

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS 2D ARMORED DIVISION
Office of the Division Commander

RESTRICTED

APO 252
14 August 1944

GENERAL ORDER)

NUMBER....27)

E X T R A C T

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I. Under the provisions of AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, and Circular 66, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 18 May 1944, the Silver Star is awarded to Captain Ralph Schwartz, O-438814, Medical Corps, 48th Armored Medical Battalion, for gallantry in action in Normandy, France, on 29 July 1944. Entered Military Service from New York.

Citation

Captain Schwartz with a group of enlisted personnel was rendering medical service on the 29th July 1944 in a Surgical tent located one-half mile North of Notre Dame La Cenilly, France, Coordinates T-376513 Coutances Sheet (F3), to two United States Army patients and three enemy (German) patients when at 2220 hours of this date a terrific anti-aircraft barrage opened up on a group of enemy planes which were over the area. Captain Schwartz advised his group to place patients under cover and then to find cover for themselves when a cluster of anti-personnel bombs struck immediate vicinity scattering shrapnel all through the Surgical tent causing many casualties and also many clusters of anti-personnel bombs struck surrounding areas, causing about thirty-five (35) casualties in all. As soon as the first attack subsided, Captain Schwartz, who was not injured, organized the uninjured portion of his group and remainder of the uninjured personnel of this medical section into an active working team of First Aid men, Litter Bearers and ambulance drivers. Captain Schwartz continued working and leading this team through two additional enemy air-raids without regard for his personal safety in order that all the wounded might be gathered up and treated and immediately evacuated. He held his men together by words of encouragement and the fact that he did most of the work himself, greatly strengthened the morale and working efficiency of his group. Rapid first aid and evacuation of these casualties under such difficult circumstances could not have been accomplished without Captain Schwartz's gallant leadership and superb supervision.

* * *

By command of Major General BROOKS:

CHARLES D PALMER
Col GSC
CofS

OFFICIAL:

/s/ R H Shell
/t/ R H SHELL
Lt Col AGD
Adj Gen

A TRUE COPY:

Peter C. Pirott
PETER C. PILOTT,
1st Lieut., MAC,
Personnel Officer,
48th Armored Medical Bn.

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