

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 83, U. S. Army

29 August 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 32)

Award of Silver Star Medal (Posthumous Award).....SECTION I
Award of Silver Star Medal.....SECTION II
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I--AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL--(Posthumous Award)--Under the provisions of AR 600-45, and in accordance with authority contained in paragraph 3c, Section I, Circular No. 32, Hq ETOUSA, 20 March 1944, and Circular No. 6, Hq TUSA, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star Medal is awarded posthumously to the following named enlisted man:

Technical Sergeant Walter P. Norskey, 31187792, Infantry, Company **, *** Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 12 July 1944, at * * *, France. Technical Sergeant Norskey, as acting platoon leader, personally led his men in an attack against four enemy pill boxes. Through individual encouragement and disregard for his own safety he so inspired his men with confidence in themselves and in his leadership that they followed him aggressively into withering enemy fire. The attack was successful in knocking out one pill box and in so disorganizing the enemy resistance that the battalion was able to push through to its objective with comparative ease. In the course of this action, Technical Sergeant Norskey was fatally wounded. Technical Sergeant Norskey's conspicuous and valiant leadership was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Massachusetts. Residence: Baldwinville Massachusetts.

II--AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL--Under the provisions of AR 600-45, and in accordance with authority contained in paragraph 3c, Section I, Circular No. 32, Hq ETOUSA, 20 March 1944, and Circular No. 6, Hq TUSA, 26 April 1944, the Silver Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men:

Technician Fifth Grade Randall H. Ford, 35742932, Medical Department, *** Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 10 July 1944, at * * *, France. The medical section to which Technician Fifth Grade Ford was attached remained in * * * to assist in caring for the wounded of another battalion. In the course of the action an ambulance was knocked out, both drivers were wounded and further injury was inflicted on the casualties being transported. Disregarding the extremely heavy artillery fire, Technician Fifth Grade Ford, acting alone and on his own initiative made his way to the injured and evacuated them in his vehicle. This conspicuous act of humanity and courage was an inspiration to all about him. His heroic devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from West Virginia.

Private Ellie F. Moore, 38306706, Field Artillery, Company *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at * * *, France. In an attack against the village of * * *, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Private Moore voluntarily advanced with an officer and an enlisted man to an

R E S T R I C T E D

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exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutralizing the enemy position. Private Moore's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Texas.

First Lieutenant Clarence O. Pratt, O-342954, Infantry, Company **, **** Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action during the period 7 August 1944 to 12 August 1944, in * * *, France. Lieutenant Pratt displayed outstanding devotion to duty and conspicuous bravery in leading his company in the attack against the city of * * *. The entire action was carried out under extremely heavy enemy small arms and artillery fire. Although severely wounded he carefully directed the advance of his men and materially assisted the advance of the entire battalion. His heroic devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Staff Sergeant Charles H. Richards (then Technician Fourth Grade), 33369948, Infantry *** Company, *** Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 4 July 1944, near * * *, France. Staff Sergeant Richards, then serving as stenographer and guard to the regimental commander, volunteered to undertake to complete the communication line between the regimental observation and command posts. With another enlisted man, he made his way back from the observation post, completing the communication. Throughout this action the area was being subjected to intense enemy shelling and small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Richards' conspicuous devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Sergeant Wayne H. Snyder, 32047369, Field Artillery, Company ** * * Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at * * *, France. In an attack against the village of * * *, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Sergeant Snyder voluntarily advanced with an officer and an enlisted man to an exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutralizing the enemy position. Sergeant Snyder heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Captain Jean M. Varda, O-413637, Infantry, Company ***, *** Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at * * *, France. In an attack against the village of * * *, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Captain Varda voluntarily advanced with two enlisted men to an exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutral-

BY NARA Date 8/24

III--AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL--Under the provisions of AR 500-45, as amended per ETOUSA Letter AG 200.6 MP, subject: "Bronze Star Medal", dated 27 February 1944, and in accordance with the authority contained in paragraph 3c, Section I, Circular No. 32, Hq ETOUSA, 20 March 1944, and Circular No. 6, Hq TUSA, 26 April 1944, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named enlisted man:

Technical Sergeant Frank J. Horvath, 33369060, Infantry, United States Army, for meritorious service in France, on 8 August 1944, as platoon leader, in connection with military operations against the enemy. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

IV--AWARD OF PURPLE HEART--Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following for wounds received in action in France.

Sergeant Milton P. Herring, Jr., 38371880, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 23 August 1944, in France.

Technical Sergeant James E. Cook, 33297600, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 17 July 1944, in France.

Technician Fifth Grade Ira Beaman, 31199207, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 26 August 1944, in France.

Staff Sergeant Charles Russ, 35585910, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 26 August 1944, in France.

Private First Class Remolo F. Manna, 31223801, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 26 August 1944, in France.

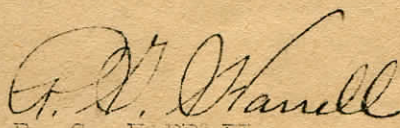
Captain Richard E. Randall, O-422062, Infantry, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 4 July 1944, in France.

Sergeant John W. Loner, 34386701, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, for wounds received in action on 24 August 1944, in France.

By command of Major General MACON:

SAMUEL V. KRAUTHOFF
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:


R. G. HARRELL
Lt Col, A.C.D.
Adjutant General

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 83, U. S. Army

100.6

29 August 1944

SUBJECT: Decorations and Awards.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C. (Attn: Decorations and Awards Branch).

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the following named officers and enlisted men of the 83d Infantry Division, and attached units, have been awarded either the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal or Silver Star Medal (Posthumous Award), as indicated:

SILVER STAR MEDAL (Posthumous Award)

Technical Sergeant Walter P. Norskey, 31187792, Infantry, Company B, 331st Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 12 July 1944, at Bois Gremont, France. Technical Sergeant Norskey, as acting platoon leader, personally led his men in an attack against four enemy pill boxes. Through individual encouragement and disregard for his own safety he so inspired his men with confidence in themselves and in his leadership that they followed him aggressively into withering enemy fire. The attack was successful in knocking out one pill box and in so disorganizing the enemy resistance that the battalion was able to push through to its objective with comparative ease. In the course of this action, Technical Sergeant Norskey was fatally wounded. Technical Sergeant Norskey's conspicuous and valiant leadership was in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Massachusetts. Residence: Baldwinville, Mass.

SILVER STAR MEDAL

Technician Fifth Grade Randall H. Ford, 35742932, Medical Department, 331st Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 10 July 1944, at Sainteny, France. The medical section to which Technician Fifth Grade Ford was attached remained in Sainteny to assist in caring for the wounded of another battalion. In the course of the action an ambulance was knocked out, both drivers were wounded and further injury was inflicted on the casualties being transported. Disregarding the extremely heavy artillery fire, Technician Fifth Grade Ford, acting alone and on his own initiative made his way to the injured and evacuated them in his vehicle. This conspicuous act of humanity and courage was an inspiration to all about him. His heroic devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from West Virginia.

Private Ellie F. Moore, 38306706, Field Artillery, Company A, 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at St. Malo, France. In an attack against the village of St. Malo, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Private Moore voluntarily advanced with an officer and an enlisted man to an exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutralizing the enemy position. Private Moore's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Texas.

First Lieutenant Clarence O. Pratt, O-342954, Infantry, Company K, 331st Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action during the period 7 August 1944 to 12 August 1944, in Brittany, France. Lieutenant Pratt displayed outstanding devotion to duty and conspicuous bravery in leading his company in the attack against the city of St. Malo. The entire action was carried out under extremely heavy enemy small arms and artillery fire. Although severely wounded, he carefully directed the advance of his men and materially assisted the advance of the entire battalion. His heroic devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest

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traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Staff Sergeant Charles H. Richards (then Technician Fourth Grade), 33369943, Infantry, Service Company, 331st Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 4 July 1944, near Carentan, France. Staff Sergeant Richards, then serving as stenographer and guard to the regimental commander, volunteered to undertake to complete the communication line between the regimental observation and command posts. With another enlisted man, he made his way back from the observation post approximately one-half mile, found the line and returned to the observation post, completing the communication. Throughout this action the area was being subjected to intense enemy shelling and small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Richards' conspicuous devotion to duty reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Sergeant Wayne H. Snyder, 32047369, Field Artillery, Company A, 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at St. Malo, France. In an attack against the village of St. Malo, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Sergeant Snyder voluntarily advanced with an officer and an enlisted man to an exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutralizing the enemy position. Sergeant Snyder's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

Captain Jean M. Varda, O-413637, Infantry, Company A, 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army. For gallantry in action on 11 August 1944, at St. Malo, France. In an attack against the village of St. Malo, the attacking infantry was withdrawn behind an established bomb line to await a friendly bombing attack. Enemy artillery fire was observed coming from the north side of the fortification being attacked. Realizing that this fire would seriously hold up the scheduled infantry attack following the bombing, Captain Varda voluntarily advanced with two enlisted men to an exposed position forward of the bomb line to man a three inch gun. When this gun was destroyed by enemy fire, they moved to the rear, secured another gun, pulled it into position with a quarter ton truck and, despite being subjected to concentrated enemy artillery fire, succeeded in neutralizing the enemy position. Captain Varda's heroic action reflects great credit upon himself and the finest traditions of the military service. Entered military service from New York.

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Technical Sergeant Frank J. Horvath, 33369060, Infantry, Company K, 331st Infantry, United States Army. For meritorious service in action against the enemy on 8 August 1944, at Parome, France. While leading his platoon in its advance through the town of Parome, Technical Sergeant Horvath came upon a large concrete dugout occupied by the enemy. Taking three volunteers to cover him, he advanced to the door of the dugout and demanded the surrender of the enemy. Upon receiving no response he proceeded alone to an inner door, was fired upon and severely wounded in the left leg. Despite his wound he continued to lead his platoon until the dugout was taken along with seventeen prisoners. His fearless leadership and devotion to duty were an inspiration to his men and merit the highest praise. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

2. The above decorations and awards have been announced in General Orders No. 32, Headquarters 83d Infantry Division, 29 August 1944.

For the Commanding General:

R. G. Harrell
R. G. HARRELL,
Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

BY NARA Date 8/22/44