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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 35 US ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
NO 49)

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I -- SILVER STAR. 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, a Silver Star is awarded, posthumously, to the following enlisted men:

Technical Sergeant Theodore J Nykaza, 36025631, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , France, on 29 September 1944. When an entrucked platoon of which Sergeant Nykaza was platoon leader, proceeded along a road in the * * * , it was ambushed by enemy arned with automatic weapons and small arms. The platoon leader in the leading vehicle was wounded, whereupon Sergeant Nykaza, ordered his men to leave their vehicles and form a skirmish line to return the enemy fire. Four men were wounded while leaving the trucks. As the intensity of the enemy fire increased, Sergeant Nykaza then ordered a withdrawal. While Sergeant Nykaza and another noncommissioned officer gallantly remained to cover the withdrawal, his men succeeded in evacuating three of the wounded men and moving to safety. His leadership, courage and gallant actions are in accord with the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Virgil O Walters, 39171265, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , France, on 29 September 1944. During a heavy engagement with the enemy in the * * * , Sergeant Walters, a squad leader, skillfully reorganized his depleted squad to serve as flank security for his company. Although exposed to enemy fire aimed directly at him, he moved about among his men, instructing and encouraging them, and placing them in advantageous positions. He then commenced to evacuate several of his wounded men for medical attention. While returning to his squad to evacuate other wounded he was killed by enemy artillery fire. Sergeant Walter's leadership, his zealous devotion to duty and his courage, constitute such gallantry in action as to be in accord with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Washington.

Staff Sergeant Harry E Womble, 37145078, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 27 September 1944. After an enemy counterattack had forced his mortar section to withdraw, Sergeant Womble, a squad leader, established a new position, after which, assisted by another noncommissioned officer, he attempted to return to the previous position in order to recover the weapons carrier and other valuable equipment. He was wounded slightly by mortar fire, but determinedly continued on his mission. Reaching his destination, Sergeant Womble and his companion were driving the vehicle from the area when enemy tank fire killed him and his companion. The gallantry in action displayed by Sergeant Womble, his fortitude and devotion to duty, are in accord with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Missouri.

Corporal Homer A Gettler, 35581239, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 30 September 1944. During the course of a strong enemy counterattack, the enemy penetrated the main line of resistance of the First Battalion, * * * Infantry, and forced the crew of an 81mm mortar section to withdraw. Members of this mortar section attached themselves to an adjoining rifle company and carried on the fight with small arms. Corporal Gettler, a mortar gunner, realizing his ineffectiveness in the fire fight inasmuch as he was armed only with a pistol, remained with the rifle company long enough to determine the center of enemy activity, then returned to his mortar position accompanied by another member of his section. He was killed by enemy action as he reached the position, but his companion carried out their pre-arranged plan and placed accurate mortar fire upon enemy positions which resulted in the destruction of an enemy machine gun nest and reduction of enemy pressure in the area. Entered military service from Indiana.

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II -- SILVER STAR. 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, a Silver Star is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men of this command:

Captain Roger N Baker, 0396773, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, 28 September 1944. While the * * * Infantry was poised on the edge of * * * and defending the high ground near * * * on 28 September, plans for a proposed dawn attack on the 29th depended upon a reconnaissance of the enemy position on Hill Number 310, 4000 yards from * * * . Captain Baker voluntarily led a two-man patrol armed with only pistols and knives, through a pre-arranged "no-fire" artillery lane but 400 yards wide. Despite possible enemy observation under a brilliant moon, Captain Baker, assisted by the two enlisted men, made his way into enemy territory. When discovered by an enemy patrol, Captain Baker and his patrol engaged in a fire fight and killed five of the enemy. Continuing on his mission, he located most of the enemy strongholds and returned to the battalion command post with the vital information in time for the scheduled attack. Captain Baker's leadership, courage and tenacity of purpose displayed in leading a patrol into previously unreconnoitered territory, and with no information as to enemy mine fields or outposts, reflect credit upon his character as an officer. Entered military service from Kansas.

Captain Clifford G Decker, 0395512, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , France, on 28 September 1944. Captain Decker, commanding Company M, * * * Infantry, accompanied by four enlisted men, encountered a well-armed German patrol of fifteen soldiers near a road junction in the * * * . Captain Decker promptly dispatched a messenger for reinforcements, then directed a fire fight against the enemy during the course of which he personally killed three of the Germans. Upon the arrival of reinforcements, he organized and directed an attack against the enemy patrol, which had also received reinforcements. Although wounded in this action, Captain Decker remained in active command until the enemy force had been routed from the area. His dynamic leadership, initiative, and utter disregard for personal safety reflect credit upon his character as an officer and leader of men. Entered military service from Kansas.

First Lieutenant William P Johnson, 01303606, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , 26 September 1944. After Antitank Company had been established as part of the * * * Infantry's main line of resistance on the edge of * * * , the enemy launched a heavy attack marked by intense artillery, mortar and sniper fire. In order to defend his antitank positions, Lieutenant Johnson formed two defensive groups, one led by himself and the other by a noncommissioned officer. Despite a fire fight of two hours' duration, enemy infantry and tank support forced their withdrawal from the antitank weapons. Directing the noncommissioned officer to assume control of the unit, Lieutenant Johnson then led a group of tank destroyers to the gun positions and destroyed three enemy armored vehicles surrounding his weapons, and forcing the remainder to withdraw. Lieutenant Johnson then remained in position for twelve hours, directing his unit in repelling the enemy from the entire vicinity, after which he returned on foot to his command post and led gun crews back to the antitank weapons to continue their part in the regiment's line of resistance. Lieutenant Johnson's gallantry in action is in accordance with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

First Lieutenant Henry M Murray, 0291951, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, 27 September 1944. Two squads of riflemen of Company A, * * * Infantry, under the leadership of Lieutenant Murray, were assigned the mission of defending a road block five hundred yards east of * * * . Subjecting the road block area to a heavy mortar barrage, more than two companies of well-armed enemy infantrymen attacked the position. In spite of the greater enemy force, and with disregard for personal safety, Lieutenant Murray exposed himself to the enemy fire in order to place his men advantageously, and then moved among them to instruct and encourage them. Reorganizing his defense of the road block, he then rendered first aid to several wounded soldiers. The gallant actions of Lieutenant Murray were responsible for the tenacity of his men in maintaining the security of the road block against a larger enemy force, and resulted in killing nineteen of the enemy, capturing twenty-five prisoners and routing the remainder. Entered military service from Minnesota.

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First Lieutenant Stephen J Rutkowski, 01307169, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, France, 15 September 1944. Lieutenant Rutkowski, a rifle platoon leader, distinguished himself by outstanding qualities of leadership and devotion to duty in leading his unit in a surprise attack on known enemy positions on 15 September. Although he was wounded in the arm during the early part of the engagement, he continued to lead the assault until seriously wounded in both legs by mortar fire. In spite of his condition, he remained with his platoon for three hours, during which he issued orders, reorganized the group after it had overcome enemy resistance, and set up defensive positions to enable his men to hold their gains. Lieutenant Rutkowski's high courage and tenacity of purpose reflect credit upon his character as an officer, and upon the military service. Entered military service from New York.

First Lieutenant Jeff W Wright, 0411089, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, France, on 13 September 1944. Lieutenant Wright, a platoon leader, led his troops aggressively forward in an attack on heavily defended enemy positions near * * *. His platoon was subjected to mortar and artillery fire, but by accurately directing the fire and movement of his men, Lieutenant Wright maintained steady progress until his advance was finally halted half way up a large hill by automatic weapons and machine gun fire. After first deploying his platoon in a holding position, Lieutenant Wright went forward alone, fired all of his rifle ammunition into the enemy position, then threw two hand grenades which scattered the enemy machine gun crew. He seized the enemy machine gun and turned it on the enemy troops. When he ran out of ammunition, he seized two enemy pistols and drove the remaining enemy troops from this strong point. He was seriously wounded as he completed this daring assault. Lieutenant Wright's gallantry, dynamic leadership and personal bravery are in keeping with the highest military traditions of the United States. Entered military service from Texas.

Second Lieutenant James R F Woods, 01324876, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * *, France, on 11 August 1944. During the course of an attack against strong enemy positions near * * *, Lieutenant Woods, leader of a machine gun platoon, crossed open terrain under enemy fire to administer first aid to a wounded soldier. During the night of 11 August as units of the * * * Infantry moved to a rendezvous point for a dawn attack, Lieutenant Woods went forward to establish contact with his battalion commander. It was necessary for him to proceed through enemy occupied territory. Although wounded in both hands, he accomplished his mission. He refused evacuation until the attack had been launched and the issue no longer in doubt. His gallantry and tenacity of purpose reflect high credit upon his character as an officer. Entered military service from California.

Technical Sergeant John A Bausch, 20724039, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * *, France, 26 September 1944. After Antitank Company had been established as part of the * * * Infantry's main line of resistance on the edge of * * *, the enemy launched a heavy attack marked by intense artillery, mortar and sniper fire, and supported by tanks. In order to defend the antitank positions, two defensive groups were formed, one led by Sergeant Bausch, and the other by an officer. The leadership of Sergeant Bausch materially contributed to the successful defense of the positions. Apprehensive as to the third antitank weapon of his platoon, Sergeant Bausch fought his way toward it and found three men wounded at the position, whereupon he manned the weapon himself for thirty minutes, until forced to withdraw by the intensity of the enemy action, which had, in the interim, forced withdrawal from the two other antitank positions. Sergeant Bausch then returned to his command post and led its personnel in an attempt to retake the first two weapons. After two unsuccessful attempts, he went forward in an endeavor to obtain tank destroyer support, and although wounded while so engaged, succeeded in obtaining the support, reorganized his men and retook the weapons. The leadership displayed by Sergeant Bausch, his tenacity of purpose and disregard for personal safety, constitute such gallantry in action as to reflect credit upon his character as a soldier and upon the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

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Technical Sergeant Robert L Richards, 35622103 (then staff sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , France, 29 September 1944. When an entrucked platoon of Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, * * * Infantry, proceeded along a road in the * * * , it was ambushed by enemy armed with automatic weapons and small arms. The platoon leader in the leading vehicle was wounded, whereupon Sergeant Richards, at the time a squad leader, assisted by the platoon sergeant, ordered the men to leave the vehicles and form a skirmish line to return the enemy fire. Four men were wounded while leaving the trucks. As the intensity of the enemy fire increased, Sergeant Richards, assisted by the platoon sergeant, ordered a withdrawal while he and the other noncommissioned officer covered the withdrawal. While Sergeant Richards gallantly remained to cover the withdrawal, his men succeeded in evacuating three of the wounded men and moving to safety. Sergeant Richards' gallant actions are in accord with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Ohio.

Staff Sergeant Joseph H Grimes Jr, 33734803, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action at * * * , France, 30 September 1944. A stubborn enemy, by means of heavy fire of all types, attempted to prevent Company F, * * * Infantry, from entering the village of * * * . Despite the strong opposition, Company F entered the village. Street and hand-to-hand fighting ensued. Sergeant Grimes, a squad leader, led his squad into the town in the face of the heavy enemy fire. Although his squad had suffered casualties, Sergeant Grimes remained at its head at 'l times, and by his personal action, imbued his men with the zeal to succeed in eir mission, regardless of obstacles. Under his outstanding leadership and forceulness, his squad succeeded in the inspiring capture of a strategic enemy position. Sergeant Grimes personally killed six of the enemy and captured twenty prisoners. His gallant actions make him a credit to the military service. Entered military service from Maryland.

Sergeant Frank Wycinski, 35622260, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of the * * * , France, on 26 September 1944. When the position of his heavy machine gun squad became untenable during the course of a strong enemy attack, Sergeant Wycinski, although wounded, covered the movement of his squad to an alternate position. He succeeded in silencing an enemy machine gun which opened fire upon his squad, and continued to fire at all enemy targets in the area, drawing enemy fire to his own position and permitting his squad to reach the alternate position safely. Despite his weakened condition, he then carried the heavy machine gun to the new position and reorganized his squad for a continuation of the fight before permitting himself to be evacuated. His gallant actions are worthy of emulation. Entered military service from Ohio.

Technician Fourth Grade Olin Feggestad, 36212334, Medical Department, United States Army, for gallantry in action near * * * , France, 15 September 1944. During an engagement north of * * * , where his unit succeeded in crossing a canal, Technician Feggestad, an aid man attached to Company G, * * * Infantry, distinguished himself by outstanding devotion to duty and gallantry in rendering first aid to the wounded while exposed to very heavy small arms and machine gun fire. Although the fighting in this area was so intense that litter bearers were unable to make their way to the wounded soldiers until after dark, Technician Feggestad assisted many men back across the canal to more sheltered positions. He continued his perilous mission throughout the day even after he had himself been wounded, and would not permit himself to be evacuated until all casualties in his platoon had received medical assistance. His intrepid loyalty to his comrades reflects credit upon his character as a soldier and upon the Medical Department of the Army. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Corporal Paul E Faulconer, 38340784, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 30 September 1944. During the course of a strong enemy counterattack, the enemy penetrated the main line of resistance of the First Battalion, * * * Infantry, and forced the crew of an 81mm mortar section to withdraw. Members of this mortar section attached themselves to an adjoining rifle company and carried on the fight with small arms. Corporal Faulconer, a mortar gunner, realizing his ineffectiveness in the fire fight inasmuch as he was armed only with a pistol, remained with the rifle company long enough to determine the center of enemy activity, then returned to his mortar position accompanied by another member of his section. Despite the fact that the gunner accompanying him was killed by enemy action as he reached the position, Corporal Faulconer, acting on his own initiative and under heavy enemy fire, fired his remaining mortar ammunition at the enemy. This fire was accurate and effective, and

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resulted in the destruction of an enemy machine gun nest and reduction of enemy pressure in that area. His gallant actions contributed materially to the success of his battalion in driving the enemy back with heavy losses. Entered military service from Texas.

Private First Class Earl R Brekke, 37162962, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of the * * * , France, on 27 September 1944. Private Brekke and another machine gunner were established at a vantage point on the main line of resistance protecting the flank of the battalion position, when they observed the approach of German tanks followed by infantrymen. Private Brekke and his companion waited until the enemy was within 100 yards of their position, then, despite direct fire from the enemy tanks, placed heavy and accurate fire among the enemy force, contributing materially to the rout of this force before it reached the main line of resistance. Later that day, he observed an enemy artillery piece being moved into position behind a ridge 400 yards to the front, protected from small arms fire by rolling terrain. While his companion repaired damaged communication lines in order to direct artillery fire upon the enemy gun, Private Brekke kept his heavy machine gun in operation and, by accurate fire, repulsed three enemy attempts to outflank his position. By his gallantry and courageous initiative under fire, Private Brekke succeeded in inflicting heavy casualties among the enemy, and contributed to the success of his battalion in repulsing determined enemy attacks in this sector. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Private First Class Walter L Hillstrom, 37096442, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * , France, 29 September 1944. Private Hillstrom, a driver, Intelligence Section, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, * * * Infantry, was driving his officer through * * * when they were fired upon from ambush by an enemy patrol, and wounding the officer. Private Hillstrom drove his vehicle into a ditch and pulled the officer from the vehicle into the cover afforded by the defilade position. Upon order of the officer, Private Hillstrom surrendered and was taken by a group of six Germans into the woods, where he was forced to carry a wounded enemy captain. When Private Hillstrom was slightly wounded while so engaged, the enemy patrol decided to leave their captain. Discovering that one member of the patrol spoke Swedish, Private Hillstrom convinced him in that tongue that the group should surrender. As that moment, a four-man patrol from Company K, * * * Infantry, was observed by the enemy patrol. Realizing the fact that his comrades were outnumbered, Private Hillstrom convinced the enemy group to hold their fire, moved to a clearing and called to the American patrol to hold their fire, and then directed the enemy group to drop their weapons and approach as prisoners. Private Hillstrom's initiative, resourcefulness, presence of mind and courage, spell such gallantry in action as to be in accordance with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Private First Class Melvin L Pagel, 37574901, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action at * * * , France, 30 September 1944. When Company F, * * * Infantry fought its way into the village of * * * , in the face of heavy enemy fire of all types, intense street and hand-to-hand fighting ensued. Early in the action, Private Pagel, a rifleman, had been severely wounded in the abdomen, but despite his wound, insisted upon continuing in the action. Disregarding his pain and loss of blood, Private Pagel would not permit himself to be taken out of the fight until the successful completion of his company's mission, during the accomplishment of which he displayed the courage, fortitude and fighting spirit of the American Infantryman. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Private First Class Harmon D Morris, 38396122, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 11 July 1944. In the operation against * * * , Private Morris, a rifleman, was covering the advance of his mortar section which soon was pinned-down by enemy machine gun fire. Maneuvering toward the enemy emplacement, Private Morris was discovered by the enemy gun crew, who turned their weapon to fire upon him, but as he was then sufficiently close to the position, he killed the enemy crew and destroyed the weapon, as a result of which his mortar section was enabled to advance. The courageous actions of Private Morris constitute such gallantry in action as to be in accord with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

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Private First Class George A Reznicek, 36628079, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action at * * *, France, 29 September 1944. On 29 September, Company F, * * * Infantry, attacked the village of * * *, France, encountering heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. The advance continued into the village, where the company engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting. Private Reznicek, a rifleman, was wounded in the left arm during the initial stages of the battle. Disregarding his personal condition, he continued the fight, killing several of the enemy and capturing two, and refusing to accept first aid as long as he felt he was needed in the assault. When weakened by loss of blood, he finally consented to treatment, but insisted on taking twenty-two prisoners with him to the rear, guarding them with a captured pistol which he held in his uninjured hand. His gallant and aggressive actions were an inspiration to his comrades-in-arms, and reflect high credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private Palmer Z LaRoche, 36685307, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of the * * *, France, on 27 September 1944. Private LaRoche and another machine gunner were established at a vantage point on the main line of resistance protecting the flank of the battalion position, when they observed the approach of German tanks followed by infantrymen. Private LaRoche and his companion waited until the enemy was within 100 yards of their position, then despite direct fire from the enemy tanks, placed heavy and accurate fire among the enemy force, contributing materially to the rout of this force before it reached the main line of resistance. Later that day, Private LaRoche observed an enemy artillery piece being moved into position behind a ridge 400 yards to the front, protected from small arms fire by rolling terrain. Under enemy observation and fire, he crawled fifty yards to repair communication lines which had been damaged by enemy mortar fire, then directed artillery fire which resulted in the destruction of the enemy weapon. Private LaRoche's gallantry and courageous initiative under fire resulted in the infliction of heavy casualties among the enemy and contributed to the success of the battalion in repulsing determined enemy attacks in this sector. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private Thomas J Wisniewski, 33807153, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action at * * *, France, on 29 September 1944. When Company F, * * * Infantry, attacked enemy forces occupying the village of * * *, hand-to-hand and house-to-house fighting ensued. Although twice wounded in his left arm, Private Wisniewski, a Browning Automatic Rifleman, refused evacuation. He saw nine Germans delivering flanking fire from a horse stall in a barnyard. At close range, he emptied his Browning Automatic Rifle at them, killing two of the enemy. The remaining seven enemy soldiers threw down their machine pistols and rifles, walked out of the stall and surrendered to the wounded soldier, who brandished only an empty automatic rifle. The intrepid actions of Private Wisniewski marked the climax of fighting within the village and facilitated its capture by the * * * Infantry. Private Wisniewski's courage, disregard for personal safety and fighting spirit constitute such gallantry in action as to be in accord with the military traditions of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

III — SILVER STAR (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 previously awarded, a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded, posthumously, to the following officer:

First Lieutenant Claude A Hupp, 0887339, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * *, France, on 26 September 1944. Lieutenant Hupp, leader of a heavy machine gun section of Company M, * * * Infantry, was assigned the mission of protecting the left flank of the Third Battalion, * * * Infantry, which had established defensive positions along the eastern edge of the * * *. In order to coordinate his fields of fire, Lieutenant Hupp traversed 1500 yards of open terrain under enemy observation to reach the command post of a rifle company. He was seriously wounded by shell fragments as he reached his destination, but refused evacuation until he had accomplished his mission, returned to his section, and arranged for another officer to take charge of his unit. Lieutenant Hupp died as a result of his wounds several days later. His gallantry, tenacity of purpose and zealous devotion to duty are in keeping with the traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

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IV — 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, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to the following officer and enlisted man:

Second Lieutenant Ernest J Jones, 01325056, 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 15 September 1944. Lieutenant Jones led his antitank platoon forward with the mission of securing a bridge across the * * * River Canal on the outskirts of * * * , France, when the enemy launched a counterattack in battalion strength. Lieutenant Jones promptly placed his guns in position along a road, directed fire of all available weapons upon the enemy, then called for rifle and mortar support. Despite intense enemy fire he held his position until reinforcements arrived, then directed fire of a mortar section upon enemy positions. While so engaged he was fatally wounded by enemy fire. His courageous action in holding fast to a precarious position was directly responsible for repulsing the enemy counterattack and making secure the position of our forces in this area. Entered military service from New York.

Staff Sergeant William A Lands, 14024931, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in France, from 13 July to 28 September 1944. Entered military service from Georgia.

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, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following enlisted man, now missing in action:

Private First Class Wilmer O Bridges, 37070364, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, 18 September 1944. When the enemy had infiltrated to within about three hundred yards of an assembly area where his unit was bivouacked, subjecting it to fire from 20mm antiaircraft guns and wounding several men, Private Bridges, a driver, entered his vehicle and drove across an open field to evacuate casualties. Although constantly exposed to enemy fire, he continued his task, voluntarily undertaken, until all of his wounded comrades had been removed to a place of safety. Private Bridges' disregard for personal safety and unselfish loyalty to his fellow-soldiers reflect credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Texas.

VI — 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, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men of this command:

Major Charles O Dawson, 0262988, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, from 19 to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from New Hampshire.

Major Foster H Weyand, 0274177, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 29 August to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Captain Virgil J Bernsen, 01170284, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 8 October 1944. Entered military service from Missouri.

Captain William B Breeden, 0378727, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, 14 September 1944. After Company E, * * * Infantry, had crossed the * * * River and established a bridgehead, occupying high ground immediately north of the river, two companies of enemy infantry supported by half-track vehicles, launched an attack marked by heavy fire and excellent observation from high ground. Captain Breeden was forced to withdraw from his command post

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area. Having no means of communication available, Captain Breeden discovered a communication wire, found a telephone and thereby established contact with the battalion commander who was advised of the situation. Then, on foot, and armed only with a pistol, Captain Breeden led a platoon of tanks up to the high ground occupied by the enemy and, in the face of the heavy enemy fire, directed the tanks in successfully routing the half-track vehicles and enemy infantry. Captain Breeden's initiative, resourcefulness and aggressive leadership reflect credit upon his character as an officer and upon the military service. Entered military service from Maryland.

Captain Wilbur A Gotter, 01298479 (then first lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 11 July to 25 September 1944. Entered military service from Ohio.

Captain James A Huston, 0374281, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 11 to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Indiana.

Captain Thurston J Palmer, 0317139, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 25 July to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

First Lieutenant Joe M Arnold, 01169844, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 12 July to 17 October 1944. Entered military service from Tennessee.

First Lieutenant Jessie M Beene, 0413603, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United Stated in the * * *, France, on 29 September 1944. Lieutenant Beene, a platoon leader, Company L, * * * Infantry, was leading his men along a road in the * * *, 29 September, when he and his group were ambushed by enemy armed with machine guns, automatic rifles and small arms. Several of his men were wounded, and many others, with no previous combat experience, became confused. Moving about among his men, Lieutenant Beene displayed inspiring leadership by reorganizing his men, instructing them and encouraging them. When two of his wounded men were pinned down by the enemy fire, Lieutenant Beene picked up a wounded man's Browning Automatic Rifle and cross-fired with one of his light machine guns, in order to cover the evacuation of the two wounded men. Later in the day, Lieutenant Beene so maneuvered his platoon that he outflanked an enemy strongpoint and captured thirty-six of the enemy. Lieutenant Beene's leadership, initiative and resourcefulness reflect credit upon his character as an officer. Entered military service from New Mexico.

First Lieutenant William E Bosley, 01316877, 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 14 September 1944. Learning that two platoons of his company were intending to withdraw, Lieutenant Bosley, company executive officer, made his way forward from his command post across two hundred yards of open terrain subjected to heavy enemy machine gun fire, personally assumed command of the two units and by his inspiring and courageous leadership rallied the men to the successful accomplishment of their mission. Entered military service from Kansas.

First Lieutenant Thomas F Cook, 0527783, 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 26 September 1944. The Second Battalion, * * * Infantry, had established a defensive position near * * *, France. In order to bring supplies to the battalion, it was necessary that a bridge be built over a nearby stream. Lieutenant Cook, ammunition and pioneer platoon leader, organized a squad and worked throughout the night, under enemy artillery and mortar fire, in order to clear the area so that engineers could begin construction of the bridge with minimum delay. The next morning, without having rested, Lieutenant Cook went forward to an enemy ammunition depot which was then being subjected to enemy artillery fire, and despite the danger of the mission succeeded in obtaining enemy ammunition which our weapons later fired at the enemy. Lieutenant Cook's initiative, disregard for personal safety and devotion to duty reflect credit upon [illegible] character as an offic[illegible] Entered military service fro[illegible]klahoma.

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First Lieutenant Maxwell W Kamm, 01318309, 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 10 September 1944. During operations incident to the crossing of the * * * River by the Second Battalion, * * * Infantry, Lieutenant Kamm voluntarily assumed command of a platoon when its leader had become a casualty, reorganized the unit under fire and led it forward until its objective had been attained. His skillful and courageous leadership inspired his men with confidence and was responsible for the outstanding performance of his platoon in the accomplishment of its immediate mission, as well as in repulsing an enemy counterattack later during the day. Entered military service from Indiana.

First Lieutenant Cecil M McClister Jr, 01302030, 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. On the afternoon of 16 July, Lieutenant McClister, leader of a machine gun platoon, received information that there were several enemy machine guns and emplacements in and near a house at the base of Hill 192 in the * * * Infantry zone of action. A mortar section was assigned the mission of destroying this strong point. Although the only position from which the proposed mortar fire could be observed was ahead of the front line and within the zone of dispersion at the range from which the mortar section was firing, Lieutenant McClister directed and observed the fire of the mortar section which succeeded in driving the enemy from the important strong point. His determination that the mission at hand be given primary consideration, regardless of personal risk, reflects credit upon his character as an officer. Entered military service from Tennessee.

First Lieutenant Norwood D Tichenor, 01312606 (then second lieutenant), Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, on 27 September 1944. Entered military service from California.

Second Lieutenant Clarence A Edsall, 01322535, 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 15 September 1944. On the afternoon of 15 September, Lieutenant Edsall led a platoon which was spearheading an attack that involved crossing a creek, a canal, and the capture of a high hill. As the unit moved forward, it was met by heavy enemy rifle and machine gun fire. After several of his men had been wounded and the attack was making only slow progress, Lieutenant Edsall moved to the front of his leading scouts and in the face of intense enemy fire, led his men forward across the creek until he was seriously wounded. This inspiring display of courage and initiative caused his platoon to gain its objective despite all obstacles, enabled other units to cross the creek and materially contributed to the success of the operations. Entered military service from California.

Second Lieutenant Ruel R Windham, 0887633 (then staff sergeant), Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in France, from 14 July to 13 October 1944. Entered military service from Florida.

Technical Sergeant Robert C Brower, 20108996, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 12 July to 19 October 1944. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

Technical Sergeant Wallace Pritz, 20725374 (then staff sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 15 September 1944. When his platoon leader became a casualty during the course of an attack against stubbornly resisting enemy forces in the vicinity of * * * , France, Sergeant Pritz promptly reorganized the platoon under enemy observation and fire, then led his troops forward to the objective. Sergeant Pritz's outstanding leadership under enemy fire, his prompt actions and courageous initiative, contributed immeasurably to the success of this operation. Entered military service from Kansas.

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Staff Sergeant Lavern W Biermann, 37001745 (then sergeant), Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 1 October 1944. On the morning of 1 October, rifle companies of the Second Battalion, * * * Infantry, had launched an attack at the western edge of * * *, having as their objective the eastern edge of the woods. When no contact had been made with the second battalion as night fell, a volunteer patrol was formed for the purpose of establishing contact with the rifle companies. Sergeant Biermann volunteered as a member of this patrol. After advancing about eight hundred yards, the patrol encountered enemy road blocks. When the leading men hesitated to continue, Sergeant Biermann voluntarily became point man for the patrol. He investigated the road blocks and three other obstacles and pronounced them clear, as a result of which the patrol continued to its objective and established contact with the second battalion. Sergeant Biermann's initiative and devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Thomas C Jones, 20721959, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 15 July to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Maynard A Lebo, 33235267, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 16 September 1944. During an assault on * * *, Sergeant Lebo was leading his squad in the advance when an enemy rifleman in a concealed position brought harassing fire upon the group. With complete disregard for personal safety, Sergeant Lebo voluntarily went ahead alone to the flank of the enemy position and killed the rifleman, enabling his squad to continue its advance. Sergeant Lebo's leadership, disregard for personal safety and devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Staff Sergeant Robert L Medick, 6822732, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 16 September 1944. In the attack against * * *, Sergeant Medick, a squad leader, displayed marked courage and forcefulness when, under heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, he exercised outstanding leadership in urging forward the members of his squad at a time when hesitancy on their part would have resulted in the loss of lives. Later, during the same action, Sergeant Medick prevented enemy frontal fire on his unit by his capture of an enemy machine gun and its gunner. Sergeant Medick's leadership, disregard for personal safety and devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from South Dakota.

Staff Sergeant Arthur E McLaughlin, 38446891, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * *, France, on 14 September 1944. During the course of a strong enemy counterattack against positions established by Company E, * * * Infantry, on high ground east of the * * * River, Sergeant McLaughlin, a squad leader, displayed a high order of personal bravery by securing an automatic rifle and placing effective fire upon the advancing enemy troops. His courageous action enabled his platoon to reorganize in an alternate position and successfully protect the company's exposed flank despite the numerical superiority of the enemy forces. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Sergeant Edwin C Berg, 36255764, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 11 July to 22 September 1944. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Sergeant Harry H Flowers, 14041576, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 25 September 1944. When his quarter-ton vehicle was struck by an enemy shell and set ablaze, Sergeant Flowers, acting on his own initiative and with complete disregard for his personal safety, extinguished the fire on the seats, removed burning gas containers from the vehicle and backed it to a safe position. He then took all other burning equipment from the car, suffering burns and cuts on his hands while so doing. His prompt and courageous action saved the vehicle from complete destruction and made it available for continued combat service. Entered military service from Tennessee.

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Sergeant Lamoine E Heiman, 36297648, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, from 22 to 25 September 1944. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Sergeant Joseph R House, 6939033, Medical Department, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 25 July to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Missouri.

Sergeant Theodore A Klatt, 20733090, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 10 July to 20 September 1944. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Peter J Knob, 38085672, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 10 July to 20 September 1944. Entered military service from Colorado.

Technician Fourth Grade Alex N Borkowski, 36029302, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 7 October 1944. Entered military service from Illinois.

Technician Fourth Grade Lucion G Flynn, 34701491, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 14 September 1944. Entered military service from Alabama.

Corporal Gordon W Britton, 19066348, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near the * * * , France, on 28 September 1944. Entered military service from California.

Corporal Merlon Brown, 34701443, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 10 July to 20 September 1944. Entered military service from Alabama.

Corporal Douglas E Griggs, 38447126, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, 15 September 1944. When his squad leader became a casualty during the course of an enemy counterattack in battalion strength, Corporal Griggs, a gunner, took charge of his squad, placed his gun in position and commenced firing. Despite heavy enemy mortar, machine gun and small arms fire, he remained at his gun, frequently loading and firing it alone, until the enemy advance was halted. His courageous and efficient performance resulted in the destruction of several German observation posts, a mortar position, prevented several other mortar crews from going into position, and enabled his platoon to withdraw to covered positions with minimum casualties. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Corporal William O Elton, 34684270, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Georgia.

Corporal Archie Sekavec, 37070919, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, 28 September 1944. While the * * * Infantry was poised on the edge of the * * * , and defending the high ground near * * * on 28 September, plans for a proposed attack on the 29th depended upon a reconnaissance of the enemy position on Hill Number 310, four thousand yards from * * * . Corporal Sekavec was a volunteer member of a patrol consisting of himself, an officer and another enlisted man which, armed only with pistols and knives, advanced under a brilliant moon into previously unreconnoitered terrain, with no information as to enemy mine fields or outposts, through a pre-arranged "no-fire" artillery lane but four hundred yards wide. When discovered by an enemy group, the

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patrol engaged in a fire fight and killed five of the enemy. Continuing on his mission, Corporal Sekavec located most of the enemy strongholds and returned to the battalion command post with the vital information in time for the scheduled attack. His courage, resourcefulness and tenacity of purpose reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kansas.

Corporal Martin E Thorp, 35270723, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * , France, 26 September 1944. After the * * * Infantry had established its Antitank Company as part of its main line of resistance on the edge of * * * , the enemy launched a strong attack marked by heavy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, as a result of which a withdrawal was necessitated from one of the antitank positions. Corporal Thorp, a gunner, discovering that a prime mover heavily loaded with ammunition remained near the antitank gun, and apprehensive that the ammunition might fall into enemy hands, maneuvered to the vehicle and drove it back through the enemy lines to a position in friendly territory. In retrieving the prime mover, Corporal Thorp's route was well-guarded by the enemy and subjected to small arms and machine gun fire. Corporal Thorp's initiative, resourcefulness, courage and devotion to duty, resulted in his unit's being able to use this ammunition in retaking the position thirty minutes later. Entered military service from Indiana.

Technician Fifth Grade Fred C Blake, 35747899, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 28 September 1944. Entered military service from West Virginia.

Technician Fifth Grade Carl C Gray, 34701425, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 14 September 1944. Entered military service from Alabama.

Technician Fifth Grade Royce W Linton, 35380296, Medical Department, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, in the vicinity of the * * * , France, on 26 September 1944. Entered military service from West Virginia.

Technician Fifth Grade Michael J Micklas, 36290839, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, on 28 September 1944. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

Technician Fifth Grade Clarence E Watkins, 20721339, Medical Department, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France, from 25 July to 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Technician Fifth Grade James A Wilbanks, 34701176, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in France from 10 July to 29 September 1944. Entered military service from Alabama.

Private First Class James L Bakken, 37171049, 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 12 July 1944. When his company encountered intense enemy machine gun and small arms fire and was forced to take cover behind a hedgerow, Private Bakken, a rifleman, voluntarily and alone, crossed the hedgerow to rescue a wounded soldier who was lying in a position exposed to heavy enemy fire, and succeeded in carrying him to the safety of a covered position. Private Bakken's loyalty to a wounded comrade and disregard for personal safety, reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from North Dakota.

Private First Class Oscar Bloom, 32488864, 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 16 September 1944. Private Bloom was a member of a reconnaissance patrol which had been sent into the village of * * * on 16 September. As the men approached the village, French civilians-

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warned them that a strong enemy force still occupied the area. In spite of this fact, Private Bloom, along with the other members of the patrol, volunteered to proceed to the village. As the leading vehicle entered * * *, a group of Germans marched down the street. The patrol opened fire with their machine guns, causing some of the enemy to fall and dispersing the remainder. While German soldiers peered from windows and came out on the street, Private Bloom and his companions held their ground, expending over twelve hundred rounds of ammunition, until one of the machine guns jammed and it became necessary to turn the vehicles in the face of heavy enemy rifle fire. Before the surprised enemy could take effective defense measures, the men successfully escaped from the village and returned to their battalion with valuable intelligence information regarding hostile strength and disposition. Private Bloom's coolness under fire and unusual devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from New Jersey.

Private First Class Leno B Colbert Jr, 14201801, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * *, France, 15 September 1944. When his squad leader had become a casualty during an enemy counterattack, Private Colbert, a radio operator, on his own initiative undertook to direct the operations of the squad and to supervise the carrying of ammunition, repeatedly exposing himself to intense enemy mortar, machine gun and small arms fire in order to accomplish this task. When reinforcements arrived, he withdrew the squad to covered positions and administered first aid to wounded comrades. Private Colbert's aggressive leadership and unusual devotion to duty played an important part in repelling the enemy counterattack, and reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Georgia.

Private First Class Venson R Hasler, 33629212, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * *, France, 15 September 1944. When his squad leader and most of the members of his squad had become casualties during the course of an enemy counterattack in battalion strength, Private Hasler, a machine gunner, placed his gun in an exposed position on a road and commenced firing. Although subjected to heavy enemy mortar, machine gun and small arms fire, he remained at his weapon until the enemy advance was halted. His courageous actions were an important factor in enabling his platoon to repel the counterattack and effect a withdrawal to covered positions. Entered military service from Virginia.

Private First Class Allen E Hehn, 20725848, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at * * *, France, 28 September 1944. When Private Hehn, a motor messenger, discovered that the battalion aid station's vehicle was disabled, he drove his own vehicle through an area then being subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire, in order to evacuate the wounded. While making several trips to the battalion aid station, Private Hehn's vehicle was struck numerous times by enemy shell fragments. Undaunted by this fact, he tenaciously completed his evacuation of all the wounded, with complete disregard for personal safety. The intrepid actions of Private Hehn, his devotion to duty and loyalty to wounded comrades reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kansas.

Private First Class Hugh W King, 37134491, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * *, France, on 28 September 1944. Entered military service from Missouri.

Private First Class Herman J Meyer, 20725202, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 31 July 1944. When Company C, * * * Infantry, defended high ground south of * * *, Private Meyer, a rifleman, armed with a rocket launcher, was stationed with another soldier at a crossroad for the purpose of defense against possible enemy attack. The enemy launched a tank-infantry attack with such force that some of the defending troops were forced to withdraw, but Private Meyer and his comrade held their ground despite the heavy mortar, machine gun and small arms fire. With his rocket launcher, and aided by his companion, Private Meyer disabled an advancing enemy tank. He then remained at his position and continued to fire the rocket launcher at advancing enemy infantrymen until he exhausted his ammunition. The courageous actions of Private Meyer in delaying the enemy advance enabled his battalion to withdraw to new positions and successfully reassume defense of the high ground. Entered military service from Kansas.

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Private First Class Ramon M Montantes, 39863045, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at * * * , France, 16 September 1944. Private Montantes was a member of a reconnaissance patrol which had been sent into the vicinity of * * * on 16 September. As the men approached the village, French civilians warned them that a strong enemy force still occupied the area. In spite of this warning, Private Montantes and his comrades volunteered to proceed. As the leading vehicle entered * * * , a group of Germans marched down the street. The patrol opened fire with their machine guns, causing some of the enemy to fall and dispersing the remainder. While German soldiers peered from windows and came out on the street, Private Montantes and his companions held their ground, expending over twelve hundred rounds of ammunition until one of the machine guns jammed and it became necessary to turn about the vehicles in the street while exposed to heavy enemy rifle fire. Before the surprised enemy could take effective defense measures, the men made their escape from the village and returned to their battalion with valuable intelligence information regarding hostile strength and disposition. Private Montantes' coolness under fire and unusual devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Arizona.

Private First Class Hugh M Moody, 38446977, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at * * * , France, 16 September 1944. Private Moody was a member of a reconnaissance patrol which had been sent into the vicinity of * * * on 16 September. As the men approached the village, French civilians warned them that a strong enemy force still occupied the area. In spite of this warning, Private Moody and his comrades volunteered to proceed. As the leading vehicle entered * * * , a group of Germans marched down the street. The patrol opened fire with their machine guns, causing some of the enemy to fall and dispersing the remainder. While German soldiers peered from the windows and came out on the street, Private Moody and his companions held their ground, expending over twelve hundred rounds of ammunition until one of the machine guns jammed and it became necessary to turn the vehicles in the street while exposed to heavy enemy rifle fire. Before the surprised enemy could take effective defense measures, the men made their escape from the village and returned to their battalion with valuable intelligence information regarding hostile disposition and strength. Private Moody's coolness under fire and unusual devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Arkansas.

Private First Class Julius R Overmann, 35124508, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at * * * , France, 16 September 1944. Private Overmann was a member of a reconnaissance patrol which had been sent into the village of * * * on 16 September. As the men approached the village, French civilians warned them that a strong enemy force still occupied the area. In spite of this warning, Private Overmann, along with the other members of the patrol, volunteered to proceed to the village. As the leading vehicle entered * * * , a group of Germans marched down the street. The patrol opened fire with their machine guns, causing some of the enemy to fall and dispersing the remainder. While German soldiers peered from windows and came out on the street, Private Overmann and his companions held their ground, expending over twelve hundred rounds of ammunition until one of the machine guns jammed and it became necessary to turn about the vehicles in the street while exposed to heavy enemy rifle fire. Before the surprised enemy could take effective defense measures, the men made their escape from the village and returned to their battalion with valuable intelligence information regarding hostile strength and disposition. Private Overmann's coolness under fire and unusual devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kentucky.

Private First Class Robert S Pietrzak, 36634920, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * , France, 26 September 1944. After a platoon of Antitank Company had been established as part of the * * * Infantry's main line of resistance along the eastern edge of * * * , the enemy launched a strong attack preceded by heavy artillery barrages. Private Pietrzak, a member of an antitank crew, was wounded in both arms by shell fragments. Without thought for his wounds and disregarding personal safety, he made his way through the woods to inform other gun crews that some of the protecting infantrymen had been forced to withdraw, and

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advised the crews of the direction of the enemy approach. Refusing medical aid at these gun positions, he returned to his original position and fainted from loss of blood. Private Pietrzak's intrepid actions, his fortitude and devotion to duty, enabled other gun crews to prepare for and repel the enemy attack. Entered military service from Illinois.

Private First Class Tony G Riviezzo, 32989223, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, 16 September 1944. During a heavy enemy artillery barrage directed against the Antitank Company, * * * Infantry, a soldier who had been sent ahead of his squad as an observer was seriously wounded and unable to move from a particularly exposed location. Private Riviezzo, a rifleman, unhesitatingly made his way forward through the barrage, which was then at the height of intensity, to reach the wounded man, administered first aid and removed him to safety. The heroic and unselfish action of Private Riviezzo saved his comrade from further injuries and possible death, and reflects credit upon the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Private First Class Edward G Roth, 32719384, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * * , France, on 7 October 1944. Entered military service from New York.

Private First Class Marion C T Townsend, 32488436, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, on 13 September 1944. Entered military service from Maryland.

Private First Class Stanford Troup, 34087781, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * , France, 16 September 1944. Private Troup was a member of a reconnaissance patrol which had been sent into the vicinity of * * * on 16 September. As the men approached this village, French civilians warned them that a strong enemy force was still occupying the area. Private Troup, along with the other members of the patrol, nevertheless volunteered to proceed on his way. As the leading vehicle of the patrol entered * * * , a group of Germans were seen marching down the street. Private Troup and his companions opened fire with their machine guns, causing some of the enemy to fall in the street and dispersing the remainder. While German soldiers peered from windows and came out on the street, the patrol held its ground, expending over twelve hundred rounds of ammunition until one of the guns jammed and it became necessary to turn the vehicles in the street in the face of heavy enemy rifle fire. The men were successful in making their escape from the village before the surprised enemy could take effective defense measures, and returned to their battalion with valuable intelligence information regarding hostile strength and disposition. Private Troup's coolness under fire and unusual devotion to duty reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Georgia.

Private First Class Arthur F Wells, 33768299, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States at * * * , France, on 30 September 1944. Despite heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Company F, * * * Infantry, succeeded in entering the village of * * *, engaging in house-to-house fighting with the enemy within the village. The portable radio and its immediate availability was of extreme importance to the company commander, inasmuch as it was the vital means of communicating with battalion headquarters throughout the action. Private Wells, a rifleman, not only carried the radio throughout the heavy combat activity, but in the later phases of the assault, captured several prisoners while holding a rifle in one hand and his radio in the other. Private Wells' tenacity of purpose, devotion to duty and disregard for personal safety, reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Private Charles E Rodgers, 36879830, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 30 September 1944. Entered military service from Michigan.

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VII -- 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 enlisted men of this command:

First Sergeant Rollie R Hudson, 20726643, 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 27 September 1944. When enemy tanks and infantry penetrated the defensive line established by the Third Battalion, * * * Infantry in the * * *, cutting off one platoon of Company M, Sergeant Hudson promptly organized elements of his company and led them aggressively forward. His unhesitating actions and courageous leadership resulted in driving the enemy back and restoring the battalion position in this area. Entered military service from Kansas.

Technical Sergeant Thelbert R Cheatum, 20726387, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 28 September 1944. While the * * * Infantry was poised on the edge of the * * * and defending the high ground near * * * on 28 September, plans for a proposed attack on 29 September depended upon a reconnaissance of the enemy position on Hill Number 310, four thousand yards from * * *. Sergeant Cheatum was a volunteer member of a patrol consisting of himself, an officer and another enlisted man which, armed only with pistols and knives, advanced under a brilliant moon into previously unreconnoitered territory, with no information as to enemy mine fields or outposts, through a pre-arranged "no-fire" artillery lane but four hundred yards wide. When discovered by an enemy group, the patrol engaged in a fire fight and killed five of the enemy. Continuing on his mission, Sergeant Cheatum located most of the enemy strongholds and returned to the battalion command post with the vital information in time for the scheduled attack. His courage, resourcefulness and tenacity of purpose reflect credit upon his character as a soldier. Entered military service from Kansas.

Staff Sergeant Millard W Good, 35000664, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States near * * *, France, 11 and 12 August 1944. When his platoon leader and platoon sergeant had become casualties, Sergeant Good took charge of and reorganized the platoon, accomplishing this task by night and while under fire. He then proceeded to lead the group to a new position in preparation for an attack, traversing low swampy ground exposed to enemy mortar fire, fording a stream four feet deep, and finally advancing along about a thousand yards of railroad embankment covered by hostile machine gun and small arms fire. Through his outstanding leadership and devotion to duty, the depleted platoon reached the new position on schedule, and successfully accomplished its mission in the ensuing attack. Entered military service from Ohio.

Technician Fifth Grade John M Beving, 37111354, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, on 28 September 1944. Entered military service from Iowa.

Private First Class Aulcye R Boyd, 34663295, 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 28 September 1944. During the course of defensive fighting in the * * *, communications between the third battalion command post and the regimental command post, * * * Infantry, were severed by enemy troops who made their way through the main line of resistance. Private Boyd went forward, tracing the lines and repairing breaks. When fired upon by enemy riflemen, Private Boyd covered the withdrawal of other members of the wire crew by firing until his ammunition was exhausted, then returned to the battalion command post with information which resulted in driving the infiltrating enemy troops from the area. Entered military service from North Carolina.

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Private First Class Alexander G Gonos, 32607286, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, near * * * , France, on 15 September 1944. Entered military service from New Jersey.

VIII -- AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). 1. 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 Air Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officer of this command:

First Lieutenant John P Yates, 01180781, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 31 July to 29 August 1944. Entered military service from Georgia.

2. 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 Air Medal and bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster previously awarded, a second bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officers of this command:

First Lieutenant Mark J Stoeger, 0551803, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 26 August to 24 September 1944. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

First Lieutenant John P Yates, 01180781, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 29 August to 2 October 1944. Entered military service from Georgia.

3. 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 Air Medal and two bronze Oak-Leaf Clusters previously awarded, a third bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officers and enlisted man of this command:

First Lieutenant Donald W Foe, 01172004, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 27 September to 13 October 1944. Entered military service from Wyoming.

First Lieutenant John L Cecil, 01169052, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight near * * * , France, on 24 September 1944. Lieutenant Cecil, an artillery liaison pilot, flew over enemy lines for the purpose of reconnaissance, in an attempt to locate and plot enemy armor and installations in the vicinity of * * * . Adverse flying conditions necessitated flying at an altitude of about 500 feet. His plane was subjected to intense enemy ground fire from 20mm antiaircraft guns, machine guns and small arms, but he continued to make low sweeps over enemy territory until the maneuverability of his plane was severely impaired when the tail strut was shot away. He managed to land his disabled plane in friendly territory. The valuable information secured by his air observation during this flight enabled our artillery to cause widespread destruction among the enemy installations. Entered military service from Kentucky.

Staff Sergeant Billie J Pemberton, 20812635, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 20 September to 8 October 1944. Entered military service from Texas.

4. 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 Air Medal and three bronze Oak-Leaf Clusters previously awarded, a fourth bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officer of this command:

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Second Lieutenant Raymond P Johnson, 0551952, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight over France, during the period 21 September to 7 October 1944. Entered military service from South Dakota.

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

Distribution: Special