

Naydyhor, Anthony

Coopersburg Soldier Learns Supply Run Can Mean Plenty Of Excitement In Pacific War

WITH SIXTH ARMY ON LUZON—A supply run is not always the monotonous thing it implies, and the engineer slogan, "You are not only a soldier, you are an army engineer" is often used in reverse.

MAY 15 1945

Early one morning recently, Sergeant Anthony Naydyhor, Coopersburg, Pa., Cpl. Earl Jacobs, Harrisburg, Pa., and Staff Sergeant Joe Koran, New York, all members of the 695th base engineer equipment company, were seven miles from camp when their truck was flagged by M.P.'s. Aid was needed to stem a score of Japs who had landed from a motor boat on the mudflats of a nearby lake.

Koran detoured to the nearest army unit for help while Naydyhor and Jacobs sped to the lakeside flats and aided by nine guerillas they established a skirmish line. In the sharp clash that followed, Naydyhor sustained slight facial injuries and several of the guerillas were injured more seriously. But the Japs were checked and help was on the way.

Meanwhile, Jacobs and the remaining guerillas decided to follow up their initial advantage. They pushed the Japs back to the stone fish traps on the shore and it was then that they heard a burst of fire from a 50 caliber machine gun. It was Sergeant Koran with a machine gun mounted on his truck and firing on the Japanese left flank. Hopelessly caught in a cross-fire, the enemy attempted to flee to their boat but they were mowed down in the water and their boat sunk. The score was eleven

Japs dead and more drowned. Captured grenades, high explosives and other demolition supplies indicated that the Japs were determined to blow out bridges in the vicinity.

Sergeant Naydyhor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Naydyhor, Route 1, Coopersburg, Pa. He entered the army four years ago and received his basic training at Ft. Belvoir, Va. While enroute to Greenland in January 1943, his transport was torpedoed and he was immersed in the icy waters near Greenland for more than 10 hours before being rescued. He recovered completely after months in a hospital and was returned to the States and assigned to the engineers at Camp Clayborne, La. His company landed in New Guinea in October, 1944, and aided in the preparation for the campaign in the Philippines. They landed with General Walter Gruenger's Sixth Army forces, and are now working on airfields, bridges, and roads.

Before entering the army, Sergeant Naydyhor was employed as a crane operator by the Bethlehem Steel Corp., Bethlehem, Pa. He was also active in the Catholic Sokol Club.

May 15, 1945