

Crest Avenue.

Sgt. Czar was decorated for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy at Kasbah Mehdi, French Morocco, on November 8, 1942, when he was a corporal. The official citation reads, in part:

"In company with a lieutenant and two enlisted men, he entered the lighthouse on the Kasbah after crossing enemy barbed-wire entanglements while under heavy enemy fire and captured 12 hostile troops who were holding up our advance. This enabled our troops to take the strategic position commanded by the lighthouse.

"Sgt. Czar later demonstrated coolness and bravery above and beyond the call of duty when he assisted the lieutenant in manning an abandoned enemy anti-tank gun in full view of the enemy. Part of the breech of this gun has been removed and the lieutenant was able to fire it only by firing at the base of the anti-tank shell with his sub-machine gun, while Sgt. Czar aimed the anti-tank gun. By this heroic action Czar assisted in destroying one enemy tank and delaying the enemy attack."

IN TOUGH BATTLES

The men participated in the initial landings in November, 1942, and fought for the beaches, airfields, strategic heights and old forts in Morocco and Algeria. Later, many of the doughboys saw their first action against the Germans in Tunisia.

In the Maknassy campaign the Americans were confronted with superb defensive positions of the enemy installed in heights. Artillery pieces including 88-mm. and 210-mm. pieces, mortars and machine guns covered the wadis and draws in the barren flats occupied by American units.

For two weeks the men attacked repeatedly, repulsed several counter-attacks, kept the Germans under constant surveillance and denied them valuable observation points.

These soldiers were among those who forces the enemy to bring up many truck loads of reserves from the Afrika Korps, accomplishing its mission of drawing strength from the Nazis when they could least afford it:

Last April and May, they were among American infantrymen who ripped through the tortuous matted vegetation of the Sedjenane Valley djebels in Tunisia, killing, capturing and unceasingly pushing the enemy out the hills guarding Bizerte.

The men were in action at Faid Pass, Kasserine Pass, El Guettar, Ferryville and elsewhere.

At the conclusion of the Tunisian campaign, many of these soldiers paraded before King George VI and Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark.

Czar, Frank

p2

Feb. 4, 1944