

Hinkle, John

Rounds Out 17 Years of Army Service

SEP 20 1944

M-Sgt. John Hinkle of Allentown, formerly of Bethlehem, is a squadron armament chief in the group commanded by Col. George I. Werterbaker Jr., Charlottesville, Va. He went to France in an advanced section of his squadron, landing early in the battle of liberation.

Sgt. Hinkle has seen considerable service, enlisting in the cavalry early in his career, which began in



M-SGT. JOHN HINKLE

August, 1927, at Ft. Bliss, Texas. He joined the Air Corps in 1933 and was sent to the Philippines, where he stayed 3½ years as an armorer. When he came back to the states he was assigned to the 82 Observation Squadron at Moffet Field, Calif., and later was transferred to the 35 Fighter Group at Hamilton Field, Calif. He was then sent to Alaska with the 18th Fighter Squadron. Sgt. Hinkle stayed in Alaska and the Aleutians for 33 months, undergoing both bombing and strafing at the hands of the Japanese.

When he returned to the United States he was assigned to the 48 Fighter Group at Northern Field, Tenn., in October, 1943. He was married at Walterboro, S. C. in February, 1944. His wife, the former Sarah Wright Bletz, lives at 107 North Eighth Street, Allentown, and his mother, Mrs. Adam Hinkle resides at 539 South Berk Street, Allentown. A sister-in-law, Mrs. Savilla Wright Minnich, was a former reporter for the Globe-Times.

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