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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U.S. Army  
6 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
:  
NUMBER - 14)

AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded following named individual:

Private First Class Gerald H. Wilks, 16105925, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, when his machine gun jammed during a strong tank-supported enemy counter-attack, Private Wilks voluntarily remained by his gun and continued to fire single shots at advancing enemy foot troops and tank fire directors, while his squad successfully withdrew. Disregarding the heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire that was immediately brought to bear on his position, Private Wilks continued to fire while enemy troops advanced to within 20 yards of his position in an unsuccessful attempt to dislodge him. By his gallant action, performed with complete disregard for his safety, Private Wilks halted the advance of the enemy until our troops repulsed the attack. Residence: Dayton, Ohio.

*From 1st AGO, 103d ID*

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Croll*

A. W. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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**R E S T R I C T E D**

**HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General**

APO 470, U. S. Army  
6 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 15)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART . . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Technician Fourth Grade Leonard J. Radjewski, 36549277, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 19 December 1944. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Technician Fifth Grade Joseph J. McDermott, 37446033, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 15 December 1944. Residence: Boone, Iowa.

Technical Sergeant Oren W. Davenport, 27203254, Infantry, Company "D", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Medora, Kansas.

Private Alfred T. Wootton, 35841076, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 13 December 1944. Residence: Marion, Indiana.

Technical Sergeant LeRoy W. Blohm, 37446134, Infantry, Company "C", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Clinton, Iowa.

Sergeant Edwin J. Wallen, 39216781, Infantry, Company "C", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Lake Bay, Washington.

Private First Class John M. Hughes, 15315336, Infantry, Company "C", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

FIRST LIEUTENANT JERRY L. SADDIN, 01322967, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 November 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

SECOND LIEUTENANT RAYMOND D. BRECHT, 01052272, Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 2 January 1945. Residence: Dayton, Ohio.

*AG 300.4 AGO, this*

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #15, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 6 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private First Class Arthur M. Tanner, 36342338, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 19 December 1944. Residence: Kenosha, Wisconsin.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



A. T. CROIL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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Office of the Commanding GeneralAFO 470, U. S. Army  
7 January 1945GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 16)AWARD OF PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Technician Fifth Grade Otto Lenz, Jr., 36414495, Corps of Engineers, Company "C", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 1 January 1945. Residence: Lansing, Michigan.

Sergeant Francis X. Bosch, 32486545, (then Corporal), Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Camden, New Jersey.

Sergeant Joe E. Harris, 38103783, (then Technician Fifth Grade), Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 December 1944. Residence: Santa Fe, New Mexico.

FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN J. O'HARA, 01296411, Infantry, Headquarters, Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: New York, New York.

Corporal Merritt Kochan, 36543101, Infantry, Headquarters Company, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Saginaw, Michigan.

Private First Class Dewitt C. Gilbert, 37692734, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 21 December 1944. Residence: Burlington, Iowa.

Private First Class Donald T. Hoy, 19133669, Infantry, Company "D", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 5 December 1944. Residence: San Francisco, California.

Private First Class Theodore J. Zebarah, 36501416, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 5 December 1944. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Staff Sergeant Stanley Rutkowski, 36626137, Infantry, Company "M", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 5 December 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

Private Meyer Schulman, 32614978, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 27 November 1944. Residence: New York, New York.

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*AG 300.4 APO, Mass*

R E S T R I C T E D

CO #16, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

Private First Class John M. Holden, 16088686, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 4 December 1944. Residence: Augusta, Michigan.

Sergeant Hollis T. Butler, 37447984, (then Private First Class), Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 3 December 1944. Residence: Benton, Iowa.

Sergeant James Woods, 36732907, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 3 December 1944. Residence: Christopher, Illinois.

FIRST LIEUTENANT JOSEPH T. BARBER, 01310205, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 November 1944. Residence: Trenton, New Jersey.

Corporal Clarence A. Jennings, 37536760, Infantry, Company "D", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 2 December 1944. Residence: Spearville, Kansas.

Private First Class Allan D. Galston, 36288794, Infantry, Company "E", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 26 November 1944. Residence: Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Private Marvin R. Williams, 14161604, Corps of Engineers, Company "B", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion, France, 14 December 1944. Residence: Lookout Mountain, Tennessee.

Private First Class Paul P. Insetta, 32235984, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 10 December 1944. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

Technician Fifth Grade Wayne C. Mossett, 37447504, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 18 December 1944. Residence: Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

First Sergeant Alex Ardrey, 33025347, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 17 December 1944. Residence: Perkiomenville, Pennsylvania.

Staff Sergeant Wendell F. Puffer, 31026834, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 17 December 1944. Residence: Northfield, Vermont.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. WELBY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. V. Croll*  
A. V. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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Office of the Commanding GeneralAPO 470, U. S. ARMY  
7 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 17)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Staff Sergeant Gerald D. Bailey, 38020998, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December 1944, near \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Bailey, a medical aid man attached to the Second Battalion, repeatedly braved enemy artillery and mortar fire to single-handedly evacuate wounded men to the aid station, a distance of 4000 yards. For more than eleven hours, Sergeant Bailey courageously braved the intense shell-fire to evacuate the wounded. When the aid station was shelled, Sergeant Bailey refused to take cover and continued to treat the wounded, until all had been safely evacuated. On another occasion, during the daylight hours of 19 December 1944, near \* \* \*, Germany, Sergeant Bailey displayed heroic devotion to duty when he repeatedly crossed 1000 yards of mountainous terrain, through intense enemy small arms and machine gun fire, to single-handedly evacuate wounded men. Refusing to accept relief, Sergeant Bailey heroically continued to cross the hazardous terrain until all wounded had been evacuated. As a result of his courageous acts many lives were saved. Residence: Clinton, Oklahoma.

Technician Fifth Grade Charles M. Roberts, 38104489, Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 103d Division Artillery. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 December 1944, Technician Roberts was driving a truck containing military personnel and vitally needed communication wire and ammunition. Enroute between \* \* \*, Germany and \* \* \*, France, three rounds of rocket launcher ammunition became dislodged and wedged on the drive shaft, igniting the ammunition cases. Smelling the smoke, and realizing the impending danger, Technician Roberts stopped his vehicle, and with utter disregard for his life, removed the burning cases of ammunition. He then carried them a safe distance away from the truck and extinguished the fire before the rounds could explode. Technician Roberts' alertness, and his immediate and effective action, in the presence of imminent danger, saved the truck, its personnel, and its valuable contents from destruction. Residence: Canon City, Colorado.

Technical Sergeant Lloyd L. Hefner, 18005152, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Sergeant Hefner, skillfully directed his platoon toward a hostile pill-box in the face of intense enemy small arms, grenade and mortar fire. Encountering stubborn resistance from the entrenched enemy, Sergeant Hefner displaying superb operative ability, maneuvered his way forward to as-

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*See 300.4 100, 100, 100*

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #17, H- 103d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

certain enemy strength and exact locations of the strongpoints. Despite the withering fire that blasted his path he pushed courageously on with utter disregard for his life. Having discerned the location of the pill-box, he deliberately exposed himself to full view of the enemy and coolly directed his various squads through a net-work of trenches until the strongpoint was captured. As a result of Sergeant Hefner's outstanding valor and excellent leadership his platoon captured an important enemy emplacement, killed 25 of the enemy, and took three of the enemy prisoner, with a minimum of losses to our troops. Residence: Dallas, Texas.

Private First Class Calvin C. Hoffmaster, 33733392, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Hoffmaster, messenger, heroically assisted overburdened first aid men in the evacuation of wounded under terrific enemy small arms and mortar fire. On three occasions, Private Hoffmaster, with utter disregard for his life, courageously braved enemy fire, in crossing 300 yards of fire-swept terrain to carry his wounded comrades to safety. Completely oblivious of physical exhaustion he worked tirelessly in his efforts to ascertain that each wounded man was properly attended. As a result of Private Hoffmaster's outstanding valor the lives of three wounded comrades were saved. Residence: Baltimore, Maryland.

Technician Fourth Grade Robert M. Stelter, 36102238, Infantry, Cannon Company, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 2 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Stelter was assigned as a radio operator with the forward artillery observer of the Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. The observation point was a house in the area where an enemy counterattack was expected. Radio reception being poor inside the building, Technician Stelter voluntarily moved his radio set from the protection of the building to an exposed position outside. During the fire-mission the enemy shelled the area with mortars and artillery, and shell fragments continually struck the building behind Technician Stelter. With complete disregard for his safety, Technician Stelter heroically remained at his post, enabling the observer to complete his mission. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Staff Sergeant David L. Feiser, 37245366, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the afternoon of 4 January 1945, Sergeant Feiser, with three other soldiers, was moving forward on the left flank of Company "E", when enemy machine gun and small arms fire swept the area, seriously wounding one man. Sergeant Feiser, hearing the cries of the wounded man, crawled 50 yards over open and snow-covered terrain to reach his injured comrade. Dragging him to the safety of a trench, Sergeant Feiser administered first aid. Realizing that the wounded man was in need of immediate professional treatment, Sergeant Feiser, dragging the wounded soldier, courageously crawled 200 yards to the aid station. By his heroic action, performed with complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Feiser saved the life of his wounded comrade. Residence: Kansas City, Missouri.

Corporal Gifford F. Tiss, 32025133, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #17, H- 102d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

dawn of 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Corporal Tiss, an anti-tank gunner was preparing a dug-in position for his gun when he observed an enemy mortar position in a cellar of a nearby farm house. After further exploration in the vicinity of the house, he realized that an attack on the strongpoint would endanger the lives of civilians inside. Corporal Tiss skillfully selected a position covering all exits from the cellar. He then instructed a civilian interpreter to deliver a message to the hostile group demanding that they surrender as they were completely surrounded. As a result of Corporal Tiss' valorous act, an enemy outpost of eight men surrendered, and a dangerous hostile strongpoint was neutralized, without a shot being fired. Residence: Carthage, New York.

Sergeant Joe E. Harris, 38103783, (Then Technician Fifth Grade), Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 21 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment was surrounded during an enemy counterattack and the communication lines were severed by the hostile mortar fire, isolating the company from outside contact. Sergeant Harris, with one comrade, voluntarily attempted to establish communication with the battalion command post. While proceeding through the darkness, Sergeant Harris was detected by the enemy forces who immediately used flares enabling them to direct small arms fire upon him. He quickly fell to the ground and courageously crawled on, following and repairing the wire. Sergeant Harris successfully followed the wire to his battalion command post and informed the battalion commander of the precarious position of his company. As a result of his valorous act, aid was brought to the surrounded company and the hostile counterattack was repulsed. Residence: Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Private Bruce F. Kaufman, 36978513, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 19 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Kaufman's company was advancing up a steep hill when the enemy threw grenades down the slope, from a strongly fortified pill-box, causing heavy casualties among his comrades. With utter disregard for his life, he exposed himself to enemy mortar and grenade fire, attempting to neutralize the hostile emplacement. Private Kaufman was firing on the enemy pill-box when wounded by a burst of mortar fire. Despite his wounds, he refused to be evacuated. He quickly regained his composure and resumed firing at the emplacement with renewed ferocity until his company was ordered to withdraw. Private Kaufman's heroic action reduced the enemy's fire to a minimum, preventing more casualties from occurring among his comrades. Residence: Bronson, Michigan.

Private First Class Leroy T. Deal, 16167586, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Deal was pinned to the ground by intense enemy small arms, artillery and mortar fire. The action was so severe the company was ordered to withdraw because of the casualties it had suffered. Private Deal, on his own initiative and with utter disregard for his life, stayed with his wounded companions to protect them from falling into enemy hands, while the remainder of the company withdrew. He remained with the wounded men protecting them until darkness fell and then assisted in their evacuation. As a result of

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R E S T R I C T E D 20



R E S T R I C T E D

GD #17, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

Private Deal's outstanding valor many of the wounded were saved from capture by the enemy and medical aid was rendered expeditiously. Residence: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Technician Fifth Grade Kenneth H. Hutfliz, 36553812, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 28 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Hutfliz, a medical aid man, was attached to a unit whose mission was to draw enemy machine gun fire so that the position of the hostile guns would be disclosed. Being advised that a comrade was wounded by the violent enemy fire which ensued, Technician Hutfliz, without hesitation, and with utter disregard for his life, started to the aid of the wounded man. He crawled approximately 100 yards across fire-swept open terrain, reached the wounded soldier, who was bleeding profusely and administered first aid. With the assistance of a comrade, Technician Hutfliz placed the wounded man on a raincoat and brought him safely through a hail of enemy fire to a point from which the wounded soldier was evacuated. Technician Hutfliz's skill in administering first aid and his courage in the face of great danger resulted in the saving of a wounded comrade's life. Residence: Merrill, Michigan.

Staff Sergeant Eugene G. Barron, 37402370, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 12 December 1944, after the First Battalion of the 411th Infantry Regiment had captured the town of \* \* \*, France, the enemy launched a counterattack with four self-propelled guns and tank supported. Sergeant Barron, squad leader of the anti-tank platoon, saw the enemy guns entering the town and our own Tank Destroyers entering from another direction, which would have brought them under the direct fire of the enemy self-propelled guns. Ordering his driver to bring the gun into position to fire, Sergeant Barron engaged the enemy. Returning the fire from the enemy machine guns and one three inch gun, Sergeant Barron scored a direct hit on one enemy tank, killing three of the crew and causing the remainder to be taken prisoner. By his heroic action, performed with complete disregard for his life, Sergeant Barron drew the enemy's fire, warning the Tank Destroyers of the enemy's approach and materially aiding in the successful repulse of their counterattack. Residence: St. Louis, Missouri.

Private First Class Dominic Sallitto, 32648083, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 13 December 1944, Private Sallitto drove his battalion executive officer to \* \* \*, France, where a bridge, destroyed by enemy artillery fire, was holding up the progress of the Third Battalion. During the construction of a temporary bridge, the area was swept by an enemy artillery barrage. Noting that a group of five one quarter ton trucks was in an exposed position, and realizing that the vehicles had attracted the fire, Private Sallitto left his cover and with complete disregard for his safety, moved each vehicle out of the enemy's sight. As a result of his heroic action, enemy fire ceased and construction of the bridge was safely resumed. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #17, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

Private First Class Henry W. Phillips, Jr., 18073571, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 18 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Private Phillips advancing in a forward position, with his company, was pinned to the ground by well concealed enemy machine gun fire. Not knowing the location of the hostile gun, Private Phillips fired on the possible location of the enemy position and immediately received a burst of hostile machine gun fire which painfully wounded him in the hand. Despite his wounds and the accuracy of the enemy fire, he, with utter disregard for his life courageously exchanged fire with the hostile position although the bursts of enemy fire twice sent his helmet spinning to the ground. Determining the location of the enemy weapon, he withdrew in the direction of his platoon leader and in the process was struck in the back by hostile fire. Undeterred, he crawled on with his information, reaching his platoon leader. As a result of Private Phillips' magnificent valor, the company informed of the location, brought mortar fire to bear on the hostile position successfully destroying it. Residence: Texarkana, Texas.

Private First Class Lucien R. Rene, 11036092, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 21 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment was surrounded during an enemy counterattack and the communication lines were broken by the hostile mortar fire, isolating the company from outside contact. Private Rene, with one comrade voluntarily attempted to establish communication with the battalion command post. While proceeding through the darkness, Private Rene was detected by the enemy forces who immediately used flares enabling them to direct small arms fire upon him. He quickly fell to the ground and courageously crawled on, following and repairing the wire. Private Rene successfully followed the wire to his battalion command post and informed the battalion commander of the precarious position of his company. As a result of his valorous act, aid was brought to the surrounded company and the hostile counterattack was repulsed. Residence: Manchester, New Hampshire.

Private First Class Edward S. Dayon, 37541295, Infantry, Company "D", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 27 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Dayon observed a crew unloading ammunition driven to cover by an intense enemy artillery barrage. Realizing the seriousness of the situation and the disastrous results that would ensue should one of the vehicles be hit, he courageously drove one of the exposed vehicles to safety. Again braving the devastating barrage with utter disregard for his life, he succeeded in driving one other vehicle to safety. As a result of Private Dayon's outstanding valor in the face of withering fire, vitally needed ammunition was saved and the great danger confronting the surrounding troops was substantially alleviated. Residence: Robbinsdale, Minnesota.

SECOND LIEUTENANT JOHN D. GEOGHEGAN, 02000698 (then Technical Sergeant), Infantry, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 and 21 December 1944, LIEUTENANT GEOGHEGAN was the acting platoon leader of the second platoon of Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment and was ordered to hold his position against enemy counterattacks near \* \* \*, Germany.

R E S T R I C T E D

CG #17, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 7 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

On each of the two days the enemy launched counterattacks with tanks, artillery, mortars, flak wagons, a flame thrower and foot troops, in an attempt to dislodge his platoon. On one occasion, during the two days of bitter fighting, LIEUTENANT GEOGHEGAN directed the fire of two battalions of artillery on two different targets simultaneously, directing a total of 500 rounds against enemy concentrations of personnel and vehicles that were massing for attack. On another occasion, when an enemy flame thrower had advanced to within 60 yards of his position, LIEUTENANT GEOGHEGAN left his cover and with fragmentation grenades met the attack and defeated it. When one counterattack carried the enemy to our position, LIEUTENANT GEOGHEGAN, displaying outstanding leadership and courage, rallied his men and repulsed the attack. By his accurate direction of artillery fire and his outstanding ability to command and lead, without regard for personal risk, LIEUTENANT GEOGHEGAN succeeded in destroying considerable enemy material and personnel and holding his vital position. Residence: Baraboo, Wisconsin.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



A. N. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
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*A. S. Fisher*

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
8 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 18)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Corporal Alan F. Byrnes, 36550380, Field Artillery, Battery "C", 384th Field Artillery Battalion, France, 4 January 1945. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class Roy B. Jones, 38668404, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Adona, Arkansas.

Staff Sergeant Bruce A. Allen, 13156702, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Sergeant Cletus V. Effle, 37565726, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, Germany, 18 December 1944. Residence: Portland, Oregon.

FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN L. TANNER, 0385768, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 7 December 1944. Residence: Redfield, South Dakota.

Private First Class Thomas A. Seeburger, 19119284, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Clovis, California.

Private First Class Tommie C. Waters, 34687529, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 28 December 1944. Residence: Tennille, Georgia.

Technician Third Grade Joseph E. Vitt, 37181835, Ordnance Department, 803d Ordnance Company, France, 13 December 1944. Residence: Salisbury, Missouri.

*AW 300.4, HQ, 103d*

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**R E S T R I C T E D**

GO #18, H-103d Inf Div, dtd 8 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Sergeant Kenneth V. Nictski, 37482020, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 29 December 1944. Residence: Omaha, Nebraska.


Technician Third Grade Edward W. Copeland, 36414697, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 15 December 1944. Residence: Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Private First Class Paul P. Insetta, 32235984, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 14 December 1944. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
WILLIAM C. DORN,  
Captain, A. G. D.,  
Asst. Adj. Gen.

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*9-8 files*  
*[Signature]*

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

AFO 470, U. S. Army  
8 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 19)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL . . . . . I  
AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Sergeant Raymond D. Reichow, 32156602, Field Artillery, Battery "A", 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, Sergeant Reichow was attached as a forward observer to an infantry battalion advancing through the drizzling rain to \* \* \*, France. As the infantry column approached the town, it was pinned down on the side of a road by an intense barrage of enemy mortar and small arms fire directed from concealed positions in the wooded hills. Cognizant of the precarious position of the infantry troops, Sergeant Reichow, with utter disregard for his life, set up his radio in an exposed position to direct artillery fire on the hostile emplacements. The exposed radio drew enemy fire on him with a renewed ferocity, nevertheless, he fearlessly remained at his post to adjust artillery fire on the enemy forces. Sergeant Reichow's cool and courageous direction of the artillery mission silenced the hostile emplacements and the infantry successfully resumed its advance toward its objective. Residence: St. Paul, Minnesota.

*See 300.4 200 200*

Private First Class Lee E. Giernett, 37565965, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 28 November 1944, while the First Battalion was attacking in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, communication with a forward company was delayed when wiremen were driven back by intense enemy fire and others were relieved because of exhaustion. Private Giernett, a switchboard operator, voluntarily attempted to lay wire to the forward company. Fully aware that the route had not been reconnoitered, Private Giernett worked all through the night laying wire over the treacherous and mountainous terrain. Because of his heroic perseverance and his disregard for safety, Private Giernett succeeded in laying the wire through an intense artillery, mortar and sniper fire of the enemy, maintaining communication between the battalion and the forward company, materially contributing to the success of the operation. Residence: Duluth, Minnesota.

Private First Class Hugh V. Maddox, 34575179, Infantry, Company "D", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 27 November 1944, in the village

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CO #19, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 8 Jan 45.  
I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

of \* \* \*, France, several vehicles of ammunition were being unloaded near the regimental command post when the enemy laid a heavy barrage of artillery on the village street. Cognizant of the peril to his comrades and to the regimental command post should the ammunition explode, he, with utter disregard for his life, dashed to a vehicle of explosives, and courageously drove the vehicle to cover. Although the hostile artillery fire was falling near the vehicles, Private Maddox continued to disperse the vehicles until he was wounded by a shell burst from the enemy artillery. As a result of his valorous action, all the vehicles of badly needed ammunition were saved, preventing a heavy loss of life and property. Residence: Griffin, Georgia.

Private Roy Z. Hill, 38564975, Infantry, Cannon Company, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 24 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Hill, wireman, courageously drove his wire vehicle over artillery swept roads to install and repair vital communication lines between his company and attacking troops. In one instance, during a severe artillery barrage, the lines were severed. Acting instantaneously, without regard for his life, he quickly jumped into his vehicle, and drove forward to locate the break in the wire. While enroute, Private Hill was twice forced to abandon his vehicle and seek shelter due to the severity of fire. Completely oblivious of the danger confronting him, he drove courageously on until the break was located and repaired. By this valorous act, communication was re-established and effective fire support was rendered to the attacking forces. Residence: Enid, Oklahoma.

Private First Class Calvin D. Lash, 37669940, Infantry, Company "G", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 29 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Lash, while on patrol, was pinned to the ground by intense enemy machine gun fire coming from a well concealed emplacement. Realizing the immediate necessity of the patrol seeking cover, he, with utter disregard for his life, remained in a forward position to cover the withdrawal of his comrades. Single-handedly, he fired continuously into the hostile strongpoint, drawing a hail of fire from the enemy with each shot he directed toward them. In the process of the skirmish Private Lash was painfully wounded in the neck. Despite this injury he refused to withdraw or seek protection until he was assured that all members of the patrol had reached safety. Private Lash's heroic action enabled the patrol to reorganize and saved them from enemy encirclement and possible capture. Residence: Indianola, Iowa.

Private First Class Joseph P. LaBudda, 36288536, Infantry, Cannon Company, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 2 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Cannon Company, 411th Infantry Regiment was supporting a forward battalion in the attack. Private LaBudda, a motor messenger, while attempting to establish liaison with the battalion command post, encountered an enemy roadblock. Realizing the importance of his mission, he sought a clear route forward. Cognizant of the fact that the route he selected was through enemy territory, he proceeded forward, however, was later driven back by heavy enemy fire. Undeterred, he again drove forward

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I -- AWARD OR BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

and this time succeeded in reaching his platoon leader. Private LaBudda's courage and total disregard for personal safety made liaison possible between the forward observer and the guns, which materially aided in the successful attack of the battalion. Residence: Mauston, Wisconsin.

COLONEL GUY S. MELOY, JR., 016892, General Staff Corps (Infantry), Headquarters, 103d Infantry Division. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 9 November 1944 to 8 January 1945, in Eastern France. Residence: Lanham, Maryland.

CAPTAIN JOHN T. MELKO, 01284363 (then FIRST LIEUTENANT), Infantry, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 23 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Company "A", 409th Infantry Regiment, was subjected to intense enemy machine gun fire. Realizing the vital necessity of ascertaining the location of the hostile strongpoint, CAPTAIN MELKO, accompanied by three riflemen, courageously advanced in full view of the enemy. Headless of the withering fire that blasted the area, he heroically pushed forward until he located the hostile emplacement. CAPTAIN MELKO and his men again crossed the open terrain to rejoin the company, despite the hail of hostile machine gun fire that killed one man and wounded another. His outstanding courage assisted in locating the position of the hostile gun which was ultimately destroyed by mortar fire. Residence: Fresno, California.

CAPTAIN KENNETH J. MERRILL, JR., 01105026, Corps of Engineers, Company "A", 328th Engineer Combat Battalion. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy. During the period 9 November to 14 December 1944, in the drive through the Vosges Mountains, CAPTAIN MERRILL tirelessly and courageously reconnoitered forward routes of approach for the advance of his company in close support of infantry elements. His keen insight in formulating plans for the removal of enemy obstacles was invaluable. Many of his missions were performed in advance of infantry troops over mine infested roads, with enemy fire raking his path almost continuously. His thorough knowledge of engineering principles and operations and the clarity with which he formulated his plans into ultimate successes, materially assisted the infantry in the successful and expeditious accomplishment of their missions. During one phase of a reconnaissance, CAPTAIN MERRILL was seriously wounded when the vehicle in which he was riding struck a mine. His courage and valorous conduct in the face of extreme danger served as an inspiration to those about him. Residence: Newtonville, Massachusetts.

Private First Class Stephen J. Chvastek, 32965650, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 383d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During an attack by our infantry on 2 December 1944 Private Chvastek was a member of a wire team whose mission was to install a line from \* \* \*, France, to an infantry regiment other than their regularly assigned combat team. Knowing that the area in which the wire would be laid was subjected to heavy enemy fire, and having been given the opportunity to remain behind, Private Chvastek, with utter disregard for his life, courageously went forward to assist in the mission. The wire team successfully laid the wire in the face of continuous

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OO #19, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 8 Jan 45.  
I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

mortar and small arms fire, and, during the day, repaired numerous breaks caused by enemy fire. Private Chvastek's heroic devotion to duty in these operations enabled his battalion to effectively carry out its mission of direct support to the infantry. Residence: Bronx, New York.

Private First Class John M. Repp, 37404223 (then Private), Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 5 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Repp, wireman, courageously and tirelessly laid vital communication lines to a forward observer who was directing artillery fire in support of an infantry attack. His route of approach necessitated going across an open and fire-swept field, but heedless of the danger confronting him, he pushed on with utter disregard for his life. Throughout the night Private Repp constantly checked, rechecked and repaired the vital lines in order to assure uninterrupted communication. As a result of Private Repp's magnificent valor and untiring efforts the infantry was materially assisted in the successful accomplishment of its mission. Residence: Jennings, Missouri.

FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN J. O'HARA, 01296411, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the action in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, on the night of 1 December 1944, two rifle companies of the Second Battalion were moving into the town when water-logged radio sets failed and enemy mortar fire severed communication lines. As the enemy counter-action increased in intensity, information as to the exact positions of all units was urgently required. LIEUTENANT O'HARA, without regard for his own safety, continually braved heavy enemy artillery, mortar and small arms fire to act as liaison between forward elements and battalion headquarters. He located supporting Tank Destroyers and, under blackout conditions, guided them to positions where they could place effective fire on enemy defenses. By his heroic action LIEUTENANT O'HARA relieved a precarious situation and contributed materially to the success of the action. Residence: New York, New York.

Technician Fifth Grade Harold E. Deschner, 36287810 (then Private First Class), Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 5 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Deschner, wireman, courageously and tirelessly laid vital communication lines to a forward observer who was directing artillery fire in support of an infantry attack. His route of approach necessitated going across an open and fire-swept field but heedless of the danger confronting him, he pushed on with utter disregard for his life. Throughout the night Technician Deschner constantly checked, rechecked and repaired the vital lines in order to assure uninterrupted communication. As a result of Technician Deschner's magnificent valor and untiring efforts the infantry was materially assisted in the successful accomplishment of its mission. Residence: Delavan, Wisconsin.

Technician Fifth Grade James B. Fowle, 36412762, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 24 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Tech-

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CO #19, No 1036 Inf Div, dtd 8 Jan 45.  
I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

nician Fowle was given the mission of maintaining wire communications with a forward liaison officer. In order to bring his wire to the designated forward point, it was necessary for Technician Fowle to carry the wire around an enemy roadblock and to traverse extremely difficult terrain in total darkness and in heavy rain. Knowing that the enemy was present on all sides, Technician Fowle, with utter disregard for his life, relentlessly pushed forward and completed his mission. His heroic actions enabled the liaison officer to coordinate fire for the successful infantry attack that ensued. Residence: Jackson, Michigan.

Technician Fifth Grade Emil J. Gabor, 36887298, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 5 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Technician Gabor, wireman, courageously and tirelessly laid vital communication lines to a forward observer who was directing artillery fire in support of an infantry attack. His route of approach necessitated going across an open and fire-swept field but heedless of the danger confronting him, he pushed on with utter disregard for his life. Throughout the night Technician Gabor constantly checked, rechecked and repaired the vital lines in order to assure uninterrupted communication. As a result of Technician Gabor's magnificent valor and untiring efforts the infantry was materially assisted in the successful accomplishment of its mission. Residence: Rosholt, Wisconsin.

Corporal Clarence E. Meisenheimer, 36714496, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Corporal Meisenheimer, wireman, worked courageously and tirelessly in maintaining vital communication lines to his liaison officer located in a forward observation post. The line was severed repeatedly by heavy mortar fire and in each instance, he, with utter disregard for his life, checked, rechecked, and repaired the lines, heedless of the withering fire that blasted his path. Oblivious of physical exhaustion he carried on magnificently, maintaining the lines without interruption. As a result of Corporal Meisenheimer's outstanding courage in keeping the vital communication lines open, effective artillery fire was placed on the enemy, materially assisting the attacking infantry troops in their advance. Residence: Carbonale, Illinois.

Technician Fifth Grade Edwin A. Gustafson, 37541970, Field Artillery, Battery "A", 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 22 November 1944, Technician Gustafson, a radio operator with the artillery forward observer, was accompanying the infantry in an attack on the town of \* \* \*, France. Suddenly, a tremendous burst of enemy mortar and small arms fire pinned the column to the ground. Technician Gustafson and his radio immediately became primary targets and severe enemy fire was concentrated upon him. With utter disregard for his life, he further exposed himself by elevating his aerial and skillfully established communications with his artillery unit. As a result of Technician Gustafson's heroic action, our artillery effectively silenced the enemy's fire and the infantry was enabled to proceed on its mission. Residence: Harlow, North Dakota.

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I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Technician Fifth Grade Lewis W. Dobbs, 36723109, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December, 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, enemy forces directed an intense barrage of artillery and mortar fire on Technician Dobbs' observation post and the nearby infantry troops, causing heavy casualties. Technician Dobbs immediately contacted his battalion by radio for counter-battery fire to be directed on the enemy guns. He remained at the observation post, despite the heavy barrage which wounded the liaison officer and the forward observer. Throughout this entire action, Technician Dobbs remained at his radio and maintained constant contact with his battalion. As a result of his heroic action, effective fire was adjusted on the hostile batteries, silencing the source of devastating fire on our troops. Residence: Dix, Illinois.

Private First Class Thomas O. Miller, 33643232 (then Private), Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 383d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During an attack by our infantry on 2 December 1944, Private Miller was a member of a wire team whose mission was to install a line from \* \* \*, France, to an infantry regiment other than their regularly assigned combat team. Knowing that the area in which the wire would be laid was subjected to heavy enemy fire, and having been given the opportunity to remain behind, Private Miller, with utter disregard for his life, courageously went forward to assist in the mission. The wire team successfully laid the wire in the face of continuous mortar and small arms fire, and, during the day, repaired numerous breaks caused by enemy fire. Private Miller's heroic devotion to duty in these operations enabled his battalion to effectively carry out its mission of direct support to the infantry. Residence: Norfolk, Virginia.

Corporal John F. Horn, 36548280, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the night of 3 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Corporal Horn was given the mission of maintaining wire communication with a forward liaison officer. In order to reach his objective, it was necessary for Corporal Horn to wade through the icy waters of a swollen river under heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire. With utter disregard for his life, Corporal Horn surmounted these obstacles and brought the wire forward. Later the same night he skillfully and valorously repaired several breaks in the wire caused by enemy fire so that vital communication could be maintained without interruption. The heroic actions of Corporal Horn enabled infantry and artillery to coordinate successfully in pressing the attack and repulsing the enemy counterattack that ensued. Residence: River Rouge, Michigan.

II -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to following named individual:

Private First Class Loudon C. Doney, III, 18061510, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. While the Third Battalion of the 411th Infantry Regiment was in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, on the night of 3 January 1945, the battalion S-2 learned

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CO #19, He 10<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, dtd 8 Jan 45.  
 II -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

that the enemy was sending nightly patrols into the town. Hearing that a patrol had been organized to intercept and capture the enemy patrol, Private Doney requested and was granted permission to participate in the action. As the Third Battalion patrol entered the town, moving from house to house, Private Doney, on his own initiative, assumed the position of lead scout. As the patrol moved through the town, the enemy in ambush opened fire on Private Doney. Without pausing to take cover, he turned and warned the patrol behind him, falling mortally wounded as the enemy fired again. By his fearless action, performed with complete disregard for his life, Private Doney saved the lives of his comrades, enabling them to accomplish their mission without further casualties. Throughout the entire action, his display of outstanding valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service; Residence: Houston, Texas. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary G. Doney (Mother), 3303 Southmore, Houston, Texas.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
 Colonel, G.S.C.,  
 Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
 WILLIAM C. DORN,  
 Captain, A.G.D.,  
 Asst. Adj. General.

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 CG, SEVENTH ARMY ----- 1  
 EA INDIVIDUAL NAMED ----- 1  
 EA EM S/R ----- 1  
 AG FILES ----- 4

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R E S T R I C T E D  
C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

**R E S T R I C T E D**

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
9 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER - 20)

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. . . . . I  
AWARD OF AIR MEDAL . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Technician Fifth Grade Roland W. Langlais, 31076957, Ordnance Department, 803d Ordnance Company. For heroism in action. On 24 November 1944 in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, a Task Force made up of units of the 103d Infantry Division was halted when an armored car, the point vehicle of the column, struck a land mine. The armored car was disabled and blocked the road. Technician Langlais and his assistant driver drove a 4-ton wrecker to the front of the column, turned the wrecker, hooked on to and removed the armored car, all while exposed to constant and heavy small arms and mortar fire. This courageous act performed under extremely difficult conditions of terrain cleared the way for the Task Force to continue its mission. Residence: Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Technician Fifth Grade Benjamin A. Terry, 34303029, Ordnance Department, 803d Ordnance Company. For heroism in action. On 24 November 1944 in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, a Task Force made up of units of the 103d Infantry Division was halted when an armored car, the point vehicle of the column, struck a land mine. The armored car was disabled and blocked the road. Technician Terry, acting as assistant driver, proceeded to the front of the column with a 4-ton wrecker, turned the wrecker, hooked on to and removed the armored car, all while exposed to constant and heavy small arms and mortar fire. This courageous act performed under extremely difficult conditions of terrain cleared the way for the Task Force to continue its mission. Residence: Raleigh, North Carolina.

Private First Class Francis L. Joho, 36715351, (then Private), Corps of Military Police, Military Police Platoon, 103d Infantry Division. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, elements of the 103d Infantry Division were forcing a crossing of the \* \* \* River. It was tactically imperative that a bridge approach be kept clear and that traffic be kept moving. Private Joho, having been assigned this task, despite a concentration of enemy artillery and mortar fire on this key point, bravely and coolly remained at his post throughout the day and efficiently discharged his mission. A soldier standing but a few yards away from his position was killed by enemy fire, but this failed to unnerve

*AW 300.4/80, attached*

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OO #20, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 9 Jan 45  
I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

Private Joho or interrupt his skillful control of the situation. His coolness and good judgment while under heavy fire materially contributed to the success of the combat mission. Residence: Joliet, Illinois.

Corporal Eugene S. Knox, 36643119, (then Private First Class), Corps of Military Police, Military Police Platoon, 103d Infantry Division. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, elements of the 103d Infantry Division were forcing a crossing of the \* \* \* River. It was tactically imperative that a bridge approach be kept clear and that traffic be kept moving. Corporal Knox, having been assigned to this task, despite a concentration of enemy artillery and mortar fire on this key point, bravely and coolly remained at his post throughout the day and efficiently discharged his mission. A soldier standing but a few yards away from his position was killed by enemy fire, but this failed to unnerve Corporal Knox or interrupt his skillful control of the situation. His coolness and good judgment while under heavy fire materially contributed to the success of the combat mission. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

Sergeant Randolph L. Strickland, 34209792, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets injured four men of a gun crew and set fire to a building with a truck inside containing gasoline and small arms ammunition. Sergeant Strickland quickly secured a fire hose from the local fire-fighting equipment and sprayed water on the flaming truck. The wind-swept flames quickly spread to a nearby building which sheltered 60 rounds of 105 millimeter ammunition. Realizing the disastrous results if the shells should explode, he courageously dragged the hose to within 10 yards of the explosives and directed a stream of water on the heated ammunition, causing a cloud of hot steam to rise from the cased shells. Despite the exploding small arms ammunition across the street and the danger from a burning powder dump which had also ignited from the sweeping flames, he remained in his dangerous position for two hours until the flames were extinguished. Sergeant Strickland's magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, materially assisted in saving the urgently needed ammunition and assured the lives of his comrades. Residence: St. Petersburg, Florida.

MAJOR SAMUEL B. YOW, O353573, Infantry, Headquarters, Third Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. During our advance in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, 13 December 1944, two platoons of 57 millimeter anti-tank guns, one platoon of tanks and one platoon of tank destroyers were supporting the Third Battalion, 409th Infantry Regiment. It was necessary for the supporting units to enter \* \* \* over a temporary bridge and on a road mined and blocked at numerous points, conditions which made it difficult for our support to stay within effective operating distance of our troops. MAJOR YOW, Battalion Executive Officer, rode on the front of a one-quarter ton truck, probed for mines, cleared traffic over the bridge and along the road beyond, and then led the supporting units into the town. When the battalion established another bridgehead across the stream, MAJOR YOW reconnoitered and found a crossing which, with repairs, would enable supporting

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #20, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 9 Jan 45  
 I - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR-MEDAL (Cont'd)

units to cross. After he had supervised the necessary repairs and directed traffic across, enemy artillery opened fire on the area. With complete disregard for his life, MAJOR YOW directed and dispersed traffic through the barrage and after all vehicles had cleared the area, drove an abandoned vehicle to safety. As a result of MAJOR YOW'S aggressive initiative and leadership, the battalion was able to secure a bridgehead and the regiment was able to continue the advance on the following day. Residence: Athens, Georgia.

Private First Class Aaron L. Cooper, 34581366, (then Private), Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets set fire to a building with a truck inside containing gasoline and small arms ammunition. Realizing his nearby howitzer was endangered, Private Cooper courageously assisted in march-ordering the piece, despite the new threat from a burning building sheltering 105 millimeter ammunition and a burning powder dump which had ignited from the wind-swept flames. Private Cooper's valorous action and utter disregard for his life materially assisted in saving the howitzer from destruction. Residence: Haleyville, Alabama.

Sergeant Dominic Venturato, 36414695, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets injured four men of a gun crew and set fire to a building with a truck inside containing gasoline and small arms ammunition. Sergeant Venturato quickly secured a fire hose from the local fire-fighting equipment and sprayed water on the flaming truck. The wind-swept flames quickly spread to a nearby building which sheltered 60 rounds of 105 millimeter ammunition. Realizing the flames near the ammunition dump were even more serious, he courageously dragged the hose to within a few feet of the ammunition and directed a stream of water on the flaming building while his comrades carried the explosives to safety. Despite the exploding small arms ammunition and the danger from the heated 105 millimeter ammunition, he remained at his position fighting the flames for two hours until the flames were extinguished. Sergeant Venturato's magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, materially assisted in saving the urgently needed ammunition and assured the lives of his comrades. Residence: Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Technician Fourth Grade Mike J. Krozovich, 36411967, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets set fire to a building with a truck inside, containing gasoline and small arms ammunition. Technician Krozovich, realizing a nearby howitzer was endangered, dashed to ask for the aid of a truck to remove the piece to safety. Despite the new threat from a burning powder dump and a flaming building sheltering 105 millimeter ammunition, he returned to assist in march-ordering the piece. Technician Krozovich's valorous action and utter

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R E S T R I C T E D

GO #20, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 9 Jan 45  
I. - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

disregard for his life, materially assisted in saving the howitzer from destruction. Residence: Battle Creek, Michigan.

Sergeant Weldon D. Osborne, 20513767, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets injured four men of a gun crew and set fire to a building and to a truck inside containing small arms ammunition and gasoline. Sergeant Osborne courageously unloaded the gasoline from the truck amid the hail of exploding ammunition. The wind-swept flames spread to a building sheltering 105 millimeter ammunition and to a powder dump which endangered a nearby howitzer. He assisted in the movement of the piece and then dashed to the 105 millimeter ammunition dump and removed a burning tarpaulin and packing cases from the heated ammunition. Sergeant Osborne's magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life, materially assisted in saving the urgently needed ammunition and assured the lives of his comrades. Residence: Zanesville, Ohio.

Private Rufus L. Yossett, 38337325, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 928th Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 20 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, enemy forces fired a devastating concentration of rockets in the Battery "B" area. The rockets set fire to a building with a truck inside containing gasoline and small arms ammunition and injured four men of a gun crew. Realizing the danger to the nearby howitzer, Private Yossett assisted in march-ordering the piece. He courageously towed the howitzer to safety with his truck, despite the new threat from a burning powder dump, exploding small arms ammunition, and a flaming building sheltering 105 millimeter ammunition. Private Yossett's magnificent valor and utter disregard for his life materially assisted in saving the artillery piece from destruction. Residence: Monroe, Louisiana.


II - AWARD OF AIR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Air Medal is awarded to the following named individual for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight:

CAPTAIN EUGENE E. JOHNSON, 01174604, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 103d Division Artillery, from 18 November 1944 to 30 December 1944, in Eastern France and Germany. Residence: Crawfordsville, Indiana.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

  
A. W. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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R E S T R I C T E D



*WY files*

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

APO 470, U. S. Army  
9 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 21)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. . . . . I  
AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART . . . . . II

I -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private Winston E. Douglas, 38700604, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 3 January 1945. Residence: Sapaw, Oklahoma.

Staff Sergeant Alex J. Banashak, 17001621, Infantry, Company "I", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 16 November 1944. Residence: Wells, Minnesota.

Private First Class Robert L. Munes, 39048664, Infantry, Company "K", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 25 December 1944. Residence: San Francisco, California.

Technician Fifth Grade Joseph V. Burzynski, 31212526, Infantry, Company "B", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 December 1944. Residence: Westfield, Massachusetts.

Private First Class Robert D. Johnson, 18073755, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 December 1944. Residence: Ottawa, Kansas.

Private First Class Lindsay J. Walker, 32908290, Infantry, Company "A", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 December 1944. Residence: Brooklyn, New York.

Private First Class John M. McCormick, 36698493, Infantry, Service Company, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 31 December 1944. Residence: Chicago, Illinois.

II -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Sergeant Earl M. Bushong, Jr., 33563037, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 24 December 1944. Residence: Baltimore, Maryland.

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R E S T R I C T E D

GO #21, HQ 102d Inf Div, dtd 9 Jan 45  
 II - AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

Private First Class George Braunstein, 32994838, Infantry, Company "P"  
 409th Infantry Regiment, France, 30 December 1944. Residence: Bronx, New  
 York.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
 Colonel, G.S.C.,  
 Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Croll*  
 A. W. CROLL,  
 Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
 Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding GeneralAPO 470, U. S. Army  
9 January 1945GENERAL ORDERS)  
:  
NUMBER - 22)AWARD OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded following named individuals:

Technical Sergeant Willard A. Springborn, 17156664, (then Staff Sergeant), Infantry, Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. During the daylight hours of 21 December 1944, when Company "G", 409th Infantry Regiment, was attacking in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, our advance was stopped by a strategically located enemy pillbox, heavily protected by small arms and mortars, which had inflicted heavy losses on our troops. Sergeant Springborn, taking 20 pounds of TNT, with two men similarly equipped, crossed 75 yards of open ground to a safe position adjacent to the pillbox. Detecting the maneuver, the enemy concentrated on preventing the assault team from reaching its objective. Relieving his men of their explosives, Sergeant Springborn, with complete disregard for his life, worked his way to the pillbox, placed and detonated the charge. Sergeant Springborn's gallant action resulted in the neutralizing of a serious menace, the taking of 16 prisoners and the attainment of a position from which we were able to effectively attack enemy artillery positions. Residence: St. Paul, Minnesota.

Technical Sergeant Ofie D. Perkins, 20545663, Infantry, Company "B", 409th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. On 15 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, Germany, Sergeant Perkins, in a defensive position, courageously remained at his post in the face of severe enemy counterattacks. The defensive position consisted of three pillboxes manned by elements of Company "B", and Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. Sergeant Perkins, in the heat of battle, keenly observed the enemy storming one of the defensive pillboxes on his right flank with flame throwers. As a result of the intensity of enemy pressure many of our troops were forced from their emplacements. Realizing that disastrous results would ensue if instantaneous action was not taken, Sergeant Perkins, with utter disregard for his life, dashed forth into a hail of enemy fire, rallied his retreating comrades and reorganized them. He gallantly led his reorganized group against the attacking enemy who were threatening a second pillbox. He pushed forward with such vigor and ferocity that the enemy was forced to withdraw in complete rout. By his outstanding gallantry in the face of devastating enemy fire, one platoon was saved from enemy capture and the stability of our defensive positions was assured. Residence: Weston, West Virginia.

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103d Inf Div, 103d Inf Div, 103d Inf Div


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GO #22, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 9 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G. S. C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:



A. W. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding General

AFD 470, U. S. Army  
10 January 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 23)

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds or injuries received in action against the enemy:

Private First Class Phillip J. Starr, 36296501, Infantry, Company "F", 410th Infantry Regiment, France, 10 November 1944. Residence: Madison, Wisconsin.

SECOND LIEUTENANT LAWRENCE V. McVICKER, 0548543, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion, France, 30 December 1944. Residence: Eagle Grove, Iowa.

Private First Class Warren Kerrigan, 32680350, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 382d Field Artillery Battalion, France, 5 December 1944. Residence: Richmond Hill, New York.

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

*AG 500.4 880. This*

OFFICIAL:

*A. W. Croll*  
A. W. CROLL,  
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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- EA EM S/R ----- 1
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- CG, BTOUSA ----- 5

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**R E S T R I C T E D**

R E S T R I C T E D*PH files*HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION  
Office of the Commanding GeneralAPO 470, U. S. Army  
10 January 1945GENERAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER - 24)AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

CAPTAIN WILLIE W. J. BARRIOS, 01295981, Infantry, Company "F", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December 1944, CAPTAIN BARRIOS exposed himself continually to enemy mortar, artillery, and small arms fire as he led his troops close behind a cover of friendly artillery fire in the attack on \* \* \*, France. When stiff enemy resistance threatened to force one of his platoons to withdraw, CAPTAIN BARRIOS took charge of the platoon and skillfully led a flanking movement to the crest of a hill overlooking the enemy's right flank and established a base of fire on the hostile forces. The remainder of his men, inspired by his courage and utter disregard for his life, moved forward swiftly in the attack on the strongly fortified town. CAPTAIN BARRIOS' magnificent valor and outstanding leadership assisted materially in the rout of a large concentration of armor supported enemy forces, and the successful seizure of the town. Residence: Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Technical Sergeant Ben Frizley, 6213973, Infantry, Company "E", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 21 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Frizley was the rear guard of his company as it advanced through the rain and darkness to a forward assembly area. As the column moved along the road, Sergeant Frizley keenly observed an enemy patrol in the adjacent woods. Immediately realizing the ominous threat presented to his company, Sergeant Frizley, with utter disregard for his life, opened fire on the patrol and also directed the fire of the men near him. Three of the enemy were killed by his accurate fire, and his efficient direction of his comrades' fire contributed in great measure to the killing or wounding of the entire enemy patrol, which consisted of 24 men. Sergeant Frizley's valorous actions prevented the enemy from inflicting serious losses on his company and resulted in the destruction of a large enemy patrol. Residence: Sallisaw, Oklahoma.

Private First Class William H. Haul, 37609999, (Then Private), Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 14 December 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, an assault company to which Private Haul was attached as a medical aid man, was pinned down by a sudden enemy barrage. In order to reach the nearest of several casualties, it was necessary for Private Haul to cross 700 yards of open and level terrain in full view of the enemy. With complete disregard for his life, Private Haul crossed the open area, and in

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R E S T R I C T E D

GO #24, Hq 103d Inf Div, dtd 10 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

spite of the mortar and artillery fire of the enemy, dressed the wounds of an injured man and assisted in carrying him to the rear. After safely evacuating the patient, Private Haul returned to join his organization. By his heroic devotion to duty Private Haul materially assisted in saving the life of a wounded soldier. Residence: St. Louis, Missouri.

Private First Class Wallace H. Jagusch, 17157201, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 28 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Jagusch, with his battalion, was forced to use an unknown road when terrific enemy artillery blocked their proposed route of attack. This change in plan necessitated constant communication with higher headquarters to enable them to coordinate the attack with another column approaching from a different direction. The loss of wire by enemy fire made it necessary to procure additional communication wire from the rear. Private Jagusch on his own initiative, with utter disregard for his life, courageously dashed to the wire supply point, amid a hail of enemy fire, despite the fact he had seen several comrades struck down by enemy shrapnel in the same attempt. He successfully reached the supply point and while he was hand-carrying the vital communication wire to the battalion he was wounded by enemy fire. As a result of Private Jagusch's heroic efforts the men about him were so inspired they dashed forth with renewed vigor, and vital communications were ultimately established. Residence: Red Wing, Minnesota.

Staff Sergeant George P. Mamer, 36550775, (then Sergeant), Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. During the night of 27 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Sergeant Mamer, communication sergeant, with two comrades, courageously drove over mine-infested roads to lay vital communication lines between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion Headquarters. The lines were unable to be repaired because of constant enemy shelling which disrupted communications for a period of 14 hours. It was tactically imperative that a new line be laid without delay. His mission was accomplished in extreme blackout conditions and mine detection was impossible. The enemy was known to be in the immediate vicinity of the approach, but heedless of the dangers confronting him he pushed relentlessly on. When Sergeant Mamer observed that the wire on hand would be insufficient to reach the objective, he, with his comrades, returned over the mine-infested roads to procure additional wire. Sergeant Mamer was on the road for over five hours, working tirelessly and fearlessly, with enemy lurking about him. Through his untiring efforts and devotion to duty, communication was restored between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion, materially assisting in the success of the tactical operation. Residence: Grosse Pointe, Michigan.

Private First Class Gene H. Cundiff, 37246178, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. During the night of 27 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Cundiff, with two comrades, courageously drove over mine-infested roads to lay vital communication lines between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion Headquarters. The lines were unable to be repaired because of constant enemy shelling which disrupted communications for a period of 14 hours. It was tactically imperative that a new line be laid without delay. His mission

R E S T R I C T E D

GO #24, Hq, 103d Inf Div, dtd 10 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

was accomplished in extreme blackout conditions and mine detection was impossible. The enemy was known to be in the immediate vicinity of the approach, but heedless of the dangers confronting him he pushed relentlessly on. When Private Cundiff observed that the wire on hand would be insufficient to reach the objective, he, with his comrades, returned over the mine-infested roads to procure additional wire. Private Cundiff was on the road for over five hours, working tirelessly and fearlessly, with enemy lurking about him. Through his untiring efforts and devotion to duty, communication was restored between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion, materially assisting in the success of the tactical operation. Residence: Wichita, Kansas.

Private First Class Leon A. Kipping, 37604976, Infantry, Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment. For heroic achievement in action. During the night of 27 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Kipping, with two comrades, courageously drove over mine-infested roads to lay vital communication lines between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion Headquarters. The lines were unable to be repaired because of constant enemy shelling which disrupted communications for a period of 14 hours. It was tactically imperative that a new line be laid without delay. His mission was accomplished in extreme blackout conditions and mine detection was impossible. The enemy was known to be in the immediate vicinity of the approach, but heedless of the dangers confronting him he pushed relentlessly on. When Private Kipping observed that the wire on hand would be insufficient to reach the objective, he, with his comrades, returned over the mine-infested roads to procure additional wire. Private Kipping was on the road for over five hours, working tirelessly and fearlessly, with enemy lurking about him. Through his untiring efforts and devotion to duty, communication was restored between Company "L", 409th Infantry Regiment and the Battalion, materially assisting in the success of the tactical operation. Residence: East St. Louis, Illinois.

Private First Class Arthur W. Koehler, 36643187, (then Private), Corps of Military Police, Military Police Platoon, 103d Infantry Division. For heroic achievement in action. During the daylight of 27 November 1944, in the vicinity of \* \* \*, France, Private Koehler was assigned the task of regulating the flow of traffic through the town which was not entirely cleared of the enemy. Throughout the action Private Koehler was under direct observation of an enemy artillery observer and enemy artillery continually bombarded the area around his post. With complete disregard for his safety, Private Koehler remained at his post and continued to direct traffic, thus preventing a traffic jam which would have seriously disrupted our attack. His devotion to duty and cool judgment under fire materially aided in maintaining the momentum of the attack being made by our units. Residence: Blue Island, Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Francis J. Schwendeman, 37430948, Coast Artillery Corps, Headquarters Battery, 534th AAA (AW) Battalion. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy from 9 September 1943 to 21 December 1944, in Italy and France. Residence: Fort Dodge, Iowa.

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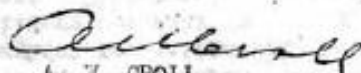
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GO #24, Hq, 103d Inf Div, dtd 10 Jan 45 (Cont'd)

By command of Brigadier General PIERCE:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,  
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