

HEADQUARTERS 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
A.P.O. #443, U. S. Army

TAG

GENERAL ORDERS )

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I -- AWARD OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE (SERVICE COMPANY, 424TH INFANTRY) -- Under the provisions of War Department Circular 345, 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded to the Service Company, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 16 December 1944 to 15 March 1945.

II -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR (MISSING IN ACTION) -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Silver Star is awarded to the following enlisted man who is now missing in action:

Private First Class Leonard J. Savitskie, 36 558 519, 820th Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 17 December 1944, in Germany. During a determined enemy assault on their company area, Private First Class Savitskie and a driver, jumped into a parked armored vehicle and moved to a position astride a road. Private First Class Savitskie, manning the vehicle's heavy machine gun, opened fire, forcing the enemy to take cover in a nearby house. To destroy an enemy mortar concealed behind that building, he seized a hand grenade, valiantly charged across an open field, defying the severe small arms fire concentrated on him, and threw his grenade, wiping out the mortar squad. Private First Class Savitskie then ran back to the vehicle and continued delivering deadly blasts from his machine gun into the enemy-held house, courageously retaining his position until severely wounded. Entered military service from Michigan.

III -- AWARD OF SILVER STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Silver Star is awarded to the following officer and enlisted men:

Captain Lee Berwick, O 446 413, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 16 December 1944, in Germany. When devastating fire from the enemy concealed in a cluster of houses raked his battalion's positions, Captain Berwick led a platoon to dislodge the hostile troops from their stronghold. Unwilling to sacrifice his men in a costly assault, Captain Berwick advanced alone toward the enemy and demanded their surrender. His daring act was met by a deadly burst of fire. Undaunted, he withdrew, deployed his platoon for attack, and again demanded surrender. Confused and demoralized by his bold and aggressive actions, the entire garrison emerged from their stronghold and surrendered. Their capitulation yielded one hundred seven prisoners and released seventeen American soldiers, held captive by Germans. Entered military service from Louisiana.

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Technical Sergeant George B. Champion, 36 579 005, (then Staff Sergeant) 424th Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Staff Sergeant Champion led a four man patrol into an area penetrated by hostile troops to reconnoiter the area and establish contact with neighboring company elements. Defying incessant small arms fire, he determined the enemy's location and assisted in the methodical elimination of small groups, re-establishing the lines and cutting off all enemy troops still fighting in the area. Unaided and exposed, Staff Sergeant Champion, valiantly disregarding the severe small arms fire concentrated on him, moved among the remaining enemy, hiding in ditches and foxholes killing four of them and taking forty prisoner. Entered military service from Michigan.

Staff Sergeant Ralph G. Duff, 36 650 671, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 25 January 1945, in Belgium. When a platoon sent to clear a woods of enemy troops was pinned down by severe machine gun and small arms fire, Staff Sergeant Duff, acting as a scout, courageously preceded a six man patrol approaching the woods from the flank in an attempt to relieve the platoon and outflank the enemy positions. During this maneuver, which completely surprised the enemy, Staff Sergeant Duff was seriously wounded, but valiantly disregarding the excruciating pain, he directed his men by hand signals until they had driven the disorganized enemy from the woods, permitting the halted platoon to continue its advance. Entered military service from Illinois.

IV -- AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Soldier's Medal is awarded to the following enlisted man:

Private Donald A. Menzies, 42 098 159, 106th Signal Company, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 15 May 1945, in Germany. While walking along the bank of the Lahn River, at Bad Ems, Germany, Private Menzies was attracted by frenzied shouts coming from the opposite side of the river. The people pointed to a civilian struggling against the river's current. Ignoring the great personal danger, Private Menzies, fully clad, plunged into the water and worked his way toward the man, submerged and no longer fighting. After several unsuccessful dives, Private Menzies located the man and towed him to shore where artificial respiration was applied. Entered military service from New York.

V -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men:

First Lieutenant John C. Heinrich, Jr., 01 326 281, (then Second Lieutenant), 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy, on 18 December 1944, in Germany and Belgium. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

First Lieutenant Harry J. O'Neil, Jr., 01 317 933, 422d Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy, on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from New York.

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Master Sergeant William Claude Deviney, R-648 563, 423d Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 15 March 1943 to 15 December 1944 in the United States, England, and Belgium. Entered military service from South Carolina.

Staff Sergeant George W. Quigley, Jr., 37 513 789, 424th Infantry, United States Army for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from Missouri.

Private First Class Joseph S. Negyesi, 31 454 158, (then Private), 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from Connecticut.

Private First Class Ellard R. Walters, 35 879 684, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 January 1945, in Belgium. Entered military service from Ohio.

Private Ernest A. Hirsch, 32 894 070, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 16 December 1944 to 18 December 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from New York.

VI -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (OAK LEAF CLUSTER) -- In addition to the Purple Heart previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, to the following enlisted man for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Northwest Europe, on date shown:

Private First Class Delbert B. Scragg, Jr., 35 778 141, 331st Medical Battalion, (then Medical Detachment, 424th Infantry), United States Army, on 8 February 1945. Entered military action from West Virginia.

VII -- AWARD OF PURPLE HEART -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 21, Fifteenth United States Army, 4 March 1945, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following enlisted men for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Northwest Europe, on date shown:

Staff Sergeant Clifford C. Meyer, 32 249 598, (then Sergeant), 424th Infantry, United States Army, on 22 December 1944. Entered military service from New Jersey.

Technician Fourth Grade Charles G. Dorris, Sr., 34 547 996, 424th Infantry, United States Army, on 24 January 1945. Entered military service from Florida.

Private First Class William N. Levine, 36 954 725, Medical Detachment 424th Infantry, United States Army, on 20 December 1944. Entered military service from Illinois.

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Private First Class Archie Porter, 34 845 758, (then Private), 424th Infantry, United States Army, on 17 February 1945. Entered military service from South Carolina.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL STROH:

OFFICIAL:

WILLIAM C. BAKER, JR.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

*F. I. Gule*

F. I. GULE,  
Lt. Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

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