

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
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GENERAL ORDERS)

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SECTION VIII-- AWARDS OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in cable No. 9782, Headquarters NATOUSA, 5 December 1943, and Circular No. 26, Headquarters NATOUSA, 6 March 1944, the **Soldier's Medal** is awarded the following named personnel, residence and citation as indicated:

JOHN E. ABDALLAH, O-733505, First Lieutenant, Air Corps, 340th Bombardment Squadron, 97th Bombardment Group, United States Army. For heroism at great risk of life and beyond the call of duty. On 16 July 1943, after a forced landing at sea caused from damages to his aircraft by intense anti-aircraft fire during a combat mission over northern Italy, Lieutenant Abdallah, although painfully wounded, assisted the crew into rafts. Noticing that the navigator was missing, he returned to the rapidly sinking airplane, entered it, and found the navigator there in a semi-conscious condition. Despite his own wounds and the fact that the aircraft was nearly under water, Lieutenant Abdallah brought the injured crew member out of the sinking plane in time to save his life, even though the plane sank within one and one-half (1½) minutes. By his selfless courage and heroism, together with his cool judgment and devotion to duty at a time of great danger, Lieutenant Abdallah has reflected great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence at appointment: Fall River, Massachusetts.

By command of Major General TWINING:

Y. H. TAYLOR,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ J. M. Ivins,
/t/ J. M. IVINS,
Lieutenant Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY: