

Fincher, William W.

**Lt. Fincher Now  
With Ninth Air  
Force In Belgium**

22 1945

First Lieut. William W. Fincher is now serving as a combat fighter-bomber pilot of the Ninth Air Force at an advanced P-47 Thunderbolt air base in Belgium.

Previous to his present tour of duty in the European Theater of Operations, Lt. Fincher served in Hawaii, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal and Treasury Island, where he flew 70 combat missions against Japanese-held Munda, Bougainville and Rabaul.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Fincher, 744 High Street, this city, Lt. Fincher is attached to the 366th Fighter Group commanded by Col. Harold N. Holt of Philadelphia.

During the German counter-attack in the Belgian Bulge of the Ardennes, Lt. Fincher's group destroyed or damaged 3,241 German motor vehicles and 251 enemy tanks as the Nazis retreated from the Bulge. The group received a War Department Unit Citation for its effective attacks on German armored columns during the early days of the Battle of Normandy.

Lieut. Fincher was employed as a steel worker by the Bethlehem Steel Corp. before he entered the Army Air Forces in March, 1942. He was commissioned in January, 1943, and arrived in the European Theater of Operations in December, 1944.

March 22, 1945