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GENERAL ORDERS)

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| | Section |
| Awards of the Distinguished-Flying Cross | I. |
| Awards of the Oak-Leaf Cluster (Distinguished-Flying Cross) | II. |
| Awards of the Oak-Leaf Cluster (Air Medal) | III. |

I. AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS:

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, WD, 1926), a Distinguished-Flying Cross is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named officers for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flights on combat operational missions. All of these flights were of a hazardous nature during which an area was traversed where enemy antiaircraft fire was effective, or where enemy airplanes or exposure to enemy fire were habitually expected and in numerous instances encountered. Previous recognition that each has received makes his record one for emulation; his accomplishments being a credit to himself and the Army Air Forces.

WILLIAM H. HOUSEWORTH, (O-421943), Captain, Air Corps, United States Army, Flight Leader, for ten fighter sorties during the period of 23 May to 3 September 1943, making fifty of like nature in which he has participated. Home Address: Cement, Oklahoma.

CHARLES E. Van RIBBER, (O-667873), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, Element Leader, for ten fighter sorties during the period of 1 August to 12 November 1943, making thirty of like nature in which he has participated, and, in addition, he has accomplished the destruction of two enemy airplanes during aerial combat. Home Address: 144 Roosevelt Boulevard, Madison, New Jersey. TOTAL

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, WD, 1926), a Distinguished-Flying Cross is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named officers for extraordinary achievement while participating in sustained aerial flights on transport missions. All of these flights were performed in combat areas where there was a possibility of enemy interception. Previous recognition that each has received makes his record one for emulation; his accomplishments being a credit to himself and the Army Air Forces.

VICTOR W. POGUTSKI, (O-738813), First Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, Navigator, for over 100 hours of operational air flights during the period of 10 September to 24 October 1943, making more than 300 hours of like nature in which he has participated. Home Address: 3948 McPherson Street, St. Louis, Missouri.

ABRAHAM COHEN, (O-800635), Second Lieutenant, Air Corps, United States Army, Navigator, for over 100 hours of operational air flights during the period of 2 September to 3 October 1943, making more than 300 hours of like nature in which he has participated. Home Address: 30 Prospect Street, Newburyport, Massachusetts.

II. AWARDS OF THE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER (DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS):

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, WD, 1926), a bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster, in lieu of an additional Distinguished-Flying Cross, is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-