

*file*

HEADQUARTERS 70TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO 461, U S Army

GENERAL ORDERS )  
NUMBER.....17 )

14 March 1945

- Award, Posthumous, of the Silver Star..... I
- Award, Posthumous, of the Bronze Star medal..... II
- Award of the Silver Star..... III
- Award of the Bronze Star Medal..... IV

I -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, 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, posthumously, to the following individual:

ROBERT H WARDELL, O 551 903, 2d Lieutenant, Infantry, Company C, 276th Infantry, for gallantry in action on 5 January 1945, near Wingen, France. Assigned the dangerous mission of taking a fortified enemy machine gun position, Lieutenant Wardell maneuvered his platoon into attack, only to be thrown back by heavy machine gun fire. Utterly disregarding his own safety, Lieutenant Wardell bravely moved alone to within ten feet of the enemy emplacement and while attempting to knock out the position with hand grenades, was mortally wounded by machine gun fire. His gallant action, by diverting the enemy fire, permitted the platoon to advance and take the enemy position. His sacrifice reflects the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of Kin: Claude R Wardell (father), 500 West Walnut, Arcadia, California.

II -- AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, 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, posthumously, to the following individuals:

PHILIP F KEEFE, O 310 118, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 4 January 1945, at Philippsbourg, France. When the advance of two attacking squads was held up by enemy machine gun and small arms fire, Private First Class Keefe, exposing himself to the hostile fire, moved to a position from which he was able to deliver rifle fire upon the enemy. His fire killed one enemy gunner and forced the remainder to withdraw. His action relieved the pressure on the two squads and permitted the attack to resume. Next of Kin: Mrs. Helen Keefe, (mother), 195 1/2 Newton Street, Waltham, Massachusetts.

JACK B WALLACE, O 312 763, Captain, Infantry, Company C, 274th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 3 January 1945. Having the mission of attacking enemy held positions located on the high ground north of Philippsbourg, France, Captain Wallace displayed outstanding courage in leading his company through heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire to take the objective. Captain Wallace's coolness, determination, and excellent leadership made it possible for the company to accomplish its mission. Next of Kin: Mary J. Wallace, (wife), 427 Jackson Street, Sandusky, Ohio.

~~RESTRICTED~~

III -- 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 to the following individual:

COLLIN W COX, 34 664 022, Technician Fifth Grade, Infantry, Company L, 276th Infantry, for gallantry in action on 8 January 1945, at Wingen, France. When his platoon and supporting tanks were stopped by sniper and bazooka fire in the attack on Wingen, Technician Cox, in his first combat experience, courageously rushed into the enemy fire and with two bazooka shells knocked out a nearby sniper and a hostile bazooka man. Although wounded in the action, he crawled back to his unit carrying his weapons with him. His gallantry and prompt action under fire saved his platoon and the tanks from ravaging enemy fire. Entered military service from Edenton, North Carolina.

IV -- 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 to the following individuals:

ROGER L CONARTY, 026 067, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Company L, 276th Infantry, for meritorious achievement in action from 17 to 23 February 1945, in the vicinity of Oeting and Forbach, France. Entered United States Military Academy from Carlsbad, New Mexico.

EDWIN G EVANS, 36 683 183, Sergeant, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 270th Engineer (c) Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 17 February 1945, near Kerbach, France. When friendly tanks and supporting infantry were held up by an enemy mine field, Sergeant Evans, despite a heavy fog, courageously crawled under intense enemy small arms and mortar fire to remove sufficient mines to permit the tanks and infantry to advance and assault the village. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

DENO A GAFFI, 39 337 447, Private First Class, Corps of Engineers, Company A, 270th Engineer (c) Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 18 February 1945 at Etzling, France. In order that friendly tanks might move up to support pinned down Infantry, Private First Class Gaffi courageously disregarded the heavy hostile fire which was directed at him to successfully clear the enemy mines from the path of the advancing armor. His brave action permitted the tanks to move into attack, and the Infantry to advance to its objective. Entered military service from Kelsey, Washington.

RALPH N. MacNAUGHTON, 33 917 548, Private First Class, Infantry, Company B, 276th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 17 February 1945, at Oeting, France. When his platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy machine gun and 88mm fire, Private First Class MacNaughton noticed a comrade nearby who had been severely wounded. Leaving his covered position, he bravely disregarded the dangerous enemy fire to move to the wounded man and drag him to cover, where he administered first aid. His prompt action in all probability saved his wounded comrades life and was an inspiration to the rest of the men. Entered military service from Dover, New Jersey.

~~RESTRICTED~~

GO #17 HQ 70th Inf Div  
14 March 1945, cont'd

R E S T R I C T E D

IRVING SCHULTZ, 32 214 344, Technician Fifth Grade, Medical Department, Medical Detachment, 275th Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 3 January 1945 and 22 February 1945, at Philippbourg and Spicheren, France. During an enemy attack, Technician Schultz, without regard for his personal safety, braved heavy enemy shell fire to treat wounded men. On 22 February 1945, at Spicheren, he repeatedly crawled under spraying machine gun fire to give aid to wounded comrades until wounded by the enemy fire. Entered military service from Queens, New York.

So much of Paragraph III, General Orders Number 16, this Headquarters, dated 11 March 1945, as pertains to Technical Sergeant Elmo L Chappell, 34 824 497, Company B, 274th Infantry, which reads "the Silver Star", is amended to read "the First Oak-Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star".

By command of Major General BARNETT:

LEO A BESSETTE  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*B. V. Merrick*  
B V MERRICK  
Lt Col, AGD  
Adj General

- 3 -  
R E S T R I C T E D