

Heckel

APC 919

12 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Sergeant Ralph F. Heckel, 36811432, 343rd Airdrome Squadron, 3rd Air Commando Group, APC 919.

1. You are commended for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty for the period 18 April 1945 to 23 April 1945 in the Southwest Pacific Area.

2. The courage and fortitude, coupled with diligence and perseverance, with which you performed, in rough terrain, the difficult and hazardous voluntary assignment of changing the engine on a C-47 type aircraft (the engine being salvaged from a wrecked plane in the same location) is worthy of praise and reflects high credit upon you, the officers and enlisted men of your organization, and the Army Air Forces in its entirety. The aggressive and willing spirit which you embodied in this instance should serve as an inspiration to your fellow soldiers and aid in the early culmination of this armed strife to ultimate, final victory.

S. C. Bartor
S. C. BARTOR,
Captain, Air Corps,
Commanding.

Heckel

343RD AIRDROME SQUADRON
3RD AIR COMMANDO GROUP
APO 919

HMF/pr

201.22

7 July 1945

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation.

TO : Capt. Samuel O. Barber
343rd Airdrome Squadron
APO 919

1. It is recommended that:

Ralph P. Heckle	Sergeant	36811432	343rd Airdrome Sq.
(Name)	(Rank)	(ASN)	(Organization)

be considered for a letter of commendation for services in the Southwest Pacific Area from 18 April 1945 to 23 April 1945.

2. Sergeant Heckle, with ten other men from the 318th T.C. Squadron Commando, and the 343rd Airdrome Squadron, were flown to Tusa, on 18 April 1945, to repair a C-47 type aircraft of the 318th T.C. Squadron Commando that had been forced to stay there until an engine change could be performed. These men volunteered to perform this engine change after a service group had refused to send personnel to do the job, due to the hazards presented. The engine change was completed under extremely adverse conditions by salvaging an engine from a wrecked aircraft at the same location. Sergeant Heckle has an excellent efficiency rating as a Airplane and Engine Mechanic. He has always performed his duties in a manner that does credit to himself, and his Squadron.

3. Sergeant Heckle is the holder of the Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Ribbon with three battle stars, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one battle star, one six months overseas bar, and the Aircraft Technician's Badge.

4. Sergeant Heckle next of kin is:

Mrs. Victoria Heckle	Mother	218 S. 66th St.	Milwaukee, Wis.
(Name)	(Relationship)	(Address)	(City, State)

Harry M. Foster
Harry M. Foster
W/O JG (USA)
Eng. Off. 343rd Airdrome Sq.