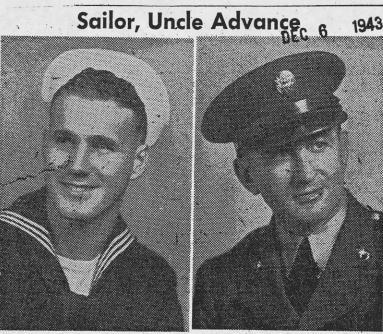
Knecht, Harold Gerald

December 6, 1943



COXSWAIN HAROLD KNECHT PFC. GERALD KNECHT One of Nazareth's native sons, Harold Knecht, 21, is home on a 14-day leave, after having seen action in Northwest Africa, Sicily, Italy and Salerno. Knecht has a rating of Coxswain in the U. S. Navy and has been in the service for a year and a half. He received his basic training at Newport, R. I., and then stationed at Norfolk; Va., and the Solomon Islands, Md., before going overseas eight months ago. He is a graduate of the Nazareth High School, class of 1940, and prior to his induction was employed by the Hercules' Cement Co., Nazareth. He is the proud possessor of campaign bars from the American and European theaters, African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns. Following his 14 day visit at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Knecht, 408 Belvidere Street, Nazareth, he will report to the Solomon Islands, Md. Coxswain Knecht's uncle, Pfc. Gerald H. Knecht, enlisted at the same time, May 28, 1942, but in a different branch of the service, the U. S. Army. Pfc. Knecht is stationed at Keesler Field, Miss., as a senior instructor of a ground crew, having completed a course in airplane mechanics on January 30 of this year. He is now studying an advanced course in airplane mechanics. Prior to his induction, Pfc. Knecht was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Company.