

Cards made

R E S T R I C T E D

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

10 September 1944

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 57

I. AWARD OF OAK-LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, and Circular 6, Third U. S. Army, cs, in addition to the Silver Star previously awarded, an Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded the following named officer for bravery in action in northern France:

LT COL GEORGE B. RANDOLPH, 0227591, Cavalry, United States Army. On 8 August 1944 between * * and * * France, Lt Col Randolph lead a special task force composed of reconnaissance troops and a company of light tanks as a spearhead followed by Infantry and medium tanks. Lt Col Randolph's personal courage under enemy fire and diligence in pushing the attack and disregard for personal danger was an inspiration to his men. At * * France, he personally organized and led an attack on an enemy position where one tank was knocked out. His aggressive leadership assisted in reducing eight other defended enemy positions. His gallant actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military spirit. Entered service from Alabama.

ii. AWARD OF SILVER STAR. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 6, Third U. S. Army, cs, the Silver Star is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men for gallantry in action in northern France:

COL ROBERT L. BACON, 08657, Infantry, United States Army. On 16 August 1944 while the Infantry of his Regiment was fighting in the town of * * the enemy delivered a strong double envelopment around the right flank using Infantry and tanks. Col Bacon, learning of the situation, went forward personally and seeing the envelopment would cut off his leading Battalion, having no formed troops ready to meet the envelopment and while the area was under heavy Artillery and small arms fire, he personally gathered together rear elements of this Battalion, Engineers, and a part of his Regimental CP, quickly organized them into a unit and personally led the attack of this provisional unit against the enemy envelopment, driving them back and securing the road leading into * * from the east. This prevented the cutting off of his leading Battalion which was then heavily engaged in the town. Col Bacon's disregard for his own personal safety and leadership of the improvised force against a serious enemy counterthrust effectively forestalled it. It set a fine example of leadership to the officers and men of his Regiment and is in keeping with the highest standards of the military spirit. Entered service from Texas.

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R E S T R I C T E D

(Sec II AWARD OF SILVER STAR GC 57 Hq 90th Inf Div 10 Sep 44 contd)

ok
C
1ST LT JOHN H. COCHRAN, 0133076, Infantry, United States Army. On 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, during an intense battle, Lt Cochran and another officer discovered an enemy tank column about to break through to the rear of their Battalion. They found an unmanned mortar, manned it themselves as there was little time because the enemy column was only 200 yards away. Despite heavy enemy fire, their action stopped the attacking column, knocked out an enemy tank, and stopped the threat to their Battalion. Lt Cochran's act was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Missouri.

ok
C
1ST LT ROY E. HAMES, 01298362, Infantry, United States Army. On 20 August 1944 during an intense battle, Lt Hames and another officer discovered an enemy tank column about to break through to the rear of their Battalion. They found an unmanned mortar, manned it themselves as there was little time because the enemy column was only 200 yards away. Despite heavy enemy fire their action stopped the attacking column, knocked out an enemy tank, and stopped the threat to their Battalion. Lt Hames's act was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Texas.

ok
C
S Sgt James A. G. Causey, 35508457, Infantry, United States Army. On 26 July 1944 in the vicinity of the * * River, Sgt Causey's company after very heavy fighting had reached its objective, sustaining heavy casualties. Intense fighting continued and Sgt Causey, while the area was under heavy enemy fire, moved from place to place encouraging his men and personally fired every type of weapon in the company. During one attack he worked along the hedgerows against a group of German Infantry attempting to infiltrate the flank of the company and stopped the attack. Again, when members of the bazooka team became casualties he took their weapon and fired upon an enemy tank, forcing it to withdraw. His actions were an inspiration to his comrades and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Kentucky.

ok
C
S Sgt Wallace A. Kurtze, 39710636, Infantry, United States Army. On 26 July 1944 in the vicinity of the * * River, Sgt Kurtze's company had succeeded in reaching its objective although it had sustained extremely heavy losses and had been pinned down due to heavy enemy fire and a tank attack. The fighting had caused the loss of much equipment and it was necessary to gather up some of the equipment of the wounded and lost materiel in order to maintain the position. Sgt Kurtze and one companion, without regard to their own personal safety and under continuous enemy fire worked from place to place giving aid to the wounded and gathering up much needed weapons and ammunition, including the company's radio, two light machine guns and a bazooka, thus enabling the company to hold its position. His gallant act was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from California.

ok
C
Tec 3 Joseph J. Selmer, 12051242, Infantry, United States Army. On 7 August 1944 at * * France, during an attack on the village, Tec 3 Selmer voluntarily drove his vehicle down a road under enemy fire and evacuated a badly wounded soldier. This gallant act on the part of Tec 3 Selmer was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from New Jersey.

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(Sec II AWARD OF SILVER STAR GO 57 Hq 90th Inf Div 10 Sep 44 contd)

VC
Sgt Charles R. Bethurst, 13479055, Infantry, United States Army. On 26 July 1944 in the vicinity of the * * River, north of * * France, when his company had succeeded in reaching its objective it had sustained extremely heavy losses and had been pinned down to its position due to heavy enemy fire and tank attack. The heavy fighting had caused the loss of much equipment and it was necessary to gather up some of the equipment of the wounded and lost material in order to maintain the position. Sgt Bethurst and one companion, without regard to their own personal safety and under continuous enemy fire worked from place to place giving aid to the wounded and gathering up much needed weapons and ammunition, including the company's radio, two light machine guns and a bazooka, thus enabling the company to hold its position. His gallant act was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Pennsylvania.

VC
Sgt Ross N. Boatright, 34625368, Infantry, United States Army. On 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, when commanding a machine gun section and firing on an enemy column Sgt Boatright was charged by an enemy tank. Seeing the threatened danger, he personally took the gun into a more favorable but exposed position, while still under enemy fire and where he was able to pick off enemy personnel riding on the tank causing the tank to withdraw. Sgt Boatright was wounded in this action. His gallantry in meeting the emergency was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Mississippi.

VC
Sgt Donald L. Clites, 37678769, Infantry, (then Pfc) United States Army. On 26 July 1944 in the vicinity of the * * River, when his company had succeeded in reaching its objective after very heavy fighting it sustained exceptionally heavy casualties. The position was under extremely heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire. During this action, Sgt Clites crossed an open field to reach wounded comrades whom he helped evacuate to the Battalion aid station. He then made two trips through a fire swept zone to replenish his unit with rocket ammunition, distributing the ammunition to teams along the line under heavy fire. Following this he took his place in the line and assisted in repelling the attack which had by then become intense. His gallant actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Iowa.

VC
Tec 4 Michael Chedrik, 33829857, Med Dept, (then Tec 5) United States Army. On 26 July 44 in the vicinity of the * * River, north of * * France, when his company had succeeded under very heavy fire in reaching its objective it sustained 50% casualties. Throughout the day, and under heavy enemy fire, Tec 4 Chedrik moved about the battlefield giving aid to the wounded and assisted in their evacuation. During the afternoon, casualties had become so great that Tec 4 Chedrik was the only medical soldier with two front line companies. Although greatly fatigued, he continued on his duties throughout that night. His devotion to duty and gallantry in action, was a comfort to the wounded soldiers, saving many lives and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Pennsylvania.

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(Sec II AWARD OF SILVER STAR GO 57 Hq 90th Inf Div 10 Sep 44 contd)

LW
C
Tec 4 Howard C. De Pierre, 37156076, Infantry, United States Army. On 8 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, while a member of a Task Force marching on * * France, Tec 4 De Pierre, seeing friendly tanks being held up by enemy high velocity gun fire attempted to locate the enemy weapons and in so doing he came under enemy fire and his weapon was blown from his hands by an exploding shell. Obtaining another weapon he continued on his mission and assisted materially in reducing enemy fire in order that our tanks could go forward. This gallant act on the part of Tec 4 De Pierre was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Wyoming.

J
Pfc William F. Thompson, 33766463, Infantry, United States Army. On 26 July 1944 in the vicinity of the * * River, north of * * France, when his company had succeeded in reaching its objective after very hard fighting it sustained exceptionally heavy casualties. The position was under extremely heavy enemy mortar and machine gun fire. During this action, Pfc Thompson crossed an open field under enemy fire to reach wounded comrades whom he helped evacuate to the Battalion aid station. He then made two trips through a fire swept zone to replenish his unit with rocket ammunition, distributing the ammunition to the teams along the line under heavy fire. He took his place in the line and assisted in repelling the attack which had by then become very intense. His gallant actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from Pennsylvania.

LW
C
Pvt Fred C. Meske, 37169733, CMP, United States Army. On 8 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, while a member of a Task Force marching on * * France, Pvt Meske, a motorcycle driver, seeing our leading tanks held up by enemy high velocity fire, on his own initiative reconnoitered forward of the enemy tanks and in so doing his motorcycle was shot out from under him and he continued his mission on foot. This gallant act on the part of Pvt Meske was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Entered service from North Dakota.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR. Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 6, Third U. S. Army, cs, the Bronze Star is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men for bravery in action in northern France:

ad
C
MAJ ROBERT B. SWATOSH, 0363057, Field Artillery, United States Army. During the period 8 June 1944 to 1 September 1944 Maj Swatosh as Artillery liaison officer worked long and arduous hours under exceptionally difficult circumstances and during great fatigue and often under enemy fire. He not only coordinated the fire of his forward observers but frequently has gone forward of OPs and directed fire personally in order to obtain the best support. Entered service from Iowa.

ad
C
1ST LT MEYER CARR, 01317488, Infantry, United States Army. During the period 18 July to 1 September 1944 Lt Carr served as liaison officer for his regiment. His duty involved long and fatiguing journeys during very dark nights in exceptionally bad weather over hazardous roads and under enemy fire. Notwithstanding these factors Lt Carr continued to function in a superior manner securing the information necessary for his units' operations. Entered service from New York.

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(Sec III Award of Bronze Star GO 57 Eq 90th Inf Div 10 Sep 44 contd)

1ST LT ROBERT W. CASEY, 01318412, Infantry, United States Army. During the period 6 June to 1 September 1944, as a liaison officer for his Regiment, Lt Casey made very long and fatiguing journeys on very dark nights and in exceptionally bad weather over hazardous roads and frequently under enemy fire in order to deliver information and instructions necessary to the action of his unit. Entered service from California.

1ST LT RICHARD L. PADDOCK, 01319857, Infantry, United States Army. From 6 June to 1 September 1944, as a liaison officer for his Regiment, Lt Paddock made very long and fatiguing journeys on very dark nights and in exceptionally bad weather over hazardous roads and frequently under enemy fire in order to deliver information and instructions necessary to the action of his unit. Entered service from Wisconsin.

1ST LT ALAN P. SULLIVAN, JR, 0413416, Infantry, United States Army. On 19 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, a German attack, supported by a tank, was made against his position. The bazooka team in his vicinity was unable to hit the tank. Lt Sullivan manned the bazooka himself and although unable to destroy the tank forced it to turn back, thereby preventing many casualties in his platoon. Entered service from New Jersey.

S Sgt William M. Lewis, 20811410, Infantry, United States Army. On 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, Sgt Lewis fired an Anti-Tank grenade at an enemy half-track which was attempting to break through his position, disabling the half-track and taking the four occupants prisoner. Entered service from Texas.

Tec 4 Marion H. Carson, 39173559, Infantry, United States Army. On 4 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, while Tec 4 Carson was a passenger in a convoy which came under enemy bombardment and strafing, the driver of his truck was seriously wounded. Despite the fact that the road was brightly lit by enemy flares, Tec 4 Carson stayed with the wounded man, rendering all first aid possible until he was evacuated. Entered service from Washington.

Tec 5 Julius Bruner, 32697503, Infantry, United States Army. On 17 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, as a radio operator Tec 5 Bruner maintained radio communications although he was frequently under fire from enemy tanks and Artillery. Enemy fire completely severed all other means of communications over a long period of time. Tec 5 Bruner's devotion to duty and the courage he displayed was instrumental in our troops maintaining their position and beating off the counterattack. Entered service from New York.

Pfc Carmen Ambrose, 33484144, Infantry, United States Army. On 19 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, with the aid of one companion, Pfc Ambrose "mopped up" the village of * * after our Artillery had delivered a heavy shelling, taking 150 armed enemy as prisoners including several officers. Entered service from Pennsylvania.

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(Sec III Award of Bronze Star GO 57 Hq 90th Inf Div 10 Sep 44 contd)

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Pfc Sample S. Anderson, 34434971, Infantry, United States Army. On 19 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, with the aid of one companion, Pfc Anderson "mopped up" the village of * * France after our Artillery had delivered a heavy shelling, taking 150 armed enemy as prisoners including several officers. Entered service from North Carolina.

ok
Pfc Homer H. Kirkwood, 39338427, Infantry, United States Army. On 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of * * France, as a member of a bazooka team Pfc Kirkwood assisted in destroying a 100 mm self-propelled enemy gun, wounding part of the crew and permitting the capture of the remainder. Entered service from Oregon.

IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR.

hw
Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 6, Third United States Army, cs, the Bronze Star is awarded MAJ FRANCIS S. KELLY, 0361969, Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious service on 12 August 1944 in action against an enemy of the United States in France. Entered service from South Dakota.

hw
Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 6, Third United States Army, cs, the Bronze Star is awarded CAPT RICHARD J. KUNKEL, 01165027, Field Artillery, United States Army. For meritorious service during the period 1 June to 1 August 1944 in action against an enemy of the United States in France. Entered service from Maryland.

By command of Brigadier General McLAIN:

JOHN C. WHITCOMB,
Col, GSC,
CofS.

OFFICIAL:

F. W. Jones, Jr.
F. W. JONES, JR.,
Maj, AGD,
Asst Adj Gen.

- Distribution: "A" & "B"
- TAG, Attn: Dec & Awards Br
Munitions Bldg, Wash D. C. - - - - - 3
 - CG, ETOUSA - - - - - 2
 - CG, Twelfth Army Group, Attn: G-1 - - 1
 - CG, Third US Army, Attn: G-1 Misc Sec - 1
 - Ea Orgn concerned - - - - - 2
 - Ea O & EM " - - - - - 2
 - Div PRO - - - - - 2
 - G-1 & S&T Manchester - - - - - 1 ea
 - All AG Sections - - - - - 1 ea