

Hengstenberger, Joseph M.

Bronze Star Awarded To Local Soldier

JUN 27 1945
Sergeant Joseph M. Hengstenberger, a member of the 17th Bombardment Group at Dijon, France, which recently was cited the second time by the War Department as a Distinguished Unit, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal by Brigadier General John P. Doyle, Commander of the 42nd Bomb Wing.

The citation accompanying the award reads: "For meritorious service in the Mediterranean and European Theatres of Operations from December 30, 1942 to April

29, 1945. Serving as armorer in a B-26 marauder bomber squadron, Sergeant Hengstenberger distinguished himself through his untiring efforts and outstanding initiative in the servicing of the aircraft in his squadron. Although often faced with adversities imposed by lack of suitable facilities and shortage of personnel, Sgt. Hengstenberger has at all times accomplished his duties in an aggressive manner so as to contribute immeasurably to the operational efficiency of his organization".

Sgt. Hengstenberger has been overseas 32 months with the 432nd Bombardment Squadron of the 17th Bomb Group, the oldest medium bomber group in the AAF.

The group was cited for action against the enemy in the European Theatre of Operations April 10, in

aerial cooperation with the U. S. Seventh Army advances through southern Germany. It had previously been cited for attacks on the Ciampino, Italy, airdromes in January 1944, prior to the Allied landings at Anzio.

Hengstenberger is authorized to wear the European Theatre Ribbon with six stars, the Distinguished Unit Badge with one cluster, the American Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and now the Bronze Star.

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