

Captain Abdallah Is Home, Silent Upon His Air Exploits

"Fall River sure looks good to me after being away so long," said Captain J. Edward Abdallah, who is enjoying a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Abdallah of 18 Alden Street, after having served 15 months overseas.



CAPT. ABDALLAH

Captain Abdallah, who entered the service in July, 1941, and received his training as aviation cadet with the Army Air Force Training Detachment, Sequoia Field, Calif., left for overseas duty early in 1943.

While stationed in North Africa, Captain Abdallah was praised by Lieutenant Colonel Frank Allen for his splendid work during a raid on Brenner Pass on Nov. 10, 1943.

One of his narrow experiences revealed by the War Department last August, was while serving as bombardier aboard a United States Army Flying Fortress, that was shot down by Italian anti-aircraft fire over San Giovanni, just after the ship had bombed the ferry terminus. The crew landed in the sea near Catania, Sicily, and approximately 30 minutes later, was picked up by a British destroyer. They were then taken to Malta, and from there flown to Tunis and to their bases.

Nineteen hours later, the crew carried out a mission over Rome and bombed railroad marshalling yards.

"I'm anxious to get back into action again," said Captain Abdallah, "but this time I hope it's the Pacific."

Reticent, Captain Abdallah said he didn't like to talk about his experiences and just tell the folks that "I'm home enjoying a leave."

A native of Fall River, the 24-year-old pilot is a graduate of BMC Durfee High School in the Class of 1935, and was formerly employed as an A & P store manager in New Bedford. He entered the service in July of 1941 and trained at Bradley Field, Windsor Locks, Conn. He received his Aviation Cadet training at the Air Corps Replacement Training Center, Santa Ana, Calif., and has served in North Africa, England and Italy.

Captain Abdallah is well-known as a weight lifter and has competed in many weight lifting contests. He is also a linguist, conversing in French, Portuguese and Arabic.

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