

Werkheiser, Kenneth E.

Hellertown Soldier Completes Year As Fortress Crewman

OCT. 23, 1944
"D-Day" and the cyclone of events leading toward the end of the war in Europe have climaxed a year of service with the Eighth Air Force for Sergeant Kenneth E. Werkheiser, 23-year-old B-17 Flying Fortress ground crew chief of Hellertown.

Werkheiser, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Werkheiser, 156 New Street, Hellertown, has contributed to the marked success of his Fortress group, which has flown nearly 200 bombing attacks against vital Nazi targets stretching from the French coast to Romania. He was formerly employed at the Bethlehem Steel Company.

In addition to hammering the enemy on the ground with more than 25,000 tons of explosives, bombers which Werkheiser has serviced for battle have played an important role in the defeat of the Luftwaffe. Official credit for the destruction of more than 500 Nazi planes has been won by this group. Its bombers have attacked enemy industries at Berlin and in the Ruhr valley, German military installations, troop positions and flying bomb sites.

The Hellertown technician's veteran group holds a presidential citation for its highly successful attack on key Nazi ball-bearing fac-

ories at Schweinfurt, Germany, last year, and is a unit of the Third Bombardment Division, cited by the President for its historic England-to-Africa shuttle bombing of Messerschmitt plants at Regensburg, Germany, in August, 1943. Werkheiser wears two battle stars in his European campaign ribbon.

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