

R E S T R I C T E D

AG FILE COPY  
*me*

HEADQUARTERS  
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

APO 411, U. S. ARMY,

NUMBER 15)

14 January 1946.

Award of the Silver Star (Posthumous) .....	I
Award of the Silver Star .....	II
Award of the Bronze Star Medal .....	III
Award of the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal .....	IV
Award of the Purple Heart .....	V
Revocations .....	VI

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

VERNON D. HALL, O 551 755, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 14 January 1945, near Ingolsheim, France. During the action around Ingolsheim, France, Lieutenant Hall, led a combat patrol deep into enemy territory. Observing the position of an enemy pillbox, he advanced on the emplacement and destroyed it with grenades. He then led his men deeper into enemy territory cutting communications lines. Upon discovering an enemy command post, he knocked it out singlehanded, with grenades. Attempting to gain entrance to the town, enemy machine gun fire struck several of his men. Lieutenant Hall then attempted to cover the withdrawal of the patrol, and in doing so was mortally wounded. His gallant conduct and unselfish devotion to duty in personally taking every risk in order to lessen the hazard for his men were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Services. Name and address of nearest relative: Elizabeth M. Hall (Wife), Roy, New Mexico. Entered military service from Roy, New Mexico.

Charles E. Miller, 32 283 592, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 3 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Private Miller participated in numerous crossings of the Main River while establishing a bridgehead before the city of Wurzburg, Germany. Enemy artillery, machine gun, and sniper fire was exceptionally heavy, and on his third trip he was slightly wounded. Disregarding his wound, he volunteered immediately for another crossing and on the return journey he was fatally wounded by the intense enemy fire. Private Miller's outstanding heroism and unselfish devotion to duty were instrumental in establishing the bridgehead and in the ultimate capture of the city. Name and address of nearest relative: Edith Lee, 368 Green Street, Lockport, New York. Entered military service from Lockport, New York.

Arlington C. Raymond, 42 114 950, Private, Corps of Engineers, Company A 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for gallantry in action on 3 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. As a member of an assault boat crew, Private Raymond participated in numerous crossings of the Main River in the face of intense artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire. On his final return trip, due to casualties among crew members, he loaded his boat with prisoners and ordered them to paddle back. Midway in the stream, machine gun fire struck some of the prisoners and demoralize the others to such an extent that control of the boat was lost and it started to drift into enemy territory. In an attempt to save the boat so vital to the mission, Private Raymond leaped into the water, attempting to swim and push the boat to the friendly shore. Though fatigued and weary and under intense fire, he

o v e r

-1-

R E S T R I C T E D



14 January 1946.

labored to propel the boat until exhaustion overcame him and he disappeared from sight. Private Raymond's great courage and heroic gallantry were instrumental in establishing the bridgehead and instilled in his comrades the determination that contributed to the eventual capture of Wurzburg. Name and address of nearest relative: Mabel Raymond, R.F.D. #1, Durhamville, New York. Entered military service from Oneida, New York.

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

Almas E. DeFoyd, 38 397 215, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company B, 232d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945 near Reipertswiller France. When the other members of his rifle squad had either been wounded or pinned down by the intense enemy mortar and machine gun fire during the attack on Hill 301, Sergeant DeFoyd assaulted the enemy machine gun position alone. Although hit in the arm, he continued his assault until both his hands were badly injured by mortar fragments. He then carried one of his more seriously wounded comrades to the aid station, and after receiving medical attention, he returned to the top of the hill to care for the remainder of his men. Sergeant DeFoyd's gallant courage and selfless determination to aid his comrades was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army. Entered military service from Fredrick, Oklahoma.

Lewis H. Gallien, 31 111 012, Technical Sergeant (then Sergeant), Infantry, Company B, 232d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945, near Reipertswiller, France. During the fierce and bitter fighting for Hill 301, Sergeant Gallien's squad was pinned down by intense machine gun fire coming from well dug-in positions up the hill directly to the front. Fearlessly advancing up to a machine gun nest, he threw several hand grenades into the position, silencing the gun and forcing seven nearby enemy soldiers to surrender. He then led his squad in the final, successful assault of the Hill. Sergeant Gallien's exceptional courage and gallantry under fire in the face of the enemy played a major role in the continued advance of our forces against the determined enemy resistance. Entered military service from Derry, New Hampshire.

Mathias J. Heuser, 32 996 690, Private First Class, Corps of Military Police, 42d Infantry Division, Military Police Platoon for gallantry in action on 6 April 1945 at Veitshochheim, Germany. Private Heuser volunteered to accompany an officer and three enlisted men across the Main River to attempt to induce the enemy garrison at Veitshochheim to surrender. After a three hour conversation, surrounded by an overwhelmingly superior armed enemy, the enemy commander was persuaded to capitulate. Although the return route was covered by fanatical SS troops with machine guns, Private Heuser assisted in rowing the captives across the river and later returned to demolish three loaded enemy flak guns. His outstanding heroism and aggressive determination resulted in the capture of the town and 129 armed enemy and the liberation of six American prisoners of war without casualties. Entered military service from New York, New York.

Jack L. Scharf, 12 143 665, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 11 January 1945, at Hatten, France. When his company's position at Hatten became untenable, Private Scharf volunteered to clear a path for the evacuation of the wounded members of the position. Braving a hail of machine gun and direct tank fire, he made his way to a barn where he encountered a force of enemy soldiers. In the fierce fire fight that followed, he inflicted such heavy casualties upon the enemy group that they



14 January 1946.

were forced to withdraw in a disorganized state. As a result of his gallant actions, fifty men were enabled to escape from the besieged building and saved from possible capture or death. Entered military service from Bronx, New York.

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:

Peter A. Colantino, 32 819 013, Corporal, Infantry, Company B, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 23 April 1945, near Buchdorf, Germany. As Company E was approaching the town of Buchdorf, they were met and pinned down by intense artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire. With the mission of securing a house on the edge of town for observational purposes, Corporal Colantino crawled one hundred yards under terrific hail of fire from a sniper until he was within a few yards of his objective. He then threw a grenade into the building, killing the sniper and clearing the house. Through his courageous action, Corporal Colantino materially aided his company's advance into town. Entered military service from New York, New York.

Walter J. Czarnik, 36 966 368, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 22-23 March, 1945 near Ludwigswinkel, Germany. When his leading vehicle on a reconnaissance mission was fired on by the retreating enemy, Private Czarnik maneuvered his jeep into position from which his companion could return the fire. He then left it and joined a patrol on foot, aiding in capturing five of the enemy. Nearing Schwanheim Germany the next day, he again voluntarily joined a foot patrol and entered the town. Upon questioning some Polish displaced persons, Private Czarnik learned the location of the enemy and assisted in apprehending more than two hundred Germans. Later he was a member of a patrol that contacted Third Army units, cutting off thousands of enemy troops. Finding that Danbach was still held by the enemy, the patrol entered the town and after an engagement, collected over fifty more prisoners. Private Czarnik's heroic actions resulted in capturing many enemy soldiers and eliminating innumerable others while greatly facilitating the regiment's advance. Entered military service from Lincoln Park, Michigan.

Warren J. Earp, 34 666 508, Private First Class, Infantry, Company H, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. When the advance section of 81 mm mortars became surrounded by infiltrating enemy patrols and all communications were severed, Private Earp unhesitatingly volunteered to lay wire to the surrounded section. Despite heavy enemy sniper fire, he succeeded in laying the wire and establishing communications. Simultaneously the enemy patrol was driven off. Private Earp's heroic action in the face of great danger was instrumental in the combat success of his platoon. Entered military service from Durham, North Carolina.

Edward G. Knoble, 37 772 047, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945 in Wurzburg, Germany. In the first phase of the attack against Wurzburg, Germany, Private Knoble was a member of a seven-man patrol which crossed the Main River in the first boat, knocked out a German machine gun and advanced to attack a 20mm cannon position. Fired on by enemy snipers in a nearby building, he entered through the back door, cleared the building, and killed two snipers. He then carried a wounded comrade back to safety through the heavy fire. Private Knoble's outstanding courage and determination contributed

o v e r

-3-



14 January 1946.

materially to clearing the way for the crossing of our troops in force and the launching of the attack on the city. Entered military service from Dodge City, Minnesota.

Charles L. Knouff, 37 640 688, Private First Class, Infantry, Company B, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 8-10 January 1945 near Hatten, France. When the reconnaissance patrol of which Private Knouff was point man had completed its mission, it was unable to send the information it had obtained because of radio failure. Cut off behind enemy lines for 36 hours by a major enemy attack, the patrol leader decided to attempt to escape during the hours of darkness. On the way back to our lines, Private Knouff's alertness enabled the patrol to evade several enemy patrols and to travel thirty miles in ten hours in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles. His outstanding courage and endurance contributed materially to the successful completion of the patrol's mission. Entered military service from Springfield, Missouri.

Richard D. Lakin, 33 396 485, Private, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. Observing two men lying wounded at the edge of a woods near Wurzburg under intense machine gun and small arms fire, Private Lakin and three other litter bearers braved the intense fire to go to their aid. Working heroically under the heavy fire, he assisted in treating the patients, one of whom was past aid, then helping to evacuate the remaining injured soldier through the intense fire to the aid station. Private Lakin's outstanding courage and coolness under fire saved the wounded infantryman from possible death or further injury. Entered military service from Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

Clarence F. Laney, 32 549 290, Corporal, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. Observing two men lying wounded at the edge of a woods near Wurzburg under intense machine gun and small arms fire, Corporal Laney and three other litter bearers braved the intense fire to go to their aid. Working heroically under the heavy fire, he assisted in treating the patients, one of whom was past aid, then helping to evacuate the remaining injured soldier through the intense fire to the aid station. Corporal Laney's outstanding courage and coolness under fire saved the wounded infantryman from possible death or further injury. Entered military service from Churchville, New York.

Joseph A. Leahy, 33 790 958, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. Observing two men lying wounded at the edge of a woods near Wurzburg under intense machine gun and small arms fire, Private Leahy and three other litter bearers braved the intense fire to go to their aid. Working heroically under the heavy fire, he assisted in treating the patients, one of whom was past aid, then helping to evacuate the remaining injured soldier through the intense fire to the aid station. Private Leahy's outstanding courage and coolness under fire saved the wounded infantryman from possible death or further injury. Entered military service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Arnie M. Phillips, 34 946 815, 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 assault boat crew during the forced crossing of the Main River at Wurzburg, Germany, Private Phillips participated in six round trip crossings of the river under heavy machine-gun, sniper, and flak fire. Ignoring the heavy fire involved, he continued to volunteer for the mission of ferrying infantry men and ammunition to the far shore and returning with wounded



14 January 1946.

and prisoners until the bridgehead was firmly established. His outstanding courage and devotion to duty contributed to the rapid capitulation of the key city of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Alma, Georgia.

Lawrence S. Rowan, 37 363 419, Private First Class, Infantry, Company F, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 8 April 1945, near Arnstein, Germany. Seeing two scouts of his squad pinned down during the attack on Arnstein, Private Rowan exposed himself to attract the hostile fire to himself and to lay down a covering fire with his automatic rifle. Through the courageous and self-sacrificing action of Private Rowan, the scouts were able to withdraw to concealed positions from where they directed their company's fire on the enemy positions, neutralizing them. Entered military service from Oakland, California.

Norman D. Wheeler, 37 482 667, Sergeant, Infantry, Company F, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 5 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. During the battle for Wurzburg, the platoons of Company F were cut off from the ammunition dump by infiltrating enemy forces. Sergeant Wheeler's 60mm mortar squad was running out of ammunition. Sergeant Wheeler made his way through the enemy lines through intense sniper fire back to the ammunition point and returned with a heavy load of ammunition to his squad. By his courageous action under fire, his squad was able to effectively support rifle troops in liquidating infiltrating enemy forces. Entered military service from Allen, Nebraska.

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:

Gale M. Mills, 35 243 599, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945, near Wurzburg, Germany. Prior to the main assault on Wurzburg, Germany, Private Mills crossed the Main River in the first assault boat and assisted in knocking out an enemy machine gun and a 20mm cannon position. As he moved forward to attack a pillbox, he was wounded in the shoulder. He killed a sniper and then opened fire on enemy forces running in the street, forcing them to surrender. Then, despite his wound and the increasing intensity of the enemy fire, Private Mills courageously helped his comrade, suffering from concussion, back to the safety of our lines. Entered military service from Hartford City, Indiana.

John N. Petro, 39 542 822, Sergeant, Infantry, Company E, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 April 1945, at Wurzburg, Germany. When the Second Battalion encountered heavy machine gun, rifle, and bazooka fire while advancing into Wurzburg, Sergeant Petro led his squad in the direction of the heaviest enemy fire. Approaching a church tower from which the heaviest sniper fire was pouring, he led his squad into the tower, killing five of the enemy with his rifle. Encouraged by his aggressive and courageous action, the squad killed fifteen and wounded twenty of the enemy, thereby removing a serious pocket of resistance that had been holding up the battalion advance. Entered military service from Burbank, California.

V. AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART:---... Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following for wounds received in action:

Arthur L. Lashbrook, 36 470 336, Private, Infantry, Company C, 232d Infantry Regiment, 11 March 1945, in France. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.



R E S T R I C T E D

GO NO 15, CONTD.

Page 6:

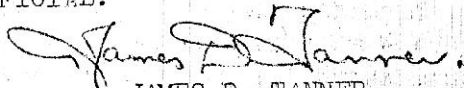
14 January 19461

✓ VI, REVOCATIONS:--... So much of General Orders 13, es, as pertains to the awarding of the Bronze Star Medal to Charles T. Fox, 34 211 468, Staff Sergeant, Company I, 222d Infantry Regiment and Robert D. Brennan, O 398 029, Captain, Field Artillery, 232d Field Artillery Battalion, is revoked:

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COLLINS:

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

OFFICIAL:



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

DISTRIBUTION:

"A" & "B"

- 3 - TAG (Attn: Awards and Decorations Branch, Washington 25, D. C.)
- 1 - Central MRU, APO 887,
- 1 - CG, Third Army
- 5 - CG, USFET
- 5 - CG, USFA
- 45 - AG Misc

- 6 -

R E S T R I C T E D