

Hafner, Claude J.

## Lt. C. J. Hafner Gets DSC For Heroic Service

~~Jun 27 1945~~  
The first Distinguished Service Cross awarded to a 276th Infantryman has been won by Lieutenant Claude J. Hafner, 623 Eighth Avenue, a member of Company E.

The citation accompanying the award reads: "On the night of February 6, 1945, Lt. Hafner's company was pinned down by intense machine gun, rifle and grenade fire during an attack near Oetingen, France. Armed with a rocket launcher, Lt. Hafner fearlessly led two men against the enemy positions and forced the surrender of three Germans in the nearest emplacement. He then moved a squad forward and cleared two connecting dugouts, taking six more prisoners.

"At daylight, he again distinguished himself by leading four men against by-passed positions, killing one of the defenders, bayonetting another and capturing seven prisoners. Lt. Hafner's heroic leadership and his inspiring, courageous devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the military service."

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