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HEADQUARTERS  
42D INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS)

AFPO 411, U. S. ARMY,

NUMBER 31)

23 January 1946.

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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 the following:

LESSLIE H. SANDERS, O 551 446, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company F, 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 27 April 1945, near Schonletten, Germany. While Lieutenant Sanders was leading his weapons platoon along a road near Schonletten, Germany, a concealed enemy force opened fire with machine guns, small arms and panzerfausts. Though hit by fragments of a panzerfaust he responded to a call from one of his men and, although mortally wounded, he crawled twenty yards under intense automatic weapons fire to render first aid. By his undaunted courage and gallant action Lieutenant Sanders saved a soldier's life and brought great credit upon himself and the military service. Name and address of nearest relative: Herman Sanders (Father), Ashton, Illinois. Entered military service from Ashton, Illinois.

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 the following:

Harold G. Lautzenheiser, 34 986 001, 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 Lautzenheiser, participated in numerous crossings of the Main River prior to the attack on Wurzburg, Germany, under intense artillery, machine gun, and sniper fire. Due to the increasing intensity of the enemy fire and the mounting casualties, operations were momentarily halted. Private Lautzenheiser unhesitatingly volunteered to transport a boatload of men and supplies across to the embattled forces on the opposite bank. Although several men were hit by the heavy concentrations of enemy fire on this journey, he continued to paddle, encouraging and inspiring the remaining men to greater efforts by his great courage. Private Lautzenheiser's gallantry and dogged determination played a major role in establishing the bridgehead and in the eventual capture of Wurzburg. Entered military service from Nashville, Tennessee.

Henry J. Wells, 39 271 227, Technician Third Grade, Infantry, Headquarters, 222d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 1 May 1945, at Munich, Germany. While on a forward reconnaissance patrol into the heart of enemy-held Munich, Sergeant Wells was subjected to intense sniper fire. As he moved forward armed only with a submachine gun, he observed a strong enemy force entrenched in the middle of a park. At this time friendly artillery began falling in the area, and Sergeant Wells called out for the Germans to surrender. Unable to lift the artillery because

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of a lack of communications he opened fire upon the enemy group and calmly went about collecting 60 prisoners, marching them back to a Prisoner of War cage. Through his aggressive actions in single-handedly digging the enemy soldiers out of their fortified positions, Sergeant Wells eliminated a strong last-ditch delaying action, thus bringing about the rapid capitulation of the city with a minimum of casualties. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

III. 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:

Charles W. Bradley, 39 166 540, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 March 1945 at Schonau, Germany. During the action around Schonau, Germany, Private Bradley displayed outstanding courage and selfless determination in the performance of his duties as wireman. During an intense artillery concentration, wire communications were severed four times by the enemy fire. Private Bradley volunteered each time to locate the breaks and repair the lines. On the final mission, after restoring the vital communications, he was mortally wounded by the direct fire. Name and address of nearest relative: Mrs. Sylvia Bradley, (Mother), 620 East 15th Street, Long Beach, California. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

IV. AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:--... (a) 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:

DAN F. BAKER, 02 010 797, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company H, 242d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 10 April 1945, at Schweinfurt, Germany. During the Division's great offensive against Schweinfurt, Germany, Lieutenant Baker noticed a wounded man lying exposed to heavy enemy automatic weapons fire. Despite the intense fire, he unhesitatingly proceeded across 100 yards of open terrain to the soldier's side where he administered first aid and then evacuated him to a position of safety. Lieutenant Baker's courageous action and unswerving determination undoubtedly saved the injured man from further injury or death. Entered military service from Marietta, Ohio.

Varney L. Benton, 38 588 779, Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 16 April 1945 near Gutenstetten, Germany. During the final phase of the pursuit of the enemy across Germany, Sergeant Benton volunteered to accompany a Ranger patrol in order to remove demolitions from an important bridge in our advance route. Having removed the detonating wires from the charges that had been placed on the bridge structure under fire from small arms he then advanced and made a reconnaissance of another bridge only fifty yards from the enemy positions. Returning to the safety of our lines, he assisted in evacuating two men wounded during the action. Sergeant Benton's outstanding courage and devotion to duty, materially expedited the advance of the Division. Entered military service from Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

W. H. Culver, 39 212 489, Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 142d Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 19 April 1945 near Furth, Germany. While Sergeant Culver was accompanying an officer and another soldier on a reconnaissance patrol, enemy automatic weapons fire severely wounded the officer and slightly wounded the enlisted man. With utter disregard for his



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personal safety, he crawled to the officer in the face of the intense fire and administered first aid. He then returned fire upon the enemy until litter bearers arrived, at which time he assisted in moving the officer to safety across a broken bridge, still under enemy fire. Sergeant Culver's courageous action and coolness under fire undoubtedly saved the injured man from further injury or death. Entered military service from Maryville, Missouri.

Michael G. DiLorenzo, 31 385 773, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action, on 6 January 1945, near Gamsheim, France. Upon learning that there were numerous casualties on an open field near Gamsheim, Sergeant DiLorenzo voluntarily organized and led three litter squads across the open field under intense enemy machine gun fire. For several hours he remained exposed to continuous heavy artillery, machine gun, and sniper fire until all of the casualties had been successfully evacuated. By his outstanding courage and zealous determination, Sergeant DiLorenzo saved many of the wounded from death or further injury. Entered military service from Providence, Rhode Island.

Thomas F. Ford, 31 203 179, Private First Class, Infantry, Company A, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 8 January 1945, near Ingolsheim, France. When a platoon of his company was encircled by a strong enemy force while defending an outpost position near Ingolsheim, France, Private Ford volunteered to deliver a resupply of rocket launcher ammunition to the hard-pressed troops. Boldly making his way through the German-infested area, he infiltrated the enemy lines and was successful in getting through with the vitally-needed ammunition. By his great devotion to duty and selfless determination, Private Ford enabled the beleaguered defenders to blast their way from the enemy trap. Entered military service from Lynn, Massachusetts.

Joseph D. French, 33 698 822, Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 232d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 12 January 1945, near Sessenheim, France. During the action near Sessenheim, France, Sergeant French and an officer advanced forward of our lines to recover a damaged vehicle from a mine field. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he jumped from his vehicle, ran to the wrecked jeep, and attached a rope to it. He then returned through the intense fire, mounted his truck and drove it away, towing the jeep to safety. Sergeant French's courageous action prevented a critically-needed vehicle from falling into the hands of the enemy. Entered military service from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

ALBERT J. KALPFELL, 02 006 901, Second Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company M, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 24 January 1945, near Neuberg, France. During a heavy enemy attack near Neuberg, France, intense artillery and mortar fire disrupted all communications between the Battalion Command Post and front line units. Realizing the importance of restoring communications, Sergeant Kalpfell left his position of comparative safety and volunteered to contact front line elements. He advanced fearlessly through the intense concentration, contacted the units one by one, and returned with information which aided materially in planning the defense of the sector. Sergeant Kalpfell's courageous aggressiveness played a major role in successfully repulsing the enemy attack. Entered military service from New York City, New York.

(b) 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 for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States:

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WALTER O. MARTIN, 02 010 792, Second Lieutenant, (then Corporal), Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 242d Infantry Regiment, from 25 December 1944 to 30 April 1945, inclusive, in France and Germany. Entered military service from McComb, Mississippi.

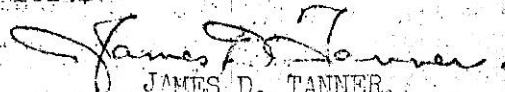
V. AWARD OF THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL:--... By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following:

Otis C. Steele, 35 079 512, Private First Class, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 222d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 18 April 1945, near Furth, Germany. When his company was given the mission of establishing a bridgehead across the Regnitz River near Furth, Germany, Private Steele volunteered to lay and maintain the wire line directly to the platoon leader of the lead platoon. He exposed himself twice to enemy fire in order to enable our riflemen to spot the enemy positions, and upon approaching the river, the firefight became extremely intense. Armed with a sub-machine gun, he fought side by side with the riflemen, eliminating two snipers during the engagement. Private Steele's courageous action contributed materially to establishing the bridgehead and to the eventual capitulation of the city of Furth, Germany. Entered military service from Batavia, Ohio.

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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