

Jani, Paul J.

Local Soldier, Tank Shot From Under Him 4 Times, Convalesces

JAN 26 1945

HOTEL DENNIS, Atlantic City, N. J.—Wounded twice, with four tanks shot out from under him, were the unusual experiences encountered by Cpl. Paul J. Jani, 20, of 719 Broadway. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jani of that address.

Cpl. Jani, having recently returned to the United States after serving 31 months overseas in Africa, Italy and the British Isles, is staying at the Hotel Dennis. He is a guest of the Atlantic City Army Ground and Service Forces Redistribution Station.

He has been awarded the Purple Heart Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon w-4 battle stars.

Cpl. Jani was a tank gunner with the First Armored Division. This outfit was among the initial American troops to embark for Europe in this conflict. It also has the honor of being the first armored unit to encounter the Germans.

Cpl. Jani was wounded the first

time on May 6, 1943, when his tank was struck by the enemy fire. He suffered burns about the neck and shrapnel wounds in the legs. He was then hospitalized for three months.

He was wounded again in May, 1944, at the Anzio Beachhead in Italy, when his tank hit an enemy mine. He sustained a bruised spine. After receiving treatment at an Army hospital he went right back to the front lines. Prior to this two tanks in which he had been riding were destroyed but he miraculously escaped injury then.

Before he entered the Army Cpl. Jani was graduated from the Bethlehem High School. His plans are to continue his education when the war is over and matriculate at a college.

"The educational provision of the G. I. Bill of Rights sounds good to me," he said. "And I'm going to take advantage of it by going on to college."

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