







ARMY SERVICE FORCES  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL, NINTH SERVICE COMMAND  
FORT DOUGLAS, UTAH

16 May 1944.

Mr. Robert J. Coutre,  
Room 543-Maryland Hotel,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Coutre:

With reference to your letter of 12 May 1944, the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with one Oak-Leaf Cluster which were awarded you will be forwarded to you at the above address by registered mail this date. Official copies of the citations pertaining to your medals are inclosed.

We regret that circumstances will not permit the presentation to be made with the appropriate ceremony, but we are happy to be able to forward the medals to you at this time.

It would be appreciated if you would kindly sign the attached receipt form on the receipt of the medals and return the same to this office in the inclosed envelope.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. ALLEN,  
Captain, A.G.D.,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

6 Incls.  
Incl 1 - 5 Extracts of General  
Orders - Citations.  
Incl 6 - Receipt

HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. ARMY MIDDLE EAST AIR FORCE

CAIRO, EGYPT,  
August 19, 1942.

GENERAL ORDER)

NUMBER 4)

\* \* \* \* \*

44. ROBERT J. COUTRE, Cpl., AAF, 39226398, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

\* \* \* \* \*

LEWIS H. BRERETON,  
Major General, USA,  
Commanding.

*afinal #4*

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cairo, Egypt.  
1 January 1943.

(GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 1 )

I. AWARDS OF AIR MEDAL:

\* \* \* \* \*

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158 (Bull. 25, W.D., 1942), as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A (Bull. 49, W.D., 1942), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, Air Medals are awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men of the \*\*\*\*\* Air Force in recognition of meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, they having participated in 100 hours of operational flight against the enemy in the Middle East theater:

\* \* \* \* \*

Staff Sgt. ROBERT J. COUTRE 39226398

\* \* \* \* \*

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

U. G. ENT,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Acting Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

W. E. CHICKERING,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

Q. name #1

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cairo, Egypt,  
23 September 1942.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 17)

AWARDS OF SILVER STAR

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 9, 1918, (Bul. 43, W.D., 1918), and in accordance with authorization contained in War Department radiogram Amsme No. 161, dated July 23, 1942, the following-named officers and enlisted men of the First Provisional Group (H), United States Army Middle East Air Force, having been cited for gallantry in action in General Orders No. 4, Headquarters, United States Army Middle East Air Force, August 19, 1942, are awarded the Silver Star decoration:

*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Corporal	Robert J. Coutre	39226398	A.A.F.				
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

By command of Major General MAXWELL:

T. S. RIGGS,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

W. E. CHICKERING,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

*Doc # 5*



HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cairo, Egypt.  
1, January 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO 1 )

E X T R A C T

VII. AWARDS OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

1. BY direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved July 3, 1926, (Bull. 8, W.D., 1926), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, Distinguished Flying Crosses are awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men of the Ninth Air Force in recognition of extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight, they having participated in 200 hours of operational flight against enemy in the Middle East Theater:

\* \* \* \*

b. 376th Bombardment Group(H):

\* \* \* \*

(3) 514th Bombardment Squadron (H):

\* \* \* \*

Staff Sgt. ROBERT J. COUTRE 39226398

\* \* \* \*

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

OFFICIAL  
W. E. CHICKERING  
Colonel, A. G. D.  
Adjutant General

U. G. ENT,  
Colonel, G.S.C.  
Acting Chief of Staff.

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY.

*Wade M. Fleischer*  
WADE M. FLEISCHER,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cairo, Egypt.  
1, January, 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 1 )

E X T R A C T

II. AWARDS OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 2, 1926, (Bull. 8, W.D., 1926), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, Distinguished Flying Crosses are awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men of the Ninth Air Force in recognition of extraordinary achievement while participating in serial flight, they having participated in 200 hours of operational flight against the enemy in the Middle East theater:

\* \* \* \* \*

S/Sgt. ROBERT J. COUTRE

39226398

\* \* \* \* \*

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

U. G. ENT,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Acting Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. E. CHICKERING  
/t/ W. E. CHICKERING,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

*Howard W. Jesse*  
HOWARD W. JESSEE,  
1st Lieut., Air Corps,  
Actg. Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Cairo, Egypt.  
1, January, 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 1 )

E X T R A C T

II. AWARDS OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 2, 1926, (Bull. 8, W.D., 1926), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, Distinguished Flying Crosses are awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men of the Ninth Air Force in recognition of extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight, they having participated in 200 hours of operational flight against the enemy in the Middle East theater:

\* \* \* \* \*

S/Sgt. ROBERT J. COUTRE

39226398

\* \* \* \* \*

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

U. G. ENT,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Acting Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. E. CHICKERING  
/t/ W. E. CHICKERING,  
Colonel, A.G.D.,  
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

*Howard W. Jesse*  
HOWARD W. JESSEE,  
1st Lieut., Air Corps,  
Actg. Adjutant.



Page two, S.O. #7, Hq 511th Bomb Sq. (H), Feb 1, 1943.

S/Sgt	Hewitt, Donald B.	33264223	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Jackson, Sidney S.	16041069	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Ingalls, Harold P.	11051905	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Janacek, Melick J.	18106481	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Kramer, Robert F.	13045607	Armorer
S/Sgt	Lehboub, Frank W.	18068008	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Marchese, Francis T.	17015627	Rad Opr Gnr
S/Sgt	McGowan, Frank J.	13076960	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	McLaughlin, Tim O.	16047969	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Morgan, Raymond D.	13027243	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Nappi, John	6908160	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Peterson, James R.	18044620	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Pidgursky, Walter A.	11040926	Aer Eng Gnr
S/Sgt	Ransdell, Robert F.	38009713	Armorer
S/Sgt	Reinstein, Max	12009410	Aer Eng Gnr
S/Sgt	Shea, Patrick F.	11053556	Aer Eng Gnr
S/Sgt	Small, Harmon L.	18037795	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Spaulding, Perley W.	11045579	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Sweet, Robert G.	11030819	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Taylor, John J.	17041943	Aer Eng Gnr
S/Sgt	Turkish, William A.	20252840	Rad Opr Gnr
S/Sgt	Wagor, Robert D.	17056090	Aer Gnr
S/Sgt	Wheelock, John E.	16014492	Rad Opr Gnr
S/Sgt	Wilkinson, Charles W.	18125540	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Blechman, Percy	10675000	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Brunson, Daniel M.	16052322	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Cooke, James R.	34332242	Aer Eng Gnr
Sgt	Dorion, Paul P.	11051999	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Hughins, Jackson M.	39013782	Aer Eng Gnr
Sgt	Knox, Grover L.	14035461	Aer Eng Gnr
Sgt	Medlock, James A.	34088143	Rad Opr Gnr
Sgt	Meyer, Harold D.	17020765	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Parker, Earl R.	11017980	Aer Gnr
Sgt	Smith, Roland F.	16044035	Armorer
Sgt	Walton, Virgil M.	18039369	Armorer
Sgt	Young, Merle N.	13042863	Rad Opr Gnr
Cpl	Bowden, Robert M.	18038683	Rad Opr Gnr
Cpl	Weil, Arthur	32199190	Aer Gnr

*James W. Sibert*  
 JAMES W. SIBERT,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.



HEADQUARTERS  
376th Bombardment Group (H), AAF  
Office of the Operations Officer

May 1, 1943

SUBJECT: Operational Performance Record.

TO : Whom It May Concern.

1. Following is the Operational Performance Record concerning  
ROBERT J. COVINE, 39226298, Staff Sergeant, AG, as held on record this  
Headquarters.

ROBERT COVINE MOVIES

316:50

By order of Colonel GARDNER:

*John E. Curran*  
JOHN E. CURRAN  
Lieut. Colonel, AG  
Operations Officer



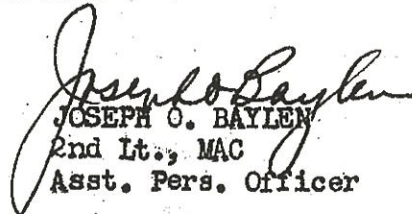
LAGARDE GENERAL HOSPITAL  
NEW ORLEANS 12, LOUISIANA

BEE/njr

24 August, 1943

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that I am the custodian of the Service Records at this station and that such Service Record in the case of Staff Sergeant Robert J. Coutre, 39226398, A.C. Unasgd, indicates that he was inducted into the Army December 16, 1941 and that he served in Lydda, Palestine from June 30, 1942 until date of return to the United States August 19, 1943 and that he is entitled to wear the following decorations or medals: Silver Star, (Citation-Gallantry in Action), Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross and that his character throughout his entire service has been excellent. Record further indicates that he is authorized to wear the European-African Campaign Medal and Middle Eastern Medal.

  
JOSEPH O. BAYLEN  
2nd Lt., MAC  
Asst. Pers. Officer

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that Coutre, Robert J. 39226398  
(LAST NAME) (FIRST NAME) (INITIAL) (ASN)  
has demonstrated his proficiency in the performance of Air Crew duties and is authorized to wear the Aviation Badge for Air Crew members under the provisions of 1-b & 2, AAF Regulation #35-30, dated August 1, 1942.

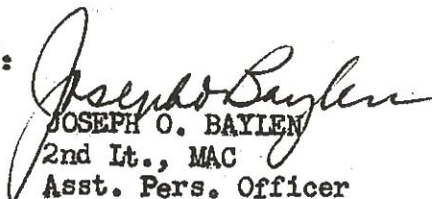
August 1, 1942  
(Date)

s/ Roy Clark, Capt. A.C.  
(Signature of certifying officer)

A.P.O. 681  
(Station)

t/ ROY CLARK, CAPT. A.C. COM.  
(Type name, rank, branch & official designation)

A TRUE COPY:

  
JOSEPH O. BAYLEN  
2nd Lt., MAC  
Asst. Pers. Officer

HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. ARMY MIDDLE EAST AIR FORCE

GENERAL ORDER)  
NO. 4)

CAIRO, EGYPT  
August 19, 1942

1. HARRY A. HALVERSON, Colonel, AUS (Air Corps), O-11444, is herewith cited for gallantry in action against the enemy. On June 12, 1942 after a long and arduous flight to the initial point he, thru superior leadership and against enemy fighter opposition successfully attacked with his formation of heavy bombardment airplanes a large refinery in the Rumanian oil fields. This attack was most destructive to enemy installations and so skillfully planned as to render enemy opposition entirely ineffective.

2. ALFRED F. KALBERER, Major, AAF, O-253972, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as the Commander of a flight of seven heavy bombardment airplanes, organized and led the flight on a mission over the Mediterranean Sea and there, against heavy enemy anti-aircraft fire, so conducted the ensuing bombing operations as to damage severely the enemy fleet and forced it to return to its base, thereby permitting the passage to Malta of a vital British convoy. While returning to the air base, enemy fighter opposition was encountered and again Major Kalberer succeeded in maintaining strong leadership, which enabled the flight to destroy two enemy fighters and return without loss of any of his own aircraft.

3. PAUL F. DAVIS, Major, AAF, O-322659, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting in the capacity of airplane commander of a four engine heavy bomber, so skillfully handled his aircraft that the combat formation of which he was a part was able to inflict such heavy damage upon an Italian Fleet, operating in the Mediterranean, that it withdrew, allowing an important British convoy to safely reach Malta. While returning to base he so capably maintained his position in formation and directed the activities of his combat crew that the formation was able to disperse intercepting enemy fighters after inflicting two casualties upon them.

4. JOHN H. PAYNE, Major, AAF, O-21594, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting in the capacity of airplane commander of a four engine heavy bomber, so skillfully handled his aircraft that the combat formation of which he was a part was able to inflict such heavy damage upon an Italian Fleet, operating in the Mediterranean, that it withdrew, allowing an important British convoy to safely reach Malta. While returning to base he so capably maintained his position in formation and directed the activities of his combat crew that the formation was able to disperse intercepting enemy fighters after inflicting two casualties upon them.



August 19, 1942.

10. OLEN G. BRYANT, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-789090, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as navigator-bombardier of a four engine bomber dropped his explosives with such precision upon an Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea that thru the coordinated effort of his formation an Italian Fleet was heavily damaged and forced to withdraw, the withdrawal permitting safe passage to Malta of a British convoy. Upon the return flight to base he manned a machine gun in successful defense of his formation against intercepting enemy fighters.

11. EDWARD A. CROUCHLEY, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-436502, is herewith cited for gallantry in action against the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as Engineer Control Pilot of a four engine heavy bomber, thru his knowledge, so skillfully extracted from his machine and made available to his pilot the maximum possible performance, that he directly contributed to the successful attack launched by his formation upon an Italian Fleet in the Mediterranean. This attack was so intense and destructive as to force the fleet to withdraw insuring the safe arrival at Malta of a much needed convoy. During the return flight to base he again so expertly handled his machine thus leaving his pilot free to maintain a highly effective defence formation that successfully dispersed intercepting enemy fighter aircraft after inflicting two casualties thereon. At all times he maintained himself in readiness to replace any injured member of his combat crew.

12. HARRY W. EBERT, JR., 1st Lieut., AAF, O-789107, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as navigator-bombardier of a four engine bomber dropped his explosives with such precision upon an Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean sea that thru the coordinated effort of his formation an Italian Fleet was heavily damaged and forced to withdraw, the withdrawal permitting safe passage to Malta of a British convoy. Upon the return flight to base he manned a machine gun in successful defence of his formation against intercepting enemy fighters.

13. ALLEN V. HOPKINS, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-434667, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as navigator-bombardier of a four engine bomber dropped his explosives with such precision upon an Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean sea that thru the coordinated effort of his formation an Italian Fleet was heavily damaged and forced to withdraw, the withdrawal permitting safe passage to Malta of a British convoy. Upon the return flight to base he manned a machine gun in successful defence of his formation against intercepting enemy fighters.

14. WILLIAM R. JOYNER, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-789112, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as navigator-bombardier of a four engine bomber dropped his explosives with such precision upon an Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean sea that thru the coordinated effort of his formation an Italian Fleet was heavily damaged and forced to withdraw, the withdrawal permitting safe passage to Malta of a British convoy. Upon the return flight to base he manned a machine gun in successful defence of his formation against intercepting enemy fighters.



August 19, 1942.

19. FERDINAND R. SOBRIER, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-436004, is herewith cited for gallantry in action against the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as Engineer Control Pilot of a four engine heavy bomber, thru his knowledge, so skillfully extracted from his machine and made available to his pilot the maximum possible performance, that he directly contributed to the successful attack launched by his formation upon an Italian Fleet in the Mediterranean. This attack was so intense and destructive as to force the fleet to withdraw insuring the safe arrival at Malta of a much needed convoy. During the return flight to base he again so expertly handled his machine thus leaving his pilot free to maintain a highly effective defence formation that successfully dispersed intercepting enemy fighter aircraft after inflicting two casualties thereon. At all times he maintained himself in readiness to replace any injured member of his combat crew.

20. JOHN R. TAYLOR, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-435809, is herewith cited for gallantry in action against the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as Engineer Control Pilot of a four engine heavy bomber, thru his knowledge, so skillfully extracted from his machine and made available to his pilot the maximum possible performance, that he directly contributed to the successful attack launched by his formation upon an Italian Fleet in the Mediterranean. This attack was so intense and destructive as to force the fleet to withdraw insuring the safe arrival at Malta of a much needed convoy. During the return flight to base he again so expertly handled his machine thus leaving his pilot free to maintain a highly effective defence formation that successfully dispersed intercepting enemy fighter aircraft after inflicting two casualties thereon. At all times he maintained himself in readiness to replace any injured member of his combat crew.

21. GEORGE A. UERICH, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-432145, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting in the capacity of airplane commander of a four engine heavy bomber, so skillfully handled his aircraft that the combat formation of which he was a part was able to inflict such heavy damage upon an Italian Fleet, operating in the Mediterranean, that it withdrew, allowing an important British convoy to safely reach Malta. While returning to base he so capably maintained his position in formation and directed the activities of his combat crew that the formation was able to disperse intercepting enemy fighters after inflicting two casualties upon them.

22. JOHN R. WILCOX, 1st Lieut., AAF, O-436025, is herewith cited for gallantry in action against the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as Engineer Control Pilot of a four engine heavy bomber, thru his knowledge, so skillfully extracted from his machine and made available to his pilot the maximum possible performance, that he directly contributed to the successful attack launched by his formation upon an Italian Fleet in the Mediterranean. This attack was so intense and destructive as to force the fleet to withdraw insuring the safe arrival at Malta of a much needed convoy. During the return flight to base he again so expertly handled his machine thus leaving his pilot free to maintain a highly effective defence formation that successfully dispersed intercepting enemy fighter aircraft after inflicting two casualties thereon. At all times he maintained himself in readiness to replace any injured member of his combat crew.



August 19, 1942.

28. ALBERT S. FISHER, S/Sgt., AAF, 14036199, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Engineer-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.
29. JAMES H. LEAMAN, S/Sgt., AAF, 14035035, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.
30. NOEL W. MEEK, S/Sgt., AAF, 14039512, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Radio-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.
31. JAMES R. MILLIREN, S/Sgt., AAF, 6940626, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.
32. ROY R. TAYLOR, S/Sgt., AAF, 6949113, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Radio-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.



August 15, 1942.

38. ROBERT (NICK) KEESLER, Sgt., AAF, 13037132, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Radio-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

39. ANDERSON T. PAMICK, Sgt., AAF, 13023306, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Radio-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

40. FOR C. SALLI, Sgt., AAF, 14033872, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Engineer-Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

41. CHARLES E. SALMON, JR., Sgt., AAF, 13029152, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

42. HOWARD R. CULBEART, Sgt., AAF, 13034479, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operating in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.



August 19, 1942.

48. JAMES R. PEPERSON, Cpl. AAF, 13044620, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operations in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

49. JOHN M. THOMPSON, Jr., Cpl., AAF, 7020885, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operations in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

50. JOSEPH (NMI) TROYANOWSKI, Cpl. AAF, 16042464, is herewith cited for gallantry in action with the enemy. On June 15, 1942 he, while acting as aerial Gunner, took part in an attack upon Italian Fleet operations in the Mediterranean Sea, made by a formation of U.S. Army Air Force heavy bombers. This attack was so successful that the fleet was forced to withdraw permitting safe passage to a British convoy bound for Malta. On the return flight to base he manned his machine with such precision and in such perfect coordination with the remainder of the formation that intercepting enemy fighters were driven off with two casualties.

*Lewis H. Brereton*  
LEWIS H. BRERETON,  
Major General, USA,  
Commanding.