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17 December 1944.

- I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS.
- II. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS (POSTHUMOUS).
- III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.
- IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS).

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS. 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 awarded to:

First Lieutenant Robert C. Burke, 01180187, 118th Field Artillery Battalion, 30th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 4 October 1944, in Germany, Lieutenant Burke was serving as a forward observer for the 118th Field Artillery Battalion which was supporting the 117th Infantry Regiment in an assault upon the Siegfried Line. The enemy launched a determined counterattack throughout an active front which threatened to overrun positions. After he had delivered effective artillery fire upon the enemy in his sector, Lieutenant Burke learned that the forward observer at another post had become a casualty and the enemy was succeeding in counterattacking the sector which had no effective artillery support. Voluntarily and in the face of seemingly certain death, he left his position and moved over a route which was being subjected to extremely heavy enemy fire, including direct fire from a German tank. Arriving at the observation post at which his fellow observer had been wounded, he discovered that it was now occupied by the enemy. Moving on to the vicinity of the first company he had supported, he selected an observation post on the third floor of a building from which he directed effective artillery fires which turned the hostile attack into a decisive defeat. An estimated regiment of the foe was defeated in its attack on a single infantry company. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Lieutenant Burke reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Ohio.

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:

Review by 240 - June 15, 1945
Technical Sergeant Fred D. Staelman, 38717109, 119th Infantry Regiment, 30th Infantry Division, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. On 28-29 July 1944, near Troisgots, France, Sergeant Staelman was acting as platoon loader in an advance against the enemy. When his platoon was held up by two enemy tanks protected by foot personnel and at least two machine guns, he assumed the position of lead scout and again attempted to advance to a hedgerow. The machine guns covering the hedgerow poured withering fire through gaps in the hedgerow forcing him and his men back. Five times Sergeant Staelman led his men forward, only to be forced to withdraw when enemy action threatened to annihilate his platoon. Realizing that the enemy machine guns must be eliminated, Sergeant Staelman deliberately exposed himself, drawing the enemy fire upon himself so that his men might determine the exact location of the enemy weapons. This courageous act of Sergeant Staelman cost his life, but his supreme sacrifice

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00 72, Hq Ninth U.S. Army, 17 December 1944, cont'd.

will long be remembered by his comrades. The extraordinary heroism and courageous actions of Sergeant Henselman reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Indiana.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. 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 Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

✓ Second Lieutenant John S. Hamilton, 01112747, 3053rd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 22 November 1944 to 29 November 1944. Entered military service from Illinois.

✓ Master Sergeant Arthur C. Sauer, 36023716, 168th Quartermaster Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 9 September 1944 to 6 December 1944. Entered military service from Illinois.

~~Entered military service from Illinois~~ 78 - Dec. 24, 1944.

✓ Staff Sergeant Shawn E. Stafford, 38310143, 473rd AAA AN Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 4 October 1943 to 22 November 1944. Entered military service from Louisiana.

✓ Technician Fifth Grade Jose M. Chavez, 38124038, Medical Detachment, 473rd AAA AN Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 10 July 1944 to 28 November 1944. Entered military service from New Mexico.

IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (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 Bronze Star Medal is posthumously awarded to:

✓ Staff Sergeant Louis J. Floyd, 33158367, 3053rd Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 25 November 1944. Entered military service from Virginia.

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

J. E. MOORE,
Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.



JOHN A. KLEIN,
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

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