

Schweder, John

# Local Soldier Cited For Gallantry

Fire Chief <sup>MAY 1 1944</sup> Schweder is going around with a broad grin and showing everybody a notice of the decoration of his half-brother, Joseph M. Nest, for gallantry in action.

What makes Chief Schweder grin is that it was his brother's knowledge of German that helped him win the citation, the silver star medal. The notice, received from Nest's commanding officer in Italy, Major W. W. Eagles, reads as follows:

"Joseph M. Nest, private first class, Company L, Infantry Regiment, for



JOSEPH M. NEST

gallantry in action February 7-8 on the Anzio Beachhead, Italy. The left flank of the position occupied by Company 1 was subjected to a determined enemy counter-attack by a superior force on the night of February 7-8. Private First Class Nest, accompanied by his platoon sergeant, moved under heavy artillery fire to a position on the edge of a ravine well in advance of friendly front line troops.

"From this position Private First Class Nest, who speaks fluent German, provoked the enemy forces into attacking. Private First Class Nest and his platoon sergeant successfully destroyed a large portion of this force and caused the remainder to return to their positions.

"The courageous action of Private First Class Nest relieved the pressure on the left flank, enabling Company L to hold the position and repulse the counter-attack."

Nest is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Nest, 1272 East Third Street. He was inducted into the Army April 22, 1942. He received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia; Fort Devers, Mass.; Pine Camp, N. Y., and Camp Pickett, Md.

Chief Schweder said that his brother had been used for instructing other soldiers in German while in training.

May 1, 1944