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HEADQUARTERS 70TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 461 U S ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 80)

31 July 1945

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I ---- 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 individual:

HAROLD L WARD, 39 113 811, Private First Class, Company H, 274 Infantry, for heroic achievement in action on 26 February 1945 near the Fagenwald Forest, France. When 10 enemy soldiers advanced within a few yards of his heavy machine gun position, Private First Class Ward joined in killing them with grenades and small arms fire. Aware that additional hostile troops were in the area, he and his comrades strafed the woods with heavy machine gun fire, killing at least 40 and halting the enemy advance. During the action Private First Class Ward was fatally wounded. His heroic sacrifice exemplifies the finest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States. Next of Kin: Minnie Ward (Mother) 621 Fifth Street, Vallejo California.

II --- 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, for gallantry in action:

JAMES R! THOMAS, 01 167 252, Captain, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 261st FA Battalion, in Germany. On 10 April 1945 when his party of two vehicles ran into a fortified road-block, Captain Thomas at close range and while constantly exposed to enemy fire, successfully directed the battalion artillery and lead the clean-up attack on the road block. On 13 April 1945 as a member of a reconnaissance party being ambushed he exposed himself, drawing enemy fire and firing a machine-gun, and covered his party's withdrawal. By his daring leadership, complete fearlessness and intrepidity in repeatedly risking his life Captain Thomas has been an inspiration to his men and has demonstrated on every occasion his devotion to duty, reflecting great credit on the military service of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

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III -- AWARD OF THE FIRST OAK-LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR

MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, the First Oak-Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following individuals; of the 274th Infantry.

LEON E BARTRAM, 37 537 892, Staff Sergeant, Company C, for heroic achievement in action on 15 March 1945. On 15 March, Company C attacked high ground south of Saarbrücken, Germany, receiving heavy fire from concrete gun emplacements when friendly artillery laid a concentration on the fortifications, Staff Sergeant Bartram observed enemy soldiers moving out of trenches into the pillboxes, and immediately ordered his mortar section to place fire on the trenches. He then moved three hundred yards beyond his own lines to an exposed position from which he so effectively directed the fire of his section that a large number of the enemy were destroyed. His courageous action was an important factor in the accomplishment of his company's mission. Entered military service from Mattland, Missouri.

FRED J CASSIDY, O 553 863, Captain, Infantry, Company G, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. Spearheading the 2d Battalions attack on Styring Wendel, France, Captain Cassidy led his company against enemy forces firmly entrenched in fortified pillboxes and concealed positions. Remaining exposed to heavy artillery, mortar, machine gun and small arms fire, he skillfully directed his men forward toward their objective. Inspired by his courageous actions, the men swept forward into the town, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy and capturing a large number of prisoners. His gallant leadership was largely responsible for his company's success in accomplishing its mission. Entered military service from Lancaster, Nebraska.

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 of the 274th Infantry.

WILLIAM E BELDEN, 36 822 271, Private First Class, Company H, Entered military Service from Racine, Wisconsin.

RICHARD W HIRD, 31 467 238, Private First Class, Company H. Entered military service from Morrisville, Vermont.

HAROLD W KLINE, 37 517 031, Staff Sergeant, Company H. Entered military service from Kanopolis, Kansas.

GEORGE G LUTTRELL, 35 782 836, Private First Class Company H. Entered military service from Fireco, West Virginia.

FRED O MORGAN JR, 36 680 352, Sergeant, Company H. Entered military service from Plainville, Illinois.

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HYMAN.SCHORR, 32 641 993, Private First Class, Company H.
Entered military service from Bronx, New York.

HERMAN L TRIER, 33 745 764, Sergeant, Company H. Entered
military service from Washington, D. C.,

ALEXANDER VARGO, 36 878 574, Private First Class, Company H.
Entered military service from River Rouge, Michigan.

For heroic achievement in action on 26 February 1945, near
Fagenwald Forest, France. When 10 of the enemy forces attacking
under concealment of the woods, had advanced within a few yards of
the friendly machine gun position, these men destroyed them with
grenades and small arms fire. Aware that additional hostile troops
were in the area, they strafed the woods with heavy machine gun
fire, killing at least 40 enemy. Their heroic action halted the
enemy advance.

ROCCO DE GIORGIO, 32 901 290, Private First Class, Company
L. Entered military service from Bronx, New York.

ROBERT A HESSELL, 36 913 028, Private First Class, Company
L. Entered military service from Centerline, Washington.

HOMER C HYSSELL, 36 980 862, Sergeant, Company L. Entered
military service from Muskegon, Michigan.

URBAN A KAUFMAN 35 849 504, Private First Class, Company L.
Entered Military service from Ottawa, Ohio.

KENNETH M KIRBY, 18 069 827, Private First Class, Company
B. Entered military service from Alamosa, Colorado.

W. D. LAWRENCE, 38 656 084, Private First Class, Company L.
Entered military Service from Alexandria, Louisiana.

JUAN F TORRES, 38 102 928, Private First Class, Company L.
Entered military service from Tucson, Arizona.

For heroic achievement in action on 6 March 1945, near
Styring Wendel France. During an attack of their company, these
soldiers, realizing that the intense enemy artillery and small
arms fire was preventing the evacuation of many wounded men, vol-
unteered as a squad to advance under extremely hazardous conditions
and by using all their fire power, so distracted the enemy that
their comrades were able to safely evacuate the casualties. Their
brave action at great personal risk was a contribution to the sav-
ing of many lives.

GERALD BERKOWITZ, 42 135 331, Private First Class, Company E
for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945, near Styring Wen-
del, France. Advancing with his platoon through dense woods under
heavy artillery, mortar, machine gun and rifle fire, Private First
Class Berkowitz upon contact with the enemy, called to them in Ger-
man to surrender to a superior force. Threatened with death should

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they not surrender, approximately 12 of the enemy gave themselves up. At this point Private First Class Berkowitz was wounded and was evacuated from the battlefield. His quick thinking and courageous action, deceiving the enemy as to the actual strength of the attacking force, weakened the resistance and enabled his platoon to accomplish its mission. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York

JOSEPH L BOWMAN, 38 539 929, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, for heroic achievement in action from 3 to 5 March 1945. Under heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire for three days during the attack on Styring Wendel, France, Private First Class Bowman laid wire and traced for wire breaks over hilly and open terrain. On 5 March, under a cover of darkness, while laying wire to his battalion command post he was seriously wounded by a mine and was evacuated. His courageous attention to duty in maintaining vital communications greatly contributed to his battalion's successful operations. Entered military service from Houston, Texas.

HERBERT G BURK, 38 694 323, Private First Class, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, for heroic achievement in action from 16 February to 20 March 1945, in France and Germany. Over an extended period of time Private First Class Burk materially assisted in the efficient operation of his battalion's intelligence section. On 1 March while manning the battalion observation post, he cooperated in destroying a hostile regimental command post by accurately directing artillery fire. On 6 March, he was instrumental in breaking up a counterattack of enemy tanks, again with skillfully adjusted fire. While under a heavy concentration of fire it became necessary for him to change his position, to properly observe a particular section. In so doing, Private First Class Burk was wounded. His courageous action and devotion to duty greatly contributed to the success of his battalion's attack. Entered military service from Vernon, Texas.

SAMUEL T CLARK, 33 244 287, Private First Class, Company C, for heroic achievement in action on 12 January 1945, near Philippsbourg, France. Scouting for a forward patrol that was having difficulty in moving out of enemy territory during a heavy snow storm, Private First Class Clark and a comrade encountered a two man enemy outpost. They courageously rushed the position and captured both men and considerable ammunition and equipment before a shot could be fired. By his aggressive action, Private First Class Clark saved the patrol from ambush and enabled it to complete its important mission successfully. Entered military service from Hershey, Pennsylvania.

ALVA G COMER, 38 469 191, Private First Class, Company K, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. Private First Class Comer, already exhausted from recent action against hostile troops on the outskirts of Styring Wendel, France, volunteered to clear four enemy occupied houses situated between two friendly companies. Disregarding sniper fire, he attacked with grenades and rifle fire and as a result of his aggressive assault, the houses were cleared, 7 enemy soldiers captured and 21 civilians believed to be Nazi sympathizers taken prisoner. His intrepid action and exemplary devotion to duty are commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Harmon, Oklahoma.

WILLIAM R. GORDON, 17 176 845, Private First Class, Company K, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. Private First Class Gordon, exhausted from recent action against hostile troops on the outskirts of Styring Wendel, France, volunteered to clear four enemy occupied houses situated between two friendly companies. Disregarding sniper fire, Private First Class Gordon attacked with grenades and rifle fire and as a result of his aggressive assault the houses were cleared, 7 enemy soldiers captured and 21 civilians believed to be Nazi sympathizers taken prisoner. His intrepid action and exemplary devotion to duty are commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Wichita, Kansas.

ROCCO D. FESCINA, JR, 33 463 941, Staff Sergeant (then Private First Class), Company K, for heroic achievement in action from 19 February 1945 to 4 March 1945. On 19 February, when his squad leader was wounded in the attack on Behren, France, Staff Sergeant Fescina assumed command of his 60mm Mortar squad and effectively supported the infantry inflicting many casualties on the enemy. On 3 March, he took charge of the entire platoon, after the platoon leader and Sergeant had become casualties in the attack on Styring Wendel, France. His courageous leadership thereafter, in reorganizing the remnant of his platoon, under heavy artillery and mortar fire, enabled his unit to continue on its mission. Entered military service from Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

ROBERT T. FISK, 17 161 089, Sergeant, Company H, During the battle for the commanding ground overlooking Etzlingen, France, the enemy was temporarily driven back. Sergeant Fisk, realizing the importance of immediate exploitation of this success and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, plunged forward with a volunteer patrol of four men into the heart of the enemy position. Advancing through a volume of small arms fire, this patrol was able to establish a strong point considerable forward of the leading rifle troops, and courageously held on to this strong point until the remaining members of their squad could bring a heavy machine gun forward and put it into action. The gallant action of Sergeant Fisk resulted in the gaining of a tactically important position and the prevention of an immediate enemy counter-attack. Entered military service from Overland, Missouri.

MARTIN L. FRISCHMANN, 36 979 419, Private First Class, Company K, for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. When it became necessary to use messenger service because of poor radio reception, Private First Class Frischmann carried out his duties of platoon messenger between the front lines and the company command post. Heavy enemy fire and two large mine fields created a most hazardous route. During one trip, he was struck by shell fragments in the hip and thigh. Despite his wounds, he refused medical attention in order to continue his mission; and delivered messages until

evacuated the following day. Entered military service from Des Plaines, Illinois.

FRED R HABERMAN, 42 115 823, Private First Class, Company C for heroic achievement in action on 12 January 1945, near Philippsbourg, France. Scouting for a forward patrol that was having difficulty in moving out of enemy territory during a heavy snow storm, Private First Class Haberman and a comrade encountered a two man enemy outpost. They courageously rushed the position and captured both men and considerable ammunition and equipment before a shot could be fired. By his aggressive action, Private First Class Haberman saved the patrol from ambush and enabled it to complete its important mission successfully. Entered military service from Hershey, Pennsylvania.

ROBERT E HENTZELL, 39 049 528, Private First Class, Medical Detachment, for heroic achievement in action on 17 March 1945, near Saarbrucken, Germany. On his own initiative, Private First Class Hentzell, Medical aid man, assumed a mission of evacuating a seriously wounded soldier. Driving toward the location of the casualty without a guide, he became lost in the darkness and was subjected to five hours of concentrated artillery fire. Reaching the wounded man, he constructed a litter carry in his peep and began his return trip. When his peep was immobilized by a shell, Private First Class Hentzell carried the man on his back over a mile of unknown terrain to a point where further transportation was available. Although several shells dropped nearby, he never once dropped the man. His courageous action and outstanding efforts to provide the seriously wounded comrade with medical care as soon as possible probably saved the man's life. Entered military service from Oakland, California.

ALBERT M HOMER, 19 177 796, Private First Class, Company I, for heroic achievement in action on 3 and 4 March 1945. During his company's attack on Styring Wendel, France, Private First Class Homer advanced with the leading elements, maintaining communication with a SCR 300 radio. When the front platoon was held up by heavy enemy fire, crept through broken fences and over walls in search of the hostile strongpoints. Locating several pillboxes, he directed tank fire on them which neutralized the enemy fortification. Later while at an observation post, Private First Class Homer discovered two enemy soldiers in hiding and effected their capture. His courageous actions and initiative enabled his platoon to advance and seize its objective. Entered military service from Beverly Hills, California.

KENNETH K LUDWIG, 39 694 187, Private First Class, Company A for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. Repeatedly seizing the initiative in an attack through the wooded hills south of Styring Wendel, France, Private First Class Ludwig effectively supported the advance of the riflemen with automatic weapons fire. Although the enemy made numerous attempts to hit him he continued to move from position to position to fire on prepared emplacements and hostile guns. On one occasion he pinned down a machine gun crew while two comrades moved up and knocked out the strongpoint. His gallant action under continuous artillery, machine gun and

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small arms fire, was instrumental in the final success of his platoon in accomplishing his mission. Entered military service from Santa Barbara, California.

ANTHONY J. MARCACCIO, 36 979 690, Private First Class, Company K, for heroic achievement in action from 3 to 12 March 1945. For eight consecutive days, Private First Class Marcaccio gave effective machine gun support to the rifle companies in clearing the enemy from Styring Wendel, France. Exposing himself to hostile machine gun, rifle, mortar and artillery fire, he operated his machine gun so accurately that the riflemen were able to advance rapidly. His courageous action minimized casualties and enabled his company to accomplish its mission. Entered military service from Madison, Wisconsin.

RONALD G MARSHALL, 36 828 422, Private First Class, Company K, for heroic achievement in action from 3 to 12 March 1945. For eight consecutive days, Private First Class Marshall gave effective machine gun support to the rifle companies in clearing the enemy from Styring Wendel, France. Exposing himself to hostile machine gun, rifle, mortar and artillery fire, he operated his gun with such accuracy that the riflemen were able to advance rapidly. His courageous action minimized casualties and enabled his company to accomplish its mission. Entered military service from Madison, Wisconsin.

ROBERT B RYSSO, 20 624 878, Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant, Company B, for heroic achievement in action on 15 Mar 1945, near Saarbrucken, Germany. Ordered to take high ground in an assault against the Siegfried Line, Technical Sergeant Rysso led his platoon under heavy fire with the aid of only one other non-commissioned officer. He maintained control of his unit at all times and gave a detailed running account of the action by radio to his company command post. His accurate reports of the strength of the defenses in that part of the Siegfried Line facilitated control of the attack. Technical Sergeant Rysso's superior performance and devotion to duty reflect credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

JOHN S WARRINER, 33 831 016, Private First Class, Company K for heroic achievement in action on 3 March 1945. Private First Class Warriner, already exhausted from recent action against hostile troops on the outskirts of Styring Wendel, France, volunteered to clear four enemy occupied houses situated between two friendly companies. Disregarding sniper fire, Private First Class Warriner attacked with grenades and rifle fire and as a result of his aggressive action, the houses were cleared, 7 enemy soldiers captured and 21 civilians believed to be Nazi sympathizers taken prisoner. His intrepidity and exemplary devotion to duty are commensurate with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Edgemont-Lansford, Pennsylvania.

V - - - AWARD OF THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE. Under the provisions of Section 1, Circular 345, War Department, 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded the following units for outstanding devotion to duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks:

THE 70TH MILITARY POLICE PLATOON, from 1 January 1945 to 30 April 1945, in France and Germany.

THE 770TH ORDNANCE COMPANY, from 1 February 1945 to 1 April 1945 in France and Germany.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HERREN:

LEO A BESSETTE
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

Berrick
B V MERRICK
Lt Col AGD
ADJ GENERAL