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HEADQUARTERS 90TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 90, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS

C-O-N-F-I-C-T-E-D C-O-P-Y

29 June 1944

No. 20

I. POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF SILVER STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and circular 66, First U. S. Army, cs, the Silver Star is awarded posthumously to the following named officers and enlisted men for gallantry in action in northern France:

LT COL JAMES L. COSTAIN, 019423, FA, United States Army. On 15 June 1944 the \*\* Bn commanded by Lt Col James L. Costain was in direct support of the \*\* Inf. Two assault companies were cut off from the remainder of their battalion and had no communications, consequently no artillery support. Col Costain realized that if the assault companies were to receive artillery support, communications must be reestablished and the location of German machine guns holding up the flank be determined. He therefore, and with no concern for his own safety, organized and led a patrol forward. The patrol was shortly pinned to the ground by enemy fire and a friendly machine gun covering his advance was destroyed. Col Costain with the utmost bravery returned the fire of the enemy machine gun in an effort to silence it. He continued to fire until his ammunition was exhausted. At this time he was mortally wounded by enemy fire. Entered service from Minnesota.

2D LT WILLIAM D. WOODS, 01323888, Inf, United States Army. On 12 June 1944 Lt Woods, while leading his platoon on an open forward slope toward an orchard and stone walls, came under fire of three enemy machine guns. Since his men were inexperienced, Lt Woods was moving at the head of his platoon with his scouts. On receiving fire, he moved directly toward the enemy machine guns and threw one hand grenade, knocking one gun out of action. He was then mortally wounded but by his example, the platoon continued the attack and overcame the remaining enemy machine guns. Entered service from California.

Tec 4 Joseph R. Sinkewicz, 31025572, Med Dept, United States Army. On 17 June 1944 Tec 4 Sinkewicz was attached to an Infantry unit for duty as a Medical aid man. Near a village an adjacent company was held up by extremely accurate sniper and automatic weapons fire and was forced to withdraw. In the withdrawal, the wounded of this company could not be evacuated and were left before the German lines. Tec 4 Sinkewicz, seeing that the adjacent company was without an aid man, left his position of comparative safety and gave aid to those wounded. While in the commission of this act he was killed in action. Entered service from Massachusetts.

II. AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and circular 66 First U. S. Army, cs, the Silver Star is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men for gallantry in action in northern France.

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(Sec II GO 20 Hq 90th Inf Div 29 June 44 contd)

CAPTAIN STANTON A. TURNER, 0396232, Inf, United States Army. On 15 June 44 a company under the command of Capt Turner was attacking northwest across a wide plain containing two marshy streams, under conditions of extreme hostile machine gun and mortar fire. Capt Turner, with utter disregard for his own personal safety moved among his men, directing and guiding the attack until he was severely wounded. His action was an inspiration to his men and the attack was successful with but moderate casualties. Entered service from California.

1ST LT DAVID B. ANDREWS, 0341620, FA, United States Army. On 14 June 1944 Lt Andrews was serving in the capacity of FA forward observer in the attack, when after an Artillery preparation on enemy prepared positions, the Infantry attack was impeded due to loss of front line leaders. Lt Andrews perceived the situation, seized the initiative and although not an Infantry officer himself, hastily organized and led the forward elements to drive opposing forces from several strong points, before the enemy could recover from the effect of the bombardment. Entered service from Wisconsin.

T Sgt Harold C. Heggerness, 37169723, Inf, United States Army. On 12 June 1944, Sgt Heggerness' company, assaulting enemy positions, came under heavy machine gun and sniper fire. One of the Corporals of his platoon fell wounded. Sgt Heggerness, without thought of his own personal safety, crawled approximately 100 yards under enemy fire to the other soldier and brought him to cover where he could be evacuated by Medical aid men. Entered service from Minnesota.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and circular 66 First U. S. Army, cs, the Bronze Star is awarded to the following named enlisted men for bravery in action in northern France:

T Sgt Alexander Penoff, 6291870, Med Dept, United States Army. On 12 June 1944 Sgt Penoff and three other Medical Department soldiers were selected as litter bearers to bring in a wounded officer who was lying in a field about 400 yards away. They made their way along a ditch where the advance of Infantry units was held up by enemy fire and found it necessary to move over a cross road upon which enemy machine gun and mortar fire was being placed. After moving about 60 yards past the cross roads, a badly wounded soldier was found and evacuated. They then returned and evacuated the officer over the same route notwithstanding the enemy fire which was unceasing. Entered service from Oklahoma.

S. Sgt Frank Michael Rovezzi, 20110166, Med Dept, United States Army. On 12 June 1944 Sgt Rovezzi and three other Medical Department soldiers were selected as litter bearers to bring in a wounded officer who was lying in a field about 400 yards away. They made their way along a ditch where the advance of Infantry units was held up by enemy fire and found it necessary to move over a cross road upon which enemy machine gun and mortar fire was being placed. After moving about 60 yards past the cross roads, a badly wounded soldier was found and evacuated. They then returned and evacuated the officer over the same route notwithstanding the enemy fire which was unceasing. Entered service from Massachusetts.

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R E S T R I C T E D

(Sec III GO 20 Hq 90th Inf Div 29 June 1944 contd)

Tec 3 Ira J. Wilson, 37179266, Med Dept, United States Army. On 12 June 1944 Sgt Wilson and three other Medical Department soldiers were selected as litter bearers to bring in a wounded officer who was lying in a field about 400 yards away. They made their way along a ditch where the advance of Infantry units was held up by enemy fire and found it necessary to move over a cross road upon which enemy machine gun and mortar fire was being placed. After moving about 60 yards past the cross roads, a badly wounded soldier was found and evacuated. They then returned and evacuated the officer over the same route notwithstanding the enemy fire which was unceasing. Entered service from Missouri.

Pfc Earl Watson Dungan, 38110039, Med Dept, United States Army. On 12 June 1944 Pfc Dungan and three other Medical Department soldiers were selected as litter bearers to bring in a wounded officer who was lying in a field about 400 yards away. They made their way along a ditch where the advance of Infantry units was held up by enemy fire and found it necessary to move over a cross road upon which enemy machine gun and mortar fire was being placed. After moving about 60 yards past the cross roads, a badly wounded soldier was found and evacuated. They then returned and evacuated the officer over the same route notwithstanding the enemy fire which was unceasing. Entered service from Colorado.

By command of Major General LANDRUM:

ROBERT L. BACON,  
Col, CSC,  
CoFS.

OFFICIAL:

*Ray C. Scott*  
RAY C. SCOTT,  
Lt Col, AGC,  
Adj Gen.

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