

Gehman, Edgar J.

Edgar L. Gehman Gets Air Medal, Promotion To Sgt.

MAR 14 1945
AN EIGHTH AIR FORCE LIBERATOR STATION, England.—Edgar L. Gehman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar F. Gehman, of 861 Media Street, Bethlehem, has been promoted from corporal to sergeant.

An aerial gunner of a B-24 Liberator, Sergeant Gehman has taken part in bombing missions to Brunswick, Madgeburg, and other war production centers of Germany. He is a member of the 446th Bomb Group, commanded by Col. Troy W. Crawford, of El Paso, Tex., which has completed more than 200 missions against enemy targets. A veteran group in Major General William E. Kepner's Second Air Division, it has participated in the Eighth Air Force's steady bombing of the principal targets in Europe—German oil industries, airplane factories, and the communications systems upon which her industry and army depend.

Before D-Day, the targets included coast defenses, flying bomb sites, airfields and troop concentrations. The group has dropped over 12,000 tons of bombs and has flown more than 4,500 sorties against the enemy. The same planes which bomb enemy installations have also flown medical and food supplies to the people of France.

Sergeant Gehman has been awarded the Air Medal, "for meritorious achievement in accomplishing with distinction aerial operational missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by him in the face of determined opposition materially aided in the successful completion of these dangerous missions. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States."

A graduate of high school, Bethlehem, Sergeant Gehman received his wings at Harlingen, Tex. He entered the service Feb. 18, 1943, and at the time was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Company.

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