

~~RESTRICTED~~HEADQUARTERS
IX BOMBER COMMAND

C/OM/7

EXHIBIT #4-MAY 1944

APO 140, U S Army,
25 May 1944.

GENERAL ORDER 3)

NO ... 86)

EXTRACTAWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 32, Headquarters ETOUSA, 20 March 1944, the PURPLE HEART is awarded to the following individuals:

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416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
670th Bombardment Squadron (L)

9. JOSEPH G. CRISPINO, 0799946, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received while serving as pilot of an A-20G airplane on a combat operational mission on 19 May 1944.
Home Address: Painted Post, New York.

671st Bombardment Squadron (L)

10. WILLIAM A. MERCHANT, 0806300, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 20 May 1944, while serving as pilot of an A-20G airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory.
Home address: Wichita, Kansas.

11. Benjamin G. Fandre, 36815235, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 20 May 1944, while serving as a gunner on an A-20G airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory.
Home address: Wausau, Wisconsin.

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By command of Brigadier General ANDERSON:

RICHARD C SANDERS,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ C.C. Vega, Jr.
/t/ C.C. VEGA, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant General.

I certify the above to be a true extract

Frank M. Hoppe
FRANK M. HOPPE,
Group Historical Officer.

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~~SECRET~~