

Hochwarter, Raymond

### Home After ~~Fourteen~~ <sup>11</sup> Months Of Duty <sup>11</sup> 1944 In Mediterranean

Raymond Hochwarter, former Bethlehem boy, whose mother now resides at 632 Pardee Street, Easton, is home on leave after spending 14 months on sea duty in the Mediterranean area.

Hochwarter, who has the rating of water tender 3/C, wears a star for participating in the landing on Sicily last fall when he was serving aboard an LST at that time. His ship was assigned to land supplies and troops in the area near Gela where enemy fire came from planes which strafed and bombed the vessels.

After the engagement he moved on to Salerno with current operations. He reported that there the enemy fire came not from the waterfront but from the hills above the city.

He was at Bizerte, Oran and Algiers. At Palermo he received a leave but there was not much to do there as the city had been declared out of bounds. The Red Cross is playing a vital part in keeping up morale according to the opinion of Hochwarter.

He enlisted in the Navy March 18, 1942, and was sent to Newport, R. I., for boot training. From there he was sent to machinist's school at Great Lakes, Ill., with additional training at Diesel engineering school in Cleveland, Ohio. Later he was sent to Solomons Branch, Md., for amphibious instruction.

Hochwarter attended Bethlehem schools and just previous to his enlistment was employed by a fur company in Easton.

May 11, 1944