

Lynch, Thomas J.

**CATASAUQUA AIRMAN  
BECOMES BATTLE ACE**

Captain Thomas J. Lynch, 26-year-old Catasauque Army flier, became an ace as he celebrated the end of 1942, in glorious style by shooting down two Jap planes in a 20-minute scramble over the Puna area Thursday.

It brought Lynch's score to four Jap Zero planes in two fights in less than a week and he was credited officially with six planes since he shot down two Japs last May when flying a P-39.

A flier becomes an ace after shooting down five or more enemy planes.

The flier who had already been decorated with a silver star for his previous fights against the Japs had a flight into battle twice with war

correspondents in the New Guinea zone hailing the feat as "virtually shooting the enemy from the skies in a series of savage sweeps."

The Catasauqua flier's parents had received information on Thursday of the earlier flight this week. They are Mr. and Mrs. William Lynch, 426 Walnut Street, of that borough.

JAN 2 1943

January 2, 1943