

Sergeant Estle I. Short Is Cited for Heroic Action

June 9, 1945

With the Second Infantry Division in Germany.—Sergeant Estle I. Short, of Willow Hill recently was awarded the Bronze Star medal for gallantry in action on February 6, 1945, by the commanding general, Major General Walter M. Robertson.

The citation reads as follows:

On February 6, 1945, a medium tank platoon of Company A, 741st Tank battalion was supporting elements of the Second Infantry division in their attack on a hill near Harpersheid, Germany. The platoon leader was leading his platoon around a mine field when his tank became bogged down in a bomb crater. His tank, being under full hostile observation of the enemy, was immediately subjected to heavy enemy anti-tank and artillery fire.

Rescued Platoon Leader

“At this time Sergeant Estle I. Short, a tank commander of the first section of tanks of the platoon, realizing that his platoon leader’s tank would soon be knocked out if it remained in its precarious position, swiftly maneuvered his own tank into a towing position. Then, despite heavy artillery, anti-tank and small arms fire, Sergeant Short fearlessly dismounted from his tank and with utter disregard for his own personal safety proceeded to hook up the necessary cables to the bogged tank and then directed the driver in retrieving the tank from its disabled position. Both tanks were then able to rejoin the platoon.

“Sergeant Short’s heroic action allowed the entire platoon to carry on in support of the Infantry. When confronted with the full firepower of the complete platoon, the German vehicles withdrew and the tanks moved forward to join the Infantry in consolidating their newly won positions.

“The determination, devotion to duty, and heroic action displayed by Sergeant Short reflects great credit upon himself, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service. Presented April 25, 1945.”