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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General
APO 558



GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 126)

AWARDS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS. SECTION I
AWARDS OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS. . . SECTION II
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL. SECTION III

I. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Paragraph 2b, Circular 58, Hq 2TUSA, 27 May 1944, and Letter, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, File No. 300.6, 1 June 1944, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following-named Officers and Enlisted Men:

GERRY L. MASON, O-13231, Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Command Pilot of a Heavy Bombardment Wing on a bombing mission over Germany, 20 June 1944. Colonel Mason's exceptional leadership and sound judgment in skillfully leading his Wing to accurately bomb this vital target were major factors in its extensive destruction. Colonel Mason's timely decisions and tactical ability enabled his Wing to successfully accomplish its mission, reflecting the highest credit upon himself and the United States Army Air Forces. Entered military service from New York.

HARVEY P. BARNARD, JR., O-21161, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Air Commander of a Heavy Bombardment Division on a bombing mission to Germany, 18 June 1944. The skilful leadership demonstrated by Colonel Barnard on this occasion was a major factor in the destruction of the assigned target. The outstanding tactical ability displayed by Lieutenant Colonel Barnard in overcoming adverse weather conditions, problems of assembly, fighter coordination and defense against enemy aircraft and accurate anti-aircraft fire reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

DONALD E. LEWIS, O-673598, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Lead Navigator of B-24 Groups and Combat Wing on many heavy bombardment missions to enemy occupied territory. Captain Lewis has displayed superior navigational ability in overcoming adverse weather conditions and in leading his formations to successfully bomb targets of deep penetration. The skill and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Lewis on these many occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Jersey.

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R E S T R I C T E DGO No. 126, Hq 2 BD,
10 July 1944.

GEORGE G. GARDNER, O-666022, First Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Lead Bombardier of a B-24 aircraft on a bombing mission to Germany, 29 May 1944. Lieutenant Gardner displayed great skill and ability in expertly dropping his bombs to successfully destroy the assigned target. Handicapped by a ground haze and unforeseen maneuvers by other formations at the I.P., Lieutenant Gardner's achievement was a material factor in the success of this mission and reflects the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

CHARLES W. STEVENS, JR., O-811461, First Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-24 aircraft on a bombing mission over enemy occupied territory, 20 June 1944. Lieutenant Stevens' aircraft suffered a direct hit on the bombing run which damaged the nose section, killed the Navigator and Bombardier, knocked out No. 3 engine and windshield. Lieutenant Stevens maintained sufficient control of his aircraft to safely leave his formation and jettison his bombs. Over the English coast the No. 1 engine also failed, necessitating a landing on the beach without further damage to his aircraft or injury to his crew. The superior airmanship, courage, and sound judgment displayed by Lieutenant Stevens on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from North Carolina.

ROBERT R. CALDWELL, O-812798, Second Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-24 aircraft on a bombing mission to enemy occupied territory, 23 June 1944. Lieutenant Caldwell's aircraft was severely damaged by enemy anti-aircraft fire as it approached the target. Gas tanks were punctured, rudder and trim cables cut, hydraulic lines severed, control surfaces were pierced in a number of places and the No. 2 engine feathered. Lieutenant Caldwell immediately switched over to automatic equipment, skillfully maintaining control of his aircraft, and continued on in formation. On arrival at home field, Lieutenant Caldwell expertly landed his crippled aircraft without further damage or injury to his crew. The coolness, courage, and flying skill displayed by Lieutenant Caldwell reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service Florida.

KENNETH KATTEN, 19024629, Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Gunner of a B-24 aircraft on a bombing mission to Germany, 22 April 1944. Sergeant Katten's aircraft was attacked by enemy intruder fighters as they returned to their home base at dusk. Two engines were shot out, two gunners wounded, and a fire started in the waist section by enemy cannon fire. Given the order to bail out, Sergeant Katten informed his Pilot that two crew members were wounded, volunteered to remain and protect them, and as they crash landed, throw himself over them to keep off flying debris. Sergeant Katten suffered a broken back and both legs paralyzed as a result of the crash landing. The courage and extraordinary heroism displayed by Sergeant Katten on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

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GO No. 126, Hq 2 BD,
10 July 1944.

II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Paragraph 2b, Circular 56, Hq ETOUSA, 27 May 1944, and Letter, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, File No. 200.6, 1 June 1944, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", the OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following-named Officers:

RICHARD R. CATTERLIN, O-442484, First Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Lead Navigator of a B-24 Combat Wing on a bombing mission to Germany, 29 May 1944. Lieutenant Catterlin's navigation was a contributing factor in the successful completion of this hazardous mission. Adhering closely to the briefed route, Lieutenant Catterlin skillfully evaded the heavily defended areas in enemy territory leading his Wing to the target without sustaining battle damage. Lieutenant Catterlin's excellent calculations enabled his Bombardier to successfully bomb their assigned target with excellent results. The skillful navigation and sound judgment displayed by Lieutenant Catterlin on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

GEORGE D. GRIESBACH, O-877262, First Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-24 aircraft on a bombing mission to Germany, 8 May 1944. Lieutenant Griesbach's aircraft was attacked by enemy fighters after the bomb run. A 20mm shell exploded and blew six feet off the left wing. Lieutenant Griesbach skillfully regained control of his aircraft and continued on with his formation. Near the enemy coast, he left the Group and returned to home base alone, landing his severely damaged aircraft without injury to his crew or further damage to his aircraft. The superior flying ability, courage, and determination exhibited by Lieutenant Griesbach on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

ROBERT E. ROSE, O-530728, First Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot on a bombing mission over enemy occupied territory, 26 March 1944. Lieutenant Rose's aircraft was severely damaged by enemy anti-aircraft fire over the target, suffering the loss of two engines. Lieutenant Rose, with superb airmanship and great skill, safely returned to friendly territory and landed at his home base without further damage or injury to his crew. The flying ability and sound judgment displayed by Lieutenant Rose on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service California.

III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Paragraph 2b, Circular 56, Hq ETOUSA, 27 May 1944, and Letter, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, File No. 200.6, 1 June 1944, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", the OAK LEAF CLUSTER to the AIR MEDAL is awarded to the following-named Enlisted Man:

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CARL L. PETERSON, 39282483, Technical Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while serving as Engineer of a B-24 aircraft on a heavy bombardment mission to Germany, 21 June 1944. Flak in the target area severely crippled Sergeant Peterson's aircraft, severing the rudder cables and other controls. With only the simplest tools available, Sergeant Peterson spliced the broken rudder cable with a piece of bomb cable, enabling the Pilot to return to friendly territory and make a safe landing using his automatic equipment. The ingenuity and initiative of this Enlisted Man, his coolness and skill in this emergency were vital factors in the safe return of his aircraft and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

By command of Major General HODGES:

CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel CSC
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

George J. Paul
GEORGE J. PAUL
Major AGD
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION: Special Awards.



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