

## Sgt. Becker Is Awarded Air Medal

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15TH AAF IN ITALY.—Staff Sergeant Russell E. Becker, 21, ball turret gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress at an advanced base in Italy, has been awarded the Air Medal by the order of Major General Nathan F. Twining, commanding general of the 15th AAF, "for meritorious achievement in aerial flight."

Sgt. Becker attended armament school at Lowry Field, Colo., and was awarded his gunner's wings at Las Vegas, Nevada. He was later assigned to active duty with the Fifteenth Air Force operating in the Mediterranean theatre, where he has flown 34 missions.

The young airman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell E. Becker, 503 Fourth Avenue, Bethlehem.

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