

Czar, Frank J.

Corporal Czar Listed Among War's Heroes

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While he may not be a Sergeant York, Corporal Frank L. Czar, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Czar, 511 Spring Street, Bethlehem, has what it takes to have the bravery of the hero of World War I, according to an article in the May 3 issue of Collier's.

Concerning the fearlessness of Corporal Czar, the publication says: "A strange thing about American soldiers is that so many of them think—with reason—that they're Sergeant York. Second Lieutenant Charles Dushane and Corporal Frank L. Czar, helped by three enlisted men, were on the prow with the American invasion forces at Kasba-Mehida, in French Morocco.

"They were assigned to do something about an old lighthouse from which the enemy was pouring out streams of machine-gun and rifle bullets. They snaked their way through the hail of enemy lead, cut through the heavy barbed wire, and battered their way into the lighthouse and captured twelve of the enemy, together with an arsenal that could—and probably would—have killed scores of American soldiers.

"Later the same day our troops were withdrawing from a near-by village. The situation was what the military experts called "unfavorable." When the retreat was on the verge of being a mess, Dushane and Czar found an anti-tank gun previously abandoned by the enemy, but now, right in the path of their advance.

Part of the breech had been removed, presumably so the weapon couldn't be used by the Americans—which was wishful thinking. In plain view of the Henies, Dushane stuffed a shell into the muzzle, closed what was left of the breech, and fired the gun by shooting at the base of the shell with his sub-machine gun. Czar's job was to aim, and this he did so effectively that one enemy tank was destroyed and the German advance was delayed long enough to organize the American withdrawal. Dushane was killed by machine-gun bullets and he stood there loading the busted old gun. Czar survived."

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