



SERGT. HILARY GILBERT, JR.

Hilary Gilbert, Jr. Considered Killed

Sergt. Hilary Gilbert, Jr., AAF, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hilary Gilbert, of 77 Balview Avenue, missing in action over Pap Island since August 10, 1944, is now considered killed, according to word received by his parents.

The 20-year-old aerial photographer was slightly injured over Yap on July 14 when his plane was shot down. The crew was rescued after three days on a raft and Gilbert returned to active duty on July 28. When his B-24 was on a combat mission over Yap on August 10, radio contact was lost. According to Japanese reports Gilbert and another crew member bailed out after the ship was struck by anti-aircraft fire, and landed on a reef on the island.

Captured by the enemy, the two airmen were placed on a Jap sub-chaser and sent to Palau, and on August 19 were reportedly placed aboard the cruiser Kinu bound for Manila by way of Cebu. No further records have been uncovered, the War Department has written.

The Army has set March 12, 1946, as Gilbert's presumptive date of death. A graduate of Granby High School, he was inducted in February, 1943, and went overseas in October as an AAF photographer. He was a member of Ocean View Baptist Church, where memorial services will be held Sunday at 3:30 p. m. with the pastor, the Rev. Andrew M. Colthorp, officiating.