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HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 403

24 November 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 97

SECTION I - Award of Distinguished Service Cross
SECTION II - Award of Bronze Star Medal

I. AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.

1. By direction of the President and under the provisions of Sec I, Cir 32, 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 posthumously to:

Staff Sergeant SHERWOOD C LINES, 20725198, Company "E", *** Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 12 September 1944, Company "E", *** Infantry, with which Sergeant LINES was serving as a platoon leader, was advancing against the enemy near LUNEVILLE, FRANCE. When a rocket-launcher team of the company drove five enemy tanks into the woods, Sergeant LINES bravely maneuvered his way after them, carrying a sound-power telephone, creeping and crawling forward under heavy enemy machine-gun fire. He climbed a tree from which he directed artillery fire against the enemy tanks and in order to escape detection from an enemy machine-gun nest within thirty yards of his position, it was necessary that he whisper his fire directions into the telephone. His observation and fire direction were so accurate that three of the enemy tanks were destroyed and the others forced to withdraw. Sergeant LINES remained in his precarious position throughout the action, ignoring the danger from friendly artillery shells falling around him. His conspicuous courage and his supreme, heroic devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Corporal CLARENCE PATTON, 33075263, ** Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), 4th Armored Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 29 August 1944, a platoon of reconnaissance troops, of which Corporal PATTON was a member, advanced as the leading element of Combat Command **, 4th Armored Division, on the town of PAUCOURT, FRANCE. The platoon was immediately counter-attacked by an enemy force which outnumbered them by more than twenty to one. Corporal PATTON stood fast in his advanced position and killed more than twenty of the enemy with small arms fire. He so inspired his men by his conspicuous bravery that they held their positions against the overwhelming odds, killed more than 150 of the enemy, and held the town for over two hours, until relieved by friendly infantry. Following this heroic action, Corporal PATTON continued to serve with his reconnaissance platoon until he was killed in action on 12 September 1944 while engaged in hand to hand combat with the enemy at CHARMES, FRANCE. His outstanding heroism, his consistent eagerness to close with the enemy, and his supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

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GO No. 97, Hq Third US Army, 24 Nov 1944, (continued).

Private First Class HENRY N POWELL, 15058381, Company "L", *** Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 30 July 1944, Private First Class POWELL's unit was attacking strong enemy positions near LA CAUVILLIERE, FRANCE, when the advance was halted by intense enemy automatic weapons cross-fire. Private First Class POWELL, with utter disregard for his own safety, dived fearlessly over a hedge in the face of the enemy fire in order to retrieve ammunition and a tripod for his weapon. He then set up his gun and coolly directed effective fire against the enemy, continuing to fire, even though mortally wounded, until he died. The conspicuous bravery of Private First Class POWELL; his courage and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

2. 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 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Distinguished Service Cross is awarded to:

Captain PHILLIP H CARROLL, 0412189, Infantry, Company "K", *** Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 4 July 1944, in the vicinity of LES SABLONS, FRANCE, Company "K", *** Infantry, commanded by Captain PHILLIP H CARROLL, was ordered to attack through lines held by another company to secure a strong enemy position. Other attacking troops had twice been thrown back, suffering heavy casualties. Captain CARROLL personally led his company forward, across a deep railroad cut, through intense enemy mortar, machine-gun, automatic weapons and artillery fire, fearlessly exposing himself to the enemy in order to encourage his men. Despite a painful shell-fragment wound which blinded him in one eye, Captain CARROLL continued his courageous advance inspiring his men to capture the objective, and not until he had assured the defense of the position did he seek medical aid. Even then he walked to the aid station so that another wounded soldier of his company could be evacuated by litter. The conspicuous bravery of Captain CARROLL; his outstanding, fearless leadership and supreme devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

First Lieutenant GOTTLIEB RUBY, 01291704, Infantry, Company "I", *** Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 4 September 1944 during the attack on DOMMARTIN LES TOUL, south of TOUL, FRANCE, Lieutenant RUBY's platoon was the right attacking platoon of the assault company and was making the main effort within the company sector. The enemy occupied many dug-in, well camouflaged positions on commanding ground surrounded by excellent fields of fire and was supported by mortars and artillery for which they had excellent observation. Due to the excellent observation and fields of fire, the terrain definitely favored the defender. Shortly after crossing the Moselle River, the platoon was subjected to intense machine-gun cross-fire and the platoon leader, Lieutenant RUBY, was wounded in the left shoulder. Disregarding his wounds, refusing medical attention and displaying superb leadership, cool courage and total disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant RUBY, advancing in the face of machine-gun and rifle fire, continued until his mission was accomplished. His action so inspired his men that they were enabled to overrun the enemy position and destroy it. Lieutenant RUBY remained in action two hours after he was wounded and personally captured three Germans and killed an unknown number of others. His bravery, resourcefulness and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

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GO No. 97, Hq Third Army, 24 Nov 1944 (continued).

Private DALE B REX, 39923699, *** Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 8 September 1944, the unit with which Private REX was serving fought desperately to enlarge a small bridgehead on the east bank of the Moselle River opposite the village of DORNOT, FRANCE. The enemy had a tremendous advantage in holding well-concealed hillside fortifications. As a machine-gunner with the bridgehead forces, Private REX remained with his squad at an outpost throughout a three-day period during which the enemy launched thirty-six separate counter-attacks with overwhelmingly superior forces, sometimes supported with tanks. These fanatical attacks failed repeatedly against the murderous fire from Private REX's machine-gun and at the end of the three-day period it was estimated that 300 of the enemy fell victim to his gun. When it became necessary to withdraw the bridgehead forces under cover of darkness on the night of 10 September, Private REX swam the river on four separate occasions under intense enemy fire in order to secure assault boats for the use of his comrades. During this action he courageously swam to mid-river and rescued a soldier whom he had observed to be in distress. The conspicuous bravery of Private REX, many times displayed; his determination and heroic devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

Private CARLTON C BATES, 6842698, Company "H", *** Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy. On 11 September 1944, in the vicinity of AMANVILLERS, FRANCE, troops on the right of Private BATES' unit were forced by a fierce enemy counter-attack to withdraw from their position, leaving the right flank of Company "H" exposed. When the enemy threatened to overrun the squad with which Private BATES was serving as assistant machine-gunner, he calmly remained at his position firing continuously until the gun jammed. Without hesitation, he assumed the gunner's position on the weapon to his left where the entire squad had been killed or wounded, and fired it against the charging enemy until the ammunition was exhausted. He continued the fight with his individual weapon. The courageous actions of Private BATES were in large measure responsible for repulsing the enemy counter-attack, and his calmness under fire and heroic devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL - 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 56, Hq ETO US Army, 27 May 1944, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

Sergeant RALPH D REIFF, 20238345, *** Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 3 August 1944 a convoy under the supervision of Sergeant REIFF was attacked and strafed by enemy aircraft and the rear of the column bombed. Sergeant REIFF immediately started to administer first-aid to the wounded men of the convoy in spite of the continuing attack by the enemy and while doing this noticed that one of the trucks was in such a position as to be in danger of catching fire. The truck was leaking gasoline from a bullet hole in the tank, and as Sergeant REIFF moved the truck out of the convoy he saw that the ammunition in the back of the truck was burning and beginning to explode. He climbed into the back of the truck, with utter disregard for his own safety, and threw the ammunition boxes into a ditch thereby preventing possible

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further casualties from exploding shells and burning gasoline. Sergeant REIFF's heroism and courageous devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the military forces of the United States.

Colonel CLIFFORD A BEST, 016544, Medical Corps, *** Evacuation Hospital (Semi-mobile), United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 4 August 1944 to 12 November 1944.

Lieutenant Colonel MELVIN I BOOKMAN, 0349751, Ordnance Department, Headquarters *** Ordnance Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM and FRANCE from 15 May 1944 to 6 November 1944.

Major THOMAS H STEWART III, 0394258, Cavalry, Headquarters *** Cavalry Group (Mechanized), United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM and FRANCE from 20 May 1944 to 9 October 1944.

Captain MICHAEL GEBRIAN, 01040923, Coast Artillery Corps (AA), Battery "C", *** Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 7 June 1944 to 10 November 1944.

Warrant Officer (Junior Grade) WESLEY LENUSKY, W2132354, United States Army, *** Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 11 August 1944 to 30 September 1944.

Master Sergeant FREDERICK B WEIGEL, 6884793, Headquarters and Service Company, *** Engineer Heavy Ponton Battalion, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM from 10 April 1944 to 30 June 1944.

Master Sergeant SAM R COOK, 6929334, Headquarters Troop, *** Cavalry Group (Mechanized), 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 8 November 1944.

Master Sergeant MELVIN M DITTEMORE, 39248149, *** Evacuation Hospital (Semi-mobile), 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 1 November 1944.

Master Sergeant DUDLEY P MAY, 39239929, *** Ordnance Medium Automotive Maintenance Company, 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 1 November 1944.

Technical Sergeant BERT W FORTUNE, 37183124, *** Ordnance Medium Automotive Maintenance Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 29 September 1944 to 13 October 1944.

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GO No. 97, Hq Third US Army, 24 November 1944 (continued).

Technical Sergeant DONALD G WILSON, 39157564, *** Evacuation Hospital (Semi-mobile), United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM and FRANCE from 17 January 1944 to 1 November 1944.

Technical Sergeant KINSEY B MORTON, 6560671, Headquarters Third United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the UNITED KINGDOM and FRANCE from 23 March 1944 to 31 October 1944.

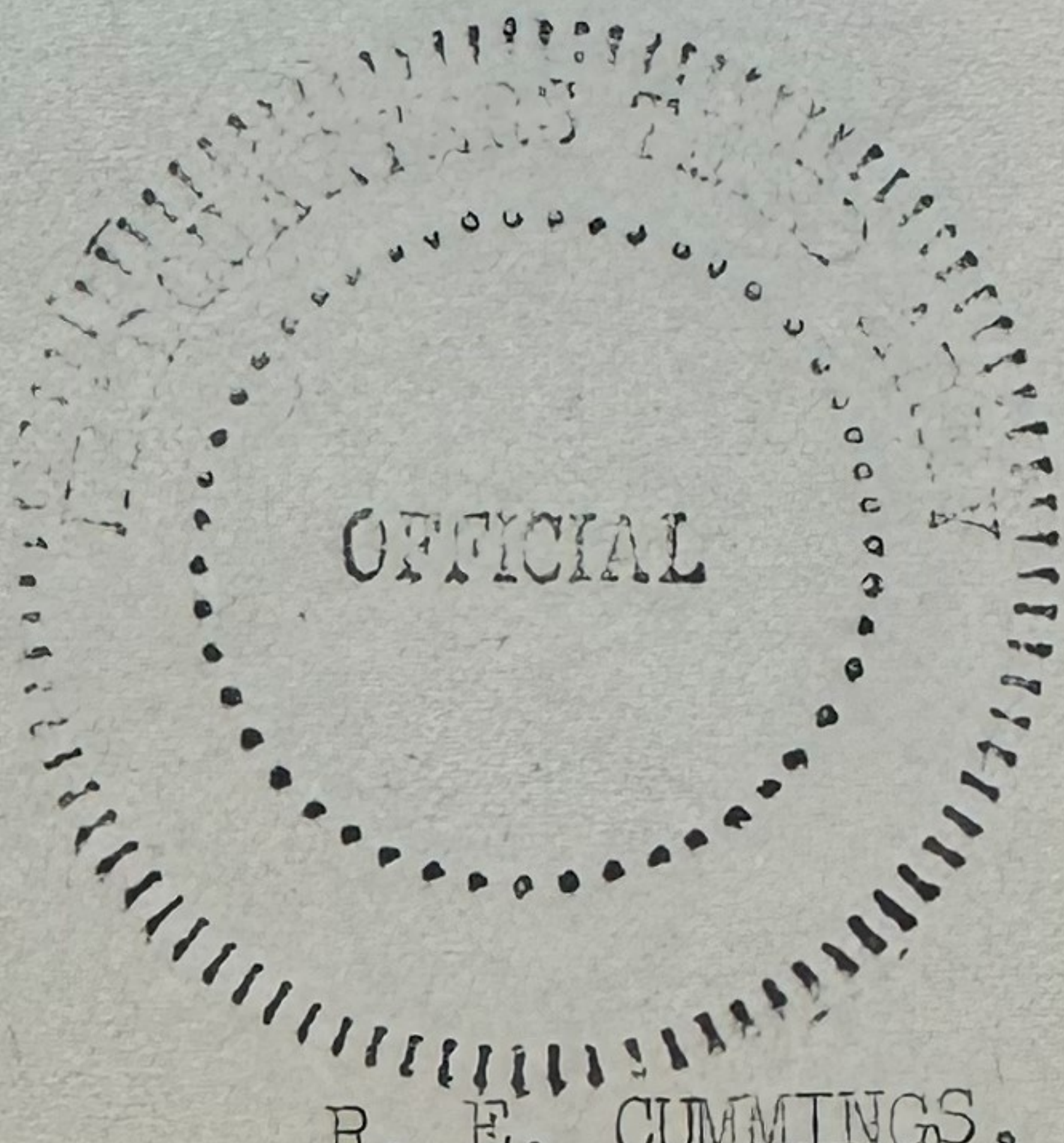
Technician Fourth Grade TONY J MAISANO, 18193402, *** Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 21 September 1944 to 3 October 1944.

Technician Fourth Grade FRANK L PECHA, 38395291, *** Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company, United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 21 September 1944 to 3 October 1944.

Technician Fifth Grade ROBERT G IRVINE, 39922237, Headquarters Third United States Army. For meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in FRANCE from 19 August 1944 to 10 November 1944.

By command of Lieutenant General PATTON:

HUGH J. GAFFEY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff.



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

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