

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

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28 September 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 271

SECTION I -- Award of Silver Star (Oak-Leaf Cluster-Posthumous).
SECTION II -- Award of Silver Star.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER) -- By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 50, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, in addition to the Silver Star previously awarded, a Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded posthumously to:

First Lieutenant DONALD E ALLEN, O1110714, Corps of Engineers, Company B, 1st Engineer Combat Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY. On 2 February 1945, during an attack on heavily defended Siegfried Line positions near RAMSCHIED, GERMANY, Lieutenant ALLEN, with utter disregard for intense hostile small arms, mortar and artillery fire, advanced with an enlisted man, and after several attempts, succeeded in blowing a gap in a row of anti-tank obstacles with skillfully placed demolition charges. He then rode a tank to the second line of defenses and directed the removal of mines and road obstacles, enabling friendly armored units to join advancing infantrymen and attain the regimental objective. Lieutenant ALLEN'S fearless, aggressive actions and unflinching devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Second Lieutenant ALFRED R FICK, O2999275, Army of the United States, Reconnaissance Company, (Self-Propelled) Tank Battalion (Self-Propelled), United States Army. For gallantry in action in GERMANY. On 8 April 1945, near SOLLSTADT, GERMANY, Lieutenant FICK organized a small patrol to search for three enemy soldiers reported to be in nearby woods. With fearless disregard for his own safety he advanced at the head of his group and upon sighting the German soldiers, demanded they surrender. Although mortally wounded by a sniper, he killed two of the enemy with his carbine and continued to demand the surrender of an additional group of the enemy discovered in the woods until eleven more capitulated. Lieutenant FICK'S heroic leadership and supreme devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR -- By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 50, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Silver Star is awarded to:

Captain EARL S LAVES, O373155, Infantry, Headquarters 2d Battalion, 101st Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG. On 24 December 1944, during action near RAIBROUCH and KOLTSCHETT, LUXEMBOURG, the advance of Captain LAVES' battalion was held up by withering hostile machine gun and mortar fire. He skillfully adjusted friendly artillery fire on the enemy positions, enabling his battalion to move forward again. When elements of the leading assault company were again halted by intense enemy fire, this intrepid officer, advancing alone, eliminated three enemy soldiers and silenced one mortar and two machine gun positions with deadly fire from his carbine. Captain LAVES' heroic leadership and gallant actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

(over)

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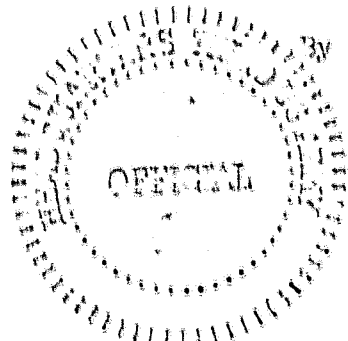
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First Lieutenant CASPER M. GIACOMO, O1304835, Infantry, Company A, 101st Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division, United States Army. For gallantry in action in LUXEMBOURG. On 28 December 1944, near NOTHUM, LUXEMBOURG, Lieutenant GIACOMO assumed command of his company and fearlessly led it against the enemy. With his clothing torn by intense, close-range hostile fire he continued to lead his company with such heroic aggressiveness that they killed or wounded seventy German soldiers. Later, gallantly exposing himself to direct hostile fire, he crawled towards an enemy machine gun nest and eliminated it with an accurately thrown hand grenade. Returning to his unit, this intrepid officer inspired his troops to continue the attack and successfully attain their objective. Lieutenant GIACOMO'S courageous actions and gallant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade THOMAS B. ROBERTS, 15050569, 26th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 26th Infantry Division, United States Army. For gallantry in action in FRANCE. On 8 November 1944, during action in the vicinity of SALONNES and BURTHICOURT, FRANCE, Technician Fourth Grade ROBERTS fearlessly volunteered for a hazardous reconnaissance mission. When his platoon leader was seriously wounded by enemy artillery fire, this gallant soldier administered first aid and protected him from further injury by shielding him with his own body. Later volunteering to locate an isolated company, he courageously maneuvered his way through the enemy lines, contacted the company and enabled friendly elements to reach them. Technician Fourth Grade ROBERTS' heroic actions and unwavering devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

By command of General L. TOWN:



PAUL D. HARTING,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Acting Chief of Staff.

L. L. MALLR,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Acting Adjutant General.

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