

Vallera, Anthony D.

**Two Local Soldiers
With Unit Cited
For Argenten Smash**

AUG 1 1945
Sgt. Anthony D. Vallera, 706 East Morton Street, a machine gunner, and S/Sgt. George Althoff, a platoon guide from 1032 Essex Court, are in the 80th "Blue Ridge" Infantry Division's illustrious and heroic 2nd Battalion of the 318th Regiment, which recently received the coveted Presidential Unit Citation in the name of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Their battalion smashed into Argenten and liquidated the shattered remnants of the trapped German Seventh Army in the greatest Nazi debacle in the entire battle of France. According to the citation accompanying the award, they "pierced the Maginot Line within one hour and 25 minutes after launching their attack, rolled northward to stop von Runstedt's winter threat and played a historic role in the relief of Bastogne."

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