

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull 3, WD 1926), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, and pursuant to authority contained in letter, file 200.6, Headquarters, United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", dated 8 September 1944, the following named officers, organizations and residences as indicated, are awarded the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS for heroism and extraordinary achievement while participating in glider flights during the period 17 September to 23 September 1944. These officers served as serial leaders of Troop Carrier glider formations which participated in the vertical envelopment of enemy positions in Holland, in the greatest airborne assault in military history, with heroic disdain for the hazards of intense enemy ground fire and the risk of attack from hostile aircraft intent on impeding the operation, and at times flying through weather which taxed their skill and resourcefulness to the utmost, they led their formations of unarmed and unarmored gliders to their objectives with unerring precision. The successful delivery of airborne troops and critical combat equipment and supplies by Troop Carrier gliders in these operations, in amounts theretofore unprecedented, may be attributed to their peerless leadership and unwavering devotion to duty and reflects the highest credit upon them and upon the Armed Forces of the United States:

434TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
Group Headquarters

VICTOR B WARRINER                      O 854 071                      Capt                      Deansboro, N.Y.

71st Troop Carrier Squadron

WILLIAM K SNYDER                      O 373 199                      1st Lt                      Lovell, Nyo.

73rd Troop Carrier Squadron

JOHN P OTTE, JR                      O 343 311                      Capt                      Grand Rapids, Mich.

74th Troop Carrier Squadron

AVID J KULL                      O 674 271                      1st Lt                      Villa Grove, Ill.

435TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
Group Headquarters

CLAIR E SMITH                      O 266 318                      Maj                      Galveston, Tex.

75th Troop Carrier Squadron

CHARLES O GORDON                      O 467 702                      Capt                      Marion, Va.

76th Troop Carrier Squadron

THOMAS B HURD                      O 531 052                      Capt                      El Paso, Tex.

77th Troop Carrier Squadron

GEORGE H JOHNSON                      O 538 442                      1st Lt                      Woodstock, Vt.

CO No 110, Co, IX Troop Carrier Command  
11 November 1944

436TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
Group Headquarters

WILLIAM A BROWN, JR            O 462 288            Capt            Greensboro, N.C.

80th Troop Carrier Squadron

JAMES E LOWELL                O 521 329            2nd Lt            Fredonia, N.Y.

81st Troop Carrier Squadron

DARLYLE M WATERS            O 522 974            1st Lt            Lt Waters is missing  
in action. Next of kin,  
Mrs Jean E Waters (Wife),  
131 Willow St, Jackson,  
Mich.

82nd Troop Carrier Squadron

RICHARD B LIBBEY            O 389 382            Capt            Hartford, Conn.

437TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
Group Headquarters

WILLIAM T EVANS              O 352 611            Maj            Pitcairn, Pa.

84th Troop Carrier Squadron

ERLE H WILDERMUTH           O 672 280            Capt            Cleveland Heights, O.  
ANDREW K FORTHEAUM        O 907 367            1st Lt            Los Angeles, Calif.

85th Troop Carrier Squadron

EVANS A FITNER                O 377 167            Capt            St. Louis, Mo.

438TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
Group Headquarters

HARRY P JORDAN, JR           O 395 989            Capt            Waco, Tex.

88th Troop Carrier Squadron

THEODORE A COOK              O1 996 210            2nd Lt            Highland Park, Ill.

90th Troop Carrier Squadron

ALLEN S SHEPHERD, JR        O 380 571            Capt            Columbus, O.  
HENRY C WILLIAMS            T 121 639            P/O            Tulsa, Okla.