

'Thundering Herd'

Newsletter of the 8th Armored Division Association



Ardennes, Rhineland, Central Europe

Winter – 2013/2014 - Vol. II No. 2

Dear Veterans of the 8th Armored Division, Members of the Association,
Descendants, Family and Friends,

Merry Christmas – Happy New Year – Happy Holidays!



Welcome to the Winter 2013/2014 edition of the Association Newsletter. We hope to continue to use this newsletter as a means to communicate with the membership, share information, tell the stories of the veterans, and preserve the memory of this gallant fighting unit.

A number of original veterans, descendants and those committed to commemorating the service of the veterans of the 8th Armored Division are maintaining the Association and are planning events, ceremonies and dissemination of articles on the history of the Division.

We invite all living veterans of the 8th Armored Division to join the Association as honorary members, no dues required, although donations are welcomed. We are also seeking members who share our mission and goals. Please take a look at the outstanding Division web site created and maintained by Okey Taylor, C-58th AIB. There you can obtain membership applications to fill out and mail to the Association address:

<http://www.8th-armored.org/>

8th Armored Division Association
2345 E. Dauphin St
Philadelphia, PA 19125

Use the E-Mail address: 8thArmoredDivision@gmail.com

To communicate further, we also feature a '**Facebook**' account and ask all interested to enroll in order to stay in contact and share comments and information:

New Association 'Facebook' page

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/269231523148647/>

Our future plans include:

- * a possible WWII Reunion Tour in Europe
- * a Memorial marker at Arlington National Cemetery
- * 8th Armored Division themed merchandise

We are in need of volunteers to assist with the following:

- * **Web Master** - to take over for Okey Taylor who wishes to pass on the operation of the site he designed so beautifully.
- * **Reunions** - a volunteer committee to work on the details of a potential annual reunion/Association meeting where yearly business and elections and planning can be conducted.

Association Officers for 2014:

President Emeritus (Honorary)

Okey Taylor (58-C)

oet58c@8th-armored.org

President – Andy Waskie, Jr.

8thArmoredDivision@gmail.com

Vice President – Gloria Zuccarella Layne

laynes@peoplepc.com

Treasurer – Carol Neumann

carol.neumann@tuhs.temple.edu

Chaplain – Norm Olson HQ-49th AIB & Dr. James Christiansen

norm.olson1922@comcast.net

Membership Chair – Joseph

Nesdill

nesdillj@ct.metrocast.net

Association Web masters – Okey Taylor (58-C) & Scott Thorpe

oet58c@8th-armored.org

scott@scottthorpeflyfishing.com

Newsletter Committee Chair – Rick Miller & Sally Shapiro

r-jmiller1@juno.com

sally.shapiro@email.rcn

Present Merchandise

We still have 8th Armored Division caps:

Gratis to 8th Armored Division veterans

\$15 to all others (includes postage & handling)

8th Armored Division Challenge Coins

\$5 per piece

8th Armored Division shoulder patches

\$10 a piece

8th Armored Division License plates
\$15 apiece (includes postage & handling)

8th Armored Division Decals
\$2 a piece



Soon, we hope to have a beautiful 8th Armored Division wind-breaker jacket; polo shirts. If you have any ideas for memorabilia, please let me know.

Please continue to send in your **membership dues for 2014!**

8th Armored Division veterans are GRATIS!

Individual membership - \$20 per annum
Family membership - \$35 per annum

Your dues support the work of the Association and are the life blood of the organization!

Join our 8th Armored Division Association 'facebook' page! It is an excellent way of staying in touch with other veterans, members and families.

Association 'Facebook' page. Please consider joining for updates and information!

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/269231523148647/>

Association web page: <http://www.8th-armored.org/>

Survey:

1. Would you like to see future Reunions of the Associations?
2. If so, would you attend?

3. Where and when would you like to hold a future Reunion?

Please e-mail answers to our e-mail:

8thArmoredDivision@gmail.com

OR post on our Association 'facebook' page

4. What other kinds of memorabilia would you like to see?

Please read the excellent article written by Philadelphia Inquirer reporter, Ed Colimore on area **Battle of the Bulge** veterans, one of whom is from our own 8th Armored Division: **Elmer Umbenhauer** of Cape May Courthouse, N.J. member – Co B, 7th AIB on the 69th anniversary of the start of the greatest land battle in the history of the United States. The 8th Armored Division played an important role in the Battle.

Philadelphia Area WWII vets recall freezing Battle of the Bulge



Leonard Becker, of Wynnewood, Pa., holding items from his World War II uniform, right. And Becker in 1945, holding his helmet, which was struck by shrapnel during the Battle of the Bulge. (Right: Ron Tarver/Staff)



GALLERY: Area vets recall freezing Battle of the Bulge

EDWARD COLIMORE, *INQUIRER STAFF WRITER*

Leonard Becker felt the blow to his helmet and was sure his luck had run out.

He was the only member of his 12-man squad who hadn't been killed or wounded as enemy tanks shelled the snowy Ardennes forest during the Germans' last-ditch effort to stop the Allies' advance during World War II.

So when Becker removed his helmet and saw the jagged gash through the metal, he sat back and waited to die. He couldn't bring himself to feel the back of his head.

Across the Philadelphia area and South Jersey, the snowflakes and nip in the air are triggering deep-seated memories of an ever-shrinking number of World War II veterans who fought the Battle of Bulge, which started 69 years ago today.

Looking from their homes at snow-covered yards, they're reminded of the bodies of dead soldiers frozen like statues, ice in their canteens and cold so bitter their skin would freeze to the barrels of their guns.

Becker, 90, of Wynnewood, was pleasantly surprised to find himself still alive 10 minutes after the shell exploded over him.

Evacuated by medics with wounds to his head, face, and shoulder, he's often thought of that close call and the shrapnel-torn helmet that he donated to the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.

"As a youngster, you can't wait to see the excitement of action," said Becker, who later invested in Philadelphia-area real estate and owned shopping centers and office and apartment buildings. "But once you're there, it was just no fun to see buddies hit, some killed and captured."

Another Army veteran of the battle, **Elmer Umbenhauer (Co B, 7th AIB , 8th Armored Division)** of Cape May Court House, recalls the house-to-house fighting in Nening, Germany, and the unrelenting cold that went through to the bone. "It was the luck of the draw whether you made it or didn't make it," said Umbenhauer, 88, a dentist and retired Merck & Co. Inc. clinical research director.

And Army tank commander **Ed Lambert** (trained with the 8th Armored Division at Camp Polk; served with the 6th Armored Division) of Collingswood remembers losing three tanks in the war, the last one during the Battle of the Bulge, outside Bastogne, Belgium. It was hit by an artillery shell.

"Our Sherman tanks were iron caskets," said Lambert, 89, retired manager of merchandise receiving for the now-defunct Strawbridge & Clothier. "None of my original crew survived" the war.

Nearly seven decades ago, the Allies were quickly moving toward Berlin when the Third Reich struck with a vengeance in what became the Battle of the Bulge, fought from Dec. 16, 1944, to Jan. 25, 1945.

The battle was the largest and most costly of the war for the Americans, with nearly 90,000 casualties, including 19,000 killed.

The German offensive was intended to breach the Allied line of American and British troops posted in the forested Ardennes mountain region during a snowy overcast period that prevented air support and resupply.

Becker hoped to shoot a camera instead of a rifle when the war broke out. He had been a photographer for magazines and newspapers at Overbrook High School and Temple University and freelanced photos for *The Inquirer*, so he thought he'd try his hand at it in the Army.

It wasn't to be. The Army needed more foot soldiers, and he eventually found himself in the path of a German onslaught that created a bulge the Allies tried to push back.

After his helmet was hit with shrapnel, Becker wondered what he should do. "I remembered that we were instructed to take our sulfa tablets with plenty of water to prevent infection if wounded, so I put several in my mouth and unscrewed my canteen for the water but was frustrated because the water was frozen solid by the extreme cold," he said.

"I then also remembered that if wounded, we should place a tourniquet between the heart and the wound, so I was going to put one around my neck, but then I realized I might choke."

About that time, two Army medics found him and escorted him to the rear, where an ambulance was waiting to take him to a hospital.

"And there I witnessed a most unusual sight," he said. "I stepped into the ambulance and . . . saw three captured wounded German soldiers with the swastikas on their helmets waiting to also go back to our hospital.

"Suddenly, the war no longer made any sense to me because if we had encountered each other five minutes earlier, we would have tried to kill each other . . . and now we were exchanging icy glares," Becker said. "I guess that war can make strange bedfellows, but I sure was confused as an 18-year-old Jewish boy from Philly."

Umbenhauer was 18 in 1943 when he joined the Army, and he found himself at Nanning the following year.

GIs had pushed German troops from the town three times and were forced out three times. In a fourth attempt, Umbenhauer's fresh unit finally held the town.

"It was our first time in combat," Umbenhauer said. "There was nothing but mass confusion.

"Our company commander was killed in the first five minutes," he said. "There was house-to-house fighting, and you never knew what was behind the next door."

The severity of that winter and biting wind is one of the memories he'll "never forget. We'd have snow up to our knees and had no way of getting warm," Umbenhauer said. "If I'm sitting with my kids and there's a terrible snowstorm, I'd say, 'Look out there; that's the way it was during the Battle of the Bulge.' "

Lambert has similar memories. "We didn't have any heat in the tank," he said. "My toes have been cold from the time I came home.

"Any time the temperature is low like this," he said, "I wear heavy-gauge socks."

Lambert's tank was hit near Bastogne, where the American commander had once famously rejected the Germans' call for surrender with one word: "Nuts."

"I was with Gen. George Patton," said Lambert, whose son, Gary, served during the Iraq War. "He was a crazy man but anything that would get us the hell home, that was OK with me."

When the war ended a few months later, the survivors were glad to be back home. "I think the military training does a lot for anybody when they're a youngster," Becker said. "It gives them an appreciation for a hot meal instead of a cold C-ration."

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http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20131216_Area_vets_recall_freezing_Battle_of_the_Bulge.html#Oq2ijvMhjkIB2qoq.99

Thanks to Charles Gordon!

New Pilsen CZ July 4th, 1945 parade photos by Charles Gordon 2/18/12

This is my first article for the 8AD Association newsletter. My late father was 2LT Harold Gordon who was a platoon leader in 36D (M24 tanks). He was born in Pensacola FL in 1922 and was a CPA there for 50 years after the war. He passed in 1998.

We are very fortunate to have just received nine new tank photos from the June 45 post war Pilsen CZ parade from Dan Parmley (Phoenix Az). Dan got them from a contact at the Czech Republic archives and the approval to use them in the 8AD Association website. Dan is also a collector who is also restoring an actual 8AD M24 tank which will be another story.

The nine new June 45 photo's were posted by Okey Taylor last week and can be seen by going to the 8AD website picture section and look for the Pilsen CZ parade link. The new photos are the nine last photos in the parade group and again they are all tank photos too.

For this article I picked the 3 tank photos below because they show three kinds of 8AD tanks (Sherman, Pershing, and a M24). The tank photo's below are clear enough to read the letters/numbers on the front of the turrets showing battalion, company, and tank number (which also allows you figure out the platoon number). The Sherman tank in photo one you can see it's a 18A tank (18th Tank battalion) and is tank number A12 (Company A and tank number 12) which I assume is platoon 3. You can also see "Apache" printed on the side of the barrel and the Indian head on the left side of the tank too. Photo two is a M26 Pershing from 18A and is tank number A3. The M24 tank or photo three at the bottom is tank D17 from 36D. You can't read the 36D on the M24 photo below but it can be seen in a second photo on the website. Since we know the company/tank numbers for the three photos below perhaps someone reading this article could ID crew members or knows someone who could (and their names could be added to the photos).

This must have been a great day of celebration for the 8AD troops for whom the war had just ended the previous month. The large and deep crowds of locals shown in the 3rd photo seem to be enjoying themselves waving to the M24 Tank commander (Tank D17/36D) who is saluting back. I also assume my father, who was over another platoon in 36D, would have known the tank commander in this photo.

However the real celebration for 8AD troops could not start until VJ day in August 45. I remember my father saying they were still on hold the summer of 45 and the occupation duty in CZ was a time to relax/regroup. However they were also told large numbers of them (front line troops in Europe) could be deployed to the Pacific starting in late 1945. At the time (late summer of 45) planning had already started for invading Japan.

Note the new tank photos of the M26 Pershing and M24 tanks are rare because they were deployed late in the war. Photos of Sherman's or the main US tank in WW2 are much more common.

Note the 8Ad Association is always looking for WW2 photos and please email them to Okey Taylor. To make them as historically accurate as possible please provide as much information as available (names, ranks, units, locations, dates, etc) Charles Gordon

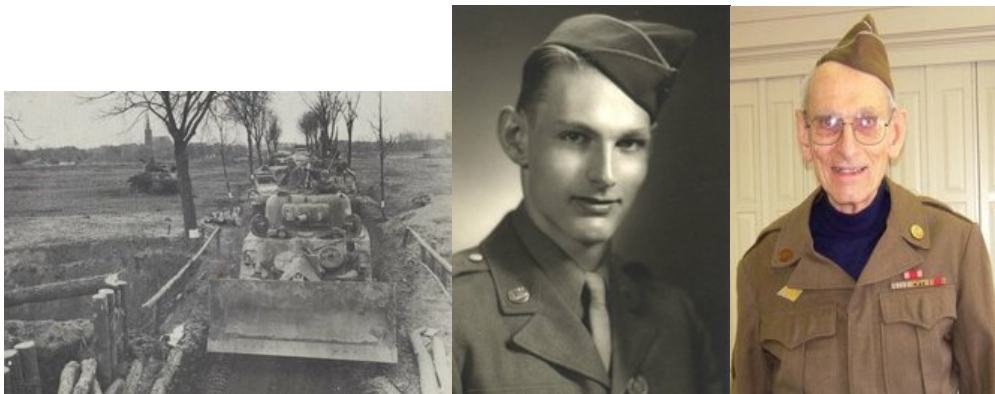
See 3 tank photos below taken in Pilsen, 7/4/1945





8Ad New letter article Feb 27, 2012 about Freeman Barber

Article by Pete Mecca, Vietnam veteran and free-lance writer.



Rockdale County resident Freeman Barber fought with the 8th Armored Division of the U.S. Army during World War II. He saw combat action across northern Europe against German panzer tanks. Pictured is a Sherman tank in Barber's division pushing into enemy lines.

Rockdale County resident Freeman Barber described his time serving in a Sherman tank during World War II as being part of a team out of necessity. "Only the tank commander with his head popped up from the top hatch knows what's going on," he said.

#Barber spent his childhood in Rochester, N.Y., searching for arrowheads and exploring Native American Indian caves. He was 16 years old when Pearl Harbor was bombed. "I remember my dad saying, 'Oh boy, we're in it now.'"

#Barber turned 18 when he joined the Army. An only child, it was his first time away from home.

#Barber trained at Ft Knox, Ky., in 1943 as a gunner and radio operator on the iconic Sherman tank until sidelined in with pneumonia. "I spent four months in the hospital," he said. "Pneumonia saved my life. The tankers I trained with were part of the Normandy Invasion. Many of those boys drowned when their tanks sank."

#Barber recovered and joined the 8th Armored Division at Camp Polk, La., to complete his training. The four-man crew -- tank commander, driver, assistant driver, and gunner -- used an unreliable intercom system to communicate. Even when it did work the incredible noise level inside the tank forced the crew to improvise.

#"We tied a rope to the driver and steered him like a horse," he said. "Pull left to go left, right to go right, pull back to stop, and kick him in the back to go forward."

#Barber and his division shipped out and landed at LeHavre, France. He recalled, "That night we slept under a tarp in freezing weather and deep snow. The next morning the tarp was frozen solid."

#Seven variations of the Sherman tank were built by the U.S. Army. Barber's tank was armed with three machine guns and one main 75mm gun. The 75mm ammo was stored in the bottom of the Sherman, theoretically held in place by a "Chinese finger" expansion device, but tank crews often heard a "clicking" sound during turret rotation. Barber said, "The 'clicking' noise was solid metal striking the fuses on the 75mm ammo. A few tanks disappeared because of that," he said.

#Newly arrived Sherman tankers soon realized they were out-gunned by the heavy German panzers. "Their shells ripped right through us," Barber said. "Ours just bounced off the panzers. We had to use our superior speed to out-flank them and target their weak spots, the sides and rear."

#The Germans' infamous 88mm anti-aircraft gun was also a Sherman killer. "The 88s were deadly," Barber said. "Thankfully, our speed and maneuverability saved a lot of lives, but I've seen a 30-ton Sherman going downhill at 45mph, no way to turn, and go right through a farm house, the cellar, and pity the poor chickens."

#The Allies reached the Rhine River in early 1945. Barber's division stayed back in reserve and watched the Germans' 88s cut through 17 Sherman tanks in the first assault. "Our company commander said, 'No way my men are trying that,' and we didn't, thank God."

#Barber recalls the dangers. "The Germans hid machine guns and large caliber weapons in hay stacks. In one fight we engaged an 'armed haystack' but our 75mm gun jammed. I tried to retrieve a bell housing type-rod from the side of our tank that we used to clear the barrel, but kept hearing machine gun rounds 'bing, bing, bing,' off the metal."

#Thankfully, another Sherman neutralized the threat before one of those bings binged me."

#As the crew's "forager," Barber was always looking for food. "During a battle for one town, I jumped off our tank and entered a house to search for food," he said. "Well, the phone rang. I spoke a little German so I answered the darn thing. It was a German officer wanting coordinates for his mortar crews. I told him I didn't have the time and hung up."

#Sent wherever needed, Barber and his crew fought through several towns, manned machine gun emplacements, blasted snipers hiding in church towers, pulled further duties with the 35th Infantry, the 99th, the 9th Army, and even put up with the exploits of Gen. George Patton.

#*"We were nomads," Barber said. "We drank vodka with Russian troops at an impromptu wedding, stole chicken eggs, bartered cigarettes for bread or wine, drank tea with the Limeys, stole a few barrels of green champagne from a train ... shoot, I reckon we just did what we had to do to survive the war."*

#*Pete Mecca is a Vietnam veteran and author of "A Veteran's Story," a regular feature of the Citizen. Contact him at aveteransstory@gmail.com.*

Regarding Marvin Brunker

HQ Troop, 88th Cavalry Recon. Battalion who has passed to his reward. With thanks and sadness at his loss.

A note to the 8th Armored Division Association:

Marvin Brunker was a loyal soldier serving in World War II and his attachment to the 8th Armored Division with the 88th Cavalry Rec. Mechanized Unit, and in the Headquarters Troop overseas in Europe, and discharged December 12, 1945 at Camp Chaffee, Ark.

We often tried to get in touch with those he served with, but were not successful.

Your list of Emails is great, but no names with them to know if any were with Marvin. as I remembered Marvin was with the 8th Armored after the war for while he was at Camp Polk, La at the time the unit went overseas.

I just completed some copies of his army life and pictures, sending them to Okey Taylor, and was sending much to the 8th Armored Division archives.

We had a wonderful life together before Marvin's on Death April 24, 2008

I tried hard to find some of Marvin's service friends after his death as I compiled the books of Marvin's WW11 army life for his grandsons, and then some of it on to Mr. Taylor.

Good Luck in keeping the 8th Armored Division Association going.
This is a friend through Marvin C. Brunker reaching out to all of you.
Eunice Brunker, (wife of Marvin Brunker)
He was a great person, who is missed so much every day by all who knew and loved him..
Marvin Brunker mebrunker@webtv.net

***Citations
For Valor Awards
to
Members Of The***



8th Armored Division

- 4 Distinguished Service Crosses (WWII)
- 192 Silver Stars (WWII)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



ARMSTRONG, GENE L. SR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to

Gene L. Sr. Armstrong (33713130), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy, as a rifleman, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, on 29 March 1945, in Germany. When a hand grenade in the canteen pouch on the belt of another soldier was accidentally activated while they were riding in a half track with 7 other men, Private First Class Armstrong grasped it in an effort to either throw it or absorb as much of the blast as possible. He had been in a position from which he could have leaped to safety had he chosen to do so but this courageous and fearless soldier ignored the opportunity and the grenade exploded in his left hand. Private First Class Armstrong sustained the loss of his entire left hand and also received severe body wounds. His actions in protecting his comrades, his initiative and cool headedness reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces.

Headquarters, XVI Corps, General Orders No. 55 (1945)

Home Town: Emporium, Pennsylvania

***BARTON, VIRGIL E.**

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Virgil E. Barton (35900924), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 12 April 1945.

Headquarters, Third U.S. Army, General Orders No. 261 (1945)

Home Town: Wabash County, Indiana

KWACZ, HENRY JOSEPH

Synopsis:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Henry Joseph Kwacz (35053515), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company B, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, on 5 February 1945.

Headquarters, XVI Corps, General Orders No. 55 (1945)

Home Town: Cleveland, Ohio

***TUCKER, KEMBLE**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Kemble Tucker (0-1011068), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving as Commanding Officer, Company A, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in action against the enemy on 5 March 1945, in Germany. Captain Tucker displayed outstanding tactical skill and fearless leadership in the attack on an enemy town. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Captain Tucker, while under constant heavy enemy fire, courageously led the assault on strongly fortified enemy positions. He was forced to change tanks twice when they were disabled by enemy fire as he was leading the attack. Upon dismounting from the second knocked out tank Captain Tucker was killed by enemy small arms fire. The men of his command, inspired by this

outstanding exhibition of bravery and daring, continued the attack and successfully achieved their objective. The intrepidity, fortitude, initiative and loyalty demonstrated by this courageous officer in the performance of his duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces.

Headquarters, XVI Corps, General Orders No. 60 (August 2, 1945)

Home Town: Delaware County, Pennsylvania

SILVER STAR



ACKER, BERT L., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Bert L. Acker, Jr. (0-1175621), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Battery C, 398th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 29 March 1945. When ammunition beside an artillery piece was ignited by enemy fire, flames enveloped a nearby vehicle. Lieutenant Acker drove the vehicle to safety. He then returned and endeavored to extinguish the flames before ammunition exploded. Inspired by his actions, members of the crew came to his aid and put out the fire. Lieutenant Acker's actions were beyond the call of duty and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 73 (July 19, 1945)

Home of Record: Florida

ANDREWS, ROBERT P.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert P. Andrews (0-535025), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 5 April 1945. Lieutenant Andrews, while serving as observer for an artillery unit, continued his mission under intense anti-aircraft fire. Upon completion of this mission he again returned to the same area to register artillery fire preventing an anticipated counterattack. His actions, without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)

Home of Record: Alabama

APPLEGATE, CALVIN M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Calvin M. Applegate (35122663), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period 24 January to 29 January 1945. Sergeant Applegate served as litter bearer and aid man during action at Nennung and Berg, Germany. He went forward through artillery, mortar and small arms fire to direct his men and lend his personal strength in the evacuation of litter cases. Sergeant Applegate continued to work, refusing both food and water, until he was finally wounded and evacuated. His outstanding leadership and devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 3 (February 15, 1945)

Home of Record: Kentucky

ARNOTT, CLAYTON K.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Clayton K. Arnott (32226221), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 399th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 6 April 1945. While Sergeant Arnott was serving as air observer, his plane encountered heavy anti-aircraft fire. Evading the fire, he continued with his mission of registering artillery fire. He again encountered anti-aircraft fire and started adjusting fire on the enemy gun positions. While so doing, his plane was hit and forced to land. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 28 (May 7, 1945)

Home of Record: New York

ARTIS, CLYDE, JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Clyde Artis, Jr. (35654603), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 11 April 1945. Sergeant Artis dismounted from his tank under intense enemy fire. He went to the aid of a tank crew whose vehicle was in flames. Sergeant Artis removed exploding ammunition from the tank and fought the flames until they were extinguished. His actions made it possible to give aid to wounded crew members and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 28 (May 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Ohio

ARTMAN, GEORGE

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to George Artman (0-21343), Lieutenant Colonel (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as Commanding Officer of the 58th Armored Infantry Battalion in Germany on 7 April and 13 April 1945. Under conditions of extremely limited observation, Colonel (then

Major) Artman personally led a company of his command in the attack on an enemy town, and then to the successful accomplishment of its mission. There he repulsed vicious enemy counterattacks by heavy tanks and artillery fire. His actions enabled his task force to successfully complete its missions, and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)
Home of Record: San Antonio, Texas

AVILA, URBAN P.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Urban P. Avila (3751264), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 8 April 1945. Sergeant Avila displayed outstanding leadership as a squad leader. During an attack, he directed fire on a machine gun position, forcing the gunners to withdraw. He then led an assault on an enemy tank, forcing its withdrawal. After reforming his forces, Sergeant Avila led a five-man patrol in search of enemy tanks. Ambushed, he deployed his forces in a manner to cover complete withdrawal. His display of courage and leadership inspired his men and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)
Home of Record: Clearwater, Kansas

***BACHER, EDWARD C.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Edward C. Bacher (33620408), Technician Fourth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against an armed enemy while serving with the 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 12 April 1945. Sergeant Bacher was artillery mechanic in a medium tank company. While moving forward to repair a weapon, Sergeant Bacher and his driver were ambushed. Sergeant Bacher was mortally wounded and the driver was killed. Despite his wounds he immediately manned the machine gun, wiping out the enemy position. Dazed and suffering from shock, he wandered three kilometers to a German hospital where he was found by friendly troops. His devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States and reflect great credit on himself and the service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 89 (August 14, 1945)
Home of Record: Lehigh County, Pennsylvania

BAKER, WARREN H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Warren H. Baker (0-552803), Second Lieutenant (Corps of Engineers), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 28 February 1945. During an advance, infantry and tanks were held up by a defended road block. Lieutenant Baker, on his own initiative, moved out three hundred yards under fire and reported the condition of the area. Lieutenant Baker, with two of his demolition men, cleared a lane through the mined area

and removed the road block. He and one of his men were wounded during this action but continued until they completed their work. As a result of their actions, the command was able to accomplish its mission. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Wilderville, Oregon

BAUER, HAROLD F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harold F. Bauer (39309734), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 20 April 1945. While on a reconnaissance patrol, Sergeant Bauer and members of the patrol sighted large numbers of enemy troops and vehicles near a heavily-defended concrete building. It was apparent that the position could be taken only by a strong force, with the possibility of heavy casualties. Sergeant Bauer advanced alone, convinced guards their position was surrounded, and accomplished surrender of the enemy position. As a result, an enemy Lieutenant General, his staff of five officers and ninety-seven soldiers and a large number of vehicles, weapons and equipment were captured. The position was headquarters for an enemy army corps. Sergeant Bauer's initiative, courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Cambridge, Nebraska

***BEARD, WARREN E.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Warren E. Beard (12071519), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. During a combat operation, Sergeant Beard discovered a wounded member of his platoon two hundred yards from his own covered position. With utter disregard for his own safety, he braved heavy mortar and artillery fire to move his comrade to a place of safety. On the return to the original position, Sergeant Beard was mortally wounded. His gallantry and devotion to duty reflect the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Queens, New York

***BEAUPREY, CLARENCE J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Clarence J. Beauprey (36198316), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 22 January 1945 to 11 April 1945. Sergeant Beauprey insisted on accompanying his unit overseas, despite a back injury. During many engagements he was unable to straighten up, due to the

injury, but he remained at his post performing his duties in a superior manner. On 11 April 1945 he refused to remain behind for medical attention and took his tank into the attack. During the engagement he was called upon to relieve infantry elements pinned down by small arms and machine gun fire. Without regard for anti-tank and rocket fire, he moved into position and destroyed the guns holding up the infantry. He had just completed this mission when his tank received a rocket shell through the turret. Sergeant Beauprey was fatally wounded. His great personal courage and devotion beyond the call of duty were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 56 (June 28, 1945)

Home of Record: Baraga County, Michigan

BENN, JAMES D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James D. Benn (33768959), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 9 April 1945. When two members of a patrol were wounded, Private Benn left the safety of his position to reach his comrades. He advanced more than three hundred yards under machine gun, artillery and mortar fire. Discovering that one of the men had already died of his wounds, he carried the other back over the same terrain under continuing heavy fire. Reaching a place of safety he turned the man over to medical aid men. His personal courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Deltona, Florida

BIAGINI, SYLVIO

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Sylvio Biagini (33440740), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 8 March 1945 and 3 April 1945. When his squad was pinned down by superior enemy forces, Sergeant Biagini moved about under direct observation and fire in order to locate the enemy positions and direct fire of the squad and a supporting tank. When the tank was knocked out he covered evacuation of the wounded tank commander and the wounded of his squad. Sergeant Biagini then went to the aid of another wounded man, rendering aid and carrying him to cover under intense enemy fire. Later, in another action, he led his squad in the attack on an enemy strong point, showing great initiative and courage in carrying out this mission. After taking the strong point he opened fire with rifle grenades against an enemy tank, continuing this action despite the fact he, himself was wounded, until he was relieved. His courage, initiative and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)

Home of Record: Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania

BISCH, JOSEPH J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Joseph J. Bisch (37635276), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. Private First Class Bisch was a member of a bazooka team which was given the mission of knocking out an enemy pillbox. Private Bisch and his teammate, on their own initiative, moved behind the enemy lines to a better position and knocked out the pillbox. Fifteen prisoners were captured in this operation. The annihilation of the pillbox permitted the unit to continue. Private Bisch's initiative, aggressiveness and bold courage reflect credit upon himself and the Army of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: St. Louis, Missouri

BISHOP, SIDNEY B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Sidney B. Bishop (14131653), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 February 1945. When the tank which he was serving was hit and ignited by enemy fire, Corporal Bishop dismounted with the remainder of the crew. He then voluntarily sought out another tank. He took the place of a bow gunner who had become a casualty a short time before. He served with this tank crew for more than an hour. When this tank was disabled by rocket fire, Corporal Bishop again dismounted under intense artillery and mortar fire. He took his place in a third tank and continued the action until it was successfully completed. Corporal Bishop's courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Jefferson City, Tennessee

BLAKER, HARRY A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harry A. Blaker (33595015), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Sergeant Blaker was riding in the lead vehicle of a task force. When the one-quarter ton truck in which he was riding came under fire, he manned the machine gun and continued with the advance. When that weapon jammed, he started firing his rifle, later using that of his driver while he continued to advance through the enemy town under harassing fire of all types. Sergeant Blaker continued to lead the task force forward until he encountered heavy artillery fire on the other side of the town. His personal courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 84 (August 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

BOEHM, CHARLES M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles

M. Boehm (31088313), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 26 January 1945. Sergeant Boehm was leading a security patrol near an enemy-occupied town. In order to achieve its objective, it was necessary for the patrol to cross a mine field. Sergeant Boehm, upon learning of the presence of the mine field from scouts, ordered his patrol to follow at a safe distance while he explored for a safe route across the field. Disregarding enemy machine gun fire, he continued his advance, enabling the entire platoon to reach their objective without a casualty. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 73 (July 19, 1945)
Home of Record: Malden, Massachusetts

BORKOWICZ, LEO M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Leo M. Borkowicz (33565046), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 1 March 1945. When his platoon started withdrawal from a heavily-defended road block, two members were left pinned down by the intense fire. Corporal Borkowicz voluntarily returned to the position in a one-quarter ton vehicle completely exposed to heavy fire. He fought his way to the two helpless men and succeeded in bringing them to safety. His actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Baltimore, Maryland

BOWLIN, LAWRENCE B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Lawrence B. Bowlin (38508626), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 9 April 1945. When his tank was hit by enemy artillery, Private Bowlin cleared himself of the wreckage. He then carried the wounded ammunition loader to the safety of a nearby ditch. Leaving this place of safety under continuing artillery and mortar fire, he returned to the tank. While attempting to reach another man still inside the vehicle he was critically wounded. His actions, without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)
Home of Record: Arkansas

***BRODOWSKI, EDWARD**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Edward Brodowski (32853538), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany

on 30 March 1945. Sergeant Brodowski took command of his platoon when the platoon leader was absent. He pressed the attack of the platoon until intense fire forced them to cover. While attempting a break-through of the enemy position, Sergeant Brodowski's tank was immobilized. He remained with the vehicle, directing the fire until the turret was penetrated by artillery and Sergeant Brodowski was killed. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: Frankfort, New York

BUBAN, ELMER E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Elmer E. Buban (33670738), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 3 April 1945. While preparing a position as security outpost, the squad of which Sergeant (then Private First Class) Buban was a member, was attacked by a heavy enemy force. One machine gun was put out of action. Without regard for his own safety, Sergeant Buban continued to man the remaining weapon and halted the counterattack in his sector. When the squad moved to a house and set up a defensive position, he remained on guard at a window throughout the night warding off enemy attempts to throw grenades and place rocket fire in the building. His courage and disregard for his own safety reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Munhall, Pennsylvania

BURCH, CHARLES A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles A. Burch (0-535062), Second Lieutenant (Corps of Engineers), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 53d Armored Engineer Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Lieutenant Burch advanced more than 300 yards across open terrain to remove enemy mines that were holding up the advance of his platoon. In carrying out this mission he came under direct fire from artillery, mortars and small arms. His decisive action, carried out without consideration for his own safety, enabled his task force to advance and obtain their objective. His action reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: San Antonio, Texas

BURKE, TIMOTHY J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Timothy J. Burke (31303666), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, in Germany on 11 April 1945. Private Burke led his squad, in the face of intense enemy fire, to a strong point. Clearing it of the

enemy, he quickly set up counter defenses. He then made a personal reconnaissance to locate enemy gun positions. Capturing three prisoners, he returned with the prisoners and the necessary information. Later, when fire was so heavy that evacuation of the wounded man was delayed, Private burke crawled two hundred yards under constant small arms fire to reach a wounded squad member and evacuate him. His actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Swampscott, Massachusetts

BURNS, JOHN G.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John G. Burns (31302908), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 53d Armored Engineer Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 February 1945. While infantry forces were pinned down by a heavy concentration of enemy fire, Sergeant Burns moved forward to clear a heavily mined road block. Without consideration for his personal safety, he continued the work of removing mines and setting demolitions charges. The clearing of the road block and removal of the mines enabled the tanks to advance and take their objective. Sergeant Burns' actions were highly courageous and reflect greatest credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Massachusetts

***BUSSERT, CHARLES**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Charles Bussert (0-1016799), First Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop D, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 February 1945. Lieutenant Bussert volunteered to lead a patrol into heavily defended enemy territory to secure information on the strength and disposition of troops and to obtain prisoners for questioning. He led his patrol across an obstacle-strewn river, through armed outpost guards, and to an occupied town. After obtaining the required information he entered a house on the outskirts of the town, captured two prisoners and succeeded in bringing his entire patrol and prisoners safely back to his own lines. His display of skill and courage in accomplishing this dangerous assignment is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 49 (June 20, 1945)

Home of Record: Amanda, Ohio

CAMPBELL, GEORGE A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to George S. Campbell (0-544230), Second Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 29 March 1945. Lieutenant Campbell, despite losses in his platoon, continued to move forward

against the enemy in the face of heavy artillery, small arms and mortar fire. With only five infantrymen to support his tank section, he moved into the town. Ordered to withdraw, he attempted to remove disabled vehicles. Unsuccessful, he continued to the rear on foot, carrying the wounded. While so doing, he was wounded and evacuated. His devotion to duty without regard for personal safety reflects great credit on himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Rockaway, New Jersey

CARR, VERNON G.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Vernon G. Carr (37606792), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. During the advance of his company Sergeant Carr, a tank commander, sustained a head wound. He refused evacuation, insisting that other wounded members of his crew be removed first. Without regard for his own wound, or for heavy enemy fire, Sergeant Carr directed evacuation of other soldiers and personally rendered first aid to many of them. When this task was completed he ordered the remainder of the crew to continue forward with the attack. When the vehicle was disabled by a mine, he rendered first aid to the wounded and directed their evacuation. Sergeant Carr continued his actions until he lost consciousness as a result of his own injuries. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 57 (June 29, 1945)

Home of Record: Mountain view, Missouri

CASPERS, GEORGE H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to George H. Caspers (37665007), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy in Holland on 26 February 1945. Private Caspers' platoon was pinned down by cross-fire. He obtained a bazooka and crawled seventy-five yards forward to a point where he could observe the enemy positions. His first round knocked out one machine gun. His weapon damaged by enemy fire, he returned for another. Crawling back to his original post, he succeeded in eliminating the other gun. Private Caspers' mission was carried out despite heavy machine gun and mortar fire which caused numerous casualties in the area. His actions were an inspiration to all and reflect credit on himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Iowa

CHAMBERS, TOM L.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Tom L. Chambers (15046496), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 25 January 1945. Sergeant Chambers

assumed command of a platoon when the platoon leader was evacuated. With great skill he organized and directed from a dismounted position, the advance of his platoon and supporting infantry despite constant mortar, artillery and sniper fire. He successfully maintained contact when radio communication failed by going from tank to tank on foot under heavy fire. He led his platoon through a minefield, later destroying the field for the safety of relieving troops. When the loader of a tank was wounded, Sergeant Chambers personally evacuated him, returning to reorganize the crew and continue with the action. His outstanding leadership, courage and devotion to duty were directly responsible for keeping casualties to a minimum and contributed materially to the success of the operation. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Kentucky

CHAPAS, LOUIS G.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Louis G. Chapas (32871587), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. While leading a mounted patrol, Corporal Chapas, mounted in a one-quarter ton vehicle, encountered heavy machine gun and small arms fire. He attempted to pin the enemy down by the use of grenades, advancing to within twenty yards of their position. He then returned to his vehicle and manned the machine gun. While firing on the enemy he was wounded. He secured his grenade launcher and was again wounded while firing on the enemy positions. Upon exhausting his ammunition he opened fire with a rocket launcher and while using this weapon was wounded a third time. Despite his wounds he continued to fire until support arrived. His action resulted in preventing many casualties and resulted in the capture of fifty enemy infantry. His devotion to duty and personal courage reflect great credit on himself and the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 48 (June 11, 1945)
Home of Record: Brooklyn, New York

CLARK, ELMER W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Elmer W. Clark (0-1317372), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as Commanding Officer of Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period from 5 March to 10 March 1945. As Company Commander, Captain Clark was habitually found with the assault platoon of his company, directing their advance. In order to keep in contact with the leading elements of his company, Captain Clark was frequently exposed to enemy artillery, mortar, machine gun and small arms fire. While leading his organization in action, he refused to move back, remaining with the leading elements until their mission was accomplished. His outstanding courage and leadership was an inspiration to all and reflects great credit on himself and the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Oshkosh, Wisconsin

CLEARY, DAVID M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to David M. Cleary (0-1178445), Captain (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 5 April 1945. Captain Cleary volunteered to clear an enemy strong point. With his half-track vehicle and a .30 caliber machine gun, he was successful in forcing the surrender of the enemy position. In doing so he was forced to advance more than 1000 yards beyond the nearest friendly troops. His gallantry and courageous action beyond the call of duty were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Pennsylvania

COKINOS, MIKE P.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Mike P. Cokinos (0-1185167), Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Battery A, 398th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 26 January 1945. Assigned as Forward Observer, Lieutenant Cokinos successfully directed artillery fire for a period in excess of fifty hours, despite hostile artillery, mortar and small arms fire. He located an aid station and brought up aid men and litters to evacuate the wounded. When the Infantry Battalion Commander was wounded by mortar fire, he administered first aid and covered the fallen officer with his own body, using his own helmet to protect the commander's face until the mortar barrage slackened. This gallantry was above the call of duty and reflects great credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 8 (March 13, 1945)

Home of Record: Beaumont, Texas

COLSON, CHARLES F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles F. Colson (0-12173), Brigadier General, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while Commanding Combat Command A, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period 23 February 1945 to 28 February 1945. During this period General Colson displayed outstanding leadership and personal courage. Particularly during the attack on Dorsten, General Colson was habitually with the forward elements of his force and by close personal supervision made certain that all units cooperated to the fullest extent in carrying out the attack. Although frequently exposed to enemy fire of all types he completely disregarded his own safety and personally directed the actions of all elements of his command until the mission was successfully accomplished. His devotion to duty and courage were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 47 (1945)

Home of Record: South Carolina

COOKE, LIONEL W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Lionel W. Cooke (33096142), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. While serving as Platoon Sergeant of an assault gun platoon, Sergeant Cooke was delivering supporting fire for an infantry company. During the action he noticed that an infantryman a short distance from his tank was severely wounded. He left the safety of his tank and under a hail of enemy machine gun and small arms fire, he lifted the wounded man to the bustle of the tank. Then shielding the man behind the turret, Sergeant Cooke directed the tank to a covered position where medical aid men took charge of the casualty. Sergeant Cooke acted without consideration for his own safety and his actions reflect credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Virginia

COX, ROBERT C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert C. Cox (O-532723), Second Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 27 January 1945. Lieutenant Cox was in the lead tank of his platoon as it was advancing toward Sinz, Germany. As his column was proceeding across a marshy field to the right flank of an adjoining company, his tank struck a mine and was immediately brought under fire by the two enemy Mark IV tanks. Despite this fire, Lieutenant Cox dismounted and directed the movement of his tank so as to bring it into position to fire. He then engaged both tanks and an anti-tank gun annihilating all. While his crew remained with the tank, Lieutenant Cox again dismounted and although under constant artillery fire, he guided the rest of the company around the mined area. Lieutenant Cox's personal bravery and inspiring leadership reflects great credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Ogden, New Mexico

CROUSE, GORDON D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Gordon D. Crouse (36311154), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 5 April 1945. Sergeant Crouse, a tank commander, led an assault on an enemy town. After destroying several enemy positions, his tank was disabled by enemy fire and Sergeant Crouse was wounded. Disregarding his own wounds he left his disabled tank and ran to the support tank whose commander had been injured. Taking command of this vehicle, he continued the advance, completing his mission. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the

United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)
Home of Record: Illinois

CRUMLEY, DOUGLAS E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Douglas E. Crumley (31328102), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Corporal (then Private First Class) Crumley, serving as a messenger, drove his one-quarter ton vehicle across an open field under vicious enemy fire to aid a wounded companion. After administering aid he placed him on the hood of his vehicle and carried him to safety. This gallant act, beyond the call of duty, reflects great credit on Corporal Crumley and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)
Home of Record: St. Ellenville, New York

DIVEN, DANIEL C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Daniel C. Diven (33668219), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 April 1945. While operating in a lead reconnaissance section, Technical Sergeant (then Sergeant) Diven came under heavy fire of all types. While returning fire and determining the locality of the enemy, he directed the tanks into position and adjusted their fire. After establishing a base of fire he led a bold mounted assault into the enemy strongpoint. As a result of this, thirty-five prisoners were taken, several times that number killed and the advance of the task force permitted to continue. Later, while employed in the same manner, it was necessary for Sergeant Diven and the reconnaissance group to fight their way to the edge of a village and hold key terrain until infantry elements could be employed. Throughout the action Sergeant Diven's aggressive leadership, initiative and personal bravery were inspiring and his actions reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)
Home of Record: Pennsylvania

***DORR, MICHAEL W.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Michael W. Dorr (6253729), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. Corporal Dorr was a member of a patrol sent out to evacuate prisoners. When the other members of the patrol dismounted from the half-track, he remained at the machine gun to cover their advance. The dismounted members of the patrol met fifteen German soldiers and Corporal Dorr fired several bursts overhead to induce surrender. Other enemy troops then opened fire. Engaging three tanks as well as the machine guns, he fought courageously to protect

his companions until mortally wounded. His bravery and extreme devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States and reflect great credit upon himself and the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: Englewood, Colorado

DOUGHER, EDWARD F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Edward F. Dougher (0-2010977), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 27 March 1945. Lieutenant Dougher was serving as forward artillery observer with an infantry battalion. When an assault platoon moved on its initial objective he gave excellent fire support. As the platoon moved forward to complete its mission, Lieutenant Dougher anticipated a counterattack. Under intense artillery and small arms fire, he crossed more than 200 yards of open terrain and moved up to join the assault platoon. Twice he was knocked from his feet by artillery fire but continued on his mission. Through his radio communication he immediately delivered effective fire on enemy positions repulsing several counterattacks. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)

Home of Record: New York

DOUGLAS, LOREN

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Loren Douglas (36776944), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 27 January 1945. Private Douglas, assistant gunner in a machine gun platoon, carried a radii under heavy enemy fire to a forward command post, thereby providing vital communication with supporting elements. When three half-track vehicles of another platoon were disabled by mines, he voluntarily went forward under artillery and mortar fire, and aided in towing the vehicles to safety and clearing a path for advancing tanks. Later, while voluntarily reconnoitering a route around a mine field, he encountered a group of enemy soldiers. Wounding the leader, he succeeded in taking the remainder prisoners. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Illinois

DUNN, SHERMAN M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Sherman M. Dunn (37012988), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, during the period 25 January to 27 January 1945. In Nennig and Berg, Germany, Sergeant Dunn took command of his platoon after the platoon leader was wounded and led the platoon in a superior

manner. Although wounded twice, Sergeant Dunn refused to be evacuated and continued to lead his platoon until successful completion of its mission. The courage, endurance and leadership of Sergeant Dunn was an inspiration to his men and a credit to the high traditions of our Armed Forces.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Eugene, Oregon

EDMUNDS, KENNETH M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Kenneth M. Edmunds (33845121), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. While his platoon was pinned down by heavy machine gun and small arms fire Private Edmunds went to the aid of a wounded member of the platoon. While administering aid to this man, he observed another casualty nearby. He immediately went to his aid, refusing assistance from another squad member. When this squad member was later wounded, Private Edmunds again left a covered position, removed him to cover and rendered aid. His quick action and disregard for his own safety was instrumental in saving the lives of his fellow soldiers and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 46 (June 7, 1945)
Home of Record: Virginia

ELIAS, RALPH J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Ralph J. Elias (0-1317381), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945. When two large task forces were held up by enemy action, Captain (then First Lieutenant) Elias' company was given the assignment of crossing a canal, taking an enemy town, and wiping out resistance that was holding up the advance. Without regard for his own safety, Captain Elias led the assault platoons in this action. When the attack faltered in the face of machine gun and direct artillery fire, he personally went along the line encouraging his men and urging them forward. His splendid leadership and personal courage gave courage to his men and enabled them to carry the attack through to successful completion. Captain Elias' personal courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 57 (June 29, 1945)
Home of Record: Georgetown, Kentucky

ELSHIRE, DONALD D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald D. Elshire (37773166), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. When the tank in which he was gunner was struck by enemy artillery, Private First

Class (then Private) Elshire escaped and found cover in a nearby house. From that point he saw the tank commander lying wounded near the burning vehicle. He left the safety of his position and under constant small arms fire, removed the wounded officer to a position of safety. There, surrounded by enemy, he remained for eleven hours to care for the officer until advancing troops relieved him. His devotion to duty and heroism in the face of enemy fire reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: O'Neill, Nebraska

EMERSON, GEORGE M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to George M. Emerson (39618044), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945 and 4 April 1945. When an infantry company, attacking an enemy city, called for medical aid, Private Emerson volunteered. He crossed open terrain under intense sniper fire, without regard for his own safety, to attend to the wounded in the attacking company. Later when three platoons were attacking another town, Private Emerson advanced without regard for his own safety, running and crawling under intense fire for four hundred yards across open terrain. Although enemy rifle fire barely cleared him, he rendered aid to a wounded soldier. While so doing he was himself wounded. Disregarding his own injury he dragged the wounded man back across the open terrain to safety. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces and reflect great credit on himself and the service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Montana

ERDMANN, ARTHUR C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Arthur C. Erdmann (0-1010606), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Captain Erdmann led his company in the spearhead of a task force that struck a heavily defended enemy town. Maneuvering his forces against overwhelming odds, he smashed enemy defenses and penetrated the town. During the action three tanks in which he was riding were knocked out. Each time he dismounted under fire and mounted the nearest tank to carry on direction of the company. He was seriously wounded when the fourth tank was struck by anti-tank fire. Captain Erdmann's tactical skill and the coolness with which he employed it is in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Sullivan, Illinois

ESPINOSA, FRED N.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Fred N. Espinosa (37363167), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while

-serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 11 April 1945. Corporal (then Private First Class) Espinosa was making a dismounted reconnaissance when he contacted enemy infantry. Seven of the enemy surrendered. As attempts were being made to induce the others to surrender, they opened fire. Corporal Espinosa directed his prisoners to a ditch. From that spot he kept charge of his prisoners and returned fire on an enemy machine gun position. Corporal Espinosa held his position for two hours until relieved by friendly elements. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 28 (May 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Colorado

ESTABROOK, CLAYTON

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Clayton Estabrook (31317955), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 9 April 1945. Private Estabrook, as a member of a combat patrol, advanced more than three hundred yards under intense fire, in order to direct rocket fire at three enemy tanks, forcing their withdrawal. He then assisted in knocking out a machine gun position, and with rifle fire, disabled an enemy staff car and caused casualties among its occupants. Later he was serving with another patrol which was ambushed. Private Estabrook, without regard for his own safety, remained with a wounded companion, rendering aid and moving him to a place of safety. He then returned to the rear under fire to secure aid for his comrade. His actions and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Maine

FAHEY, WILLIAM B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William B. Fahey (37159347), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 25 March 1945. Sergeant Fahey, without regard for his own safety, moved his tank in front of that of his platoon leader when the platoon leader's tank stalled in front of a burning ammunition truck. He dismounted under fire from the ammunition load and connected a towing cable to the disabled tank. With the aid of the platoon leader he removed hot mortar and rocket shells from the roadway so his tank could safely tow the stalled vehicle. His bravery, initiative and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Minnesota

***FIELDS, CARL W.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Carl W. Fields (38353454), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division,

in Holland on 26 February 1945. Private Fields was advancing with his platoon on a strongly fortified enemy position. The platoon was pinned down and unable to direct their fire on the enemy position. Private Fields, realizing the situation, advanced over open terrain. Ignoring the intense machine gun and small arms fire, he directed his rifle fire on two positions. He succeeded in forcing the enemy to cover. His action enabled his platoon to advance and eliminate the enemy strong points. During the course of the action, Private Fields was fatally wounded by machine gun fire. His gallant action held casualties to a minimum and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Arkansas

FORSMAN, PETER J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Peter J. Forsman (36952816), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 11 April 1943. Corporal (then Private First Class) Forsman's tank was hit and burst into flames. Climbing to the turret of the tank he administered morphine to three seriously wounded. He then removed all ammunition from the burning tank to prevent explosion. These acts were performed under constant sniper fire. Although it was impossible to save the lives of the wounded men, Corporal Forsman made them comfortable during their last moments. His heroic devotion to his comrades and gallant deeds reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 28 (May 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Michigan

FORSTER, RICHARD G.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Richard G. Forster (0-1179398), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 5 April 1945. Lieutenant Forster, while serving as an Army Liaison Pilot, registered an artillery unit on targets. The mission was completed under intense anti-aircraft fire which followed the plane over an area of several thousand yards. Without regard for personal danger, Lieutenant Forster later returned to the same area and again gave observation to an artillery unit, preventing an anticipated counterattack. His actions and personal courage reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)

Home of Record: Kansas

FOX, FRANK R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Frank R. Fox (33594841), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. During an engagement against superior enemy forces, Sergeant Fox's tank was disabled. Despite the fact

that an enemy weapon continued to fire at the vehicle, he remained at his post and fired at known enemy positions. Exhausting his ammunition, he removed a machine gun from the vehicle, secured ammunition from another disabled tank, and set up a defensive position despite heavy mortar and small arms fire. His actions, without regard for his own safety, and his devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Pennsylvania

FRALIC, RALPH V.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Ralph V. Fralic (11133204), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 31 March 1945 and 4 April 1945. A half-track vehicle loaded with ammunition was struck by fire and ignited. Parked nearby were six other vehicles, including three large ammunition trucks. Without regard for his own safety, Private First Class (then Private) Fralic drove the vehicles to safety despite exploding ammunition from the burning vehicle. Later he dismounted from his tank under intense small arms and mortar fire to move vehicles out of a congested area, enabling his platoon to move into position. His actions, carried out voluntarily, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)
Home of Record: Lynn, Massachusetts

FRANZ, RICHARD E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Richard E. Franz (42125715), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 February 1945. Private Franz was a cannoneer of a tank that was disabled by enemy fire, which also wounded the gunner. Under heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire he removed the gunner and assisted him to the shelter of a nearby ditch. There he attempted to administer aid to the wounded man. He then made his way across open terrain under extremely heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire and led medical aid men back to the wounded man. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit to himself and the Armed forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)
Home of Record: New York

FRAZIER, CLOVIS M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Clovis M. Frazier (0-2012092), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 9 April 1945. When his tank was knocked out and part of the crew wounded, Lieutenant Frazier mounted to the deck to man a machine gun, exposing himself to heavy small arms fire. When the tank was again struck by anti-tank fire he ordered his men to abandon it. He

returned to move a wounded man to cover under intense fire. Learning there was another wounded man in the tank he returned a second time. He then reorganized his platoon and under continued heavy fire, led them into an enemy town to complete its capture. His outstanding leadership and courage were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)
Home of Record: Cedartown, Georgia

GIBBONS, THOMAS E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Thomas E. Gibbons (38482204), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland on 26 February 1945. Private Gibbons, himself wounded, remained when his company withdrew to render aid to a more seriously wounded companion. Exposed to enemy observation throughout the day, Private Gibbons lay in an open field waiting for darkness before he evacuated the man to a point of safety. His gallant action in saving the life of a friend reflects greatest credit upon himself and upon the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: La Veta, Colorado

***GODWIN, PETER F.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Peter F. Godwin (0-1016791), First Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 2 March 1945. The advance of Lieutenant Godwin's platoon was held up by a sudden concentration of small arms fire. Two men were sent ahead to investigate a bridge and determine the source of the enemy fire. Covering this operation, Lieutenant Godwin saw one of the men fall. Moving his armored car forward, he dismounted under fire and moved the wounded man to safety. His heroic action, with disregard for his own safety, reflects great credit upon himself and the **Armed Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 18 (April 2, 1945)

***GOESMAN, BRUNK A.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Brunk A. Goesman (36072263), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant Goesman's tank was knocked out by anti-tank fire. He exposed himself to the dismounting crew. He then dismounted and fought as a foot soldier, taking six prisoners, including a bazooka team. While moving forward on foot to designate targets and support tanks, he was killed by a burst of artillery fire. Sergeant Goesman acted without consideration for his own safety. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the **Military Forces of the United States.**

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 18 (April 2, 1945)
Home of Record: Macoupin County, Illinois

GOODRICH, GUINN B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Guinn B. Goodrich (0308572), Lieutenant Colonel (Armor), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while Commanding the 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 29 March 1945 and 5 April 1945 and April 12, 1945. As a leader of a task force, Colonel Goodrich displayed outstanding gallantry in the engagements with enemy forces. On one occasion he moved his command post so close to behind assaulting elements that he was under constant artillery and mortar fire. While personally directing one operation he was painfully wounded by shrapnel. After receiving medical treatment he continued to carry on his duties. His close personal supervision and tactical skill resulted greatly reduced casualties in his task force and in all actions Colonel Goodrich demonstrated courage and disregard for his own safety that was an inspiration to his men and in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)
Home of Record: El Paso, Texas

GOOL, ANTHONY

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Anthony Gool (33434972), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Private First Class (then Private) Gool was a member of a group pinned down by machine gun and small arms fire. Ordered to withdraw, he carried a badly wounded officer across open terrain to safety. He continued to administer first aid to the wounded throughout the night. His actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Erie, Pennsylvania

GORNA, CHARLES W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles W. Gorna (33440810), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 1 March 1945. Sergeant Gorna, while exploring a mined path, encountered an armed enemy guard. Forcing the guard to surrender he captured eleven other enemy soldiers who were hiding in a nearby dugout. Later he volunteered to guard the vehicle to which he was assigned while the remainder of the squad took cover from sniper fire in a nearby house. Relieved of his guard duties, he went in search of the sniper, found him, and took him prisoner. Sergeant Gorna's actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Greensburg, Pennsylvania

GROFT, JOHN R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John R. Groft (33873377), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant (then Private First Class) Groft crawled for more than eight hundred yards under intense enemy machine gun, artillery and mortar fire to lead twelve of his fellow soldiers to safety. He volunteered for this action after witnessing the unsuccessful efforts of others to reach the stranded man. Sergeant Groft's complete disregard for his own safety and his exemplary conduct under fire reflect greatest credit both upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

GURNEY, EDWARD J., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Edward J. Gurney, Jr. (0-1010115), Major (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. When advance of a task force was halted, Major Gurney, an Executive Officer, personally gathered infantrymen and led them forward under intense fire. He organized them with the tank company. When his tank was disabled, Major Gurney dismounted to guide the attack on foot. While thus leading the attack he was seriously wounded by small arms fire. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 95 (September 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Ohio

HAMMERSCHMIDT, MARTIN M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Martin M. Hammerschmidt (0-436584), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period 22 January to 25 January 1945. On 22 January Lieutenant Hammerschmidt drove a half-track into a street which was under enemy fire. This action permitted an aid man to evacuate wounded. From the night of 23 January until relieved on 25 January, Lieutenant Hammerschmidt's platoon outposted key terrain east of Nenning. During this period the platoon's position was under artillery, mortar and small arms fire. Lieutenant Hammerschmidt showed complete disregard for his own safety. His actions were an inspiration to his men and aided materially in the success of the operation. Lieutenant Hammerschmidt's personal bravery and inspiring leadership reflect the greatest credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Chicago, Illinois

HANMER, WILLIAM

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William Hanmer (0-1176360), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 398th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Lieutenant Hanmer was serving as a Forward Observer attached to a tank company. The company was under heavy observed anti-tank fire. In an effort to alleviate the situation and without thought of his own safety, Lieutenant Hanmer moved his tank out in the open to engage the enemy guns and to adjust artillery on them. While doing this his tank was knocked out and he was seriously wounded. His actions were an inspiration and reflect great credit on himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: Michigan

HASTIGAN, ROBERT S.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert S. Hastigan (39723377), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 2 April to 7 April 1945. When his company was surrounded and cut off, Private Hastigan volunteered to go on patrol through the enemy lines to contact and guide reinforcements. Later he volunteered to serve with a scout group for a task force. The group captured crews of two guns, permitting the uninterrupted advance of the column. Later the same day Private Hastigan volunteered to serve with another scout group. Their mission was to determine the strength and disposition of enemy forces. During this mission, Private Hastigan was seriously wounded. His disregard for personal safety and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 27 (May 6, 1945)

Home of Record: Van Nuys, California

HAYES, DONALD R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald R. Hayes (0-2016407), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany from 3 April 1945 to 10 April 1945. Lieutenant (then Staff Sergeant) Hayes voluntarily took over the duties of an evacuated tank commander. When his vehicle was hit by artillery, he remained to remove his crew's personal weapons and to fire one remaining round at an enemy tank. He then accomplished the evacuation of wounded. When the platoon leader was evacuated, he quickly reorganized the platoon and continued with the attack. He led his platoon to the front of the assault and pressed on to capture a strongly defended town. His actions, beyond the call of duty, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 31 (1945)

Home of Record: Baltimore, Maryland

HEALY, WILLIAM R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William R. Healy (14164154), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop B, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant (then Corporal) Healy was a member of a platoon evacuating casualties from a forward area. The platoon leader's armored car was knocked out and the platoon leader was seriously wounded. Sergeant Healy left the safety of his own vehicle, hooked a tow cable on the disabled vehicle, and directed its removal to a place of safety. When it was determined that two other men were missing, Sergeant Healy returned to the area. He located the two men, both casualties, and evacuated them. His actions were entirely voluntary and reflect greatest credit on himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Marietta, Georgia

HEBLER, GEORGE R., SR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to George R. Hebler, Sr. (38616100), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Regiment, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 2 April to 8 April 1945. When his company was completely surrounded, Sergeant Hebler crawled several hundred yards through the enemy lines to contact his battalion command post. Later, while in the advance guard of an armored column he discovered an enemy 20-mm. gun and knocked it out before it could be put into action. He led an advance patrol assigned the mission of drawing enemy fire and uncovered positions that would have seriously hampered the advance of the platoon. During this period he volunteered to lead a patrol into enemy territory to locate wounded and identify the dead. The courageous actions of Sergeant Hebler reflects the greatest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Louisiana

HENSON, GUS C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Gus C. Henson, Captain (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 1 April 1945. When an infantry platoon was pinned down by enemy small arms and artillery fire, Captain Henson braved the fire to get to their aid. Upon making contact with the trapped men, he found that they were disorganized and in great danger of annihilation. Displaying the highest qualities of leadership, he reorganized the platoon, made personal reconnaissance and using all available cover, led the men to safety. Captain Henson's keen knowledge and outstanding personal bravery reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 46 (June 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Dallas, Texas

HERMANN, GROVER M., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Grover M. Hermann, Jr. (0-349102), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Service Company, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division in Germany on 25 January 1945. Captain Hermann was given the mission of moving a portion of his company to the rear of a heavily fortified chateau from which the Germans had an excellent field of fire. Captain Hermann with a portion of his company succeeded in obtaining this objective. His outstanding demonstration of force and initiative enabled the battalion to complete its mission. Captain Hermann was killed in the accomplishment of this mission. Captain Hermann's personal bravery and inspiring leadership reflect great credit upon himself and the Military forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Cook County, Illinois

***HIGGINS, GILBERT H., JR.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Gilbert H. Higgins, Jr. (0-544249), Second Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. When the second tank of his column was knocked out, Lieutenant Higgins attempted to warn the lead tank to seek safety. Unable to make radio contact, he moved his tank into direct enemy fire to support the trapped vehicle. Before he could reach cover, his tank was knocked out and Lieutenant Higgins was severely wounded. Despite his wounds and continuing heavy enemy fire, he helped evacuate his crew. He then went for aid, crossing 1200 yards under incessant machine gun and mortar fire. While being evacuated himself, Lieutenant Higgins lost his life when the vehicle in which he was riding struck an enemy mine. His devotion to duty and actions in the face of the enemy reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Morris County, New Jersey

HINTON, CARL

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Carl Hinton (14095127), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters Company, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. Technician Fifth Grade (then Corporal) Hinton volunteered to drive a medical truck during the absence of the assigned driver. Corporal Hinton worked continuously under heavy artillery, mortar and sniper fire. Although his vehicle was hit three times by artillery fire he continued to evacuate wounded men until his vehicle was completely knocked out. Technician Fifth Grade Hinton's personal bravery and devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Pelahatchie, Mississippi

HOLLEN, KERMIT C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Kermit C. Hollen (35750919), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. When his tank was immobilized by enemy fire, Corporal Hollen remained with the vehicle, still under fire, to man the tank's gun. When he had exhausted all ammunition he removed a machine gun from the vehicle, secured ammunition from another disabled tank, and set up a defensive position which he held against intense enemy fire. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Philippi, West Virginia

***HUBBARD, ROBERT J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Robert J. Hubbard (42107128), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 4 April 1945. Private Hubbard was serving as scout for a reconnaissance platoon. Upon contacting the enemy, the platoon was pinned down. Private Hubbard immediately moved to the foremost position with a one-quarter ton truck. He opened fire with the machine gun mounted on the vehicle, thereby covering the withdrawal of the platoon. After exhausting two full boxes of ammunition, he dismounted. Remaining at his position, he opened fire with his carbine, firing two clips at the enemy, enabling the platoon to complete its withdrawal without casualties. While engaged in this mission, Private Hubbard was fatally wounded by enemy sniper fire. His devotion beyond the call of duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 56 (June 28, 1945)

Home of Record: Otsego County, New York

***IRWIN, RALPH H. R.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Ralph H. R. Irwin (37033377), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 29 March 1945. Sergeant Irwin, acting platoon leader of a reconnaissance platoon, had sent his men into position to protect engineers working on a destroyed bridge. He then placed his armored car in the lead. When his vehicle was hit by anti-tank fire, Sergeant Irwin was wounded. Disregarding his own wounds he returned to the vehicle and removed his wounded gunner. During this action Sergeant Irwin was fatally wounded. His outstanding bravery was an inspiration to all and reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 84 (August 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Columbus, Nebraska

IVEY, LOUIS H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Louis H. Ivey (38055841), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, on 25 January 1945. Private Ivey with other members of his squad was engaged in clearing the town of Berg, Germany. As they approached the last houses in town the entire squad was pinned down by sniper and machine gun fire. Private Ivey, disregarding his own personal safety and with no assistance, moved his machine gun to a position where he could bring flanking fire on the enemy gun. This action permitted the rest of the squad to advance. During this entire operation Private Ivey was under heavy mortar and machine gun fire. Private Ivey's initiative and aggressiveness made possible the capture of eight prisoners and allowed his squad to continue its advance. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Texas

JERACKAS, PETER B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Peter B. Jerackas (31303662), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman of the Medical Department, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January and 26 January 1945. When two Medical Aid Men were seriously wounded by anti-personnel mines, Corporal Jerackas immediately went to their aid. Without regard for his own safety, he crossed three hundred yards of open terrain, under heavy enemy small arms and mortar fire, to render aid to the wounded men. During the action he frequently crossed open, mine-infested terrain, to bring aid to the wounded. His actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Lawrence, Massachusetts

KASTL, ORIEN A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Orien A. Kastl (37515326), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 1 March 1945. When two of his comrades were pinned down near a road block by intense automatic weapons, rifle and anti-tank fire, Sergeant Kastl voluntarily moved forward with a one-quarter ton vehicle. He fought his way to the side of his comrades and succeeded in bringing them to safety. The entire action was carried out against intense fire in the face of an advancing enemy. Sergeant Kastl's actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Bronson, Kansas

KELLY, DAVID B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to David B. Kelly (0-1013091), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Leading a tank attack on a heavily fortified enemy position, Captain Kelly personally directed the assault from his tank. When his vehicle was knocked out by enemy fire, he continued to lead on foot. During the engagement, Captain Kelly was wounded, but refused evacuation until the objective was taken and his company was reorganized. In leading the assault, he displayed extraordinary bravery and expert tactical knowledge. His inspiring example and leadership were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: South Amboy, New Jersey

KEMP, LLOYD R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Lloyd R. Kemp (39420185), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. When his tank was disabled, Corporal (then Private First Class) Kemp escaped to the shelter of a nearby house. Seeing his tank commander lying wounded beside the tank, Corporal Kemp left the security of his position and removed the wounded officer to shelter. He remained with him, completely surrounded by enemy, tending his wounds. His heroism and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: Sacramento, California

KENNY, LESLIE R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Leslie R. Kenny (32853758), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 6th Armored Division, in Germany on 8 March 1945. While advancing with a patrol given the mission of securing the bank of the Rhine River along a 1000 yard front, Private Kenny observed three enemy setting up a machine gun position to the left flank. Acting on his own initiative, Private Kenny outflanked the position and took it. His initiative and devotion to duty without regard for his own safety contributed materially to the success of the operation and his actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 84 (August 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Johnstown, New York

***KING, WILLIAM R.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to William R. King (37488142), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the

enemy while serving with Headquarters, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March and 31 March 1945. Private King was driver of a one-quarter ton truck. When his platoon, advancing on a reconnaissance mission, was pinned down by artillery and small arms fire, he was instructed to make his way to safety. Seeing one of the battalion tanks burning, he returned to the front and attempted to evacuate the members of the tank crew. He then drove another vehicle to safety under heavy fire. On the following day Private King was pinned down by small arms and artillery fire. Seeing that his platoon leader was wounded, he voluntarily left his position, making his way across open terrain to inform the battalion commander of the situation and to bring up medical aid. While so engaged he was fatally wounded. His devotion to duty and disregard for his own safety in the interest of his comrades is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 89 (August 14, 1945)

Home of Record: Seward County, Nebraska

***KOCH, JOHN G.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to John G. Koch (36913196), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Private Koch was advancing, dismounted, in support of a tank attack. He pushed forward aggressively, without regard for intense machine gun fire which pinned down men on both sides of him. When his platoon encountered intense direct fire and hand grenade attacks, it was necessary to withdraw to a nearby building. While moving to this position Private Koch was mortally wounded but managed to reach the cover of a ditch. When aid arrived his chief concern was to direct assistance to a wounded officer. Not until he had been assured the officer had been cared for, would he allow himself to be moved. Realizing that silence was imperative, he remained quiet despite the pain of his wounds. His courage and high regard for the welfare of others reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 56 (June 28, 1945)

Home of Record: Peoria, Illinois

KRONONGER, DONALD C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald C. Krononger (33836793), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945, 2 April and 12 April 1945. On 5 March Private Krononger was personally responsible for the surrender of twenty enemy who were endangering his platoon's advance. On another occasion he returned across open fields under fire to recover equipment left behind by wounded comrades. Later he manned an automatic rifle after the rifleman had been wounded. On 12 April his aggressive actions forced surrender of several heavily armed enemy who were defending a house in the outskirts of a town. Although wounded on two different occasions, he refused evacuation on both occasions in order to continue with the action. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United

States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Allentown, Pennsylvania

KRUG, CLARENCE A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Clarence A. Krug (37665826), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 28 February 1945. Sergeant Krug voluntarily advanced to help clear a mine field which was under heavy artillery and small arms fire. After the field was cleared he crossed 500 yards of open terrain to lead tanks forward. On another occasion Sergeant Krug was in charge of a patrol charged with the mission of reconnoitering a destroyed bridge. He led his patrol behind enemy lines, displaying great skill in avoiding detection. The patrol returned with valuable information. His courage, skill and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Iowa

KUNTZ, ROBERT A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert A. Kuntz (0-448365), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 398th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Lieutenant Kuntz went to the aid of a forward observer and his tank crew seriously injured by enemy fire. To reach the position, he traversed a section of road swept by constant fire. After evacuating the wounded officer, he returned through the same dangerous area to aid members of the crew. He then remained to serve as forward observer, adjusting fire on the enemy gun that was holding up the advance of a tank company. His actions, beyond the call of duty, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)
Home of Record: Indiana

KURTZ, RAYMOND H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Raymond H. Kurtz (33594299), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Corporal Kurtz, carried out his duties in the face of heavy machine gun and mortar fire despite serious wounds which he sustained. With a compound fracture of one leg, he crawled under fire to the assistance of three wounded men. He dragged another man to safety from a position exposed to small arms fire. His own strength failing, he then dragged himself to a house where he continued to give aid to other wounded men until he lost consciousness. In carrying out his missions of mercy, Corporal Kurtz displayed gallantry that was beyond the call of duty.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

LAMATTINA, JOSEPH D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Joseph D. Lamattina (32572955), Technician Fifth Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with an Armored unit in France on 11 July 1944. Corporal Lamattina drove his half-track vehicle forward under light mortar and artillery fire. Upon arrival in the new position he moved to a concealed position and camouflaged it. Then, as a heavy artillery barrage opened up, he voluntarily supervised placing and concealment of other vehicles. Without orders he went to the aid of men preparing a mortar position. When the mortar barrage suddenly increased he took cover in the partially prepared position. Upon learning that several of his comrades had been wounded, he left his covered position and went to their aid, without regard for the extremely heavy fire. He moved the wounded to cover, rendered aid, and then went for medical aid men. Corporal Lamattina's conduct was an inspiration to all and reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)
Home of Record: New Jersey

***LANE, CECIL M.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Cecil M. Lane (0-1317407), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 4 April 1945. Lieutenant Lane displayed outstanding leadership in organizing his company for the attack on an important enemy-held town. Leading his ground elements and coordinating the movement and fire of supporting tanks, his personal actions were largely responsible for the success of the operation. While directing the attack against a wooded area which concealed five anti-aircraft guns holding up the attack, Lieutenant Lane was mortally wounded. His bold leadership and outstanding bravery were an inspiration to the men of his command and reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)
Home of Record: Pike County, Georgia

LEACH, CHARLES R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles R. Leach (35228174), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, near Dorsten, Germany, on 29 March 1945. Private Leach, an ammunition carrier in a machine gun platoon, volunteered to man a machine gun on a light truck during the advance on an enemy-held city. Ambushed by the enemy, he immediately opened fire, neutralizing hostile machine gun positions and enabling his patrol to withdraw. Later while serving as machine gunner on a one-quarter ton truck, he exposed himself to sniper fire in order to assist in the capture of 870 prisoners with equipment and several artillery pieces. His courage and devotion to duty are in

keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Barnesville, Ohio

LEISEY, LEROY B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to LeRoy B. Leisey (7892920), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 25 January 1945. After losing contact with his platoon leader, Sergeant Leisey engaged and knocked out an enemy tank and neutralized an enemy strong point that was pinning down infantry elements. Twice during the action he went to the rear for more ammunition, returning to continue the action. When the vehicle stalled he manned a machine gun on the rear deck of the tank while repairs were made. Later when the tank was hit by rocket fire, he disregarded his own serious injuries to report conditions to the relieving platoon leader, giving location of snipers, enemy strong points, and other information. His outstanding initiative and courage, and complete devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Pennsylvania

LOOK, EDWARD H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Edward H. Look (0-1297061), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Captain Look, a Battalion S-2 officer, led a platoon forward against an enemy town in the face of intense fire. He moved a wounded officer to cover. Cut off from his organization, he then led his men across open terrain, under intense fire, to a sheltered position. There he tended the wounded and maintained the morale of his men until aid arrived the following day. Captain Look's leadership and gallantry reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 95 (September 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Providence, Rhode Island

***LOVE, EARL F.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Earl F. Love (33536064), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland on 26 February 1945. While advancing against the enemy, Private Love, light machine gunner for his platoon, was wounded. Disregarding his wound, he set up his gun and directed fire of tanks with tracers. Despite enemy observation, he moved forward to get a better field of fire. When his platoon withdrew, he remained in a position to cover the withdrawal. While doing so he was again wounded, this time fatally. His gallant action was the final factor in making possible an orderly withdrawal and reflects greatest credit on himself and the Military Service of the United

States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Sydnorsville, Virginia

LOWRY, WILLIAM C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William C. Lowry (0-2010954), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Lieutenant (then Technical Sergeant) Lowry was commanding the first platoon of his company. The platoon on his right was held up by enemy action, thus exposing his men to flank fire. Lieutenant Lowry, with two men, set out under a hail of small arms fire to take an enemy strong point from which the fire was coming. En route to the enemy-occupied building, he individually knocked out an 88-mm. anti-aircraft gun. He entered the enemy-occupied house under a hail of fire and returned with an enemy officer. He forced the German officer to order the remaining occupants to surrender. A total of fifty prisoners were thus accounted for. Throughout the mission, Lieutenant Lowry displayed courage and initiative with complete disregard for his own safety. His gallantry was beyond the call of duty and reflected credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Dayton, Ohio

MACLACHLAN, IAN M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Ian M. MacLachlan (0-1010232), Major (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 27 March 1945 to 14 April 1945. Major MacLachlan, Battalion Operations Officer, was habitually with the advance elements of the task force, coordinating the movement of the combined arms. He personally directed troops in the occupation of important Nazi party headquarters. On two occasions he personally directed available troops in successful defeat of counterattacks. Throughout the operation he displayed outstanding personal courage and leadership. Without regard for his own safety, he constantly exposed himself to enemy fire and his actions were an inspiration to all. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)
Home of Record: Michigan

***MAIDMENT, ANTHONY H.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Anthony H. Maidment (0-1010740), Captain (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. During the attack on a very strongly-held enemy position in Berg, Germany, the company commander and the first platoon leader were wounded. Captain

Maidment, the battalion S-3, on his own initiative took command of the company and directed it into position so that the attack was continued. Later the same day the second platoon leader's tank became seriously damaged. In order that a planned assault by the platoon with combined infantry might be made against the strongly-held position, Captain Maidment mounted the second tank and led the assault. When within 100 yards of the enemy position his tank was hit by an enemy anti-tank rocket and Captain Maidment was killed. Captain Maidment's initiative, courageous leadership and heroic devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Illinois

MALONE, ROBERT A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert A. Malone (34570343), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 3 April 1945. Sergeant Malone, Assistant Squad Leader of a machine gun squad, was placing a security outpost. When the squad was fired upon Sergeant Malone quickly reorganized his men and returned fire, driving the enemy back. When the squad was ordered to a cellar for protection from an expected artillery barrage he remained on guard outside. While thus occupied Sergeant Malone was wounded. Ignoring his wound, he organized his men for a defense and remained on guard throughout the night. His courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Georgia

MALPASS, PAUL J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Paul J. Malpass (39327377), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 741st Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 14 April 1945. Speeding across some 1500 yards of open ground completely exposed to withering enemy artillery and small arms fire, Corporal Malpass went to the rescue of three seriously wounded soldiers despite the fact that four other jeeps had been knocked out and their occupants captured in previous attempts to get through with ammunition. Unaided, he placed the wounded in his jeep and again made the perilous trip to return them to safety and vital medical attention. Corporal Malpass' courage and complete disregard for his own personal safety reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 95 (September 7, 1945)
Home of Record: Oregon

MANCUSO, ANDREW J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Andrew J. Mancuso (32193682), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy

while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 8 March 1945. While his mortar platoon was supporting an infantry company, Sergeant Mancuso reconnoitered a route over which he could move ammunition to the mortar position. While crossing open terrain, the supply patrol was subjected to intense mortar and machine gun fire. As they were nearing a completion of their mission, Sergeant Mancuso saw that a nearby rifleman was wounded. He left the only available cover and went to the aid of the wounded infantryman. Under a hail of enemy fire he dressed the man's wounds, then carried him to a sheltered position, remaining with him until this position drew fire. He then carried the wounded rifleman across 150 yards of open terrain to a small woods where he was delivered to medical aid men. Sergeant Mancuso's actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: New York

***MARCH, EDWIN F.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Edwin F. March (36721995), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. While serving with a task force, Private March observed an accompanying tank hit by enemy artillery. He dashed across open ground under a heavy artillery barrage and aided in removing the wounded tank commander to safety. He then returned to the stricken vehicle and helped another wounded crew member to safety after which he returned to his squad to continue with its operation. During a subsequent enemy barrage, and while serving as security, Private March was fatally wounded. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 86 (August 10, 1945)

Home of Record: Chicago, Illinois

MARIANI, ENRIQUE

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Enrique Mariani (32193241), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with an Armored unit in France on 27 July 1944. As his tank reached its objective, Sergeant (then Corporal) Mariani observed the tank to his rear hit and burst in to flames. Without regard for his own safety, he dashed across an open field under heavy small arms and artillery fire to the burning vehicle. There, despite exploding ammunition, he succeeded in removing two seriously wounded men and moving them to safety. His courage and devotion to duty without regard for his own safety reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)

Home of Record: New York

MARR, LESTER V.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Lester V.

Marr (36427001), First Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. First Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) Marr and his squad were pinned down by machine gun and heavy artillery fire. Seeing one of his men wounded, he ran across an open field and succeeded in evacuating the man to safety. When his platoon leader was killed he assumed full command of the platoon and held off strong counterattacks. The order came for the platoon to be withdrawn and Sergeant Marr accomplished this without the loss of a man, many of whom were already wounded. His devotion to duty and bravery under fire were inspiring and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: Chandlerville, Illinois

MARTENS, WALTER A. J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Walter A. J. Martens (0-1016501), First Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945. Lieutenant Martens personally led his reconnaissance platoon at the head of a task force. When his armored car, in the lead position, came under fire, he manned a machine gun and wiped out two enemy positions. Continuing the advance, his force came under artillery and mortar fire. He located two enemy anti-tank weapons, directed his fire on them, and notified following tanks of their position. His harassing fire forced the anti-tank gun crews into the open where they were destroyed by the tank which came up to aid the reconnaissance platoon. Although wounded himself, Lieutenant Martens refused medical aid until his task force was ordered to hold its position later in the day. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Sheldon, Iowa

MASARIK, EMIL W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Emil W. Masarik (35921680), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Forced to withdraw, Private Masarik carried to safety a severely wounded officer. This he accomplished despite heavy enemy fire. Throughout the night he administered first aid to the wounded. Private Masarik's courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Maple Heights, Ohio

MAZO, JOHN

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John

Mazo (16064627), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 3 April 1945. Sergeant Mazo and his squad had taken shelter in a cellar from an expected artillery barrage. When the enemy attacked, he organized his men to defend their position and personally guarded the door, preventing the enemy from making a successful charge. He then crawled up on two enemy machine gun positions, wiping out enemy troops manning the guns, and recovering the guns. After Sergeant Mazo had directed a successful defense of the position for six hours the enemy withdrew. His courage and devotion to duty without regard for his own safety reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 86 (August 10, 1945)
Home of Record: New York

MCCLAIN, WILLIAM H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William H. McClain (33668208), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland and Germany on 26 February 1945 and 28 March 1945. When the radio operator was fatally wounded, Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) McClain voluntarily returned more than four hundred yards under intense fire to secure the radio equipment and maintain communications with the main force. Later he returned over the same route to secure food for his platoon. On another occasion Sergeant McClain voluntarily went alone, under cover of darkness, into territory from which his platoon had been forced to withdraw because of superior forces. He reconnoitered a bridge across a canal and gained necessary information which enabled another company to successfully cross. He then led a patrol into enemy territory. Without regard for his own safety he advanced to give aid to a wounded member of the patrol. His courage and devotion to duty were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)
Home of Record: Pennsylvania

MCFADYEN, WILLIAM A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William A. McFadyen (35403503), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant McFadyen was Platoon Sergeant of a platoon ordered to seize houses of an enemy-held town. During the advance under heavy enemy fire, Sergeant McFadyen stood on the hood of a half-track and fed ammunition into a machine gun. Later in the action when members of his platoon were cut off, they barricaded themselves in a building. Twice during the night Sergeant McFadyen left the building, exposing himself to enemy sniper and machine gun fire, to personally assure the safety of his companions. Sergeant McFadyen constantly acted without consideration for his own safety. He displayed gallantry that was an inspiration to his men and reflected credit on the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: St. Clairsville, Ohio

MCGOWAN, JOHN R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John R. McGowan (32590640), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with an Armored unit in Germany on 14 September 1944. When two tanks were knocked out by enemy fire, three wounded men were left lying in full view of the enemy, unable to move to safety. Corporal McGowan, without regard for his own safety, left the protection of his tank. He moved across the open field, under intense small arms and artillery fire, and moved the wounded to the rear of his tank and out of danger. By this action he saved the lives of his comrades. His devotion to duty and disregard for personal safety reflect great credit on himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)

Home of Record: New Jersey

***MCLINDEN, CHARLES J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Charles J. McLinden (33593317), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Corporal McLinden volunteered to go for medical aid although the town he was required to enter was being subjected to heavy enemy artillery fire. On returning with medical aid an enemy shell hit the quarter-ton truck in which he was traveling, instantly killing Corporal McLinden. He acted without regard for his own personal safety and his actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

***MCSTAY, RICHARD**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Richard McStay (32867974), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945. Corporal McStay's tank was leading an attempted break-through, through enemy lines. When the vehicle was struck and immobilized he remained at his gun to continue fire against the enemy. While thus engaged, Corporal McStay was killed. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: New York, New York

MILOR, JAMES P.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James P. Milor (0-1017057), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 36th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division,

in Germany on 7 March 1945. Throughout the entire battle Lieutenant Milor's outstanding leadership and heroic devotion to duty was an inspiration to all. When two of his tanks were knocked out by mines and a number of infantrymen injured by the explosions, he went in search of aid. He gave the medical personnel covering fire. He personally aided in the evacuation of the wounded. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: Midland, Texas

***MOMANY, DONALD O.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Donald O. Momany (36422341), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with the 741st Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in support of the 1st Infantry Division in France on 6 June 1944. When radio communications were destroyed by enemy action during an extremely difficult beach landing, Corporal Momany courageously maintained liaison by personally carrying messages to company commanders. He made innumerable trips along the entire length of the fire-swept beach, exposed to heavy, sustained small arms, but continued with his missions until evacuated to a hospital ship. His courage and complete devotion to duty, without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)

Home of Record: Covert, Michigan

MOORE, HASKELL C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Haskell C. Moore (35653774), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. When his tank was hit by enemy fire and was burning, Sergeant (then Technician Fourth Grade) Moore drove it to a covered position. He mounted to the turret under constant sniper fire to administer first aid to wounded members of the crew. His actions, carried out without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 32 (May 11, 1945)

Home of Record: South Charleston, West Virginia

MORRISON, WILLIAM J., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William J. Morrison, Jr. (0-1016142), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 9 April 1945. While his platoon was pinned down by intense mortar and artillery counter-battery fire, Lieutenant Morrison went to the aid of a severely wounded man. After administering first aid, he evacuated him in a half-track vehicle. He was forced to cross open terrain in full view of the enemy and under direct fire, to reach the nearest aid station. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the

Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 32 (May 11, 1945)
Home of Record: New Jersey

MOSBACHER, STEPHEN H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Stephen H. Mosbacher (35554027), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Combat Command "B", 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 2 April 1945. Sergeant Mosbacher advanced to within ten yards of enemy infantry elements to effect the rescue of a comrade, pinned down by enemy fire. The rescue was accomplished in the face of direct fire from artillery, mortars and small arms. Sergeant Mosbacher was fatally wounded a few minutes later while attempting the rescue of a wounded soldier, directly in the path of an enemy tank. His gallantry beyond the call of duty reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 97 (September 10, 1945)
Home of Record: Lucas County, Ohio

MURRAY, WILFRED L., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Wilfred L. Murray, Jr. (36736132), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. Private Murray was a member of a bazooka team. The team encountered an enemy pillbox which was retarding the advance of their unit. Private Murray, on his own initiative, moved behind the enemy lines to a better position and knocked out the pillbox. Fifteen prisoners were captured in the operation. The knocking out of the pillbox permitted the unit to continue its advance. Private Murray's initiative, aggressiveness and bold courage reflect credit upon himself and the Army of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Loves Park, Illinois

NADZAM, JOHN B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John B. Nadzam (0-383829), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 6 April 1945. While flying a Field Artillery liaison plane on a mission, Lieutenant Nadzam encountered heavy anti-aircraft fire. Using evasive tactics, Lieutenant Nadzam continued his mission. Fired on again, he started registering fire on the enemy gun positions. As the first volley of fire for effect was reported, his plane was hit and forced to land. His example of courage and devotion to duty reflects credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 27 (May 6, 1945)
Home of Record: Pennsylvania

O'BRIEN, MALCOLM C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Malcolm C. O'Brien (35271825), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with an Armored Unit in France on 6 June 1944. When his battalion commander's radio was destroyed during landing operations on the French coast, Sergeant O'Brien maintained liaison by personally carrying message to company commanders. He made innumerable trips along the entire length of the fire-swept beach. Although wounded by enemy rifle fire, he insisted on continuing with his mission, being evacuated only on direct order from his superior officer. The leadership and devotion to duty demonstrated by Sergeant O'Brien aided in establishment of American forces upon the beach. His personal bravery and outstanding courage reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)

Home of Record: Ohio

***O'BRIEN, TERENCE M.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Terence M. O'Brien (0-1016163), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 3 March 1945. Lieutenant O'Brien, assigned as a Company Commander, led his company in street fighting in an enemy-held town. Without regard for his own safety he constantly exposed himself to enemy fire as he led his unit. While thus leading the action he was wounded by machine gun fire, but refused to be removed to a place of safety and continued to direct and encourage his men. A short time later the machine gun again opened fire, instantly killing Lieutenant O'Brien. His gallantry in the face of enemy fire and his leadership were an inspiration to members of his company and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Iowa

OELKE, HAROLD R.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harold R. Oelke (16121016), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945. When a friendly tank was set fire by a direct hit Private Oelke went to the aid of the crew. Despite exploding ammunition on the burning tank and continuing enemy fire, he succeeded in evacuating the wounded to safety. Private Oelke acted without regard for his own safety, and his courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Wheaton, Illinois

O'NEILL, JOSEPH F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Joseph F. O'Neill (33594143), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 53d Armored Engineer Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 February 1945. Although infantry forces were pinned down by a heavy concentration of enemy fire, Sergeant O'Neill moved forward to clear a heavily mined road block that was holding up a task force. Without consideration for personal safety, he continued his work of removing mines and setting demolition charges. The clearing of the road block and removal of the mines enabled tanks to advance and take their objectives. Sergeant O'Neill's actions were highly courageous and reflect great credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

***ORR, JAMES E.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to James E. Orr (35630831), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. While serving as company aid man Private Orr received an injury which resulted in traumatic amputation of his left leg. Despite the intense pain of his injury and with utter disregard for his own safety he continued to render first aid to the wounded until he himself collapsed. Private Orr died as a result of his wound. His display of courage and supreme devotion to duty served as an inspiration to the other men and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 3 (February 15, 1945)

Home of Record: Greenfield, Ohio

***OSBORNE, JAMES J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to James J. Osborne (35619027), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany from 29 March 1945 to 31 March 1945. When a tank destroyer was hit by enemy fire, Sergeant Osborne left the safety of his own position, and with a one-quarter ton truck, evacuated the wounded crew. He administered first aid until relieved by medical aid men. On the following day he was at an observation post when it was destroyed by a direct hit. Sergeant Osborne was the only one who escaped injury. Alone, he evacuated the commanding officer and all enlisted men. He then took command of the platoon, reorganized it, and secured a new observation post. His courage and devotion to duty were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: Greene County, Ohio

OVERBY, PAUL IVAN

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Paul Ivan

Overby (38609120), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 58th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in action in Germany on 30 March 1945. Private Overby's platoon was held up by enemy riflemen who, from their entrenched position, controlled a large area. Upon receiving an order to dispose of this enemy, Private Overby exposed himself and opened fire with his automatic rifle. Although wounded in the arm and suffering intense pain from an activated smoke grenade attached to his person, he continued to fire until the enemy had been wiped out. Private Overby's courage and extreme devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 27 (May 6, 1945)
Home of Record: Haskell, Texas

PAAR, EDWARD J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Edward J. Paar (32870258), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 1 March 1945. When two members of his platoon were pinned down by enemy fire near a road block, Private Paar volunteered to advance in a one-quarter ton vehicle to rescue his comrades. He advanced under intense fire and accomplished evacuation of the two men. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Flushing, New York

***PAGEL, ALVIN W.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Alvin W. Pagel (0-1016871), First Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop A, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. When one of his men was pinned down by small arms fire, Lieutenant Pagel moved his armored car to a point where he could cover the withdrawal of the man. By this action, disregarding his own safety, he placed his vehicle in line of direct fire from small arms and 20-mm. mortars. The enlisted man was able to withdraw to safety but Lieutenant Pagel was hit by rifle fire. He lived long enough to order his men to leave the vehicle and to cover them while they made their way to safety. His outstanding bravery and extreme devotion are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 32 (May 11, 1945)
Home of Record: Kings County, New York

PARTLETON, FRANCIS L.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Francis L. Partleton (33565283), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while

serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Corporal Partleton volunteered to lead a small patrol behind enemy lines with a mission of setting up an observation post. When the patrol was pinned down by artillery fire, he exposed himself fearlessly in order to find a covered route forward. When his platoon was later given the mission of gaining contact with the enemy, Corporal Partleton volunteered to maintain this contact, allowing the remainder of the platoon to withdraw to safety. His courage, initiative and outstanding devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)
Home of Record: Maryland

***PAZ, HENRY J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Henry J. Paz (31407689), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. Sergeant Paz's squad was pinned down in an open field. In order that they might withdraw to safety, he remained in the open, drawing fire on himself and at the same time directing his squad to cover. He was among a number of casualties and although his wounds were the most critical, he insisted that the others be evacuated first. The bravery and extreme devotion, without thought of self, displayed by Sergeant Paz are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 36 (May 16, 1945)
Home of Record: Hartford, Connecticut

PEARSON, FLOYD T.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Floyd T. Pearson (38151557), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 February 1945. Sergeant Pearson was commander of a tank which was struck by an enemy bazooka fire. Sergeant Pearson, his gunner and his cannoneer were wounded. Without regard for his own safety and although seriously wounded himself, Sergeant Pearson moved 1500 yards under intense small arms and artillery fire to secure medical aid for his more seriously wounded gunner. He insisted on returning to the tank with the medical aid men, but his injuries were so severe he himself had to be evacuated immediately. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflected great credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 54 (June 25, 1945)
Home of Record: Oklahoma

PERREAULT, ALBERT V.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Albert V. Perreault (31303512), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in

Germany on 10 April 1945. When his company was faced by an enemy counterattack, Private Perrault moved out with his squad leader to contact the enemy. He assisted in killing or wounding twelve enemy soldiers which proved to be the bulk of the attacking force. The counterattack was thus repulsed without loss to our troops. His extreme bravery under fire reflects great credit on himself and the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Massachusetts

PETERS, RICHARD W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Richard W. Peters (33575662), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period 21 January to 26 January 1945. Sergeant Peters was wounded during the second day of action. Despite his injuries he led his men in the capture of pillboxes west of Berg, Germany. Sustaining further shrapnel injuries to both legs he continued to lead his men in the capture of Berg until he finally collapsed. His leadership, boldness and devotion to duty were largely responsible for the success of the offensive. Such actions reflect credit upon himself and the Army of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Philipsburg, Pennsylvania

PHELPS, WOODROW W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Woodrow W. Phelps (44031583), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 29 March 1945. Private Phelps served as first aid man with an infantry unit. Although wounded, he refused evacuation until he had rendered all possible aid to the wounded tank crews. His devotion to duty reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 48 (June 11, 1945)
Home of Record: Alabama

PLUMMER, JAMES H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James H. Plummer (32660050), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 11 April 1945. Sergeant Plummer was in command of a reconnaissance patrol. Moving forward on foot they were suddenly faced with enemy fire from three sides. Sergeant Plummer called for supporting fire from the vehicular gun but the gunner had already become a casualty. He then forced seven enemy soldiers into a ditch where he and his comrade took cover. He remained under intense fire for two hours before he was able to work his way 200 yards to contact the infantry commander. Sergeant Plummer then directed medical aid to his men and turned over his prisoners. His actions in the face of grave danger reflect credit on himself and the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 28 (May 7, 1945)
Home of Record: Altamont, New York

POINIER, ARTHUR D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Arthur D. Poinier (0-21999), Lieutenant Colonel (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as Commanding Officer, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 26 January 1945. Colonel Poinier's battalion, in combat for the first time, was directed to capture the heavily fortified and strongly defended town of Berg. With total disregard for his own safety, Colonel Poinier personally directed the action. His aggressive leadership so inspired his men that Berg was taken ahead of schedule. While preparing for enemy counter-attack Colonel Poinier was seriously wounded. His personal bravery under fire and his inspiring leadership were largely instrumental in accomplishing his mission and reflect greatest credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Huntington, Indiana

***POTTICARY, GEORGE W.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to George W. Potticary (17080531), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 22 January 1945. Sergeant Potticary led his squad in the capture of a strong point. During the advance his squad was under constant fire from mortar, artillery and automatic weapons. Obtaining his objective, he organized it against a counterattack and continued to the aid of a platoon which had been trapped for two days. During this action Sergeant Potticary was killed. The action undertaken by Sergeant Potticary was above and beyond the call of duty. He displayed heroism and intrepid leadership which exemplifies the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 3 (February 15, 1945)
Home of Record: Watertown, South Dakota

***PROKOP, NICHOLAS J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Nicholas J. Prokop (33594448), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant Prokop, a squad leader, was assigned the mission of seizing enemy-occupied houses. He led his men through intense enemy fire to the point of action. It was necessary for Sergeant Prokop to return and reorganize those who had been cut off by machine gun fire. Exposing himself to accomplish this, he was wounded by small arms fire. Disregarding his wound and refusing aid, he continued. While leading his squad in the ensuing action, Sergeant Prokop was mortally wounded. His extreme devotion to duty, without thought of self, is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

RANKIN, JAMES C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to James C. Rankin (0-392340), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland on 25 February 1945. While leading his men in the battle for Voorsel, Holland, Captain (then First Lieutenant) Rankin suffered a serious leg injury from a "schu-mine". He refused treatment until the town had been taken and defenses set up. His bravery and determination were an inspiration to the men of his command. Captain Rankin's actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

READ, EARL W.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Earl W. Read (39342215), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Private Read, though pinned down by small arms and automatic weapons fire, continued to operate his radio, enabling his company commander to control his company. It was necessary for him to expose himself frequently to enemy fire, which he did without regard for his own safety. On another occasion he left cover of a building under heavy enemy fire to obtain better reception and maintain communications with a task force. Later he left a covered position and completely exposed to sniper fire, transmitted instructions to supporting tanks. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty resulted in his platoon's success with minimum casualties.

His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)

Home of Record: Medford, Oregon

REIMER, CHARLES M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Charles M. Reimer (0-555990), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy in Germany on 29 March, 1 April and 4 April 1945. First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant) Reimer exhibited outstanding qualities of leadership and skill in employing his platoon. He volunteered to go on a reconnaissance mission in an enemy-held town under friendly artillery and air bombardment. During this mission he captured a prisoner who divulged valuable information. When all tanks of his platoon had been knocked out, he maneuvered to the rear and flank of the enemy and knocked out two Mark IV tanks, destroying another vehicle and scoring hits on a Tiger Tank, forcing it to withdraw. His leadership and devotion to duty without consideration for his own safety was an inspiration to all and reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Illinois

***RICH, FRANK**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Frank Rich (0-1017026), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Lieutenant Rich displayed outstanding leadership during an assault on a heavily fortified enemy position. When his company commander was wounded, he gathered together the remnants of his company and carried the attack forward. He led his men on the ground and from his tank, exposing himself to enemy fire. Without consideration for his own safety, he went to the aid of the wounded. His quick reorganization of the company under fire and his skill and aggressive leadership are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Hennepin County, Minnesota

***RIGHINI, CHARLES J.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Charles J. Righini (34821198), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 3 March and 7 March 1945. Private Righini was Scout for a rifle squad. On 3 March 1945 he aided the first platoon leader and two other men in the capture of 35 prisoners who had been manning anti-tank guns. To accomplish this mission they entered an enemy strong point, under heavy fire from other positions. On 7 March 1945 he scouted the platoon's objective. After this position was taken he voluntarily went beyond the platoon's zone of action to wipe out snipers in nearby buildings. He captured one prisoner and returned with valuable information on location and strength of enemy positions. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 86 (August 10, 1945)

Home of Record: Atlanta, Georgia

RISSMILLER, EARL B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Earl B. Rissmiller (0-1016880), First Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Lieutenant Rissmiller's platoon was given the mission of contacting the enemy for a task force. When he encountered fire from an occupied town, he sent back word to the main force, then continued on into town. He had succeeded in clearing nearly half the town before tanks and infantry arrived. As heavy artillery and anti-tank fire started coming in on their position, Lieutenant Rissmiller went out into the clearing, reorganized the group, and withdrew them to cover. His quick action and clear, decisive thinking greatly reduced casualties and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 48 (June 11, 1945)
Home of Record: Shillington, Pennsylvania

***ROBINSON, KENNETH R.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Kenneth R. Robinson (0-1017113), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Lieutenant Robinson displayed outstanding leadership during an assault on a heavily fortified enemy position. He quickly reorganized the company when his company commander was wounded. Without consideration for his own safety, he led his men until their mission was accomplished. His aggressive leadership and courage were an inspiration to all and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)
Home of Record: Girard, Pennsylvania

ROCHHOLZ, HAROLD J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harold J. Rochholz (37040183), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. During an attack on a heavily fortified enemy town, Corporal Rochholz's tank was struck by artillery fire, killing two crew members and wounding the tank commander. Corporal Rochholz removed the wounded officer while under heavy artillery and machine gun fire. Without regard for his own safety, he went for medical aid and assisted in the evacuation of the wounded. He was constantly under machine gun, sniper and artillery fire. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)
Home of Record: Iowa

ROGERS, WILLIAM J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to William J. Rogers (11083935), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 10 March 1945. Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) Rogers left a protected position to rescue members of a tank crew. The tank had been knocked out by enemy fire and immediately burst into flames. Sergeant Rogers, without consideration for his own safety, exposed himself to the enemy fire to effect the rescue. His deed was further complicated by the exploding, stowed ammunition. His courage and heroism were beyond the call of duty and reflect credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)
Home of Record: New Hampshire

ROSEBOROUGH, MORGAN G.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Morgan G. Roseborough (0-22681), Lieutenant Colonel (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. During the attack on an enemy-held city, Colonel Roseborough, commander of a task force, continually exposed himself to small arms, machine gun and 88-mm. fire in order to maintain communications with his subordinate commanders. When his tank failed, he dismounted and personally assisted in getting it started. He completed the action by directing a platoon in its attack on its final objective. Later he took command of a company and during its attack he continually exposed himself to artillery and small arms fire in order to maintain communications. His actions were inspirational to all members of his command and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Mississippi

RUTKOWSKI, EDWARD J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Edward J. Rutkowski (0-2010955), Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945 and 9 April 1945. When his platoon leader was killed during an advance, Lieutenant Rutkowski quickly reorganized the platoon. He moved the mortar and machine gun squads into position under intense enemy fire. Then taking five men he proceeded by a covered route into the enemy lines. He forced the surrender of over thirty enemy. Continuing with the same men he took forty prisoners at a nearby enemy strongpoint. Later he led his platoon, dismounted, into an enemy town, gaining a foothold that enabled the balance of the force to occupy it. His coolness, leadership and courage were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 50 (June 21, 1945)
Home of Record: Lockport, Illinois

***RYAN, JOHN F.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to John F. Ryan (0-1016853), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 30 March 1945. Lieutenant Ryan's platoon was spearheading the attack of a combat team of the 8th Armored Division. The second tank of the platoon was hit and burst into flame. Lieutenant Ryan directed his platoon into position. He then noticed members of the crew were trapped in their burning tank. Without consideration for his own safety, he dismounted. Under a hail of small arms fire, he went to their aid. While engaged in rescuing the men from the tank he was killed by small arms fire. His courage and heroism were beyond the call of duty, and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Onondaga County, New York

RYAN, THOMAS H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Thomas H. Ryan (0-555661), Second Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Lieutenant Ryan, while leading his company in action against the enemy, was severely wounded. Refusing evacuation or any aid, he continued the assault. Despite pain and loss of blood, he personally led his organization until his tank was disabled and set on fire. Only after covering the escape of his crew did he abandon the flaming vehicle and permit himself to be evacuated. His gallantry under fire and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 18 (April 2, 1945)
Home of Record: Trenton, South Carolina

SCHACHT, VERNON H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Vernon H. Schacht (37078442), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 7 March 1945. While leading his section on dismounted mopping-up action, Sergeant Schacht eliminated several enemy soldiers who were attempting to bring their light machine guns into action. While engaged with one enemy soldier, Sergeant Schacht saw a machine gun about twenty-five yards away starting to swing fire on the patrol to his left. He charged the machine gun and captured its crew. His action and personal courage are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)
Home of Record: Larchwood, Iowa

SCHMIDT, HENRY B.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Henry B. Schmidt (36040476), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. Sergeant Schmidt assumed command of a platoon in the absence of the platoon leader. On reaching the objective Sergeant Schmidt organized two platoons and led them to the high ground behind the objective. Sergeant Schmidt kept the platoons organized and under control until joined by an officer. Sergeant Schmidt showed outstanding leadership which reflects the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)
Home of Record: Chicago, Illinois

SCHOCK, HAROLD F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harold F. Schock (33593639), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. While engaged in mopping up operations in an enemy town, Private Schock heard a wounded comrade call for aid. Private Schock immediately manned a machine gun from an exposed position. Although wounded by enemy fire, he continued to give covering fire while medical aid men rendered aid to the wounded man and evacuated him. Private Schock's action also held the enemy until elements of the company neutralized the resistance. His courage and devotion to duty reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Pennsylvania

SEAMAN, STEVE J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Steve J. Seaman (42002902), Technician Fifth Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Troop C, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 7 March 1945. Corporal Seaman was moving with his platoon with the mission of securing the bank of the Rhine River. Midway in the advance to the river an enemy machine gun opened fire from the flank. Corporal Seaman moved quickly to the flank, took cover, and assaulted the gun position, capturing the two men manning it. His quick action saved the lives of men of his platoon and reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 84 (August 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Fairview, New Jersey

SEGRUE, EMMETT J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Emmett J. Segrue (20900518), Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Sergeant Segrue led a squad into enemy territory under heavy artillery and mortar fire, locating a bridge suitable for use of troops and vehicles. When enemy action destroyed this bridge, he volunteered to lead another patrol and succeeded in locating an alternate crossing. Later the same day Sergeant Segrue led a squad across the new crossing, securing a bridgehead on the other side. During the day he also saved two vehicles by driving them out of danger when a vehicle loaded with ammunition was set afire by artillery. Later he assisted in evacuation of three wounded from a tank which had been hit by direct artillery fire. His actions were carried out without regard for his own safety and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: California

***SELTZER, SIGMUND**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Sigmund Seltzer (32729017), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. While facing severe enemy small arms fire, Private Seltzer advanced to an unprotected position to observe enemy movements. Determining that the enemy was massing for a counterattack, he relayed this vital information to his platoon. The men were then strategically deployed and the counterattack held in check. Later, when his squad leader and assistant squad leader were wounded, he led the squad against a fortified enemy position. During this action Private Seltzer was killed. His inspiring actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: Brooklyn, New York

SHAPIRO, ROBERT A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert A. Shapiro (35541894), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters Company, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany during the period 25 January to 27 January 1945. Corporal Shapiro volunteered to employ his half-track for the evacuation of wounded. From 25 January to 27 January Technician Fifth Grade Shapiro evacuated wounded from the front lines in the vicinity of Schloss Berg, Germany. On 27 January Technician Fifth Grade Shapiro was blown from his half-track by the concussion of a shell. Although dazed he continued to perform evacuation of the wounded in an exemplary manner. Corporal Shapiro's actions and personal bravery reflect the greatest credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 1 (February 8, 1945)

Home of Record: Cleveland, Ohio

SHILLING, HARRY F.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harry F. Shilling (33230356), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. Sergeant Shilling left the safety of his own tank to assist in evacuation of crew members of a disabled tank destroyer. The vehicle was hit again while Sergeant Shilling was evacuating the wounded driver who continued to move the wounded to a near-by fox hole. While administering first aid he was again subjected to artillery fire, wounding an officer who was assisting in rendering aid. Sergeant Shilling, seeing the position was untenable, moved the wounded to another point of safety. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 89 (August 14, 1945)

Home of Record: Reading, Pennsylvania

SINNOTT, JOHN J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John J. Sinnott (32866558), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 10 April 1945. Sergeant Sinnott displayed initiative and bravery to a high degree when his company was threatened by an enemy counterattack. He took two members of his squad and moved to an outpost to contact the enemy. Realizing that more help was needed, he sent one man for assistance while he and the other soldier remained to meet the enemy. The bulk of the enemy were killed or captured and the attack was thereby repulsed. His actions reflect credit on himself and the Armed Forces.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)
Home of Record: New York

***SMITH, CLARENCE E.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Clarence E. Smith (0-393820), Captain (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland and Germany from 25 February 1945 to 5 March 1945. During the advance across the Roer River at Hilforth, Captain Smith directed the operations, remaining with the lead rifle platoon. When the leading platoon was pinned down near Lintfort, he went forward on foot and led them to safety. In the attack on Winterswick, Germany, Captain Smith dismounted to lead his men into the town. He then continued to direct the action from his tank and while so doing was killed by a burst of mortar or artillery. His inspiring leadership, gallantry and utter disregard for his own safety set an example for all. His actions reflect the greatest credit on himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 97 (September 10, 1945)
Home of Record: Marion County, West Virginia

SMITH, HARRY E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Harry E. Smith (36845273), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Combat Command B, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 2 April 1945. Private Smith voluntarily drove his one-quarter ton vehicle to within ten yards of advancing enemy to rescue a comrade pinned down by enemy fire. Withdrawing under tank canon fire, he halted to pick up his commanding officer who was covering the rescue with sub-machinegun fire. He again halted to rescue a wounded soldier. His vehicle was struck by a tank shell. Private Smith was wounded. Despite his wounds, Private Smith extricated his vehicle and returned to his duties. His determination, devotion to duty and actions under fire were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 20 (April 22, 1945)
Home of Record: Wisconsin

SPANGLER, DONALD A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald A. Spangler (33230115), Technician Fourth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the Medical Department, 88th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January and 26 January 1945. Working with his troops as a Medical Aid Man, Sergeant Spangler displayed exceptional bravery. He went to the aid of casualties in open terrain, under direct fire, and across ground known to contain a mine field. For two days and nights he went without rest in carrying out his missions. When two other Medical Aid Men were wounded by anti-personnel mines, Sergeant Spangler, without thought for his own safety, crossed three hundred yards of open terrain under heavy enemy small arms and mortar fire to aid and evacuate the wounded men. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 61 (July 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Aspers, Pennsylvania

ST. JOHN, BILL J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Bill J. St. John (37514196), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. Sergeant St. John and his squad were pinned down by small arms fire. Three of his men were wounded. Sergeant St. John continued to move forward and evacuate the wounded. Later, through outstanding leadership, he broke up a surprise counterattack. His action, without regard for his own safety, reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Missouri

STENGER, JOHN M., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John M. Stenger, Jr. (33668235), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 25 January 1945. Sergeant Stenger was serving with a machine gun platoon. When a call came from forward elements that a radio was urgently needed, he volunteered to take the radio forward through heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire. He accomplished this mission alone only after passing through a town still occupied by the enemy. He was forced to fight his way through the town, and was under constant sniper fire. Without regard for his own safety, he continued forward until his mission was accomplished. His personal courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Mankato, Minnesota

***STINSON, JOHN D.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to John D. Stinson (0-1016269), First Lieutenant (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 2 March 1945 to 11 April 1945. Lieutenant Stinson commanded an assault gun platoon for the 18th Tank Battalion. He anticipated where his unit could be used. Frequently he led his tanks into position and reported for a mission. He was assigned the mission of clearing a portion of a German city. While leading his platoon, his tank was hit by bazooka fire and Lieutenant Stinson and two of his crew were killed. His actions were an inspiration to all and reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 26 (May 5, 1945)
Home of Record: San Francisco, California

STONE, WALTER F., JR.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Walter F. Stone, Jr. (01173473), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 2 April 1945. When he could furnish the only means available for observation and adjustment of artillery fire, Lieutenant Stone remained aloft more than twice the normal operational time. Weather conditions were extremely unfavorable. In order to gain the maximum observational time, he remained aloft until his exhausted gasoline supply forced him to land on unfavorable terrain. He repeated this act three times. His devotion to duty and personal courage reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 27 (May 6, 1945)
Home of Record: Connecticut

STREED, JOHN A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John A. Streed (0-555985), Second Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Combat Command B, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 2 April 1945. Lieutenant Street, leading six men, withstood the attack of an estimated company of enemy infantry. When his position was flanked, he made a successful withdrawal. He then returned voluntarily to attempt the rescue of his commanding officer and several men who had been cut off. Lieutenant Streed was captured while on this mission. He convinced his captors to surrender and received submission of the garrison of the enemy town. His conduct throughout the engagement reflected great credit on himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)
Home of Record: Moline, Illinois

STUKEY, RAYMOND C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Raymond C. Stukey (0-1824236), First Lieutenant (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 8th Armored Division in Germany on 11 April 1945.

When a tank destroyer of his command was hit by enemy artillery, Lieutenant Stukey dismounted from his own vehicle. In the face of small arms and artillery fire, he went to the aid of the driver, evacuating him approximately one hundred yards to cover. While administering first aid to the wounded driver, Lieutenant Stukey was seriously wounded. When medical aid arrived, Lieutenant Stukey ordered them to remove the wounded tank destroyer driver before allowing them to administer first aid to himself. His actions reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)

Home of Record: New York

STYPE, JACK H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Jack H. Stype (33668260), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland on 26 February 1945. Having completed his mission and withdrawing his tank to safety, Sergeant Stype observed two other vehicles knocked out by enemy mines. Disregarding all though of his own safety, Sergeant Stype drove his tank across the heavily-mined field in the face of enemy anti-tank weapons. He halted his tank long enough for the ten marooned soldiers to get aboard and withdrew them to a safe position. His action reflects credit upon himself and the Military Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Charleston, West Virginia

THOMAS, DEWEY C.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Dewey C. Thomas (34375828), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. When the tank in which he was serving as a gunner suffered a direct hit the platoon leader was severely wounded. Private Thomas immediately moved up to the turret and removed the wounded officer. Under direct fire from the enemy within sixty yards range, he moved the wounded officer to the security of a ditch some fifteen yards away. There under a constant hail of small arms fire, he rendered first aid and remained with him until medical aid arrived. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit to himself and the Armed forces of the United states.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 81 (August 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Tennessee

THOMAS, FRANKLIN A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Franklin A. Thomas (33575729), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with the 18th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 11 April 1945. When his tank was struck by enemy fire, Corporal Thomas dismounted. Though wounded and dazed,

he went in search of medical aid. In spite of sniper fire, he guided medical aid men back to the tank. He then assisted in saving the vehicle. His actions under fire and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 25 (May 4, 1945)

Home of Record: Bellefonte, Pennsylvania

***TURNNEY, THEODORE D.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Theodore D. Turnney (33362238), Technician Fifth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 28 March 1945. Corporal Turnney was a member of a medical aid group. When he received word that two soldiers were wounded he advanced without regard for his own safety. Passing through a mined area under heavy artillery fire, he reached the wounded. Under heavy small arms fire he rendered first aid and started evacuation of the wounded with a quarter-ton truck. Corporal Turnney was riding on the front of the truck, attempting to make the patients comfortable when the vehicle struck a mine. He sustained wounds which later caused his death. Throughout the action Corporal Turnney acted without consideration for himself, sacrificing his own safety for the benefit of others. His courage, determination and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 89 (August 14, 1945)

Home of Record: Armstrong County, Pennsylvania

TWORKOWSKI, HENRY J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Henry J. Tworkowski (32799097), Corporal, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the Medical Department, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 12 April 1945. An attacking force of tanks was held up at a crossroad by intense enemy shelling. Attempting to evacuate his tank to a position of safety, an enlisted man was seriously wounded and called for help. Corporal Tworkowski immediately left the safety of his fox hole to go to the man's aid. Despite the continued shelling, he carried the injured man to a house and rendered first aid. Fearing for the man's further safety because of flying shrapnel, Corporal Tworkowski covered the wounded man with his own body until the firing had slackened to the extent that he could be safely evacuated. His bravery and extreme devotion reflect great credit on himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 51 (1945)

Home of Record: Brooklyn, New York

***UNGER, IRWIN M.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Irwin M. Unger (42064656), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 17 April 1945. During an attack on an enemy-occupied woods, Private Unger's

platoon was pinned down by intense small arms and machine gun fire. Private Unger, seeing a badly wounded comrade, left the safety of his position and went to his aid. He rendered first aid and through his efforts the wounded soldier was evacuated. While thus exposed to enemy fire, a burst from an enemy machine gun mortally wounded Private Unger. His outstanding bravery and concern for his comrades are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 49 (June 20, 1945)

Home of Record: New York, New York

VAN HOUTEN, JOHN H.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to John H. Van Houten (0-418812), Lieutenant Colonel (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Colonel Van Houten personally led the assault on the town of Rheinberg, Germany. He displayed coolness and expert tactical skill. Through his aggressiveness he was able to maintain control and reorganize his task force for a continued attack. He placed himself at all times in hazardous and dangerous position to accomplish his mission. Largely through his efforts the defenses were smashed and the objective taken. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of an officer of the United States Army.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 95 (September 7, 1945)

Home of Record: Michigan

VERNESE, NICOLA A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Nicola A. Vernese (42104244), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman with the 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March, 9 March, and 7 April 1945. As a medical aid man for a rifle platoon, Private Vernese exposed himself to hostile fire without regard for his own safety in order to bring aid to members of his platoon. On 9 March he moved up under intense artillery and mortar fire, and performed an emergency amputation, saving the life of a wounded soldier. On 7 April he moved into enemy territory under cover of darkness to render aid to a wounded French laborer. Through his actions Private Vernese greatly inspired members of his platoon and his devotion to duty reflects great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 86 (August 10, 1945)

Home of Record: New Jersey

VESELY, YARROW D.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Yarrow D. Vesely (0-4680), Colonel (Field Artillery), U.S. Army, for gallantry and dauntless courage action against the enemy in Germany from 7 April 1945 to 12 April 1945. Colonel Vesely, commanding Combat Command "R", 8th Armored Division, was given the mission of clearing the enemy from a sector north of the Ruhr River in the reduction of the Ruhr area fortress.

During the entire action he remained in the front lines, instilling confidence in his troops by an heroic example of personal courage. The fighting echelons under his direction overcame stubborn resistance and swept the enemy from their zone of action. In accomplishing his mission, Colonel Vesely displayed remarkable skill and great personal courage under conditions of extreme danger. Colonel Vesely's resolute and heroic action brings great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 67 (July 13, 1945)

Home of Record: Iowa

WALKER, AUSTIN E.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Austin E. Walker (0-1010661), Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 80th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 8 April and 9 April 1945. Colonel (then Major) Walker commanded an armored task force. He personally directed a combined tank and infantry attack under heavy mortar and artillery fire. Due to his aggressive leadership and great tactical skill an important enemy strongpoint was captured with very light casualties to his own forces. While continuing the advance his forces encountered a mine field, covered by intense small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Colonel Walker personally reconnoitered the field and directed the clearance. While returning to organize his forces for the advance, he was severely wounded by mortar fire. His courage, leadership and devotion to duty reflect great courage on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 57 (June 29, 1945)

Home of Record: Indianapolis, Indiana

WALKER, HERBERT A.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Herbert A. Walker (35736424), Private, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany from 2 April to 4 April 1945. Private Walker volunteered to serve on a two-man reconnaissance patrol into enemy territory. He crawled to within ten yards of 200 enemy soldiers, obtained vital information and then returned to his platoon with the information as well as two prisoners. Later he went out with a three-man patrol and aided in the capture of an enemy hospital, eight prisoners, the destruction of a Tiger tank and the clearing of houses over a large area. This action was carried out under intense hostile fire. Private Walker's initiative and personal bravery, beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: Highland Park, Michigan

WALL, JACK M.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Jack M. Wall (39284024), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving

with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 April 1945. Engaging the enemy, Sergeant (then Corporal) Wall directed tank fire with his own tracer fire. After a base of fire was established, he led his section in an aggressive assault on the strong-point. Later in the day he led his section in a dash toward an enemy town, forcing the enemy to disclose his positions. His actions enabled supporting forces to execute offensive action. His actions reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 30 (May 9, 1945)

Home of Record: California

WALLACE, ROBERT J.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert J. Wallace (0-8260), Colonel (Infantry), U.S. Army, for gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy in Germany from 26 March 1945 to 31 March 1945. During this period Colonel Wallace, in command of Combat Command "R", 6th Armored Division, was given the mission of crossing the Rhine and driving the enemy from the Recklinghausen sector of the strongly fortified Ruhr industrial area. Deploying his task force in such a manner as to force the enemy to spend superior forces in a piecemeal manner he gained a tactical advantage, and successfully accomplished his mission. Throughout the entire operation Colonel Wallace remained forward with the front line troops to give them courage and direction. His fine strategy and personal courage in the face of enemy fire throughout this operation are worthy of the highest commendation. Colonel Wallace's efficient and heroic personal conduct against a determined and numerically superior enemy reflects great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 67 (July 13, 1945)

Home of Record: Palma Sola Park, Florida

WHEATLEY, WALTER L.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Walter L. Wheatley (16146231), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Holland and Germany during the period 21 February 1945 to 10 March 1945. Sergeant Wheatley personally laid and maintained telephone lines between the battalion and company CPs. On numerous occasions, when artillery and mortar fire had forced others to take cover, Sergeant Wheatley was busy checking his wires and repairing breaks. He was frequently exposed to enemy fire. His devotion to duty and courage were an inspiration to all and reflect credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Chicago, Illinois

WILLIAMS, KENNETH V.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Kenneth V. Williams (16025149), Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while

-serving with the 741st Tank Battalion, 6th Armored Division, in support of the 1st Infantry Division, at Normandy, France, on 6 June 1944. Sergeant Williams landed his tank on an enemy-held beach. While engaging an anti-tank gun position his vehicle was hit and Sergeant Williams was wounded. Disregarding his wound, he continued the attack, destroying the emplacement. He then advanced, destroying numerous machine gun positions which were holding up advance of the infantry. When his tank hit a mine, Sergeant Williams, still ignoring his wound, continued to fight on with his company, refusing evacuation until the following day. His courage and devotion beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 78 (July 31, 1945)

Home of Record: Illinois

WILLIAMS, ROBERT P.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Robert P. Williams (14024899), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company C, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, in Germany on 2 March 1945. When members of his unit were subjected to sniper fire, Private Williams voluntarily left the defense area and began examining houses, dug-outs and other positions where snipers might be found. While so engaged he was fired upon and forced to take cover. Despite this fire, Private Williams advanced upon the enemy positions and called upon its occupant to surrender. Upon receiving further fire in reply, Private Williams dashed for the entrance of the dug-out. As a result of his initiative and courage an SS Lieutenant was taken prisoner. Private Williams' initiative and personal courage reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 79 (August 2, 1945)

Home of Record: Georgia

***WILLOUGHBY, SAMPSON C.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Sampson C. Willoughby (35097978), Technician Fourth Grade, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company D, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Sergeant Willoughby dismounted from his tank under a hail of mortar and machine gun fire to hook a tow cable to his tank which had stalled during intense enemy action. After the vehicle had been started, he again dismounted to uncouple the tow cable. While so doing, he was fatally wounded. His action were an example to all and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 24 (May 3, 1945)

Home of Record: Bartholomew County, Kentucky

WOOD, DONALD S.

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Donald S. Wood (36738425), Private First Class, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Headquarters, 7th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany

on 16 February 1945 and 29 March 1945. Private Wood was mounted on the lead vehicle of a reconnaissance patrol. When the vehicle struck a mine, seriously wounding the driver and stunning the section leader, he immediately rendered aid to the driver, then helped the section sergeant reorganize his men. On another occasion, after contact had been made with the enemy under extremely adverse conditions, Private Wood volunteered to stay in position and maintain contact. On the following morning he volunteered to serve as driver of the lead vehicle, the original driver having become a casualty. While driving the vehicle, he struck a mine, wounding the platoon leader and drawing immediate, intense artillery fire. Disregarding his own safety, Private Wood rendered aid to the wounded platoon leader. His courage and devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 76 (July 27, 1945)

Home of Record: Illinois

***ZUCCARELLA, ROCCO M.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Rocco M. Zuccarella (42059001), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company A, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Under intense enemy fire Sergeant (then Private) Zuccarella covered members of his platoon with machine gun fire while they took cover. He then advanced 800 yards under machine gun, artillery, mortar and small arms fire to lead twelve men to safety. Sergeant Zuccarella's actions reflect greatest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 15 (March 27, 1945)

Home of Record: New York, NY

***ZUCK, VICTOR M.**

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the Silver Star Medal (Posthumously) to Victor M. Zuck (0-1061915), Second Lieutenant (Cavalry), U.S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy while serving with Company B, 36th Tank Battalion, 8th Armored Division, in Germany on 5 March 1945. Attacking along a road completely covered by anti-tank weapons, Lieutenant Zuck advanced his tank without regard to personal safety. His gallant assault added greatly to the impetus of the action and enabled his company to penetrate a heavily fortified enemy position. Lieutenant Zuck's tank had overrun the enemy position when it was finally knocked out by anti-tank guns. Lieutenant Zuck was killed. His gallantry and courage in the face of enemy fire were an inspiration to all and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Military Service of the United States.

Headquarters, 8th Armored Division, General Orders Number 12 (March 22, 1945)

Home of Record: Erie County, New York