

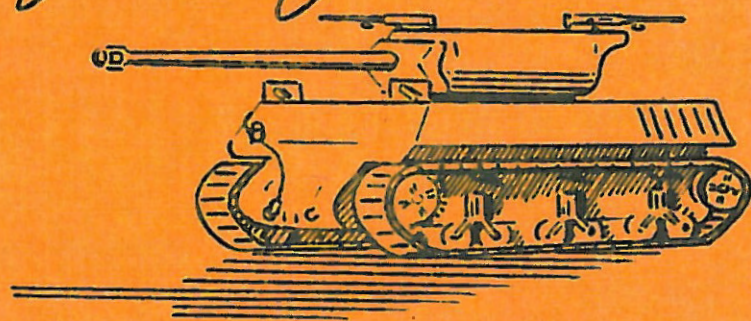


5TH

TANK DESTROYER

GROUP

History



VE DAY 9TH MAY 1945
TO
VJ DAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 1945

HISTORY
OF
FIFTH TANK DESTROYER GROUP
FROM V-E DAY, 9 MAY 1945
TO
V-J DAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 1945

Following official cessation of hostilities on V-E Day, the 5th Tank Destroyer Group commenced on a program of rehabilitation and maintenance of personnel and equipment at their CP location on the Southwest edge of Salzburg.

With military requirements at a low ebb the Commanding General of XV Corps ordered the Group, on 17 May, to undertake the mission of operating the Hotel Gablerbrau for transient officers in the Salzburg area. A hotel staff was immediately appointed with Captains George E. Crawford and Linley W. Geringer in charge of operations. The Command Post, S-1 and 4, S-2, S-3, guard, mess and hotel clerical personnel were quartered in the hotel located at 9 Linzer Gasse. The remainder of the Group was billeted at 16-18 Imberstrasse.

Redeployment plans, disposition of PW's, Displaced Persons and other innumerable projects under full headway, resulted in an enormous influx of transient officer personnel into the Salzburg area for conferences and action on these matters. This situation necessitated that the 5th Tank Destroyer Group permanently annex two additional hostels, the Hotel Munchnerhof and Hotel Hofwirt, to accommodate this increase. For a short period, Hotel Bristol and Hotel Stein were also utilized by the Group.

With these hotels under their charge, the Group witnessed a kaleidoscopic array of military personnel of many nations passing through the hotel. They embraced representatives of Britain, Russia, France, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, South Africa, Switzerland and Holland running the gamut of their respective military rank. Myriad civilian technical experts, celebrated war correspondents and important dignitaries passed through the Gablerbrau portals. A host of Army nurses, Red Cross personnel, USO and prominent Special Service road show personages enlivened the early proceedings. Among the more prominent of the latter group were Bob Hope and show, Beatrice Lillie, English comedienne and troupe and Billy Rose's comely chorines of Diamond Horseshoe fame.

The 5th Tank Destroyer Group was classified in Category II of the huge redeployment program which was put into operation to accelerate the trend of manpower and supplies to the Pacific theater. With this thought in mind, training was intensively conducted embodying an eight week program in various phases to prepare and condition the organization for their imminent new assignment. At the present time, awaiting further orders, this program is still in force despite the capitulation of Japan.

Leave, furlough and pass privileges were greatly amplified with the downfall of Germany and numerous quotas for a glittering array of tours were allocated to the Group. The playgrounds of Europe were opened to officer and enlisted personnel. Paris, London, Luxemburg, Nancy, the famed Riviera, Switzerland, Italy and local scenic spots became a mecca for military personnel. Recreational facilities and athletic programs were instituted by unit and higher eche-

Ion Special Service forces. The 5th Tank Destroyer Group received an apportionate share of these attractions and the visits of Group personnel to these famous spots will undoubtedly remain vividly in their memories.

However, it was not "all play and no work", as the Group was very active in aiding the various Tank Destroyer battalions of the XV Corps and later II Corps in their redeployment activities. The units directly or indirectly influenced by this action were the: 601st, 614th, 692nd, 705th, 776th and 813th Tank Destroyer Battalions. This mission was dispatched with the usual Group high efficiency although the situation was never "firm".

Numerous changes were made in the Group personnel to conform with current policies and critical score requirements during this interim of transfer, staging and shipping. Some of the "Old Timers" among officer and enlisted personnel left to join "high point" units for that "big trip home" and others, more fortunate, departed to enjoy the view of the Atlantic from the air. Despite rumor persistently running rampant, morale remained high as the men waited for the much heralded critical score change and the progress of the war in the Pacific theater. Naturally, the most heartening news to affect the world, and of course the 5th Tank Destroyer Group, was the announcement of the atomic bomb raids that wrought devastation on Japan. Conjecture ran rife as to its effect on military developments on the Nipponese. When official news of Japan's downfall was received it was welcomed with an air of relief rather than with the excessive display of exuberance that marked V-E Day.

Time marched on! Radio announcements, Stars and Stripes articles and that medium of immeasurable circulation, "the latrine rumor", were eagerly exploited and discussed; mostly warped to suit the individual's respective advantage and welfare. "Home by Christmas" became more than an idle dream.

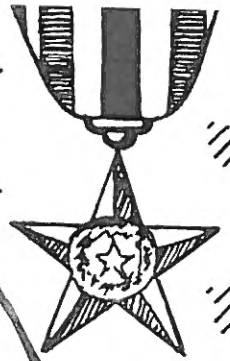
Thus, the 5th Tank Destroyer Group filled the gap between V-E and V-J Day. Training and duties approximating "garrison life" continued on. But underneath this guise of routine military demeanor the "Hellcat" anxiously waited for their "number" to come up depicting "Finis" to the activities of the 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Salzburg, Austria
2 September 1945

ALBERT W. WOLFE
Captain, FA (TD),
Group Historian.

ADDENDA:

A fitting "birthday" present for the Group's third Organization Day, 1 September 1945, came in the form of a Third Army communication announcing a change of category for the organization. The Group was transferred from Category II, classifying the unit for service in the Pacific or reserve in the States, to Category IV which earmarked the outfit for return home and deactivation. This good news, together with with the announcement of a "readiness" date several days previous gave the Group something to "shoot at" instead of pursuing ethereal rumors.

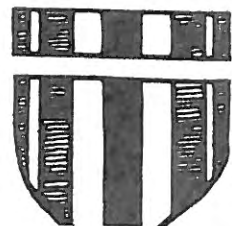
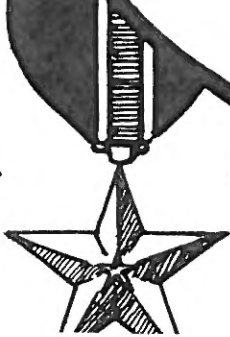
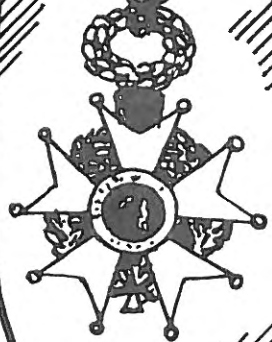
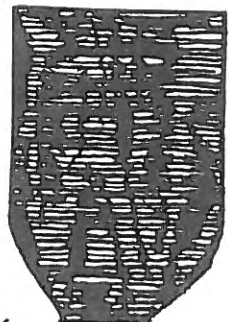


Citations

- *Silver Star*

- *Bronze Star*

- *Legion d'Honneur*



HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
24 October 1944

AG 200.6 (E) - Jacoby, Leslie E. (O)

SUBJECT: Award of the Silver Star.

TO : Colonel Leslie E. Jacoby, 0-12300, Field Artillery, Headquarters 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army.

By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and Section I, Circular 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Section I, Circular 56, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 27 May 1944, you are awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of Chambois, France. During a critical action after the closing of the Falaise pocket at Chambois, when numerous enemy tanks and armored vehicles were attempting to escape and were often breaking through forward elements of the lines, tank destroyer action became critical. You displayed outstanding gallantry in action, going from position to position gaining first hand knowledge and directing tank destroyer actions. Frequently under heavy machine gun, rifle and artillery fire, you worked to commanding positions where you could determine the exact progress of the battle. Your efforts in providing ample tank destroyer protection for all parts of the line, both day and night, gave great encouragement to other troops holding the position. The result of the action at Chambois netted more than 5,000 enemy tanks, armored vehicles, guns and other vehicles destroyed, extensive destruction of enemy personnel, killed or wounded, and more than 15,000 prisoners captured by the Division which you were supporting. Your aggressiveness, untiring devotion to duty and utter disregard for your personal safety, reflect great credit upon yourself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

WADE H. HAISLIP
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
13 September 1944

AG 200.6 (E) - Stiver, Edward N. (O)

SUBJECT: Award of the Silver Star.

TO : Captain Edward N. Stiver, 0-393084, Field Artillery, Headquarters 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army.

Under the provisions of Section I, Circular 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, 20 March 1944, as amended by Section I, Circular 56, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, 27 May 1944, and Section I, Circular 6, Headquarters Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, you are awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on 8 August 1944 in the vicinity of St. Denis, France. In company with eight men on a mission of selecting a bivouac area, you were engaged by approximately thirty Germans firmly entrenched in the vicinity of the prospective Command Post site. In the ensuing action one officer and an enlisted man were wounded. In the face of enemy fire and with utter disregard for your personal safety, you succeeded in killing one of the Germans who was firing on the wounded men and evacuated the two wounded men to safety. You then reorganized the small group and summoned aid in the form of two passing tanks which scoured the woods causing the enemy to flee. By your aggressive action and coolness under fire in the face of an enemy who held the advantage in firepower, position, and element of surprise, you extricated your small group which was faced with almost certain annihilation. Your calmness, leadership and bravery reflect the highest traditions of the Military Service.

WADE H. HAISLIP
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO No 36, U. S. Army

6 November 1944

AG 200.6

SUBJECT: Award of Silver Star.

TO : First Lieutenant LINLEY W. GERRINGER,
636th Tank Destroyer Battalion,
APO No 36, U. S. Army.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, you are awarded a Silver Star for gallantry in action.

CITATION

LINLEY W. GERRINGER, First Lieutenant, 636th Tank Destroyer Battalion, for gallantry in action on 12 September 1944 in France. Lieutenant Gerringer, platoon leader in the Reconnaissance Company, was leading his men forward in an attack when sudden enemy small arms and mortar fire stopped the platoon's advance. After an attempt to bypass the strong point had failed, Lieutenant Gerringer crawled forward to a position from which he could observe the hostile force. Although the increased intensity of enemy fire forced him to withdraw to a place of cover, he soon returned to his exposed position and called for artillery support. Ignoring the heavy concentration of mortar fire directed at him, he adjusted effective artillery shelling on the enemy emplacements. He was painfully wounded by a hurtling shell fragment but, mastering the pain of his wound, maintained his position until he had neutralized the hostile fire and forced the enemy to withdraw. His gallant action reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered the Service from Greensboro, North Carolina.

JOHN E. DAHLQUIST
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS 90TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 90, U. S. Army

10 February 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 123:

SECTION

AWARD, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR I
AWARD OF SILVER STAR II

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II — AWARD OF SILVER STAR —. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45 and Section I, Circular 6, Third United States Army, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to:

BENJAMIN W. PHILLIPS, 01168414, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 17 January 1945 in the vicinity of Oberwampach, Luxembourg. During a battle for the town, word was received that a heavy enemy tank, attacking from the southeast, was effecting considerable damage to everything in its path. Realizing the critical situation, Lieutenant Phillips, at risk of his life, advanced on foot through intense artillery and small arms fire and placed his tank destroyer in a strategic position adjacent to the main road leading into the town. As the hostile tank came over a hill near the position, it was immobilized and set afire by a direct hit from the destroyer. First Lieutenant Phillips then organized and led a party through intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire and evacuated casualties from an exposed area on the outskirts of the town. His courageous and intrepid leadership contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission. His gallantry was in accordance with high military tradition. Entered Military Service from Pennsylvania.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROOKS:

JOHN C. WHITCOMB,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

LESLIE V. DIX,
Major, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY

APO 758

12 August 1943

AG 200.6 MISC

SUBJECT: Award of the Silver Star.

TO : First Sergeant Michael B. Kaminski, 601st TD Bn.

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, a Silver Star is awarded to First Sergeant Michael B. Kaminski.
2. Citation.

Michael B. Kaminski, 6136148, First Sergeant, Company B, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action. On 23 March 1943 at Gafsa, Tunisia, while his company bivouac was subjected to several hours of intense night bombing and strafing, First Sergeant Kaminski, with total disregard for his own safety, volunteered to inspect the area frequently to assure the safety of the men. When it became extremely necessary to evacuate the wounded, First Sergeant Kaminski placed the wounded in an ammunition truck and evacuated them to a hospital in Gafsa. During the evacuation, his truck was bombed and Sergeant Kaminski removed his men to a place of comparative safety. When the bombing ceased, the wounded were placed in the truck and taken to the hospital. Sergeant Kaminski returned to the bivouac on foot where he remained during the remainder of the night doing everything possible to comfort and encourage the men. His actions were an inspiration to his men and reflect the finest tradition of the American Army. Residence at enlistment: New Britain, Connecticut.

By command of Lieutenant General PATTON:

J. Y. RAHE
Major, AGD
Asst. Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 79, U. S. Army

1 March 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 30:

- I. Award of Meritorious Service Unit Plaque.
- II. Award of Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Silver Star.
- III. Award of Silver Star.
- IV. Award of Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal.
- V. Award of Bronze Star Medal.
- VI. Posthumous Award of Bronze Star Medal.

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III. AWARD OF SILVER STAR. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 the Silver Star is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men:

* * * * *

Private Joseph V. Mullin, 33804518, 813th Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy on 19 December 1944 in Germany. In an attack on a strongly fortified enemy position the infantry had met an impassable barrier of barbed wire. Tanks which had attempted to crush this barbed wire had suffered severe losses. The tank destroyer commander, seeing the urgency for quick action, ordered Private Mullin's tank destroyer through the breach of the anti-tank ditch and crushed the barbed wire. This act was executed under severe artillery, mortar and bazooka fire at a distance of 25 yards from the enemy. The wire having been crushed, the infantry was able to move forward. The dauntless courage and aggressiveness displayed by Private Mullin reflect highest credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States.

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By command of Major General WYCHE:

KRAMER THOMAS
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

JOHN H. HANSEN
Lt. Col., A. G. D.
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
4 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 90:

* * * * *

CITATION

For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

LESLIE E. JACOBY, 0-12300, Colonel, Field Artillery, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 25 July 1944 to 9 May 1945. Colonel JACOBY, through his energy, personal initiative and thorough understanding of the tactical situations aided materially in the successful completion of the varied mission assigned the XV Corp. As Commanding Officer of the group, his careful planning and coordination of anti-tank measures within the Corps contributed greatly to the annihilation of enemy armor in the Falaise Gap, the successful repulse of an enemy panzer division in the area north of Sarrebourg and the final destruction of the German army east of the Rhine River. Colonel JACOBY's achievements as Commanding Officer of the group are praiseworthy examples of meritorious service in action against the enemies of the United States. Entered the United States Military Academy from Marion, Ohio.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JAMES H. HAGAN
Colonel, G. S. C.
Actg. Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col., A. G. D.
Acting AG

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
24 October 1944

AG 200.6 (E) - Giles, William V. (O)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Major William V. Giles, 0-355475, Field Artillery, Headquarters 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army.

By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and Section I, Circular 32, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 20 March 1944, as amended by Section I, Circular 56, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, 27 May 1944, you are awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a position of great responsibility in connection with military operations against the enemy during the period 14 August to 22 August 1944 in France. You controlled the mission of the *** Tank Destroyer Group and coordinated the anti-tank measures of the *** Army Provisional Corps. Frequently during this action, you were under severe enemy artillery fire but continued on your mission with utter disregard for your personal safety. Your dynamic, aggressive and tireless efforts contributed materially in the overwhelming and victorious accomplishments of the *** Infantry Division in respect to tank destroyer missions. The brilliant and superior manner in which you performed these duties entailing great responsibility, judgment and initiative merits the highest praise.

WADE H. HAISLIP
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19 US ARMY

29 August 1945

200.6/2068 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Major Leland G. Merrill, 0497318, Field Artillery,
 Headquarters 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

LELAND G. MERILL, 0497318, Major, Field Artillery, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 31 July 1944 to 9 May 1945, in France and Germany. Throughout this period of time, Major Merrill assiduously and efficiently discharged the duties of Assistant S-3 and Group S-3. He has at all times displayed avid devotion to duty, extremely sound judgment, and exceptional tact. During this period, twenty-four separate Tank Destroyer battalions passed under the supervision of the Group. Due to his almost boundless knowledge within his department, he was able to materially assist each battalion in every possible manner. The splendid performance and devotion to duty displayed by Major Merill is deserving of the highest praise. Entered the military service from Parkersburg, West Virginia.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2065 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Major Nash O. Thompson, 0342144, Field Artillery, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

NASH O. THOMPSON, 0342144, Major, Field Artillery, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 31 July 1944 to 11 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. During this period of time, Major Thompson performed outstanding service for his unit. Through his constant initiative, unfailing energy and sound judgment, he rendered superior aid on supply and personnel problems to twenty-four different tank destroyer battalions that were under supervision of the 5th Tank Destroyer Group when they were attached to XV Corps. The devotion to duty and splendid performance of Major Thompson reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from: Vega, Texas.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19 US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2135 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Captain Charles A. Kozlowski, 01695225, Dental Corps,
Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

CHARLES A. KOZLOWSKI, 01695225, Captain, Dental Corps, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Despite the most adverse, trying, and actual close combat conditions under which he was forced to work, Captain Kozlowski constantly and successfully labored to improve the dental condition of the personnel of the Tank Destroyer battalions under this Group. The avid devotion to duty and remarkable cheerfulness displayed by this officer have won him the confidence and respect of his fellow soldiers and patients. Entered military service from: Forest City, Pennsylvania.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2067 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Captain Charles L. McEachern, 0525795, Chaplain Corps,
Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

CHARLES L. McEACHERN, 0525795, Captain, Chaplain Corps, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 16 July 1944 to 10 January 1945 in France. With flagrant disregard for his own personal safety, Chaplain McEachern lived on the front lines and gave invaluable assurance and strength to the combat soldiers. This gallant officer pursued his task to such an extent that he ruined his personal health and is now in a convalescent hospital trying to recover from chronic bronchitis, which he acquired through his night and day vigil on the front lines. The all out devotion to duty and inexhaustible cheerfulness of Chaplain McEachern won him the love and admiration of everyone he contacted. Entered military service from: Revere, Massachusetts.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2064 BS (GI)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Captain John W. Makeig, 01701375, Dental Corps,
Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

JOHN W. MAKEIG, 01701375, Captain, Dental Corps, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Under the most trying and actual close combat conditions, Captain Makeig always did his utmost to improve dental conditions of the personnel of the tank destroyer battalions which have been rendered dental service by the 5th Tank Destroyer Group. His calmness, composure, and stability of purpose have won him the confidence and respect of his fellow soldiers and patients. Entered military service from: Amarillo, Texas.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2066 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Captain James R. Meder, 0526803, Chaplains Corps,
Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

JAMES R. MEDER, 0526803, Captain, Chaplains Corps, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. Chaplain Meder's wholehearted cheerfulness and buoyant spirit materially aided in maintaining extremely high morale within fifteen tank destroyer battalions which he served. Through his unswerving determination to serve the front line soldier, he earned the respect and admiration of all who have had the good fortune of knowing him. Entered military service from: Louisville, Kentucky.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, US,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

AP0 19 US ARMY

29 August 1945

200.6/2063 BS (GI)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Captain Robert O. Williams, 01822441, Cavalry (TD),
 Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

ROBERT O. WILLIAMS, Captain, Cavalry (TD), Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 31 July 1944 to 8 May 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. As Group Communications Officer, as well as Group Headquarters Company Commander, Captain Williams personally regulated the communications of twenty-four separate Tank Destroyer battalions in such an efficient manner that the maximum desired communications were attained. His audacious spirit, exemplary courage and skill, won the admiration of all who came in contact with him. Regardless of the hour of the day or night, this officer has always striven to do his utmost to hasten the complete defeat of our common enemy. Entered military service from: Utica, New York.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U.S. Army
15 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 114

* * * * *

CITATION

For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

ALBERT W. WOLFE, 0-1822449, Captain, (then First Lieutenant), Field Artillery, Headquarters, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army for heroic achievement in action on 20 August 1944 in the vicinity of Chambois, France. On this date Captain Wolfe exposed himself twice to severe enemy artillery and tank fire in order to obtain bazookas and ammunition for infantry troops that were held up by enemy personnel in the houses of Chambois. On this same day, Captain Wolfe, under small arms and machine gun fire, assisted two tank destroyer crews on the outskirts of Chambois in repelling an enemy attack to reopen the last main escape route from the Falaise-Argentan pocket. His coolness and bravery under fire reflect the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Mount Oliver, Pennsylvania.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JOHN H. STOKES, JR.
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col., AGD
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

Office of the Commanding General

APO No. 3

27 June 1945

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : First Lieutenant Anthony J. Bianchi, 01824412,
Reconnaissance Company, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, you are awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in actual combat.

CITATION:

ANTHONY J. BIANCHI, 01824412, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Reconnaissance Company, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion. For meritorious achievement in actual combat, on 2 May 1945, at 0600 hours, near Munich, Germany. When engaged in a forward reconnaissance, First Lieutenant BIANCHI's Reconnaissance Platoon encountered an enemy road block supported by about 10 enemy soldiers. Displaying marked courage, he called to the Germans to surrender with the result that an enemy soldier opened up with a "Burp Gun", seriously wounding a Reconnaissance scout and barely missing First Lieutenant BIANCHI. He then put his platoon into firing position and so effectively directed fire that several of the enemy were killed and the remainder were forced to surrender. Residence: Stapleton, New York.

W. T. SEXTON
Brigadier General, US Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

Office of the Commanding General

APO No. 3

17 May 1945

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : First Lieutenant David N. Hughson, 01 823 302,
Headquarters, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, you are awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations:

CITATION:

DAVID N. HUGHSON, 01 823 302, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Headquarters, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion. For meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 8 January 1944 to 15 March 1945, in Italy and France. First Lieutenant HUGHSON, in addition to his assigned duties, served as the Battalion Awards Officer. During this period First Lieutenant HUGHSON showed great initiative by personally investigating and preparing for submission about 250 awards ranging from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Bronze Star Medal. On many occasions it was necessary for him to visit forward tank destroyers of his battalion to interrogate eyewitnesses. The diligence, efficiency and devotion to duty of First Lieutenant HUGHSON were instrumental in maintaining the high morale of the men of his battalion. Residence: Milton, Massachusetts.

JOHN W. O'DANIEL
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
31 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 83

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CITATION

For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

ALBERT C. KORNBLUM, 0-1175771, 1st Lieutenant, Infantry, Headquarters XV Corps, U. S. Army for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during period 25 July 1944 to 9 May 1945. During this period Lieutenant KORNBLUM distinguished himself by his service as assistant to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, XV Corps. Throughout this entire period while the Corps was actively engaged in military operations against the enemy, he performed the duties of Public Relations Officer in a meritorious manner. He accomplished with considerable tact and diligence, the main duties of preparing news dispatches and maintaining liaison with press representatives. On his own initiative he also established a daily news sheet which was a great value in the dissemination of information and news to many units. The conscientious and intelligent manner in which all tasks were accomplished reflects great credit on Lieutenant KORNBLUM. Entered military service from New Haven, Connecticut.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JOHN H. STOKES, JR.
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col. A. G. D.
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS 90TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 90, U. S. Army

30 August 1944

SUBJECT: Award of Bronze Star.

TO : 1st Lt. Benjamin W. Phillips, 0-1168414,
Co B, 773rd Tk. Destroyer Battalion.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Bronze Star is awarded to the following named officer for extraordinary meritorious service in action on the 19 August 1944 near Le Bourg St. Leonard, France.

1st Lt. Benjamin W. Phillips, 0-1168414, Co B, 773rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, on the 19 August 1944 near Le Bourg St. Leonard, France, while his unit was supporting an infantry regiment. When the objective of the infantry regiment had been taken, the enemy counter-attacked with tanks and infantry in force, and Lt. Phillips assisted materially in stopping the counter-attack when he led his platoon by a brilliant maneuver, got into position and knocked out 2 Mark IV Tanks, one staff car and a machine gun position. Entered service from Endeavor, Pennsylvania.

By command of Brigadier General McLAIN:

RAY C. SCOTT,
Lt. Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 79, U. S. Army

21 July 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 150:

EXTRACT

- I. Award of Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Silver Star.
- II. Award of Silver Star.
- III. Award of Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal.
- IV. Award of Bronze Star Medal.

* * * * *

IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45 the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named officers:

* * * * *

First Lieutenant JOHN C. ROBBINS, JR., 0460454, Field Artillery, 813th Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 9 January 1945 to 8 May 1945 in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. Throughout this extended period of combat Lieutenant ROBBINS performed his duties as executive officer in a most capable and efficient manner. Exhibiting unusual ingenuity and sound judgment in his execution of assigned functions he contributed greatly to the effective plans and operations of his battalion. The initiative and devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant ROBBINS reflect great credit on the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

* * * * *

By command of Brigadier General WATSON:

JOHN A. GLORIOD,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

ODIE M. HELTON
Major, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
31 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 93:

* * * * *

CITATION

For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

DONALD D. HOLMAN, 37015191, Master Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 31 July 1944 to 9 May 1945. During this period, Master Sergeant HOLMAN has discharged the responsibilities of communications chief with meticulous care, untiring devotion, and complete thoroughness. During this period twenty-four separate tank destroyer battalions have been under this group for communications supervision. Throughout this entire period Master Sergeant HOLMAN has, with untiring devotion to duty, with much initiative, and with great skill performed his job in a superior manner. This superior performance of duty brings great credit to Master Sergeant HOLMAN and merits the highest praise. Entered military service from Kansas City, Missouri.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JAMES H. HAGAN
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Actg. Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col., A. G. D.
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2058 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Master Sergeant Raymond E. Neusch, 33161754, Field Artillery,
Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

RAYMOND E. NEUSCH, 33161754, Master Sergeant, Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945, in France and Germany. Sergeant Neusch worked assiduously and efficiently as Group Sergeant Major and Group Supply Sergeant and succeeded in performing exceedingly outstanding services. In the performance of his duties this soldier showed exemplary devotion working day and night without once complaining. His tireless effort was a constant inspiration to all who worked under him. The splendid performance and exemplary conduct of Sergeant Neusch were in keeping with the highest traditions of the service. Entered military service from: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
8 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 97:

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CITATION
For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

EMIL E. KULACZ, 11061899, Technical Sergeant, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 31 July 1944 to 9 May 1945. During the above period Technical Sergeant KULACZ has performed his duties in a superior manner. He has shown an untiring devotion to duty and has successfully discharged all of his duties with much initiative, great skill and punctuality. His great devotion to duty and untiring efforts merit the highest praise. Entered military service from Chicopee, Massachusetts.

* * * * *

By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JAMES H. HAGAN
Colonel, GSC
Actg. Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col., AGD
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19 US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2060 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Staff Sergeant Oscar T. Mahanes, 33119893, Field Artillery,
Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

OSCAR T. MAHANES, 33119893, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France and Germany. During this period Sergeant Mahanes, who was a cook and Mess Sergeant, attained the maximum desired results in his department. His remarkable initiative and exemplary devotion to duty in increasing the palatability of the food he prepared won him the admiration and esteem of his fellow soldiers. Despite the fact that he suffers from arthritis, this soldier has worked night and day practising his culinary art, in order to prepare the unit's food in the finest manner. Entered military service from: Charlottesville, Virginia.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19

US ARMY

28 August 1945

200.6/2061 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Staff Sergeant William E. Moore, 39601334, Field Artillery,
Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

WILLIAM E. MOORE, 39601334, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. During this period Sergeant Moore, as Headquarters Company Supply Sergeant, performed outstanding service. The outstanding manner in which he performed his daily tasks was truly worthy of the highest praise. Through his exemplary devotion to duty, the seriousness of shortages in supplies was kept to the absolute minimum. The aggressive and indefatigable spirit shown by this soldier served as a fine example for his men to follow. Entered military service from: Savage, Montana.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19 US ARMY

29 August 1945

200.6/2059 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Staff Sergeant Robert Prokity, 33115519, Field Artillery,
Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

ROBERT PROKITY, 33115519, Staff Sergeant, Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 1 August 1944 to 30 April 1945, in France and Germany. During this period of time, Sergeant Prokity diligently and faithfully carried out his tasks in a superior manner. His admirable and effectual ability to improvise contributed materially to the operational efficiency of his unit's vehicles. The devotion to duty and outstanding performance of Sergeant Prokity reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered the military service from: Tarentum, Pennsylvania.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA,
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS II CORPS

APO 19 US ARMY

29 August 1945

200.6/2062 BS (G1)

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Technician Fourth Grade Alvin C. McCleery, 19076755,
Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

ALVIN C. McCLEERY, 19076755, Technician Fourth Grade, Field Artillery, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, for meritorious service in combat from 1 August 1944 to 30 April 1945, in France, Germany and Austria. Sergeant McCleery, as mechanic, worked untiringly and succeeded in maintaining the vehicles of his unit in a superior condition. Due to his ingenuity and thorough knowledge of mechanics, this soldier has consistently kept the vehicles of his unit in the finest operating condition. Regardless of the time of day or night, Sergeant McCleery invariably responded cheerfully and willingly to all requests made of him. His exemplary devotion to duty and intrepid spirit won him the respect and admiration of his fellow soldiers. Entered military service from: Salem, Oregon.

GEOFFREY KEYES,
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO 79, U. S. Army

23 July 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 152:

EXTRACT

I. Award of Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal.

II. Award of Bronze Star Medal.

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II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named enlisted man:

* * * * *

Technician Fifth Grade James M. Abell, 36058165, Field Artillery, 813th Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 19 July 1944 to 8 May 1945, in France, Belgium, The Netherlands, and Germany. Throughout this extended period of combat, Technician Fifth Grade Abell performed his duties as cook in a most capable and efficient manner. Exhibiting unusual ingenuity and sound judgment in his execution of assigned functions he contributed greatly to his unit being well fed at all times. The initiative and devotion to duty displayed by Technician Fifth Grade Abell reflect great credit on the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

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By command of Brigadier General WATSON:

JOHN A. GLORIOD,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

ODIE M. HELTON,
Major, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
APO 472 U. S. ARMY

24 July 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 172

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CITATION FOR THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Technician Fifth Grade Robert W. Glueckstein, 36808634, Field Artillery, while serving with the Army of the United States, distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 27 June 1944 to 8 May 1945. He displayed his ability and courage throughout the campaigns in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe. He has clearly demonstrated his devotion to duty and outstanding service to his battalion. His actions were in accordance with the highest standards of the military service. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

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By command of Major General TAYLOR:

NED D. MOORE
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD SCHMITT
Lt. Col., A. G. D.
Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
21 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 61:

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CITATION

For Award Of The
BRONZE STAR MEDAL

FRANK E. McALEVY, 37121836, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, 5th Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period 12 July 1944 to 8 May 1945. Entered military service from Valentine, Nebraska.

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By command of Lieutenant General HAISLIP:

PEARSON MENOHER
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

C. F. WOOST, JR.
Major, A. G. D.
Acting AG

HEADQUARTERS
XV CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 436, U. S. Army
4 June 1944

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 91:

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and Cir 25, Hq, Seventh United States Army, dated 7 November 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

* * * * *

ESTON RUTHERFORD, 34024171, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company, *** Tank Destroyer Group, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action on 8 August 1944 in the vicinity of Saint Denis, France. When his billeting party was attacked by a superior enemy force, Technician Fifth Grade Rutherford with complete disregard for his personal safety, from an exposed position covered by fire the point of his party, and later withdrew on order under heavy enemy fire and succeeded in locating and bringing aid to his comrades. His calmness, resourcefulness and initiative during this precarious situation reflects credit upon himself and merits great praise. Entered military service from Daytona Beach, Florida.

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By command of Major General ROBERTSON:

JAMES H. HAGAN,
Colonel, GSC,
Actg. Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

P. H. SPIVEY
Lt. Col., A. G. D.,
Acting AG.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY DIVISION

Office of the Commanding General

APO No. 3

20 June 1945

SUBJECT: Award of the Bronze Star Medal.

TO : Pfc. John J. Spear, 33 824 619, Company B,
601st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, you are awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in actual combat.

CITATION:

John J. Spear, 33 824 619, Pfc, Company B, 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion for meritorious achievement in actual combat on 1 April 1945, at about 2000 hours, at Rothenbach, Germany, despite the fact that their supporting fire was cut off and denied them, Pfc. Spear and another man continued to advance in their M-36 Tank Destroyer and engage the enemy. The fire they laid down accounted for an antitank gun and six enemy soldiers, before their destroyer was knocked out by an enemy Panzer Faust only 30 yards distant. Residence: Duquesne, Pennsylvania.

W. T. SEXTON
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Commanding

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 22

WAR DEPARTMENT
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 2 April 1945

	Section
DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS—Awards	I
LEGION OF MERIT—Posthumous awards	II, III
LEGION OF MERIT—Awards	IV, V
LEGION OF MERIT (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER)—Award	VI
DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS—Posthumous award	VII
SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Posthumous award	VIII
SOLDIER'S MEDAL—Awards	IX
AIR MEDAL—Award	X
AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER)—Award	XI
BATTLE HONORS—Citations of units	XII

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3. As authorized by Executive Order No. 9396 (sec. 1, Bul. 22, WD, 1943), superseding Executive Order No. 9075 (sec. III, Bul. 11, WD, 1942), citations of the following units in General Orders, No. 27, Headquarters Third United States Army, 1 February 1945, as approved by the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, are confirmed under the provisions of section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citations read as follows:

The 773d Tank Destroyer Battalion distinguished itself by its outstanding, heroic achievements during the final phases of operations to close the Argentan-Falaise pocket. Assigned to close support of the 90th Infantry Division in action centered in and around Le Bourg St. Leonard-Chambois, France, during the period 17 August to 22 August 1944, the battalion inflicted staggering losses upon the enemy, attacking them relentlessly wherever they were encountered, contemptuous of overwhelming odds. In this bold action, a total of 41 enemy tanks, including 5 Mark V tanks, 82 other vehicles of various types and many artillery pieces were destroyed. The brilliant accomplishments of the 773d Tank Destroyer Battalion and the courageous determination and conspicuous heroism, many times displayed by each member, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States.

* * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

OFFICIAL:

J. A. ULIO
 Major General
 The Adjutant General

G. C. MARSHALL
 Chief of Staff

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

ORDRE NATIONAL DE LA LÉGION D'HONNEUR



HONNEUR

PATRIE

M. le Colonel Leslie, E. Jacoby, 012300
XV^e Corps

est nommé Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur

pour prendre rang du 30 Janvier 1945

Fait à Paris, le 2 Mars 1945

En, vérifié, scellé et enregistré N° 51799
Le Chef du 1^{er} Bureau.

J. de Langy.

Par le Gouvernement provisoire
de la République Française,
Le Grand Chancelier de la Légion d'Honneur, p. i.

Gal. Darvaud

