

GENERAL ORDERS )  
                  :  
NO. 1789        )

HEADQUARTERS,  
FAR EAST AIR FORCES,  
APO 925 - 8 August 1945.

	Section
SILVER STAR - Awards. . . . .	I
DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS - Award . . . . .	II
DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS - Posthumous Award . . . . .	III
BRONZE STAR MEDAL - Award . . . . .	IV
AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER) - Awards . . . . .	V
AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER) - Correction in General Orders . . . . .	VI

I. SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, WD, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officers and enlisted men:

Captain NICHOLAS E. BAILEY, (0419154), Medical Corps, United States Army. Flight Surgeon.  
Home address: 1603 Los Palmas, Sacramento, Calif.

Staff Sergeant CLARENCE E. FRIESTAD, (19143373), Air Corps, United States Army. Radio-Operator.  
Home address: 8979 S. E. Division St., Portland, Oreg.

Captain WILLIS L. HELMANTOLER, (0665020), Air Corps, United States Army. Co-Pilot.  
Home address: Petosi, Mo.

Technical Sergeant ROBERT S. JONES, (17014707), Air Corps, United States Army. Engineer.  
Home address: Ozark, Ark.

First Lieutenant JOHN M. REEVES, (0426335), Air Corps, United States Army. Navigator.  
Home address: 2452 W. Hundley St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Staff Sergeant JAMES B. STANDRIDGE, JR., (17127316), Air Corps, United States Army. Radar Observer.  
Home address: 1731 Belmont St., Parsons, Kans.

The citation is as follows:

GO No. 1789, Hq, Far East Air Forces, 8 August 1945. (Contd.)

For gallantry in action off Zamboanga, Mindanao, Philippine Islands, on 4 March 1945. These officers and enlisted men were members of the crew of a Catalina aircraft which landed near the enemy's gun-lined shore to pick up the crew of a bomber which had been forced down at sea. Sighting the survivors on a raft in the vicinity of 5 enemy barges armed with 20-millimeter and 50-caliber guns, this crew calmly carried out the rescue while strafing bombers held off the hostile vessels. Then, learning that another bomber had crashed 500 yards off shore, they taxied to the position and, under intense fire, took the crew aboard. Although their plane was being flooded through leaks caused by enemy hits, they taxied toward a third crew which had been forced down and rescued them. By this time the after hatches were flooded with 2 feet of water and it became necessary to jettison all of the ammunition and over 400 gallons of gasoline. After 3 attempts, they succeeded in taking off and brought their damaged and overloaded plane safely back to base. The exceptional bravery and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by these officers and enlisted men during this flight exemplify the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bulletin 43, WD, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officers:

Flight Officer JACK A. MILLER, (T130973), Air Corps, United States Army. For gallantry in action over Klandasan, Borneo, on 23 June 1945. Flight Officer Miller was the co-pilot of a B-25 aircraft which led a 6-plane formation on a pre-invasion strike against coastal defense and other installations at Klandasan. As his plane gained altitude to fly over a ridge on the approach to the target, enemy fire shattered the steering column. Although Flight Officer Miller was painfully wounded and suffered a compound fracture of his left arm, he continued to help the pilot, who was also wounded. After they had led the B-25's through a successful low-level bombing and strafing run, the wounded pilot was removed from his seat for treatment and Flight Officer Miller remained at the controls although he had the use of only one arm. Aided by the engineer-gunner and the navigator, he flew the plane back to base, where he made a successful landing. The aggressive courage, exceptional skill, and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Flight Officer Miller during this flight exemplify the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces. Home address: 4038 Main St., Elmira, N.Y.

Captain RICHARD I. PURNELL, (O407658), Air Corps, United States Army. For gallantry in action over Klandasan, Borneo, on 23 June 1945. Captain Purnell led a formation of 6 B-25 aircraft on a pre-invasion strike against coastal defense and other installations at Klandasan. As he gained altitude to fly over a ridge on the approach to the target, enemy fire shattered the steering column of his aircraft and ricocheted into his right leg. Although Captain Purnell was painfully wounded in both legs and his right arm, and was cut about his face in several places, and although his co-pilot was also wounded,

GO No. 1789, Hq, Far East Air Forces, 8 August 1945. (Contd.)

he did not leave formation but continued to lead his planes in the planned attack and made a successful low-level bombing and strafing run. Leaving the target area, Captain Purnell was so weak from loss of blood that he had to be removed from the pilot's seat to the navigator's compartment to receive blood plasma and have his wounds dressed. The dauntless courage, inspiring leadership, and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Captain Purnell during this flight exemplify the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

Home address: 309 Tuscany Road, Baltimore, Md.

II. DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, WD, 1926), a Distinguished-Flying Cross is awarded by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officer:

First Lieutenant CHARLES R. McMURRY, (0707953), Air Corps, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial over Klandasan, Borneo, on 23 June 1945. Lieutenant McMurry was the navigator of a B-25 aircraft which led a 6-plane formation on a pre-invasion strike against coastal defenses and other installations at Klandasan. As the plane approached the target, enemy fire wounded both the pilot and co-pilot. After leading the formation across the target, the pilot was so weak from loss of blood that Lieutenant McMurry, with the help of the gunner, had to remove him from the pilot's seat and administer blood plasma, give him morphine, and dress his wounds. Leaving him in the care of two of the gunners, Lieutenant McMurry then went to the cockpit to aid the wounded co-pilot. During the return trip he relieved the co-pilot periodically and, when they reached their base, assisted in the landing. The outstanding courage and devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant McMurry during this flight are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

Home address: Porteau, Okla.

III. DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS - Posthumous Award. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bulletin 8, WD, 1926), a Distinguished-Flying Cross is awarded posthumously by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, to the following named officer:

Captain ALVIN C. WINDES, (0436683), Air Corps, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Balikpapan area, Borneo, on 24 June 1945. Captain Windes was a flight leader in a formation of P-38 aircraft which made a fighter sweep over this strategically important oil-refining center. After sighting 2 parked aircraft on nearby Monggar Airdrome, he led his flight on strafing passes and destroyed an enemy bomber and fighter, and silenced a machine-gun position. Later, north of the airdrome, Captain Windes destroyed a 60-foot lugger, and damaged another lugger and a small freighter. The outstanding courage and devotion to duty displayed by Captain Windes during this flight are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army Air Forces.

GO No. 1789, Hq, Far East Air Forces, 8 August 1945. (Contd.)

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

Master Sergeant GEORGE A. AHLVIN, (36397212), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the Southwest Pacific Area from 9 May 1942 to 19 April 1945. Home address: 826 Kelly Ave., Joliet, Ill.

V. AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Lieutenant Colonel BILL HARRIS by the Commanding General, USAFISPA, as published in Section II, General Orders No. 225, Headquarters, USAFISPA, 28 August 1943, a twenty-first 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 1945 (Bulletin 25, WD, 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bulletin 49, WD, 1942). The citation is as follows:

Lieutenant Colonel BILL HARRIS, (0732239), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over Mindai Airdrome, Celebes, Netherlands East Indies, on 22 June 1945. Colonel Harris was leading a flight of 4 P-38 aircraft on a fighter sweep over southwest Celebes when a Japanese fighter was encountered. He immediately made a head-on pass at it, opened fire at 150 yards range, and scored hits which shot off its landing gear. After another P-38 pilot had hit the engine of the enemy fighter, Colonel Harris attacked from dead astern, fired again, and caused the hostile plane to explode and crash. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Colonel Harris during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces. Home address: Route 5, Box 120, Porterville, Calif.

By direction of the President, in addition to the Air Medal awarded to Staff Sergeant FREDERICK G. DOERING by the Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, as published in Section I, General Orders No. 1248, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 23 June 1945, a third 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:

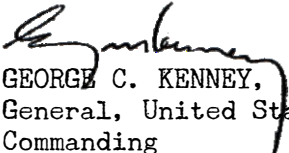
Staff Sergeant FREDERICK G. DOERING, (33734051), Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight in the vicinity of Limboeng Airdrome, Celebes, Netherlands East Indies, on 6 May 1945. Sergeant Doering was the assistant engineer-gunner in the crew

GO No. 1789. Hq, Far East Air Forces, 8 August 1945. (Contd.)

of a B-24 aircraft flying in a 4-plane formation which encountered 3 enemy fighters. In the ensuing engagement, he fired a long burst at one of the Japanese aircraft from a range of 400 yards. The hostile plane burst into flames, and its pilot parachuted out. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Doering during this flight reflect great credit on the United States Army Air Forces.

Home address: Lenham, Md.

VI. AIR MEDAL (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER). So much of page 4, Section III, General Orders No. 1486, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, 14 July 1945, as pertains to Staff Sergeant FREDERICK G. DOERING, (33734051), as reads "from 3 April 1945 to 6 May 1945" is amended to read "from 3 April 1945 to 10 May 1945."

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

DISTRIBUTION: "G"