

R E S T R I C T E D

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 219)

17 December 1944

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I--Award, Posthumous, of Silver Star—Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-45 and Section I Circular 6, Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star is awarded posthumously to:

RAYMOND H. STRAND, 37172724, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 9 November 1944 in the vicinity of Petite Hettange, France. During a rapid advance, Company **, 359th Infantry, successfully by-passed an enemy machine gun position. Realizing that the enemy gun was a dangerous threat to the companies to follow, Staff Sergeant Strand, Squad Leader, secured the aid of three enlisted men and, at risk of his life, led the group into a position where accurate rifle fire could be directed on the enemy position. The small group successfully silenced the gun by killing one enemy and capturing six. Staff Sergeant Strand was killed in action two days later. His gallantry was in accordance with high military tradition. Entered Military Service from North Dakota.

II--Award of Silver Star—Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-45 and Section I Circular 6, Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to:

RAYMOND C. PERODEAU, 31025038, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 16 September 1944 in the vicinity of Malmaison, France. During an attack, all officers of Company **, 359th Infantry, became casualties. Staff Sergeant Perodeau, Communications Sergeant, assumed command and, at risk of his life, traversed areas subjected to heavy enemy fire, directed squad employment and support machine gun fire. By his own exemplary conduct, he encouraged individual aggressiveness. Staff Sergeant Perodeau's courage and leadership were an inspiration to all who witnessed them and materially aided the success of the company. His gallantry was in accordance with high military tradition. Entered Military Service from Massachusetts.

III--Award of Oak-Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star—Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-45 and Section I Circular 6, Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, in addition to the Bronze Star previously awarded, an Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to:

RAYMOND P. KERNS, 0435116, Captain (Chaplain), Corps of Chaplains, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in support of operations against

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the enemy in France. During the period 9 - 12 November 1944, Captain Kerns distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service. As Regimental Chaplain, he crossed the Moselle River in an assault boat with elements of the * * Battalion, 359th Infantry, and helped establish the Battalion Aid-Station. Despite intense enemy fire, he remained, voluntarily and without regard for his personal safety, and gave encouragement and spiritual comfort to the wounded, as well as inspiration to the medical personnel. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Pennsylvania.

CLIFFORD E. VINSON, 0427224, Captain, Medical Corps, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in operations on 12 November 1944 in the vicinity of Petite Hettange, France. When a fierce enemy counterattack threatened to overrun the Battalion Aid Station, Captain Vinson, Battalion Surgeon, calmly continued to administer medical treatment to the wounded and direct their evacuation. His cool courage in remaining at his post inspired the men under his command and reflects great credit upon himself and the Medical Corps. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Florida.

IV--Award of Bronze Star--Under the provisions of Army Regulation 600-45 and Section I Circular 6, Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, a Bronze Star is awarded to:

MURRAY FRANKLIN, 0442251, Major, Medical Corps, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in support of operations against the enemy in France. During the period 9 - 14 November 1944, Major Franklin distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service. During engagements by the 359th Infantry with the enemy, after crossing the swollen Moselle River, Major Franklin, Regimental Surgeon, supervised the evacuation of the wounded men and rendered medical aid involving long hours of work. It was through his untiring efforts that adequate medical supplies were continually sent to the fighting units. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from New York.

OSCAR H. HORN, 38094309, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in support of operations against the enemy in France. During the period 26 September to 10 October 1944, Staff Sergeant Horn distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service. As Squad Leader, he directed the firing of 1500 rounds of 81mm mortar fire upon the enemy, often under adverse conditions. The close mortar fire support which he effected, greatly facilitated the accomplishment of his company's missions. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Texas.

EBERHARD J. H. PROSKE, 38125026, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in support of operations against the enemy in France. During the period 26 September to 10 October 1944 Staff Sergeant Proske distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service. When the * * Battalion, 359th Infantry, holding an advantageous position in proximity to the enemy, was in need of close mortar support, Staff Sergeant Proske assumed the responsibility of gunner and provided the necessary support. By means of his skill and ingenuity, his squad delivered 1500 rounds of fire throughout this period. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Texas.

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GEORGE F. WATHEN, 13075317, Staff Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in operations on 12 November 1944 in the vicinity of Kerling, France. During an attack on the town, fifteen enemy advanced upon a mortar position. Staff Sergeant Wathen, Section Leader, cognizant that a fixed mortar was ineffectual at such a short range, released the bipod, placed the tube in his arms and, without regard for his personal safety, fired the mortar upon the assaulting enemy. As a result of his courageous action four of the enemy were wounded and the remainder surrendered. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from District of Columbia.

IRA O. KLIEWER, 17064727, Technician Third Grade, Medical Department, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic service in support of operations against the enemy in France. During the period 9 - 12 November 1944, Technician Third Grade Kliewer, Surgical Technician, distinguished himself by his tireless and expert care for the wounded and his courageous performance in the evacuation of casualties under enemy artillery fire. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Kansas.

HARRY J. VAN DE VEGTE, 37190242, Sergeant, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement during operations on 10 November 1944 in the vicinity of Malling, France. During an attack on the town by the * * Battalion, 359th Infantry, lack of ammunition became critical. Sergeant Van De Vegte, Squad Leader, without regard for his personal safety, led a squad hand carrying ammunition over the lengthened supply route and replenished the ammunition supply. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Iowa.

THOMAS W. IRWIN, 18086415, Corporal, Medical Department, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in operations on 13 November 1944 in the vicinity of Petite Hettange, France. During the attack, Corporal Irwin, Litter Squad Leader, traversed a heavily-mined area, carried three litter patients from the mine field and escorted two walking wounded to safety. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Oklahoma.

JOHN M. MYERS, 39152396, Corporal, Medical Department, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement on 11 November 1944 in the vicinity of Petite Hettange, France. While at the Command Post of a forward rifle company, two members of Corporal Myers' litter squad and two infantrymen were wounded by heavy enemy artillery fire. Without regard for his personal safety, Corporal Myers subjected himself to the continued enemy barrage and carried the four wounded men 150 yards to a position of safety. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from California.

CARL J. ARGEN, 32493341, Private, Infantry, 359th Infantry, United States Army. For heroic achievement in operations against the enemy on 11 November 1944 in the vicinity of Hunting, France. When the Battalion was urgently in need of ammunition and rations, Private Argen, Military Police, without regard for his personal safety, led a hand carrying ammunition and ration party to the Battalion. Then, learning that enemy troops had blocked their route back, Private Argen led his men in a

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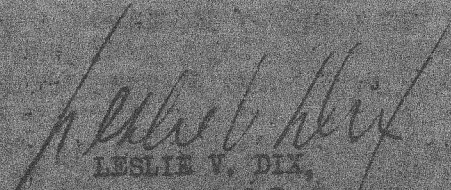
successful fire fight and repulsed the enemy. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from New York.

COURTNEY H. FREEMAN, 34499615, Private, Medical Department, United States Army. For heroic achievement in operations on 11 - 12 November 1944 in the vicinity of Petite Hettange, France. Private Freeman, Aid Man, was called upon to give first aid to three casualties lying in a mined area. He treated the wounded men, remained with them all night under heavy enemy artillery fire, and, at dawn, carried them 150 yards through the mined field to a place where litter bearers could evacuate them safely. His heroic achievement was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Tennessee.

By command of Major General VAN FLEET:

JOHN C. WHITCOMB,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


LESLIE V. DIX,
Major, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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