

SAVITSKE,
 George



LT. GEORGE SAVITSKE

Hellertown GI Given Legion Of Merit Award

First Lieut. George Savitske, of Hellertown, was awarded the Legion of Merit at an impressive ceremony held in the Officers Club of 27th Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment Special Troops First Army on December 21. Brig. Gen. Robinson presented the award before the assembled officers of the staff.

Capt. Gilligan read the War Department's citation for Lt. Savitske's exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in Italy from January 1 to August 1, 1945. The citation called attention to his energetic leadership, technical knowledge, co-operation and untiring effort as commanding officer of the 82nd Ordnance HM Company.

Lt. Savitske began his military career in September, 1940, enlisting in the 213th Anti-Aircraft Coast Artillery of the Pennsylvania National Guard. Immediately after Pearl Harbor, his unit set up as part of the anti-aircraft defense of New York City. He attained the grade of first sergeant before going to Ordnance Officers Candidate School at Aberdeen, Md., in June, 1942.

Upon his graduation from OCS in September, 1942, he joined the 82nd Ordnance HM Company, which he was later to command, on the west coast. The company debarked at Oran in February, 1943, and he participated in the Tunisian campaign and then in the torturous grind of the Fifth Army through Italy, commencing with Salerno, proceeding through the Apennines, the Po Valley and winding up in Verona, Italy, at the close of the fighting in Europe.

While on leave, he married Bertha Moloski, of Hellertown. Two brothers are serving with the U. S. Navy in Pacific waters.

Lt. Savitske wears five stars on his ETO ribbon marking the following campaigns: Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, Apennines and Po Valley. JAN 9 1946

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