

# Elder War Hero

ANZIO BEACHHEAD, Italy, March 8. (AP)—PFC Paul O. Elder, 25, 59 Kennedy Homes, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., knocked out a German Mark VI Tiger Tank with one shot from a range of 50 yards, and at the next moment had his own tank destroyer shot from under him by a Nazi Covering tank in fighting that swirled around a trapped British unit on the beachhead.

His wife, Arlene Elder, tearfully listened to the following account of her husband's heroism, when contacted at home today by The DAILY NEWS:

A high-ranking officer who witnessed the feat of the doughboy, said "He had the guts to stick to his guns, and he got him."

The action occurred at daybreak, and Elder, a gunner on the tank destroyer, could see enemy tanks turning into a road that climbed to the crest of a hill, his story of the engagement:

## British Surrounded

"The Germans had the British surrounded, and we went in to get them. It was about 5 or 5:30 o'clock, and just getting light. We knew the German tank had to come into an exposed position on the top of the hill, and we just sat there waiting for him.

"He never had a chance to use his own guns. I fired one round and hit him right in the front. The tank seemed to shudder and stop. The crew made no effort to leave the tank, and we concluded that they were all killed by concussion.

"Just at that moment, a tank which followed the Mark VI up the hill caught us in its sights and we were knocked out. The shell hit us right in front, and the concussion was pretty bad. Shrapnel was flying around inside the tank destroyer and fire broke out. Everybody in the crew but myself got burns, but I had my face in the sights and wore gloves, and I guess that saved me.

"I don't remember much what happened in the next few minutes. It was every man for himself. We piled out of the tank destroyer and jumped into a ditch and pulled the wounded in after us."