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HEADQUARTERS 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 35 US ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO 28)

2 September 1944

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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 enlisted men:

Technical Sergeant John G Meints, 37034725, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, France, on 1 August 1944. Sergeant Meints was platoon sergeant of the first platoon, Company C, * * * Infantry, participating in an assault on high ground south of * * * when his platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun fire. Without hesitation, Sergeant Meints crawled around the right flank to the vicinity of the machine gun nest, and with hand grenades killed the enemy crew, silencing the machine gun. The intrepid daring of Sergeant Meints, his utter disregard for personal safety, and his determination that his platoon succeed in its mission, regardless of obstacles, reflects credit upon his character as a soldier, and upon the military service. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Sergeant Ottis A Holler, 35470011, (then private first class), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * *, France, on 31 July 1944. Sergeant Holler and his machine gun crew were supporting an infantry unit advancing along a sunken road when the unit was suddenly pinned down by machine gun fire from its left flank. Without hesitation, Sergeant Holler detached his machine gun from its mount, crawled to a position where he could see the enemy, stood upright, cradled his weapon in one arm and fired with the other, destroying the enemy position. The courage, coolness, resourcefulness, and utter disregard for personal safety on the part of Sergeant Holler enabled the infantry unit to continue its advance, and is in keeping with the highest military traditions. Entered military service from Kentucky.

Sergeant James T Walton, 34663184, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, France, on 31 July 1944. Sergeant Walton was the leader of a light machine gun squad of a weapons platoon, assigned the mission of protecting the flank of Company C during the advance against the enemy southwest of * * *.

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The weapons platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun and small arms fire, and Sergeant Walton, realizing that forward movement was necessary to continue protection of the company flank, picked up a machine gun, advanced and delivered such accurate fire that the enemy was forced to withdraw. Sergeant Walton was killed in action against the enemy at a later date. The courage, zealous devotion to duty, and disregard for personal safety on the part of Sergeant Walton was directly responsible for the accomplishment of the platoon mission, and reflects the highest credit upon the military service. Entered military service from North Carolina.

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 man of this command:

Lieutenant Colonel William F Northam, 019547, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * *, France, on 11 and 12 August, 1944. Colonel Northam, Executive Officer, * * * Infantry, assumed command of the Third Battalion, * * * Infantry, on 11 August 1944, led his troops forward and made contact with a battalion that had been cut off by the enemy some hours earlier. He continued forward to the battalion objective, heavily wooded high ground near * * *, occupied by strong enemy forces in prepared positions. In the face of heavy enemy fire of all types and numerous enemy tanks, he led his battalion in a successful assault on the objective. Throughout the action, the superb leadership of Colonel Northam, his fearlessness, coolness, tenacity of purpose, and utter disregard for personal safety, served as an inspiration to the officers and men of his battalion. Entered United States Military Academy from Indiana.

Lieutenant Colonel John H Stowers, 0176135, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, France, on 11-12 August 1944. As Commanding Officer, First Battalion, * * * Infantry. Colonel Stowers led his unit in a wide flanking movement on enemy positions in the * * * Forest, involving a night march of five miles over unreconnoitered trails, and requiring hand-carrying of all weapons. He moved his battalion with such skill and silence that when he ordered a dawn attack, the enemy was surprised and many were caught asleep in their prepared positions. After taking the objective he consolidated his positions and, despite heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, repulsed all enemy counterattacks. The outstanding leadership of Colonel Stowers, his tenacity of purpose, and utter disregard for personal safety, enabled units in this area to clear the * * * Forest of the enemy much earlier than was anticipated, and reflects great credit upon his character as an officer and leader of men. Entered military service from Mississippi.

Major William G Gillis Jr, 023909, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 10-12 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * * , France. Upon assuming command of the First Battalion, * * * Infantry on 10 August 1944, Major Gillis was assigned the mission of taking high ground near * * *, and making contact with an infantry battalion that had been isolated in that area for 5 days. He led his battalion to the base of the high ground, and although cut off by strong pockets of enemy resistance, brought supplies and equipment to his troops by infiltration.

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After reorganizing his battalion, he led an assault that resulted in taking the objective on 12 August in the face of very strong enemy resistance, including tanks. He made contact with the isolated battalion, rendered medical aid and supplied such food as was available, and brought under American control all of the commanding high ground east of * * *. Throughout this action, Major Gillis, although himself wounded in the hand, accompanied leading elements of his battalion and inspired the troops under his command by his skillful leadership, tenacity of purpose, courage, coolness, positive action and utter disregard for personal safety. Entered United States Military Academy from Texas.

Captain Lawrence W Brady, 0452804, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in * * *, France, on 16 August 1944. Captain Brady, Regimental Intelligence Officer, together with another officer and two enlisted men, entered * * * soon after troops of his regiment had begun to occupy the city. While securing information of enemy strong points ahead of the leading elements of our troops, he heard heavy trucks nearby, investigated, and found remnants of the enemy undertaking to withdraw through the only remaining avenue of escape. Securing a light machine gun, he quickly set it up and opened fire upon the enemy troops less than 100 yards away. Despite enemy sniper and machine gun fire, he continued to fire until wounded by an enemy machine gun bullet. The courage, coolness, quick thinking and disregard for personal safety on the part of Captain Brady caused many casualties and much confusion among the enemy, and materially assisted in the capture of * * * by our forces. Entered military service from California.

Captain Francis S Greenlief, 01291268, (then first lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, Normandy, France, on 18 July 1944. During an attack on enemy strong points, Captain Greenlief led his platoon agressively and fearlessly in substantial advances against the enemy, and in repulsing strong counterattacks. Always well to the front of his platoon, he could be heard throughout the area shouting to his men and urging them forward. When an enemy machine gun suddenly opened fire, wounding several soldiers and killing four, Captain Greenlief picked up a Browning Automatic Rifle from a wounded soldier, advanced alone on the enemy position and knocked it out, killing the entire crew. The dynamic leadership of Captain Greenlief, his intrepid courage and utter disregard for personal safety inspired his men to their greatest efforts, and entitles Captain Greenlief to a place of honor in the annals of fighting infantrymen. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Second Lieutenant Leo E Thomas, 01306768, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * *, France, on 9 August 1944. Lieutenant Thomas was in command of a weapons platoon and Acting Executive Officer for Company L, * * * Infantry, when it was surrounded by enemy forces and subjected to concentrations of enemy fire of all types. With complete disregard for personal safety, Lieutenant Thomas crossed a field under heavy enemy fire and established contact with a rifle platoon of his company, at the same time directing the fire of his own weapons platoon. He maintained liaison between the two platoons, enabling the company to consolidate its position and repulse the enemy counterattack. The intrepid courage, skillful leadership, and disregard for personal safety on the part of Lieutenant Thomas reflects the highest credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Indiana.

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Technical Sergeant Albert R Copeland, 38446687, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 9 August 1944. When his company was pinned down by enemy fire, including 88mm fire from a tank, Sergeant Copeland, platoon leader of a rifle platoon, Company "L", * * * Infantry, armed himself with a bazooka and three rockets, proceeded around the right flank of his company, disabled the tank and with rifle fire killed six enemy soldiers who were protecting the tank. The gallantry of Sergeant Copeland, his resourcefulness, and utter disregard for personal safety, were an inspiration to the men of his unit, who resumed the attack with increased confidence. The actions of Sergeant Copeland reflect the highest credit upon his character as a soldier, and are in accord with the high traditions of the Army. Entered military service from Arkansas.

III -- 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:

Major Dan E Craig, 0405700, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from 15 to 19 July 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Major John H Minton, 0324519, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * Normandy, France, on 25 July 1944. Major Minton, Executive Officer, * * * Tank Destroyer Battalion, personally supervised the relief of one tank destroyer platoon by another platoon south of * * * after making personal reconnaissance of the immediate area in the face of enemy artillery and mortar fire, and accomplished the relief of the platoon smoothly and without jeopardizing the defense position. The skill, devotion to duty, and disregard for personal safety on the part of Major Minton reflects high credit upon his character as an officer, and is in accord with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Major George Moore, 0248303, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in * * * , France, on 17 August 1944. Major Moore, Battalion Executive Officer, entered * * * while the town was infested with snipers, and after intelligent and resourceful reconnaissance, selected an observation post for his battalion on top of a high building. This position was brought under enemy machine gun and mortar fire, causing several casualties, but Major Moore, although himself wounded, remained at his post in constant observation. The courage, tenacity of purpose and disregard for personal safety on the part of Major Moore, played an important part in the capture of * * * . Entered military service from Utah.

Captain Robert W Karlovich, 0446038, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from 15 to 19 July 1944. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

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Captain Donald E Kennedy, 0303229, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in France, during the period 11 July to 17 August 1944. Throughout this period, the devotion to duty and courage displayed by Captain Kennedy have been exemplary. During the battle of * * *, as Battalion S-2, he went forward under heavy enemy small arms fire and secured vital information which enabled his battalion to bring more effective fire upon strong points. At * * *, on 17 August, he rendered valuable assistance in keeping the enemy under observation from a post on top of a high building which had been brought under heavy enemy machine gun and mortar fire. When a junior officer at this post was wounded, Captain Kennedy calmly dressed his wounds, carried him down eight flights of stairs unassisted, evacuated him, then returned to the observation post under sniper fire. The bravery of Captain Kennedy, his resourcefulness, calmness under fire, and zealous devotion to duty exemplifies the highest and most worthy traditions of the Army. Entered military service from Illinois.

Captain Carlyle F McDannel, 0416101, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in the vicinity of * * *, France, on 23 August 1944. Captain McDannel, second battalion S-3, volunteered to lead a group of 5 tanks and 25 infantrymen in advance of the battalion which had been ordered to protect the organization's right flank and to intercept an enemy formation in the vicinity of * * *. While riding in the lead tank, Captain McDannel saw an enemy column of 74 men coming from the direction of * * *. Exercising prompt and aggressive leadership, he launched an immediate attack which resulted in killing 5 of the enemy and capturing the remaining 69. The skillful and aggressive leadership of Captain McDannel finally resulted in clearing the organization's right flank of immediate enemy resistance, and is in accord with the high traditions of the Army. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Captain Milton L Price, 0349230, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, Normandy, France, on 11 July 1944. While acting as forward observer with the * * * Infantry Regiment, Captain Price and his party were caught by heavy enemy machine gun fire and forced to take cover near a hedgerow. Disregarding his personal safety, Captain Price returned to his radio several hundred yards to the rear, crawled forward to a position of observation and, by accurately adjusting artillery fire, neutralized the enemy fire and enabled the group to withdraw to a position of safety. The courageous actions and zealous devotion to duty on the part of Captain Price are in keeping with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Captain Robert E Richardson, 0350316, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in * * *, France, on 16 August 1944. Captain Richardson, commanding the Anti-Tank Company, * * * Infantry, accompanied the first troops into * * *, and despite enemy sniper and machine gun fire he conducted reconnaissance over areas previously unreconnoitered. His accurate report of the enemy situation materially aided the * * * Combat Team and attached units to move in and occupy the enemy positions with minimum casualties. The courage, tenacity of purpose and zealous devotion to duty on the part of Captain Richardson is in accord with the high traditions of the Army. Entered military service from Kansas.

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Captain George L Schneider, 0322336, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in * * * , France, on 16 August 1944. Captain Schneider, Civil Affairs Officer, on duty with * * * Infantry, together with another officer and two enlisted men, entered * * * soon after the first troops had begun to occupy the city. While helping restore order, and securing information concerning enemy strongholds and activity in the city, he heard heavy vehicles nearby, investigated, and found remnants of the enemy undertaking to withdraw through the only remaining avenue of escape. With a light machine gun and rifles, the group opened fire on the enemy despite enemy sniper and machine gun fire. When one of his comrades, operating the machine gun, was wounded, Captain Schneider carried him to safety, administered first aid, then took over the machine gun and continued to fire until the enemy had been driven from the city. The courageous actions of Captain Schneider, his coolness under fire, tenacity of purpose, and disregard for personal safety, caused many casualties and much confusion among the enemy, and materially assisted in the capture of * * * by our forces. Entered military service from New York.

First Lieutenant Vernon J Freitas, 01170275, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 10 August 1944. A special task force consisting of Company "I", * * * Infantry and attached artillery launched an attack toward * * * with the mission of striking the rear and flank of enemy forces holding up the advance of two infantry battalions. When the task force was held up 1000 yards short of the town by heavy enemy fire of all types, Lieutenant Freitas, Artillery Liaison Officer, advanced alone about 300 yards through enemy positions to a building from which he was able to direct accurate artillery fire in neutralizing the enemy artillery and mortar fire. The accurate fire direction of Lieutenant Freitas enabled the task force to continue its advance and accomplish its mission. His courage and devotion to duty reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from California.

Technician Third Grade Francis J Harrington, 12074518, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, at * * * , France, on 16 August 1944. Technician Harrington on duty with Civil Affairs Section, * * * Infantry, accompanied two officers and another soldier into * * * immediately after the beginning of its occupation by our troops for the purpose of securing information concerning enemy strongholds and activity. In a sector of the city not then occupied by our troops the party discovered an enemy convoy preparing to withdraw. Although under enemy fire from emplacements across the river, and from enemy snipers and machine guns in the immediate vicinity, the party opened fire upon the enemy convoy, inflicting many casualties and causing much confusion among the enemy until the enemy troops had been driven from the city. The personal bravery, devotion to duty, and disregard for personal safety on the part of Technician Harrington reflects the highest credit upon his character as a soldier, and upon the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Technician Fifth Grade Paul D Bahr, 39913952, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in * * *, France, on 16 August 1944. Technician Bahr, on duty with * * * Infantry, accompanied two officers and another enlisted man into * * * soon after the first troops had begun to occupy the city, for the purpose of securing information concerning enemy strongholds and activity. In a sector of the city not yet occupied by our troops they found an enemy convoy preparing to withdraw through the only remaining avenue of escape, and opened fire with their small arms.

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Technician Bahr went to the rear for aid, and returned with a machine gun which was immediately placed in operation. When the machine gunner was wounded, Technician Bahr disregarded enemy sniper and machine gun fire to obtain medical aid, then returned to his party and continued to fire until the enemy had been driven from the city. The personal bravery and zealous devotion to duty on the part of Technician Bahr reflects the highest credit upon his character as a soldier, and upon the military service. Entered military service from Utah.

IV —BRONZE 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 Bronze Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officers of this command:

Lieutenant Colonel Albert M Butler, 0335220, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in * * *, France, on 16 August 1944. The Third Battalion, * * * Infantry, under the command of Colonel Butler, entered the left portion of * * * during the attack on the city by the * * * Combat Team and attached units, and advanced through the city to the * * * River. After severe street fighting, during which many prisoners were taken and the enemy suffered heavy casualties, the city was cleared of the enemy. Despite enemy sniper, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire, Colonel Butler was constantly at the head of his troops. The outstanding leadership displayed by Colonel Butler, his tenacity of purpose, and utter disregard for his personal safety, served as an inspiration to his troops and materially contributed to the capture of * * *. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Lieutenant Colonel George T O'Connell, 0357272, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in * * *, France, on 16 August 1944. The Second Battalion, * * * Infantry, under the command of Colonel O'Connell, served as advance guard for the * * * Combat Team, and were the first American troops to enter the city of * * * on 16 August. After severe street fighting, the enemy suffered heavy casualties and many prisoners were taken, and the city was cleared of the enemy. Despite enemy sniper, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire, Colonel O'Connell was constantly at the head of his troops. The superior leadership of Colonel O'Connell, his tenacity of purpose and utter disregard for personal safety, served as an inspiration to the officers and men under his command, and materially contributed to the capture of * * *. Entered military service from Kansas.

V — PURPLE HEART. So much of Section I, General Orders No 23, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, 23 August 1944, as pertains to Technician Fifth Grade Albert E Bittner, 39325802, Medical Department, is rescinded.

By command of Major General BAADE:

MADDREY A SOLOMON
Colonel, G S C
Chief of Staff

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

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