

SERGEANT PETER de PASQUA US Army (Deceased)



Born on 24 February 1893 in Portugal, Peter de Pasqua immigrated to the United States where he enlisted in the US Army in 1916.

During World War I, SGT de Pasqua served as one of 400 members of the Corps of Intelligence Police (CIP) for the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF). He worked as a Counterintelligence Agent in the province of Bourgogne around the city of Beaune. A master of several languages, he was able to move freely and unnoticed while posing as an interpreter with the Red Cross. Under the cover name "Pietro," he infiltrated a German-sponsored subversive group in France. He acted as their courier, intercepted and translated their mail, and reported their plans of sabotage to his section chief. Consequently, SGT de Pasqua helped to

prevent enemy sabotage aimed at the AEF. As one of the top agents in the CIP, SGT de Pasqua was the first member of the Corps of Intelligence Police to be awarded the Citation for Meritorious Service. He also received the Purple Heart in 1932 after his mission was declassified.

During the war, SGT de Pasqua courted the daughter of the owner of the café where he ate. Proving his ability to keep his cover and loyalty to his duty, Pietro, as his fiancée knew him, surprised her on their wedding day by appearing in the uniform of the American Expeditionary Force and having a different name. After he was discharged in 1919, he and his wife stayed in France.

SGT de Pasqua was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988 and, in 1995, de Pasqua Barracks at Fort Huachuca was dedicated in his honor.

SGT de Pasqua's mission is fully described in the book *Military Intelligence: Its Heroes and Legends*, compiled by Diane L. Hamm (1987).



The Corps of Intelligence Police, December 1919. SGT de Pasqua is the first on the left in the last row.