

Oechsle, Robert P.

Local Airmen Receive Awards For Courage 9 1945

Two Bethlehem airmen flying in Eighth Air Force B-17 Flying Fortresses of the 385th Bombardment Group commanded by Colonel George Zumper, California, have been decorated recently for "courage, coolness and skill" while participating in bombing attacks upon German war plants and upon Nazi military defense points and communication lines in conjunction with advances by the Allied armies in western Europe.

Technical Sergeant Robert P. Oechsle, top turret gunner and aerial engineer, son of Robert Oechsle, 426 Adams Street, has been awarded the second Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal. Prior to entering the service in October, 1941, he was employed in the Bethlehem Steel Company. He studied aircraft mechanics at Chanute Field, Ill., and aerial gunnery at Tyndall Field, Fla.

Staff Sergeant William C. Seaman, radio operator and gunner, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Seaman, 317 Laury Street, received his first Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal. His wife, the former Margaret Ammend, lives at 546 Ontario Street. After entering the service in August, 1945, he attended Scott Field, Ill., and Laredo Field, Tex., Aerial Gunnery School.

Feb. 19, 1945