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HEADQUARTERS
9TH AIR DIVISION

C/GM/4

APO 140, U S Army,
23 May 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 11)

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

a. For heroism, to William L. Benton, 34319979, Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) (Prov). On 4 April 1945, Sergeant Benton's aircraft crashed in Germany and burst into flames. Although shaken by the crash, Sergeant Benton dragged the navigator and bombardier to safety and put out flames on their clothing. Returning to the aircraft, he assisted the engineer gunner to safety. Despite exploding ammunition and flames, Sergeant Benton succeeded in saving those who were alive. His action is in keeping with the highest ideals of the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Raleigh, N. C.

b. For heroism, 5 April 1945, to the below named officer and enlisted men. When an aircraft crashed in their squadron area, these individuals gallantly raced to the scene of the burning wreckage. Despite flames and exploding ammunition and the possibility of explosion of bombs, they courageously undertook the hazardous rescue of the crew. Not until they were certain that every crewman had been removed from the blazing wreckage did they cease their heroic efforts. Their intrepid actions on this occasion are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States.

1ST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (M) (PROV)

ALLEN R. KANNAPEL	O-410414	CAPT	MC	Drexel Hill, Pa.
John E. Sharks	13120671	Pfc	AC	Richmond, Va.
Russell L. Kelley	35667276	Pfc	AC	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Isaac Postar	6145836	Pfc	AC	Providence, R. I,

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Sec I, GO 11, Hq, 9th Air Division, 23 May 1945.

c. For heroism, to Harry V. Glades, 17160392, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, 322nd Bombardment Group (M). During the bombing run over an enemy controlled railroad yard in France, the aircraft in which Technical Sergeant Glades was serving as bombardier-navigator was hit by flak from the enemy ground defenses. After dropping his bombs simultaneously with the lead bombardier, Technical Sergeant Glades discovered that the rudder cable had been severed by flak. Grasping the severed rudder cable, Technical Sergeant Glades found that by holding the broken ends together, full rudder control could be maintained. Technical Sergeant Glades acted as a link in the rudder control cable for an hour and a half, during the return flight to home base in England. Upon reaching the home base, the aircraft was successfully landed. The outstanding initiative and stamina displayed by Technical Sergeant Glades was responsible for the safety of his crew and aircraft. Entered military service from Galena, Kansas.

d. For heroism, to Raymond L. McIntyre, 39405368, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 344th Bombardment Group (M). During the return from a combat mission, Staff Sergeant McIntyre courageously unfused an armed bomb which had failed to release and remained suspended in his aircraft by its nose lug. In spite of the great danger, Staff Sergeant McIntyre, working without a parachute over the open bomb bay doors of his weaving aircraft, reached out into the slipstream from his precarious position and unscrewed the tail fuse from the swaying bomb. The initiative, cool courage and sacrificial disregard of personal safety exhibited by Staff Sergeant McIntyre not only insured the safe return of the crew members and aircraft, but also prevented the armed bomb from falling on allied troops. Entered military service from California.

e. Noel L. Struwe, 38456954, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 391st Bombardment Group (M). For heroism on 18 November 1944, while flying as as Engineer-Gunner of a B-26 type aircraft on a mission to bomb Baumholder, Germany. On the bomb run the hydraulic system was shot out. After the run, Staff Sergeant Struwe removed his flak suit and parachute and went out on the slippery catwalk of the aircraft to close the bomb bay doors manually. The formation was still receiving flak. Nevertheless, Staff Sergeant Struwe disregarded his personal safety and remained on the catwalk attempting to close the doors after the cable had broken. His heroic courage, determination, and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Sharon, Pa. Staff Sergeant Struwe is Missing in Action.

f. For heroism, to Staff Sergeant Eugene B. Nelson, Jr., 36559085, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). On 19 March 1945, after a burst of flak struck the aircraft in which he was flying, Staff Sergeant Nelson extinguished a fire in the turret at the risk of serious personal injury. With unusual presence of mind, he then promptly administered first aid to the severely wounded turret gunner, greatly enhancing his chances of recovery. The cool headedness and quick thinking on the part of Staff Sergeant Nelson in the face of grave danger reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Michigan.

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g. For heroism, to Daniel Chest, 12216292, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). On 13 October 1944 during a combat mission, enemy flak injured the turret gunner and seriously damaged the light bomber in which Staff Sergeant Chest was flying. Despite gas fumes and hydraulic fluid in the turret compartment, Staff Sergeant Chest bandaged the most serious wounds of his fellow gunner. As the airplane burst into flames Staff Sergeant Chest ignored his own safety and courageously assisted the wounded gunner out through the hatch. After both men had landed on the ground, Staff Sergeant Chest administered emergency treatment until medical authorities arrived. Entered military service from New York.

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, USA, dated 27 May 1944, a BRONZE STAR MEDAL is awarded to the following named personnel.

40TH STATION COMPLEMENT SQ.

George R. McCray, 33203292, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 18 February 1944 to 4 May 1945.

1ST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (M) (PROV)

John E. Haggard, 36056219, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)

Robert A. Kyle, 34136990, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 February 1944 to 15 March 1945.

Robert L. Dahlof, 37283445, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 18 November 1944 to 9 April 1945.

Marvin E Murphy, 37209985, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 February 1944 to 18 March 1945.

William Paczak, 33145631, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 6 June 1944 to 5 May 1945.

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Sec II, GO 11, Hq, 9th Air Division, 23 May 1945.

410TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Willie H, Pendergraft, 6390255, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations.

Earl B. Newland, 18077788, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 6 June 1944 to 18 December 1944.

James F. Morrissey, 31133763, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 2 October 1944 to 4 April 1945.

Neil H. Williamson, 14153420, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 28 August 1944 to 17 April 1945.

416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

Robert L. Amick, 38077902, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from March 1944 to 1 May 1945.

Robert E. Atchison, 17016264, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 11 March 1944 to 1 May 1945

James T. Howard, 15066590, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 September 1943 to 1 May 1945.

Norman L. Stone, 17009604, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 7 June 1943 to 15 April 1945.

Thurman B. Strickland, 14030225, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 February 1943 to 1 May 1945.

Clarence R. Young, 15062994, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 1 September 1943 to 10 April 1945.

Clifford D. Body, 35035342, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 August 1943 to 10 March 1945.

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Herman E. Keebaugh, 13050812, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 3 March 1944 to 31 March 1945.

Edward J. Russo, 32404505, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 15 February 1943 to 6 April 1945.

Michael Clark, 31161764, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 3 March 1944 to 25 April 1945.

Roy E. Gettle, 33244775, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 25 May 1944 to 16 September 1944.

Robert R. Hanson, 37329830, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 29 September 1944 to 9 April 1945.

Elmo W. Kline, 35325458, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from February 1943 to April 1945.

William R. Springer, 32662659, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 29 September 1944 to 22 March 1945

Drexal R. Wells, 15016428, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 24 May 1944 to 18 November 1944

Lawrence R. White, 37422169, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from 3 March 1944 to 1 April 1945.

Vito G. Zukauskas, 33426007, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious service in direct support of military operations from July 1943 to 1 April 1945.

SECTION III

1. By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded in General Order No. 15, Hq, VIII Air Support Command, dated 30 August 1943, Major DAVID L. FREEMAN, O-663508, Hq, 9th Air Division, is awarded the sixth Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, (Bull. 25, WD 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242A, (Bull. 49, WD 1942), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department and contained in Hq European T of Opns USA Circular # 56, dated 27 May 1944, in recognition of meritorious achievement while participating in

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aerial flights in the European Theatereof Operations, he having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy. Entered military service from Newman, Illinois.

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 (M)
453rd Bombardment Squadron (M)

a. Raymond N. Hayden, 15082920, Master Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 24 December 1944, while serving as engineer-gunner on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Bloomington, Indiana.

454th Bombardment Squadron (M)

b. EDWIN T. MURPHY, O-777773, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received in action against an enemy of the United States on 20 April 1945, while serving as pilot on a B-26 airplane on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from Shreveport, La.

409TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
641st Bombardment Squadron (L)

c. Edward I. Kerpec, 36674969, Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For wounds received as a result of enemy action 20 April 1945, while serving as armorer gunner on an A-26 airplane, on a combat operational mission over enemy occupied territory. Entered military service from River Forest, Illinois.

SECTION V

1. So much of par 2x, Sec II, GO 133, Hq, IX Bomber Command, dated 22 July 1944 as awards the eleventh Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal to T/Sgt Elmer Roser, 18044426, is amended to near Ninth Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal.

2. So much of par 1a, GO, 46, Hq, 9th Bombardment Division (M), dated 28 March 1945, is amended to include:

1201st Military Police Co.

Charles R. Henadel 35712356 T/5 CMP Louisville, Ky.

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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.

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