## RESTRICTED

## HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE APO #719

GENERAL CHLERS ) NUMBER 253 ) 18 December 1944:

## AIR MEDAL

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942), an Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, to the following named officers and enlisted men:

Staff Sergeant JOSEPH L. PAUCEK, (36209048), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 25 June 1943 to 9 September 1943. Home address: Mrs. Josephine Faucek (Mother), 1641 South 68th St., West Allis, Wis.

Second Lieutenant <u>BEN J. FETMECKY</u>, <u>JR.</u>, (0-757269), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 28 February 1944 to 3 April 1944. Home address: Mrs. Ida M. Petmecky (Mother), Post Office Box 383, Lytle, Tex.

. Private FLOYD S. RAY, (33277440), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 24 September 1943 to 4 June 1944. Home address: Mr. Ralph E. Ray (Brother), Latrobe, Pa.

Second Lieutenant DAVID F. RYAN, (0-692923), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 28 February 1944 to 6 May 1944. Home address: Mr. David Ryan (Father), Box 144, Puritan, Mich.

Sergeant CHARLES L. SCHMIDT, (37133536), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 17 June 1943 to 14 September 1943. Home. address: Mr. John L. Schmidt (Father), 8324 Hord St., Jennings, Mo.

Corporal JOHN SMITH, (13039432), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 10 November 1942 to 26 September 1943. Home address: Mrs. Anna Smith (Mother), 2303 Westmar St., Pittsburgh. Pa.

Sergeant OSCAR E. SMITH, (34095616), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 25 January 1943 to 11 April 1944. Home address: Mrs. Clara Smith (Mother), Route #1, Donalds, S. C.

Staff Sergeant BUSTER STALLINGS, (34275365), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from & January 1944 to 7 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Carrie Stallings (Mother), 1110 7th St., Meridan, Miss.

Sergeant WILLIAM A. THARP, (35686765), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 1 December 1943 to 3 May 1944. Home address: Miss Boots Lee (Cousin), 1139 South 4th St., Louisville, Ky.

Major HANRY R. TOLLEFSEN, (0-466464), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 28 July 1943 to 4 April 1944. Home address: Mrs. Harry R. Tollefsen (Mother), 704 West 22nd St., Kearney, Nebr.

Sergeant ALLEN L. THOMPSON, (31199541), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 14 December 1943 to 7 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Lulu H. Thompson (Mother), RFD #2, Middlebury, Vt.

Second Lieutenant EARL THOMPSON, (0-606549), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 15 Lecember 1943 to 28 March 1944. Home address: Mrs. M. G. Thompson (Mother), 1521 Jackson, San Francisco, Calif.

Corporal WILLIAM W. TUSTIN, (15086035), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 8 December 1942 to 27 November 1943. Home address: Mr. Nathe W. Tustin (Father), St. Francisville, Ill.

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General Orders No. 253, Hq., Thirteenth Air Force, APO #719, 18 December 1944.

Private <u>WILLIS</u> G. <u>WELCH</u>, (13111921), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 21 December 1943 to 6 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Effic Welch (Mother), Monroeville, N. J.

Sergeant KENNETH E. WENTWORTH, (12201510), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 13 December 1943 to 28 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Laura Wentworth (Mother), 315 First St., Leverpool, N. Y.

Staff Sergeant ROY M. WICKS, (19380621), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 7 May 1943 to 16 August 1943. Home address: Mrs. M. Wicks (Mother), 1018 D. Marine Ave., Wilmington, Calif.

Sergeant MALCOLM R. WILLSON, (36703885), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 17 January 1944 to 19 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Lily Willson (Mother), 1329 South 12th Ave., Maywood, Ill.

The citation is as follows:

For meritorious achievement while participating in sustained operational flight missions in the Southwest Pacific area, during which hostile contact was probable and expected. These flights involved flying at low altitudes over mountainous terrain under adverse weather conditions in an unarmed transport airplane and often necessitated landing within a few miles of enemy bases. The courage and devotion to duty displayed during these flights are worthy of commendation.

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Major General, U. S. Army,

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