

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 31

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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**I. SILVER STAR.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Second Lieutenant *Pilcomon O. Baviera*, Infantry, Philippine Army, a member of Company A, 51st Engineer Combat Battalion, 51st Division, Philippine Army, displayed gallantry in action in Bataan on 5 February 1942. During the heavy defensive fighting in the Pilar-Bagac sector, Lieutenant *Baviera* conducted himself with conspicuous courage and disregard for personal safety while advancing in a counterattack, until severely wounded by Japanese trench mortar fire.

Staff Sergeant *William E. Hobbs* (Army serial No. ), Air Corps, Army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving as tail gunner of a B-17 aircraft on a heavy bombardment mission to Brunswick, Germany, on 11 January 1944. He was seriously wounded in both arms early in the action. Although suffering great pain and becoming weak from loss of blood, he continued firing at the enemy fighters, destroyed one enemy aircraft (ME. 109), which was confirmed by the radio operator, warded off many enemy attacks, and continued firing the tail guns until the pilot gave the order to "bail out." The outstanding courage and determination to destroy the enemy displayed by Sergeant *Hobbs* on this occasion reflect the highest credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States.

Technical Sergeant *Charles H. Keaten* (Army serial No. ) (then staff sergeant), Air Corps, United States Army, distinguished himself by gallantry in action, on 5 September 1944, as aerial photographer on a B-17 type aircraft during an operational mission to Budapest, Hungary. After the bomb load had been released, Sergeant *Keaten* crawled into an open bomb bay to release an armed bomb which had been only partially released and was hanging nose down, endangering the aircraft and the lives of the crew members. Although wounded by flak while engaged in this precarious task and without a parachute or oxygen, he continued his efforts until successful in releasing the bomb. The outstanding courage and fortitude displayed by Sergeant *Keaten* reflect great credit on himself and the United States military service.

Sergeant *Charles J. Mott* (Army serial No. ), Air Corps, Army of the United States, a member of the 333d Bombardment Squadron, displayed gallantry in action near Kiel, Germany, on 11 April 1944. Although he had sustained severe injuries when the airplane of which he was a crew member was forced to crash-land as a result of enemy action, he remained in the furiously burning aircraft until he found and removed the first-aid kit. He then reentered the airplane and released and carried to safety the unconscious, wounded pilot. Refusing treatment for his injuries, Sergeant *Mott* administered first aid to the wounded until he was captured.

Lieutenant Colonel *Eustacio D. Orobia* (then captain), Philippine Air Force, displayed gallantry in action, on 25 January 1942, at Bataan, Philippine Islands. As executive officer of the 1st Provisional Infantry Battalion, Philippine Army Air Corps, he was most aggressive in pushing the lines forward and, by his display of courage and leadership, was able to coordinate the efforts of the Air Force enlisted men in advancing through the thick underbrush. Lieutenant *Orobia's* leadership was a source of inspiration to the men of the Air Force, who fought as infantrymen.

Staff Sergeant *Robert L. Reed* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_), Air Corps, Army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action while serving as tail gunner on a B-17 aircraft during a heavy bombardment mission to Brunswick, Germany, on 10 February 1944. When his aircraft was attacked by 15 to 20 FW 190's over the Zuider Zee, Sergeant *Reed* received penetrating wounds in both arms and his oxygen system was shot out. Although suffering great pain and without sufficient oxygen, he stayed at his tail guns and destroyed one enemy aircraft and probably destroyed another. Only when the situation became hopeless and the pilot gave the order to "bail out" did Sergeant *Reed* cease firing. He painfully dragged himself to the rear escape hatch and bailed out. The outstanding courage and determination to destroy the enemy shown by Sergeant *Reed* on this occasion reflect the highest credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States.

**II. LEGION OF MERIT.**—1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 20 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

- Lieutenant Colonel *John H. Clayton*, \_\_\_\_\_ (then major), Air Corps, Army of the United States. September 1943 to March 1946.
- Lieutenant Colonel *William H. Fredrick, Jr.*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Corps, United States Army. January 1942 to September 1944. (This award supersedes the award of the Commendation Ribbon to Lieutenant Colonel *Fredrick* for service during the same period.)
- Colonel *Robert J. Gocwey*, \_\_\_\_\_ (then lieutenant colonel), Air Corps, United States Army. March 1942 to July 1944.
- Colonel *Norman J. McGowan*, \_\_\_\_\_ (then lieutenant colonel), Air Corps, United States Army. August 1943 to November 1944.
- Lieutenant Colonel *Henry J. Taylor*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Corps, United States Army. December 1941 to March 1947. (This award supersedes the award of the Commendation Ribbon to Lieutenant Colonel *Taylor* for service from 1 June 1941 to 20 April 1946.)

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 20 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

- Colonel *Arthur S. Champeny*, \_\_\_\_\_, Infantry, United States Army. October 1945 to December 1947.

**III..LEGION OF MERIT.**—1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Commander, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Brigadier General *Carlos Iribar*, Uruguayan Army. July 1945 to May 1949.  
Major General *Ramon Canus Montalva*, Chilean Army. January 1947 to May 1949.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 20 July 1942 (sec. III, WD Bul. 40, 1942) and Executive Order 9260, 29 October 1942 (sec. I, WD Bul. 54, 1942), the Legion of Merit, in the Degree of Officer, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated is awarded to the following-named officer:

Captain *Antonio Joao Dutra*, Brazilian Army. 1944 to May 1949.

**IV..BRONZE STAR MEDAL.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the period indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer:

Major *Llewellyn T. Davies*, (then captain), Infantry, Army of the United States, a member of the 1st Philippine Infantry, distinguished himself by valorous action against the enemy near Pils, Luzon, Philippine Islands, on 25 December 1941. Exhibiting high qualities of leadership, devotion to duty, and disregard for danger, he rallied and placed in position a badly shaken battalion of infantry while subjected to hostile fire, stopped the enemy advance, and covered the retirement of friendly units. Major *Davies'* brave action contributed immeasurably toward maintaining the integrity of the left flank of the southern Luzon force.

**V..BRONZE STAR MEDAL.**—By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9419, 4 February 1944 (sec. II, WD Bul. 3, 1944), the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Master Sergeant *Lawrence J. Di Coio* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_), Ordnance Department, Army of the United States. August 1944 to February 1945.  
Major *Charles Eaton, Jr.*, (then captain), Air Corps, Army of the United States. June 1944 to June 1946.  
Major *William R. Fulghum*, \_\_\_\_\_, Field Artillery, Army of the United States. November 1944 to May 1945.  
Lieutenant Colonel *A. Deane Cough*, \_\_\_\_\_, General Staff Corps (Coast Artillery Corps), United States Army. July 1943 to August 1944.  
Private *Joseph R. Hoffman* (Army serial No. \_\_\_\_\_) (then private first class), Infantry, Army of the United States, October 1944 to April 1945.  
Captain *Lester E. Manbeck*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Corps, United States Army. August 1943 to October 1945.  
Captain *Chester R. Steffey*, \_\_\_\_\_, Air Corps, Army of the United States, September 1943 to December 1944.

Colonel *Lyall L. Stuart*, , Air Corps, Army of the United States,  
October 1943 to March 1944.

**VI. COMMENDATION RIBBON.**—1. By direction of the Under Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

First Lieutenant *Ben Brinkworth*, , Transportation Corps, Army of the United States. October 1948 through January 1949.

Captain *William W. Day*, , Transportation Corps, Army of the United States. November 1947 to January 1949.

2. By direction of the Under Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraphs 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon for meritorious achievement during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

Sergeant *Obidio B. Bello* ( ), Infantry, Philippine Scouts. 3 December 1948.

Sergeant *Theodore A. Bonnel* (Army serial No. ), Counter Intelligence Corps, United States Army. 31 December 1948.

Major *Ralph H. Hall*, , Transportation Corps, Army of the United States. 25 and 26 March 1949.

Captain *Robert W. Hoffman*, , Medical Corps, Army of the United States. 25 and 26 March 1949.

3. By direction of the Under Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 17.1, AR 600-45, the Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster) for meritorious service during the periods indicated is awarded to the following-named officers:

Major *Charles M. Hand*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army. June 1948 to April 1949.

Major *Leo F. Valiante*, , Transportation Corps, United States Army. June to November 1948.

Major *Herbert A. Ziegler*, (then captain), Transportation Corps, United States Army. June 1948 to April 1949. *amended 30th 20. 46, 1949*

**VII. COMMENDATION RIBBON.**—So much of paragraph 1, section II, DA General Orders 79, 1948, as pertains to Captain *Wilfred C. Washcoe* and reads "Commendation Ribbon" is amended to read "Commendation Ribbon (first Oak-Leaf Cluster)."

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:  
*EDWARD F. WITSELL*  
*Major General*  
*The Adjutant General*

OMAR N. BRADLEY  
*Chief of Staff, United States Army*