

File

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
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C-UPD-bmr

21 October 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 4086)

- Awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross (Missing in Action) I
- Award of the Silver Star II
- Award of Oak Leaf Cluster for the Silver Star III
- Awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross IV
- Award of Oak Leaf Cluster for the Distinguished Flying Cross V

SECTION I -- AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS (MISSING IN ACTION)

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Circular No. 89, Headquarters MATOUSI, 10 July 1944, the Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded the following named personnel, Air Corps; United States Army, who are missing in action, residence as indicated, with the following citation:

For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as crew of a B-24 type aircraft. On 26 June 1944, this gallant crew participated in a highly strategic bombardment mission against a target of high priority in Austria. The destruction of this target was of paramount importance to the war effort and through the heroism, courage, coolness, decisive action and devotion to duty displayed by this crew, the accomplishment of this mission was greatly enhanced. Enroute to and over the target, their aircraft was savagely attacked by many determined enemy fighters. A direct hit in the bomb bay was scored and large clouds of smoke and flames poured from their aircraft. Dropping to a lower altitude in order to protect the rest of the formation, the heroic crew continued toward the objective. Fighting off successive waves of enemy aircraft, each man remained at his post. After successfully bombing the target, the crew pulled their stricken aircraft away from the formation. Although the aircraft was by this time completely enveloped in smoke and flame, the entire crew parachuted to safety. Seconds later, the aircraft exploded and disintegrated in the air. Through this heroic and extraordinary display of courage, coolness, teamwork, determination and devotion to duty in fulfilling their assigned mission, regardless of their own personal safety, this crew has upheld the highest traditions of the Military Service, thereby reflecting great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

DFC
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WALTER H. ESCUE, O-688927, Second Lieutenant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp., Ozona, Texas. Next of kin: Mrs. Alma Escue, (Mother), Ozona, Texas.

KENNETH E. REED, T-62193, Flight Officer, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp., Penn Yan, New York. Next of kin: Mr. E. B. Reed, (Father), Penn Yan, New York.

JAMES W. SMITH, 13080996, Staff Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp., Texarkana, Arkansas. Next of kin: Mrs. M. L. Smith, (Wife), Texarkana, Arkansas.

THOMAS J. SULLIVAN, 3268678, Staff Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp., Floral Park, New York. Next of kin: Mrs. Ellen Sullivan, (Mother), 140 Cherry Street, Floral Park, New York.

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DFC
EARLE H. SULLIVAN, 13081941, Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp.,
Washington, D. C. Next of kin: Mrs. Mary E. Sullivan, (Mother), 1735
New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest Washington, D. C.

DFC
WILLIAM H. SUTTEN, 34763653, Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp.,
Abbeville, Georgia. Next of kin: Mrs. Dorothy S. Suttan, (Wife), Abbe-
ville, Georgia.

DFC
WARREN S. SMITH, 17079202, Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp.,
Fargo, North Dakota. Next of kin: Mrs. Dorothy E. Smith, (Wife), 23
7th Street, Fargo, North Dakota.

DFC
ROBERT W. OTTO, 39907544, Sergeant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp.,
Jerome, Idaho. Next of kin: Mrs. Lenore J. Otto, (Wife), Jerome,
Idaho.

SECTION II -- AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to auth-
ority contained in Circular No. 89, Headquarters NATOUS, 10 July 1944,
the Silver Star is awarded the following named officer, Air Corps, United
States Army, residence and citation as indicated:

WILLIAM L. ADAMS, O-811299, First Lieutenant, 824th Bomb Sq., 434th
Bomb Gp. For gallantry in action as pilot of a B-24 type aircraft. On
22 August 1944, Lt Adams led his formation on a bombing mission against
an important and heavily defended enemy oil storage center in Austria.
Despite severe and adverse weather conditions encountered enroute, to-
gether with serious mechanical difficulties which rendered one (1) en-
gine inoperative and damaged another, he brought his formation directly
to the target. Under heavy enemy opposition from both numerous highly
aggressive enemy fighters and intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire,
though his aircraft was extremely unairworthy, displaying outstanding
courage and leadership, Lt Adams brought his entire formation through
for a highly successful bombing run, inflicting grave damage to vital
enemy installations and supplies. Leaving the objective, though flying
on only two (2) engines, Lt Adams quickly rallied his planes, enabling
crippled aircraft to remain within the protective formation, and suc-
ceeded in bringing them through to base without further damage. By his
outstanding courage, professional skill and devotion to duty, as evi-
denced throughout over forty-six (46) successful missions against the
enemy, Lt Adams has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed
Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment:
Canton, Ohio.

SECTION III -- AWARD OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER FOR THE SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to auth-
ority contained in Circular No. 89, Headquarters NATOUS, 10 July 1944,
the First (1st) Oak Leaf Cluster (Bronze) for the Silver Star is awarded
the following named officer, Air Corps, United States Army, residence and
citation as indicated,

LELAND A. YOUNKIN, O-662850, Major, Hq., 451st Bomb Gp. For gallantry
in action as pilot of a B-24 type aircraft. On 22 August 1944, Major Younkin
led a Wing formation on a bombing mission against vital strategic enemy under-
ground oil storage in Austria. Enemy aircraft attacked aggressively in waves

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of ten (10) abreast in an attempt to scatter the formation, but Major Younkin grouped his formation displaying outstanding leadership and airmanship, and brought the entire Wing formation through the enemy defenses for a highly successful bombing run. Under his superior direction, the bombs from his Wing were concentrated in the immediate target area, inflicting grave damage to enemy installations. Enroute to base, despite damage to his aircraft, Major Younkin skilfully maneuvered his formation through adverse weather. By his outstanding courage, professional skill and intense devotion to duty in the face of enemy fire, as evidenced throughout his combat career of ninety-nine (99) successful missions against the enemy, Major Younkin has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment: Venatchee, Washington.

SECTION IV -- AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Circular No. 89, Headquarters MATOUSA, 10 July 1944; the Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded the following named officers, Air Corps, United States Army, residence and citation as indicated:

ROLAND C. WOLFE, O-816193, First Lieutenant, 917th Ftr Sq., 325th Ftr Gp. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as pilot of a P-51 type aircraft. On 24 June 1944, Lt Wolfe led his flight in a bomber escort mission over Rumania. Enroute to the target, formations of enemy fighters made persistent attempts to attack the heavy bombers. Despite the superiority in number, displaying outstanding leadership, aggressiveness and combat skill, Lt Wolfe so effectively led his flight that all attacks were repulsed and the bomber formation was enabled to complete a highly successful mission without the loss of one (1) aircraft. During the forty-five (45) minutes of intense aerial combat, Lt Wolfe destroyed one (1) enemy aircraft and probably destroyed another. By his outstanding skill and courage in fifty-three (53) combat missions over enemy territory in which he destroyed three (3) enemy aircraft, Lt Wolfe has upheld the highest traditions of the Military Service and has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment: Brooklyn, New York.

DFC
DELLER C. SMALL, O-768714, Second Lieutenant, 758th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as pilot of a B-24 type aircraft. On 22 August 1944, while participating in a mission against highly important and strategic enemy installations in Germany, severe enemy opposition by fighter and anti-aircraft fire caused severe damage to his aircraft and wounded two (2) crew members. Through superb airmanship and courageous determination, Lt Small continued through to the objective, aiding materially in the tremendous damage inflicted on the assigned target. Despite continued savage resistance by the enemy after leaving the target area, Lt Small through his courage and decisive action, was able to crash land the crippled aircraft without further damage to the aircraft or further injury to his crew members. By his combat efficiency and devotion to duty, together with his determination to continue combat operations, Lt Small has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment: Salt Lake City, Utah.