

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
APO 234, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

GENERAL ORDERS)
:)
NO. . . . 64)

15 September 1945

SECTION XVII

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926 (Full 8, "F", 1926), and pursuant to authority delegated by Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces in letter, file AC 323, subject: "Definition of Administrative Responsibilities", dated 6 August 1945, announcement is made of the award of the Distinguished-Flying Cross to the following named officers and enlisted men of the 6th Bombardment Squadron, 29th Bombardment Group:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight 5 May 1945. These individuals were members of a combat crew of a B-29 Superfortress flying from a base in the Marianas against Tachiarai airfield, Kyushu, Japan. At the assembly point the formation was attacked by swarms of fighters. Accurate machine-gun fire kept the enemy pilots at a safe distance. As they approached the initial point, however, several phosphorous bombs burst nearby, severely damaging the wing and fuselage. Despite the imminent danger of a fuel fire, these crewmen stayed in position. Through the withering hail of intense and deadly accurate flak, they flew a highly successful bombing run, dropping their projectiles with such unusual accuracy that the enemy installation was completely destroyed. After successfully evading fighters and flak to land's end, they flew the crippled bomber safely back to their home base. The outstanding airmanship, crew teamwork, and devotion to duty displayed by these veterans of repeated assaults against the Japanese homeland reflect great credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

First Lieutenant WILLIAM A ROBINSON JR, 0832229, Air Corps, United States Army, as Pilot.

First Lieutenant JACK F ACKER, 02064497, Air Corps, United States Army, as Navigator.

First Lieutenant ROLF A HERMANSON, 06E2416, Air Corps, United States Army, as Bombardier.

First Lieutenant MAYNARD W AIMFLING, 02068069, Air Corps, United States Army, as Radar Observer.

Flight Officer HOMER C WUNDELL, 18050617, Air Corps, United States Army, as Flight Engineer.

Technical Sergeant FRANK W RIDER, 38007647, Air Corps, United States Army, as Radio Operator.

Technical Sergeant THEODORE F ROACH, 14188954, Air Corps, United States Army, as Central Fire Control Gunner.

Staff Sergeant ROBERT E PAYL, 35559355, Air Corps, United States Army, as Left Gunner.

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Sergeant KAREKIN AGAZARIAN, 31397999, Air Corps, United States Army, as Right Gunner.

Staff Sergeant MELBOURNE C KENDALL, 36892556, Air Corps, United States Army, as Tail Gunner.

SECTION XXIII

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, WD, 1926), and pursuant to authority delegated by Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces in letter, file AG 323, subject: "Definition of Administrative Responsibilities", dated 6 August 1945, announcement is made of the award of the Distinguished-Flying Cross to the following named officer and enlisted man of the 60th Bombardment Squadron, 39th Bombardment Group:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight 24 May 1945. These individuals were combat crew members of a B-29 aircraft in a historic night incendiary strike from a base in the Marianas against Tokyo, Japan. Undeterred by savage enemy fighter attacks and sustained barrages of heavy flak, they resolutely held course and released their bombs squarely on the target with great accuracy and devastating results. At the instant of bombs away, a cone of searchlights silhouetted their plane against the sky, making it the target for well-aimed flak and vicious fighter attacks. During the battle that ensued, through close teamwork they successfully evaded anti-aircraft fire and drove off the attacking enemy fighters and returned safely to their base. The outstanding ability, exemplary courage and determination of these veteran combat crewman contributed materially to the prosecution of the war and reflect great credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

First Lieutenant GLENN F HAAS, 02061372, (then Second Lieutenant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Bombardier.

Technical Sergeant STEWART L HINDS, 16177554, (then Sergeant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Central Fire Control Gunner.

SECTION XXIV

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, WD, 1926), and pursuant to authority delegated by Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces in letter, file AG 323, subject: "Definition of Administrative Responsibilities", dated 6 August 1945, announcement is made of the award of the Distinguished-Flying Cross to the following named officers and enlisted men of the 60th Bombardment Squadron, 39th Bombardment Group:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight on 24 May 1945. These individuals were combat crew members of a B-29 aircraft in the historic night incendiary strike from a base in the Marianas against the vital urban and industrial area of Tokyo, Japan. Despite the fact that intense opposition from accurate, heavy caliber flak guns and viciously attacking enemy fighters was encountered from landfall through to the target and on the withdrawal, they remained on course and released their bombs on the target with devastating results. At the moment of bombs away, a burst of fire from an enemy fighter inflicted considerable damage to their plane and swept it into a severe thermal.

Only the high degree of professional skill possessed by these veteran crewmen enabled them to fly their damaged B-29 successfully through the thermal and safely back to their home base. Their cool courage and resourcefulness under fire aided materially in the success of the assigned mission and reflect great credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

Captain NORMAN W FURPTH, 0734224, Air Corps, United States Army, as Airplane Commander.

First Lieutenant LAMAR C NOBLE, 0556157, Air Corps, United States Army, as Radar Observer.

First Lieutenant RICHARD D TAGUE, 02069219, (then Second Lieutenant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Navigator.

Flight Officer OTTO SFIER, 37150502, (then Master Sergeant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Flight Engineer.

Flight Officer RICHARD W STRACHAN, T7126, Air Corps, United States Army, as Bombardier.

Staff Sergeant LEONARD L CFIMFP, 39924707, Air Corps, United States Army, as Right Gunner.

Staff Sergeant JESSE W GPURB, 33656465, (then Sergeant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Left Gunner.

Staff Sergeant LEONARD S TRESTER, 33747159, (then Sergeant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Radio Operator.

Sergeant FLOYD A DAWSON, 17148383, Air Corps, United States Army, as Tail Gunner.

SECTION XXV

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 8, "D, 1926), and pursuant to authority delegated by Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces in letter, file AG 323, subject: "Definition of Administrative Responsibilities", dated 6 August 1945, announcement is made of the award of the Distinguished-Flying Cross to the following named officers and enlisted men of the 458th Bombardment Squadron, 330th Bombardment Group:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight 8 August 1945. These individuals were combat crew members of a B-29 aircraft in a devastating daylight strike from a base in the Marianas against the Nakajima-Mushashino aircraft factory, located in the outskirts of northwestern Tokyo, Japan. The long and hazardous overwater mission was flown through adverse and rapidly changing weather conditions. Two tropical fronts were penetrated en route to the target area. Heavy opposition was encountered on the bomb run, causing serious damage to their aircraft. With the loss of number three engine, radar set inoperative, interphone system inoperative, and the loss of cabin pressure, they showed great skill and airmanship to maintain their position as deputy lead. The explosives were released on the target, causing devastating results. After bombs away, they found that the doors would not close. Displaying outstanding airmanship, they maintained their position in formation to land-end. While still at 20,000 feet three crew members risked anoxia by entering the