Gen. Benjamin Davis
Is Awarded DSM

Awarding of the Distinguished Service Medal to Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of 1721 S street N.W., only colored general officer of the Army, was announced by the War Department yesterday.

The award was "for exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility from June, 1941, to November, 1944," the announcement said, "as an inspector of troop units in the field, and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops."

Gen. Davis, whose son has had a notable career in the Air Force, is completing his 46th year of active Army service. He was born in Washington on July 1, 1877, and entered the military service in 1898 during the Spanish-American War as a lieutenant of infantry. Mustered out after the war he enlisted as a private in the old 9th Cavalry and won a commission in 1901.

Retired from the Army on July 31, 1941, soon after his promotion to brigadier general (temporary), he was recalled "to active duty the following day. Gen. Davis was assigned to the European theater of operations in September, 1942, for a month's tour of duty and then was assigned in the Office of the Inspector General at the War Department. He returned to the European theater on July 11, 1944, for further duty.