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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

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I. AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL :--... By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to:

August Aparo, 36 655 712, Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant), Infantry, Company L, 222d Infantry, for heroism not involving actual conflict with the enemy on 12 April 1945, near Schweinfurt, Germany. When Sergeant Aparo saw a boat loaded with four Russians, one a young boy, capsize about 25 yards from the American side of the Main River, he unhesitatingly went to the aid of the young boy who was struck on the head by the boat and was being carried downstream by the swift current. Fighting against the strong current, he succeeded in bringing the boy to the vicinity of the bank where, because of exhaustion, he held on to the brush at the water's edge until comrades could rescue them both from the river. Sergeant Aparo's heroic action in saving the drowning boy exemplify the highest traditions of the service. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

Peter Rocco, 33 498 300, Private First Class, Field Artillery, Service Battery, 402d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, near Mittersill, Austria. When part of a load of ammunition exploded in the caisson behind the truck in which Private Rocco was riding, the truck, caisson, and boxes containing 105mm howitzer ammunition burst into flame. After being driven back twice by exploding hand grenades and small arms, Private Rocco was able to assist in unhitching the caisson and freeing the truck to move from the scene of the explosion. At this time, with complete disregard for his own safety, he jumped to the back of the truck to assist in extinguishing the burning ammunition boxes. Private Rocco's heroic action saved the truck and its personnel from destruction and prevented a more serious explosion which would have endangered the lives of other men in the area. Entered military service from New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

II. AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUS) :--... By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded posthumously to the following:

Emmett C. Horschmann, 57 636 608, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, near Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Private Horschmann participated in several crossings of the Main River under intense machine gun, sniper, and artillery fire. Although the enemy field of fire was excellent, he volunteered unhesitatingly for each trip, completely disregarding his personal safety, until, on the eighth crossing, he was mortally wounded. Private Horschmann's indomitable courage and unselfish devotion to duty were instrumental in establishing the bridgehead. Name and address of nearest relative: Pauline Horschmann, Sparta, Illinois. Entered military service from St. Louis, Missouri.

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III. AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:... By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following:

John R. Amilkavich, 33 756 599, sergeant (then Corporal), Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 15 April 1945, near Reustadt, Germany. When the patrol of which he was a member was halted and cut-off by superior enemy forces, Corporal Amilkavich unhesitatingly volunteered to remain behind to cover the withdrawal. Despite intense enemy machine gun and small arms fire directed at his position, he continued to fire until the remainder of the patrol had withdrawn. Corporal Amilkavich's exceptional courage and selfless devotion to duty enabled the patrol to withdraw successfully with a minimum of casualties and with much needed information. Entered military service from Du Bois, Pennsylvania.

John L. Bombek, 38 677 766, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an engineer assault boat crew during the crossing of the Main River at Wurzburg, Private Bombek, under heavy machine gun and flak fire, continued to man his boat, ferrying assault troops to the far shore and bringing wounded and prisoners back. Although it was his first time under fire, he never hesitated to make the crossings without smoke or concealment until the mission was completed and the bridgehead was firmly established. By his untiring effort and fearless devotion to duty, Private Bombek made an effective contribution to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg, and enabled the division to continue its relentless pursuit of the enemy toward Nurnberg. Entered military service from Beaumont, Texas.

Charles T. Cain, 37 628 040, Private First Class, Cavalry, 42nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop for heroic achievement in action of 8 April 1945 near Schwehenreid, Germany. When a patrol entering Schwehenreid was fired upon, Private Cain, who was covering the patrol's movement, drove his machine gun jeep into the town under heavy fire to a position from which machine gun fire could more effectively be delivered on the enemy. Private Cain remained with his vehicle despite intense panzerfaust fire directed at the jeep, maneuvering it so that continuous machine gun fire could be brought to bear against the enemy positions. Private Cain's courage and extreme devotion to duty enabled the patrol to withdraw without serious casualties. Entered military service from Permisco County, Missouri.

Anthony T. Carella, 31 466 659, Private First Class, Infantry, Company I, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 6 January 1945, near Kilstett, France. During the fierce fighting for Kilstett, Private Carella voluntarily accompanied two wiremen on a mission to repair communications lines from the battalion to the Regimental Command Post. Despite constant and intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, he worked tirelessly for six hours until communications were again intact. Private Carella's courageous action and aggressive determination contributed materially to reestablishing vital communications. Entered military service from Bridgeport, Connecticut.

William S. Dags, 39 385 812, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company C, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 9 April 1945, at Geldersheim, Germany. When his platoon was ambushed by superior enemy forces, Sergeant Dags immediately took command of the left flank and led that group in attack against the enemy. Throughout the fight, Sergeant Dags, with complete disregard for his own safety, exposed himself to enemy fire to go from man to man giving encouragement and advice. His outstanding courage and selfless determination

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played a major role in inflicting serious losses on the enemy enabling the advance of his company to continue. Entered military service from North Long Beach, California.

Dewey Gamble, 6 986 231, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 252nd Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945, in Wurzburg, Germany. During the fierce fighting for Wurzburg, the advance of our forces was held up by intense machine gun and sniper fire coming from a nearby church steeple. Private Gamble forged his way through the intense hail of enemy fire, and with his automatic rifle succeeded in knocking out three of the enemy positions. He then occupied the positions alone and held them until reinforcements came forward and aided him in eliminating the remainder of the enemy emplacements. Private Gamble's indomitable courage made a material contribution to the successful capture of the city. Entered military service from Pineville, Kentucky.

Harry A. Guntheroth Jr., 38 471 107, Staff Sergeant (then sergeant), Infantry Company K, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 1 March 1945, near Lichtenberg, France. While sergeant Guntheroth was leading his squad in an attack on Hill 328, his men became pinned down by intense enemy machine gun and small arms fire. The men were momentarily frightened and reluctant to move. He then exposed himself to the intense fire in order to reconnoiter a route of withdrawal to safety. Sergeant Guntheroth's outstanding courage and fearless leadership contributed materially to withdrawing his men from their precarious position without a casualty. Entered military service from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Alfred J. Hazel, 32 422 747, Private, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 April 1945, at Dambach, Germany. When his company had been held up for three hours by intense machine gun and sniper fire, Private Hazel noticed an infantryman laying wounded exposed to the direct fire. Despite the intensity of the small arms and machine gun fire, he advanced to the injured man and administered first aid. Enemy snipers at this time zeroed in on his position and wounded Private Hazel before he could finish his work. His exceptional courage and unswerving determination were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

Thomas L. James, 44 050 479, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company 2, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, in Wurzburg, Germany. As member of an assault boat crew, Private James participated in seven round trip crossings of the Main River under intense machine gun, sniper, and artillery fire. Although he had had no previous training in the operation of assault boats, he unhesitatingly volunteered for each succeeding trip, carrying infantrymen across and returning with wounded and prisoners until the mission was completed. Private James exceptional courage and unswerving determination contributed materially to establishing the bridgehead and the ultimate fall of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Clayton, Georgia.

Albert J. Karatkey, 35 359 167, Sergeant, Cavalry, 42d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for heroic achievement in action on 31 March 1945 near Bronnback, Germany. When given the mission to take and hold an important bridge over the Main River, Sergeant Karatkey acted with extreme courage. Upon arrival at the bridge, he successfully advanced rapidly across it, overpowering the guards before an alarm could be given and the bridge blown. By his daring and courageous action, Sergeant Karatkey secured a valuable point in the division's route of advance across Germany. Entered military service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

JEROME LEVITAN, 0 549 679, Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Battery C, 402d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March

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1945, near Althron, France. When the infantry battalion to which he was attached as artillery forward observer was held up by determined enemy resistance Lieutenant Levitan braved enemy mortar and automatic weapons fire to direct friendly artillery fire. Although heavy mortar fire was leveled at his position for five hours, he exposed himself to enemy observation and adjusted artillery fire that destroyed the enemy mortars and neutralized the machine guns. Lieutenant Levitan's heroic actions enabled the battalion to advance unimpeded and take its objective with a minimum of casualties. Entered military service from Ithica, New York.

William J. McGhee, 38 554 450, Technician Fifth Grade, Cavalry, 42nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945, near Mulbach, Germany. When a member of a reconnaissance patrol was wounded, Corporal McGhee volunteered to attempt the rescue of the man from an area covered by withering fire from enemy machine guns. Driving his armored car along a road exposed to enemy fire, he effected the rescue of the badly wounded man and returned with him to cover. By disregarding his own safety, Corporal McGhee saved the life of a wounded comrade. Entered military service from Meslaco, Texas.

Ernest W. McKissack, 38 669 009, Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry Company K, 252d Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 6 January 1945, near La Wantzenau, France. When enemy artillery fire knocked out the pillbox which Private McKissack and another soldier were guarding, several of the occupants were wounded. After sending his comrade to secure medical aid, Private McKissack observed a twelve man enemy patrol approaching his position. Exposing himself to direct observation, he opened fire on the enemy with his automatic rifle, forcing them to withdraw after killing and wounding six of them. Private McKissack's bold and courageous action maintained the security of the position until help arrived for the wounded men. Entered military service from Little Rock, Arkansas.

James E. McLeroy, 38 632 858, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, near Furzburg, Germany. After crossing the Main River in the first assault boat, Private McLeroy aided in knocking out a machine gun which had been firing on the troops making the crossing. Noticing a machine gun and several snipers to the left flank, he fearlessly advanced on the enemy position alone. Firing as he advanced, he killed two of the snipers and caused the third to retreat. Then, approaching the machine guns, he eliminated two of the four man crew with a grenade and forced the others to surrender. Private McLeroy's courageous and aggressive action played a major role in the successful assault on the city. Entered military service from Clarkville, Texas.

Donald H. Meineke, 36 832 466, Private First Class, Infantry, Company D, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 6 January 1945, near Ingolsheim, France. When a strong enemy force attacked his outpost, Private Meineke opened fire with his mortar and continued to repulse the attacking Germans for forty-eight hours. When troops encircled his position, he continued the deadly barrage until the rifle troops he was supporting had safely withdrawn to the main line of resistance. He then led his squad in a successful thrust through the enemy encirclement and in a withdrawal to friendly lines. Through his indomitable courage and aggressive leadership, Private Meineke was largely responsible for the safe withdrawal of the defending troops of the outpost line of resistance. Entered military service from Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Joseph I. Popynia, 35 699 274, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945, near Furzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Private Popynia participated in six round trip crossings of the Main River under

heavy enemy artillery, machine gun and small arms fire. Although the enemy had an excellent field of fire, he unhesitatingly volunteered for each trip, disregarding his personal safety, until on the final trip he was seriously wounded by enemy fire. Private Popynia's exceptional courage and aggressiveness played a major role in establishing the bridgehead which ultimately led to the capture of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Warrendale, Pennsylvania.

William E. Schaeper Jr., 18 073 689, Corporal, Cavalry, 42nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop for heroic achievement in action on 8 April 1945, near Erlabrun, Germany. When the lead jeep of his platoon was held up by fire from three 20mm cannon and small arms, Corporal Schaeper, disregarding his own safety, advanced to the vehicle and manned the 50 caliber machine gun, directing such accurate fire on the enemy that they were forced to abandon their guns. He also called for and directed mortar fire which inflicted numerous casualties upon enemy dug in on the opposite bank of the river. Corporal Schaeper's courage and prompt action enabled his platoon to continue on it's mission without further delay or casualties. Entered military service from College Station, Texas.

Charley L. Shankles, 38 692 472, Private First Class, Cavalry, 42nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, at Zimmern, Germany. During an attack by an enemy platoon, Private Shankles was exposed to heavy bazooka and small arms fire while guarding his jeep. Refusing to leave his vehicle, he maneuvered it into position so that the returning gunner could bring effective fire on the enemy positions, inflicting numerous casualties on the enemy before withdrawing. Private Shankles' outstanding courage and devotion to duty contributed materially to the safe withdrawal of the remainder of his platoon. Entered military service from Newoka, Oklahoma.

Leo J. Tremblay, 33 934 993, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an engineer assault boat crew during the crossing of the Main River at Wurzburg, Private Tremblay, in the face of murderous machine gun and flak fire and seeing his comrades killed beside him, continued to man his boat, carrying assault troops to the far shore and bringing back wounded and prisoners. Although it was his first time under fire, he never hesitated to make the crossings without smoke or concealment until the mission was completed and the bridgehead was firmly established. By his untiring effort and fearless devotion to duty, Private Tremblay made an effective contribution to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg and enabled the division to continue its relentless pursuit of the enemy. Entered military service from Warren, Pennsylvania.

John Vanicky, 31 380 304, Corporal, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, near Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Corporal Vanicky participated in four round trip crossings of the Main River under heavy machine gun, sniper, and flak fire. Completely disregarding his personal safety, he volunteered for each succeeding crossing, despite the mounting intensity of the enemy fire, until the mission was accomplished. Corporal Vanicky's courageous and aggressive determination contributed materially to the establishment of the bridgehead and the ultimate capture of the heavily defended city. Entered military service from Torrington, Connecticut.

Henry J. Whitmire, 38 588 925, Corporal, Cavalry, 42d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945 at Stein, Germany. As Private Whitmire drove his vehicle into Stein, he discovered that the town was

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surrounded by an enemy unit. Dismounting, he engaged the enemy, and in the ensuing action killed four of their number and took two prisoners. He then contacted his platoon by radio and arranged for them to cover his withdrawal from the enemy area. Through his outstanding courage and aggressiveness, Private Whitmire gained invaluable information for the subsequent drive of the Division to the Main River. Entered military service from Stilwell, Oklahoma.

IV. AWARD OF THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:--- By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following:

Allen A. Holroyd, 39 121 407, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class) Infantry, Company L, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement on 7 January 1945, near Cleeberg, France. During an attack on enemy positions near Cleeberg, France, Private Holroyd, as platoon scout, moved up a hill and opened fire, causing the enemy to withdraw. After securing the hill, the Platoon came under a hail of enemy automatic weapons fire, and Private Holroyd again moved out in the face of the deadly enemy fire. Firing from the assault positions as he advanced, he again forced the Germans to withdraw and succeeded in killing an enemy sniper who had been left behind to cover the withdrawal. Through his outstanding courage and aggressiveness, Private Holroyd enabled his platoon to take their objective with a minimum of casualties. Entered military service from San Francisco, California.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COLLINS:

EDWIN RUSTEBERG,
Lt. Col., General Staff Corps,
Actg. Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

James D. Tanner
JAMES D. TANNER,
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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