

R E S T R I C T E D

File

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520

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 MATOUSA, 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.

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.

DFC
DFC
DFC
DFC

R E S T R I C T E D

(GO # 4036, Hq Fifteenth Air Force,
21 October 1944, cont'd)

DFC
EARLE H. SULLIVAN, 19081941, 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 NATOUSA, 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., 484th
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 NATOUSA, 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.

- 2 -

R E S T R I C T E D