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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

AFPO #411, U. S. Army,

NUMBER 11)

9 March 1945.

Award of Silver Star (Posthumous)-----I
Award of Silver Star-----II
Award of the Bronze Star Medal-----III

I--AWARD OF SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUS). By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded, posthumously, to:

Donald F. Barry, 31 398 519, Private First Class, Infantry, Company L, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945, when his platoon was pinned down by enemy fire near Kaltenhouse, France, Private Barry was wounded in the head when he attempted to get into position from which to deliver effective rifle grenade fire upon the enemy. Refusing assistance of anyone able to fight, he crawled over 300 yards to the rear for aid, sustaining another wound in so doing. He died of his wounds that night. Name and address of nearest relative - Anna L. Barry (Mother) - 57 Bradley Street, Lewiston, Maine. Entered military service from Lewiston, Maine.

Harold S. Clifton, 36 966 806, Private, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 9 January 1945, at Rittershoffen, France, when five enemy tanks attempted to outflank our positions, Private Clifton remained at his post on a 57mm anti-tank gun in spite of heavy enemy machine gun and 88mm fire, as a result of which two enemy tanks were put out of action. He was killed by a direct hit on his gun. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Phyllis Clifton (Wife) - 239 Columbia Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

William G. Dickens, 33 651 263, Private First Class, Infantry, Company L, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945, near Kaltenhouse, France, when the grenadier was fatally wounded while trying to fire a phosphorous rifle grenade after his platoon had become pinned down by enemy small arms fire, Private Dickens crawled forward and, exposing himself to enemy sniper fire, seized the rifle. In attempting to fire it he was struck in the head by small arms fire and was killed. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Naomi C. Dickens (Mother) - RFD #2, Box 113, Galax, Virginia. Entered military service from Galax, Virginia.

II--AWARD OF SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded to:

Robert M. Hirsch, 16 098 544, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 9 January 1945, at Rittershoffen, France, when five enemy tanks attempted to outflank our positions, Private Hirsch remained at his post on a 57mm anti-tank

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gun in spite of heavy enemy machine gun and 88mm fire, as a result of which two enemy tanks were put out of action. He was later reported missing in action. Name and address of nearest relative - Maurice Hirsch (Father) - 1540 Judson Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois. Entered military service from Highland Park, Illinois.

Harvey Kent, Jr., 36 963 601, Private First Class, Infantry, Company G, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 24 February 1945, near Wingen, France, Private Kent was wounded in the face and right hand by an enemy grenade fragment. Although unable to use his right hand, he refused medical aid and remained with the patrol, effectively firing his rifle with his left hand. When a German was encountered in a foxhole, Private Kent had another man pull the pin from a grenade and throw it with his left hand into the foxhole. His acts were responsible for several enemy casualties. Entered military service from Wausaukoo, Wisconsin.

ERICH W. MERRILL, O 563 993, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company F, 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945, near Schweighausen, France, when two members of his platoon, one of whom was wounded, attempted to cross the Moser River to return to their own lines but were too exhausted to get across, Lieutenant Merrill with two other men crossed 200 yards of open terrain under heavy enemy fire and after rescuing the exhausted men, returned to the river and brought back another wounded man. Finding that two members of the platoon were still missing, Lieutenant Merrill led a patrol across the river and into the woods in an effort to locate the missing men but was forced to withdraw by intense enemy fire. Later that night he formed his men into a strong point which he successfully defended, preventing the enemy from breaking into the town. Entered military service from Olive Branch, Mississippi.

Edward J. Powers, 39 706 682, Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 242d Infantry, for gallantry in action. On 10 January 1945, near Harton, France, when an enemy self-propelled assault gun was heard approaching the battalion command post where he was stationed at the time, Sergeant Powers, with another soldier, voluntarily went to the top floor of a building near the command post and, waiting until the vehicle was within 30 yards of the building and preparing to fire upon the command post, fired five rockets from a rocket launcher, hitting the enemy vehicle and setting it afire. Entered military service from Riverside, California.

BRADISH F. SMITH, O24 049, Major, Infantry, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 9 January 1945, at Latton, France, upon observing that a platoon of the reserve company of his battalion was withdrawing in response to a command in English given by German soldiers, Major Smith proceeded through intense enemy artillery and mortar fire to the platoon and lead them forward to their attack area. As a result of his leadership the platoon rejoined its company and the enemy was halted at the edge of town. Entered military service from Montana.

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Walter M. Teague, 20 809 041, Technical Sergeant, Infantry, Company F, 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945, near Schweighausen, France, when two members of his platoon, one of whom was wounded, attempted to cross the Moder River to return to their own lines but were too exhausted to get across, Sergeant Teague with two other men crossed 200 yards of open terrain under heavy enemy fire and after rescuing the exhausted men, returned to the river and brought back another wounded man. Finding that two members of the platoon were still missing, Sergeant Teague went with a patrol across the river and into the woods in an effort to locate the missing men but was forced to withdraw by intense enemy fire. Later that night he joined his platoon leader in forming a strong point which they successfully defended, preventing the enemy from breaking into the town. Entered military service from Holland, Texas.

III--AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 300-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to:

JAMES R. COLLINS, O 555 953, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company G, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 24 February 1945, near Wingon, France, Lieutenant Collins led a combat patrol which was largely made up of new men who were experiencing their first contact with the enemy. Constantly in the lead, he inspired his men to overcome their normal fears of initial conflict. When a machine pistol pinned down part of the patrol, Lieutenant Collins went forward in the face of enemy fire and single handedly wiped out the position, enabling the patrol to continue on its mission. Entered military service from Bishop, California.

WILLIAM J. COWLING, III, O 528 192, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters, 42d Infantry Division, for meritorious service in action during the period 16 December 1944 to 25 January 1945. As Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, Task Force Linden, Lieutenant Cowling made reconnaissance and route plans under adverse weather conditions, aiding in the execution of the missions assigned to the Task Force. On 5 January 1945, at Kilstett, France, when the road junction became heavily congested by vehicles, prisoners of war, and a platoon of a company driven back from the attack on Gambshelm, Lieutenant Cowling cleared the area and, with the assistance of another officer got the platoon collected and organized and back in their jump-off foxholes ready for further action. Entered military service from Leavenworth, Kansas.

SPENCER W. CUNNINGHAM, O 367 788, Major, Infantry, Headquarters, 42d Infantry Division Artillery, for meritorious service in action during the period 25 December 1944 to 25 January 1945. As Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, of Task Force Linden, Major Cunningham was required to supervise and co-ordinate the supply activities of three infantry regiments, attached troops, and the Task Force Headquarters. Without the help of the normal service troops and personnel and in spite of widely spread operations and severe weather conditions, by his organizational ability, persistent attention to details, and tireless devotion to duties, Major Cunningham was able to keep the troops of the Task Force adequately supplied. Entered military service from Portsmouth, Ohio.

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Carl R. Denson, 38 250 696, Private First Class, Infantry, Company G, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 14 January 1945, near Ingolshain, France, Private Denson was a member of a combat patrol whose mission was to penetrate enemy lines and to knock out an enemy 75mm gun. After cutting enemy communications, and while advancing toward an enemy pillbox, the patrol was subjected to intense machine gun, mortar, and small arms fire, necessitating its withdrawal. In order to enable the rest of the patrol to return to our lines, Private Denson with five other men remained and covered the withdrawal and as a result was reported missing in action. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Lola E. Denson (Mother) - Raymondville, Texas. Entered military service from Raymondville, Texas.

Wilfred S. Fleming, 33 306 108, Private First Class, Infantry, Company B, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 24 February 1945, near Wildonguth, France, while a member of a combat patrol, Private Fleming was advancing with his squad in an attack on an enemy machine gun position when a German jumped out of a well camouflaged dugout. After shooting him with his BAR, Private Fleming jumped into the dugout, shot a German in the act of manning the machine gun and another German just behind him, and captured a fourth. Entered military service from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Jerry D. Ford, 38 699 352, Private First Class, Infantry, Company G, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 24 February 1945, near Wingen, France, while working his way back to rejoin the combat patrol from which he and several others became separated, Private Ford noticed several Germans attempting to sneak up on the flank of the patrol. Placing the men with him where they could fire on the Germans without endangering their own patrol, he opened fire on the enemy killing or wounding most of them. During this action, Private Ford received a wound in his side but refused medical aid and remained with the patrol until it returned to its lines. Entered military service from Big Springs, Texas.

VERNON D. HALL, O 551 755, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 14 January 1945, near Ingolshain, France, Lieutenant Hall was in command of a combat patrol whose mission was to penetrate enemy lines and to knock out an enemy 75mm gun. After cutting enemy communications, and while advancing toward an enemy pillbox, the patrol was subjected to intense machine gun, mortar, and small arms fire, necessitating its withdrawal. In order to enable the rest of the patrol to return to our lines, Lieutenant Hall with five other men remained and covered the withdrawal and as a result was reported missing in action. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Elizabeth May Hall (Wife) - 1309 Ash Street, Muskogee, Oklahoma. Entered military service from Roy, New Mexico.

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Richard G. Ladlee, 6 712 049, Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters, 3rd Battalion, 232d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in action. During the period 5-7 January 1945, at Gambshain, France, as battalion wire chief, Sergeant Ladlee personally directed and led his wire section in the laying and repairing of telephone lines between the battalion CP and front line companies under heavy enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, as a result of which vital communications were maintained. Entered military service from Rochester, New York.

George W. McCormack, 34 530 577, Private First Class, Infantry, Company I, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 25 January 1945, near Lauendorf, France, when several members of a detachment of which he was a member were wounded by a sudden burst of small arms fire from a wooded area while attempting to establish a combat outpost, Private McCormack voluntarily left cover to go out into the clearing and, with the aid of another soldier, began to drag one of the wounded men to safety. After they had brought the injured man sufficiently close to our lines so that others were able to drag him to cover, Private McCormack himself was wounded by enemy fire. Entered military service from Jacksonville, Florida.

Glenn R. McElroy, 36 613 716, Sergeant, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 14 January 1945, near Ingolshain, France, Sergeant McElroy was a member of a combat patrol whose mission was to penetrate enemy lines and to knock out an enemy 75mm gun. After cutting enemy communications, and while advancing toward an enemy pillbox, the patrol was subjected to intense machine gun, mortar, and small arms fire, necessitating its withdrawal. In order to enable the rest of the patrol to return to our lines, Sergeant McElroy with five other men remained and covered the withdrawal and as a result was reported missing in action. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Nellie McElroy (Mother) - 30 Loucke Street, Aurora, Illinois. Entered military service from Aurora, Illinois.

Tony Perez, 39 414 612, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On 14 January 1945, near Ingolshain, France, Private Perez was a member of a combat patrol whose mission was to penetrate enemy lines and to knock out an enemy 75mm gun. After cutting enemy communications, and while advancing toward an enemy pillbox, the patrol was subjected to intense machine gun, mortar, and small arms fire, necessitating its withdrawal. In order to enable the rest of the patrol to return to our lines, Private Perez with five other men remained and covered the withdrawal and as a result was reported missing in action. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Mary Perez (Mother) - Box 457, Fairfield, California.

CHARLES A. ROCKWOOD, O 515 276, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 232d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in action. From 5 to 7 January 1945, near Gambshain, France, as I & R Platoon Leader, Lieutenant Rockwood led many patrols under heavy mortar, artillery, and small arms fire to gain information about the enemy, which proved of great value to his regimental commander in making decisions as to the disposition of his troops. Going without sleep and with very little food, he also served in many other capacities and made frequent trips to the front lines to bring back enemy prisoners. Entered military service from Indianapolis, Indiana.

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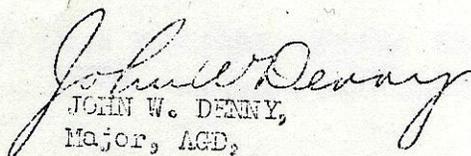
Harry W. Shaffer, Jr., 33 929 580, Private, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 42d Infantry Division, for meritorious service in action from 20 December 1944 to 28 January 1945. As Driver for the Commanding General, Task Force Linden, Private Shaffer drove over 3000 miles in the combat zone, one-third of which was under blackout conditions, under harassing artillery fire, and at times under airplane bombing and strafing and small arms fire. Driving indefatigably for long hours at a time, over unknown roads, under severe weather conditions, Private Shaffer contributed in a large measure in assisting the Commanding General to get to the various points on the wide fronts in order to carry out the missions assigned to the Task Force. Entered military service from Everett, Pennsylvania.

FRANK D. TAYLOR, O 551 739; 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 232d Infantry Regiment, for meritorious service in action. During the period 5-7 January 1945, at Gombsheim, France, as battalion communications officer, Lieutenant Taylor was required to install and repair communications between the battalion CP, the forward CPs, and the regimental rear CP. Working ceaselessly and untiringly under heavy enemy artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire, he succeeded in maintaining vital communications for his battalion. Entered military service from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

By command of Major General COLLINS:

BURNS BEALL,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


JOHN W. DENNY,
Major, AGD,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

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