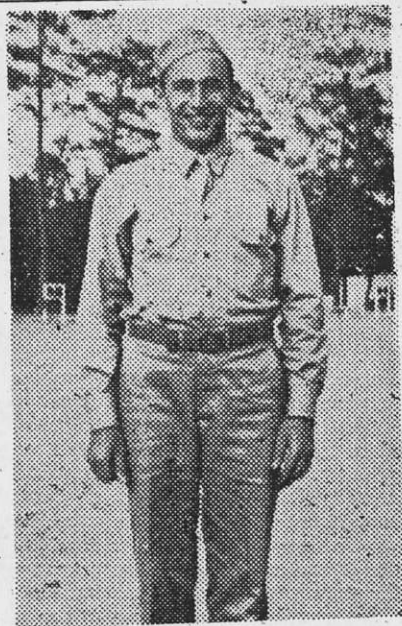


*Geier, John*

## Bethlehemite Decorated By Eisenhower

SEP 17 1943

A Bethlehem soldier, who has been with the U. S. forces in the North African theater the past several months, has been decorated upon orders of General Dwight D. Eisenhower for outstanding heroism. He is Pfc. John Geier, 1110 Dover Lane, Pembroke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Geier.



**PFC. JOHN GEIER**

Pfc. Geier was one of a trio of soldiers mentioned in the citation orders. The other two were Raymond A. Velazquez, a sergeant, of New York City, and Pfc. James A. Strong, of Superior, Wisconsin.

The three, according to the citation, were mentioned for heroism in saving the life of a South African Airforce soldier. They rescued the soldier from a burning plane which was loaded with bombs. Shortly after the rescue the plane was blown to bits by the explosives.

The citation said: "The courage and selflessness displayed by these men is symbolic of the highest traditions and courage of the armed forces of the United States."

The three received the American Service Medal for Heroism.

*September 17, 1943*