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**WW II**  
 HOMETOWN HEROES

### Friends & Family

...group on Midway Island. Andrew Schrebeck was shipped to Baker Island and Andrew Kuzmicki and Peter Luchinski remained at Hickam. After seven more months in the Gilberts, Joseph Kuzmicki and William Melnyk returned to Hickam. Later on, Andrew Schrebeck returned from Baker Island. The loss of us were separated by individually being returned to the U.S. for assignment at different air bases in the east. As the war progressed towards a successful conclusion, discharge was the next thing on our mind. At discharge, Andrew Kuzmicki and Joseph Kuzmicki were ranked staff sergeants, Andrew Schrebeck and William Melnyk were ranked sergeants and Peter Luchinski was ranked corporal. The total length of service for each was in excess of five years with more than four spent overseas.

### Eugene Markoski, Theodora Markoski

As told by Eugene Markoski in the Naval publication "The Mariner" October 27, 1943

**N**avy Day last year, I was on a destroyer in the middle of a very stormy sea. It was pretty rugged, we had a rough time getting to our watches. The chief said it was the roughest he had seen in 20 years. Nevertheless we all knew it was Navy Day and we had a sense of pride to belong to the greatest Navy in the world.

We were covering ship in Casablanca. There were plenty of scares and the going was tough but we had a grand captain and a swell crew and we weren't afraid. Our vigilance was rewarded to have delivered to convoy intact.

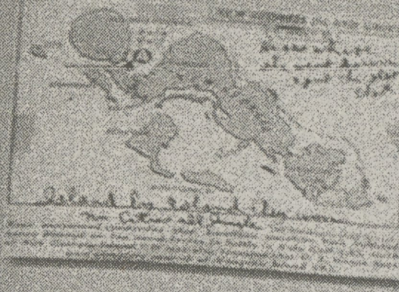
My next trip was to Guadalcazar. It was pretty uneventful until we were ordered to protect a landing on enemy shores. Then all hell broke loose. We sank two Japanese ships, then we were hit by two torpedoes. It was midnight. I was hit by a projectile that dropped on my head causing concussion. I was helped above by my shipmate. We were given the order to abandon ship. I still do not know how I swam to another ship through oil about two inches thick, and enemy planes strafing. Somehow I got on



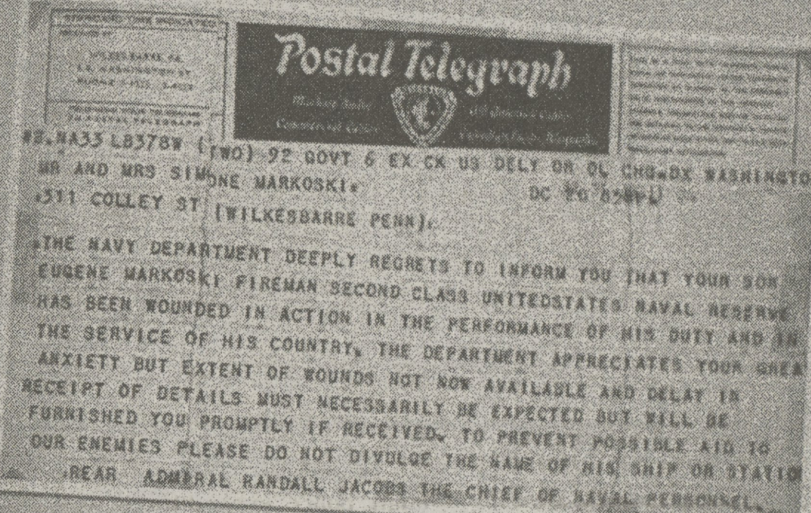
Eugene Markoski of Hometown Heroes was a fireman on a Navy destroyer and was wounded when his ship, the USS Stevens, was sunk in battle with the Japanese in the Solomon Islands in 1942. His wife Theodora then joined the Navy to replace him.



EUGENE & THEODORA MARKOSKI  
 Hometown Heroes  
 Branch: Navy  
 Rank: Fireman 2nd Class  
 Location of Service: Pacific  
 Job during War: Fireman  
 Present: Secretary



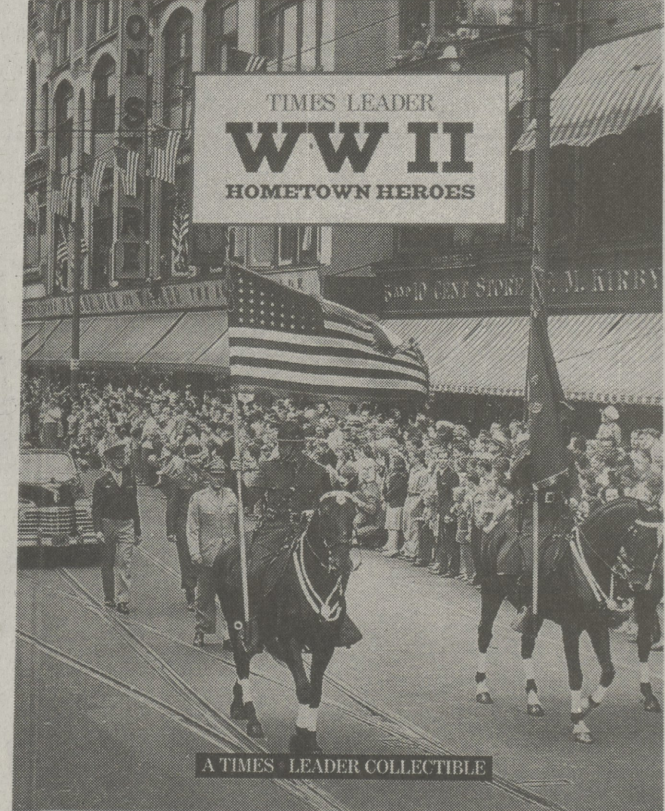
This map shows where Eugene Markoski's ship, the USS Stevens, was sunk in battle with the Japanese in the Solomon Islands in 1942. The ship was sunk on October 27, 1942.



The Markoski family of Hometown Heroes consisted of two sons and two daughters in military service in World War II. Eugene (left) and Ray (right) served in the Navy. Theodora (left) and Eugene (right) served in the Navy.



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