

# *George Bergbower Is Posthumously Awarded Silver Star Decoration*

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Bergbower near Newton have been notified that their son, Sergeant George F. "Fritz" Bergbower, who was killed in action in Bougainville in the Solomons, January 24, has been posthumously awarded the Silver Star decoration for gallantry in action.

The citation was awarded by Lieutenant General M. F. Harmon, commanding United States forces in the South Pacific, April 2. It tells how Sergeant Bergbower was killed while attempting to rescue one of the men in his patrol who had been wounded and was exposed to enemy fire. It reads in part:

## **Awarded April 2**

"By direction of the president, the Silver Star was awarded posthumously on April 2, 1944, by Lieutenant General Milton F. Harmon, commanding United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area to George F. Bergbower, (36029574), Sergeant, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action at Bougainville in the Solomon Islands, on January 20, 1944.

"When one of the men in his patrol was wounded and fell, helplessly exposed to enemy fire, Sergeant Bergbower crept from behind a log, which had afforded him concealment, and attempted to evacuate the casualty. In doing so he was fatally wounded. His action was exemplary of courage and determination, inspirational to the men in his organization, and in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service."