

HEADQUARTERS
TWENTIEETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

GENERAL ORDERS)
) }
NO. 8)

15 June 1945

A W A R D S

I - - DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION. - - As authorized by Executive Order 9396, superseding Executive Order 9075, and under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department 1943, the following units of the XX Bomber Command are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy:

462ND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (VH), XX BOMBER COMMAND, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy on 20 August 1944. The group dispatched *****B-29 type aircraft to its forward bases to be disposed in two groups on D-Day as part of the XX Bomber Command mission. One-half of the group carried out a special night attack following the all out XX Bomber Command daylight precision attack. Fighter opposition was successfully overcome on the way to the target. Despite a steady hail of intense and accurate flak concentrations which accounted for damage to two aircraft which caused them to crash on the return run to their forward bases, and despite continuous enemy fighter attacks employing suicide ramming tactics, the 462nd Group succeeded in destroying the Imperial Iron and Steel Works at Yawata on the Jap mainland. In the accomplishment of its primary mission, six enemy aircraft were damaged or destroyed. The success of its part of the mission by the 462nd Bombardment Group was especially outstanding in that the method of attack used called for the utmost in daring and skill. The first daylight raid over the Japanese home islands since the historic raid of Tokyo in April 1942 proved the real effectiveness of daylight precision bombing by B-29's. The hazards of mechanical failure, fighter opposition, flak and barrage balloons on the mission of over 3,000 miles were all overcome by the valor and high professional ability of all members of the 462nd Bombardment Group and by their courage, cooperative spirit and tireless energy, the individuals of this Group have reflected great credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

By command of General ARNOLD:

L. AURIS NORSTAD,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

s/ H. H. Hewitt
t/ H. H. HEWITT
Lieutenant Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY

Arch C Fleming
ARCH C. FLEMING,
Captain, Air Corps.