NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
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HEADQUARTERS 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 35 U S ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO 20)

15 August 1944

	Section
SILVER STAR MEDAL--Posthumous Awards	I
SILVER STAR MEDAL--Awards	II
SILVER STAR MEDAL (OAK LEAF CLUSTER)--Award	III
BRONZE STAR MEDAL--Posthumous Award	IV
BRONZE STAR MEDAL--Awards	V
AIR MEDAL--Awards	VI

I -- SILVER STAR MEDAL (Posthumous Awards). 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, posthumously, to the following officer and enlisted men of this command:

Second Lieutenant Frank A Gonzales, 0887338 (then Technical Sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, on 12 July 1944. Lieutenant Gonzales assumed command of his platoon after his platoon leader was killed in action. During an attack, his platoon was stopped by enemy machine gun cross-fire and snipers emplaced in hedgerows. Lieutenant Gonzales crawled to the rear, took command of an inadequately-manned tank destroyer and directed its driver to the site of the enemy resistance where he directed the firing of a three-inch gun in the destruction of enemy machine gun emplacements, and himself emptied a .50-caliber and a .30-caliber machine gun into other enemy machine gun emplacements, and then, finally, after exhausting the machine gun ammunition, he used hand grenades to destroy an enemy mortar section. The crew of another enemy machine gun surrendered. This performance was substantially repeated later the same day, and when the tank destroyer mired-down, Lieutenant Gonzales went to the rear and directed another tank destroyer to tow the first to a position of safety. He was killed in action in a subsequent engagement. The courage, tenacity of purpose and zealous devotion to duty on the part of Lieutenant Gonzales reflects the highest credit upon his character as a soldier and entitles him to a position of honor in the annals of fighting infantrymen. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Argus J Julian, 37070300, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * Normandy, France, 14 July 1944. When his platoon was pinned down by enemy machine gun cross-fire, Sergeant Julian, platoon guide, voluntarily moved to a position to his left front where he commenced firing against the enemy in order to induce the belief by the enemy that reinforcements had arrived to assist his platoon. The enemy switched fire to his sector and the platoon was enabled to withdraw from its precarious position. Sergeant Julian was killed during the ruse. The gallantry in action, unselfish loyalty to his organization in placing its safety and welfare above his own life, reflects the highest credit on the character of Sergeant Julian as a member of the armed forces, and is in accord with the high traditions of the service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Contd over - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/12

Sec I GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Technician Fifth Grade James W Wilber, 37085050, Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 16 July 1944, near * * * , Normandy, France. A message was received that an injured American soldier was lying in an enemy mine field, and that he was exposed to heavy concentrations of enemy fire. Technician Wilber, a surgical technician, volunteered, together with two officers and another surgical technician, to enter the mine field for the purpose of rescuing the wounded man. Successful entry was made into the mined area under heavy concentrations of enemy fire; the wounded soldier was picked up and the rescue party started for safety. They had almost cleared the area when a mine exploded, killing one of the officers and Technician Wilber, and seriously injuring the other officer and technician. Inasmuch as the explosion occurred at the edge of the mine field, the rescue was successful, since nearby comrades were able immediately to drag the injured personnel to safety. His dauntless courage, above and beyond the call of duty to save another comrade at the cost of his own life, is a tribute to Technician Wilber and reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Private First Class Elmer C Trepanier, 37302042, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * , Normandy, France, on 11 July 1944. When a rifle platoon of his company was pinned down by enemy machine gun cross-fire from a church steeple on its left flank and emplacements in a cliff overlooking the * * * River on its right flank, Private Trepanier's mortar section in which he was a gunner was ordered forward to deliver fire on the enemy river cliff positions. He scored three direct hits to destroy the enemy positions. During the action enemy mortar fire fell about him intermittently. Then enemy snipers began firing on whatever targets were presented. Completing his firing mission, Private Trepanier ordered his weapon out of action. Only after determining that all the other members of his squad were well on their way to a withdrawal did he leave his post. While withdrawing he was killed. The tenacity of purpose in performing his mission, unselfish loyalty for his comrades in placing their welfare above his own life, his skill and leadership in battle, manifest high character on the part of Private Trepanier and reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Minnesota.

II — 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:

Lieutenant Colonel William V Martz, 019879, ~~Field Artillery~~ Cavalry Board [illegible], United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 13 July 1944. Colonel Martz successfully and personally directed and lead a force of M-10 tank destroyers in covering the withdrawal of an infantry patrol, while this platoon was under heavy mortar fire. As a result of Colonel Martz's gallantry, the infantry patrol was able to withdraw to a safe position. Throughout the entire action, Colonel Martz personally directed and accompanied the platoon, exposing himself to enemy fire. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Second Lieutenant Joseph S Giacobello, 01311878, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, 13 July 1944.

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NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/6/

Sec II GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

During an attack in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, Lieutenant Giacobello's company was held up by enemy machine guns firing from a group of houses. Attempts to advance were in each case repulsed, with casualties and without progress. He voluntarily led a patrol to outflank the enemy positions, crawled to a hedgerow on the right flank to an advanced position, from which he threw eight hand grenades to destroy one enemy machine gun position, although, during the action, he was wounded in the face and elbow by machine gun and mortar fire. Disregarding his wounds, and refusing to accept medical aid until all positions were secured, he proceeded with his patrol to capture his platoon objective and placed fire on other enemy positions to permit the advance of his company. The gallantry in action, leadership in battle, disregard for his personal comfort, reflects high credit on Lieutenant Giacobello and furnished an inspiration for the members of his command. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Technical Sergeant John Y Park, 20011813, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 13 July 1944. Sergeant Park, after his platoon leader had been wounded, took command of his platoon which was attempting to outflank an enemy machine gun nest. Locating the first enemy position, Sergeant Park crawled to within thirty feet of the machine gun nest and threw hand grenades, destroying the enemy. He was then seriously wounded by another machine gun farther away. Despite his wounds he rejoined his platoon, reorganized it into a defensive line, and reported the situation to his commanding officer before he received medical attention. His accurate reporting of the situation materially assisted in the occupation of the enemy position by his company. The conspicuous courage, outstanding devotion to duty, and tenacious zeal for the accomplishment of his organization's mission reflects the highest credit on his character as a soldier and furnishes an inspiration to his comrades. Entered military service from Territory of Hawaii.

Technical Sergeant Victor W Schultz, 36212144, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 17 July 1944. Following the loss of his platoon leader, Sergeant Schultz reorganized and assumed command of his platoon, then engaged in an attack southwest of * * * . When the advance of his platoon was held up by enemy machine gun and small arms fire immediately after leaving the line of departure, Sergeant Schultz, disregarding his personal safety, exposed himself to enemy fire in order definitely to determine enemy positions and accurately direct the fire of his unit thereon. When the enemy defense was broken by friendly artillery fire, Sergeant Schultz led the the assualt of his platoon to eliminate resistance in his zone and to advance across * * * . He displayed superior leadership throughout this period of the advance. His platoon then succeeded in reducing the greater portion of the enemy resistance southwest of * * * , so that elements on the right and left were able to move abreast of it. After a hasty reorganization, Sergeant Schultz continuing to display exceptional leadership, led his platoon for an inspiring drive of thirty-five hundred yards through enemy territory to seize the objective. The gallantry in action, leadership, devotion to duty and tacical skill displayed by Sergeant Schultz, accounted for the success of his company in this attack and is in accordance with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Contd over - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/10

Sec II GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Staff Sergeant Cecil D Frost, 20725157, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * , France, on 16 July 1944. Sergeant Frost led his squad as a reconnaissance patrol into the town of * * * on a reconnaissance mission when the unit was caught in a heavy enemy artillery barrage. He immediately effectuated withdrawal of his squad from its perilous position but found that two members were missing after they had evacuated the town. He returned through the enemy fire to search for the two soldiers and found them both wounded. Without regard for his personal safety, in the artillery barrage which was increasing in intensity all the while, Sergeant Frost administered first aid to the wounded and made two trips to remove them to a position of safety. His gallantry in action and unselfish loyalty for the members of his squad, directly resulting in saving the lives of two of his men, constitutes a fine tribute to the leadership of Sergeant Frost and reflects high credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Howard G Nichols, 38446359, (then private first class), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, on 13 July 1944. Upon learning that a wounded soldier had been left in a disabled tank in an area from which troops had withdrawn to allow an artillery barrage to fall, and that two other seriously wounded men were near the tank, Sergeant Nichols, without regard for his own personal safety, and realizing that the artillery barrage was about to fall, accompanied by another soldier, crawled to the wounded men and removed them to a place of safety. The courage, initiative, and unselfish devotion to his comrades displayed by Sergeant Nichols on this occasion was directly responsible for saving the lives of three wounded men, reflects the highest credit upon his character as a soldier, and is in accordance with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Technician Fourth Grade Frank A Hild, 16100562, (then technician fifth grade), Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. The rifle company to which he was attached as an aid man, was pinned down during its attack against the enemy by machine gun and artillery fire. Technician Hild crawled forward, under enemy fire, to administer aid to a wounded man, with whom he remained for two hours, when he observed another man fall some thirty yards distant. He then crawled to the aid of the second wounded man, although he was fired upon from an enemy machine gun firing at short range. After applying aid to the second wounded man, he returned to the original wounded soldier and continued to apply treatment. He spent a total of eleven hours under enemy fire attending the wounded men. The courage, gallantry and unselfish loyalty to his comrades, without regard for his personal safety, reflects high credit upon Technician Hild and is in accord with the traditions of the service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Leroy Batson, 16055762, Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 16 July 1944, near * * * , Normandy, France. A message was received that a wounded American soldier was lying in an enemy mine field about 600 yards south of the village of * * *, exposed to heavy enemy fire.

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NND DECLASSIFIED Authority 735017 By IM NARA, Date 1/6/

Sec II GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Private Batson, a surgical technician, volunteered, with two officers and another surgical technician, to enter the mine field for the purpose of rescuing the wounded man. Successful entry was made into the mined area under heavy concentrations of enemy fire; the wounded soldier was picked up and the rescue party started to carry him to safety. They had almost cleared the area when a mine exploded, killing one of the officers and the other technician, and seriously injuring the other officer and Private Batson. Inasmuch as the explosion took place at the edge of the mine field area, rescue was effected, since nearby comrades were able immediately to come forward and drag all injured personnel to safety. His dauntless courage, above and beyond the call of duty, his willingness to risk his life to save a comrade, is an outstanding tribute to Private Batson and the Medical Corps. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Howard C Berry, 36420618, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, on 11 July 1944. In action in the vicinity of * * * , Private Berry's platoon as well as other elements of his company were pinned down in an open field by enemy machine gun and mortar fire. Private Berry crawled forward of his own front to a position near an enemy machine gun nest which was delivering fire upon his unit's position and inflicting casualties on his platoon. In the face of withering fire and without regard for his own life, Private Berry threw two hand grenades into the enemy machine gun position, neutralizing its fire and enabling his platoon to advance. His courage, gallantry in action, and skill under fire, disregard for his own personal safety, resulted in the destruction of a strategically placed enemy machine gun position, furthered the advance of his own platoon, and reflects high credit upon Private Berry. Entered military service from Michigan.

Private First Class Thomas W Hudson, 38446393, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 18 July 1944. In an attack near * * * Private Hudson was a gunner in a light machine gun squad of his company. Enemy artillery caused all the other members of his crew to become casualties. Private Hudson himself suffered a painful wound in the shoulder. The weapon remained serviceable, and although wounded, he moved the gun into a new position, placed it in action, and, operating alone, continued to support the attack with the light machine gun until he collapsed from loss of blood from his wounds. The gallantry in action, zealous devotion to duty, and strong determination for success of his troops, as manifested by Private Hudson, reflects high credit upon him and upon the armed forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

Private First Class Samuel R Rullo, 33762100, Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, on 16 July 1944. Private Rullo, with utter disregard for his own life, entered a mined field to give first aid to two wounded men who were under artillery fire. He succeeded in dressing the wounds of one man and was moving to the other when he struck a mine, blowing off both his legs.

Contd over - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By IM NARA, Date 1/12

He coolly applied tourniquets to both his legs and called back for stretcher bearers to evacuate the wounded man and himself. Through his gallant efforts one life was saved despite the fact that he lost both his own legs. The conspicuous courage, gallantry in action, unselfish loyalty towards his comrades as manifested by Private Rullo reflects the highest credit upon his character and the highest credit upon his branch of service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Private First Class Robert O Sumner, 20725223, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. When the advance of his platoon was held up by enemy machine gun fire, Private Sumner crawled for one hundred yards to a position from which he threw hand grenades to destroy the machine gun position. In returning to his organization, he discovered two of his comrades seriously wounded, and lying exposed to enemy mortar fire falling in that vicinity. Disregarding his personal safety, he proceeded to administer first aid to the wounded and to evacuate them to a position of safety. The tenacity of purpose and unselfish loyalty reflects credit upon Private Sumner and furnishes inspiration to his comrades-in-arms. Entered military service from Kansas.

Private First Class Nicholas Zalnerovich, 32884255, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, on 16 July 1944. When his company was pinned down in front of Hill Number 74, Private Zalnerovich volunteered to observe fire for the 80mm mortars on an enemy strongpoint located in a house to their front. When his telephone wire became exhausted, and being unable to obtain the required observation at the end of the wire, he crawled under enemy machine gun fire into an open field some twenty-five yards beyond the hedgerow at the end of the telephone line. In order to relay his fire direction it was necessary for him to run the twenty-five yards from the phone to his position in the field and back. In spite of the obstacle presented by that fact, he directed accurate mortar fire on the enemy positions as well as two concentrations of artillery fire in a draw leading to the enemy position. His accurate direction of mortar and artillery fire resulted in the destruction of an enemy machine gun position, the withdrawal of another, and the destruction of a 47mm antitank gun, a rocket gun, and approximately a platoon of infantry. The tenacity of purpose, zealous devotion to duty and gallantry in action of Private Zalnerovich reflects credit upon his character as a soldier and is in accord with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Private Edward E Dagenhart, 20724955, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. When a platoon of his company was held up by enemy machine gun fire, coming from an emplaced tank serving as a pillbox, Private Dagenhart, armed with a bazooka, and his assistant received the mission of destroying the enemy tank. In order to secure a position from which fire could be directed upon the tank, it was necessary for the bazooka team to crawl for one hundred yards under enemy observation. Before reaching the firing position, Private Dagenhart's assistant was killed by enemy fire. Without hesitation, Private Dagenhart secured the ammunition from his fallen comrade and continued alone on his mission, and loading and operating the weapon alone, fired three rounds, scoring two direct hits on the enemy tank which neutralized the machine gun fire so that his platoon was enabled to advance. The courage, skill, and zeal in fulfilling his mission reflects credit on Private Dagenhart as an individual soldier and is in accordance with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/12

GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

III — SILVER STAR MEDAL (OAK LEAF CLUSTER). 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, in addition to the Silver Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following enlisted man of this command:

Private Edward E Dagenhart, 20724955, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, Normandy, France, 15 July 1944. Private Dagenhart, armed with a bazooka, moved forward to destroy an enemy machine gun emplacement. Despite two wounds from shell fragments of enemy artillery, he continued to accomplish his mission. Refusing medical aid, he was moving forward with his platoon when he observed a noncommissioned officer of his company lying seriously wounded in an open field under enemy machine gun fire. Disregarding his wounds and the volume of enemy fire, he proceeded to aid the wounded soldier and removed him to cover, where medical assistance was given. Private Dagenhart continued with his platoon, halting for medical care only when the organization objective had been taken. His tenacity of purpose and loyalty to his comrades in placing their welfare above his personal safety and comfort constitutes a tribute to Private Dagenhart's character as a soldier and reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

IV — BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Posthumous Award). 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, posthumously, to the following enlisted man of this command:

Staff Sergeant Joseph G Swendroski, 37036395, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service and meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, on 15 July 1944. The hedgerow along the front of his company was the line of departure for his battalion in an attack against Hill Number 122. Disregarding the risk to his person by his actions, Sergeant Swendroski, a squad leader, mounted the hedgerow where he was in a most advantageous position to observe the actions of the troops in the advance and that of the enemy in the defense. From his selected position, he was able most effectively to direct the supporting fire of his squad, which contributed materially to the success of the assault of our troops in that action. He was killed in action three days later. The heroic actions of Sergeant Swendroski, his utter disregard for personal safety, his zeal in the execution of his duty manifested by placing the success of the mission of his squad above his personal safety, resulted in the receipt of supporting fire at the time and place needed by the attacking troops, and reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

V — 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:

Lieutenant Colonel Albert M Butler, 0335220, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Lieutenant Colonel James M Hamilton Jr, 0252991, Infantry United States Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

Lieutenant Colonel George T O'Connell, 0357272, Infantry, United States Army for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Kansas.

Contd over - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED Authority 935017 By: IM NARA, Date 4/12

Sec V GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Lieutenant Colonel John H Stowers, 0176135, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Mississippi.

Major Alfred K Clark, 0338878, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Major Claude N Shaver, 0328946, Field Artillery, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Kansas.

Captain Jack L Smith, 0392777, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from Kansas.

First Lieutenant William O White Jr, 0442097, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, on 16 July 1944. In the action against * * * , Lieutenant White's battalion was consolidating its positions and was preparing to resume the attack when enemy thrusts were being made on all sides of his company, with concentrations of enemy artillery and smoke directed at his company's position. Voluntarily and alone, Lieutenant White entered the enemy lines to determine their position and strength and to reconnoiter routes of attack for his battalion. After accomplishing his mission and on his return to the battalion command post, he discovered seven enemy mines. Although possessing no particular technical knowledge of mine removal, he did remove the mines and marked the area. The actions of Lieutenant White are highly commendable and are in accord with the high traditions of the service. Entered military service from South Carolina.

Second Lieutenant Anders N Kulander, 01325581, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 31 July to 4 August 1944. Entered military service from New York.

Second Lieutenant Alvin A Schock, 0525023, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. When the advance of his company was held up in an open field by enemy machine gun and mortar fire, Lieutenant Schock, without regard for his personal safety, exposed himself in order more effectively to search out the enemy positions and direct the fire of his weapons platoon against them. His fire-direction was so effective that the enemy was forced to withdraw and his company was able to advance. Later, during the same day, when his company was forced to withdraw from an untenable salient to previously prepared positions, Lieutenant Schock, assisted by a noncommissioned officer of his platoon, manned a machine gun to cover the withdrawal. Ordering the noncommissioned officer who had assisted him to withdraw, Lieutenant Schock continued to operate the machine gun alone, until he determined that all men of the company had made a withdrawal. Entered military service from South Dakota.

Technical Sergeant Cecil L Pucket, 37070616, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, on 14 July 1944. When a large ammunition dump containing mortar and machine gun ammunition had been struck

Contd - - - - -

NC DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By [illegible] NARA, Date 1/12

Sec V GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

by an enemy artillery shell during an artillery barrage, Sergeant Pucket, disregarding his personal safety in the face of enemy shelling then in progress, seized a packboard of burning mortar ammunition and carried it from the dump so that the ammunition remaining in the dump was not endangered. His prompt action and disregard for his personal safety prevented the possible demolition of the entire ammunition dump and the consequent endangering of the lives of some twenty of his comrades in the vicinity. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Edgar W Lakin, 37033824, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, 15 July 1944. Sergeant Lakin's squad was serving as the covering force for his battalion, which was moving along a sunken road, when sudden enemy fire opened up on the battalion. Without hesitation, Sergeant Lakin deployed his squad, and from an exposed position, without regard for his personal safety, directed its fire against the enemy, effectively covering the battalion withdrawal. The prompt, resourceful action of Sergeant Lakin, his aggressive leadership and cool efficiency in the face of enemy fire, was responsible for saving his battalion from possible enemy ambush, and permitted its safe withdrawal to more advantageous positions from which to institute its assault. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Joseph W Lighter, 20724979, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, 16 July 1944. Sergeant Lighter was a section sergeant in the 81mm mortar section of Company "D". The section had been firing on enemy positions for about an hour. A large number of powder increments had accumulated near the mortars and, in addition, several cases of ammunition, some opened in preparation for further firing, were piled nearby. An enemy shell landed near the powder increments and set them afire. The fire spread to the ammunition cases. Without hesitation, Sergeant Lighter removed the burning ammunition cases, spread out the ammunition, and extinguished the fire. The quick action on the part of Sergeant Lighter, disregarding his personal safety, not only saved the ammunition dump but also saved other members of his section from possible injury, and reflects credit on his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Clement C McGuire, 37033878, Infantry, United State Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 15 to 17 July 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Sergeant Roscoe C Cooter, 34504997, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, 13 July 1944. During the attack in the vicinity of * * * , assault companies of Sergeant Cooter's battalion were held up by enemy machine gun fire. His platoon, in maneuvering to the left flank to fire on the enemy machine guns, was itself pinned down by two machine guns delivering flanking fire at point-blank range. After the loss of one man killed and five wounded in the platoon, Sergeant Cooter opened fire on the enemy with his rifle and then threw five hand grenades to destroy the machine guns firing on his platoon. By his heroic action, the platoon escaped possible destruction and Hill Number 74 was outflanked. Entered military service from Georgia.

Contd over - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/10

Sec V GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Sergeant Stephen L Filipowicz, 20720989, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 15 to 17 July 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Sergeant Edward C Fredenburg, 20723361, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service and meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, on 15 July 1944. The hedgerow along the front of his company was the line of departure for his battalion in an attack against Hill Number 122. Disregarding the risk to his person by his actions, Sergeant Fredenburg, a squad leader, mounted the hedgerow where he was in a most advantageous position to observe the actions of the troops in the advance and that of the enemy in the defense. From his selected position, he was able most effectively to direct the supporting fire of his squad, which contributed materially to the success of the assault of our troops in that action. He was wounded by enemy fire in this action. The heroic actions of Sergeant Fredenburg, his utter disregard for personal safety, his zeal in the execution of his duty manifested by placing the success of the mission of his squad above his personal safety, resulted in the receipt of supporting fire at the time and place needed by the attacking troops, and reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Sergeant Frank M Rosencutter, 20725339, (then private first class), Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. When two platoons of his company were pinned down by enemy machine gun fire during an attack, Sergeant Rosencutter opened fire on the enemy machine gun position with his Browning Automatic Rifle. As he was delivering fire upon the enemy position, he observed two other enemy machine guns being moved into position to deliver fire on his company, and sent a message to that effect to his platoon leader who ordered a withdrawal. He remained behind and covered the withdrawal which was effected without a casualty. After firing two hundred rounds from his weapon, and determining that the withdrawal of his platoon was complete, Sergeant Rosencutter, the last man of his unit in the position, then withdrew to rejoin his platoon. Entered military service from Kansas.

Corporal Sidney E Mahurin, 20724982, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. During the initial action of his company near * * * , Corporal Mahurin on three occasions delivered loads of mortar ammunition to his platoon's ammunition point. In so doing it was necessary that he travel through enemy shell fire so intense that other drivers had been unable to pass through. His timely deliveries enabled his platoon to fire on enemy batteries and cover the withdrawal of an isolated and imperiled rifle platoon of his battalion, although the platoon was exposed to direct enemy fire. His courage, coolness, and devotion to duty reflects credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kansas.

Contd - - - - -

NND DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735017
By TM NARA, Date 1/10

Sec V GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Technician Fifth Grade Daniel R Ebert, 39200386, Medical Department, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, 23 July 1944. During a heavy enemy artillery barrage, Technician Ebert, an aid man, left his foxhole to go to the aid of a wounded soldier, and administered first aid while exposed to shell fragments from enemy artillery bursting in the immediate vicinity. Later that evening, during another heavy enemy artillery barrage, he again left his place of safety and attended the injuries of an officer of his command. The courage, coolness and devotion to duty of Technician Ebert, acting without regard for his personal safety, reflects credit upon the military service, and the Medical Corps in particular. Entered military service from Washington.

Private First Class Arthur E Coker, 34663391, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , Normandy, France, 13 July 1944. During the attack in the vicinity of * * * assault companies of Private Coker's battalion were held up by enemy machine gun fire. His platoon, in maneuvering to the left flank to fire on the enemy machine guns, was itself pinned down by two machine guns delivering flanking fire at point-blank range. After the loss of one man killed and five wounded in the platoon, Private Coker opened fire on the enemy with his rifle and then threw five hand grenades to destroy the machine guns firing on his platoon. By his heroic action, the platoon escaped possible destruction and Hill Number 74 was outflanked. Entered military service from North Carolina.

Private First Class Kenneth E Elders, 36054350, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, 19 July 1944. Private Elders was a member of a reconnaissance patrol. After completion of its mission, the patrol was returning to its organization when it was fired upon by enemy snipers. The officer leader and a member of the patrol were wounded by the enemy fire, both falling and rolling down an embankment to a position exposed to enemy fire. Disregarding the fact that his action placed him under full observation and fire of the enemy snipers, Private Elders and another member of the patrol proceeded to the wounded officer, administered first aid, and carried him over one mile to his company. The prompt action and heroic service of Private Elders under enemy fire reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Keith E Hitson, 34504819, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, 19 July 1944. Private Hitson was a member of a reconnaissance patrol. After completion of its mission, the patrol was returning to its organization when it was fired upon by enemy snipers. The officer leader and a member of the patrol were wounded by the enemy fire, both falling and rolling down an embankment to a position exposed to enemy fire. Disregarding the fact that his action placed him under full observation and fire of the enemy snipers, Private Hitson and another member of the patrol proceeded to the wounded enlisted man, administered first aid, and carried him over one mile to his company. The prompt action and heroic service of this soldier under enemy fire reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Tennessee.

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Sec V GO 20 Hq 35th Inf Div 15 Aug 44 contd - - - - -

Private First Class Chester F Martin, 36558554, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, 19 July 1944. Private Martin was a member of a reconnaissance patrol. After completion of its mission, the patrol was returning to its organization when it was fired upon by enemy snipers. The officer leader and a member of the patrol were wounded by the enemy fire, both falling and rolling down an embankment to a position exposed to enemy fire. Disregarding the fact that his action placed him under full observation and fire of the enemy snipers, Private Martin and another member of the patrol proceeded to the wounded officer, administered first aid, and carried him over one mile to his company. The prompt action and heroic service of Private Martin under enemy fire reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Michigan.

Private First Class Randolph Shepard, 34368413, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , Normandy, France, 19 July 1944. Private Shepard was a member of a reconnaissance patrol. After completion of its mission, the patrol was returning to its organization when it was fired upon by enemy snipers. The officer leader and a member of the patrol were wounded by the enemy fire, both falling and rolling down an embankment to a position exposed to enemy fire. Disregarding the fact that his action placed him under full observation and fire of the enemy snipers, Private Shepard and another member of the patrol proceeded to the wounded enlisted man, administered first aid, and carried him over one mile to his company. The prompt action and heroic service of Private Shepard under enemy fire reflects credit on the military service. Entered military service from Georgia.

VI — AIR 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 Air Medal is awarded to the following officers:

Second Lieutenant John W Custer, 02045153, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights over Normandy, France. During the period 13 June to 19 July 1944, Lieutenant Custer, an Artillery Liaison Pilot, flew over thirty-five sorties involving front line reconnaissance, surveillance and adjustment of fire on enemy installations and registration of fire in enemy territory. The meritorious achievement of Lieutenant Custer in the outstanding performance of his mission during this period facilitated the receipt of vital information of the enemy and the proper adjustment of fire upon enemy positions, and materially contributed to the successful operations of our troops. Entered military service from Montana.

Second Lieutenant Robert J Ogden, 01184559, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights over Normandy, France. During the period 14 June to 26 July, 1944, Lieutenant Ogden, an Artillery Liaison Pilot, flew over thirty-five sorties involving front line reconnaissance, surveillance and adjustment of fire on enemy installations and registration of fire in enemy territory. The meritorious achievement of Lieutenant Ogden in the outstanding performance of his mission during this period facilitated the receipt of vital information of the enemy and the proper adjustment of fire upon enemy positions, and materially contributed to the successful operations of our troops. Entered military service from New York.

By command of Major General BAADE:

OFFICIAL:
Richard G Chadwick
RICHARD G CHADWICK:
Lt Colonel, A G D
Adjutant General

Distribution: Special

MADDREY A SOLOMON
Colonel, G S C
Chief of Staff