

Smoyer, Walter S.

Wife Still Hopeful Husband Survived Army Plane Crash

Hope that her husband may still be found alive despite discouraging reports following the crash of an Army transport plane 16 miles off the coast of Oregon was held today by Mrs. Mildred M. Smoyer, 1414 Cortland Street, this city.

The Army plane, with Pfc. Walter S. Smoyer reportedly a crew member, is reported to have crashed while enroute to Tacoma, Wash., from Sedalia, Mo., sometime Monday afternoon. A search has been in progress since the crash, but neither the wreckage or any member of the crew has been located, it was understood.

Mrs. Smoyer told the Globe-Times this afternoon that the first report she received of the crash was by telephone from her husband's commanding officer late Monday night, reporting that the plane had radioed its position as 16 miles at sea and "out of gas", with the crew prepared to "bail out."

Yesterday a telegram was received by the wife, advising that a search is in progress by all available craft in the locality and that she would be kept informed of developments. She also received a letter from her husband yesterday, mailed Sunday, advising that his plane had reached Oakland, Cal., and would leave next day for Tacoma, Wash.

Pfc. Smoyer entered the service nearly three years ago and had informed his wife that he thought he soon would be "up for discharge." He has a two and one-half year old



PFC. WALTER S. SMOYER

son, Thomas. NOV 28 1945
Pfc. Smoyer was born in Bethlehem, but resided in Hellertown the greater part of his life. He was employed at Bethlehem Steel Company. His parents are deceased, but he has two sisters, Mrs. Francis Doddy Jr., Hellertown, and Betty Smoyer, a student at East Stroudsburg State Teachers College. His wife is the former Mildred Hartzell of Bethlehem.

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