

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 80, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 104)

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16 April 1945.

ADJ-100

SECTION

- I - Award of Silver Star, Posthumously.
- II - Award of Silver Star.

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR, POSTHUMOUSLY: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to the following named personnel:

Joseph A. Paduano, 31346292, Cpl, MD, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 22 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Going forward in the face of heavy and continuous enemy artillery and mortar fire, Cpl Paduano was responsible for the evacuation of many wounded men from areas virtually inaccessible due to enemy fire and snow and mud that covered the ground. The life of an officer was saved when Cpl Paduano refused to consider his position inaccessible and brought him to safety through a constant barrage by enemy mortars. The personal bravery and indomitable devotion to duty of Cpl Paduano exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

NASH SANTIAGO, 01059936, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 22 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 February 1945, while attacking Mettendorf, Germany, the rifle platoon of which Lt Santiago was leader was delayed on the forward slope of a hill by severe direct enemy fire. Realizing that tank destroyers were necessary to neutralize the enemy installations and not wishing to expose any of his men to the intense fire, he personally undertook the hazardous task of securing the aid of the armored vehicles. While darting across the open field in full view of the enemy he was mortally wounded. The bravery, leadership, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Lt Santiago are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

II. AWARD OF SILVER STAR: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Silver Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel:

A Samuel R. Dettorre, 36867600, Sgt (then Pfc), Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 9 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 9 February 1945, Sgt Dettorre was acting as a rifleman in a platoon assigned the mission of clearing the town of Wallendorf, Germany. When an enemy machine gun opened fire from a strong point in a house killing his squad leader and hampering the rest of the platoon, Sgt Dettorre, fearlessly and of his own volition, charged the building with rifle and hand grenades. His attack drove the enemy soldiers into the cellar of the building where he captured two and killed the remainder. With this enemy position destroyed the platoon won its objective. Sgt Dettorre's outstanding bravery, leadership, and unselfish devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

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William J. Fox, 12220161, Pfc, WD, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in France on 11 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. In the vicinity of Bacourt, France, on 11 November 1944, Pfc Fox, an aid man, upon learning that three men lay seriously wounded on a hill three hundred yards to his front, advanced through intense artillery fire to treat their wounds and to carry them to safety. Again, with utter disregard for personal safety, he repeated his gallant deed by rescuing three more of his comrades. Finding that evacuation was impossible due to adverse weather conditions and lack of roads, he obtained blankets and overcoats and kept the casualties comfortable until morning when their evacuation was accomplished. His bravery and tireless devotion to duty saved the lives of many comrades and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

Theodore L. Mendelssohn, 36831475, Sgt, Armd, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Luxembourg on 27 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. While operating with his tank platoon in support of an infantry battalion, Sgt Mendelssohn saw a seriously wounded man crawl from a tank which had been hit by direct enemy fire. Sgt Mendelssohn, without hesitation and with total disregard for his own personal safety, left his tank and crawled to the aid of the wounded man. Through Sgt Mendelssohn's efforts, exerted under heavy enemy small arms, mortar, and artillery fire, the soldier was evacuated and his life saved. The personal bravery, determination, and unselfish devotion to duty displayed by Sgt Mendelssohn exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Michigan.

Lynn F. Strait, 12002103, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For gallantry in action in Germany on 22 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 February 1945, S Sgt Strait, accompanied by another soldier, was acting as a guide for his attacking company near Huttingen, Germany, when it was subjected to intense fire from an enemy position three hundred yards distant on the right flank. Fearlessly he crawled to a point seventy five yards from the enemy where he jumped to his feet and charged, firing his rifle. Part way to the enemy position he fell to the ground and threw hand grenades, killing several of the enemy and forcing twenty two soldiers and an officer to surrender. His aggressiveness, bravery, and sincere devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL McBRIDE:

MINERS

OFFICIAL:

S. P. WALKER

Colonel, Cavalry,

Chief of Staff.

J. W. Trone
J. W. TRONE

Lt Colonel, AGD,

Adjutant General.

DECLASSIFIED

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By CA NARA Date 8-17-0