

Paden, Gerald J.
Paden Jr., Merrill
Paden, Williard

Local Soldier **JAN 13 1944**
On English
Radio Program

Tech. Sgt. Gerald L. Paden was a personal representative from Bethlehem on a Christmas program in England, he revealed in a letter received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill A. Paden, 777 Washington Avenue.

In a weekly program featuring a "Meet Our Allies" presentation, the sergeant was introduced "with much hullabaloo," his letter read. It continued: "The master of ceremonies told them that I was from the Christmas City of the U. S. and that they thought it was appropriate that I should be there that night. It was all very inspiring. I just spoke about 15 minutes about our Christmas lighting, the star on South Mountain, the putz, etc. It seems as though I had their interest all right. There were about 200 present—British soldiers, ATS girls and a few civilians."

The Bethlehem soldier responded to a request to sing "O Little Town of Bethlehem," after one of the audience-questions was whether Americans sing the same Christmas carols as the English. He had sung in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church choir.

Sergeant Paden, who will be 23 years old in April, was employed in the public relations department of Bethlehem Steel Company before he entered the service in October, 1942. He has been abroad seven months—is a 1937 graduate of Liberty High School. A brother, Staff Sgt. Merrill Jr., has been in the Army 18 months. Another brother, Willard, football star at Liberty High School, will be inducted after he is graduated this month.

January 13, 1944