

RESTRICTED

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

ORIGINAL ORDER -
DEX.

GENERAL ORDERS

NO. 192

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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:

CLIFFORD L. BOYD, 01287997, First Lieutenant, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 13 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy: During an enemy tank attack on his unit's positions, Lieutenant Boyd, commanding a weapons platoon, skillfully placed his men in positions which afforded the maximum cover and offered the best field of fire and directed them in bringing effective machine gun fire on an approaching tank. The tank stopped in an open field and seemed to be disabled. Desirous of capturing its crew, Lieutenant Boyd braved the intense enemy fire and artillery shelling to advance alone across the field toward the tank. Before he could throw a grenade, however, the enemy within the tank opened up with machine gun fire and instantly killed him. Next of kin: Mrs Mary E. Boyd (Wife), Post Office Box 102, Pecos, Texas.

MELVIN B. DONAHUE, 20809653, Sergeant, Company M, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 8 December 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy: Leading his gun section in support of the riflemen during an assault on the well fortified enemy positions in a stubbornly defended town, Sergeant Donahew immediately put his weapon into action when the advance was halted by intense hostile fire. He continually exposed himself to the artillery and mortar shelling and small arms fire to observe enemy positions and direct effective fire against them. After skillfully dispersing his men for all around protection, he moved about encouraging them and rendering first aid to those who were wounded. During this engagement Sergeant Donahew was killed by a direct hit from an enemy mortar shell. Next of kin: Mr. J. F. Donahew (Father), Elm Mott, Texas.

BILLY F. HORTON, 20814832, Private First Class, Battery A, 132d Field Artillery Battalion. Next of kin: Mrs Irno Mitchell (Mother), 222 N. 14th Street, Bris, Texas.

CHARLIE J. DEUVALL, 20829539, Private, Battery A, 132d Field Artillery Battalion. Next of kin: Mrs Sarah G. Deuval (Mother), General Delivery, Vian, Oklahoma.

For gallantry in action on 24 November 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. The above named men were assigned to the forward observation party of their Battery, and they worked tirelessly for five days carrying supplies up the precipitous mountain trail to the post. On the afternoon of 24 November they volunteered to remain at the post and operate the radio during the night. When the enemy began shelling around the ridge where the radio was located, they valiantly maintained their post and disdained leaving it for a position of safety. Shells began bursting on the ridge and a direct hit on the observation post killed them.

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DANIEL J. CAPANO, 31217374, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1943 in the vicinity of Mount ***, Italy. When the company to which Private First Class Capano was attached as aid man was caught in a heavy concentration of enemy artillery and mortar fire, many casualties were sustained. Despite the increasingly hazardous barrage, he immediately exposed himself to the deadly fire in order to move among the wounded and administer prompt medical aid to them. Working calmly and skillfully he evacuated several casualties and undoubtedly saved the lives of many of his comrades. While courageously continuing his loyal work, Private First Class Capano was fatally wounded by mortar fragments. Next of kin: Mrs. Catherine Capano, (Mother), 28 Newberry Street, Auburn, Maine.

SECTION II — AWARD OF SILVER STAR, MISSING IN ACTION

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, a Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual, missing in action:

4 ~~Reported by me 237-July 12, 1944 this HQ.~~
RAYMOND NUNEZ, 01703001, Second Lieutenant, (then Staff Sergeant), Company C, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 9 December 1943 in the vicinity of Mount ***, Italy. While engaged in clearing the slopes of this treacherous mountainous objective, the platoon leader was instantly killed and Sergeant Nunez assumed command. Fearlessly he led his men in successfully completing their missions, and without further instructions immediately set up a defensive position for possible enemy counterattack. Working under adverse weather conditions and terrain which offered practically no possible chance to dig in, Sergeant Nunez moved from one position to another instructing and making secure the sector assigned him. Dauntlessly he continued to check his supply and communication lines and assisted in the evacuation of wounded members of his platoon. Later that day, while establishing an outpost, Sergeant Nunez with nine other men successfully repelled two counterattacks which consisted of at least two enemy machine gun squads and one mortar squad. He has since been reported missing in action. Next of kin: Mrs Leonor Nunez (Wife), 930 Railroad Avenue, Beaumont, Texas.

SECTION III — 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:

CHESTER V. MC KEEN, 01293623, Captain, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 February 1944 in the vicinity of Mount ***, Italy. Advancing with his company to relieve another unit in positions on the mountain, Captain McKeen was unexpectedly subjected to intense sniper fire. Creeping forward to contact the company commander of the group he had been instructed to relieve, he spotted a large enemy force attacking the rear of that company. After sending a runner to notify the company that he was relieving it, he displaced his men in advantageous positions and, heedless of the grave danger to which he exposed himself, directed their effective fire against the enemy. Although seriously wounded by machine gun fire, he refused to desert his men and continued to lead them until the enemy forces were completely routed. Entered the Service from Millinocket, Maine.

J. C. WILLIAMSON, 01703055, Second Lieutenant (then Technical Sergeant), 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 30 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Sergeant Williamson, platoon sergeant, advanced with his unit in an attack on enemy positions until intense machine gun fire pinned the group to the ground. With splendid leadership in the face of enemy fire, he maneuvered one of his squads so skillfully that they neutralized two machine guns and captured twelve

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prisoners. When the advance of his platoon was again stopped by machine gun fire, from a house to their front, Sergeant Williamson, by carefully controlling his men and coordinating his movements with his platoon leader, helped destroy two more machine guns and capture twelve additional prisoners. Almost immediately a group of enemy snipers opened fire on the platoon from another house, and Sergeant Williamson led a squad of his men in a flanking movement and successfully cleared the route of advance for the unit to continue on to its objective. Entered the Service from Snyder, Texas.

awarded Distinguished Soldiers Medal by No 380, 9 Oct. 44
 ERNEST P. FRENCH, 20815335, Staff Sergeant, Battery A, 133d Field Artillery Battalion. Entered the Service from Corsicana, Texas.

TOM M. PEEBLES, 20815386, Technician Fourth Grade, Battery A, 133d Field Artillery Battalion. Entered the Service from Corsicana, Texas.

When the gun section's equipment suddenly burst into flames, the heat exploded anti-tank and small arms ammunition and smoke and fragmentation grenades which burst over a radius of twenty yards, propelling deadly fragments in all directions. Aware that the fire endangered the battery motor equipment and vehicles, these men braved the exploding ammunition and the blazing holocaust to smother the flames with fire extinguisher and shovelled sand. The above named men were successful in extinguishing the fire and saving much irreplaceable equipment.

JOHN GUTT, 36352752, Private First Class, Company B, 142d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action from 9 to 11 September 1943 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. When the unit in which Private First Class Gutt was a Bazooka man crossed the *** River and advanced to a railroad track, a scout reported the presence of an enemy half-track, camouflaged near the embankment. Crawling towards it in a flanking movement, Private First Class Gutt penetrated the windshield of the vehicle and eliminated the entire crew with a single shot. Later, during a stubbornly resisted attack on enemy positions on the crest of *** hill, an enemy machine gun crew went into action in a small stone house and directed intense fire on the attacking troops less than 30 yards away. Realizing the necessity for immediate action, he crept nearer the house in the face of the bursts of machine gun bullets. Contemptuous of the peril to which he exposed himself, Private First Class Gutt stood upright, took careful aim, and fired two shots into the stone house, neutralizing the gun position. Entered the Service from Chicago, Illinois.

FRANK ALLONARDO, 33779131, Private, Company A, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Preparing to launch his assault boat for crossing the *** river and attacking the enemy positions on the farther bank, Private Allonardo spotted an officer whose boat had capsized, struggling vainly against the swift currents of the icy river. Unhesitatingly he started under intense artillery and mortar shelling to rescue the drowning man, plunging into the turbulent stream and swimming to him. Exercising great prowess in his battle against the swirling river currents, he succeeded in reaching the bank with the officer. Private Allonardo then proceeded to cross the river with his unit and storm the stubbornly defended enemy positions. Entered the Service from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

SERAFINO DI RUSCIO, 33587686, Private First Class, (then Private), Company B, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 20 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. Advancing with his mortar squad along a draw towards a strategic river in a proposed assault on enemy positions on the opposite bank, Private Di Ruscio was wounded by shell fragments in a heavy artillery, mortar and nebelwerfer bombardment. In spite of his painful wounds, he crawled about the area,

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administering first aid to his wounded comrades and pulling them to covered positions. Mustering all of his waning strength, he travelled across mine fields, through barbed wire entanglements, under constant enemy artillery fire, to seek aid, and he guided litter bearers back to the draw, assisting them in evacuating the wounded soldiers. Entered the Service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

JOHN A. KING, 33427343, Private First Class, Company B, 143d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 21 January 1944 in the vicinity of ***, Italy. After crossing a strategic river with his unit in the face of intense enemy fire, Private First Class King, a rifleman, advanced dauntlessly into hostile territory toward the company's objective. He moved about among the men under heavy artillery shelling and small arms fire, calming and encouraging them and rendering first aid to the wounded, until he himself was wounded by machine gun fire. Ignoring his painful wounds, he guided two other wounded men to the river bank, then plunged into the icy water and, battling the swirling currents, reached the opposite shore. There he obtained a boat, returned to the hostile bank, and ferried the wounded men across the river to safety. Entered the Service from McGrann, Pennsylvania.

WALTER H. STEPHAN, 32899351, Private First Class, Company C, 141st Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 12 February 1944 in Italy. After fighting fearlessly during the day to repel a strong enemy counterattack on his company's positions, Private First Class Stephan was ordered to man a dangerous, exposed position on the left flank. Although wounded by shrapnel from enemy shell fire, he maintained his post throughout the night, constantly on the alert for an attack. The following morning he volunteered to traverse a trail constantly exposed to enemy sniper fire to secure stretchers for his more seriously wounded comrades. Not until his commanding officer ordered him to return for medical treatment would he consent to leave the hill. Entered the Service from Brooklyn, New York.

By command of Major General WALKER:

STEWART T. VINCENT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

Vincent M. Lockhart
VINCENT M. LOCKHART
Captain, Adjutant General's Department
Assistant Adjutant General

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*A Amended by 40# 237-12 July 1948
to read Killed in action and change of
Silver Star to 1st Lt. Leaf Whitaker to the
Silver Star for Raymond Runey
2-1703 001-2nd Lt.
then S/Lt.*