

30 April 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR JOHN M. WHITE, JR:

SUBJECT: Foreign Decorations of General Hoyt S. Vandenberg

1. In accordance with your request, I am submitting the information available on General Vandenberg's foreign awards. These awards are listed by country, name, date of authorization, and manner in which they are worn, as follows:

- a. Mexican - Military Order of Merit (7 Aug 46)
Medal suspended from gold ribbon around neck;
medal in shape of Maltese Cross.
- b. Netherlands - Order of Orange-Nassau (Grand Officer with
Swords) (27 Oct 47) Badge suspended from
neck with ribbon of orange, with edges of
Nassau blue, colors separated by narrow
stripe of white. Star is worn on left
breast.
- c. Brazilian - Cruz del Sol (21 Aug 46) (Grand Officer)
The badge is worn suspended from the neck.
A star is worn on the left breast.

Medal of War (21 Aug 46)
Medal or ribbon worn on left breast; ribbon
is green with yellow edges.
- d. Luxemburg - Order of Adolph Von Nassau (Grand Cross)
(3 July 45) Badge is worn on left hip, sus-
pended by a sash of blue, with gold and
yellow stripe on each side, very near the
edges, which is worn over the right shoulder
to the left hip. Star is worn on the left
breast.

Croix de Guerre (13 Sept 45)
Ribbon or Medal is worn on the left breast.

Subject: Foreign Decor of Gen H. S. Vandenberg

honor of a certain country, that country's awards are worn immediately after the American Service Medals and before any other foreign awards. If more than one foreign country is being honored, the awards are worn following the American Service Medals and the foreign awards worn in conformance with date of receipt, except where two or more awards are given by the same country, in which case that country's awards are worn together, in accordance with the date of receipt of the first award, regardless of when the second award was received.

When more than one neck order is received and worn at one time, the awards are worn in inverse order of the date of receipt, that is, the last medal received would be put on first, the next to last received put on second, so that the first one received would be on top of all the others. The same holds true of the sash orders.

3. The following are the breast orders:

- ✓ a. French Croix de Guerre (30 Jan 45)
- ✓ b. Belgium - Croix de Guerre w/palms (30 Jan 45)
- ✓ c. Luxemburg - Croix de Guerre (13 Sept 45)
- d. Brazil - Medal of War (21 Aug 46)

4. The stars are worn on either the left or right breast, under the ribbons and medals for American or foreign awards, and arranged in rank, according to date received. They are listed as follows:

- a. Great Britain - Order of Bath (9 Apr 45)
- ✓ b. Luxemburg - Order of Adolph Von Nassau (3 July 45)
- ✓ c. Belgium - Order of Leopold I (30 July 45)
- d. Egypt - L'Ordre du Nil Grand Cordon (17 June 47)
- e. Netherlands - Order of Orange Nassau (27 Oct 47)
- f. Portugal - Order of Avis (17 Feb 48)
- ✓ g. Poland - Order of Polish Restoration (Right Breast) (17 Nov 45)

For your information I am inclosing a diagram of what will be worn on the left side of General Vandenberg's uniform. As seven of the foreign decorations which he has received carry the stars, six of them are worn on the left breast, as I have indicated in the diagram. The seventh, for the Order of Polish Restoration, is worn on the right breast.

5. The neck orders received by General Vandenberg would be put on as follows, in the order listed:

- a. Netherlands - Order of Orange-Nassau (27 Oct 47)
- ✓ b. Mexico - Military Order of Merit (7 Aug 46)

Subject: Foreign Decor of Gen H. S. Vandenberg

- c. Poland - Order of Polish Restoration (17 Nov 45)
- d. Belgium - Order of Leopold (I or II) (30 July 45)
- e. Great Britain - Order of Bath (Knight Commanders Cross)
(9 Apr 45)
- f. France - Legion of Honor (30 Jan 45)

By this method the Legion of Honor, which was the first foreign neck award which General Vandenberg received, would be on top.

6. The sash orders would be placed in the following order:

- a. Portugal - Order of Avis (17 Feb 48)
- b. Egypt - L'Ordre du Nil Grand Cordon (17 June 47)
- c. Luxemburg - Order of Adolph Von Nassau (3 July 45)

By this method the Luxemburg Order of Adolph Von Nassau would be on top.

7. As I have indicated above, there is not too much information available on the matter of wearing foreign decorations, and the whole matter seems to be one of protocol or good taste for each specific function to which they are worn.

LAURENCE D. WILLIAMSON
Captain, USAF

1 Incl
Diagram of
For Decor worn
lft side Gen
Vandenberg's uniform