

Arlie F. Aten *April* Awarded Oak *13* Leaf Cluster *1943*

**Hidalgo Airman Was One of Four
to Receive Oak Leaf Cluster in
Lieu of a Second Air Medal**

The War Department announced Friday that Staff Sergeant Arlie F. Aten of Hidalgo had been awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious action against the enemy in North Africa. He was one of four Illinois men to receive such decorations, the others being First Lieutenant Leland Rolf of Virginia, Staff Sergeant Richard D. Croon of Nokomis and Staff Sergeant Lawrence W. Holgate of Rock Island.

The Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded in lieu of a second Air Medal. Sergeant Aten was awarded his first decoration last January 12 by Brigadier General James H. Doolittle in North Africa.

Sergeant Aten is a son of Mrs. Arthur Cowger of Hidalgo vicinity and has been serving overseas in the United States Army Air Forces for several months.