

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 628)

Section

Awards of the Air Medal I.
 Awards (Posthumous) of the Oak-Leaf Cluster (Air Medal) II.

I. AWARDS OF THE AIR MEDAL:

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order, No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order, No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull 49, WD, 1942), an Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named officers for meritorious achievement while participating in sustained aerial flights on transport missions. These missions were of a hazardous nature involving over-water flights of long distance. Their services reflect great credit on the Army Air Forces.

HENRY W. WRIGHT, (O-387395), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as navigator from 13 December 1943 to 10 February 1944. Home Address: 321 Maple Avenue, Waynesboro, Virginia.

JAMES B. STEELE, (O-811786), Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as navigator from 12 December 1943 to 4 February 1944. Home Address: 410 High Street, Paris, Kentucky.

EDWARD B. WATLAND, (O-814178), Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as navigator from 30 December 1943 to 3 March 1944. Home Address: 328 East Broadway, Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order, No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order, No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull 49, WD, 1942), an Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named officers and enlisted men for meritorious achievement while participating in sustained combat operational missions. Flights were of a hazardous nature during which enemy opposition was met, or during which an area was traversed where enemy antiaircraft fire was effective or where enemy fighter patrols were habitually encountered. Each individual exhibited great courage and untiring energy; his services reflecting highest credit on the military forces of the United States.

AARON P. YOUNGHEIM, (O-664114), Captain, Air Corps, United States Army, as pilot from 10 October to 19 October 1943. Home Address: El Reno, Oklahoma.

THOMAS H. SHEARIN, (O-747339), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as pilot from 25 December 1943 to 8 January 1944. Home Address: Eagle Point, Oregon.

DAVID H. SHELTON, (O-684785), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as copilot from 30 December 1943 to 21 January 1944. Home Address: Brownwood, Texas.

DONALD E. WEBER, (O-683883), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as navigator from 25 December 1943 to 13 January 1944. Home Address: Ravenna, Ohio.

THOMAS L. WRIGHT, (O-683923), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as navigator from 25 December 1943 to 8 January 1944. Home Address: Jackson, Mississippi.

I. AWARDS OF THE AIR MEDAL (Contd.):

EDWARD J. RICE, (0-683585), Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, as pilot from 10 February to 21 February 1944. Home Address: 805 Eighth Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa.

ERNEST R. PENNINGTON, (35637050), Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army, as aerial engineer from 13 March to 21 March 1944. Home Address: Charleston, West Virginia.

CHARLES B. STRONG, (32554161), Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army, as aerial engineer gunner from 14 February to 25 February 1944. Home Address: Main Street, Holland, New York.

RUFUS E. WILLIAMSON, (34289815), Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army, as aerial engineer gunner from 18 February to 29 February 1944. Home Address: 3410 Third Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

FRANCIS W. SIKORSKI, (12154537), Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army, as assistant aerial engineer from 30 December 1943 to 21 January 1944. Home Address: Brooklyn, New York.

II. AWARDS (POSTHUMOUS) OF THE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER (AIR MEDAL):

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order, No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order, No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull 49, WD, 1942), a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster, in lieu of an additional Air Medal, is posthumously awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named officer and enlisted man:

BILL D. HUGHES, (0-663268), Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating as bombardier from 12 March to 8 April 1943 in sustained combat operational missions. Flights were of a hazardous nature during which enemy opposition was met, or during which an area was traversed where enemy antiaircraft fire was effective or where enemy fighter patrols were habitually encountered. Lieutenant Hughes exhibited great courage and untiring energy; his services reflecting highest credit on the military forces of the United States. Next of Kin: Mrs. Anna A. Hughes, Wife, 1204 East Sprague Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

GEORGE A. DINKELACKER, (33326148), Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating as aerial radio operator from 4 February to 13 February 1944 in sustained combat operational missions. Flights were of a hazardous nature during which enemy opposition was met, or during which an area was traversed where enemy antiaircraft fire was effective or where enemy fighter patrols were habitually encountered. Sergeant Dinkelacker exhibited great courage and untiring energy; his services reflecting highest credit on the military forces of the United States. Next of Kin: Mrs. Elsie Dinkelacker, Mother, 916 Agnes Avenue, Rutledge, Pennsylvania.

By Command of Lieutenant General HARMON:

A. J. BARNETT,
Major General, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

M. B. Kendrick
M. B. KENDRICK,
Major, AGD,
Asst Adj Gen.

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