

Kleckner, John

**John Kleckner, S1/C,  
Wins Navy Citation for  
Diving Exhibit 1 2 1946**

"For extraordinary courage and perseverance in volunteering for and carrying out hazardous underwater diving operations July 27, 1946, and again on July 28 at Green Cove Springs, Fla.," John Kleckner, S1/C, whose sister, Mrs. Donald Galbraigh, resides at 946 East Fifth St., was awarded a Navy commendation.

The commendation continued, "For responding to an emergency call for volunteer duty and carrying out these underwater diving operations, knowing full well there was great risk to his personal safety."

A veteran of five years duty in the Navy, S1/C Kleckner served four years overseas. Among his decorations, he also holds the Purple Heart awarded for wounds he received in the European Theater. He is stationed aboard the USS Beverly Reid in Green Cove Springs.

The nature of the diving operations was not disclosed in the Naval commendation, but Kleckner stated in a letter received by his sister that the award was made for his attempts to retrieve the body of another sailor who had drowned in the cove.

Aug. 12, 1946