

Private M. L.

McCormack Is

Cited for Valor

Jan. 2, 1945
Newton Man Is Awarded the
Bronze Star and Purple Heart
Medals for Rescuing Wounded

Private Maurice L. McCormack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy McCormack of Newton, has been awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals and has been recommended to receive the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

The Purple Heart was awarded him September 17 for wounds received in battle sometime during August, and on October 14 he received the Bronze Star, awarded him for gallantry in action. He received the following official citation:

(1) For giving aid to casualties under fire, while the company was tied down in their foxholes.

(2) For giving aid to a soldier who had been shot and wounded by a German sniper, while the same sniper was shooting at him.

(3) For going out between the lines and assisting three wounded soldiers out when other aid men had refused.

(4) For crawling into the enemy lines at night, rescuing a wounded soldier, who could not be reached during daylight.

The battalion with which he was connected during the siege and capture of Brest was awarded the Presidential citation.

Captured Hundred Germans

Maurice has also had the experience of capturing over a hundred German prisoners with only the assistance of two Infantrymen. On this occasion a German officer came out under a white flag and stated that he had some German soldiers who were ready to surrender, but wanted to surrender to someone wearing a Red Cross emblem in order that they might be protected from the French by the Geneva convention.

Private McCormack volunteered for this service, and two soldiers were sent along with him, armed with machine guns. One soldier stationed himself at the back of the building where the Germans were quartered, the other at the front, while Maurice went in and brought the Germans out, and escorted them to the American lines.

The last letter from him, dated December 4, stated that he was then stationed in Germany in a hospital set up in an old school building that had many battle scars on it. At that time he was working in the dispensary of the hospital.