

Sgt. M. R. Kost Gets Silver Star For Gallantry

AUG 21 1945

Staff Sergeant Michael R. Kost, United States Marine Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Yost, of 1530 East Second Street, has been awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action.

A veteran of seven years' service with the Marines, Sergeant Kost was wounded twice, first on Feb. 19, 1945, and then again March 10, 1945.

His citation with the Silver Star Medal follows:



S/SGT. MICHAEL R. KOST
... gets Silver Star Medal

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving as a squad leader with a Marine Infantry battalion on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, on March 9, 1945. Sergeant Kost, although fully aware of his own peril and while constantly exposed to intense enemy hand grenade fire, advanced rapidly across open terrain to assault an enemy pillbox from which a devastating barrage of hand grenades was falling upon his organization.

"With utter disregard for his own safety, he attacked the position and destroyed six enemy within by dropping hand grenades into the embrasures of the pillbox. Completely ignoring the painful wounds he had received from the enemy's exploding grenades, Sergeant Kost refused treatment and evacuation until more seriously wounded men of his organization had been treated and removed to the battalion aid station.

"His success in this most hazardous mission enabled his squad to reach their objective and contributed materially to the defeat of the enemy. His indomitable courage and superb fighting spirit were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

A graduate of Bethlehem Technical High School, Sergeant Kost was employed at the Bethlehem Steel Company prior to enlisting in the Marines.

He went overseas in 1943, and participated in the battles of Bougainville, Guadalcanal and Tarawa, assigned to the paramarines. After his company disbanded, he was given a 30-day furlough, and was then sent back to the Pacific and was in the invasion of Iwo Jima with the Fifth Marine Division.

He is now stationed at the Marine Barracks at Norfolk, Va.

Kost, Michael R.

August 21, 1945