

Berger, Joseph

**Former Steel Worker  
Sent Jap Rifle  
Home As Souvenir**

SEP 1 1944

Mrs. Frank J. Talaber, 551 North Jordan Street, Allentown, received a bulky, odd-shaped package, extremely clumsy in appearance and according to all indications, resembling an antique. Upon opening the package, Mrs. Talaber was surprised to discover a Japanese army rifle which is among the items claimed by her brother, Electrician's Mate Third Class 3-c Joseph Berger, now stationed somewhere in New Guinea.

Two months ago, E. M. 3-c Berger sent a picture to his sister of himself and two friends. Upon receiving the package, Mrs. Talaber examined the picture closer and found the gun he was carrying to be the very one he sent.

The Jap rifle is decorated with Japanese figures and an insignia which is probably an Army seal. The peculiar feature of the arm is a group of American numerals inscribed on the barrel, ranging consecutively from 1 to 22.

The son of Louis Berger, 1260 Club Avenue, Allentown, he was inducted into the Navy, July 13, 1943, given boot training at Camp Peary, Va., and transferred overseas, December, 1943. He was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Company prior to his enlisting.

September 1, 1944