

BOYS IN ITALY SEND XMAS CHECK TO GEORGE STALEY

~~11/30/44~~
BUDDIES AT THE FRONT REMEMBER
WOUNDED NEWTON BOY
WITH \$550 GIFT

Sgt. George Staley who is in a Chicago hospital fighting to save a leg that was shattered by German shrapnel during the fighting in Italy will have the satisfaction this Christmas of knowing that he is remembered by the boys in his outfit who are still slugging it out with the Jerries in Northern Italy.

George has just received a check for \$550.00 from the "gang" overseas, a sum made up by contributions from the different boys who knew him and wanted to take this means of making his sacrifice a bit easier to bear.

And that's what it did, too. George couldn't help letting a tear or two drop as he read the letter that accompanied the check, the largest ever received by any of the boys in the hospital from their buddies. It was enough to make him want to throw away those crutches and get back into the fighting and help those buddies bring the war to a quick end.

That, of course, was impossible, so the next best thing he could do was to write his mother who resides north of Newton and tell her what such a remembrance meant to him. Here's what he wrote:

"Dear Mom: I will drop you a line tonight. I fell pretty good and am leaving for Battle Creek, Mich., November 30 for sixty days, then will come back here for another operation.

"Well, Mom, I had my Christmas today when I got a check from the boys overseas with a check in it for \$550.00. Howard Rainge, Dan Beevers and M. S. Johnson collected it in the company. It was the biggest ever for a soldier to receive in this hospital, the officer said. With it was a swell letter saying I will never be forgotten in that outfit. Sgt. Fred Tomer wrote the letter and sent the money.

"Mom, it makes a fellow think that there are still some good buddies, and also the officers of the 713th said I was the best liked guy ever in the company." Love, GEORGE.