

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 118)

Far East Air Forces, 19 January 1945.

HEADQUARTERS

FAR EAST AIR FORCES
APO 925-19 January 1945.

as follows:

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:

First Lieutenant JARVIS T. YAGLA, (0739871), Air Corps, United States Army. For gallantry in action on Lolobata Cape, Halmahera, on 16 September 1944. Lieutenant Yagla, piloting a PB4 rescue plane, arrived at Cape Lolobata during our landing operations on Morotai Island, and discovered that two of our fighter pilots had been shot down by the Japanese. They were floating in the water within two hundred yards of the shore, between enemy gun positions on one side and enemy barges on the other. In the face of intense anti-aircraft and machine gun cross-fire, and despite lack of fighter cover, Lieutenant Yagla unhesitatingly landed within a hundred feet of one of our pilots. He succeeded in rescuing this officer, but discovered that the other one who was on a life raft nearby, had succumbed. During the entire rescue operation, Lieutenant Yagla was subjected to an incessant enemy barrage which damaged his aircraft severely. His gallantry in rescuing a fellow airman under these hazardous conditions exemplifies the highest tradition of the United States Army Air Forces.

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 officers and enlisted men:

First Lieutenant GEORGE A. BARNES, (0739704), Air Corps, United States Army. Co-Pilot.
Home address: Mrs. Johnette Barnes (Wife), Box 781, Maricopa, Calif.

Corporal THEODORE FIALKOWSKI, (32779159), Air Corps, United States Army. Radio Operator.
Home address: Mrs. Joseta Fialkowski (Mother), 439 Jackson Ave., Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Sergeant WOODROW H. HAYES, (18189563), Air Corps, United States Army. Surgical Technician.
Home address: Mrs Nelga A. Hayes (Wife), 222 W. 22nd St., Houston, Tex.

Technical Sergeant ROBERT S. JONES, (17014707), Air Corps, United States Army. Aerial Engineer.
Home address: Mr. Robert E. Jones (Father), Ozark, Ark.

Sergeant JAMES B. STANDRIDGE, JR., (17127316), Air Corps, United States Army. Radar Observer.
Home address: Mr. James B. Standridge (Father), 1730 Belmont St., Parsons, Kans.

First Lieutenant PETER Y. TAYLOR, (0674254), Air Corps, United States Army. Navigator.
Home address: Mr. Herbert M. Taylor (Father), 5849 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

The citation is as follows:

For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flights to Lolobata Cape, Halmahera, on 16 September 1944. These officers and enlisted men, crew members of a PBX rescue plane, arrived at Cape Lolobata during our landing operations on Morotai Island and discovered that two of our fighter pilots had been shot down by the Japanese. They were floating in the water within two hundred yards of the shore between enemy gun positions on one side and enemy barges on the other. In the face of intense anti-aircraft and machine gun cross-fire, and despite the lack of fighter cover, this crew unhesitatingly landed within a hundred feet of one of the pilots. They succeeded in rescuing this officer, but discovered that the other one, who was on a life raft nearby, had succumbed. During the entire operation the rescue aircraft was subjected to incessant enemy barrage which damaged it severely. The outstanding courage and devotion to duty displayed by these crew members under hazardous conditions, are worthy of the highest commendation.

* * * * *

/s/ George C. Kenney
/t/ GEORGE C. KENNEY,
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

Kenneth O. Eddins
KENNETH O. EDDINS, Capt., AC