GENERAL ORDERS No. 16

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 24 May 1950

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I..SILVER STAR.—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the periods indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer and enlisted man:

Second Lieutenant Sylvester C. Bitter, Jr.,

Infantry, Army of the United States, a member of Company K, 305th Infantry Regiment, displayed gallantry in action against the enemy near Deposito, Leyte, Philippine Islands, on 8 December 1944. During an attack his platoon was held up by intense fire from a well due in strong point. Seeing that his men were being disorganized by this fire, he determined to attack. Organizing the platoon, he led the assault and the men, inspired by his example, overran the position. In this gallant action, Lieutenant Bitter was killed. His fearless example reflects great credit on himself and the United States Infantry.

Private José Guevarra (Service No), Infantry, Philippine Scouts, a member of Company H, 57th Infantry, Philippine Scouts, displayed gallantry in action against the enemy in Bataan from 27 to 20 January 1042. As a member of the battalion that destroyed the enemy forces on Lungos Kawayan Point, his courageous actions were an inspiration to his comrades. Private Guevarra's heroic achievements reflect great credit on himself and the Philippine Scouts.

II. SILVER STAR.—1. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 48, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers, enlisted men, and civilian:

Captain Brewster G. Gallup, , Corps of Engineers, Army of the United States, distinguished himself by courageous action on 18 April 1942. During an intense bombardment of Corregidor by enemy batteries on Bataan, a shell fragment cut the halyard of the fortress flag. As the colors descended, Captain Gallup and two comrades ran to the pole, gathered the flag in their arms, and kept it from touching the ground. Working fast, despite the furious shelling, they repaired the halyard and raised the flag again. This conspicuous act of gallantry was an inspiration to the heroic defenders of the Philippines.

Staff Sergeant Lawrence M. McQueency. (Service No.) (then sergeant), Corps of Military Police, United States Army, a member of Military Police Company, II Philippine Corps, displayed gallantry in action near Lamoa, Bataan, on 5 April 1942. During a bombing raid, he voluntarily left his place of shelter to rescue a severely wounded man who was trapped in an inclosed fox hole and endangered by exploding ammunition. Sergeant McQueency's courage and complete disregard for safety reflect great credit on himself and the military service.

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Staff Sergeant Harold R. Morter, Jr. (Service No.) (then private first class), Infantry, Army of the United States, a member of Company K, 68d Infantry Regiment, displayed gallantry in action against the enemy near Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Luzon, on 7 February 1945. After a heavy tank battle the night before, his platoon was mopping up a large enemy force. Approaching a deep ditch, the platoon was held up by a barrage of hand grenades. Without thought of his safety, he crawled to the ditch, after throwing two grenades, rushed the position, and in hand-to-hand combat killed three of the enemy. Sergeant. Morter's heroic action enabled the platoon to advance and complete its mission.

Honorio Punongbayan, Filipino civilian, distinguished himself by courageous action on 18 April 1942. During an intense bombardment of Corregidor by enemy batteries on Bataan, a shell fragment cut the halyard of the fortress flag. As the colors descended, Mr. Punongbayan and two soldiers ran to the pole, gathered the flag in their arms, and kept it from touching the ground. Working fast, despite the furious shelling, they repaired the halyard and raised the flag again. This conspicuous act of gallantry was an inspiration to the heroic defenders of the Philippines.

Colonel Henry J. Royall, (then lieutenant colonel), Infantry, United States Army, a member of the 334th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by gallantry in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Linnich, Germany, on 30 November and 1 December 1944. He led his battalion with a display of calm courage and fighting spirit to a successful capture of terrain features essential to a planned crossing of the Roer River. Exposing himself to ground fire in the forward rifle areas, he furnished the example necessary to keep the battalion advancing. During the action he suffered severe shocks and concussion from enemy shell fire and was wounded by small-arms fire. By his fearless leadership and devotion to duty, Colonel Royall fully upheld the finest traditions of the United States Infantry. (Par. 4, sec. VII, DA General Orders 27, 1948, pertaining to the award of the Bronze Star Medal (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) to Colonel Royall for meritorious achievement during the same period is rescinded.)

Major John D. Semken, Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, British Army, displayed gallantry in action against the enemy in Germany on 18 November 1944. As leader of a British tank squadron, his superior direction of these supporting elements contributed in a large measure to the success of the entire operation. The military skill and aggressive leadership displayed on this occasion by Major Semken reflect high credit on himself and the military service of his country.

2. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Silver Star (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for gallantry in action during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Technical Sergeant Elza R. Smith (Service No.), Coast Artillery Corps, United States Army, distinguished himself by courageous action on 18 April 1942. During an intense bombardment of Corregidor by enemy batteries on Bataan, a shell fragment cut the halyard of the fortress flag. As the colors descended, Sergeant Smith and two comrades ran to the pole, gathered the flag in their arms, and kept it from touching the ground. Working fast, despite the furious shelling, they repaired the halyard and raised the flag again. The conspicuous act of gallantry was an inspiration to the heroic defenders of the Philippines.

III. LEGION OF MERIT.—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officer and enlisted man:

Colonel Theodore L. Bartlett, , Air Corps, Army of the United States. June 1943 to December 1944.

Master Sergeant Robert T. Wyatt (Service No.), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. August 1947 to May 1948.

IV_LEGION OF MERIT.—1. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Chief Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

His Excellency Major General José Humberto Sosa Molina, Minister of National Defense of Argentina. June 1946 to February 1949.

2. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Lieutenant General Victor Jaime Majo, Argentine Army. May 1946 to December 1948.

Lieutenant General Leobardo C. Ruiz, Mexican Army. February 1947 to March 1950.

Lieutenant General Juan Carlos Sanguinetti, Argentine Army. November 1945 to December 1948.

3. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Colonel Jaime C. Velasquez, Philippine Army. January 1947 to February 1950.

4. By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Legionnaire, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted man:

Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Middleton Aguirre, Chilean Air Force. 1947 to April 1950.

Private Evanghiles Raphtopoulos, Greek Army. 17 February 1949. Colonel Santiago Robles Rivera, Chilean Army, 1946 to April 1950.

V. SOLDIER'S MEDAL.—By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (WD Bul. 8, 1926), the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy during the periods indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named enlisted men:

Private First Class James M. Snell (Service No.), Corps of Engineers, United States Army, displayed heroism on Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, on 18 February 1950. While swimming with a companion north of Eniwetok Island he noticed his friend was in distress. He swam promptly to his friend's aid and supported him until he was able to swim for shore. As they neared the beach, Private Snell, exhausted by his efforts, was unable to reach safety and was drowned. The heroism and self-sacrifice displayed by Private Snell on this occasion reflect great credit on himself and the military service. Corporal Kenneth M. Watson (Service No.), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, displayed heroism at Camp Carson, Colorado, on 17 January 1950. When a fire threatened to engulf the entire camp area, he took charge of fighting a flaming barracks. With utter disregard for safety, he seized a hose, climbed through a window, and put out the fire. Although seriously burned, he joined a detail fighting other burning buildings. When a piece of flaming wreckage fell on another soldier, without hesitation, Corporal Watson ran to the soldier and dragged him out of the fire. Corporal Watson was finally overcome and suffered fatal burns. His heroic actions upheld the highest traditions of the service.

VI_BRONZE STAR MEDAL.—1. By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men:

Technical Sergeant *Victor R. Alewander* (Service No.), Signal Corps, Army of the United States. July 1943 to March 1945.

Captain Robert M. Brackbill, Air Corps, Army of the United States.

January 1944 to May 1945.

Sergeant David H. Brunner (Service No.) (then corporal), Air Corps, Army of the United States. April and May 1945.

First Lieutenant Charles T. Burch, Field Artillery, Army of the United States. 24 and 25 December 1944.

Corporal Carl Frech (Service No.), Air Corps, Army of the United States. April and May 1945.

First Lieutenant William J. Lawlor, Signal Corps, Army of the United States. October 1944 to April 1945.

Warrant Officer (junior grade) Robert A. Mabry () (then master sergeant, Service No.), United States Army. March 1943 to February 1944.

Captain Raymond J. Miller, (then first lieutenant), Transportation Corps, Army of the United States. October 1943 to November 1944.

Colonel Walter A. Ostendorf, (then lieutenant colonel), Medical Corps, Army of the United States. July 1944 to June 1945.

Warrant Officer (junior grade) Joseph G. Pase () (then first sergeant, Service No.), United States Army. April 1942 to September 1945.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles G. Pirkle, Coast Artillery Corps, Army of the United States. August 1944 to May 1945.

Lieutenant Colonel Aldo L. Raffa, (then major), Air Corps, Army of the United States. September 1943 to February 1944.

Private First Class Gilbert Silver (Service No.), Infantry, United States Army. September 1944 to May 1945.

Captain William H. Timlin, Air Corps, Army of the United States.

March 1944 to March 1945.

Lieutenant Colonel Edgar A. Wilkerson, , Infantry, Army of the United States. August to October 1944.

2. By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Colonel Gerald E. DuBois, (then lieutenant colonel), Field Artillery,
Army of the United States. January 1943 to January 1944.

Tientement Colonel Jaseph W. Shanel. (then major), Signal Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph W. Shamel, (then major), Signal Corps, Army of the United States. 25 and 26 April 1945.

VII._BRONZE STAR MEDAL.—By direction of the President, under Executive Order 9410, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

First Lieutenant Frederick W. Giggey, (then second lieutenant), Signal Corps, Army of the United States, distinguished himself by courageous action on 5 April 1945 near Nuraberg, Germany. During a move of American prisoners of war in Germany, the column was halted beside an ammunition train. Allied airplanes spotted the train, bombed the area, and created havoc among the prisoners. Lieutenant Giggey, realizing the desperate situation, took command. Despite the exploding ammunition, he restored order and directed the care of the wounded. His initiative and courage during a difficult situation saved many lives and reflect great credit on himself.

First Lieutenant Cornelius C. Vaessen, , Corps of Engineers, Army of the United States, a member of Company A, 2829th Engineer Battalion, distinguished himself by heroic achievement in the vicinity of Rohrwiller, France, on 3 February 1945. When a bridge was required for a tank-supported attack, he led his platoon to the site and, under direct enemy observation and fire, erected a 60-foot Bailey bridge in less than 2 hours. Lieutenant Vaessen's leadership and inspiration in a difficult situation made a marked contribution to the successful operations in the Rohrwiller area.

VIII._COMMENDATION RIBBON.—1. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers, chief warrant officer, and enlisted man:

Master Sergeant *Elmer J. Allen* (Service No.), Infantry, United States Army. January 1947 to January 1950.

Chief Warrant Officer Arthur D. Johnson (), Signal Corps, United States Army. June 1946 to November 1947.

Captain Jay P. Thomas, O49885, Quartermaster Corps, United States Army. October 1947 to October 1949.

Captain Richard S. Ware, Jr., Field Artillery, United States Army.
October 1948 to January 1950.
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- 2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under paragraph 17.1 AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious achievement during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named enlisted men:
 - Private First Class Alexander J. Barsamian (Service No.), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 17 November 1949.
 - Corporal Robert D. Kennedy (Service No.), Transportation Corps, United States Army. 17 November 1949.
 - Corporal Delton A. McAnally (Service No.) (then private first class), Headquarters and Headquarters and Service Troop, 124th Mechanized Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Texas National Guard, Pecos, Texas. 11 June 1949.
 - Sergeant First Class Glen P. Sullivan (Service No.), Infantry, United States Army. 4 July 1949.
- 3. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:
 - Major Warren K. Bennett, , Infantry, United States Army. February 1948 to July 1949.
 - Lieutenant Colonel Harris W. Holsinger, (then major), Infantry, Army of the United States. August 1942 to February 1944.
 - Colonel Nelson Lectair, Jr. (then lieutenant colonel), Corps of Engineers, United States Army. October 1945 to March 1947.
 - Colonel Stophen Y. McGiffert, Field Artillery, United States Army, September 1945 to January 1948.
- 4. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious achievement during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Captain John A. Richards, Transportation Corps, Army of the United States. 5 May 1947.

- IX..MEDAL OF HONOR.—So much of section I, WD General Orders 84, 1944, pertaining to Second Lieutenant Thomas W. Fowler, as reads " is amended to read " ."
- X. BRONZE STAR MEDAL.—So such of paragraph 4, section XIV, WD General Orders 139, 1946, as pertains to Major Oharles T. Brown and reads "Bronze Star Medal" is amended to read "Bronze Star Medal (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)."
- XI.AIR MEDAL.—So much of section IX WD General Orders 8, 1946, as reads "First Lieutenant Robert H. Morlan," is amended to read "First Lieutenant Robert M. Morlan,"
- XII..COMMENDATION RIBBON.—1. So much of paragraph 3, section X, DA General Orders 7, 1950, pertaining to Warrant Officer (junior grade) Joseph R. Ambrose as reads "Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)" is amended to read "Commendation Ribbon (second Oak-Leaf Cluster)."
- 2. So much of paragraph 3, section VIII, DA General Orders 50, 1949, pertaining to Major Elias F. Liakos as reads " " is amended to read "O32238."
- 3. So much of paragraph 1, section X, DA General Orders 7, 1950, as pertains to Major William W. Vance and reads "Commendation Ribbon" is amended to read "Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)."

XIII..BATTLE HONORS.—Section III, DA General Orders 49, 1948, pertaining to the 105th Infantry Regiment (less 3d Battalion and Company G), is amended to include Company A, 102d Engineer Combat Battalion (less 3d Platoon).

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL

Major General, USA

The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS Chief of Staff, United States Army