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HEADQUARTERS  
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M)

C/GI/4

Exh #16-Apr '45.

APO 140, U S Army,  
12 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 55 )

SECTION I : AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL  
 SECTION II : AWARD OF SECOND SILVER OAK LEAF CLUSTER  
 TO THE AIR MEDAL  
 SECTION III : AWARD OF THE ENGINE OAK LEAF CLUSTER  
 TO THE PURPLE HEART  
 SECTION IV : AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART  
 SECTION V : AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL ORDERS

SECTION I

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, H. European T of Opns USA, dated 27 May 1944, a BRONZE STAR MEDAL is awarded to the following named enlisted men, organizations indicated:

9TH WATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON (PROV)

James F. Mance, 34303033, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to January 1945.

1ST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (1) (PROVISIONAL)

David W. Smith, 15069145, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to March 1945.

Richard E. Martin, 12041453, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July 1944 to March 1945.

323RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Kenneth A. Knowles, 31066336, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from September 1944 to March 1945.

357TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Dwight J. Hemphill, 37428731, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from December 1943 to May 1944.

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R E S T R I C T E D

Sec I, GO 55, H, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 12 April 1945.

Eldon L. Keys, 19005228, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May 1944 to January 1945.

Charles J. Olszewski, Jr., 33170128, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to February 1945.

Bernard F. Helligo, 37428967, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from October 1943 to April 1944.

Franklyn P. Petzer, 37193431, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to February 1945.

Stephen J. Haberski, 32389425, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May 1944 to November 1944.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Carl W. Nehunt, 34352738, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from December 1944 to March 1945.

397TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Jack Templin, 33116735, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to March 1945.

Michael A. Prandergast, 6123126, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July 1944 to February 1945.

409TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

John J. Cotter, Jr., 13044685, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to February 1945.

Richard L. Dietz, 35473306, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July 1944 to March 1945.

J. B. Kee, 38163546, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to March 1945.

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Sec I, GO 55, H., 9th Bombardment Division (H), 12 April 1945.

James L. Webster, 12186102, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to March 1945.

Eldridge K. Johnston, 13118637, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1944 to March 1945.

#### 416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Raymond H. Slifko, 35024556, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

Charles S. Curtis, 38152239, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from March to September 1944.

Charles J. Deutscher, 38162476, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from March 1944 to March 1945.

Orval T. Hagerman, 39606343, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from September 1944 to March 1945.

#### SECTION II

1. By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded in General Order No. 105, Hc, Ninth Air Force, dtd 20 April 1944, Technical Sergeant Robert A. Whisner, 35626730, 344th Bombardment Group (H), is awarded the SECOND SILVER OAK LEAF CLUSTER, in lieu of the tenth 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 Hc European T of Opns USA, Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, in recognition of meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights in the European Theater of Operations, he having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy.

#### SECTION III

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

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

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

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JOHN L. COTLER, O-387216, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 21 March 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.

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 USA, 20 March 1944, the PURPLE HEART is awarded to the following named individuals:

323RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
454th Bombardment Squadron (H)

a. JOHN R. DONNELLY, O-597905, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 4 April 1945, while serving as Observer on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Yonkers, New York.

455th Bombardment Squadron (H)

b. DAVID V. HAYES, O-2072259, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 8 April 1945, while serving as Bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Altus, Oklahoma.

456th Bombardment Squadron (H)

c. Forrest J. Green, 39288300, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 10 April 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from San Bernardino, California.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
573rd Bombardment Squadron (H)

d. MERTON J. RHODA, O-817528, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 25 March 1945, while serving as Co-Pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Corning, New York.

574th Bombardment Squadron (H)

e. John W. Hendricks, 37520924, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 3 April 1945, while serving as Engineer-Gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Clinton, Mo.

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Sec V, GO 55, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 12 April 1945.

13. So much of par 1, Sec III, GO 27, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 24 February 1945, as awards the Air Medal to Technical Sergeant Earl L. Newton, 18135664, is deleted and the following substituted therefor:

Seventh Oak Leaf Cluster

GO 19, Hq, 12 Bombar Command, 27 September 1943

Earl L. Newton                      18135664              T/Sgt    AC    Lake City, Ark.

14. So much of par 2 d, Sec II, GO 40, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 19 March 1945, as awards the First Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to Technical Sergeant Earl L. Newton, 18135664, is deleted and the following substituted therefor:

Eighth Oak Leaf Cluster

GO 19, Hq, 12th Bombar Command, 27 September 1943

Earl L. Newton                      18135664              T/Sgt    AC    Lake City, Ark.

15. So much of par 3 a, Sec II, General Orders No. 40, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 19 March 1945, as awards the Silver Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of the fifth Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to Staff Sergeant Ray V Davila, is amended to read SIXTH BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

16. So much of par 2 d, Sec II, General Orders No. 40, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 19 March 1945, as reads GORDON F SHILLWOOD, O-834411 is amended to read SHILLWOOD F. GORDON, O-834411.

17. So much of par 2 l, Sec II, General Orders No. 40, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 19 March 1945, as awards the Second Oak Leaf Cluster to:

2nd Lt Carroll L Wood, O-709833  
F/O Neil P Brothers, T-123598  
F/O Albur S Harding, T-129080

is amended to read FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

By command of Major General ANDERSON:

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

OFFICIAL:

*C. G. Vega, Jr.*

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

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HEADQUARTERS  
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (H)

C/GH/4

APO 140, U S Army;  
1 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 50 )

SECTION I : AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL - (Posthumous)  
 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 ORDERS

SECTION I

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

HQ, 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (H)

CLARENCE C. WALKER, O-485013, Major, Signal Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from February to July 1944.

SECTION II

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

99TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING (H)

BENJAMIN B. GREGORY, O-294081, Major, Signal Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from November 1943 to April 1945.

387TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Karl L. Berry, 38113240, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from June 1944 to January 1945.

Thomas F. Coughlin, 12040765, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July 1943 to March 1944.

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Sec II, GO 50, H., 9th Bombardment Division (H), 1 April 1945.

Elbert B. Goss, 35258921, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to October 1944.

James E. Stalnacker, 37100531, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from August 1943 to March 1944.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Victor T. Corey, 15101573, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from April to August 1944.

397TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Clarence C. Check, 33598398, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from April 1944 to April 1945.

410TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

George F. Puneo, 32394384, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to October 1944.

Hilton Gussow, 16028993, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to August 1944.

Robert R. McHugh, 37396006, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from May to October 1944.

416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Joseph K. Ryler, 33207205, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from March to July 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, H., European T of Opns, USA, 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.

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Sec IV, GO 50, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 1 April 1945.

i. Elmer J. Hundrow, 36248837, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 19 March 1945, while serving as armor gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Appleton, Wisc.

386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

j. MILTON H. COLTON, O-730771, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 21 March 1945, while serving as bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Brooklyn, N. Y.

k. JOHN H. Sisson, O-765737, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 21 March 1945, while serving as navigator on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Washington, D. C.

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

l. WILLIS D. RUSSELL, O-705253, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 25 March 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Morton, Ill.

558th Bombardment Squadron (H)

m. Michael E. Pittaro, 32914427, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 20 March 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Newark, New Jersey.

559th Bombardment Squadron (H)

n. JOHN C. KING, JR., O-834449, Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 March 1945, while serving as co-pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Greensboro, North Carolina.

o. Eugene H. Bohlin, 36678648, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 22 March 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Chicago, Ill.

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Sec IV, GO 50, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 1 April 1945.

p. David H. Kitley, Jr., 33578693, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 23 March 1945, while serving as tail gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Philadelphia, Pa.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
575th Bombardment Squadron (H)

q. LEWIS A. WOLFE, O-611826, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 March 1945, while serving as navigator bombardier on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Pittsburgh, Pa.

409TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)  
610th Bombardment Squadron (L)

r. JEFF P. SELLERS, O-755439, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 14 March 1945, while serving as pilot on an A-20 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Gungo, Texas.

s. Loyal E. Tubbs, 37246434, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action on 14 March 1945, while serving as gunner on an A-20 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Iola, Kans.

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

t. WAYNE C. EDWARDS, O-760697, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 19 March 1945, while serving as pilot on an A-20 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Kilbourne, La.

416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)  
668th Bombardment Squadron (L)

u. ROBERT J. HARVEST, T-125068, Flight Officer, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 25 March 1945, while serving as bombardier on an A-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Concord, Mass.

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Sect V, GO 50, Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 1 April 1945.

## SECTION V

1. So much of GO 12, Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 21 January 1945, as awards the Bronze Star Medal to Master Sergeant Frederick J. Deyeraux, 11021551, is amended to read: Master Sergeant FREDERICK J. DEYERAUX.

2. So much of Sec III, par 1, General Orders No. 35 Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 8 March 1945, as awards the Air Medal to First Lieutenant THOMAS P. RATIGAN, O-2059604, is amended to read First BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the Air Medal.

3. So much of par 1, Sec V, GO 18, Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 3 February 1945, is rescinded.

4. So much of par 1, Sec IV, GO 159, Hc, IX Bomber Command, dated 19 August 1944, as awards the AIR MEDAL to Second Lieutenant JOHN M. LE BOUF, O-707943 is revoked and the following substituted therefor:

Second Oak Leaf Cluster

GO 51, IX Troop Carrier Command, 11 July 1944.

JOHN M. J. LE BOUF      O-707943      2ND LT      Gary, Ind.

5. So much of par 1, Sec II, GO 2, Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 3 January 1945, as awards the second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to First Lieutenant Oscar J. LeBoeuf, O-707943, is revoked and the following substituted therefor:

Third Oak Leaf Cluster

GO 51, IX Troop Carrier Command, 11 July 1944.

JOHN M. J. LE BOUF      O-707943      1ST LT      Gary, Ind.

6. So much of par 1, Sec III, GO 27, Hc, 9th Bombardment Division (H), dated 24 February 1945, as awards the Air Medal to the following is deleted:

|                    |          |        |    |                   |
|--------------------|----------|--------|----|-------------------|
| ROBERT E. LEMMAN   | O-795782 | 1ST LT | AC | Aurora, S. Dak.   |
| CLIFFORD E. TAYLOR | O-678583 | 2ND LT | AC | Lake Charles, La. |

By command of Major General ANDERSON:

RICHARD C. SANDERS;  
Brig General, U S A,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

*C. D. Vega, Jr.*  
C. D. VEGA, JR.  
Lt Col, Air Corps,  
Adjutant General.

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Sec V, GO 50, H, 9th Bombardment Division (H), 1 April 1945.

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