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HEADQUARTERS 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 35 US ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO 16)

8 August 1944

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SILVER STAR MEDAL — Awards	I
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I — SILVER STAR MEDAL. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men of this command:

First Lieutenant Sidney K Strong 0440501, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 13 July 1944. Lieutenant Strong performed his duties as company executive officer in the action against * * * in an outstanding manner. In addition, on 13 July when his organization had become weakened by casualties he organized a provisional platoon and successfully led it in an assault where previous attacks had failed. The attack was made over fields covered by enemy machine gun fire from emplacements in hedgerows. On two occasions during the attack when his platoon was held down by enemy fire, Lieutenant Strong, at the risk of his own life, moved in exposed positions to points where he could locate the enemy fire and point out the enemy positions as targets for his own troops. His courage and leadership resulted in the successful assault by his platoon, and in the disposition of five enemy machine gun emplacements, the killing of eight and the capture of twelve enemy, and the capture of substantial amounts of enemy equipment including six machine guns, three mortars and several chests of ammunition. His subsequent sound organization of the ground and emplacement of his platoon enabled him to successfully repluse an enemy counterattack and enabled the remainder of his company to move forward in the attack. The courage, skill and leadership in battle of Lieutenant Strong reflects high credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Montana.

Second Lieutenant Constant J Kjems, 01325579, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector during the period 15-21 July 1944. On 15 July during the action on Hill Number 122 in the operations against * * * , Lieutenant Kjems was wounded in the face and arm by shell fragments. Disregarding his personal discomfort, he continued to lead his platoon throughout the day's activity and that night, after receiving treatment at a battalion aid station, returned to take command of his platoon, serving in that capacity until 19 July when he assumed command of his company when his superior officers were suffering from battle fatigue. During 20-21 July he voluntarily and on numerous occasions made personal reconnaissance of the area along the * * * river, obtaining information of the enemy which resulted in the directing and adjusting of our artillery fire against enemy positions in that locality. The gallantry in action, zeal, tenacity of purpose, and leadership in battle as displayed by Lieutenant Kjems in this operation reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military serv from New York.

Technical Sergeant Richard E Blair 20724303, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, France, on 13 July 1944. Upon learning that a member of a tank crew was inside a disabled tank and two other wounded soldiers were on the ground nearby, Sergeant Blair, with another soldier, proceeded into the area being shelled by both Allied and emeny fire and removed the wounded men from the area to a position of safety, thereby saving their lives.

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The gallantry in action, disregard for personal safety and unselfish loyalty of Sgt Blair reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Vaughn H Davis 37001866, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 15 July 1944 near * * * France. In an attack on Hill Number 122 during the operation against * * * Sergeant Davis' squad was held down by enemy machine gun fire from an emplacement in a hedgerow to his front. Sergeant Davis, the squad leader, voluntarily and alone, and armed only with handgrenades, made his way under heavy fire through an open field to the enemy side of the hedgerow, where he threw handgrenades into the enemy emplacement, killing two of the enemy and silencing the machine gun, so that his squad was able to advance and accomplish its mission. The gallantry, tenacity of purpose, unselfish loyalty and disregard for personal safety of Sgt Davis reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Tennessee.

Staff Sergeant Bernard G Hemperly 37034683, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 17 July 1944. Sergeant Hemperly was guide of his platoon in an attack on Hill Number 122 when the platoon was being subjected to heavy enemy mortar fire. On his own initiative, and alone, he crawled to a position from which he was able to direct friendly mortar fire on the enemy position. Although exposed to enemy fire, he remained at his observation post and continued to direct the friendly fire until a direct hit, destroying the enemy mortar position, was registered. His platoon was then able to advance and seize its objective. The conspicuous bravery of Sergeant Hemperly, his unselfish loyalty to his unit, and his disregard for personal safety were an inspiration to his comrades and reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Louis J Hirschman 20723518 (then Sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 17 July 1944. During an attack by his company on Hill Number 122 in the operation against * * * the platoon of Sergeant Hirschman was pinned down by machine gun fire from an emplacement in a hedgerow to its front. Sergeant Hirschman, a squad leader, voluntarily, alone, and under enemy small arms, machinegun, mortar and artillery fire, crawled across the open field to the enemy side of the hedgerow, where he threw a hand grenade into the enemy machinegun position, killing the gunner and silencing the weapon, enabling the platoon to advance. The gallantry, unselfish loyalty, tenacity of purpose, and disregard for personal safety displayed by Sergeant Hirschman reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Wayne R Palmer 36067773 (then Sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 15 July 1944 near * * * France. In an attack on Hill Number 122 in the operation against * * * Sergeant Palmer led a squad which was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire from an emplacement in a hedgerow to his front. Sergeant Palmer, voluntarily and armed only with his rifle and bayonet, crept across an open field to the enemy side of the hedgerow, where he captured the machine gun crew, consisting of four enemy soldiers, and three machine guns. The squad was then able to advance and accomplish its mission. The exemplary bravery and resourcefulness of action under heavy enemy fire of Sergeant Palmer, his utter disregard for his own personal welfare, placing the

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lives of his men and the accomplishment of the objective as the matters of primary importance, resulted not only in saving the lives of his men, but facilitated the squad's active participation in the assault against the enemy. Entered military service from Illinois.

Staff Sergeant George J Quintasket 39453515, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 14 July 1944 near * * * Normandy, France. Sergeant Quintasket crept forward against an enemy machinegun emplacement disregarding machinegun fire directed at him by two enemy emplacements and, with a hand grenade, killed or disabled the entire crew of one enemy machinegun which was holding up the advance of two platoons of Company "A". This gallantry, skill, and disregard for his personal safety on the part of Sergeant Quintasket enabled his company to resume its advance and accomplish its mission, reflects great credit upon him, and is in accord with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Washington.

Staff Sergeant George J Zimmerman 37070795, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * France on 14 July 1944. When his company was held down by hostile enemy fire from machineguns, small arms, mortar and artillery, Sergenat Zimmerman voluntarily guided tanks against the enemy positions, either by leading them on foot across mined fields, or from an exposed position on the outside of the tanks, and directed their fire against enemy machine guns, destroying the enemy positions and enabling his company to advance. The gallant action of this soldier resulted in the destruction by our troops of an enemy strong point and the seizing and holding of their objective. The extraordinary devotion to duty, gallantry in action and disregard for his own safety displayed by Sergeant Zimmerman on this occasion, was an inspiration to the men in his unit and reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Rodman H Davis 36364282, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 17 July 1944 near * * * France. During an attack in the operations against * * * Sergeant Davis' platoon was pinned down by enemy machinegun fire from an emplacement in a hedgerow to his front. Sergeant Davis, a squad leader, acting voluntarily and alone, crawled across the field to the enemy side of the hedgerow, where he shot the gunner with his rifle and silenced the weapon. His platoon was then able to advance. The gallantry, tenacity of purpose, unselfish loyalty and disregard for personal safety of Sergeant Davis reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Sergeant Charles E Kurtz 35556947 (then Private First Class), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 15 July 1944. Sergeant Kurtz was an ammunition bearer in a mortar squad of his company during the action on Hill Number 122 in the operation against * * *. When his squad leader became a casualty, he at once proceeded under direct enemy fire and observation, and, at the risk of his own life, to a disabled tank in the vicinity, removed a light machine gun therefrom, returned to his squad, which he reorganized and using the light machinegun as his own weapon, led the squad in an agressive attack against the enemy positions. The intrepid bravery of Sergeant Kurtz, his cool resourcefulness in the face of heavy enemy fire, and his disregard for personal safety in making the mission at hand a matter of primary importance, materially facilitated the accomplishment of the mission of his unit and reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Ohio.

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Private Norbert L Bartch 37604435, Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * France on 20 July 1944. While Private Bartch was performing his duties as ambulance driver, and was loading patients into his ambulance at the First Battalion Aid Station * * * Infantry, twelve enemy shells fell into the aid station site. Private Bartch was wounded twice by the second shell burst, but disregarding the enemy fire, remained in the open treating a hemhorrage of a wounded soldier. He succeeded in stopping the hemhorrage, and by his courage, calmness and devotion to duty, probably saved the life of the wounded comrade. The gallantry, unselfish loyalty to his comrade and disregard for personal safety, displayed by Private Bartch reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Missouri.

Private Robert L Heberling 33572699, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 17 July 1944. During the action on Hill Number 122, Private Heberling's platoon was pinned down by a heavy concentration of enemy machinegun fire from a hedgerow to his front. Private Heberling, on his own initiative, made his way across an open field exposed to enemy fire, and successfully reached the enemy side of the hedgerow from which the machinegun fire was coming. There, with his rifle, he killed the enemy machinegunner, silencing the weapon, and permitting the advance of the platoon. The gallant and courageous bravery of Private Heberling, his agressive determination and high regard for the accomplishment of the mission of his unit reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

II — BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men of this command.

First Lieutenant Harry C Simpson 01302536, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * France, 11 July 1944. Lieutenant Simpson was acting as forward observer for his regimental commander and was proceeding with a group of officers along a road, when a burst from an enemy machine gun killed the artillery battalion commander and liaison officer, wounded the regimental commander, and shattered the hand of another officer in the group. After being pinned down in the road ditch for about two hours, and after friendly fire was brought on the enemy machine gun positions, Lieutenant Simpson dragged the wounded officer, who was in a semi-conscious condition from loss of blood and shock, to a position behind a tree, where he administered first-aid, probably saving the wounded officer's life. The meritorious conduct and unselfish loyalty of Lieutenant Simpson reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Montana.

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Second Lieutenant Edward K Hum, 01322031, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, 17 July 1944, in the * * * sector, Normandy, France. During the operations on Hill Number 122, Lieutenant Hum's platoon became isolated from the remainder of the company. He salvaged a telephone and wire and ran the wire to his battalion command post through heavy enemy fire, reestablishing contact with his company. He also personally assisted in the adjustment of counter battery fire against the enemy. The determined and resourceful action of Lieutenant Hum, performed with disregard to his personal safety with resultant substantial facilitation of the accomplishment of the organization's mission reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Ohio.

Staff Sergeant James E Bainbridge, 36426463, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, on 18 July 1944. On his own initiative, alone, while under enemy small arms and artillery fire, and at great personal risk, Sergeant Bainbridge laid vital artillery liaison communication lines to the artillery forward observer, facilitating the directing of effective artillery fire upon enemy positions. The dogged persistence, and determination of Sergeant Bainbridge on this occasion reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Corporal Charles E Branch, 7080400, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, on 16 July 1944. Corporal Branch was a member of the crew of a tank destroyer which, during action against the enemy, slid into a ditch, from which it could not be extricated under its own power. The open turret of the tank was exposed to enemy positions in hedgerows approximately fifty yards away. Working cooly and courageously with another member of the crew, under enemy rifle fire, he assisted in building up the side of the ditch with sandbags and attaching a towing cable to the destroyer, so that the immobilized destroyer was towed to safety by another destroyer, saving it from destruction by the enemy. The coolness and deliberation under fire, and tenacity of purpose of Corporal Branch on this occasion reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Georgia.

Corporal Fendall G Lyon 37319637, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France. Corporal Lyon, while acting as Counter Intelligence Corps investigator, voluntarily and under enemy fire, searched a trench and dugouts thereunder, which had been abandoned by the enemy, without waiting for the trench or dugouts to be cleared of mines or booby traps. As a result of his search, he obtained documents of intelligence value which clarified the identity and strength of the enemy then confronting the unit. The meritorious service, disregard for personal safety and initiative of Corporal Lyon, reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Technician Fifth Grade Harold E Graham Jr, 38061866, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on 18 July 1944, near * * * , Normandy, France. A 155mm

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dud was uncovered by tanks traveling in the area of his company. Its position could not be by-passed. Technichian Fifth Grade Graham, a topographical draftsman, ordered the men in his vicinity to take cover and, without regard for his personal safety, removed the dud and carried it to a safe place, taping off its position. This action was accomplished in an area being subjected to concentrations of enemy small arms, machine gun and artillery fire. The courageous initiative of Technician Fifth Grade Graham, and his valuing the lives of his comrades above his own safety, resulted in the elimination of a poignant danger to personnel and equipment. Entered military service from Texas.

Private First Class Leonard L Coffman 6230052, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Private Coffman accompanied by another soldier, was riding in a truck in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, proceeding along a road then under heavy enemy artillery fire, when he observed a vehicle ahead of him struck by a direct hit from the enemy fire, causing the vehicle to burst into flames and wounding its driver. Without regard for his personal safety, Private Coffman, acting with the soldier accompanying him, proceeded through the enemy shells to the damaged vehicle rescued the driver whose clothes were in flames from the burning vehicle and removed him to a place of safety, there smothering the fire burning his clothing. The courage, presence of mind, disregard for personal danger and heroic actions of Private Coffman, are consistent with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Iowa.

Private First Class Lawson T Green, 14039988, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, on 16 July 1944. Private Green was a member of the crew of a tank destroyer which, during action against the enemy, slid into a ditch, from which it could not be extricated under its own power. The open turret of the tank was exposed to enemy positions in hedgerows approximately fifty yards away. Working cooly and courageously with another member of the crew, under enemy rifle fire, he assisted in building up the side of the ditch with sandbags and attaching a towing cable to the destroyer, so that the immobilized destroyer was towed to safety by another destroyer, saving it from destruction by the enemy. The coolness and deliberation under fire, and tenacity of purpose of Private Green on this occasion reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Alabama.

By command of Major General BAADE:

MADDREY A SOLOMON
Colonel, G S C
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

Richard G. Chadwick
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Lt Colonel, A G D
Adjutant General

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