

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520

C-UPD-brr

24 October 1944.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 4134)

Award of the Silver Star (Missing in Action) I
Awards of the Silver Star. II

SECTION I -- AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR (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 Silver Star is awarded the following named officer, Air Corps, United States Army, who is missing in action, residence and citation as indicated:

ALBERT C. HENNING, O-750916, Second Lieutenant, 757th Bomb Sq., 459th Bomb Gp. For gallantry in action as pilot of a B-24 type aircraft. On 26 June 1944, Lt Henning participated in a highly strategic bombardment mission against vital enemy installations in Germany. Enroute to and over the target area, his aircraft encountered severe enemy opposition from aggressive fighters and anti-aircraft fire. A direct hit in his bomb bay was scored and large clouds of smoke and flame shot from the aircraft. Dropping to a lower altitude in order to protect the rest of the formation in the event of an explosion, Lt Henning gallantly continued on to the target. Fighting off successive waves of enemy aircraft, Lt Henning successfully bombed the objective. After successfully bombing the objective, he broke away from the formation. Although his aircraft was, at this time, completely enveloped in smoke and flame, the entire crew parachuted to safety. Seconds later the aircraft exploded and disintegrated in the air. By his conspicuous gallantry, determination and professional skill, together with his intense devotion to duty, as evidenced throughout his combat career, Lt Henning has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment: Texarkana, Arkansas. Next of kin: Mrs. Margaret J. Henning, (Wife), Texarkana, Arkansas.

55

SECTION II -- AWARDS OF THE SILVER STAR

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

EDWIN P. SCHMID, O-22156, Lieutenant Colonel, Hq., 376th Bomb Gp. For gallantry in action as pilot of a B-24 type aircraft. On 31 May 1944, Lt Col Schmid led a group formation on a bombing mission against a vitally important oil refinery in Rumania. Just prior to reaching the target, it was noticed that the Wing lead Group just ahead was off course and that the lead aircraft was severely damaged and forced to turn back. Realizing this confusing situation, Lt Col Schmid skilfully assumed command and led the Wing with his formation. Despite the intense and accurate barrage of anti-aircraft fire and an effective smoke screen over the target, he skilfully led his section for a highly successful bombing run and ordered the second unit to bomb an alternate target when they were unable to locate the primary target through the smoke screen. This section also inflicted tremendous damage on the enemy installations. Immediately upon leaving the target, Lt Col Schmid's weakened formation was attacked by twenty-five (25) enemy fighters which made persistent