

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
Fort Bragg, North Carolina

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 314)

16 September 1945

- I. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS.
II. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS).
III. AWARD OF SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS).
IV. AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS.

OK I. REVOCATION OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of General Orders No 30, this headquarters, 2 February 1945, pertaining to the award of Distinguished-Service Cross (posthumous) to First Lieutenant George T. Van Giesen, 01306023, Infantry, 414th Infantry Regiment, 104th Infantry Division, United States Army, is revoked.

OK Section II, General Orders No 48, this headquarters, 18 February 1945, pertaining to the award of Silver Star (posthumous) to Technician Fifth Grade Nicholas Kantgias, 36869958, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 172d Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, is revoked.

II. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Distinguished-Service Cross is posthumously awarded to:

First Lieutenant George T. Van Giesen, 01306023, Infantry, 414th Infantry Regiment, 104th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. Lieutenant Van Giesen, a platoon leader, volunteered to lead a combat patrol against enemy positions which he had located the previous night while on a reconnaissance patrol. While skillfully leading his men over the same route he had passed the night before, he and his men were suddenly subjected to intense machine-gun fire which caused many casualties. Realizing that maneuver was impossible, he ordered his men to withdraw while he, completely disregarding his own personal safety, moved among his wounded men, rendering first aid and moving them to safer positions. This courageous act was done without thought for himself and amid intense machine-gun fire which took his life. Lieutenant Van Giesen demonstrated a spirit of unselfishness and fearless devotion for his comrades that is an inspiring example for all. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant Van Giesen reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from California.

III. AWARD OF SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Silver Star is posthumously awarded to:

Technician Fifth Grade Nicholas Kantgias, 36869958, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 172d Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action. Technician Kantgias, a medical aid man, moved forward with another aid man to assist two men who had been wounded during an enemy mortar barrage. While performing this gallant deed, they were subjected to a second enemy barrage. Technician Kantgias, continued with his mission to help his fallen comrades, despite bursting enemy shells, until he was mortally wounded. The gallantry and courage of Technician Kantgias reflect great credit upon himself and are in

GO No 314, Hq Ninth Army, 16 September 1945, cont'd.

keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Michigan.

IV. AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS. So much of Section II, General Orders No 86, this headquarters, 26 March 1945, pertaining to the award of Bronze Star Medal to Colonel Alan L. Fulton, 012822, Cavalry, 544th Quartermaster Group, United States Army, as reads: "from 21 October 1944 to 17 March 1945", is amended to read: "from 21 October 1944 to 20 November 1944".

In command of Major General MOORE:



JOHN A. KLEIN,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

"S"

ROY V. RICKARD,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps
Actg Chief of Staff.

