his rifle and grenade launcher. Fearlessly facing the hostile force, he directed deadly accurate fire at the enemy, killing three and forcing the remainder to abandon the houses. He then led his platoon to the road and established a road block for the night, successfully completing the assigned mission. Entered the Service from Shelbyville, Kentucky.

CARL H. RAINES, 14123549, Staff Sergeant, Company H, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 26 August 1944 in France. Sergeant Raines, a section leader in the mortar platoon of Company H, was assigned the mission of supporting a rifle company. He established his observation post with the front line riflemen on the forward slope of a hill which afforded little concealment and no cover. A large enemy force had been trapped in the river valley below. Aware that their only route of withdrawal was cut off by road blocks, the hostile troops, supported by tanks and self-propelled guns, launched a desperate attack against the friendly positions in an attempt to escape from the trap. The enemy tanks and self-propelled guns opened fire as they advanced, and the riflemen were forced to withdraw from their untenable positions to the reverse slope of the hill. Undaunted by the heavy fire, Sergeant Raines valiantly remained on the forward slope alone and directed mortar fire on the charging enemy. Although he was without rifle support and had become the target for direct tank fire, he determinedly maintained his position, adjusting accurate fire on the hostile troops, disorganizing them and forcing them to withdraw. Entered the Service from Greenville, South Carolina.

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SAM H. GINGLES, 38051357, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 25 September 1944 in France. During an attack against stubbornly defended hostile positions, Sergeant Gingles, commanding a radio section, was assigned the mission of maintaining contact throughout the entire battalion. The enemy launched a savage counterattack and succeeded in cutting off the radio section from the remainder of the battalion. Although hopelessly outnumbered by the hostile troops which surrounded him, Sergeant Gingles skillfully organized and deployed his section and engaged the enemy in an intense fire fight. Fearlessly exposing himself to the hostile small arms fire, he directed his men in firing on the enemy and personally killed seven of the hostile soldiers. Displaying unusual daring and aggressiveness, he hurled a hand grenade into a machine gun position, completely destroying it. Later Sergeant Gingles regained contact with the remainder of the battalion and was instrumental in capturing 14 of the enemy. Entered the Service from Houston, Texas.

ROBERT C. BAILEY, 35775806, Sergeant (then Private), Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Baltimore, Maryland.

HENRY D. PHILBECK, 36900589, Private, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment. Entered the Service from Urbana, Illinois.

for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. While the 1st Battalion was occupying a defensive position in a recently captured town, a large hostile force infiltrated the friendly lines and launched a savage attack. The 2d Squad of the 1st Platoon, ordered to defend a local sector of Company B's position, was subjected to heavy machine gun and rifle fire from the assaulting enemy. These men, both riflemen, swiftly moved to positions on the second floor of the building which housed their squad. Fearlessly exposing themselves at the windows, they opened fire on the onrushing soldiers, momentarily delaying their advance. From positions behind a railroad embankment, the hostile force concentrated a large volume of fire on them. Undaunted, they remained at the windows and continued firing, frustrating every enemy attempt to charge and seize the house. During the action, they expended 250 rounds of ammunition, killing or wounding approximately 35 of the enemy and contributing materially to the repulse of the attack.

CLINTON R. JAMES, 34049245, Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 16 September 1944 in France. After the repulse of a tank attack, Sergeant James, leader of a four-man patrol, was assigned the mission of investigating an enemy armored car which had been disabled during the assault and abandoned by the enemy. When he had searched the car, Sergeant James, acting entirely on his own initiative, led his men on a reconnaissance patrol through the hostile lines. When the patrol contacted the enemy, he swiftly opened fire on the hostile soldiers. During the ensuing fire fight, Sergeant James, fearlessly exposing himself to direct small arms fire, killed two of the enemy, wounded one and captured another. He then led his patrol back to the friendly lines. The prisoner, when questioned, pointed out the locations of enemy gun positions, and, as a result of Sergeant James' daring aggressiveness, several hostile weapons were captured by the friendly troops. Entered the Service from Pope, Mississippi.

SIDNEY L. OLIVER, 34801557, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 December 1944 in France. Private First

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Class Oliver, an ammunition bearer in a light machine gun squad, was occupying an outpost position 150 yards beyond the company's main line of resistance. The enemy launched a violent counterattack with infantry troops supported by tanks. The first tank moved into position near the building which housed the outpost and fired round after round into the position, shattering the communication line. It was necessary that someone cross a stretch of flat, open terrain and report the critical situation to the platoon leader. Private First Class Oliver unhesitatingly volunteered for the hazardous mission. He left the comparative safety of the building and moved fearlessly across the exposed field under direct small arms and tank fire. When he spotted an abandoned anti-tank gun in position beside the fire-swept road, he further imperilled his safety by stopping to attempt firing the weapon. Realizing that it had been disabled by the hostile fire, he continued on to contact the platoon leader and deliver the vital message. Entered the Service from Calera, Alabama.

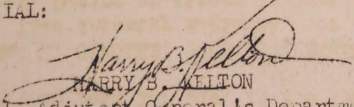
CHARLES D. ELLIS, 35653135, Private First Class, Cannon Company, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 8 December 1944 in France. The 1st Platoon of the Cannon Company was assigned the mission of supporting an infantry assault with its self-propelled howitzers. When the lead gun reached the summit of a hill, it opened fire on the enemy positions. Private First Class Ellis, a member of the crew, fully exposed himself on top of the vehicle to operate his machine gun against the hostile troops. Almost immediately the howitzer became the target for heavy antitank fire. While shells exploded around him, Private First Class Ellis remained in his exposed position and continued to man his weapon. Although he was seriously wounded in the wrist, he valiantly mastered the pain of his injury and, aware of the importance of keeping the enemy pinned down, directed accurate, rapid bursts of machine gun fire into the hostile emplacements. He remained in position until it was necessary to move the howitzer. Only then was he evacuated. Entered the Service from Cedar Grove, West Virginia.

JAMES R. CRANE, 35228573, Private First Class (then Private), Company E, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 May 1944 in Italy. Company E was assigned the mission of attacking hostile positions on an important hill. As scout, Private Crane was advancing well forward of his platoon under direct enemy observation when the hostile force suddenly began sweeping the slope with rapid bursts of machine gun fire. Leaving his comrades behind, Private Crane pressed forward alone. Crawling and dodging from one spot of cover to the next, he outflanked the enemy gun and worked his way into a position from which he could fire on the hostile emplacement. Taking careful aim with his rifle, he fired eight rounds into the midst of the strong point, killing the gunner and forcing an enemy officer and four riflemen to surrender. As a result of his quick-thinking and daring, a hostile position was destroyed and the platoon was able to occupy its objective without the loss of a single man. Entered the Service from Columbus, Ohio.

By command of Major General DAHLQUIST:

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

OFFICIAL:


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

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