

Exhibit #1-May 1944

SECRET
HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

In reply refer
to: 330.13

APO 696, U S Army
10 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, IX Bomber Command, APO 140, U S Army.

1. Your attention is invited to the following letter received from Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory, Air Commander-in-Chief, Allied Expeditionary Air Force:

"Now that full reports have come in relating to the recent concentrated effort against special targets in Northern France, it is apparent that of all Bomber Forces involved, those of Ninth Air Force proved to be by far the most efficacious in knocking out these difficult and well defended targets.

"2. I have also watched the results of the Ninth Air Force operations against coastal defence batteries, and here again have been impressed with the accuracy of the bombing.

"3. The concentrated, determined, and highly skilled manner in which these Groups have operated augurs well for the future, and I shall be glad if you will convey my congratulations to all those air and ground crews which have been involved in these operations."

/s/ T. LEIGH-MALLORY.
Air Chief Marshal,
Air Commander-in-Chief,
Allied Expeditionary Air Force."

2. It is with genuine pride and satisfaction in your accomplishments that I forward this letter on to you and every member of your command. You have had keen competition in your relentless assaults against the enemy and the statement of the Air Commander-in-Chief that you have "proved to be by far the most efficacious in knocking out these difficult and well defended targets" is in itself great praise.

3. I have full faith and confidence in your ability and determination to maintain your most commendable record in the approaching invasion of the Continent. I wish you every success.

/s/ L. H. BRERETON,
Major General, USA,
Commanding.

SECRET

330.13, ltr HQ, NINTH AIR FORCE, subj Commendation, 10 May 1944.

330.13 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, IX BomBER COMMAND, APO 140, U S ARMY, 15 May 1944.

A-A-1

TO: Commanding Officers, All Combat Wings, IX Bomber Command;
Commanding Officers, All Stations, IX Bomber Command.

1. The above letter from the Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, expressing his pride and satisfaction in the accomplishments of IX Bomber Command and his faith and confidence in IX Bomber Command's ability and determination to operate efficiently and effectively in the coming invasion of the Continent and this indorsement will be:

- a. read to all combat crew members at briefing;
- b. posted on all Squadron bulletin boards on your station for a period of three days in order that all station personnel may be informed of the high regard the Air Commander-in-Chief, Allied Expeditionary Air Force, and the Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, have for IX Bomber Command and its accomplishments and of my own great pride in IX Bomber Command.

2. I dictate the above steps to inform all personnel of this letter because I am fully aware that the present scale of operations and the excellent bombing results being obtained are possible only because each officer and enlisted man in IX Bomber Command is doing his assigned task in the most efficient and loyal manner possible. Combat crews deliver the bombs; the work of the ground personnel makes it possible for them to do so. Any credit due IX Bomber Command belongs to the command as a whole--not to any individuals or class of individuals.

3. General Brereton's expression of faith and confidence in IX Bomber Command is most gratifying. It is also a challenge to us all. I am fully confident that no unit or individual of IX Bomber Command will fail to do his utmost to make the approaching invasion of the Continent the greatest success in military history. Your utmost efforts will be necessary, but I am confident they will be sufficient for victory. You have been tested and found worthy of the great part you will take in the supreme effort to crush our enemies. I am proud of you and confident of your success.

Samuel E. Anderson
SAMUEL E. ANDERSON,
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding.