

GENERAL ORDERS)

No. 933 /)

HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST AIR FORCES
APO 925 - 29 May 1945

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I. DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). By direction of the President, in addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross awarded to Captain GERARD F. WIENTJES by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, as published in Section II, General Orders No. 371, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 12 March 1945, a Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to him by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, WD, 1926). The citation is as follows:

Captain GERARD F. WIENTJES, (0374107), Air Corps, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight over Dutch New Guinea on 31 July 1944. Captain Wientjes was the pilot of a Navy Catalina aircraft dispatched to rescue an air crew down at a lake in enemy territory. When he arrived over the lake he could see, from the bodies of Japanese soldiers lying about, that there had been a recent engagement. Fully realizing the vulnerability of the Catalina to possible enemy small arms fire, he landed without damage amid thick underwater grass, logs, and other debris and taxied to the very edge of the shore. He arranged for the necessary protection against probable hostile patrols and proceeded to direct the rescue of 10 men, 7 of whom were badly wounded. All of them were put into a life-raft, then brought aboard the plane. After the crew had freed the wheels from the entangling grass and pushed the Catalina away from the shore to prevent it from running aground, he attempted a take-off but failed because the load was excessive and the surface of the water was glassy. After all the gasoline that could be spared was dumped off, he made a successful take-off in semi-darkness and brought the rescued personnel to a base where they were taken to a hospital. The outstanding courage and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Wientjes during this flight are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces. Home address: Mrs. Mary A. Wientjes (Wife), 506 W. Elmers Place, San Antonio, Tex.

II. BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Sec. II, Bulletin 3, WD, 1944), a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officer and enlisted man:

GO No. 933, Hq, Far East Air Forces, 29 May 1945. (Contd)

Staff Sergeant RAYMOND E. BEAN, (18114723), Air Corps, United States Army. Radio operator.
Home address: Mrs. Dortha E. Bean (Wife), Roscoe, Tex.

First Lieutenant PETER E. NAYLOR, (0682361), Air Corps, United States Army. Navigator.
Home address: Mrs. Ruth E. Naylor (Wife), 214 Cottage Grove, Miles City, Mont.

The citation is as follows:

For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in New Guinea on 31 July 1944. Lieutenant Naylor and Sergeant Bean were crew members of a Navy Catalina aircraft dispatched to rescue air-men forced down on a lake in enemy territory. When the plane arrived over the lake they could see that an engagement had taken place. The pilot landed amid thick underwater grass, logs, and other debris and taxied to the very edge of the shore. Ten men, 7 of them badly wounded, were picked up and preparations were made for a take-off. The engines, however, could not be started for fear of running the airplane aground. Lieutenant Naylor and Sergeant Bean, with complete disregard for their own safety, thereupon dived into the water, which was reported to be infested with crocodiles, and succeeded in pushing the airplane away from the shore. When the wheels, which had been lowered to provide necessary drag, became entangled in the grass and debris, they repeatedly went under water and cleared the wheels until a take-off could be made. In endangering their own lives for the sake of others, Lieutenant Naylor and Sergeant Bean displayed the highest type of courage and rendered service beyond the normal call of duty.

III. AIR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942), an Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officers:

Captain ROBERT E. BROWN, (0421639), Air Corps, United States Army.
For operational flight missions from 18 January 1945 to 18 May 1945.
Home address: Mrs. Angela F. Brown (Wife), 3030 Newark St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Captain NORMAN H. TAYLOR, (0729589), Air Corps, United States Army.
For operational flight missions from 1 December 1944 to 18 March 1945.
Home address: Mr. E. E. Taylor (Father), Savannah, Mo.

Major CHARLES B. WIGGIN, JR., (0884139), Air Corps, United States Army.
For operational flight missions from 2 November 1944 to 11 May 1945.
Home address: Lt. Helen C. Wiggin (Wife), Kelly Field, Tex.

The citation is as follows:

For meritorious achievement while participating in sustained operational flight missions in the Southwest Pacific Area, during which hostile contact was probable and expected. These operations consisted of bombing missions against enemy airdromes and installations and attacks on enemy naval vessels and shipping. The courage and devotion to duty displayed during these flights reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces.

IV. AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to the following named officers by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, as published in General Orders No. 81, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 12 January 1945, Bronze Oak-Leaf Clusters are awarded to them by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942).

1. SECOND OAK-LEAF CLUSTER.

Major DONALD D. CORLETT, (0238482), Medical Corps, United States Army. Flight Surgeon.
Home address: Mrs. Eleanor F. Corlett (Wife), 4415 54th Ave., N.E., Seattle, Wash.

2. SIXTH OAK-LEAF CLUSTER.

First Lieutenant JOHN S. DENISON, (0753197), Air Corps, United States Army. Co-pilot.
Home address: Mrs. John S. Denison (Wife), Box 564, 1409 Wall St., Brady, Tex.

The citation is as follows:

For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight in Dutch New Guinea on 31 July 1944. Major Corlett and Lieutenant Denison were members of a crew on a Catalina aircraft dispatched to rescue airmen forced down on a lake in enemy territory. When the plane arrived over the lake, it was seen, from bodies of Japanese soldiers lying about, that an engagement had taken place. Despite the vulnerability of the Catalina to small arms fire, it was landed amid thick underwater grass, logs, and other debris and taxied to the very edge of the shore. When 10 men were found, 7 of them badly wounded, Major Corlett and Lieutenant Denison assisted in bringing them aboard the Catalina. Some of the crew members then dived into the crocodile-infested water, freed the nose-wheel from the entangling grass, and pushed the airplane away from the shore so that it could start without running aground. After an unsuccessful attempt to take off, all the gasoline that could be spared was dumped to lighten the load. The aircraft then got into the air and the wounded personnel were taken to a hospital. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Major Corlett and Lieutenant Denison during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces.

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By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Staff Sergeant GEORGE E. BOCK by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, as published in Section I, General Orders No. 80, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 12 January 1945, a sixth Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to him by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942). The citation is as follows:

Staff Sergeant GEORGE E. BOCK, (35322962), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight in Dutch New Guinea on 31 July 1944. Sergeant Bock was radar observer in a Catalina aircraft dispatched to rescue airmen forced down on a lake in enemy territory. When the plane arrived over the lake, it was seen, from bodies of Japanese soldiers lying about, that an engagement had taken place. Despite the vulnerability of the Catalina to small-arms fire, it was landed amid thick underwater grass, logs, and other debris and taxied to the very edge of the shore. When 10 men were found, 7 of them badly wounded, Sergeant Bock assisted in bringing them aboard the Catalina. Some of the crew members then dived into the crocodile-infested water, freed the nose-wheel from the entangling grass, and pushed the airplane away from the shore so that it could start without running aground. After an unsuccessful attempt to take off, all the gasoline that could be spared was dumped to lighten the load. The aircraft then got into the air and the wounded personnel were taken to a hospital. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Bock during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces. Home address: Mrs. Ann Ebel (Sister), 1725 W. 69th St., Cleveland, Ohio.

By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Captain OSGOOD CARUTHERS by the Commanding General, USAFISPA, as published in General Orders No. 1084, Headquarters, USAFISPA, 19 July 1944, a Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to him by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942). The citation is as follows:

Captain OSGOOD CARUTHERS, (01532024), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in sustained operational flight missions in the Southwest Pacific Area from 20 April 1944 to 25 April 1945, during which hostile contact was probable and expected. These operations consisted of bombing missions against enemy airdromes and installations and attacks on enemy naval vessels and shipping. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Caruthers during these flights reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces. Home address: Mr. John L. Caruthers (Father), Irwin, Penna.

By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Technical Sergeant SALVATORE J. VENTIMIGLIA by the Commanding General, USAFISPA, as published in General Orders No. 892, Headquarters, USAFISPA, 4 June 1944, a fifth Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to him by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942). The citation is as follows:

Technical Sergeant SALVATORE J. VENTIMIGLIA, (12199701), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight to Balikpapan, Borneo, on 30 September 1944. Sergeant Ventimiglia was engineer-gunner on a plane in a squadron of B-24 aircraft which took part in the first daylight mass formation raid against this heavily defended Japanese oil refining center. Carrying the maximum bomb and fuel load, and with their ammunition supply cut in half, they flew a record distance of more than 2,500 miles over water without fighter escort into an area where strong enemy resistance was inevitable. As the bombers approached the target, eager and determined enemy fighter pilots pressed unrelenting attacks in an attempt to break up the formation, and once over the target, a very intense and accurate concentration of anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Despite this opposition, enemy defenses were penetrated, and bombs were dropped on the target, causing great damage to the refineries and installations. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Ventimiglia during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces.
Home address: Mrs. Rose Ventimiglia (Mother), 127 Woodward St., Rochester, N.Y.

By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Technical Sergeant RUFUS E. WILLIAMSON by the Commanding General, USAFISPA, as published in General Orders No. 628, Headquarters, USAFISPA, 27 April 1944, a sixth Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to him by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942). The citation is as follows:

Technical Sergeant RUFUS E. WILLIAMSON, (34289815), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight to Balikpapan, Borneo, on 30 September 1944. Sergeant Williamson was engineer on a plane in a squadron of B-24 aircraft which took part in the first daylight mass formation raid against this heavily defended Japanese oil refining center. Carrying the maximum bomb and fuel load, and with their ammunition supply cut in half, they flew a record distance of more than 2,500 miles over water without fighter escort into an area where strong enemy resistance was inevitable. As the bombers approached the target, eager and determined enemy fighter pilots pressed unrelenting attacks in an attempt to break up the formation, and once over the target, a very intense and accurate concentration of anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Despite this opposition, enemy defenses were penetrated, and bombs were dropped on the target, causing great damage to the refineries and installations. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Williamson during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces.
Home address: Mrs. Naomi B. Williamson (Mother), 3410 Third Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn.

V. AIR MEDAL. 1. So much of page 1, Section I, General Orders No. 646, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 1 May 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant WILLIAM W. HAAG, (12084722), as reads "Staff Sergeant WILLIAM W. HAAG, (12084722)" is amended to read "Staff Sergeant WILLIAM W. HAAG, (12084722)".

2. So much of page 1, Section I, General Orders No. 557, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 17 April 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant LEE O. HANSEN, (39912263), as reads "Staff Sergeant LEE O. HANSEN, (39912263)" is amended to read "Staff Sergeant LEE O. HANSEN, (39912263)".

3. So much of page 1, Section I, General Orders No. 606, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 24 April 1945, as pertains to Second Lieutenant ROBERT I. ALTSCHULER, (0712472), as reads "(0712474)" is amended to read "(0712472)".

4. So much of page 2, Section I, General Orders No. 639, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 1 May 1945, as pertains to First Lieutenant STEPHEN T. LEE, (0396241), as reads "First Lieutenant STEPHEN T. LEE, (0396241)" is amended to read "First Lieutenant STEPHEN T. LEE, (0396241)".

VI. AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). 1. So much of page 4, Section II, General Orders No. 586, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 21 April 1945, as pertains to Sergeant PETER D. CRANWELL, (32832676), as reads "a fourth Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster" is amended to read "a third Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster".

2. So much of page 7, Section II, General Orders No. 527, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 13 April 1945, as pertains to Technical Sergeant PETER L. ONYSKO, (35512594), as reads "a fourth Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster" is amended to read "a third Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster".

3. So much of page 6, Section II, General Orders No. 522, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 12 April 1945, as pertains to Technical Sergeant WILLIAM T. YOUNG, (13025104), as reads "a second Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster" is amended to read "a third Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster".

4. So much of page 8, Section II, General Orders No. 556, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 17 April 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant ROGER M. CUNNINGHAM, (13085334), and Staff Sergeant IRVING HOFFMAN, (16186080), is amended to include "a third Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster is awarded to them by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces".

5. So much of page 4, Section II, General Orders No. 607, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 25 April 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant FRANCIS W. HARTMAN, (35589769), as reads "(35589769)" is amended to read "(35589769)".

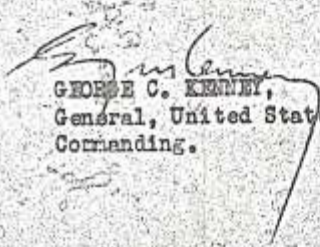
6. So much of page 3, General Orders No. 498, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 9 April 1945 as pertains to Staff Sergeant VERA D. NEARK, (39328621), as reads "(39328691)" is amended to read "(39328621)".

7. So much of page 6, Section II, General Orders No. 522, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 12 April 1945, as pertains to Flight Officer IRVING SIPERSTEIN, (T128798), as reads "(T128799)" is amended to read "(T128798)".

8. So much of page 8, Section II, General Orders No. 648, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 1 May 1945, as pertains to Second Lieutenant HARVEY J. STALEY, (0831006), as reads "(0831006)" is amended to read "(0831006)".

9. So much of page 6, Section II, General Orders No. 596, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 23 April 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant FRANK A. GELLUCCI, (13200869), as reads "Staff Sergeant FRANK A. GELLUCCI, (13200869)" is amended to read "Staff Sergeant FRANK A. GELLUCCI, (13200869)".

10. So much of page 6, Section IV, General Orders No. 608, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 25 April 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant WOODROW S. STROMAN, (18117611), as reads "Staff Sergeant WOODROW S. STROMAN, (18117611)" is amended to read "Staff Sergeant WOODROW S. STROMAN, (18117611)".


GEORGE C. KENNEY,
General, United States Army,
Commanding.

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