

Dech, Kerwin.

## Northampton Man Awarded Air Medal

Staff Sergeant Kerwin Dech, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Dech, 19 East 20th Street, Northampton, a turret gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress, has been awarded the Air Medal and two Oak Leaf clusters at an 8th AAF Air Base in England. The Colonel made the presentation.

Sergt. Dech was graduated from Northampton High School with the class of 1943. He was inducted in April, 1943, receiving his wings in December of the same year, at Tyn-dall Field, Fla.

The citation of the Air Medal and Oak Leaf clusters follows: "For meritorious achievement while participating in heavy bombardment missions in the air offensive against the enemy, in Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by this enlisted man reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

August 24, 1944