

## William D. Beals 62-43

**First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air  
Forces**

**Service # 1179509**

**Headquarters Squadron  
7th Bomber Group, Heavy**

**Entered the Service from: New Jersey**

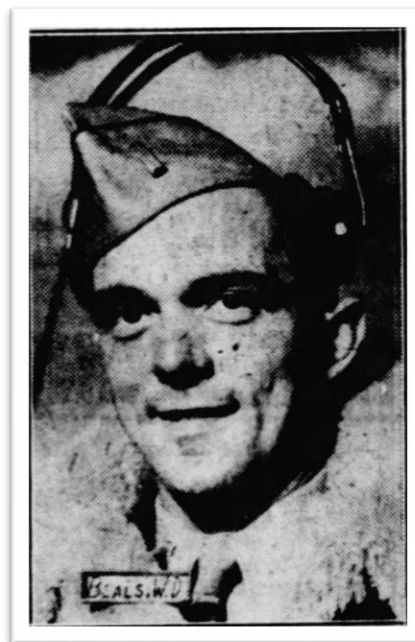
**Died: 22-Mar-1945**

**Missing in Action or Buried at Sea**

**Tablets of the Missing at Manila American Cemetery  
Manila, Philippines**

**Awards: Air Medal, Purple Heart**

He was flying as an observer on B-24J #42-73437 assigned to the 10th Air Force, 7th Bombardment Group, 9th Bombardment Squadron. They were flying as part of a group of planes to bomb targets on Great Coco Island in the Indian Ocean. Moderate anti-aircraft fire was encountered and Beals' plane was hit. The plane winged over to the right and went almost vertically into the ocean. There were no survivors. Because his body was not recovered, he is listed on the Tablets of the Missing.





**CITED** — After chalking up 10 missions in the Burma theater, First Lieut. William D. Beals, above, whose wife is the former Myra Van Arsdale of 153 Norwood Ave., has been awarded the Air Medal. He has been overseas nearly a year.

## Lieut. W. D. Beals, Now in Burma, Wins Air Medal

First Lieut. William D. Beals, 27, whose wife is the former Miss Myra Van Arsdale, 153 Norwood Ave., has been awarded the Air Medal, Maj. Gen. Howard C. Davidson, commanding general of the 10th Air Force in Burma, announces. Lieutenant Beals has been stationed in Burma for more than 10 months.

Lieutenant Beals, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen E. Beals of 109 Rockview Ave., flying as an observer, has chalked up 10 missions totaling 120 hours during his tour of duty in the Far East. He is a graduate of Plainfield High School and entered the service in March, 1942.

Lieutenant Beals was graduated from the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and detailed to take combat observer training in April, 1943. From there he went to Brooks Field, Texas, to take a course in aerial observation, receiving his wings at Harlingen, Tex. Prior to going overseas, he attended Combat Intelligence School at Harrisburg, Pa., and was stationed with a tactical reconnaissance group at Key Field, Mississippi.