

re of Award

SILVER STAR

YES

ment Status If Living

Citation

For distinguishing himself by **gallantry** in action on 11 December 1944, in * * * *. Sergeant Tumas was a member of one of three tank destroyer crews supporting an infantry battalion in the attack on a * * * town. On the night of 10 December 1944 the enemy succeeded in infiltrating to the rear of the town. After a heavy pre-dawn barrage of artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, three enemy Royal Tiger tanks entered the town. One of the destroyers knocked out two of the tanks at ranges of less than 100 yards and forced the third to withdraw. Shortly thereafter the enemy again attacked with a large number of self-propelled guns. Although ~~xxxx~~ hopelessly outnumbered, the three destroyer crews remained at their posts and fearlessly returned the enemy fire until all of the destroyers were knocked out. In the course of this gallant action six members of the destroyer crews were killed and five were ~~wounded~~ injured. The heroic devotion to duty and the dauntless and valiant fighting spirit of all members of the crews aided materially in repelling the attack and denying the town to the enemy. The same night Sergeant Tumas volunteered to stay in an old building ~~k~~ in order to aid the wounded men of his platoon. On the following morning he was instantly killed when struck by a mortar shell that came through the roof. The gallantry and ~~unter~~ disregard for personal safety displayed by Sergeant Tumas reflect the highest credit on himself and the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States.

Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Residence: 816 Irving Street,
Vandergrift, Pennsylvania.

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