

Shipmates Send \$1,000 Bond To Son of Man Killed by Japs

Stuart Wayne Flockencier, 15-month-old son of the late Forest Delbert Flockencier, motor machinist's mate 1/c, U. S. Coast Guard, recently received a \$1,000 War Bond as a token of the high regard and affection in which his father was held by crew members who served with him on an LST.

With the bond, which came to the widow, Mrs. Lillian Flockencier, was a letter written by the commanding officer of the ship, Lt. C. C. Pearson, which told the young widow that it was hard to express the feelings of a group of men but they had held Mr. Flockencier in such high esteem that they wanted to do something to show their feelings.

He told her that they had hoped originally to make the bond out in the child's name but since that was unknown to them, they were sending it to her to be used for the child's future education.

Mr. Flockencier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Flockencier of 586 Mary street, was killed in action April 1, 1945, while participating



FOREST D. FLOCKENCIER

in the Okinawa invasion. The family was notified six weeks after the action there. At that time, Mrs. Flockencier and the child were living with her husband's parents. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lentz of Detroit, Mich., and she returned to there to live last Christmas.

Since the first notice that came to the parents here, the family has had two letters of additional information, the first from the commanding officer of the ship, the second from a Florida man who was seriously wounded at the same time.

The information received told the family the LST had pulled close to the Okinawa shore to land troops on Easter Sunday. Mr. Flockencier and the Florida Coast Guardsman had laid down their rifles, believing the immediate danger to be over, and started to pull up the landing nets when the Japs started to board the ship. It was believed the enemy had come to the side of the ship under cover of the darkness and possibly climbed on the net.

Mr. and Mrs. Flockencier were told their son had died instantly from a bullet wound in the neck. He was buried at sea with military honors.