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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

GPO #411, U. S. Army,

NUMBER 18)

26 March 1945.

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

I. AWARD OF 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:

EDWARD W. BUTTS, 14 082 872, Private First Class, Company "H", 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945 at Schweighausen, France, while assisting in the defense of the first platoon area, Private Butts located a caliber .50 machine gun and a caliber .30 light machine gun which could not be used in the defense of the area. Observing that there were no weapons on the left flank of the town, he organized two gun crews among volunteers and placed the guns in an exposed position on the hill to the left of the town from where they were able to deliver effective fire against the enemy advancing on the town. Later that morning Private Butts voluntarily drove a 1/4 ton vehicle with a caliber .50 machine gun through heavy enemy small arms and mortar fire to the company command post, materially aiding in the defense of the village. That afternoon, when an intense enemy artillery barrage endangered his vehicle, Private Butts voluntarily left cover and without regard to the danger to himself, moved the vehicle under heavy fire to a safe place. While doing so he was wounded in the head and body by shell fragments from which he died the next day. Name and address of nearest relative - Mr. John G. Butts (Father) - 18 Fountain Street, Medford, Massachusetts. Entered military service from Fort Barrances, Florida.

JOHN H. STEPHENSON, 31 166 913, Private First Class, Company "L", 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 25 January 1945, near Kaltenhouse, France, while attempting to reach a house across an open field which was subjected to heavy enemy fire, Private Stephenson was shot in the shoulder by sniper fire. Falling near one of the other members of his platoon who had been wounded in the thigh and seeing that the other man could not move his leg, Private Stephenson called for help to move the man out of danger. When the platoon sergeant was killed in responding to his call, Private Stephenson, in spite of his wounds and the intense enemy fire, attempted to move the other man to safety without assistance. While so doing, he was shot again and killed. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Diana Stephenson (Mother), Box 167, Simsbury, Connecticut. Entered military service from Windsor, Connecticut.

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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:

Michael R. Oleksyn, 36 897 586, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 233d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. During the period from 5 January through 7 January 1945, at Gombsheim, France, Private Oleksyn and other members of the wire section installed and repaired telephone circuits between the Battalion Observation Post, Battalion Command Post and front line companies in the face of heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire. On one occasion Private Oleksyn and other members of his crew entered the Battalion Observation Post while under enemy fire and repaired the wire circuit. As a result of their acts vital communications were maintained. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

Joseph A. Pinell, Jr., 38 197 660, Private First Class, 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, Private Pinell 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, Private Pinell 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. Entered military service from New Orleans, Louisiana.

DUFFY B. STANLEY, O 555 583, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry Headquarters 1st Battalion, 232d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 19 January 1945 at Sessenheim, France, Lieutenant Stanley was in command of the A & P Platoon which was left as part of a holding force in the town after relieving another company. Forced to withdraw by the attack of a superior enemy force, Lieutenant Stanley personally reconnoitered each house before allowing his men to enter. In one house he killed three Germans. Observing an enemy tank nearby, he obtained a rifle with an anti-tank grenade, crawled back, and hit the tank, causing it to withdraw. When the enemy surrounded the town, hopelessly outnumbering our troops, Lieutenant Stanley divided the platoon into two groups, and placing his assistant platoon leader in command of one group, he led the remainder back to the company through the enemy lines, with a loss of only three of his men. Entered military service from Alexandria, Louisiana.

Frank R. Zetterower, Jr, 31 827 516, Staff Sergeant, Company "F", 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action. On 6 January 1945, at Gombsheim, France, while crossing an open schoolyard in the face of enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire during the attack on the town, one of the members of Sergeant Zetterower's squad was wounded. After getting the rest of his men under cover Sergeant Zetterower went to the aid of the wounded

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man, who was lying in the yard completely exposed to enemy fire. While dragging him to safety, Sergeant Zetterower was himself severely wounded by enemy machine pistol fire and was reported missing in action. His skillful leadership and self-sacrifice in taking care of his men on this and previous occasions were largely responsible for the successful accomplishments of the platoon's missions. Name and address of nearest relative: Mrs. Nona T. Zetterower (wife), Statesboro, Georgia. Entered military service from Dublin, Georgia.

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

EUGENE W. STOAKS, 15 359 309, Private First Class, Company "H", 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action. On the night of 10-11 January 1945, near Leiterswiller, France, Private Stoaks was acting as liaison man between his heavy machine gun platoon and a rifle company which was preparing to move forward. After making several trips under constant enemy fire to elements of this and other companies, Private Stoaks set out to contact detachments which were providing security on each flank. To reach one of them it was necessary for him to cross two bridges and to pass through the town of Leiterswiller, under intense enemy artillery fire. Having completed his mission, Private Stoaks was fatally wounded when a shell struck the company command post and died the following day. Name and address of nearest relative - Mrs. Florence B. Stoaks (Mother), 3313 East 19th Street, Cleveland Ohio. Entered military service from Toledo, Ohio.

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

EDWARD J. KOSTERMAN, 01 577 439, Captain, Quartermaster, 42d Quartermaster Company, for meritorious service in action during the period 26 December 1944 to 5 February 1945. As Quartermaster Officer for Task Force Linden Captain Kosterman handled all Quartermaster supplies for the three infantry regiments, attached troops, and the Task Force Headquarters. Without the help of the normal Quartermaster troops and personnel and in spite of widely spread operations and distance from supply depots and of severe weather conditions, by his accurate estimate of supply needs and his energetic and successful liaison with supply agencies and the troops themselves, Captain Kosterman procured and delivered to the combat units quantities of clothing and equipment far in excess of that which could have been expected in view of the seemingly insurmountable obstacles which he overcame. Entered military service from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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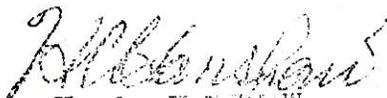
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By command of Major General COLLINS:

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

OFFICIAL:



H. C. HENSHAW,
CWO, USA,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

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