

U. S. Destroyer To Bear Name Of Lieut. Haines

JUN 16 1943
Former Bethlehem
Man Killed While
On Naval Duty

When the new U. S. S. Haines, a destroyer escort vessel of the U. S. Navy, slides down the ways at Orange, Texas, the end of July, she will bear the name of a man who, for four years, made his home in Bethlehem. She will be christened by his widow and carry the Stars and Stripes into battle for the cause in which he bravely gave his life.

The Haines is named after Lieut. Richard Alexander Haines, U. S. N. R., whose death occurred the night of November 30, 1942 off Guadalcanal in an explosion aboard his ship. Lieut. Haines has been awarded the Navy Cross, posthumously, for the services set forth in the following citation signed by W. F. Halsey, Admiral, U. S. Navy:

"For extraordinary heroism in the line of his profession as Assistant to the Damage Control Officer of a ship that was badly damaged during the action against Japanese naval forces off Guadalcanal on the night of November 30, 1942. Asphyxiating gas was generated by the explosion and penetrated Central Station. When the presence of this gas was detected, all personnel were ordered to abandon the station. Lieutenant Haines knowing his ship was severely damaged and that he could best be of service in controlling the damage by remaining at his station, chose to remain with the Damage Control Officer and assist him in his duties, well knowing he was doing so at the risk of his life. As a result of his unselfish and heroic action he lost his life in the performance of his duty. His valorous conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

The Globe-Times has been informed of Lieut. Haines' death and the circumstances surrounding it by his widow, Mary V. Haines, who resides at Palo Alto, Calif. She says that she is in expectation of receipt of the Purple Heart and certificate, which was to be forwarded to her as soon as available.

Mrs. Haines and her children will continue to make their home in Palo Alto, she says in her letter. "It would appear," Mrs. Haines writes, "that my husband must have realized very keenly his danger, for before his ship was sunk, he was to be opened only in event I am officially reported missing in action or reported a casualty. In it he advised me what to do and his plans for the children. In the case of his son, he said, 'no matter where he goes to college, encourage him to take naval or military training, not only for the training, but to be of service to his country should the emergency arise.'"

Lieut. Haines was born in Haines Falls, N. Y. He attended Tennessee Military Institute, Sweetwater, Tenn. and the U. S. Naval Academy,

Haines, Richard A.

Annapolis, Md. In June, 1937 he accepted a position with Reichard-Coulston Co., Inc., of Bethlehem, as assistant plant manager. In May, 1941, as a former "Annapolis Man" he was "called." He received his commission as lieutenant in the U. S. Naval Reserve and reported for active duty August 11, 1941 in the Navy Department, Washington, D. C. After December 7, 1941 Lieut. Haines requested sea duty, and received his orders to join the Pacific Fleet. The name of his ship can not be divulged at this time. He was killed November 30, 1942.

He is survived by his wife and children, Mary Jane, age 9; Richard A. Jr., age 7; Barbara Ann, age 5; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Haines, of Haines Falls, N. Y.; a brother, Lieut. Commander John R. Haines, USNR of Elizabeth, N. J. who is serving "somewhere in the Atlantic"; a sister Jane E. Haines

of Haines Falls, N. Y., and another sister, Mrs. David E. Showers Jr. of Kingston, N. Y.

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