

May

j. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action.

A Silver Star was awarded the following for gallantry in action per General Order 81, Headquarters 6th Armored Division, 5 May 1945.

First Lieutenant Albert B. Farver, B Company---In the vicinity of Missma, Germany ~~8:25~~ on 15 April 1945 when light tanks were forced into defilade by a battery of dug-in, dual purpose guns, commanding the terrain over a radius of several miles; Lieutenant Farver with one other destroyer, engaged the entire enemy position. His brilliant movement and courageous exposure of his vehicle occupied the enemy until artillery fire could be brought to bear on the stronghold. By means of his bold approach he accurately located the guns and transmitted the information to the artillery, for fire direction until the dominating enemy defense had been neutralized. His tactical skill, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army.

The Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star was awarded to the following man per General Order 110, Headquarters 6th Armored Division, 12 May 1945:

Staff Sergeant Hugo V. Jarussi, C Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Groitzsch, Germany, on 13 April 1945. Staff Sergeant Jarussi successfully reconnoitered firing positions to bring effective fire upon fifteen enemy flak guns. Then, with disregard for his own personal safety, he extricated and evacuated two seriously wounded men from a disabled destroyer. Continuing to direct ~~the~~ the fire of the other tank destroyers he set a fine example for his men.

Per General Order 110 the following were awarded the Silver Star:

First Lieutenant Julien F. Muller, C Company---For gallantry in action in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 28 July 1944 to 24 February 1945. He has led his platoon through many intense actions, accomplishing all missions assigned with a minimum loss of personnel and the loss of only one tank destroyer. On numerous occasions he left the comparative safety of his destroyer in order to make a foot reconnaissance, often picking out targets under heavy enemy fire. His cool courage and grim determination to close with and destroy the enemy was a constant inspiration to his men and was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service.

First Lieutenant James Rhodes, B Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Holzhausen, Germany on 1 April 1945. He approached an enemy tank on foot and tossed an incendiary grenade on the engine, setting it on fire and forcing the crew to evacuate. During this entire action he was constantly exposed to fire from enemy infantry riding on the tanks and also to fire from our own troops. By his initiative, foresight, and coolness under fire, he was responsible for the destruction of an enemy tank and for the capture of a number of the enemy.

First Lieutenant Clayton M. Taylor, C Company---For gallantry in action in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 28 July 1945 to 25 February 1945. As a platoon leader and company commander, First Lieutenant Taylor risked his life many times under enemy

fire while directing the guns of his unit. Constantly disregarding his personal safety, his actions have been a source of inspiration to all under his command and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Staff Sergeant Eugene C. Eshelman, C. Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Bad Sooten, Germany on 2 April 1945. When ten enemy self-propelled guns were sighted Technician Fourth Grade Eshelman made a foot reconnaissance and placed the destroyers of his unit in position to surround the enemy. In so directing the destroyers he narrowly missed death from machine gun bursts but continued in his mission. While manning a 50 caliber machine gun, he killed twenty enemy infantry and held his position while strafed and bombed by twenty-five or thirty enemy aircraft. Due to his personal courage and aggressiveness, all ten of the enemy guns were destroyed.

Staff Sergeant Hugo V. Jarussi, C Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Oubourcy, Belgium on 4 January 1945. With complete disregard for personal safety and in face of heavy artillery, anti-tank, and small arms fire he dismounted from his destroyer and on foot led his platoon to firing positions from which it destroyed seven self-propelled guns and one tank, and repulsed a strong counter-attack. Staff Sergeant Jarussi's conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Onel E. Deal, C Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Oubourcy, Belgium on 4 January 1945. In the face of artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, Sergeant Deal dismounted from his vehicle, reconnoitered for a firing position, and led his destroyer into a firing position from which he destroyed three self-propelled guns. While on foot he encountered and destroyed a bazooka team with his carbine. By his fearless actions Sergeant Deal was largely responsible for breaking up the enemy counter-attack.

Sergeant Cleo B. Wheeler, C Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Oubourcy, Belgium on 4 January 1945. With complete disregard for personal safety, he dismounted from his destroyer in the face of heavy artillery and small arms fire and led his destroyer into a firing position from which he destroyed seven self-propelled guns and one tank, thereby repulsing an armored counter-attack. His conduct was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service.

Sergeant Kenneth Williams, B A Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Many, France on 12 November 1944. In an attempt to flank the town the two leading destroyers were hit, evacuated, by the survivors, who ran for cover. However, two of the men collapsed because of wounds and concussion and were unable to reach safety. Sergeant Williams left his position of safety and crossed seventy yards of open terrain under heavy enemy fire to carry one of the men to safety.

Technician Fourth Grade Grover V. Morgah, B Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Zenner, Germany on 30 March 1945. When his destroyer a direct hit in the

enabled his task force to pass a dangerous road junction and accomplish its mission.

The following were awarded Silver Stars per General Order 125, Headquarters 6th Armored Division, 25 May 1945.

a Captain Leslie W. Kincaid, B Company---For gallantry in action in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 28 July 1944 to 1 April 1945. Captain Kincaid has trained and commanded a tank destroyer company which has accomplished all of its missions with a minimum loss to his organization and the loss of 29 enemy tanks and assault guns plus numerous personnel killed for the enemy. At Plouviech, France, when parts of a convoy were lost, he took a 1/4 ton vehicle and of his own volition searched for it through uncleared enemy territory, finally returning all vehicles to safety. His unselfish disregard for his own life and constant regard for the safety of his men have been inspirational to the men and officers of his command.

Sergeant Edward J. Smigielski, A Company---For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Thonhausen, Germany on 14 April 1945. His destroyer had the mission of establishing an outpost on a road east of the town. A truck with twenty enemy soldiers approached to within fifty yards of the outpost before Sergeant Smigielski was able to identify them. He fired on them himself but his gun jammed. While his destroyer was firing on the enemy truck he grabbed another weapon and killed all the enemy who tried to escape. His quick action and gallant leadership were responsible for killing fifteen and wounding five of the enemy.

The following man was awarded the Silver Star per General Order 132, Headquarters 6th Armored Division, 26 May 1945.

Corporal William F. Gilpin, B Company---For gallantry in action in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany during the period 28 July 1944 to 19 November 1945 and 25 February 1945 to 16 April 1945. When the lead tank was partially disabled, he dismounted in the face of enemy fire and directed his tank destroyer to a firing position, thereby eliminating the threat and saving the friendly tank and crew. On 1 October 1944 in Gremecey Forest, France when his destroyer was mired in a stream and was under heavy enemy artillery fire, Corporal Gilpin extricated the destroyer with the use of logs and then proceeded to tow two destroyers and three half tracks out of the stream. His constant disregard for personal danger reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

The following were awarded Silver Stars per General Order 143, Headquarters 6th Armored Division, 30 May 1945.

First Lieutenant Asa L. Dodd, C Company---
First Lieutenant Benjamin S. Fogwill, C Company---
First Lieutenant Charles E. Yoeman, Reconnaissance Company
Second Lieutenant Hal B. Day, A Company---
First Sergeant Harvey R. Grice, Reconnaissance Company---
First Sergeant Clarence A. Shaefer, C Company---
Technical Sergeant John W. Patten, Headquarters Company---
Staff Sergeant Don V. Breinholt, B Company---
Staff Sergeant Edgar E. Sandeen, B Company---
Sergeant Harold A. Belcher, A Company---
Sergeant John B. Colmone, A Company---
Sergeant Eugene V. Deake, A Company---
Sergeant William L. Gates, B Company---
Sergeant Harold H. Gullikson, A Company---