WILLIAM O'KEEFE



Wm. O'Keefe To Get Soldiers Medal

William O'Keefe will receive the Soldier's Medal for heroism displayed in saving the life of Frank Lyons during a stream crossing problem earlier this spring. O'Keefe was recommended for the medal shortly after the incident but word that the recommendation had been accepted has but recently been received.

The Soldier's Medal is one of the highest awards an enlisted man can earn during non-combatant duty. It is given for exceptional bravery displayed above and beyond the call of duty when not actually engaged with the enemy.

O'Keefe earned the medal by saving the life of Frank Lyons who had started to cross Drowning Creek weighted with full field equipment and a roll of wire. Unable to keep his head above the water he called for help and O'Keefe, himself weighted with field equipment, disregarded his own safety and swam to the submerged Lyons and held him above water until a rope could be thrown to them.

The 23 year old Irishman is radio-visual chief with the first battalion communication section and holds the rank of T-4. O'Keefe recently returned from furlough after spending a month in the hospital suffering from spinal menengitis. The medal will be presented to him with proper ceremony as soon as it arrives.