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

GENERAL ORDERS)	23 June 1945
NO. 45)	SECT ION
AWARD OF SILVER STAR (MISSING IN ACTION) AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL AWARD OF MEDICAL BADGE	III

I -- 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 officer who is now missing in action:

Captain Genaro H. Mondragon, O 262 199, 592d Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 16 December 1944, in Germany. When many men of his battary's outpost were wounded during the initial stages of the powerful German Ardennes counter-offensive, and concentrated shellfire prevented aid men from moving forward to treat casualties, Captain Mondragon fearlessly rushed forward, despite withering hostile fire, carried and dragged one injured man forty yards to safety and then made two more hazardous evacuation trips. Reorganizing his battery, he successfully repulsed vicious enemy tank attacks until darkness, when he ordered the battery withdrawn to a more tenable position. During this action, severe artillery fire fell on their route, demolishing several trucks and inflicting many casualties. Refusing to abandon casualties that could not be moved, Captain Mondragon ordered all men and remaining vehicles to proceed and was last seen comforting the wounded. Entered military service from North Carolina.

II -- AWARD OF SOIDIER'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 officers and enlisted men:

First Lieutenant Gerald S. Pratt, Jr., Ol 183 597, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, in France. While proceeding in a convoy near Hennebont, France, a truck carrying ammunition and explosives struck a mine. The truck burst into flames instantaneously and the ammunition exploded violently. Lieutenant Pratt quickly assumed command of the situation, rushed to the truck, and aided in the removal of the men, burned and wounded by the explosion. Disregarding the everpresent danger from exploding small arms ammunition, Lieutenant Pratt returned to determine if any other personnel were left in the blazing vehicle. Unable to locate anyone else, he returned to the injured and helped carry them to a safe distance from the conflagration. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

First Lieutenant Gordon H. True, Ol 171 803, 590th Field artillery Battalion, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, in France. While proceeding in a convoy near Mennebont,

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France, a truck carrying ammunition and explosives struck a mine. The truck burst into flames instantaneously and the ammunition exploded violently. Lieutenant True jumped from his truck, and raced to the burning vehicle. Ignoring the imminent personal danger, he crawled to the truck to remove any men who might have been imprisoned there. Locating a body pinned beneath the truck's wheel, he struggled ineffectually to pull it loose, until the severe heat and intensity of the explosions forced him to discontinue his efforts. Entered military service from Maine.

Staff Sergeant Douglas R. Jardine, 32 417 432, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, in France. While proceeding in a convoy near Hennebont, France, a truck carrying ammunition and explosives struck a mine. The truck burst into flames instantaneously and the ammunition exploded violently. Staff Sergeant Jardine jumped from his truck and raced toward a soldier lying near the burning vehicle. With the assistance of three other men, he lifted the injured man, whose clothing was aflame, carried him clear of the blazing vehicle, and ripping off his own jacket, Staff Sergeant Jardine rapidly extinguished the flames. Unable to be of further assistance in the immediate vicinity of the flaming vehicle, he helped evacuate the injured to a safe distance from the conflagration. Entered military service from New York.

Corporal Williard Diehl, 35 003 686, 590th Field artillery Battalion, United States army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, in France. While proceeding in a convoy near Hennebont, France, a truck carrying ammunition and explosives struck a mine. The truck burst into flames instantaneously and the ammunition exploded violently. Disregarding his own safety, Corporal Diehl rushed to the burning vehicle, aided in removing a burned and wounded soldier, and helped carry him away from the conflagration. While tending the casualty, Corporal Diehl noticed another man limping away from the truck, and despite the intense heat and exploding ammunition, rushed to the injured soldier and assisted him to safety. Entered military service from Ohio.

Technician Fifth Grade Clifford V. Britton, 14 016 533, (then Private), Medical Detachment, 590th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 13 May 1945, in France. While proceeding in a convoy near Hennebont, France, a truck carrying ammunition while proceeding in a convoy near Hennebont, France, a truck carrying ammunition and explosives struck a mine. The truck burst into flames instantaneously and the ammunition exploded violently. Disregarding the great personal danger, the ammunition exploded violently. Disregarding the great personal danger, Technician Fifth Grade Britton rushed to the burning vehicle and assisted in removing and carrying an injured soldier from the conflagration. Technician Fifth Grade Britton then promptly and efficiently administered first aid to all Fifth Grade Britton then promptly and efficiently administered military service the injured men, greatly alleviating their suffering. Entered military service from Mississippi.

Private Billy B. Humphreys, 44 043 476, 424th Infantry, United States Army, for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, on 12 May 1945, in Germany. While standing in a mess line, Private Humphreys noticed a soldier struggling in the strong undertow of the Rhine river, and unable to reach the struggling in the strong undertow of the Rhine river, and despite being fully clothed, shore. With utter disregard for his own safety, and despite being fully clothed, shore. With utter disregard for his own safety, and despite being fully clothed, shore. Humphreys dashed to the river bank, plunged into the water and fought his Private Humphreys dashed to the soldier's side. After being pulled under way through the strong current to the soldier's side. After being pulled under once by the sinking and exhausted man, Private Humphreys brought him to the surface and towed him to s. Entered military service f. Tennessee.

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