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AFD 339
9 October 1944.

- I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR.
- II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR (MISSING IN ACTION).
- III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded to:

Technician Fifth Grade Garfield Ray, 34008633, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action. On 6 June 1944, in an assault on an enemy occupied hill near Vierville-sur-Mer, France, Technician Ray was the first man to reach the top of the hill. Without waiting for the others of his unit to join him, he fearlessly went forward alone and proceeded to clear the enemy from several positions. Armed with an automatic rifle and against overwhelmingly superior numbers, Technician Ray advanced on toward the enemy positions, killing many of the entrenched enemy and neutralizing the effectiveness of others. By his gallantry and courageous action, he saved the lives of many men still struggling up the hill. His gallantry and courage reflect much credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from North Carolina.

Technician Fifth Grade Vernon C. Wheeler, 39607591, Medical Detachment, 17th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, United States Army, for gallantry in action. On 19 September 1944, near Cap de la Chevre, France, during an attack against a strongly fortified enemy position, Technician Wheeler, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, crossed open terrain in the face of merciless machine gun fire to assist an isolated wounded American soldier lying in a shell crater. While Technician Wheeler was rendering aid to the wounded man, an advancing tank lurched through the crater, narrowly missing him and killing the wounded man. As the attack continued, Technician Wheeler rendered aid to numerous enemy wounded and repeatedly exposed himself to danger by entering dugouts in search of additional casualties. His gallantry and courage reflect much credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Montana.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR (MISSING IN ACTION). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded to the following named enlisted man, missing in action:

Sergeant Emory B. Jones, 14004784, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action. On 6 June 1944, while on outpost duty near Pointe du Hoc, France, Sergeant Jones, courageously fighting alongside his fellow soldiers, repulsed two major enemy attacks. During a third encounter, he became completely cut off from his unit but refused to surrender. Here, he held the fiercely attacking enemy at bay while his comrades withdrew to safety. In the performance of this gallant act Sergeant Jones was wounded, but in his fearless stand he killed four of the oncoming enemy and wounded many more before he was overpowered. His

RESTRICTED

R E S T R I C T E D

GO 28, Hq Ninth U.S. Army, 9 October 1944, cont'd.

gallantry and courage reflect much credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Georgia.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and under authority contained in Circular No 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

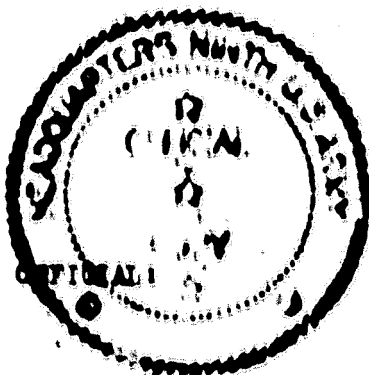
First Lieutenant John O. Conway, 01031630, 17th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 3 August 1944 near Chateaufort, France. Entered military service from New York.

Private First Class Wilbur K. Hoffman, 12093414, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 6 June 1944, at Pointe du Hoc, France. Entered military service from New Jersey.

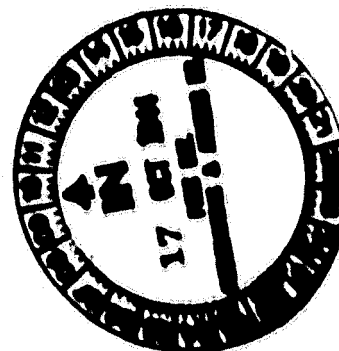
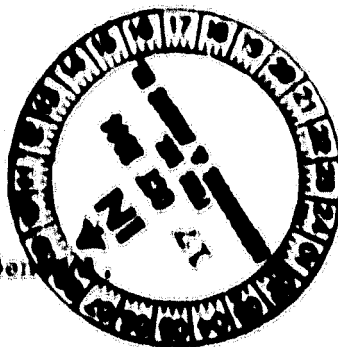
Private First Class Henry Sobel, 35096283, 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 6 June 1944, at Pointe du Hoc, France. Entered military service from Indiana.

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

J. E. MOORE,
Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.



JOHN A. KLEIN,
Colonel, AGC, Adjutant General



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