

Full Military Honors Given William Ambrose Ochs, Sunday Morning

June 9, 1942

William Ambrose Ochs of Newton vicinity, who lost his life in a crash of a bomber near Mobile, Alabama, Wednesday night, was laid to rest in the parish cemetery at Sainte Marie, Sunday morning. Rev. Fr. Francis C. Schlepphorst sang the requiem military Mass at Assumption church, and members of the American Legion furnished the guard of honor and firing squad.



Father Schlepphorst was assisted in the Mass by Edward J. Shoffstall and Harry Hunzinger, who are in the United States Navy at Great Lakes, and by coincidence were home on leave.

In his sermon, Father Schlepphorst paid a beautiful tribute to William and said that as a good boy, a christian boy, he was assured of a place in heaven. He pointed out that Christ was patriotic and the patriotism and religion go together. "We are born with certain inalienable rights, the four freedoms," he said, "and we must fight to preserve them. The United States is the only country that is large enough and good enough to do this." **Seemed to Dive**

Private Maurice R. Page, who had served with William since his enlistment and who accompanied his body to Newton, stated that a farmer saw the crash of the bomber, which crashed with the death of seven officers and men. He said that it was cruising along at a medium height and that all at once one of the motors seemed to quit and it went into a dive so quickly that none of the occupants were able to leap from the plane in their parachutes.

It crashed in a forest and caught fire. Only one man was thrown out, his body being found some distance away.

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Born Near Newton

William Ambrose Ochs was born on a farm near Newton, January 28, 1920, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Ochs. He was educated in the schools there and had always resided in this vicinity until he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps at Jefferson Barracks about seven months ago.

Recently he had been assigned to Key field, Meridian, Mississippi, and was on a routine training flight when he was killed. By a coincidence his funeral came exactly six months after the treacherous Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor.

Besides his parents, he leaves four brothers and three sisters, Delbert, John, Samuel, Albert, Hazel, Emilyann and Edna Ochs at home; one grandfather, William Miller of near Newton; and many other relatives and friends.