

Galloway

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agement ensued until the enemy retired.

The plane which your son was aboard, one of a flight of 20 torpedo bombers and fighter planes, took off from the Kalinin Bay at approximately 7 a. m., to participate in a strike against the enemy ships attacking the task unit. The plane in which your son was aboard, with the rest of the squadron, attacked the enemy ships and after releasing the bomb-load, proceeded to Tacloban airfield on Leyte island where it landed.

"When it was noted that the plane required repairs, another plane of the same type was obtained. This plane left Tacloban airfield at approximately 4:15 p. m., to return to the ship but upon arrival at the ship, it was impossible to take the plane aboard so the plane was instructed to return to the airfield. The last radio report was received at 6:40 p. m., at which time the plane was over Leyte Gulf. No further information was received of the plane or its occupants and it failed to arrive at the airfield.

"In view of the fact that the circumstances surrounding the loss of the plane which your son was aboard were such that a strong probability exists that he lost his life when the plane was shot down or crashed somewhere in the vicinity of Leyte Gulf, because his name has not appeared on any lists or reports of personnel liberated from Japanese prisoner of war camps, because no official nor unconfirmed reports have been received that he survived, and in view of the length of time that has elapsed since he was reported to be missing in action, I am reluctantly forced to the conclusion that he is deceased. . . ."

Galloway was cited by Adm. Chester Nimitz for performance of duty from June 25 to October 25 in the Palau, Marianas and Philippine islands.

Gordon Galloway was born September 20, 1923 in Davenport, Ia., and he came to Wisconsin Rapids while in grade school. He was graduated from Lincoln High school in 1941 and was employed in the laboratory in the Iron division of the Consolidated Water Power and Paper company prior to his entry into service in October, 1942.

The 22-year-old youth received training at Great Lakes, Ill., received his aviation machinist's rating at Memphis, Tenn., then had further training at Pensacola, Fla., and Seattle, Wash., before moving to San Diego, Calif., where he was assigned to sea duty. He was tail gunner on a torpedo bomber.



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