

1944

2 WELLS COUNTY FLYERS MISSING

Were Members Of Same Bomber Crew

(Special to The Journal-Gazette)

BLUFFTON, July 10—Two Wells county army flyers, Second Lts. William Max Boltin, 25, son of Ralph Boltin, of Liberty Center, and Louis Mossburg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Mossburg of Warren, formerly of Liberty Center, are reported missing in action in the South Pacific war area since June 23. Telegrams to that effect were received this morning by relatives here.

Both flyers were known to have been members of the same bomber crew, Lt. Boltin serving as pilot and Lt. Mossburg being the navigator. The message to Lt. Boltin's father stated that he was missing over the island of Yap in the South Pacific, while that to Lt. Mossburg's parents merely reported their son missing in the South Pacific since the same date.

The two lieutenants were both graduated from the Liberty Center high school, Boltin with the class of 1935 and Mossburg with the class of 1938. The parents of Mossburg moved to Warren later. Another son, Pvt. Donald Mossburg, is in army service.

Both of the flyers had been on a number of missions and only last week Boltin's father received a letter from him informing him that the bomber on which he served had shot down two more Zeros. Boltin left Bluffton to report for duty the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.