

D. F. C. Medal Citation

" the finest example of high altitude precision bombing by B-24 aircraft in the history of the Army Air Forces."

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520

C-UPD-bmr

GENERAL ORDERS)
 :
NUMBER 457)

MARCH 1944

E X T R A C T

Award of the Distinguished Flying CrossII

SECTION II -- AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Circular No. 26, Headquarters NATOUSA, 6 March 1944, the Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded the following named officers, Air Corps, United States Army, residence as indicated, with the following citation:

Lt.Col.Marden M. Munn	1stLt. Ernest B. Mauck	2ndLt.Quentin D.Poe
HDQ. 459th BG	757th BS	758th BS
Capt. Ellis A. Goodrich	1stLt. Robert W. Spargur	2ndLt. Geo. Wampler
HDQ. 459th BG	759th BS	757th BS
Capt. Clifford R. Opper	2ndLt. James Cannard	2ndLt. Bob C.Williams
757th BS	758th BS	759thBS
1stLt. W.E. Benkleman	2ndLt. Luis D. Dellert	2ndLt.Marion M. Beach
759th BS	759th BS	756th BS
1stLt. Victor C. Conway	2ndLt. William G. Hartnett	
HDQ. 459th BG	757th BS	

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight on a highly strategic bombardment mission against important enemy aircraft factories and installations in Austria on 23 April 1944. The personnel as shown, displayed exceptional leadership, courage and professional skill. The destruction of this target was of paramount importance to the war effort and through the concerted efforts of all concerned, the target was completely obliterated by one (1) of the most successful bombings experienced in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. Although under constant and aggressive attack by large numbers of determined enemy fighters, together with intense and heavy anti-aircraft fire, the formation fought through and accomplished the mission in an outstandingly superior manner. The personnel of the various lead aircraft displayed the highest form of leadership, coolness, cooperation and teamwork in holding the formation tightly together and effecting a perfect bombing run. Through this achievement, the large productive output of enemy aircraft in this vital manufacturing center was cut off at its source, thus effectively and seriously crippling enemy operational efficiency at time of great importance. This display of sound leadership, professional skill and extraordinary achievement reflects great credit upon the officers concerned and the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

By Command of Major General TWINING:

OFFICIAL:

/s/J.M. Ivins
Lieutenant Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General

R. K. Taylor,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff