

Black, Joseph L.  
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## Father, Son Meet In Pacific War Area After Two Years

DEC 9 1944

The story of a joyous reunion between father and son in the far-off South Pacific was told by the son when he returned to Bethlehem on furlough recently. Joseph W. Black, GM. 2-c., USN, came back to Bethlehem after more than two years at sea to tell of meeting his father, Joseph L. Black, BM. 2-c., of the Seabees, on one of the many islands in the South Pacific area. He had not seen his dad since the latter enlisted two years ago upon learning that his son's ship, the USS O'Brien, had been sunk.

GM. 2-c. Black steamed into the harbor of this far-away island and learned that his dad's Seabees unit was stationed there. The officers of his ship gave him an 11-day furlough on shore in order that he might spend that time with his father. This was several months ago and during the furlough, on October 6, BM. 2-c. Black observed his 40th birthday anniversary.

Father and son celebrated the event and officers of the ship and the Seabees gave a big party for them. Always companionable, the two spent eleven days together, the young man told his family on his recent visit home. He also told them that he believes his father also will be given a furlough home, in the near future.

The Blacks resided in Bethlehem at the time their son enlisted in the Navy in September, 1941, before Pearl Harbor, and when he was only 17 years old. Before his 18th birthday his ship, the O'Brien, was sunk and his father resolved to enlist also. Turned down by the Navy because of his age, he was accepted by the Seabees two years ago and has been in service since that time.

When he left for service Mrs. Black, Sr., moved to Northampton R. D., where she now resides.

GM. Black was married recently to the former Violet Petros, of Al-

### Reunion in Pacific



GM 2-c Joseph W. Black and his father, BM 2-c Joseph L. Black, when they met recently in the South Pacific after two years separation.

lentown, who accompanied him to California at the completion of his recent furlough. Before entering the service both father and son were employed by Reichard Coulston, Inc.

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