

FIVE GOULBURN MEN

Lost On Torpedoed Ship

Five Goulburn men were aboard the Australian hospital ship Centaur which was torpedoed and sunk by a Japanese submarine 40 miles east of Brisbane on Friday. All are missing, believed drowned.

The men who were aboard the hospital vessel are:—

Private Harold Britton Stephens, NX48814, married, and formerly an attendant at the Kenmore Mental Hospital.

Staff-Sergeant David Kevin Williams, NX60218, 35, married, who was a member of the Goulburn Ambulance staff before enlisting.

Private James Patrick Doherty, NX47680, 33, married, of 82 Bourke Street, Goulburn, and a former railway employee.

Sergeant Paul Bracken, NX-60219, 25, married, of 40 Faithfull Street. He was a member of the Goulburn Ambulance before taking up military duties.

Corporal William A. Evans, NX65163, 43, married. A native of Goulburn, he is the son of Mrs. W. Evans, of Wilberforce Avenue, Rose Bay.

In addition, a brother of one of the abovesaid, Private John W. Bracken, who is known in Goulburn, is also posted as missing, believed drowned.

A gloom was in evidence in Goulburn to-day when news of the loss of five residents, or former residents, came through.

With a full complement of 332, the ship was proceeding from Sydney to New Guinea on the morning of Friday last. When about 40 miles east of Brisbane a Japanese submarine surfaced and made a direct hit on the vessel, which sank within three minutes.

Only 61 of the ship's complement were saved, 268 being either killed or drowned.

PRIVATE STEPHENS

Private Stephens, who was popularly known in Goulburn as "Bert," was an attendant at Kenmore for many years, where his brother, Sinn (now A.I.F. returned) also worked.

A keen sportsman, Private Stephens was a first-grade hockey player, and was also known in football circles.

Some years ago he resigned from the Kenmore Hospital and went to the Bralwood district, where he worked with his father, Mr. Don Stephens, on a property.

S./SGT. WILLIAMS

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S./Sgt. Williams, who married Miss Olive Rutland, of Goulburn, and now of Randwick, worked in Goulburn for a considerable time before joining the Ambulance staff.

He was stationed at Captain's Flat and Yass during his ambulance service, joining up about three years ago.

For two years he served at Darwin with the A.I.F., and was on board a ship heading for Singapore when it returned to the Australian mainland, owing to the Japanese invasion.

Later he was stationed at a N.S.W. coastal town, being transferred to the 114th A.G.H. at Kenmore a short time ago to undergo training.

With 12 other men he was recalled to his unit and sent aboard the Centaur.

Well-known to many local residents, Sergeant Williams was a keen member of the C.Y.M.S., being particularly interested in football.

Besides his wife and two-year-old daughter, Shirley, he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Williams, of 11 Hoskins Street. Three sisters, Miss Dulcie Williams (Goulburn), Mrs. H. C. Galby (Conna), and Miss Maria Williams (Sydney) are also living.

PTE. J. P. DOHERTY

Private J. P. Doherty, who is the son of Mr. W. Doherty, of George Street, leaves a wife and three children, Renee (14), James (8), and Alice (7), all of whom reside at 82 Bourke Street.

A railway employee, he worked in Goulburn for some time before being transferred to Casino. He enlisted with the A.I.F. at that centre.

He is survived by two brothers, Jack (Goulburn), and Bill (A.I.F.), and four sisters, Lolla (Grafton), Dulcie (Mrs. E. Hudson, Sydney), Phyllis (Mrs. Coggan, Sydney), and Corrie (Mrs. Davunport, Bathurst).

SERGEANT P. BRACKEN

As stated in yesterday's issue, Sergeant Paul Bracken joined the Ambulance in October, 1937, and was officer-in-charge at Captain's Flat when the branch opened there. He joined the Army in 1941, being on active service since.

His wife, formerly Miss Dolly Dickie, resides at 40 Faithfull Street.

CPL. W. A. EVANS

A native of Goulburn, Corporal W. A. Evans lived in Goulburn until nine years ago, when he joined the staff of John Hunter and Co., of Young.

He served in the Middle East and was recently posted to the Centaur. A married man, he leaves a wife and daughter.

Four brothers, Kenneth, Jack, Roy and Edward, also survive.