

Copy
Headquarters
Ninth U.S. Air Force

A.P.O. of Postmaster
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25 August 1943

General Orders)
No. 77)

Extract
Section III

1. By direction of the President, under the Provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918 (Bill 43, H.R., 1918) and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department in A.R. 600-45, part 6, (2), the following named officers are cited for gallantry in action and are awarded the Silver Star Decoration.

Joseph J. Zuga, O-662421 First Lieutenant, Headquarters 340th Bombardment Group. For gallantry in action while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the Middle East Theater. Lieutenant Zuga was serving as navigator on a medium bombardment aircraft on 6 May 1943, during a mission against enemy installations in the Middle East Theater. After he had guided the pilot to the target, and the bomb run was being made, enemy anti-aircraft installations began to center their fire on his ship. It suffered a direct hit and burst into flames. Lieutenant Zuga was seriously wounded, yet he remained at his station, performing his duty during the run over the target. At the very last moment, before the aircraft went completely out of control, he was able to escape by parachute. His fortitude and steadfastness in the face of mortal danger and when already badly and painfully wounded are an outstanding example of valor in action. Residence at commission: Indianapolis, Ind.
By command of Major General Breeton
W. H. Strahm
Brig. Gen. U. S. A.
Chief of Staff

Official:
C. M. Seelach 124

"Colonel" A. G. D.
Adjutant General

This is a true Extract Copy.
William M. Pearlstein, Captain Air Corps