

Danko, Steve A.

Prayer Book Saves Life Of Local GI

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FARRAGUT, Idaho (AP). — A prayer book which Marine Cpl. Steve A. Danko, shifted from his breast pocket to his trouser's pocket saved his life on the beach at Guam.

Danko, who observes that "both my Saviour and myself were born in Bethlehem," told at Farragut Naval Hospital how he shifted the book after it kept slipping from his breast pocket each time he hit the beach to escape Jap gunfire as he swept ashore with the first invasion waves.

Later, Danko, who lives at 416 First Terrace Avenue, Bethlehem had a mortar shell drop at his feet as he dove for a foxhole, driving splinters into his legs and arms.

"But God was with me that time in more ways than one. The prayer book had my Apostle's medal in it," he said.

"Shrapnel ripped through 426 pages of the book and lodged in the medal."

It stopped, he said, below the inscription, "Cease! The heart of Jesus is with me!"

The piece of shrapnel, had it continued its course, would have torn into a main artery of his leg, he said.

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