

Deleo, Joseph R.

Duty Rewarded



MAY 23 1945

Pfc. Joseph R. DeLeo, son of Anna Labriolo, 1154 Mechanic Street, is a member of the 534th Amphibian Tractor Battalion of the Fourth Marine Division, which was recently awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for "outstanding performance of duty in combat during the seizure of Japanese held islands of Saipan, Tinian and the Marianas, from June 15 to August 1, 1944."

The citation further read: "Unflinching despite heavy casualties, this gallant group pursued the Japanese relentlessly across the entire length of the island, pressing on against bitter opposition for 25 days to crush all resistance in their zone of action. With but a brief rest period in which to reorganize and equip, the Division hurled its full fighting power against the dangerously narrow beaches of Tinian July 24 and rapidly expanded beachheads for the continued landing of troops, supplies and artillery."

Pfc. DeLeo entered the service May 5, 1943, and has been stationed in the Pacific for the past 17 months. He attended Washington Junior High School and was employed by the Vultee Aircraft in Allentown. He also holds the Bronze Star and Good Conduct Medal.

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