

Timko, Nicholas M.

**WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE**—One enlisted man stood alongside seven high ranking officers to receive the Legion of Merit from Lt.-Gen. Alexander M. Patch, Commanding General of the Seventh Army, in France recently.

He is Technician Third Grade Nicholas M. Timko of Bethlehem, Pa. The "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services" consisted in contributing to a smooth flow of teletype traffic.

"I only lost a lot of sleep," was his modest answer when asked to comment about the activities covered by the citation after General Patch had pinned the medal on his shirt during formal presentation ceremonies at Seventh Army Headquarters, which concluded with troops of the Seventh Army passing in review before the General and the decorated men.

The citation accompanying the award of the Army's fourth highest decoration to the technician reads in part:

**CITATION**

"As teletype maintenance man for the Signal Center, Eastern Base Section, North African Theater of Operations, Tech. 3 Timko's maintenance of the machines and direction in clearing the faults on the lines enabled a smooth flow of teletype traffic.

"In addition, and beyond the normal call of duty, Tech. 3 Timko maintained and kept in service, code and privacy equipment....

"Tech. 3 Timko's unceasing efforts and mechanical ability and ingenuity contributed in large measure to the successful functioning of a vital communications system during an important period."

Inducted at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., March 15, 1941, Tech. 3 Timko took basic training in signal maintenance at Ft. George G. Meade, Md., and came overseas in December, 1942. He landed at Oran, North Africa, participating in the Tunisian campaign. He landed in southern France a day after the invasion began. He also holds the Good Conduct medal and African-European campaign ribbon with two battle stars.

**SISTER A WAC**

When a civilian he was employed as a maintenance engineer at the Bethlehem Steel Company. He lived with his sister, Miss Mary Timko, 639 Atlantic Street, Bethlehem. He was manager of the Italian Ball Club and well known about the South Side.

Another sister, Miss Agnes Timko, a WAC, is somewhere in the States —with the Signal Corps.

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