

Hegedus, John

## Local GI Wounded As Nazis Wave Flag in Surrender Ruse

THE 115TH GENERAL HOSPITAL, England—A Nazi trick of using the white flag of surrender as a ruse caused the injury of Private First Class John Hegedus, 21, of 1516 E. 6th Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, during the German counter-offensive in Belgium, but the trick failed in its purpose when the enemy was beaten back by troops of his unit.

Private First Class Hegedus, who was wounded in the right hip by a machine gun bullet, is convalescing at this United States Army general hospital in England. He has been awarded the Purple Heart.

"We were trying to trap a regiment of paratroopers in the woods near Erpigny, Belgium," he said. "As first scout in my outfit, I was moving ahead of the others as we approached. Soon we heard some yells and we could see the Nazis waving white flags. I moved in closer as I didn't have a good view of the paratroopers and that's when they opened up with machine guns

and I was hit. MAR 2 1945  
"As I lay there, I could see our men beating them back. I later found out that the Nazi paratroopers, much reduced in numbers, had to pull back."

After a company aid man treated him on the field, Private First Class Hegedus was taken by litter bearers to an aid station. He was given treatment in hospital in Belgium and France before being flown to England.

Private First Class Hegedus was a student at Moravian College, Bethlehem, before he entered the Army December 15, 1942.

His ward surgeon, First Lieutenant Richard D. Smith of Omaha, Nebraska, said, "Private First Class Hegedus's condition is good and he is making normal progress toward recovery."

While attending Moravian College, Private First Class Hegedus was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hegedus, reside at the 6th E. Street address.

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