

GENERAL ORDERS)

22 April 1945

NUMBER 116)

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General to the following for heroic achievement:

HAROLD J. HOLLAND, 36876002, Technician Fourth Grade, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 863d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 16 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ensheim, Germany. Although under heavy enemy artillery fire, with shells dropping within forty yards of his base relay radio set, Technician Fourth Grade Holland remained at his station. When one of the lines to the fire direction center went out, he fearlessly worked his way out along the line to make necessary repairs, restoring important communications. The courage and determination displayed by Technician Fourth Grade Holland are in accord with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

ANTHONY MARRA, 36523104, Technician Fifth Grade, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 255th Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 5 March 1945, in the vicinity of Dubingen, Germany. Having been assigned the mission of laying wire between two companies, Technician Fifth Grade Marra, although under heavy artillery and mortar fire, laid and maintained communication lines. His skill and persistence enabled the two companies to establish and maintain communications which contributed largely to successful operations. During the entire period Technician Fifth Grade Marra worked tirelessly to keep the communication lines open. His untiring devotion to duty is commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Caro, Michigan.

→ DAVID MORA, 38349371, Private, Field Artillery, Company "C", *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 30 March 1945, in the vicinity of Neuenheim, Germany. During the attack on Neuenheim, Private Mora observed an aid man fall wounded from an enemy artillery and mortar barrage and left the security of the armor afforded by his destroyer to aid the wounded man. His tenacity and determination resulted in the prompt evacuation of a seriously wounded man, undoubtedly increasing the chances of his recovery. Entered military service from Camorro, New Mexico.

JOHN O. NELSON, 0549752, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company "K", 255th Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. When one of two anti-tank guns abreast of his company was under automatic fire from the enemy and the crew was unable to withdraw, Lieutenant Nelson unhesitatingly exposing himself to enemy fire, ran to a position near the gun and threw two white phosphorus grenades to lay a smoke screen in front of the anti-tank gun position, thus permitting the gun to be successfully withdrawn. Lieutenant Nelson's initiative and courageous action reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from Charleston, West Virginia.

WILLIAM E. OLCOTT, 33943344, Technician Fifth Grade, Infantry, Headquarters Company, First Battalion, 254th Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 19 February 1945, in the vicinity of Auersmacher, Germany. When intense enemy mortar fire burst near the vehicle driven by Technician Fifth Grade Olcott, he dismounted to take cover. His passenger, an officer, was wounded by another mortar burst as he was dismounting. Noting that the wounded officer could not remove himself to a place of safety, Technician Fifth Grade Olcott aided the officer to a nearby building offering cover from the bursting shells and rendered first aid. The heroism displayed by Technician Fifth Grade Olcott is in accord with the highest traditions of the military service and undoubtedly saved the life of the wounded officer. Entered military service from Scotia, New York.

RAFFENSPERGER

BRUCE A. RAFFENSPERGER, 0555071, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company "D", 253d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945, in the vicinity of Bubingen, Germany. During an attack Lieutenant Raffensperger, in the face of intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire, led his section of heavy machine guns with the leading rifle platoon. When the rifle platoon was held up, he directed the placing of guns to give direct support, personally sighted the guns for protection during reorganization, and aided in stopping the enemy's counter-attack. Lieutenant Raffensperger also made arrangements for the evacuation of the wounded. Through his courage and accurate estimate of the situation, the enemy strongpoint was neutralized. Entered military service from Arendtsville, Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM M. ROBISON, 37125906, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. When the infantry called upon Sergeant Robison to bring fire upon enemy machine gun nests and pillboxes in the Siegfried Line, he immediately made a foot reconnaissance of the area, under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, to secure the best possible fire positions for his tank destroyer. He then led his tank destroyer into position, disregarding the possibility of direct enemy anti-tank fire. Completely exposing himself to the intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Sergeant Robison succeeded in directing fire which knocked out the enemy emplacements. Entered military service from Fairbury, Nebraska.

CARL J. SCHENKELBERG, 37198223, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 19 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. Sergeant Schenkelberg, while in position to fire on pillboxes in the Siegfried Line, observed an American infantryman hit by enemy shell fire and lying in an exposed position. Disregarding his own safety and under heavy artillery fire, he immediately jumped out of his vehicle and called for medical aid. Exposing himself to enemy small arms fire, he procured medical aid for the injured man and insured that the wounded man was evacuated to a place of safety. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Schenkelberg, exemplify the finest traditions of the Armed Forces. Entered military service from Halbur, Iowa.

By command of Major General HIBBS:

OFFICIAL:

Ralph Lavorgna
RALPH LAVORRNA,
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

EARLE G. WHEELER,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS)

22 April 1945

NUMBER 118) 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 by the Commanding General to the following:

DORWIN B. CLAYTON, 38104369, Technician Fourth Grade, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, Headquarters, Special Troops, 63d Infantry Division, for gallantry in action on 19 March 1945, in the vicinity of Eusheim, Germany. During a mortar barrage which killed two officers, one enlisted man and wounded five others, Technician Fourth Grade Clayton, disregarding his own wound, directed two other soldiers in administering first aid under extreme difficulties and evacuating all wounded personnel to a position of safety. His gallant action in carrying out his assigned mission is in accord with the highest traditions of the Medical Corps. Entered military service from Otis, Colorado.

FLOYD L. EDSALL, 0555952, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company "C", 254th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 3 March 1945, in the vicinity of Hartungshof, Germany. Lieutenant Edsall went to the rescue of a seriously wounded man who was under intense enemy fire and successfully carried him through heavy enemy fire to a place of safety. This officer's outstanding gallantry is in accord with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Sparks, Nevada.

FRED E. GUENTHER, 37151443, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. Called upon by an infantry officer to bring fire on enemy machine gun nests and pillboxes, Sergeant Guenther, disregarding his personal safety and under intense enemy artillery and mortar fire, made a foot reconnaissance to find the best possible firing positions for his tank destroyer. He led it to a firing position on the forward slope, knowing that he would probably draw direct fire. Exposing himself by standing in the turret he directed the fire of his tank destroyer and succeeded in knocking out the machine gun nests and pillboxes, allowing the infantry to breach the Siegfried Line. When his 90 millimeter gun became overheated and failed to fire he further exposed himself on the deck of the destroyer to fire the .50 caliber machine gun at enemy personnel. Sergeant Guenther's superior leadership, courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces. Entered military service from Shambaugh, Iowa.

JOSEPH E. JOHNSON, 33700846, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 255th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. Although subjected to heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire, Technician Fifth Grade Johnson, with utter disregard for personal safety, moved among the men of Company "K" administering first aid. Despite severe enemy artillery and machine gun fire, he carried severely wounded men to covered positions where first aid could be given and evacuation was possible. His outstanding gallantry and determination to perform his mission reflect great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from Sarver, Pennsylvania.

MARTIN

HORACE A. MARTIN, 38665201, Private First Class, Infantry, Company "B", 254th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945, in the vicinity of Enshelm, Germany. During the attack on the Siegfried Line a strong enemy counter-attack, supported by artillery, forced the withdrawal of the entire company. Private First Class Martin, unconscious due to concussion from an enemy grenade, and six other wounded men were taken to an abandoned pillbox for protection. Shortly after Private First Class Martin regained consciousness, his company was forced to withdraw further, but although he realized the possibility of being either captured or killed by the enemy, he refused to go but elected to stay with the wounded men to care for and protect them. This brave and gallant action on the part of Private First Class Martin probably saved the lives of the wounded and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Mountain View, Arkansas.

→ FRED H. MENNING, 35478660, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 30 March 1945, in the vicinity of Neuenheim, Germany. Sergeant Menning commanded a platoon of tank destroyers which was given the mission of supporting the infantry in attacking Neuenheim, Germany. He determinedly led his platoon through hostile fire to successfully neutralize enemy strongpoints. During this action he was severely wounded but continued to direct the fire of his destroyers until relieved. The tenacity and fortitude exhibited by Sergeant Menning undoubtedly saved the lives of many men in the attack and enabled the infantry to accomplish its mission. Entered military service from Lawrenceburg, Indiana. 692

PAUL R. MYERS, 02007088, Second Lieutenant, Infantry, Company "K", 255th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 15 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. When, during an attack, the advance of his company was held up by intense enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire, Lieutenant Myers, commanding the leading platoon, displayed great calmness, courage and initiative in withdrawing his platoon from its exposed position and maneuvering to flank the enemy pocket of resistance, resulting in the capture by his platoon of nineteen prisoners, three self-propelled guns and one 150 millimeter howitzer and enabled the company to reach its objective. Lieutenant Myers' gallant performance inspired his men to overcome determined enemy resistance and reflects the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

POWELL

WILLIAM R. POWELL, 20529054, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company "B", 253d Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 5 March 1945, in the vicinity of Sarreguemines, France. While his company was attacking, the enemy counter-attacked. Sergeant Powell, with utter disregard for personal safety, stood up and, advancing through intense machine gun and artillery fire, placed his men in position to successfully repel the counter-attack. Later, he administered aid to a severely wounded man whom the medical aid men had been unable to reach. Entered military service from Freeman, West Virginia.

By command of Major General HIBBS:

OFFICIAL:

Ralph Lavorgna
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Lt. Col., A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

EARLE G. WHEELER,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS)
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NUMBER 119)

23 April 1945

Award of the Silver Star (Posthumous) I
Award of the Silver Star. II

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, by the Commanding General to the following:

OAL L. HUTCHISON, 18028714, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Battery "C", 863d Field Artillery Battalion, for gallantry in action on 15 February 1945, in the vicinity of Bliesbrucken Wald, France. Volunteering as field artillery observer in an attack, Sergeant Hutchison, without regard for his personal safety and under small arms, artillery and mortar fire, moved forward through an enemy minefield to fulfill his mission. During this heroic action, Sergeant Hutchison contacted an enemy mine and was killed instantly. His sacrifice and outstanding courage remain as a lasting inspiration to members of his organization. Next of kin: Homer Hutchison (Father), Poughkeepsie, Arkansas.

WILLIAM A. KEIGHTLY, 33036372, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, Company "E", 254th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945, in the vicinity of Emsheim, Germany. Sergeant Keightly was given the difficult task of leading his squad against a strongly fortified pillbox which had been retarding the advance of Company "E". During its advance, the squad was pinned down by intense enemy machine gun fire. Sergeant Keightly, quickly realizing that his entire squad would be soon wiped out by the enemy fire, moved to an exposed position and with his M-1 rifle, neutralized the pillbox, allowing his squad to withdraw. Sergeant Keightly was mortally wounded during this action. His gallant sacrifice and courageous leadership remain as a lasting inspiration to the men he led. Next of kin: Mrs. Emma Keightly (Mother), 321 Huntington Pike, Foxchase, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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 by the Commanding General to the following:

JAMES M. BOYD, 024168, Captain, Air Corps, Headquarters, Third Battalion, 255th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 16 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. Captain Boyd, as commanding officer of Company "K", personally led an assault through a wooded and mined area under intense enemy fire. A large number of the enemy were captured or wounded and an entire field artillery battalion was disabled. His personal direction and leadership during the attack were outstanding and enabled his company to reach and hold its objective promptly and with minimum casualties. The devotion to duty and outstanding gallantry in action displayed by Captain Boyd are in accord with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from San Francisco, California.

→ FULMAN PRITCHARD, 38115102, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", 822d Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 7 March 1945, in the vicinity of Schaffhausen, Germany. After placing his gun in direct firing position under enemy observation, Sergeant Pritchard opened fire on enemy strongpoints and outposts. After neutralizing the enemy, his gun position became the target of intense artillery and mortar fire. Displaying great leadership and bravery, Sergeant Pritchard ordered his squad into the basement of a nearby house while he remained at his gun position to operate his radio and telephone. During the intense shelling, the telephone line was broken, and with utter disregard for his personal safety, he dashed fifty yards in the midst of falling shells to make necessary repairs, then returned to his gun and radio and remained there until the shelling ceased. The outstanding gallantry displayed by Sergeant Pritchard is commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Blue Ridge, Texas.

OSCAR T. SEMIT, 36765828, Technical Sergeant, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 255th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action on 17 March 1945, in the vicinity of Heckendalheim, Germany. When Sergeant Smit, platoon sergeant of an anti-tank platoon, saw one of the guns of his platoon abandoned by its crew and still attached to the truck in an open field under heavy enemy machine gun fire, with great initiative and magnificent courage he crawled out to the truck and drove it to a concealed area, even though it was being pierced and all its tires punctured by machine gun fire at the time. His outstanding gallantry in saving his gun reflects great credit on himself and the military service. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

OLIVER J. STEVENS, 31131235, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "C", 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 18 March 1945, in the vicinity of Heckendalheim, Germany. Having no other means of communication, Sergeant Stevens personally and repeatedly contacted on foot, in the face of heavy enemy fire, the commanding officer of the infantry company to which his platoon was attached for information concerning enemy targets, after which in each instance he returned to his platoon and directed its fire on the indicated enemy machine gun nests and pillboxes. When the infantry was forced to withdraw, Sergeant Stevens kept his tank destroyers in position and continued firing until their ammunition was exhausted. The effective fire of his destroyers contributed greatly to the taking of the final objective by the infantry. Entered military service from Fairhaven, Massachusetts.

By command of Major General HIBBS:

EARLE G. WHEELER,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Ralph Lavorgna
RALPH LAVORNA,
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS)

2 May 1945

NUMBER 127)

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General to the following:

→ ALBERT R. BURCH, 35306001, Sergeant, Field Artillery, Company "B", 822d Tank Destroyer Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 19 March 1945, in the vicinity of Fochingen, Germany. Sergeant Burch, commanding a gun squad, moved across exposed terrain, under an intense barrage of enemy artillery and mortar fire to the aid of three wounded soldiers and administered first aid. While shells continued to fall, Sergeant Burch remained at the side of the wounded until they were evacuated. The courage displayed by Sergeant Burch was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and contributed greatly to the comfort of the wounded under fire. Entered military service from Warren, Ohio.

RALPH C. CARLSON, 36684797, Corporal, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 863d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 16 March 1945, in the vicinity of Enshelm, Germany. When his battery encountered severe enemy artillery fire, Corporal Carlson repaired and maintained communications, enabling our artillery to adjust fire on the enemy. The courage displayed by Corporal Carlson was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

DWIGHT R. CRANDELL, 0547671, First Lieutenant, Infantry, Company "D", 88th Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action from 2 April 1945 to 9 April 1945, in the vicinity of Untergribsheim and Herbelzheim, Germany. His consistent ability to plan ahead enabled his mortar platoon to support the attack on every occasion. The timely displacements of the platoon and accuracy of its fire caused the enemy heavy casualties and aided the rifle companies to advance to their objectives. The courage and leadership displayed by Lieutenant Crandell were an inspiration to the men under him and contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Moline, Illinois.

JAMES S. DAVIS, 34033781, Technician Fourth Grade, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 863d Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 18 March 1945, in the vicinity of Ommersheim, Germany. When his forward observer sergeant, carrying a radio on his back, was hurled into barbed wire entanglements by the blast from an enemy artillery shell during the attack on the Siegfried Line, Technician Fourth Grade Davis, promptly and voluntarily went to his aid, extricating him from the entanglements in spite of the heavy enemy fire within the area. The courage displayed by Technician Fourth Grade Davis was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Tarrant, Alabama.

JAMES C. HENDRICKS, 34911322, Private First Class, Infantry, Company "I", 253d Infantry Regiment, for heroic achievement in action on 3 January 1945, in the vicinity of Gros Rederching, Franco. When his company was attacked by an enemy flame-throwing tank supported by infantry, Private First Class Hendricks, acting as second gunner, held his position until ordered to withdraw. When leaving, he carried with him machine gun ammunition belts although under intense small arms fire. The courage displayed by Private First Class Hendricks was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and contributed greatly in repulsing the enemy attack. Entered military service from Jacksonville, Florida.

WALTER F. MILKE, 33795211, Corporal, Field Artillery, Battery "A", *** Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 6 April 1945, in the vicinity of Kressbach, Germany. In an attack by Company "C", *** Infantry Regiment, Corporal Milke, wireless and radio operator for the forward observer party, carried his heavy radio a distance of 600 yards through intense enemy fire in order that his forward observer might maintain contact with the artillery. The courage displayed by Corporal Milke was an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions and contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

JAMES E. LEWIS, 32474399, Sergeant, Infantry, Company "C", 740th Tank Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 23 March 1945, in Germany. During the attack on the Siegfried Line Sergeant Lewis commanded one of the tanks of a tank platoon which had the mission of supporting the infantry. The platoon was proceeding toward its objective when Sergeant Lewis noticed an entrenched enemy platoon which was holding up our infantry. Sergeant Lewis promptly maneuvered his tank close to the entrenched enemy and annihilated it, enabling our infantry to take its objective. The courage and leadership displayed by Sergeant Lewis were an inspiration to all who witnessed his actions. He contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Tyler, Texas.

WILLIE MORRIS, JR., 33371428, Sergeant, Infantry, Company "C", 740th Tank Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 23 March 1945, in Germany. During operations against the Siegfried Line, Sergeant Morris' tank was caught in a tank trap. Crawling a hundred yards under intense enemy fire, he secured assistance from another tank. With his tank once again in operation, he continued with his platoon to complete his mission. The courage and initiative displayed by Sergeant Morris were an inspiration to the men under him and contributed greatly to the success of the attack. Entered military service from Abilene, Texas.

By command of Major General HIBBS:

EARLE G. WHITLER,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Vail A. Van Natta
VAILE A. VAN NATTA,
Major, A. G. D.,
Actg. Adj. Gen.