

Sinicz, Louis

Local Sailor Cited for Action In Sicily Battle

Fireman First Class Louis Sinicz, a local sailor, is visiting his wife and son, Frank, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sinicz, 421 West Fourth Street, on a 30-day furlough. His wife is the former Theresa Ruggiero, this city.

Seaman Sinicz has been cited "for commendable action during the invasion of Sicily, July 10, 1943, and with complete disregard for his personal safety," by the commanding officer of the transport on which he was posted.

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He is a member of the amphibious force, which found a landing spot on the beach of Sicily near Scoglitti. After disembarking from a scout boat from the transport, according to his account, before midnight, July 9-10, he and the other few members of the crew crept to within 200 yards of shore before "hell broke loose" as he termed it. The enemy had discovered the 36-foot boat and threw everything they had against the small craft. The invaders upon finding the beach signalled the transport farther out at sea that the beach was suitable for landing.

After the transport had gotten into action, resistance from the Germans and Italians became less, thus allowing the Allied invaders to send in their landing parties, which was done successfully on the zero hour—about 2 a. m.

For 33 hours, before his major job of locating the beach, Seaman Sinicz transferred men and equipment to the cruiser Minneapolis on the West Coast.

Sinicz re-enlisted in the Navy January 25, 1943. He was given am-

phibious training at Little Cr. Va. Later he attended a scout and radio school. He is glad to be able to visit his family and parents.

August 11, 1943