

Parker, John R.
Joseph

Soldier Sends Collection of War Souvenirs

MAY 25 1945

A Nazi flag, about four feet square, in excellent condition, which could have flown from some home of an ardent follower of Hitler, or used for military purposes by the Germans, was among a lot of souvenirs received today by Mrs. Herbert Munsch, 623 Wyandotte Street, from her brother, Pfc. John R. Parker, who fought with the 11th Thunderbolt Division of the Third Army.

Included in the collection were a number of medals, some issued during World War 1, a pair of binoculars, three knives, two belts, coins, paper money and other articles, all of German issue. Among other things were a number of photographs, the subjects believed to be "big shot" Nazis, who posed for the pictures. In compact form were a number of favorite poses of Europe's madman, circulated among the German soldiers as a morale builder.

The commodities were enclosed in a wooden box, the lid of which bore the name of some French prisoner who had been confined in Stalag B-13.

A son of Mrs. Robert Cless and the late Joseph Parker, former member of the plant patrol of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Pfc. Parker has done more than one stretch for Uncle Sam. At the age of 16 he enlisted and from 1936 to 1939, was stationed at Ft. Hoyle, Md.

He was inducted into the armed forces in 1942, trained at Camp Wheeler, Ga., Helena, Montana, and Camp Upton, N. Y., and went overseas last December. On February 11, he was wounded. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Combat Infantry badge.

A brother, Pvt. Joseph Parker, is presently stationed at Camp Shanks, N. Y., and expects an honorable discharge in the near future. He saw action in Africa, Sicily and Italy. During service in the latter country, he contracted malaria and was returned to the United States.

May 25, 1945