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HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDER:

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I--AWARD OF SILVER STAR (OAK LEAF CLUSTER) -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 34, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, 8 September 1944, the bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, for wear with the silver star previously awarded, is awarded to the following officer:

First Lieutenant Leon L. Neel, 01823335, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 10 October 1944 to 12 October 1944, in Germany. Lieutenant Neel was serving with a tank destroyer battalion deployed in defensive positions along the flank of a large infantry force engaged in an offensive operation. The enemy made repeated counterattacks with numbers of tanks in an effort to penetrate our defenses and cut supply and communication lines to the rear of the assault troops. Lieutenant Neel exposed himself to heavy enemy fire upon many occasions to direct the most effective defensive fire. The daring, conspicuous courage, and brilliant leadership displayed by this officer were materially responsible for destroying at least seven enemy tanks, and breaking up several vigorous hostile counterattacks. Entered military service from Georgia.

II--AWARD OF SILVER STAR -- Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 34, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, 8 September 1944, the silver star is awarded to the following officer and enlisted men:

Captain Francis E. Wilts, 01030316, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 11 October 1944, in Germany. Captain Wilts was serving as a company commander with a tank destroyer battalion engaged in an offensive action against the enemy. When a hostile counter-attack developed which threatened his company. Captain Wilts personally directed the fire on the enemy from forward gun positions, exposing himself continually to heavy enemy fire as he moved from place to place on the battlefield, exhorting and encouraging his men, and personally assisting in the evacuation of the wounded. The professional skill, determined leadership, and unselfish loyalty to his troops exhibited by Captain Wilts resulted in the disorganization of the hostile forces, destruction of at least two enemy tanks, and the repelling of the counterattack. Entered military service from Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Arthur E. Campbell, 35360882, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 6 August 1944 to 13 August 1944, in France. Sergeant Campbell was serving

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as a platoon sergeant with a tank destroyer unit engaged in defending a road block against a sustained, large scale enemy counteroffensive. For seven days enemy pressure was intense and many assaults were made on the road position by tanks, infantry troops, and other enemy groups. During the nights enemy patrols made repeated attempts to penetrate the positions. Throughout the period, Sergeant Campbell was conspicuous by his gallantry. He continually subjected himself to all types of enemy fire, visiting gun positions, rendering invaluable assistance in the direction of fire against the enemy, and assisting in every way possible to give first aid to the wounded and get them evacuated as quickly as possible. The outstanding bravery, and unselfish devotion to duty exhibited in these actions by Sergeant Campbell materially contributed to the success of an important military operation. Entered military service from Indiana.

Sergeant Norman E. Willson, 39322600, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 6 October 1944, in Germany. Sergeant Willson was serving as a member of a tank crew which attacked the flank of a heavily fortified enemy position. This tank and a second tank, engaged in the same operation were knocked out of action by enemy fire and had to be abandoned. As soon as the tank crews had withdrawn to their company position it was discovered that one member of the crew, critically wounded, had been left between the burning tanks. Unhesitatingly, Sergeant Willson and two companions made their way back across the fireswept terrain for more than six hundred yards and succeeded in evacuating their comrade to safety. As a result of this courageous act, Sergeant Willson aided in saving the life of a fellow soldier. Entered military service from Oregon.

Sergeant Lawrence E. Wiskus, 37423160, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 12 October 1944, in Germany. While serving as a member of a gun crew protecting an exposed flank of friendly forces, Sergeant Wiskus and two companions were in a position which was attacked by a determined enemy thrust spearheaded by ten hostile tanks. Despite fire from the oncoming tanks and a concentration of artillery and mortar shells which the enemy fired into the area, Sergeant Wiskus and his companions remained undaunted at their post. The courageous determination and heroic devotion to duty displayed by these brave men resulted in the destruction of four of the enemy tanks and the disabling of a fifth one. Having suffered these losses, the enemy withdrew and the serious threat was thwarted. Entered military service from Iowa.

Technician Grade 4 John Lukins, 37272057, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 14 September 1944, in Holland. Technician Lukins was serving as a tank driver with a tank battalion engaged in action against the enemy. Enemy artillery scored a direct hit on the tank, wounding Technician Lukins and his assistant driver. Realizing that to halt the tank would probably result in its destruction by fire from observed enemy positions, Technician Lukins elected to remain at his post. When he had driven the tank to a position of relative safety, he ordered that his assistant driver be given medical aid, and although weak from loss of blood and shock from his injuries, waited until his companion had been treated before he informed anyone of his own wounds. His gallant actions

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saved his tank and its personnel from almost certain destruction by the enemy. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Technician Grade 4 John C. Perren, 35314059, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 7 August 1944, in France. Technician Perren was serving as an artillery mechanic with a tank destroyer battalion assisting in repulsing a vigorous enemy counter-attack. In a desperate effort to reach the sea and divide American troops on the continent, the enemy was using an overwhelming mass of men and materiel. Very heavy artillery fire fell in the immediate area where Technician Perren was serving, setting fire to a trailer loaded with ammunition which began to explode. With complete disregard for the hazards involved, Technician Perren left the safety of his foxhole, and drove the vehicle out of the endangered area where he succeeded in extinguishing the blaze. As a result of his daring, valuable and vitally needed ammunition was saved. Entered military service from Ohio.

Corporal Joseph D. Fontenot, 38266134, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 12 October 1944, in Germany. While serving as a member of a gun crew protecting an exposed flank of friendly forces, Corporal Fontenot and two companions were in a position which was attacked by a determined enemy thrust spearheaded by ten hostile tanks. Despite fire from the oncoming tanks and a concentration of artillery and mortar shells which the enemy fired into the area, Corporal Fontenot and his companions remained undaunted at their post. The courageous determination and heroic devotion to duty displayed by these brave men resulted in the destruction of four of the enemy tanks and the disabling of a fifth one. Having suffered these losses, the enemy withdrew and the serious threat was thwarted. Entered military service from Louisiana.

Corporal Paul D. Miller, 39615478, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 10 October 1944 to 12 October 1944, in Germany. Corporal Miller was serving with a tank destroyer battalion deployed in defensive positions along the flank of a large infantry force engaged in action against the enemy. The enemy made repeated counterattacks with numbers of tanks in an effort to penetrate our defenses and cut supply and communication lines to the rear of the assault troops. Corporal Miller displayed attributes of superior soldiership, conspicuous courage, and daring initiative, and made a material contribution to the destruction of several enemy tanks and the breaking up of several vigorous hostile counterattacks. Entered military service from Montana.

Technician Grade 5 Ivan B. Madsen, 39907024, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 10 October 1944 to 12 October 1944, in Germany. Technician Madsen was serving with a tank destroyer battalion deployed in defensive positions along the flank of a large infantry force engaged in action against the enemy. The enemy made repeated counterattacks with numbers of tanks in an effort to penetrate our defenses and cut supply and communication lines to the rear of the assault troops. Technician Madsen displayed attributes of superior soldiership, conspicuous courage, and daring initiative, and made

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a material contribution to the destruction of several enemy tanks and the breaking up of several vigorous hostile counterattacks. Entered military service from Utah.

Technician Grade 5 Frederick M. Rose, 37121413, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 24 September 1944, in Holland. Technician Rose was a member of a repair crew assigned the job of making repairs on an assault gun which had been knocked out by the enemy in a previous engagement. The area in which the gun was located was under enemy observation, and when work was begun artillery fire was placed in the area which wounded the officer in charge of the operations. Unhesitatingly, Technician Rose left the foxhole he had entered when the fire began, and rushed to the side of the officer, evacuating him immediately to safety, although heavy artillery fire was still falling continuously in the area. By this courageous act, a comrade's life was saved. Entered military service from Iowa.

Private First Class William W. Mounts, 39275332, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 12 October 1944, in Germany. While serving as a member of a gun crew protecting an exposed flank of friendly forces, Private Mounts and two companions were in a position which was attacked by a determined enemy thrust spearheaded by ten hostile tanks. Despite fire from the oncoming tanks and a concentration of artillery and mortar shells which the enemy fired into the area, Private Mounts and his companions remained undaunted at their post. The courageous determination and heroic devotion to duty displayed by these brave men resulted in the destruction of four of the enemy tanks and the disabling of a fifth one. Having suffered these losses, the enemy withdrew and the serious threat was thwarted. Entered military service from California.

Private First Class Chester Sobkiewicz, 32685624, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 8 October 1944, in Germany. Private Sobkiewicz was assigned to duty with a tank battalion and was serving as a member of a tank crew engaged in an attack toward an enemy held village. When the tank received a direct hit from an enemy gun and had to be abandoned, it was discovered that one of the crew members had been severely wounded and could not be evacuated, due to the heavy enemy fire which was falling in the area. After first aid had been administered, Private Sobkiewicz elected to remain with the wounded man, and courageously stayed with him although enemy counterattacks in the area were so violent that enemy infantry at one time penetrated to within twenty-five yards from his refuge. After the fury of the attack had abated, Private Sobkiewicz, with help of another soldier, evacuated his wounded comrade to safety. Private Sobkiewicz had remained for more than six hours enduring every danger of combat in order to give assistance and encouragement to his comrade-in-arms. Entered military service from Connecticut.

Private Albert Gentile, 39907198, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action during the period 10 October 1944 to 12 October 1944, in Germany. Private Gentile was serving with a tank destroyer battalion deployed in defensive positions along the flank of a large infantry force engaged in action against the enemy. The enemy made repeated counterattacks with numbers of tanks in an effort to penetrate our

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defenses and cut supply and communication lines to the rear of the assault troops. Private Gentile displayed attributes of superior soldiership, conspicuous courage, and daring initiative, and made a material contribution to the destruction of several enemy tanks and the breaking up of several vigorous hostile counterattacks. Entered military service from Utah.

Private Jim A. Pearce, 34826726, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 6 October 1944, in Germany. Private Pearce was serving as a member of a tank crew which attacked the flank of a heavily fortified enemy position. This tank and a second tank, engaged in the same operation, were knocked out of action by enemy fire and had to be abandoned. As soon as the tank crews had withdrawn to their company position it was discovered that one member of the crew, critically wounded, had been left between the burning tanks. Unhesitatingly, Private Pearce and two companions made their way back across the fireswept terrain for more than six hundred yards and succeeded in evacuating their comrade to safety. As a result of this courageous act, Private Pearce aided in saving the life of a fellow soldier. Entered military service from Georgia.

Private Russell E. Schober, 35892010, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 8 October 1944, in Germany. Private Schober was assigned to duty with a tank battalion and was serving as a member of a tank crew engaged in an attack toward an enemy held village. When the tank received a direct hit from an enemy gun and had to be abandoned, it was discovered that one of the crew members had been severely wounded and could not be evacuated, due to the heavy enemy fire which was falling in the area. After first aid had been administered, Private Schober elected to remain with the wounded man, and courageously stayed with him although enemy counterattacks in the area were so violent that enemy infantry at one time penetrated to within twenty-five yards from his refuge. After the fury of the attack had abated, Private Schober, with the help of another soldier, evacuated his wounded comrade to safety. Private Schober had remained for more than six hours enduring every danger of combat in order to give assistance and encouragement to his comrade-in-arms. Entered military service from Indiana.

III—AWARD OF BRONZE STAR — Under the provisions of AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Memorandum Number 34, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, 8 September 1944, the Bronze Star is awarded to the following officers, warrant officer, and enlisted men:

Captain Lloyd J. Adkins, 01010610, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 6 June 1944 to 20 September 1944, in France, Belgium, and Holland. Entered military service from Illinois.

First Lieutenant Thomas Springfield, 01823227, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 27 September 1944, in Holland. Entered military service from Kansas.

Warrant Officer (Junior Grade) Alton L. Westman, W2131296, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement during the period 22 August 1944 to 16 October 1944, in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Entered military service from Minnesota.

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Technical Sergeant George E. Abbott, 37123188, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 7 June 1944 to 8 June 1944, in France. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Staff Sergeant Robert K. Bee, 32027976, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in action during the period 19 June 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Entered military service from New York.

Staff Sergeant William L. Lindquist, 37200007, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 7 July 1944 to 25 September 1944, in France, Belgium and Holland. Entered military service from Missouri.

Technician Grade 3 Richard M. Grant, Jr., 37155672, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Kansas.

Sergeant Frank E. Irish, 39120021, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 23 August 1944, in France. Entered military service from California.

Sergeant Roy G. Preston, 18119955, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 11 October 1944 to 14 October 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from New Mexico.

Sergeant Travis L. Smith, 38386118, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 11 October 1944 to 14 October 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from Louisiana.

Technician Grade 4 Ardis R. Honsowetz, 19060560, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Michigan.

Technician Grade 4 Leonard Peterson, 37272471, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Technician Grade 4 Raymond L. Shiveley, 37223167, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Nebraska.

Corporal Edwin S. Brooks, Jr., 32969591, 531st Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 28 September 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from New York.

Corporal Milton J. Daly, Jr., 39041021, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 7 August 1944, in France. Entered military service from California.

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Technician Grade 5 James E. Ferguson, 37200336, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Kansas.

Technician Grade 5 Garner F. McElroy, 39194676, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 6 June 1944 to 20 June 1944, in France. Entered military service from Tennessee.

Technician Grade 5 Franklin J. Pehle, 37272461, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 6 June 1944 to 20 June 1944, in France. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Technician Grade 5 Kenneth C. Rickel, 37272284, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 6 June 1944 to 20 June 1944, in France. Entered military service from Minnesota.

Technician Grade 5 Einar Sorensen, 37123385, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 6 June 1944 to 20 June 1944, in France. Entered military service from New York.

Technician Grade 5 Charles T. Widdop, 39907147, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 23 August 1944, in France. Entered military service from Utah.

Private First Class Raymond A. Flanagan, 35068873, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 11 October 1944 to 14 October 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from Ohio.

Private First Class Max W. Getz, 39906868, 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action during the period 11 October 1944 to 14 October 1944, in Germany. Entered military service from Utah.

Private First Class Joseph M. Sanner, 16109340, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Michigan.

Private First Class Gerhard M. Umlauf, 39190090, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from Washington.

Private Julius J. Goldworm, 32520235, 743rd Tank Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious conduct in action on 11 July 1944, in France. Entered military service from New York.

L. S. Hobbs
L. S. HOBBS
Major General - U. S. Army
Commanding

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