

Schnecker, Robert

### Two Area Soldiers With Infantry That Broke Gothic Line

Pvt. Robert Schnecker, 318 East Fifth Street, this city, and Pvt. Joseph Peste, 937 South Fourth Street, Allentown, are fighting in Italy's Apennines before the Po Valley with the 362nd Infantry Regiment which broke through the Gothic Line in one of its highest and best defended sectors.

Their regiment broke across the Sieve River in the strongly defended line and attained the top of a 2225-foot high mountain in which the Germans had emplaced artillery in tunnels running 50 feet underground in rock. At the entrance of one of these there had been seven enemy guns emplaced. Within 11 days during this part of the drive, the outfit captured 400 Germans and killed and wounded many others.

The 362nd's Third Battalion, fighting alone and out of communication with division and regiment, was one of the Fifth Army units that took Futa Pass, a feat that won the battalion a division citation.

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