



Headquarters 102d Infantry Division

CITATION FOR

Silver Star Medal

FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES S. GASKELL, Jr., (Army Serial Number 0518956)
Infantry, 407th Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in
action against the enemy in Germany on 23 and 24 February 1945.

When an assault company was subjected to heavy artillery shelling and confusion threatened to jeopardize the progress of the operations, FIRST LIEUTENANT GASKELL quickly rallied his men, led them to the assault boats, and directed the successful crossing of the dangerous river. Having reached the far shore, he reorganized his platoon, refusing to seek shelter despite a veritable hail of machine gun fire. Attacking in front of his men, he directed the capture of the initial objective; then after a defense line was established, he courageously moved across the shell swept battlefield to administer first aid to the wounded and assist in their evacuation. His leadership and gallantry set an inspiring example. Entered military service from Alabama.

