

Genesee News, 1945, Feb. 16.

LT. GUSTAVE ROSENAU HOME AFTER 63 COMBAT MISSIONS

Lieut. Gustave Rosenau, now home from combat aerial duty in Italy, is visiting his wife and son and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Rosenau. He reached Genesee Monday evening at 7 o'clock. From the east coast he traveled by troop train to Salt Lake City and from there to Lewiston by stage. In Lewiston he met Fred Morscheck and came to Genesee with him. His arrival here was expected, but it came rather a surprise when he arrives without notice to meet his wife and son, Kerry Lee, who he saw for the first time. His parents were at Reubens, but returned home Tuesday morning.

Lt. Rosenau will report to Santa Monica, Calif., after his leave expires.

The following press release is from Twelfth Air Force Headquarters:

AT A 12th AAF B-25 BASE—Sixty-three combat missions is the score made by First Lieutenant Gustave D. Rosenau of Genesee, Idaho, at a B-25 Mitchell bomber base on Corsica where he was flying as a pilot, it is announced by the 12th Air Force.

The Genesee pilot has been with the Mitchell bomber unit to which he is assigned since his arrival overseas in May, 1944. He wears the Air Medal, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross recently for extraordinary achievement in aerial flight when a formation of his unit's Mitchell bombers attacked a railroad bridge at Galiatte, Italy.

Lt. Rosenau entered the Air Forces and received his aviation cadet appointment Jan. 25, 1943, at Spokane, Wash. After completing advanced training at Greenville, S.C., he received his wings and commission as second lieutenant Jan. 7, 1944.

Since his arrival overseas he has participated in most of his unit's outstanding missions against the enemy targets in Italy and southern France. The Mitchell bomber group contributed largely to the softening up of defenses in southern France before Allied troops were landed there, and is now blasting enemy bridges in northern Italy in support of the Allied advance there.

First to fly from bases on Italian soil as a bombardment unit, Mitchell bombers of the group were the first medium bombers to bomb targets in the Balkans. Throughout the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns the unit has distinguished itself with its outstanding achievements for which it received a War Department Unit Citation. The Mitchell Unit added another Citation to its long list recently when a period for three months the B25's dropped an average of better than nine out of every ten bombs in the target area. From these operations the Mitchell-bombers received the name of "Bridge-busters". The above was received recently. It undoubtedly was prepared and passed by a field press censor before Lt. Rosenau was notified of his leave to the States. He almost reached Genesee before the release and the picture.

First Lt. Gustave D. Rosenau, husband of Mrs. Mona Rosenau, Genesee, has arrived in the United States on furlough from the European Theatre of Operations where he served 8 months with the 12th Air Force as pilot on a B-25. He completed 63 missions totaling 182 combat flying hours.

