

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

GENERAL ORDERS)

4 September 1945

NO 53)

SECTION XVI

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 25 May 1945. These individuals were combat crew members of a B-29 aircraft flying as a pathfinder from a base in the Marianas against Tokyo, Japan. This crew was the first to arrive in the target area. Flying at extremely low altitude to minimize the possibilities of dropping wide of their target, their plane was immediately bracketed by a multitude of searchlights and subjected to intense flak which seriously damaged the bomber. Notwithstanding the crippled condition of their ship, this crew resolutely continued on course for their objective. They released their bombs with such accuracy that their group, arriving a few minutes later, was able to strike the target with devastating effectiveness. The cool courage, outstanding professional skill and high sense of duty displayed by these veterans of repeated assaults in the Japanese homeland reflect great credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

First Lieutenant MARVIN DEMANCZUK, 01542612, Air Corps, United States Army, as Radar Observer.

First Lieutenant CHARLES H GOURLEY, 0754734, Air Corps, United States Army, as Bombardier.

First Lieutenant RICHARD A HARRIS, 0863011, (then Second Lieutenant), Air Corps, United States Army, as Flight Engineer.

First Lieutenant RENEY E PITTS, JR., 0831994, Air Corps, United States Army, as Pilot.

First Lieutenant BRYARD J SQUIRE, 0797417, Air Corps, United States Army, as Navigator.

Staff Sergeant EUGENE J BOCKMAN, 12121695, Air Corps, United States Army, as Right Gunner.

Staff Sergeant JOHN A DUPREE, 39416477, Air Corps, United States Army, as Radio Operator.

Staff Sergeant JOHN H JONES, 20724160, Air Corps, United States Army, as Left Gunner.