

Lindner, Kenneth

Capt. Kenneth Lindner Leads Yank Battalion Into Cherbourg

JUN 27 1944

The honor of being one of the first to lead a battalion into Cherbourg during the hours of fiercest fighting immediately before the French port fell to American advances went to Captain Kenneth R. Lindner, of Bethlehem, according to word received today.

Captain Lindner led a battalion into the city after his commanding officer had been killed and he and his men proceeded to knock out several strong points.

German guns were still firing in several sections of the city when Captain Lindner and his battalion entered the city shortly before the Germans were sent an ultimatum to surrender unconditionally. An American flight officer, accompanied by a German medical officer, took the ultimatum into the German lines.

"The fortress of Cherbourg is now surrounded and the city is isolated," the ultimatum said. "You and your troops have offered stubborn and valiant resistance to our advance. You are overwhelmingly outnumbered and it is merely a question of time until the city will be captured.

"The immediate unconditional surrender of Cherbourg is demanded. Communicate by radio on 1520 kilocycles and raised white flags or shoot white rockets or flares from the naval hospital and the Pasteur Hospital in Cherbourg. Thereafter send staff officers with white flags by way of Fort du Roule to the farm de la Montague to receive detailed conditions of surrender."

Captain Lindner was commissioned a second lieutenant in May,



CAPT. KENNETH LINDNER

... takes over battalion when commander loses life at Cherbourg.

1940, at the age of 21 years, after attending Citizens' Military Training Camp at Fort George G. Meade, Md. He took a three-year course of 30 days each as a member of the army enlisted reserve and also took the army extension course. He is a graduate of Liberty High School, class of 1937, and was drum major two years at the school.

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