



RECEIVES HONOR—Raoul K. La Certe, 26, (above), 818½ Steuben street, torpedoman's mate, first class, of the navy, has been awarded a Bronze Star medal for heroic and meritorious service in action against the enemy in the South Pacific.

Bronze Medal Awarded To Raoul K. La Certe

Raoul K. La Certe, 26, 818½ Steuben street, a torpedoman's mate, first class, of the navy, was awarded a Bronze Star medal January 29 in Boston, Mass., which has been received here by his wife. The medal is for heroic and meritorious service in the South Pacific, where he will be reassigned from Shoemaker, Cal., where he is awaiting reassignment.

He was home on a 30-day leave from November 8 to December 6 after his return to the States. He is a son of Wilbrod I. La Certe, 1212 Merrill avenue, and Mrs. Iva La Certe, who lives in California.

The citation accompanying the award of the Bronze medal was signed by Vice Adm. T. C. Kincaid, commander of the Seventh fleet, and reads as follows:

"For distinguishing himself by heroic and meritorious service in action against the enemy. As crew chief aboard PT 142 from December, 1943, to August, 1944, he made 36 combat patrols against Japanese shipping in New Britain and New Guinea, in which 10 enemy barges were sunk or destroyed.

"On 12 occasions when he was under fire from enemy surface craft and shore batteries, he always displayed outstanding courage, and his leadership was an inspiration to his men. He remained exceptionally cool throughout all actions even though enemy shells scored hits on his boat and on one occasion he was grazed by a bullet. His conduct distinguished him among those performing duties of the same character."