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HEADQUARTERS
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

APO 411, U. S. ARMY,

NUMBER 27)

21 January 1946.

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I. 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 the following:

MIKE ZABEK, O2 010 781, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 232d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 4 April 1945, in Wurzburg, Germany. During the fierce fighting for Wurzburg, Germany. Lieutenant Zabek's rifle platoon encountered an enemy strongpoint in the city park. Realizing the importance of a quick assault, he quickly reorganized his forces and placed his machine gunners in position. Lieutenant Zabek then ran forward alone through the murderous hail of enemy machine gun, machine pistol, and small arms fire, throwing grenades as he ran and shouting for his men to follow. He alone killed five of the enemy, captured nine, and knocked out an enemy machine gun nest. Lieutenant Zabek's display of indomitable courage was an inspiration to his men to follow him, and the enemy strongpoint was soon neutralized. Entered military service from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Walter J. Czarnik, 36 966 368, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 242d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 16 April 1945 near Perbach, Germany. When his Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon was ambushed by superior enemy forces, Private Czarnik leaped from his vehicle and with utter disregard for his own safety, returned the fire. Observing that two soldiers were wounded, he crossed the open terrain and carried one man to his vehicle. He then returned and aided the second injured man to the vehicle which withdrew from the area. As a result of Private Czarnik's indomitable courage and selfless devotion to duty, his platoon was able to take up a defensive position and two injured comrades were promptly evacuated to receive critically needed medical attention. Entered military service from Lincoln Park, Michigan.

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 is awarded posthumously to the following:

Harry J. Mulch Jr., 42 083 795, Private First Class, Infantry, Company K, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 11 April 1945, near Dittelbrunn, Germany. Attacking an enemy skirmish line in the face of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire, Private Mulch, acting as scout, fearlessly left his sheltered position to go to the aid of the other scout who was wounded. In this brave and valorous attempt to help a comrade-in-arms, Private Mulch was mortally wounded by enemy fire. Nearest Relative; Mrs. Marion Mulch (Mother), 204 Carlisle Road, Audubon, New Jersey. Entered military service from Audubon, New Jersey.

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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:

Billy E. Bentson, 39 212 382, Staff Sergeant, (then Private First Class), Corps of Engineers, Company B, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 23 February 1945 near Lichtenberg, France. When the patrol of which Private Bentson was a member was reconnoitering an area for a mine field, they were fired upon by machine guns and small arms from a house to the front, wounding one officer. A withdrawal was ordered and Private Bentson and another soldier evacuated the officer under the enemy fire. Upon successful completion of the withdrawal, he returned to the site with two others and, while under the enemy's observation, laid a mine field which blocked the route enemy patrols were using to penetrate our lines. Private Bentson's courageous action and disregard for personal safety played a major role in the successful accomplishment of the mission. Entered military service from Bremerton, Washington.

Freddie Brant, 38 494 249, Private First Class, Infantry, Company G, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, near Ludwigswinkel, Germany. In order to maintain contact with the enemy while preparing to assault the vaunted German West Wall, Private Brant voluntarily went on three combat patrols. On each occasion, the patrol crossed flat terrain 150 yards from enemy emplacements under intense automatic weapons fire. From the enemy fire Private Brant was able to locate enemy positions which were then neutralized by friendly artillery. Private Brant's heroic action greatly aided in a prompt break-through of the Siegfried Line fortifications at that point. Entered military service from Arcola, Louisiana.

WILLIAM T. FRANKLIN, O 393 718, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 9 January 1945, at Hatten, France. When his company in reserve was committed to halt a determined enemy assault, Lieutenant Franklin, though wounded by artillery fire, found that he was the only surviving company officer. Refusing medical aid until all other wounded had been treated, he remained on the scene for about three hours, directing his company's counterattack, until unable to carry on. When litter bearers arrived to evacuate the wounded, he refused to be moved until all other wounded had been evacuated. Lieutenant Franklin's heroic actions were largely responsible for the success of his unit in repelling the enemy attack. Entered military service from Homestead, Florida.

ERNEST T. KIMBROUGH, O 527 121, First Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, Company B, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 23 February 1945 near Lichtenberg, France. When Lieutenant Kimbrough and two men were reconnoitering an area for the placing of a mine field, they were fired upon by machine guns and small arms from a house to their front. Artillery fire was called for and Lieutenant Kimbrough ordered a withdrawal. After completing the withdrawal, he and his men returned to the same area, and, although the house had not been hit and observation was good, laid a mine field which blocked the route the enemy had been using to send patrols through our lines. Lieutenant Kimbrough's prompt thinking, excellent judgement, and courageous action were directly responsible for saving many lives and accomplishing his mission. Entered military service from Stillwater, Oklahoma.

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Richard C. Smith, 42 023 609, Sergeant, Infantry, Company M, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 April 1945 at Furth, Germany. As Sergeant Smith approached the Regnitz River with his heavy machine gun section, he was pinned down by a concentration of enemy panzerfaust and machine gun fire. Disregarding his personal safety, he fearlessly led his men across the river over a partially destroyed bridge and located a building from which fire could effectively be directed against the enemy positions. Sergeant Smith's cool leadership and resolution under intense fire contributed materially to the success of the attack on Furth. Entered military service from Rochester, New York.

Charles E. Stearns, 18 249 316, Private First Class, Infantry, Company K, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 March 1945, near Lichtenberg, France. Private Stearns was assigned as communications man for a combat patrol sent to feel out enemy positions near Lichtenberg, France. Expertly laying communications wire behind the patrol as they advanced one-half mile into enemy territory, Private Stearns proceeded to keep the command post informed of the Patrol's progress. When the patrol became engaged with the enemy forces, Private Stearns then proceeded to maintain communications with his 300 radio. While operating his radio from an exposed position he was hit and seriously wounded. Through his capable action, sincerity and devotion to duty, Private Stearns strengthened the morale of his comrades and enabled them to accomplish their mission. Entered military service from Little Rock, Arkansas.

Robert L. Turcotte, 31 398 270, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company M, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 24 January 1945, near Neuberg, France. During a determined enemy attack near Neuberg, France, intense enemy artillery and mortar fire destroyed communications between Sergeant Turcotte's observation post and his mortar section. Maintaining contact by making numerous trips over exposed ground to a near-by machine gun position whose communications were intact, he continued to direct the fire of his section throughout the attack. Sergeant Turcotte's courageous determination played a major role in repulsing the dangerous enemy advance. Entered military service from Lewiston, Maine.

Wendell P. Wright, 35 708 097, Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, Company B, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945 near Althorn, France. While Sergeant Wright and four other soldiers were repairing a road important to our advance, an enemy machine gun opened fire forcing them to take cover and halting the work of the group. Unable to order a withdrawal without exposing his men to intense fire, Sergeant Wright, with complete disregard for his safety, moved across the open terrain exposed to the direct fire to contact a friendly tank destroyer in the vicinity. He returned with the weapon and directed its fire upon the machine gun nest, wiping out the position. Sergeant Wright's courageous and determined action eliminated a dangerous enemy threat to our advance and enabled his men to continue on their mission. Entered military service from Linton, Indiana.

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:

JOHN V. CAROLIN, 01 031 470, First Lieutenant, Cavalry, 42d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, for heroic achievement in action on 19 April 1945 at Dambach, Germany. While Lieutenant Carolin was leading a patrol of three vehicles

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into enemy territory, heavy machine gun fire was encountered on the outskirts of Dambach, Germany. Ordering a withdrawal, Lieutenant Carolin remained in position to cover the other vehicles with the machine gun mounted on his jeep. Suddenly another machine gun opened fire, wounding one of his men in the chest. Braving the enemy fire, Lieutenant Carolin moved to the vehicle containing the wounded soldier and covered the withdrawal of the vehicle nearest to the enemy, only withdrawing himself when all his men had reached safety. By his exceptional courage and unswerving devotion to duty, Lieutenant Carolin saved his men from possible injury or death, and kept valuable equipment from falling into the hands of the enemy. Entered military service from New York, New York.

WINSTON H. ELLIOTT, 027 055, First Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 3 April 1945 at Wurzburg, Germany. During the crossing of the Main River prior to the assault on Wurzburg, Lieutenant Elliott organized and directed the operations of his platoon in transporting men and supplies across the river in assault boats. Despite intense enemy artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire, he unhesitatingly crossed the river to organize operations on the opposite bank. He exposed himself constantly while personally encouraging the men of his platoon at those times when the enemy fire was heaviest. Lieutenant Elliott's courageous leadership and unswerving devotion to duty expedited establishment of a bridgehead which eventually led to the capture of the city of Wurzburg, Germany. Entered military service from Toledo, Ohio.

Stanton J. Erdman, 36 672 668, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company B, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 8-10 January 1945, near Halten, France. When the reconnaissance patrol of which Private Erdman 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 by a major enemy attack, the patrol leader decided to attempt an escape during the darkness. Although the position of our lines was undetermined, Private Erdman led the patrol safely to our lines, evading numerous enemy patrols getting his directions by travelling toward the sound of cannon fire until he reached friendly troops. His outstanding courage and endurance contributed materially to the safe return of all members of the patrol and the successful accomplishment of their mission. Entered military service from Rockford, Illinois.

Carl A. Green, 38 563 601, Private First Class, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 January and 7 January 1945, near Kilstett, France. During the action around Kilstett, Private Green, operating the last quarter-ton truck in his detachment, was evacuating wounded from the area to the forward aid station. He repeatedly ignored his own safety to drive his vehicle into areas covered by intense enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire to pick up wounded soldiers. By his outstanding courage, initiative, and devotion to duty, Private Green was able to evacuate six wounded men from the battlefield to the aid station where they received prompt medical attention. Entered military service from Norman, Oklahoma.

Howard R. Kelman, 12 219 409, Corporal, Infantry, Company M, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945 in Wurzburg, Germany. When the advance of our forces through Wurzburg was halted by determined enemy resistance, Corporal Kelman moved his heavy machine gun to the upper floor of a building to give riflemen overhead supporting fire. From a completely exposed position he continued to fire his gun for more than an hour, killing eight of the enemy, forcing the surrender of fifty, and making it possible for our

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wounded to be evacuated. Corporal Kelman's courageous action in the face of intense resistance, made a material contribution to the eventual capture of the fanatically defended city. Entered military service from New York, New York.

SIMEON K. LIEBER, OI 043 702, Captain, Infantry, Company A, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945 in Wurzburg, Germany. During the fierce engagement for Wurzburg, Germany, the advance of Company A was halted by withering enemy machine gun and sniper fire. When a litter squad rushed forward to evacuate a wounded infantryman, enemy fire hit one of the litterbearers, forcing the rest to cover. Without hesitation, Captain Lieber fearlessly advanced into the vicious fire and dragged the wounded man to safety. By his prompt and heroic action, Captain Lieber saved the life of the injured soldier and was an inspiration to the men under his command. Entered military service from Monroe, Louisiana.

Nicholas J. Pagano, 32 717 385, Private First Class, Infantry, Company M, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 4 April 1945 in Wurzburg, Germany. When the advance of our forces through Wurzburg was halted by determined enemy resistance, Private Pagano moved his heavy machine gun to the upper floor of a building to give riflemen overhead supporting fire. From a completely exposed position he continued to fire his gun for more than an hour, killing eight of the enemy, forcing the surrender of fifty, and making it possible for our wounded to be evacuated. Private Pagano's courageous action in the face of intense resistance, made a material contribution to the eventual capture of the fanatically defended city. Entered military service from New York, New York.

Theodore Powell, 20 382 372, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company M, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 27 February 1945 near Lichtenberg, France. During the fierce fighting around Lichtenberg, France, intense enemy artillery and mortar fire was causing numerous breaks in the wire lines from the mortar observation post to the gun positions. When our troops were under cover from the heavy fire, Sergeant Powell braved the hail of shells to locate and repair the many breaks, restoring the vital communications. By his heroic and courageous determination, he made an effective contribution to the successful completion of the engagement. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

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

GEORGE A. TUTTLE, 026 583, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 16 March 1945, in the Hardt Mountains, France. After Lieutenant Tuttle's Company had seized a vital bridgehead, the enemy staged three counter-attacks in desperate attempts to retake the position. During the attacks he went from man to man, encouraging each one and directing their fire. Later, entering the fire fight due to the shortage of men, he accounted for four Germans who had crawled within twenty yards of a weak spot in our lines. Lieutenant Tuttle's exceptional leadership and courageous determination contributed immeasurably in driving off the overwhelming odds of the fanatically attacking enemy. Entered military service from East Orange, New Jersey.

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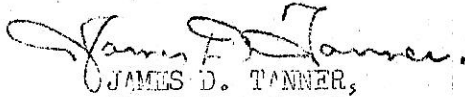
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BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL COLLINS:

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

OFFICIAL:


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

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