HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General

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GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER - 73

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I -- AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-49, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded following named individuals:

Staff Sergeant Elmer Balko, 36548765, Infantry, Company "M", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 23 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Sergeant Balko, with a ration carrying party, was subjected to an intense enemy artillery barrage. In the devastating concentration, four members of the party were severely wounded. Sergeant Balko, keenly observing the necessity of administering first aid immediately, dashed fearlessly to the side of the men. With utter disregard for his life he efficiently and calmly attended each man despite the withering fire that blasted the area. He personally evacuated each of the men to safety after all possible aid had been given. Assured that these men were safe he reorganized the party, picked up the vitally needed rations, and led the detail to protection. As a result of Sergeant Balko's display of outstanding courage, personal medical attention was administered promptly to the injured men, and rations for the attacking troops were saved. Residence: Northville, Michigan.

Private First Class John A. Corey, 36827400, Infantry, Company "K", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 28 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Private Corey, on his own initiative skillfully crawled to an observation point in direct view of the enemy in order to ascertain their impending movements. While maneuvering into position he was subjected to enemy artillery and sniper fire, but continued on his mission with undaunted courage and utter disregard for his life. He reached his vantage point successfully and was able to relay vital information back to his company commander which enabled our troops to place accurate fire into enemy positions, completely disrupting their proposed plans. As a result of Private Corey's outstanding valor under these harrowing conditions the company was able to reach their objective expeditiously. Residence: Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.
Sergeant William T. McGregor, 18073379, (then Private First Class), Infantry, Company "11", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 12 November 1944, in the vicinity of * * *, France, Sergeant McGregor advancing with his squad was subjected to intense and accurate enemy machine gun fire. Observing his squad leader hit by enemy bullets, he quickly took command of the squad and maneuvered them out of enemy range. Reaching a protected area he immediately reorganized the squad and led them skillfully forward to an advantageous position of observation. When he was assured all guns were in their proper places he gave the order to open fire, resulting in the complete destruction of the hostile machine gun nest. As a result of Sergeant McGregor's rapidity of judgment and brilliant operative ability under fire the company was able to push forward, reaching its objective successfully. Residence: Abilene, Texas.

Private First Class Robert A. Anderson, 16106087, Infantry, Company "L", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 28 November 1944, in the vicinity of * * *, France, Private Anderson, on his own initiative crawled forward, with utter disregard for his life, to contact the enemy and ascertain their strength. He encountered the enemy on his advance forward killing one and wounding one other. Not certain he had reached the center of their defenses he pushed farther on oblivious of harassing sniper fire. In a subsequent activity he again met hostile forces capturing two of them. His mission accomplished he skillfully withdrew to his own lines with vital and valuable information as to the location of enemy strongpoints. As a result of Private Anderson's outstanding valor and brilliant maneuverability in hostile territory the company was able to advance toward its objective successfully. Residence: Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Private First Class Conrad A. Hermann, 32963711, Infantry, Company "M", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 24 November 1944, in the vicinity of * * *, France, Private Hermann was advancing toward enemy lines as a patrol member when subjected to intense enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Observing a wounded comrade abandoning a vehicle, he courageously dashed forward amid a hail of devastating enemy fire to assist the wounded man. With utter disregard for his life he quickly rendered aid while bullets raked the entire area where he stood. Having given all possible attention to his comrade, he placed him carefully in the vehicle, turned it around in the face of the enemy and rushed the wounded man to the battalion aid station. As a result of Private Hermann's display of outstanding valor the life of one man was saved and a vehicle was retrieved from the enemy grasp of the approaching enemy forces. Residence: Glendale, New York.

Corporal John W. Lots, 37440510, Field Artillery, Battery "B", 381st Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 13 December 1944, in the vicinity of * * *, France, intense mortar fire began falling in an area near Corporal Lots. Seeing a mortar shell explode...
near a fellow soldier on the adjoining road, Corporal Lotz with utter disregard for his life, dashed over the enemy observed terrain to the wounded man. Unable to give adequate aid, he courageously carried the wounded man over a hundred yards of dangerous terrain to a safer position. Then, with unswerving determination he again ran through hostile fire to secure medical aid. As a result of his magnificent valor, the life of a wounded comrade was saved. Residence: Saint Louis, Missouri.

Technical Sergeant Douglas A. Driver, 34575160, Infantry, Company "K", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 28 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Sergeant Driver, with his platoon, occupied the village of ** to protect the right flank of his company. He, with five men, remained behind while the balance of the platoon advanced to protect the flank. He received word that the enemy was occupying a house strategically located in town and definitely threatening their position. Sergeant Driver skillfully deployed his men as a covering force while he crawled to the house to ascertain whether or not the enemy lurked inside. With utter disregard for his life he openly exposed himself to their observation calling for them to surrender. Not heeding his shouts, he crawled to within 30 feet of the house and fired an anti-tank grenade directly through the door. As a result of Sergeant Driver's magnificent valor one of the enemy was killed, 10 were captured and the impending danger to his platoon was removed. Residence: Thomson, Georgia.

Technician Fifth Grade Raymond P. Nyffeler, 37476435, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Technician Nyffeler, medical aid man attached to Company "K", was subjected to an intense enemy mortar and artillery barrage. Observing two seriously wounded men in the immediate area, he fearlessly dashed from his exposed position to administer aid. In the process of attending the men, he was the victim of shrapnel, suffering painful wounds. Despite these wounds, he continued on magnificently with utter disregard for his life. He evacuated both men after all possible aid had been administered and then courageously kept up with his company all day in order to give medical assistance wherever necessary. Residence: Columbus, Nebraska.

Private First Class Hed O. Vloedonte, 36463070, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 30 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Private Vloedonte, medical aid man attached to Company "K", observed his company pinned down by intense small arms and mortar fire. Hearing the cries of the wounded he fearlessly dashed from cover to give all aid possible. Cognizant of the fact that the other company aid men had been wounded he redoubled his efforts to give prompt attention to all within his control. Working under constant sniper fire he continued his work courageously, completely oblivious of the withering fire taking his position. As a result of his outstanding valor and coolness under fire at least twelve wounded men were given efficient treatment. After all possible aid had been rendered he supervised the evacuation of all the wounded men and not until he was assured that professional attention had been rendered did he return to his post. Residence: Carman, Michigan.
Staff Sergeant Louis R. Murphy, 36547522, Field Artillery, Battery "C", 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Sergeant Murphy, while in the forward observation post was informed that the wire communications to the infantry were out and radio contact could not be maintained. By placing the interference to be attributed to the low trees, he carried the radio to open terrain while under intense enemy mortar and machine gun fire. Headless of the devastating fire that raked his position he coolly remained at his post with utter disregard for his life, with contact established, he relayed vital information back to his fire direction center enabling them to concentrate accurate fire on enemy strongpoints. As a result of Sergeant Murphy's outstanding valor vital information was relayed and the infantry was materially assisted in the successful advance to their objective. Residence: Detroit, Michigan.

Private First Class Robert C. Colby, 35557965, Infantry, Company "C", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 1 December 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, with his platoon precariously cut off from the rest of the company, Private Colby, with utter disregard for his life, courageously slipped through the heavily occupied enemy lines to find the company. Running and crawling over the dense brush, he successfully infiltrated through the heavily enemy-infested woods. Finding his company, Private Colby, unhesitatingly led them through the fire-swept woods to his platoon. As a result of his intrepidity, his company gained its objective with outstanding success. Residence: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Private First Class Levi C. Williams, 37568602, Infantry, Company "K", 410th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 29 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Private Williams occupied a position outside a school building, formerly an enemy observation post, as enemy artillery blasted the area in his immediate vicinity. Oblivious of the devastating fire he coolly remained at his post, with utter disregard for his life, while others were ordered to places of safety. Armed only with an automatic weapon he observed a hostile group preparing to storm the building. Private Williams opened fire directly into the oncoming group scattering them in all directions and forcing a temporary withdrawal. He continued firing until relief arrived, assisting materially in holding off the enemy counter-attack. As a result of Private Williams' outstanding valor the building was held and an enemy counter-attack repulsed. Residence: Sisseton, North Dakota.

Private First Class Robert A. Bowen, 35058801, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the night of 13 December 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Private Bowen, with his battalion commander advanced into a town to ascertain if another battalion had accomplished their mission of occupying the area. Arriving at the outskirts of the town he learned that it was occupied by the enemy.
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WARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont’d)

On his own initiative, Private Bowen skillfully maneuvered his way through the enemy lines to contact his battalion and guide them to their objective. On his return trip he captured one prisoner and returned him to our lines. He successfully reached the battalion, and brilliantly guided them back to the town, resulting in the capture of over 100 prisoners. As a result of Private Bowen’s superb operative ability and remarkable coolness under trying conditions, many prisoners were taken who would have otherwise presented a definite threat to our advancing forces. Residence: Cleveland, Ohio.

Sergeant Robert D. Reeves, 36074870, Field Artillery, Battery “C”, 382d Field Artillery Battalion. For heroism in action. During the daylight hours of 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, the wire to the artillery observation post was blown out by mortar fire. Sergeant Reeves, with utter disregard for his life, followed the line to an open field, devoid of cover and repaired the break while under hostile machine gun, mortar, and light artillery fire. Unswervingly, he followed the line to find that it was torn to pieces. Skillfully choosing a more defiladed route, he replaced the wire to his observation post. As a result of his magnificent valor, the artillery was able to fire on hostile artillery positions, and the infantry was able to advance successfully to its objective. Residence: Madison, Illinois.

Sergeant Wilfred J. Dunn, 36563045, Infantry, Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. On 16 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, it was imperative that a communication line be laid from the battalion command post to a forward company. Sergeant Dunn, with utter disregard for his life, carrying all the signal equipment, laid wire over the snow covered terrain exposed to enemy-held positions. Unswervingly by an artillery and mortar barrage, he courageously continued on to establish communication with the forward company. As a result of his magnificent valor, the battalion was able to establish contact at a crucial time during a coordinated attack. Residence: Saginaw, Michigan.

II -- AWARD, POSTMORTEM, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-35, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to following named individuals:

Staff Sergeant Raymond F. Wick, 36714276, Infantry, Company "K", 411th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Sergeant Wick with his mortar squad was pinned down by intense enemy artillery and mortar fire. On his own initiative he skillfully maneuvered his squad forward in order to procure an advantageous position for firing into enemy positions. In the advance he deployed his squad strategically, and personally reconnoitered the area for a suitable route of approach, while enemy snipers raked the area. With utter disregard for his life, he pushed forward 900 yards under the most hazardous conditions, ultimately locating a strategic and well protected

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AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL (Cont'd)

In a subsequent action Sergeant Wick was reported killed. Throughout all these activities Sergeant Wick's magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Chicago, Illinois. Next of kin: Mrs. Olga V. Underwood, (Mother), 8337 Oglesby Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Sergeant Robert W. Updyke, 16176389, Infantry, Company "I", 419th Infantry Regiment. For heroism in action. During the twilight hours of 22 November 1944, in the vicinity of ***, France, Sergeant Updyke, with his mortar squad was pinned down by intense enemy artillery and mortar fire. On his own initiative he skillfully maneuvered his squad forward in order to procure an advantageous position for firing into enemy positions. In the advance he deployed his squad strategically and personally reconnoitered the area for a suitable route of approach, while enemy snipers raked the area. With utter disregard for his life, he pushed forward 900 yards under the most hazardous conditions, ultimately locating a strategic and well protected position. In a subsequent action Sergeant Updyke was reported killed. Throughout all these activities Sergeant Updyke's magnificent valor was in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Saffsburg, Michigan. Next of kin: Mrs. Leah G. Updyke, (wife), Box 296, Saffsburg, Michigan.

III - AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Amendment. So much of General Orders Number 42, Headquarters 103d Infantry Division, dated 7 December 1944, awarding the Bronze Star Medal to Private First Class Lloyd G. Miller, 3166493, Headquarters Battery, 928th Field Artillery Battalion, as reads, "Private First Class", is amended to read, "Private".

By command of Major General HAFFNER:

G. S. MELOY, JR.,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

A. W. CROLL,
Ob. Col., A.G.B.,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

TAG, ATTN, DECORATIONS & AWARDS
BR, WASH, DC -------------- 3
CD, CENTRAL ARMY, APO 897 ------------ 1
CG, ETOUSA -------------- 5
CI, SEVENTH ARMY -------------- 1
FA INDIVIDUAL NAME -------------- 1
FA EN S/R -------------- 1
AG FILES -------------- 1

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GENERAL ORDERS

AWARD OF PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individuals for wounds received in action against the enemy:


Private First Class Norman Slobow, 12202289, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 382d Field Artillery Battalion, France, 15 December 1944. Residence: Elizabeth, New Jersey.


Staff Sergeant Harley S. Wedgfield, 37251369, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 15 December 1944. Residence: Lyons, Iowa.


Private Leo V. Knighton, 3552254, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 15 December 1944. Residence: Holland, Ohio.


Technician Third Grade Edward W. Copeland, 364414697, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 411th Infantry Regiment, France, 12 December 1944. Residence: Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (Cont'd)

By command of Major General Haffner:

G. S. Meloy, Jr.,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

[Signature]

A. W. Croll,
Lt. Col., A.G.O.,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ & WD
TAG, ATTN, DECORATIONS & AWARDS
BR, WASH, DC -------------- 3
CO, CENTRAL MHU, APO 887 -------- 1
CG, EXOUSIA ------------------ 5
CG, SEVENTH ARMY ----------- 1
En INDIVIDUAL NAME ------------ 1
En EM S/R ------------------ 2
AG FILES ------------------ 2
HEADQUARTERS 103d INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General

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NUMBER 75

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star is awarded, posthumously, to the following named individual:

Private First Class George E. Rosing, 35801894, Infantry, Company "C", 409th Infantry Regiment. For gallantry in action. During the night of 24 November 1944, in the vicinity of *** *, France, Private Rosing was with the battalion point, acting as interpreter, when an enemy road block was encountered. The point was cutting the surrounding barb wire entanglement around the road block when suddenly challenged, Private Rosing, a brilliant conversationalist in the enemy's language, immediately stepped forward, with utter disregard for his life, to engage the sentry in conversation. He was ordered to drop his arms and advance to within 15 feet of the sentry, which he did. This gallant move gave the point an opportunity to seek cover in the immediate area. The guard stupified by Private Rosing's boldness was unaware of the situation confronting him. Before the guard could regain his composure, Private Rosing, assured that his group had reached safety, dived for the bushes as the sentry opened fire, and returned to his comrades unscathed. As a result of his quick thinking and calmness during a tense situation the battalion was able to pass through the enemy road block successfully in the push towards its objective. Private Rosing has subsequently been reported as killed in action. Throughout this entire activity his display of magnificent courage reflects the highest traditions of the military service. Residence: Cincinnati, Ohio. Next of kin: Eugene Rosenzwaig, (Father), 564 Glenwood Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

By command of Major General HAPFNER:

G. S. MELLOY, JR.,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

A. W. CROLL,
Lt. Col., A.G.O.,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "B" & "H"
TAG, ATTN, DECORATIONS & AWARDS
FR, WASH, DC -----------------3
CO, CENTRAL MRI, APO 687 -------1
CG, ETOUSA -------------------5
CG, SEVENTH ARMY ----------------1
EM S/E ------------------------1
AG FILES -----------------------1

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