Sergeant Homer Clark Awarded Air Medal

May 8, 1945

Tail Gunner for Thirteenth Air Force in Phillipines Receives a Commendation from Commander

Mrs. Oscar Clark of Arcola vicinity, formerly of near Newton, is in receipt of this letter from General George C. Kenny, Army Air Forces commander in the Philippines:

"Recently your son, Sergeant Homer L. Clark, was decorated with the Air Medal. It was an award made in recognition of courageous service to his combat organization, his fellow American airmen, his country, his home and to you. He was cited for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights in the Southwest Pacific area from January 19, 1945, to February 25, 1945.

"Your son took part in sustained operational flight missions during which hostile contact was probable and expected. These flights included bombing missions against enemy installations, shipping and supply bases, and aided considerably in the recent successes in this theatre.

Contribute to Victory

"Almost every hour of every day your son, and the sons of other American mothers, are doing just such things as that here in the Southwest Pacific. Theirs is a very real and very tangible contributions to victory and to peace.

"I would like to tell you how genuinely proud I am to have men such as your son in my command, and how gratified I am to know that young Americans with such courage and resourcefulness are fighting our country's battle against the aggressor nations.

"You, Mrs. Clark, have every reason to share that pride and gratification."

Sergeant Clark was employed by the Newton Press before entering the service in January, 1944. He is a graduate of Newton Community high school. He is now a tail gunner with the Thirteenth Air Force.

Received Bronze Star

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Kerner of near Newton have received the Bronze Star medal award to their son, Staff Sergeant Andrew G. Kerner, for bravery in Belgium last September. He was serving with the Sixth Armored division at the time. The award was made by Major General Robert Grow.

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