

Dietrich, Leroy S.

## Wins Air Medal

OCT 19 1945



CALCUTTA — 1st. Lt. Leroy S. Dietrich, co-pilot, of 724 Second Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa., has been awarded an Air Medal for meritorious achievement. It has been announced by Brig. Gen. William H. Tunner, commanding general of the India China Division.

The India China Division is completing by homeward movements of freight and personnel, its war mission of trans-India, India-China and intra-China transport. It has made air history by flying cargo and passengers in regularly scheduled day - and - night over routes once virtually unusable, primarily the famed Hump. Its war contribution, say aviation leaders, has provided far-reaching portents for the future of air transport on a world-wide scale. July 1945 saw 71,000 tons cross the Hump, while at the moment of Jap surrender the rate was nearly two tons a minute.

"From a small monthly tonnage at the outset," said General Tunner in a war's-end statement to his troops, "cargo to China has increased until it has been proved that whole armies could be supplied by air in China—and they were to the distress and destruction of our enemies."

Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, commander of all the U. S. Forces in China, has said, "Through enemy fire and through all sorts of weather, over oceans, mountains, desert and jungle, those planes came, never-failing. Upon their cargoes battles have been fought

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