

Awarded Croix de Guerre by ^{11/3/44} Gen. de Gaulle

**Corporal Lawrence Spelbring of
Near Newton, Member of Bomb-
er Group Cited by Gen. de Gaulle**

Mrs. C. C. Spelbring of near Newton has received word from Colonel John P. Doyle, commanding the Forty-second Bombardment wing, United States Army Air Force, that her son, Corporal Lawrence L. Spelbring, was a member of the headquarters group of the Seventeenth Bombardment group which as a part of the Forty-second Bombardment wing was cited by General Charles de Gaulle, president of the provisional government of the French republic and chief of its armies.

In order No. 44 of the French Air Force, the wing was awarded to Croix de Guerre avec palm (War Cross with Palm) on August 8 for its "outstanding part in the preparation and support of the Allied offensive in Italy, which began on May 11, 1944, by attacking and destroying many most important objectives in support of the French army, despite intense, heavy and accurate anti-aircraft fire."

Has Presidential Citation

Staff Sergeant Robert Ochs is spending a twenty-one day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Ochs of near Newton. He has been thirty-one months overseas with the Air Transport Command in the China-Burma-India sector and helped get planes over the hump, the world's highest regular flying route, the Himalaya mountains, as an aircraft welder.

He is wearing a Presidential Citation, which was earned by the whole ATC for its fine work, and five gold bars each showing six months service overseas. He went to Burma with the first contingent of Army Air Force men but arrived at Rangoon just before the Japs took Burma.

He said that he was with Joseph Gregoire of Newton for some time but that the latter has been transferred away.

Awarded Air Medal

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wooden of Dixon, formerly of Bogota, have received a letter stating that their son, Sergeant Charles Wooden Jr., has been awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievements, in accomplishing with distinction numerous aerial operational missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. He is now somewhere in England.