

# Jenkins Bags Nazi Me-109 Over Munich

"As we neared the target, enemy fighters seemed to come at us in swarms, peel off one by one, and come in at us," stated Staff Sgt. James A. Jenkins, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Jenkins, when he returned from a mission over Munich, having shot down an enemy M-109.

"I let go with all I had, and soon saw one of the planes start smoking, roll over, and start toward earth, end over end," a dispatch said Wednesday.

A ball turret gunner, Sergeant Jenkins is stationed with a 15th army air force Liberator bombardment group in Italy. He has had many similar experiences while on such missions as the targets of Ploesti oil refineries, and German supply lines and marshalling yards in northern Italy, which were the main source of supply for enemy concentrations near Rome.

On one occasion, while on a mission over Turin, Italy, another plane collided with the plane in which Sergeant Jenkins was flying, knocking the tail turret off the plane, and causing it to dive down to 13,000 feet before the pilot was able to level off, and keep it in the air until he finally made a forced landing at a friendly base.

Recently Jenkins was awarded the first cluster to the Air Medal.

A 1935 East high graduate, he entered service on May 9, 1939, and received his gunnery training at Wendover field, Utah. Before enlistment, he was employed by the Hutchinson Ice Cream Co. His wife resides with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Morgan, Denver, Colo.