

~~RESTRICTED~~HEADQUARTERS
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M)

C/GM/4

Exh #7-Feb '45

APO 140, U S Army,
13 February 1945.GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 21)SECTION I : AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL
SECTION II : AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL
SECTION III : AWARD OF THE BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER
TO THE PURPLE HEART
SECTION IV : AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART
SECTION V : AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL ORDERSSECTION I

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, (Bull. 8, WD 1926), and in accordance with authority contained in Hq European T of Opns USA Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, a SOLDIER'S MEDAL is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted man:

For heroism, 6 January 1945, to the below-named officers and enlisted man. When their bomb-laden aircraft crashed in flames shortly after take-off, these individuals were successful in escaping from the burning wreckage. Although bruised and dazed by the crash, they heroically returned to the aircraft when they discovered that the navigator and tail gunner had been unable to escape. Despite the imminent peril of the bombs exploding, the below-named officers and enlisted man courageously persisted in their efforts until they succeeded in carrying the injured crewmen to safety. A minute later, the bombs exploded and the aircraft was demolished. The cool and intrepid actions of these individuals during this critical emergency is in keeping with the high traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

1ST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (M) (PROV)

GERALD W SHIREY	0-666840	CAPT AC	Mineola, Texas
WILLIAM H WALTERS	0-818986	1ST LT AC	Springdale, Pa.
Howard K Reast	18075920	S/Sgt AC	Whitesboro, Texas

SECTION II

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Sec II, Bull 3, WD 1944), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, and contained in Circular # 56, Hq, European T of Opns, dated 27 May 1944, a BRONZE STAR MEDAL is awarded to the following named enlisted men, organizations indicated:

322ND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

James W Neal, 1A064559, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to September 1944.

-1-

~~RESTRICTED~~

R E S T R I C T E D

Sect II, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 45.

Francis W Hammes, 37094512, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July to December 1944.

John D Radojits, 15112791, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Harry W Leder, 37099418, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from December 1942 to December 1944.

Robert K Dickinson, 31136513, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from February to November 1944.

John E Shane, 35408011, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from September 1943 to January 1945.

387TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Coleman C Sirkis, 33205044, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1943 to December 1944.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Harold G Anderson, 6634073, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from January to December 1944.

Matthew Wiherle, 6895775, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from January 1944 to February 1945.

Howard R Gromer, 35112560, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to November 1944.

Donald G Skinner, 36178951, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July to December 1944.

409TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

George E Apple, 14103910, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to November 1944.

-2-

R E S T R I C T E D

SECRETR E S T R I C T E D

Sect II, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 45.

William G Gaier, 35034119, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June to December 1944.

Cecil M Hindman, 18083381, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to January 1945.

Howard W Parker, 15066528, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to December 1944.

Clifford C Wittenbrocker, 35714454, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to January 1945.

416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Walter T Bladykas, 32527157, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June to October 1944.

SECTION III

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 32, Hq, European T of Opns, 20 March 1944, a BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to wear with the Purple Heart, the following named officer having been awarded the Purple Heart per General Orders indicated by sub-paragraphs:

a. GO 106, Hq, IX Bomber Command, 26 August 1944.

344TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
496th Bombardment Squadron (M)

JOHN A GARGILL, O-744453, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from San Francisco, Calif.

SECTION IV

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 32, Hq, European T of Opns, 20 March 1944, the PURPLE HEART is awarded to the following named individuals:

SECRET
R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

Sect IV, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 1945.

344TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
495th Bombardment Squadron (M)

a. John J Beddingfield, 34615227, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 3 February 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Meridan, Miss.

496th Bombardment Squadron (M)

b. HARRY M HAGUE, O-744309, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Kansas City, Mo.

386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

c. HOWARD L BURRIS, O-471478, Major (Then Captain), Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 January 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from San Antonio, Texas.

d. JOHN F BOYD, O-724192, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 16 January 1945, while serving as bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Goldsboro, N. C.

e. John A Coleman, 12086424, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 January 1945, while serving as radio operator-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from New York City, N. Y.

f. Erling O Sem, 19062001, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 January 1945, while serving as engineer-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Bottineau, North Dakota.

g. Robert W Working, 35729227, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 January 1945, while serving as armorer-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Evansville, Ind.

-4-

R E S T R I C T E D

SECRET

R E S T R I C T E D

Sect IV, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 1945.

387TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
557th Bombardment Squadron (M)

h. Harold G Rosen, Jr., 33590664, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 25 January 1945, while serving as engineer gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Spring City, Pa.

394TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
584th Bombardment Squadron (M)

i. JOHN R Q BROWN, O-797963, Captain, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 3 February 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Birmingham, Ala.

j. EDWARD L KINSELLA, O-434320, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Pittsfield, Mass.

k. HERBERT J MILLER, O-886817, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from New Orleans, La.

l. JOE D JEPHSON, T-128382, Flight Officer, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 3 February 1945, while serving as co-pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Alvin, Texas.

m. Dana E Rogers, 39857867, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Phoenix, Arizona.

n. John H Chinn, 38555206, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Uvalde, Texas.

SECRET

-5-
R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

Sect IV, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 1945.

397TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)598th Bombardment Squadron (M)

o. RICHARD P GEORGE, O-675204, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 13 January 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Long Island, N. Y.

p. Vernon A Grey, 35222166, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 22 January 1945, while serving as engineer gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Dayton, Ohio.

q. Harold S Moody, 17068897, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 22 January 1945, while serving as radio-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Des Moines, Iowa.

409TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)642nd Bombardment Squadron (L)

r. RONALD T LEEPER, O-1043148, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as pilot on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Midland, Texas.

s. Charles E Kelley, 13133604, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 2 February 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Pittsburg, Pa.

643rd Bombardment Squadron (L)

t. Robert T Harris, 35479696, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 21 January 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Parkersburg, West Virginia.

u. James R Clark, 18199954, Corporal, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 January 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Eklalka, Montana.

-6-

R E S T R I C T E D

SECRET

RESTRICTED

Sect IV, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 1945.

v. Marshall B Steele, Jr., 31275817, Corporal, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 January 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Terryville, Conn.

SECTION V

1. So much of paragraph 1 ac, Sect IV, GO 6, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 January 1945 as awards the third Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to Sgt Earl E Payne, 35749424, is amended to read SECOND BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the Air Medal.

2. So much of paragraph 3 c, Sect IV, GO 6, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 January 1945, as awards the second Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, in lieu of the tenth Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to Capt William R Goode, O-693368, is amended to read ELEVENTH BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the Air Medal.

3. So much of paragraph 2 l, Sect IV, GO 6, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 January 1945, as awards the Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, in lieu of the fifth Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to Sgt Floyd S Sholts, 37563355, is amended to read FOURTH BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the Air Medal.

4. So much of paragraph 2 ae, Sect II, GO 15, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 28 January 1945, as awards the Eleventh Oak Leaf Cluster to:

John C Bass	15082110	T/Sgt	AC	Shelbyville, Ind.
Destroyed E/A				

is amended to read: TWELFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

5. So much of paragraph 2, Section III, GO 10, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 17 January 1945, as awards the Seventh Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to Captain Walter F Creson, O-666000, is amended to read SIXTH BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the Air Medal.

6. So much of Paragraph 1 e, Sect III, GO 5, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 12 January 1945, as awards the Purple Heart to First Lieutenant Vernon L Briscoe, O-7661955, is deleted.

7. So much of paragraph 1 g, Sect II, GO 5, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 12 January 1945, as awards the Purple Heart to Staff Sergeant Harry W Bryah, 39193567, is deleted.

8. So much of paragraph 1 c, Sect II, GO 5, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 12 January 1945, as awards the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart to Staff Sergeant Charles F Salas, 14084855, is deleted.

SECRET
RESTRICTED

R E S T R I C T E D

Sect IV, GO 21, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 13 Feb 1945.

9. So much of par 1, Sect II, GO 4, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 8 January 1945, as awards the Air Medal to Staff Sergeant James S Rowell, 14060700, is deleted.

10. So much of paragraph 1, GO 41, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 17 December 1944, as awards the Air Medal to Staff Sergeant William J Hess, 11018080, and Technical Sergeant Nolan A Chapman, 39236656, is deleted.

11. So much of par 1, GO 22, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 25 October 1944, as awards the Air Medal to Sergeant Jack Barrier, 38033514, is deleted.

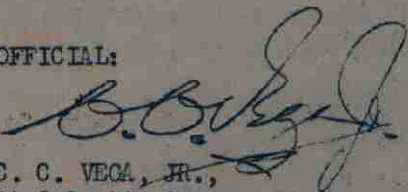
12. So much of paragraph 1, Sect II, GO 7, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 14 January 1945, as awards the Soldier's Medal to personnel of the 1288th Military Police Company is amended to include:

LAMP C BARNES O-505395 Capt GMP Fayetteville, N. C.

By command of Major General ANDERSON:

RICHARD C SANDERS,
Brig General, USA,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


C. C. VEGA, JR.,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION "A" PLUS

- 1 cy : Director of Bureau of Public Relations
- 2 cys : 31st MRU
- 1 cy : 91st MRU
- 1 cy : 93rd MRU
- 3 cys : TAG, Attn: Awards and Decorations Branch
Washington, D. C.
- 2 cys : Awards and Decorations, 4G Military Personnel
Division, Hq, European T of Opns.
- 5 cys : Hq, Ninth Air Force
- 2 cys : Historical Section, Ninth Air Force
- 3 cys : Hq, Ninth Air Force, Attn: A-1
- 2 cys : Hq, USSTAF, Director of Personnel

-8-

R E S T R I C T E D