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HEADQUARTERS XVI CORPS
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U. S. Army

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GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 13

E X T R A C T

22 March 1945

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS)

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I. AWARD OF SILVER 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 Memorandum No 34, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, 8 September 1944, as amended, the Silver Star Medal is posthumously awarded to:

Technician Fourth Grade Ralph S. Hostetler, 35 548 452, Medical Corps, Medical Detachment, 202d Engineer Combat Battalion, United States Army, for distinguishing himself by gallantry in action on 25 February 1945, at Hilfarth, Germany, With complete disregard for his personal safety, he voluntarily entered a mine field which was under constant enemy mortar fire to administer medical aid to a wounded officer. While performing this heroic deed a mine exploded directly under him severely shattering his right leg and throwing him 8 feet distant from his patient. Disregarding the injury, Technician Fourth Grade Hostetler crawled back to continue medical aid to the wounded officer but became unconscious upon reaching his side. Technician Fourth Grade Hostetler was killed by the explosion of another mine while being evacuated from the field. The devotion to duty, intrepidity and high regard for his comrades displayed by this courageous soldier are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces. Entered military service from Indiana.

By command of the CORPS COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

GEORGE R. BARKER
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

/s/ S.Z. Abelow
S. Z. ABELOW,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

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Gale E Johnson
GALE E JOHNSON
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

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