

Belcak, John P.
" , Michael
" , George
" , Joseph

Sgt. John Belcak Wins Decoration For Gallantry

JAN 8 1945
Sgt. John P. Belcak, one of four sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Belcak, 1118 Furnace Street, Hellertown, in active service, has been awarded the silver star for conspicuous gallantry in action on the Island of Saipan on July 12, 1944. The award was made Dec. 23 last, by Lieut. General H. M. Smith, commanding the 4th Marine Division, U. S. Marine Corps.

In the action during which he won the decoration the sergeant, then a private, was wounded and later on the Island of Tinian he was again wounded. Two of his brothers also have been wounded. Pfc. Michael



SGT. JOHN P. BELCAK

Belcak, with an infantry unit in France, was wounded Aug. 8, and Sgt. George was wounded Dec. 4 while serving with an infantry regiment in Germany. Another boy of the same family is Pvt. Joseph, with a Marine Corps detachment in the South Pacific.

The citation accompanying the silver star which has been received by the parents, reads: "On July 12, 1944, while serving as an automatic rifleman with a Marine infantry battalion, when a member of his patrol was killed by an enemy rifleman located on a rocky ledge Pvt. First Class Belcak completely disregarding his own safety, climbed the cliff and despite heavy fire killed the enemy singlehanded. His outstanding courage and continued determination to annihilate the enemy, despite being painfully wounded on three separate occasions were inspiring to his comrades and in keeping with the highest traditions of the U. S. naval service."

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