

COUNTY MAN REPORTED DEAD IN SO. PACIFIC

Mrs. Gilbert E. Youmans, of 213 Elm avenue, Swarthmore, has received word that her son, Lieut. Joseph MacArthur Youmans, who was captured after the fall of Corregidor, was killed in action.

A War Department telegram to that effect was received on July 24 by Lt. Youman's widow, the former Peggy Reoch, who makes her home with her parents in South Orange, N. J.

Lieut. Youmans graduated from Cornell University in 1923 and went directly to the Philippines with the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific Company. He last returned home in 1939. In 1940 his marriage took place in Manila. His wife was evacuated in the spring of '41 from Manila with a group of women. Their son, Joseph MacArthur Youmans, Jr., was born in South Orange on December 13 of that year, six days after Pearl Harbor.

Lieut. Youmans escaped from Manila on New Year's Eve "about two jumps ahead of the Japs" according to a letter from him received by his mother in April, 1942. He reported immediately for active duty and was assigned to the engineers. He fought through the bitterly contested campaign and after Corregidor's fall was known to be a prisoner of Japan. His mother talked earlier this month with Lieut. G. K. Petritz one of the few survivors of the De-

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cember, 1944, bombing of the unmarked Japanese prison ship, the Oraku Maru, which was removing 1600 American prisoners from Bilid Prison in the Philippines. He knew Lt. Youmans to be on board the ship but admitted that chances of escape by men, many of whom were unconscious from lack of oxygen in the crowded hold of the prison ship, were slight.

Lieut. Youmans' brother, Capt. Edgar M. Youmans, has served overseas in the European area for the past three years. At his request he has gone directly to the Pacific theater. Capt. Youmans is also a Cornell graduate in the class of '34.

At Cornell Lieut. Youmans was a varsity letter man in lacrosse, a member of Psi Upsilon, Sphinx Head, Red Key, Scabbard and Blade, the Officers Club, and a captain in the ROTC. He was chairman of the Class Day Committee and managing editor of the Cornellian. He was

a graduate of Swarthmore High School.

His father, the late Gilbert E. Youmans, fought in the Spanish-American War. A cousin, Lieut. Arthur Youmans, was killed in action on July 4, 1943.

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