



The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, 9 July 1918 (amended by act of 25 July 1963), has awarded the **SILVER STAR** to:

**FIRST LIEUTENANT DONALD C. ALEXANDER  
UNITED STATES ARMY**

**For Gallantry in Action:** On 13 June 1944, Lieutenant Alexander's platoon was base platoon for his company in an attack on well prepared enemy positions on commanding ground. Due largely to the aggressive leadership of Lieutenant Alexander, his platoon pushed rapidly ahead despite heavy enemy fire. A strong enemy counterattack developed on the left flank of the platoon. Heavy enemy automatic weapons and mortar fire pinned the entire company to the ground. A friendly tank in support of the company appeared on the left of the position, and, not realizing the situation of the company continued toward the front. Lieutenant Alexander, with complete disregard for his personal safety, left his covered position and ran thirty-five yards to the side of the tank, through heavy machine gun fire coming from the enemy seventy-five yards away. In an effort to contact the personnel inside the tank he ran along side of the tank for about three minutes, beating on the hull with his weapon to attract the attention of the tank crew. During this entire time enemy small arms fire was ricocheting off the tank. Lieutenant Alexander succeeded in contacting the tank commander, advising him of the situation. Aided by the tank, his company was able to repel the counterattack and continue on with the mission in subsequent action Lieutenant Alexander was killed while leading his platoon. His actions were in accordance with the highest standards of the military service.

