

Walter, Charles C.

Inventiveness Wins Citation

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SGT. WALTER GETS LEGION OF MERIT

T-4 Charles C. Walter Receives Merit Legion for Invention

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md.—“For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service” overseas, Technician Fourth Grade Charles C. Walter, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Walter, 87 West Garrison Street, Bethlehem, Pa., was presented the Legion of Merit, the nation's fourth highest military decoration for individuals, by Maj. Gen. Charles T. Harris, Jr., commanding general, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

United States last May and was assigned to the Ordnance School where he is an instructor in light AA fire control maintenance.

He is married to the former Caryl Fraystadt, of 113 Grosvenor Road, Douglastown, N. Y., and is a graduate of the Lansdowne (Pa.) High School and attended Penn State College where he studied architecture.

Twenty-five hundred ordnance school troops stood in mass formation for the presentation honoring Sgt. Walter for service between Nov. 25, 1943, and April 12, 1944, in improving efficiency of the 44MM Bofors gun.

“Through initiative and consummate skill, he developed and perfected an electro mechanical predicting sight for use on the 44MM Bofors gun,” the citation reads, “thus adding to the efficiency of anti-aircraft weapons. His zealous initiative and aggressive enthusiasm to aid the war effort, coupled with his consummate skill in improvising and his intelligent understanding of the technical problems associated with remote control apparatus, resulted in a recognized worthy aid to anti-aircraft fire control.”

While in Italy with the 28th Ordnance Company (MM), Sgt. Walter saw the need for a faster, more mobile computing sight for use with the 40 MM Bofors AA gun. He built five models before finally perfecting his device. After extensive practice tracking planes at friendly airports, he took the sight, attached to a 40MM gun, to the front lines to test its effectiveness. There he proved its value against low-flying enemy planes.

Sgt. Walter was a sporting goods salesman in civilian life, but never did any mechanical work before his induction into the Army at Camp Upton, N. Y., in January, 1942. He took his basic training here and shipped to England in August, 1942, with the 45th Ordnance Company (MM) which was activated at this ordnance installation. From there he went to Africa and to Italy where his company landed at Salerno and fought at the Anzio beachhead.

Sgt. Walter returned to the

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