

Canning, A. J.

Col. Canning Formally Given Legion of Merit

Awarded for Work
At Hospital at
Pearl Harbor **NOV 2 1943**

Before an audience which included high ranking army officers and 250 specially invited guests, Col. A. J. Canning, of Bethlehem, commanding officer of the new Rhoads General Hospital, Utica, N. Y., Saturday was formally awarded the Legion of Merit by Maj. General Thomas A. Terry, commanding general of the Second Service Command who also dedicated the hospital.

The medal was given to Col. Canning in recognition of his outstanding services in developing hospital facilities at Schofield Barracks, Pearl Harbor, and for his medical services during the Japanese attack. He had been notified several months ago of the award which was made formally Saturday.

The citation reads as follows:
"Austin J. Canning, Colonel, Medical Corps United States Army" For exceptional and meritorious service in the performance of outstanding service as Commanding Officer, Station Hospital Schofield Barracks (now known as North Sector General Hospital), in planning and co-ordinating the expansion of that hospital. During the period commencing December 7, 1941, his performance of duty in establishing and carrying out the handling of battle casualties contributed in a large measure to the saving of a large percentage of such casualties.

A physician and surgeon, Colonel Canning has been in the Army for the past 30 years, 2½ of which was spent in Hawaii. Last Fall he was recalled and placed in command of the 1500 bed hospital at Utica then under construction. He is the son of Mrs. Eva Canning and the late Albert Canning, 730 Broadway.

November 2, 1943