

Newton Man Was On Destroyer Which Wiped Out Jap Ships

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The destroyer Burns wiped out an entire convoy of four Japanese ships in the Marshall islands area on January 31, the Navy Department has announced.

The Burns, operating with the carrier task force that opened the attack on the Marshalls, sank a tanker, a medium cargo vessel and two smaller craft. The destroyer was commanded by 38 year old Commander Donald T. Eller of Glenwood road, Petersburg, Virginia. Eller has ribbons for the second Niccaraguan campaign, the Yangtze valley campaign, and for the Casablanca, Wake and Gilbert islands campaigns. Torpedoman Third Class Thomas Newsome of Newton is a member of the crew.

Went to Fliers' Rescue

"The Burns was attached to a carrier task force," the Navy announcement said, "and was seen to rescue Navy fliers forced down at sea. Returning toward the task force, she encountered a tanker, a medium cargo vessel and two smaller craft, and sank all with gunfire."

A 2,100 ton vessel, the Burns was launched in August, 1942, at the Charleston, South Carolina, Navy Yard. It is armed with eight 5-inch guns.