

ROBERT W. CUMMINGS

The Alumni Office has received news during the past few weeks of the death of two alumni serving in the armed forces of the United States—Second Lieutenant Robert R. Paffillo, '38, of Atlanta, Ga., and Robert W. Cummings, B.S.M.E., '37, Lieutenant United States Navy.

Lieutenant Cummings was killed September 7 at Key West, Fla., as he was taking off an airplane for patrol duty at the Panama Canal.

Lt. Cummings entered service July, 1938, as naval aviation cadet. He was later made pilot of a patrol bomber in the Canal Zone, subsequently sent to Key West base, and then returned to the Canal Zone. His patrol duty, as commander with a crew of five, took him to the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador. On one occasion when young Cummings was sent out to look for survivors of a torpedoed merchantman, he flew low enough over the burning ship to feel the heat of the flames. He sighted a life boat that had rigged up a sail, landed his plane, and picked up the nine survivors.

Surviving Lt. Cummings are his parents at West Englewood, N. J., and his wife, the former Mary Armstrong of Spokane, Wash., who is at present living at their home in Key West.

Plane Crash Victim



Lt. Robert Cummings Jr.

Lt. Cummings' Rites,
Navy Plane Crash Victim

Funeral services for Lt. Robert W. Cummings Jr., 1109 Bromley av., Teaneck, who was killed Monday when the Navy patrol plane he was piloting crashed on the lake off in Key West, Fla., will be held at 8 p. m. tomorrow at the Teaneck Methodist Church.

Cummings, 27, was born in Orange, Mass., and his family moved to Teaneck about 4 years ago. He has been in the Navy 3 years. His widow, the former Mary Armstrong, will come north for the services. The funeral, under the direction of the Volk Colonial Home, Teaneck, will be at 10 a. m. Friday in Cresthaven Cemetery, Clifton.