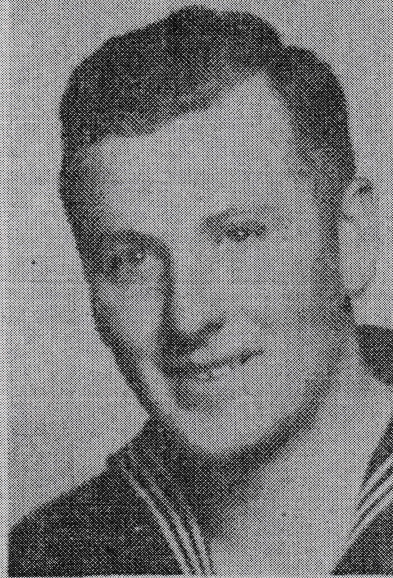


Sterns, John D.

J. D. Sterns, USNR, Gets Air Medal For Pacific Action

John D. Sterns, USNR, former aviation machinist's mate, third class of 845 Kieffer St., Bethlehem, has been awarded the Air Medal and a gold star in lieu of a second and third air medal for meritorious acts while flying as a gunner aboard a carrier-based torpedo bomber in the Pacific area.

The former naval airman received the air medal and gold star in lieu



JOHN D. STERNS

of a second air medal for participating in ten flights in a combat area where enemy anti-aircraft fire was expected to be effective. The awards were presented by Rear Admiral E. W. Litch, commander of Carrier Division 26, Pacific fleet.

He received a gold star in lieu of a third air medal for participating in 12 anti-submarine operations near Okinawa and off the Japanese homelands from May to August, 1945. Vice Admiral A. E. Montgomery, Commander Air Force, Pacific Fleet, commended him for contributing to the safety of Navy shipping in patrol areas and to the security from submarine attack of the

Third fleet which was conducting strikes against the Japanese home islands.

The awards were forwarded to the Bethlehem airman by Rear Admiral Ralph S. Riggs, commandant of the Philadelphia Naval Base. Sterns was discharged by the Navy on Feb. 14, 1946, at the U. S. Naval Base, Bremerton, Wash.

September 16, 1946