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HEADQUARTERS  
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY  
Hq 403

*Hk BM 34*

GENERAL ORDER

9 March 1945.

NUMBER 55

SECTION I - Award of Distinguished Service Cross  
SECTION II - Award of Silver Star  
SECTION III - Award of Bronze Star Medal  
SECTION IV - Amendment in Part 1, Sec I, G.O. No. 46,  
this Hq, 25 Feb 45

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS - By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 52, Hq ETO US Army, 20 Mar 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to:

Major WILFRID H KNAIGHT JR., 0534815, Infantry, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in FRANCE. During the period 10 - 20 September 1944, Major KNAIGHT led assault elements across the Moselle River near MUSLIVILLE, FRANCE, against strong enemy positions. Completely disregarding his own safety, this intrepid officer directed operations from front line positions, encouraging and inspiring his men by his bold, courageous example. After gaining the far shore he skillfully directed his troops in repulsing repeated fanatic enemy counter-attacks, constantly exposing himself to enemy fire. His calm, fearless leadership under fire, his loyalty, and his unwavering devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Captain ALBERT L BUDD, 01307190, Infantry, Company "G", 359th Infantry Regiment, 95th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 11 November 1944, Captain BUDD commanded an infantry company that spearheaded a battalion attack against the enemy near PETITE METTANGE, FRANCE. While advancing toward the objective he was severely wounded, but he continued on. When the two leading platoons were pinned down by intense machine-gun fire, Captain BUDD, completely disregarding his own safety, advanced through the fire and personally led the third platoon in a flanking attack in which many of the enemy were killed and captured and the remainder routed. Only after the objective was taken did Captain BUDD consent to evacuation. His conspicuous heroism, fearless, heroic leadership and loyal devotion to duty reflect the greatest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Captain PETER F BUESCHER, 0422334, Infantry, Company "I", 748th Tank Battalion, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. The courageous, skillful leadership Captain BUESCHER displayed in action near PERLEKIRCH and KISCHLTZ, GERMANY, during the period 19 - 20 February 1945, distinguishes him as an outstanding officer. This heroic officer led the tanks supporting the 302d Infantry, inspiring his men by his bold, fearless leadership. Twice during the action, completely

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GC No. 55 Hq Third US Army 9 Mar 1945, cont'd.

disregarding his own safety, he dismounted from his tank, contacted groups of isolated infantry and led them forward into the attack. Captain DUESCHER directed the assaults with such ferocity that the enemy in his sector were completely annihilated and more than one thousand prisoners were taken. His gallant leadership, conspicuous heroism and supreme devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class) JAMES R PFLEGER, 15106902, Company "I", 357th Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in GERMANY. On 12 December 1944, the pillbox which Sergeant PFLEGER and his platoon had taken was surrounded by the enemy during action near PACHEN, GERMANY. For three days the soldiers repelled repeated furious enemy assaults upon the fortification. When it was determined that it was impossible to hold out longer, Sergeant PFLEGER voluntarily infiltrated through the enemy ring, reached his battalion and directed fire against the enemy. He then returned to the pillbox, carrying a litter and demolition charges, and after directing evacuation of the position he fired his charges, destroying the pillbox. His conspicuous heroism, courageous determination and loyal devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR.

1. By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir No. 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir No. 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Silver Star is awarded posthumously to:

Private First Class ELWIN WILLMS, 36671724, 595th Ambulance Company, Mater, Separate, United States Army. For gallantry in action in BELGIUM. On 19 December 1944, Private WILLMS was serving as an ambulance driver, evacuating patients from a threatened clearing station at LUTREBOIS, BELGIUM. Although the route of evacuation was under a heavy artillery barrage, this intrepid soldier calmly drove his vehicle to and from the clearing station, completely disregarding his own safety. When a direct artillery hit overturned the ambulance and set it on fire, Private WILLMS was killed. His conspicuous bravery and courageous, unselfish devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and will live on as an inspiration to the men with whom he served.

2. By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir No. 32, Hq ETO US Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir No. 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Silver Star is awarded to:

Private First Class JAMES M ZIMMERMAN, 36674680, 595th Ambulance Company, Mater, Separate, United States Army. For gallantry in action in BELGIUM. On 19 December 1944, Private ZIMMERMAN was serving as an assistant ambulance driver, evacuating patients from a threatened clearing station at LUTREBOIS, BELGIUM. Although the route of evacuation was under a heavy enemy artillery barrage, this intrepid soldier calmly rode his vehicle to and from the station until a direct artillery hit overturned the ambulance and set it on fire. The driver was killed and Private ZIMMERMAN was himself wounded, but he courageously removed the casualties, still under fire, and remained with them until they were evacuated. (only

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GC No. 55: HQ Third US Army 9 Mar 1945, cont'd.

then did he accept treatment for his own wounds. This heroic soldier's conspicuous bravery and courageous, unselfish devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL - By Direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 52, HQ Third US Army, 20 Mar 1944, as amended by Sec I, Cir 56, HQ Third US Army, 27 May 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Major MERRIETH G HILL, 0379553, Medical Corps, Headquarters 436th Medical Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 1 August 1944 to 30 November 1944.

First Lieutenant WILLIAM A MIDNIGHT 1783528, Army Nurse Corps, 104th Evacuation Hospital, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 1 August 1944 to 18 February 1945.

Sergeant Officer Junior Grade J SETH J DUBINSKY, 02131121, Headquarters 437th Medical Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG and BELGIUM from 15 July 1944 to 15 February 1945.

Staff Sergeant THOMAS KUNSTHAR, 32041250, 130th Collecting Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE, BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG from 25 August 1944 to 1 February 1945.

Staff Sergeant LEONARD THOMSON, 34922157, Headquarters 514th Quartermaster Group, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE and LUXEMBOURG from 1 August 1944 to 1 February 1945.

Technician Third Grade JAMES E COUSE, 35354747, Battery "B", 115th Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, Mobile, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE and LUXEMBOURG from 15 June 1944 to 10 February 1945.

Sergeant CLAUDE E WELLS, 33647215, Company "A", 94th Medical Gas Treatment Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 8 August 1944 to 21 February 1945.

Technician Fifth Grade JAMES H CRANGE, 37610657, 581st Ambulance Company, Motor, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE and BELGIUM from 26 June 1944 to 22 December 1944.

Private First Class WILLIAM T VINDT, 36533072, 495th Collecting Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE and BELGIUM from 25 August 1944 to 31 December 1944.

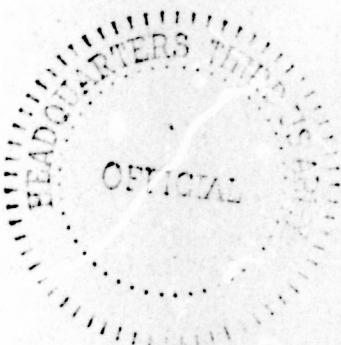
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G. No. 55 HQ Third US Army 9 Mar 1945, cont'd.

IV. AMENDMENT IN PAR 1, SEC I, G. NO. 46, THIS HQ, 25 FEB 1945.

So much of paragraph 1, section I, General Orders No. 46, this Headquarters, 25 February 1945, as awards a Distinguished Service Cross posthumously to Private ERNEST C. JOHNSON as reads: "39333260", is amended to read: "39333260".

By command of Lieutenant General PATTEN:



HUBERT R. GAY,  
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,  
Chief of Staff.

R. E. CUNNINGS,  
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,  
Adjutant General.

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