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HEADQUARTERS
THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO #719

GENERAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 260)

19 December 1944.

## AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER)

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), a Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster, in lieu of an additional Air Medal, is awarded by the Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, to the following named officers and enlisted men:

First Lieutenant GEORGE W. ALEXANDER, (0-660433), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 5 February 1944 to 8 April 1944. Home address: Mr. William C. Alexander (Father), 123 Clifton St., Brush, Colo.

Sergeant MICHAEL CASORIA, (13019859), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 18 May 1944 to 8 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Caroline Casoria (Mother), 242 Tenth Ave., Scranton Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Technical Sergeant RALPH W. DREWS, (36302091), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 14 April 1944 to 27 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Anna Drews (Mother), 5333 Oakdale Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Second Lieutenant RALPH E. DRUM, (0-802266), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 3 March 1944 to 21 May 1944. Home address: Mr. Thomas E. Drum (Father), Main St., Woodsfield, Ohio.

Second Lieutenant LYNN A. EISENBERG, (0-810525), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 4 May 1944 to 9 June 1944. Home address: Miss F. L. Eisenberg (Sister), 307 E. Beacon Rd., Lakeland, Fla.

First Lieutenant HAROLD F. ELBELL, (0-670857), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 27 March 1944 to 4 June 1944. Home address: Mr. M. L. Elbell (Father), Rossiter, Pa.

Sergeant ALBERT H. EPPLEY, JR., (33279321), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 5 April 1944 to 8 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Margaret Eppley (Mother), RD #1, Fayette, Fa.

Second Lieutenant RALFH J. FERRARO, (0-810219), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 15 March 1944 to 27 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. C. Ferraro (Mother), 478 N. Culony Rd., Wallingford, Conn.

Second Lieutenant BROWN C. FORBES, (0-681639), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 27 February 1944 to 7 May 1944. Home address: Miss Nell Forbes (Sister), 3 Winthrop, Clover, S. C.

First Lieutenant SAMUEL S. GILL, JR., (0-669700), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 13 March 1944 to 11 May 1944. Home address: Mr. Sam S. Gill (Father), 1428 N. W. 34th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Staff Sergeant KENNETH GOODWIN, (12138060), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 16 May 1944 to 9 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Jennie Goodwin (Mother), 10 Puglsey Pl., Ossining, N. Y.

Second Lieutenant RALPH N. HARDIN, (0-745676), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 2 April 1944 to 2 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Marie E. Hardin (Wife), 3964 Sullivan Ave., St Louis, Mo.

Technical Sergeant JAMES W. HARTLINE, (6955099), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 26 September 1943 to 8 February 1944. Home address: Mrs. Vera Price (Mother), Route #1, Mount Pleasant, Tex.

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Second Lieutenant EDGAR B. HETZLER, (0-677271), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 10 April 1944 to 16 May 1944. Home address: Mr. Bernard W. Hetzler (Father), 208 West Sixth St., Junction City, Kans.

Staff Sergeant CECIL F. HOGAN, (32418474), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 6 November 1943 to 9 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. F. J. Hogan (Mother), 762 East 9th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second Lieutement WILLIAM M. HUDSON, (0-697866), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 28 February 1944 to 11 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. Lucy Hudson (Mother), 70 Monroe St., Covington, Va.

Second Lieutenant ERLAND G. JOHNSON, (0-740207), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 31 August 1943 to 16 May 1944. Home address: Mr. Alfred Johnson (Father), Grenora, N. Dak.

Second Lieutenant ROBERT P. JOHNSON, (0-806850), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 29 April 1944 to 2 June 1944. Home address: Mr. Phillip F. Johnson, Box 95, Monmouth, Maine.

First Lieutenant ALBERT A. JUDD, JR., (0-740449), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 24 March 1944 to 6 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. A. A. Judd, Sr. (Mother), Box #8, Port Orchard, Wash.

First Lieutenant WILLIAM C. KELLNER, (0-670928), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 21 April 1944 to 5 June 1944. Home address: Mrs. Mamie Kellner (Mother), 234 W. Main St., Salem, Va.

Sergeant EDWARD H. KESTERMAN, (35457659), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 14 February 1944 to 13 May 1944. Home address: Mrs. T. Kesterman (Mother), 37 Mulberry St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Second Lieutenant WILLIAM G. KINDLER, (0-814088), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 14 December 1943 to 23 March 1944. Home address: Mrs. Elizabeth Kindler (Mother), 517 E. Elm St., Mankato, Minn.

Second Lieutenant ERNEST S. KING, (0-698441), Air Corps, United States Army. For operational flight missions from 28 February 1944 to 30 March 1944. Home address: Mrs. Frances M. King (Wife), Route #1, Elma, Wash.

The citation is as follows:

For meritorious achievement while participating in sustained operational , flight missions in the Southwest Facific 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.

ST. CLAIR STREETT,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

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