

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION
 APO 35 US ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
 NO 27)

29 August 1944

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I—SILVER STAR MEDAL (Posthumous Awards). 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, the Silver Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to the following enlisted men:

First Sergeant Thomas R Coates, 20721896, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * *, France, 31 July 1944. When the advance of his company was stopped by intense enemy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire, Sergeant Coates, voluntarily and with disregard for heavy concentrations of fire which included that of numerous snipers, moved along the front lines, checking the firing positions and fields of fire of his men, in order to insure maximum results. While so engaged, he was killed by enemy sniper fire. The courageous zeal of Sergeant Coates, and his dauntless determination that the mission of his unit be accomplished, were immeasurably responsible for the success of the operation. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Technical Sergeant R D Drennan, 6664672, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the vicinity of * * * Normandy, France, on 15-16 July 1944. On the night of 15 July 1944, Company "F", * * * Infantry, suffered an acute shortage of water and ammunition. Sergeant Drennan voluntarily drove a vehicle a great number of trips over approximately one thousand yards of terrain under intense enemy fire of all types, in order to obtain the vital supplies. On 16 July 1944, the closing of a gap between, and the consolidation of Companies "E" and "F" necessitated the taking of a village. His platoon leader having become a casualty the night before, Sergeant Drennan ably led his platoon in capturing the village and killing and capturing a number of the enemy platoon holding the village. He was killed in a later action. Sergeant Drennan's gallantry in action, his devotion to duty and disregard for his personal safety are such as to reflect high credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Illinois.

Technical Sergeant Paul F Forney, 20721711, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, south of * * *, Normandy, France, on 30 July 1944. Sergeant Forney led his platoon in a direct assault on a strong enemy position, across terrain affording slight cover from heavy enemy fire. Nearing the objective, Sergeant Forney, although wounded, threw hand grenades at the enemy position. While so engaged he was again wounded, but rallied his men and continued the assault, during the course of which he was killed by enemy action. The intrepid bravery of Sergeant Forney, his inspiring leadership, his tenacity of purpose and zealous devotion to duty, were directly responsible for the success of the platoon in over-running the enemy position, and entitles him to a place of honor in the annals of fighting infantrymen. Entered military service from Nebraska.

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II -- SILVER 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, the Silver Star Medal is awarded to the following enlisted men of this command:

Staff Sergeant Verlyn J Carpenter, 20721477, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, on 8 August 1944. While engaged in an attack against the enemy, the First Battalion, * * * Infantry, was suddenly cut off and surrounded by enemy tanks and paratroopers, and its anti-tank guns were neutralized. Sergeant Carpenter, together with another soldier, voluntarily established contact with an attached tank destroyer unit, by making his way a distance of some four miles through the enemy lines, in an area infested with snipers and subjected to heavy enemy fire, to reach the tank destroyers. The tank destroyer unit reached the First Battalion position in time to eliminate the enemy tank opposition. The courage, tenacity of purpose, resourcefulness and disregard for personal safety on the part of Sergeant Carpenter, directly resulted in obtaining much needed reinforcements, and enabled his battalion to reorganize and proceed on its mission. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Albert V Sampson, 37170293, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, on 8 August 1944. During an engagement against enemy positions, Sergeant Sampson's battalion became surrounded by enemy tanks, which neutralized the battalion's antitank guns. Tank destroyers supporting the regiment were then at a point four miles distant, and the intervening terrain was subjected to enemy mortar, artillery and sniper fire. Sergeant Sampson, a squad leader, accompanied by another noncommissioned officer, voluntarily crossed the dangerous terrain through enemy lines, and succeeded in establishing contact with the tank destroyer unit, which reached the battalion and eliminated the enemy tank opposition, thus enabling the battalion to proceed on its mission. Sergeant Sampson's gallantry in action, his disregard for personal safety, his devotion to duty and zeal for the success of the battalion mission, reflects high credit upon the military service. Entered military service from Minnesota.

III -- SILVER 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 Silver Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to the following officer of this command:

Lieutenant Colonel William V Martz, 019879, Cavalry, United States Army, for gallantry in action in the * * * and * * * sectors, France, during the period 11 July to 8 August 1944. On 22 July 1944 he led a patrol in the successful evacuation of the bodies of two officers from a position exposed to observed enemy fire. Throughout the period 11 July to 8 August 1944, he visited advance tank destroyer positions on occasions when enemy fire was so intense that the destroyer crews could not leave the comparative safety of the destroyers. His sound employment of the tank destroyers, skillful and courageous leadership, and zealous devotion to duty, were an inspiration to his troops, and responsible for the success of numerous battalion missions during the period mentioned. Colonel Martz has been missing in action since 8 August 1944, when he made a personal reconnaissance into enemy-held territory in the vicinity of * * *. Entered United States Military Academy from Pennsylvania.

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

Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Belden, O294528, Field Artillery, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 11 July to 23 August 1944. Entered military service from Kansas.

Captain Arnold O Heerwagen, O1173990, Field Artillery, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 16 to 19 August 1944. Entered military service from California.

First Lieutenant Clyde A Hacke, O1177421, 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, on 2 August 1944. Lieutenant Hacke, a forward artillery observer, established an observation post at the foremost point of an infantry battalion, and exposed himself to enemy artillery and mortar fire in order to secure the best possible observation. He directed accurate fire on enemy positions until he was wounded. The courage, devotion to duty and disregard for personal safety on the part of Lieutenant Hacke is in accord with high military traditions. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

Second Lieutenant Robert W Hites, O1173994, 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, 2 August 1944. Lieutenant Hites, forward artillery observer, set up his observation post at the foremost point of the First Battalion, * * * Infantry, and dangerously exposed himself to enemy artillery and mortar fire directed at his post. He continued to direct accurate fire at the enemy until the desired position was captured. His devotion to duty and disregard for personal safety were of material assistance in the accomplishment of the battalion mission, and are in keeping with the highest military traditions. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Technical Sergeant Richard G Donovan, 33204214, Infantry, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service on 2 August 1944. Entered military service from Maryland.

Sergeant Marion C Miller, 20734641 (then corporal), Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 16 July 1944. During the night of 16 July 1944, Sergeant Miller, together with two other soldiers, established three-fourths of a mile of wire communication for the artillery liaison officer, located in the forward command post. This was accomplished over an area

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subjected to constant enemy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire of such intensity that it was necessary to restring the communication wire seven times during the night. Its determined maintenance resulted in placing effective artillery fire on enemy positions. Sergeant Miller's devotion to duty, his tenacity of purpose and zeal for the task at hand, exemplify him as a credit to the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Parm E Moyers, 20733559, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 16 July 1944. Finding approximately a platoon of combat engineers lost and proceeding toward enemy lines, Sergeant Moyers guided these men to a friendly area, as a result of which they were available for an important operation the following day. During the night of the same day, Sergeant Moyers, together with two other soldiers, established three-fourths of a mile of wire communication for the artillery liaison officer, located in the forward command post. This was accomplished over an area subjected to constant enemy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire of such intensity that it was necessary to restring the communication wire seven times during the night. Its determined maintenance resulted in placing effective artillery fire on enemy positions. Sergeant Moyers' devotion to duty, his tenacity of purpose and zeal for the task at hand, exemplify him as a credit to the military service. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Robert L Siler, 34663440, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, France, 2 August 1944. In attacking and repulsing the enemy near * * *, France, Company "K", * * * Infantry, found its advance halted by heavy fire from an enemy machine gun position. Sergeant Siler, leader of a machine gun squad of Company "M", * * * Infantry, supporting the advance of Company "K", seeing the unit's left flank exposed, voluntarily and alone carried a machine gun to the exposed flank, although the position was under enemy observation and fire. Disregarding his personal safety, he accomplished the task he set himself to do and was succeeding in neutralizing the enemy machine gun position, but while so engaged, he was wounded by an enemy sniper. The prompt voluntary action of Sergeant Siler, his devotion to duty and zeal for the accomplishment of the task at hand, symbolize the high traditions of the military service. Entered military service from North Carolina.

Corporal Archie A Bischoff, 19132786, 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 2 August 1944. During an advance, Company "K", * * * Infantry, was halted by heavy fire from an enemy machine gun emplacement. After the leader of a Company "M", * * * Infantry machine gun squad, supporting the advance of Company "K", had been wounded and rendered unconscious by enemy sniper fire while attempting to neutralize the enemy machine gun position with fire from his own machine gun, Corporal Bischoff voluntarily advanced to the emplacement which was under enemy observation and without cover from enemy fire, manned the weapon and succeeded in silencing the enemy position. The courageous action and devotion to duty on the part of Corporal Bischoff enabled the company to reorganize and resume its attack. Entered military service from Idaho.

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Technician Fifth Grade Charles W Steika, 33352811, Field Artillery, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the * * * sector, Normandy, France, 16 July 1944. During the night of 16 July 1944, Technician Steika, together with two other soldiers, established three-fourths of a mile of wire communication for the artillery liaison officer, located in the forward command post. This was accomplished over an area subjected to constant enemy machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire of such intensity that it was necessary to restring the communication wire seven times during the night. His determined maintenance resulted in placing effective artillery fire on enemy positions. Technician Steika's devotion to duty, his tenacity of purpose and zeal for the task at hand, exemplify him as a credit to the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Private First Class Edward O Hall, 39384618, Infantry, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * *, Normandy, France, 17-19 July 1944. Private Hall, serving as lineman in a wire crew, displaying tenacity and courage, assisted his section of the communications platoon of the battalion in maintaining the battalion communications system. Working under almost constant enemy observation, over fields containing mines and booby traps and subjected to enemy fire of all types, Private Hall's efforts were materially responsible for the almost continuous maintenance of the intra-battalion communications system, which was a vital factor in the continued success of the operation leading to the capture of * * *. Entered military service from Oregon.

Private Albert S Musiedlak Jr, 36808369, Medical Department, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the vicinity of * * * Normandy, France, on 15 July 1944. Private Musiedlak, a company aid man, disregarding the heavy concentration of enemy fire of all types which wounded seven members of a machine gun squad, voluntarily crawled across the dangerous area, where he not only administered first aid to the wounded men, while under fire, but succeeded in removing the injured soldiers to a place of safety. His courageous action under fire and his devotion to his comrades reflects credit upon Private Musiedlak's character as an individual soldier and is a credit to the military service. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

V -- AIR 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, the Air Medal is awarded to the following officer of this command:

Colonel Robert A Ellsworth, O15730, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights over France during the period 11 July to 24 August 1944. While serving as Executive Officer, * * * Artillery, Colonel Ellsworth distinguished himself by outstanding service in flying thirty-five sorties near or over enemy lines for the purpose of front line reconnaissance, and adjustment, surveillance, and registration of artillery fire on enemy installations. The meritorious achievement of Colonel Ellsworth in the outstanding performance of his missions during the period mentioned measurably contributed to the success of the operations. Entered United States Military Academy from Washington.

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VI--SILVER STAR MEDAL. So much of Section II, General Orders No 20, Headquarters 35th Infantry Division, 15 August 1944, as pertains to Lieutenant Colonel William V Martz, O19879, as reads: "Field Artillery, United States Army" is amended to read: "Cavalry, United States Army".

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