

Arlington Captain Reported as Killed

Marine Fighter Pilot on Duty
in Guadalcanal Area—Pro-
moted Month Ago

Capt. Bertel R. Rasmussen, 23, of 54 Laurel avenue, Arlington, honor graduate of William and Mary College and of the Naval Air School at Corpus Christi, Tex., has been reported killed in action in the Pacific area. Notification from the War Department was received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bertel J. Rasmussen of the Arlington address.

Word of the United States Marine Air Corps pilot's death came within less than a month after announcement of his promotion to captain. He was a fighter pilot, last reported on active duty in the Guadalcanal area.

Capt. Rasmussen was born in Kearny and was graduated from Kearny High School in 1937. At William and Mary College he was a member of the track and swimming teams, president of Lambda Chi and vice president of the Seven Society, student honor group.

He enlisted in the Navy after graduation from college, spent sev-



Capt. Bertel R. Rasmussen

eral months as a seaman, second class, and then was transferred to aviation training. At the air school he so distinguished himself that he was named sub-commander of a company, directing three platoons of 90 cadets. Upon graduation he was among 20 in his class who chose to enlist in the Marine Air Corps.

Capt. Rasmussen was home on furlough in June, 1942, and left for active duty in the South Pacific.