THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

SECRET
RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M)

C/GM/4

Exh #14-Mar'45
P.R.O.
14

APO 140, U S Army,
5 March 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 33)

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 AIR MEDAL
SECTION IV : AWARD OF THE BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART
SECTION V : AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART
SECTION VI : AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL ORDERS.

SECTION 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 Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, a SOLDIER'S MEDAL is awarded to the following named officer and enlisted man:

For heroism, 19 November 1944, to the below-named officer and enlisted man. During a bombing attack on a heavily defended village in Germany, one of the 250-pound bombs in their B-26 aircraft failed to release on the target. Upon discovering the armed bomb hanging loosely on a faulty shackle, with the arming vane windmilling, these two individuals quickly and courageously attempted the hazardous task of defusing the bomb. Despite the fact that their work was complicated by the airplane's evasive action, they inserted the pins, and carried the bomb into the navigator's compartment. Their promptness, skill, and intrepidity on this occasion made it possible for their aircraft to land safely upon reaching base.

386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
553rd Bombardment Squadron (M)

THOMAS C BUCKLEY	O-762704	1ST LT	AC	Wichith, Kans.
Robert A Brown	17036985	T/Sgt	AC	Hinckley, Minn.

2. 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 Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, a SOLDIER'S MEDAL is awarded to the following named officers and enlisted men:

For heroism in France, 25 December 1944, to the below-named officers and enlisted men. When a bomb-laden Marauder aircraft crashed in flames shortly after take-off, these individuals immediately undertook the hazardous task of rescuing the trapped crew members. Despite the fact that ammunition was exploding continuously in the blaze, and detonation of the bombs seemed imminent, they courageously persisted in their rescue work. Although one of

RESTRICTED
SECRET

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

the bombs became red hot, and the heat from the fire was intense, they continued their heroic efforts until they had dragged three members of the crew to safety. The prompt and gallant actions of these individuals are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

EDWARD T KEATING	O-471478	CAPT	MC	Hamilton, Ohio
EDWARD J ZABINSKI	O-1687177	CAPT	MC	Detroit, Mich.
Fred L Loftin	6384079	T/Sgt	AC	Pleasant Hill, La.
John A Bal	36232202	Cpl	MC	Iron River, Mich.
Leo J Reitmeyer	36232210	Cpl	MC	Iron River, Mich.
Orville R Kruse	36233395	Pfc	MC	Milwaukee, Wis.
Isidore M Goldensohn	32495497	Pvt	MC	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Louis S Salerno	32495480	Pvt	MC	Brooklyn, N. Y.

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 personnel, organizations indicated:

199TH MEDICAL DISPENSARY (AVN)

Charles L Belding, 32672182, Sergeant, Medical Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from April 1944 to February 1945.

79TH STATION COMPLEMENT SQUADRON

F.S. John L Stout, 35617290, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from January 1944 to February 1945.

322ND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

MORTON D EPSTEIN, O-864402, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

John E Mines, 36151633, Staff Sergeant, Medical Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

387TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Ernest C Rost, 37176262, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June to December 1944.

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

Sect II, GO 33, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 5 March 1945.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Clinton R Needy, 19122603, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to February 1945.

410TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Alton C Willhite, 6920933, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June to December 1944.

Laytton L Gregory, 38204092, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to December 1944.

George W Hazard, Jr, 32682091, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June to December 1944.

416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

WILLIAM L KINNEY, O-568916, Captain, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from February 1943 to February 1945.

Melvin E Bjertness, 37268208, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from March to July 1944.

SECTION III

By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded in General Orders indicated by sub-paragraph, the following officer of the 344th Bombardment Group (M), is awarded the eleventh BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, (Bull. 25, WD 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, (Bull. 49, WD 1942), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department and contained in Hq European T of Opns Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, in recognition of meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the European Theater of Operations.

JOSEPH R CHIOZZA, O-744921, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, 344th Bombardment Group (M). For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight as bombardier-navigator of the B-26 type aircraft on 19 November 1944 in an attack upon a vital communications target in Germany. When anti-aircraft fire damaged his airplane and started a fire in bomb bays, Lieutenant CHIOZZA assisted in extinguishing the blaze. Although lacking vital instruments, he skillfully plotted the course through clouds enabling the pilot to fly the crippled aircraft back to friendly territory. Entered military service from Tennessee.

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

Sect IV, GO 33, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 5 March 1945.

SECTION IV

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Sect 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 personnel having been awarded the Purple Heart per General Orders indicated by sub-paragraphs.

344TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
497th Bombardment Squadron (M)

a. GO 38, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M),7 Dec 1944.

EDWARD B BRANDLEY, O-718534, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 14 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 Portland, Oregon.

b. GO 33, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 5 March 1945.

Joseph A Idstein, 36716893, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United Stateson 21 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 Chicago, Ill.

387TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
556th Bombardment Squadron (M)

c. GO 53, Hq, 3rd Bombardment Wing (M), 29 October 1943.

Burns P Gillespie, 11041464, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 22 February 1945, while serving as engineer-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Middletown, Connecticut.

410TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
646th Bombardment Squadron (L)

d. GO 29, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), 26 February 1945.

J DUANE WETHE, O-25889, Captain, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 25 December 1944, while serving as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft on a combat operational misslion over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Scarsdale, N. Y.

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

Sect V, GO 33, H , 9th Bombardment Division (H), 5 March 1945.

ac. Glenn G Shober, 17087394, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 22 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 Denver, Colorado.

559th Bombardment Squadron (H)

ad. Ruben H Patterson, 34809305, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 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 Athens, Ala.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
572nd Bombardment Squadron (H)

ae. Harvey H Marsh, 39177895, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 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 Long Beach, Washington.

574th Bombardment Squadron (H)

af. JAMES J McNAMARA, 0-783446, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 February 1945, while serving as bombardier-navigator on a B -26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from St. Louis, Mo.

ag. Fred J Christensen, 36752900, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 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 Chicago, Ill.

394TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
586th Bombardment Squadron (H)

ah. Floyd H Cone, 14183569, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 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 Baldwin, Florida.

397TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
597th Bombardment Squadron (H)

ai. RAYMOND J BERGER, 0-436492, Major, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 February 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Dallas, Texas.

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

Sect V, GO 33, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 5 March 1945.

aj. VERNON S DOUGHERTY, O-709530, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 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 Canton, Ohio.

ak. JOHN L COTTER, O-887216, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 February 1945, while serving as navigator on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Buffalo, New York.

al. Robert D Kline, 35682515, Private First Class, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 February 1945, while serving as toggler on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from College Corner, Ohio.

SECTION VI

1. So much of paragraph 1 y, Sect III, GO 29, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 26 February 1945 as awards the Purple Heart to First Lieutenant GORDON G JONES, O-750281 is rescinded.

2. So much of paragraph 2 o, Sect I, GO 28, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 25 February 1945, as award the Third Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Master Sergeant Raymond H Hayden, 15082920, is amended to read Second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal.

3. So much of paragraph 1, GO 22, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 25 October 1944, as awards the Air Medal to Sergeant Patrick J Ryan, 33004031, is amended to read First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal.

4. So much of paragraph 1, Sect IV, GO 37, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 6 December 1944 as awards the Air Medal to Second Lieutenant Thomas D Jones, Jr., O-714113, is rescinded.

By command of Major General ANDERSON:

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

OFFICIAL:

S L Parmenter

S. L. PARMENTER
Capt, Air Corps
Asst Adj General

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

SECRET

RESTRICTED

Sect VI, GO 33, H-, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 5 March 1945.

DISTRIBUTION "A" PLUS:

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

RESTRICTED

SECRET

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958