



COLONEL BURNS.

DFC Awarded for Bombing Berlin

SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 26 (Spl). Lt. Col. Robert W. Burns, commander of the 351st Bombardment Group in England, has been decorated with the DFC for extraordinary achievement while leader of a Flying Fortress wing that bombed the airplane engine factory at Genshagen, near Berlin, last Aug. 6.

The wing encountered intense antiaircraft fire and more than 30 German fighter planes. But Burns maintained a steady and unswerving course and successfully completed his bombing run. The citation accompanying the DFC says: "The coolness, courage, relentless determination and superb airmanship displayed by Colonel Burns in the face of persistent and vicious attacks aided directly in the destruction of a vital enemy objective."

Burns also wears the Silver Star and the Air Medal with four clusters. He was awarded the Silver Star for leading his group to an extremely low altitude in order to avoid clouds that would have interfered with the successful bombing of the important port and dock area of Nantes, France, on Sept. 23, 1943.

His wife is the former Miss Rachel Nugent of San Antonio.