

Schnecker, Robert

Local Soldier Has Many Experiences Hauling Arms

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WITH THE FIFTH, Italy.—Private Robert Schnecker of Bethlehem has had many harrowing experiences while hauling ammunition on the Fifth Army front in Italy.

Member of the 362nd Infantry Regiment of the 91st "Powder River" Division, Schnecker, recently was guiding a truck loaded with 81-millimeter mortar shells.

It was a dark night and it was necessary to drive in blackout. Schnecker walked in front of the truck, carrying a luminous reflector, to guide the driver through the wet, foggy blackness. Often, he had to stop and push obstacles from the road so the truck could pass.

A jeep came along and the truck followed its tail light, thereby making better time until reaching a stretch of road almost constantly under fire.

As the jeep and truck slowly crossed this focal point of German fire, shells started landing on the road behind them, each one a little closer. One shell bounced the vehicles up and down but finally they were out of range.

Schnecker's home address is 316 East Fifth Street, Bethlehem.

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