

9539A  
3-7-30

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
U. S. COAST GUARD  
Form 9530—Dec., 1928

U. S. COAST GUARD  
REC'D APR 14 1930 By

*HC*

**Application to take the Examination for Appointment as Cadet in the  
United States Coast Guard**

Street and No. 18 Milford  
City Buffalo  
State New York  
Date April 7, 1930

**The Commandant,  
U. S. Coast Guard,  
Washington, D. C.**

SIR:

I hereby make application to take the next examination for appointment as cadet in the United States Coast Guard.

Respectfully,

(Signature) *James E. Grotty*

(CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION)

**PERSONAL AND SCHOOL HISTORY SHEET**

In order that your desire to be designated for examination for appointment as a cadet may be given every possible consideration, it is necessary that you fill out this blank and return the same promptly to the Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C. Read very carefully before attempting to fill out and answer every question to the best of your ability.

1. Full name (print) THOMAS JAMES EUGENE GROTTY  
(No abbreviation)
2. When were you born? March 18 1912  
(Month) (Day) (Year)
3. In what State or country were you born? New York
4. In what State is your legal residence? New York
5. State if you are a citizen of the United States. Yes (If native, so state; if not, state how citizenship was acquired) Native
6. Are you, or have you ever been, married? No

**SCHOLASTIC QUALIFICATIONS**

**Time of Attendance at Schools and Studies There Pursued**

7. Public high school: Name of school South Park High Yrs. 5 Mos. --  
Highest grade attained and studies pursued in that grade. (State if graduate) Graduate in the Arts course of study

8. Private high preparatory school: Name of school -----

Yrs. --- Mos. --- Highest grade attained and studies pursued in that grade. (State if graduate) -----

9. Normal school or academy: Name -----

Yrs. --- Mos. --- Highest grade attained and studies pursued in that grade. (State if graduate) -----

10. University or college: Name ----- Yrs. --- Mos. ---

Class reached ----- Course pursued -----  
(State if graduate) -----

11. Special preparation for examination for appointment to cadetship in the U. S. Coast Guard:

Where? ----- Yrs. --- Mos. ---

12. Have you ever taught school? ----- Where? -----

Yrs. --- Mos. ---

13. Were you ever a cadet at the Coast Guard, Military, or Naval Academy? -----

Which? ----- When? -----

14. Were you ever in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard? -----

Which? ----- When? -----

15. Were you ever examined as a candidate for admission to the Military, Naval, or Coast Guard Academy? ----- Which? ----- When? -----

16. State if you ever wholly or partially earned your own living, and if so, for how long and at what work Yes, during summer months in park department as laborer, and also two months as clerk in broker's office.

17. State whether you have pursued in your studies any of the following subjects, and the most advanced point reached in each:

Algebra Intermediate, to quadratics and beyond

Geometry Plane, the usual theorems, and constructions

(a) Mathematics: Trigonometry ---

Analytical geometry ---

Calculus ---

- (b) Sciences -----
  - General science -----
  - Physics -----
  - Chemistry -----
  - Biology ---1st Year, introductory physiology-----
  - Botany ----- introductory botany-----
  - Zoology ----- introductory zoology-----
  
- (c) Modern languages and classics.
  - French ----- Two years-----
  - German -----
  - Spanish -----
  - Latin ----- Latin III, Cicero -----
  - Greek -----
  
- (d) Histories -----
  - Ancient ----- Greek and Roman History, to death of Charlemagne-----
  - European -----
  - English -----
  - American and civil government ----- History of U.S., and study of Federal Govt.-----
  
- (e) Grammar, rhetoric, English composition and literature ----- Principles of English grammar, rules of English Composition, and study of selected subjects in Eng. & English IV Years. ----- American Literature
- (f) Physical geography -----
- (g) Freehand drawing, time -----
- (h) Mechanical drawing, time -----

Name of school (g and h) -----

If in drafting office, state nature of work, name of office, and time employed -----

## ATHLETIC QUALIFICATIONS

18. In what sports have you engaged and for how many years? Baseball--5 years  
Basket-ball--3 years      Swimming--4 years

19. Name the athletic teams of which you have been a member South Park High School  
South Buffalo Post 721 and Burke Bros., American Legion Champions

20. What medals, if any, have you received for athletic records? Silver medal for runners-  
up in New York State 1928. Gold medals for National Junior Champions  
American Legion in 1929.

21. What school or college letters have you made, and for what sports? \_\_\_\_\_  
Three Major letters for baseball at high school

22. What athletic records, if any, have you held or broken? \_\_\_\_\_

23. What positions of leadership have you held in school or college organizations? \_\_\_\_\_  
Captain of baseball team

I certify on honor that the above statements are true to the best of my knowlege and belief.

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT**

**The candidate must submit with this application at least three (3) letters of recommendation from responsible persons who have known him well for at least one year, and who can vouch for his integrity, good habits, and standing in the community.**

3-7-30

U. S. COAST GUARD

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
U. S. COAST GUARD  
Form No. 9539 A

REC'D

APR 8 1930

NSD

BY

# Certificate for Preparatory School or Public High School

(To be filled out by candidate)

Name of Candidate Thomas James Eugene Crotty Age 17  
(Full name)

Since graduating from the South Park High school, I have been engaged as follows:

Here give history to date of certificate, including especially subsequent educational work.

Have you previously been examined or submitted certificate for entrance to the U. S. Coast Guard Academy? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Yes or No)

If so, give date \_\_\_\_\_

To what school or college organizations have you belonged? \_\_\_\_\_

What offices, if any, did you hold in these organizations? \_\_\_\_\_

(To be filled out by Principal of Institution)

ADVICE.—It is requested that great care be exercised in filling out this certificate. Strike out all words not applicable. Incomplete or carelessly executed certificates can not be accepted. Necessary explanations should be made on margin. CERTIFICATE ON SCHOOL FORM CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF THIS FORM.

After making out this certificate the school authorities should mail it direct to the Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C., and under no circumstances return it to the custody of the candidate. Failure to comply with this provision may invalidate this certificate.

Name of school South Park High School

Location (Town, County, and State): Buffalo, Erie, New York

I hereby certify that I am the Principal of South Park High School  
(Name of school)

and that the following statements with respect to Thomas James Eugene Crotty are correct.  
(Name of student)

1. He attended this school from Sept., 1924, to June, 1929

2. He completed the full high-school course and received a diploma from this school June, 1929 after successfully passing the final examinations set by the school for the graduating class (or grade).

3. He has completed  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years of the full high-school course and will receive a diploma from this school \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, if he passes the final examinations set by the school for the graduating class (or grade).

The number in his class was (or will be) 172 His standing in his class was (or will be) No. 106

(OVER)

8 May, 1930.

Mr. Thomas J. E. Crotty,  
13 Milford St.,  
Buffalo, N. Y.

Sir:

You are authorized to report to the Civil Service Examiner,  
Post Office Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.

at 8:30 a.m., June 18, 1930, for examination for appointment as cadet in the United States Coast Guard, presenting this letter as your authority for taking the examination.

The physical examination will be held June 20, 1930, the day following completion of the educational examination. You should report to the medical board at 9:30 a.m. on that date, presenting this letter. This board will consist of Public Health Surgeons, and be located at

U. S. Marine Hospital

You should provide yourself with fountain pen (or pen and ink), pencil and eraser. DRAWING INSTRUMENTS OR BOOKS should not be taken to the examination room.

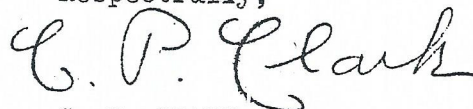
No expense incurred by you in connection with this examination will be borne by the Government.

Candidates will be informed of the results of the examination about August 1, 1930. Do not request information about your standing before that date.

Acknowledge receipt of this letter, which should be retained by you for identification purposes.

By direction of the Commandant.

Respectfully,



C. P. CLARK,  
Asst. Chief,  
Division of Operations.

# IN SERVICE APPLICATION FOR CONVERSION INTO U. S. GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE WAR RISK ACT AND BUREAU REGULATIONS

For use of persons in the active military or naval service. Before filling out this application read explanation on reverse side. Use ink and make separate application for each plan of insurance applied for.

TERM INSURANCE  
CERTIFICATE NUMBER

1 NAME IN FULL: (Please print or type.)  
 First: Thomas J Middle: EUGENE Last name: CROTTY  
 JAMES

2 HOME ADDRESS: Number. Street or rural route. County, city, town, or post office. State.  
18 Milford Street Buffalo New York.

MAILING ADDRESS: U.S. Coast Guard Cutter TAMPA, Stapleton, Staten Island, New York.

3 I WAS BORN AT City, town, or post office. State. Day of month. Month. Year. Age nearest birthday.  
Buffalo New York 18 March 1912 22

4 SERIAL NUMBER. PRESENT ORGANIZATION. 6 DATE OF PRESENT ENLISTMENT.  
NONE Ensign, U.S. Coast Guard. 26 May, 1934.

7 AMOUNT OF WAR RISK TERM INSURANCE. 8 MONTHLY TERM PREMIUM PAID. 9 PREMIUM LAST CHECKED ON  
\$ NONE \$ NONE NONE, 1923, pay roll.

10 ARE YOU NOW DISABLED ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY OR DISEASE? IF SO, STATE HOW.  
NO

11 PREVIOUS ENLISTMENT DATES. 12 DISCHARGE DATES.  
NO

13 I APPLY FOR \$7,500.00 U. S. GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE ON THE FOLLOWING PLAN (Make cross mark X under plan selected.)

Ordinary Life	20-Pay. Life	30-Pay. Life
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20-Yr. Endowment	30-Yr. Endowment	Endowment at Age 62

14 I WILL PAY PREMIUMS AS INDICATED BELOW. (Make cross mark X under method selected.)

PAYMENTS TO BE MADE DIRECT TO BUREAU AS FOLLOWS:				BY ALLOTMENT MONTHLY	BY DEDUCTION MONTHLY
Mo.	Quart.	Semi-an.	An.		
				<u>\$ 10.88</u>	

15 The applicant must remit with this application a sum not less than the amount of the first premium on the converted insurance applied for, or authorize same to be deducted or allotted from any pay or deposit due him in accordance with Coast Guard, Marine Corps, War or Navy Department circulars, as the case may be. I hereby authorize the necessary deductions from my pay or, if insufficient, from any deposit with the United States, in payment of the monthly premiums as they become due, unless otherwise paid, in accordance with War Department circulars, or authorize an allotment from my pay in accordance with Coast Guard Marine Corps, or Navy Department circulars; in the amount of \$ 10.88 each month, commencing with the month of AUGUST, 1934

16 BENEFICIARY OR BENEFICIARIES OF INSURANCE HEREIN APPLIED FOR IN CASE OF MY DEATH.

Relationship.	Name of beneficiary. (If married woman, her own Christian name and husband's surname must be stated.)	Amt. of Ins. for each beneficiary.	Post-office address. (a) Number and street. (b) City, town, or post office.
<u>MOTHER</u>	<u>HELEN GARRY CROTTY</u>	<u>\$7,500.00</u>	<u>18 Milford Street, Buffalo, New York.</u>

17 I SELECT THE MODE OF SETTLEMENT AS INDICATED BY CROSS MARK X BELOW. (SEE EXPLANATION.)

No. 1 () one sum. No. 2 ( ) payable in \_\_\_\_\_ monthly installments. No. 3 ( ) continuous installments.

18 IN ADDITION TO THE CONVERTED INSURANCE ABOVE APPLIED FOR I WISH TO CONTINUE \$ NONE OF THE INSURANCE ON THE YEARLY RENEWABLE TERM PLAN.

This insurance, if the applicant be entitled thereto under the War Risk Insurance Act, shall become effective in accordance with Bureau Regulations, Army and Navy circulars, etc. In consideration of the granting of the United States Government life insurance herein applied for, I hereby agree that all my rights and interest in an equal amount of yearly renewable term insurance heretofore granted me under the War Risk Insurance Act shall cease and terminate on the day the insurance herein applied for takes effect.

SIGNED AT Stapleton, Staten Island, N.Y. ON THE 3rd DAY OF AUGUST, 1934

WITNESSED BY  
Commanding Cutter TAMPA.  
E.G. ROSE, Lieut-Commander, USCG.,  
JAMES  
EUGENE CROTTY  
 (Rank and organization.) (Applicant sign here. Do not print signature.)

# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

## NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

25 August, 1939.

### ABSTRACT OF GRADES

Lieut. (j.g.) Thomas J. E. Crotty.

Appointed cadet 28 July, 1930.

Commissioned ensign 28 May, 1934.

Graduated with a standing of 3rd. in a class of 5.

### FIRST YEAR

<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>First Term</u> <u>Grades</u>	<u>Second Term</u> <u>Grades</u>
Seamanship	61.59	74.83
Navigation	67.54	80.25
Communications	88.47	69.17
Chemistry	69.50	74.25
Algebra		74.25
Trigonometry	77.25	91.50
Descriptive Geometry		78.60
English	78.50	84.66
French		94.83
Drawing	72.33	
Shop		80.67
Hygiene	81.66	
Physics	61.92	

### SECOND YEAR

	<u>Sea Term</u>	
Seamanship	70.00	72.80
Navigation	77.00	87.20
Communications	73.00	82.00
Calculus and Analytic Geometry		72.63
Mechanics		87.00
Physics	70.87	70.67
English	80.17	65.50
French	92.67	93.04
Heat Engines	70.00	83.17
Drawing	69.67	72.66
Physics Laboratory		70.67
Physical Education		85.00
Engineering	73.00	
Professional Fitness	72.67	




THIRD YEAR

<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>Sea Term Grades</u>	<u>First Term Grades</u>	<u>Second Term Grades</u>
Seamanship	82.00		81.00
Navigation	75.00	86.25	64.09
Ordnance	82.50		78.16
Mechanics		84.17	
English		67.50	84.50
Thermodynamics		85.65	
Boilers			76.17
Naval Construction			82.50
Engineering	65.00		76.00
Electricity		75.56	76.44
Electrical Laboratory		77.33	
Communications	75.00		
Heat Engines			86.17
Professional Fitness	75.80		

FOURTH YEAR

Seamanship	72.50	72.00	74.17
Navigation Law	90.00		
Service Regulations and Military Law		74.00	82.17
Compass Compensation		65.00	
Surveying			73.00
Ordnance and Ballistics		75.17	81.67
Tactics		82.34	
Communications	65.00		82.50
Radio		77.50	75.67
English and History		76.00	
Steam Engineering	82.00	62.00	
Internal Combustion Engines			85.34
Turbines			78.42
Engineering Laboratory			75.00
Steam		82.09	
Shop		63.67	
Professional Fitness	66.25		

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

  
L. W. PERKINS,  
Commandant of Cadets.

PW-71

26 August, 1942.

Mrs. Patrick H. Crotty,  
18 Milford Street,  
Buffalo, New York.

My dear Mrs. Crotty:

I regret to advise you that your son, Lieutenant Thomas J. E. Crotty, who was attached to the Sixteenth Naval District, serving in the vicinity of Corregidor has been missing since that station capitulated to the enemy on 6 May, 1942, and we believe that he is a prisoner of war. As soon as definite official information is received concerning his status, you will be advised. My sincere sympathy is extended to you in your anxiety and you may be assured that you will be advised when any news is received.

Please be further advised that your son's allotments in payment of premiums on National Service Life Insurance and Guardian Life Insurance will be continued for a period of twelve months; during which time we hope to hear from him.

In the event you know of other insurance carried by your son, please inform Headquarters the name of the company in which he is insured and the amount of premiums. Payment of these premiums will also be made by monthly allotment.

If you were in any way dependent upon your son for support, please advise me in order that consideration may be given to the issuance of an allotment in your favor.

By direction of the Commandant.

Very truly yours,

J. L. AHERN,  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard,  
Chief, Military Morale Section.

Mrs. Joynes, Room 2116 2-4

AUG 29 1942

MAIL ROOM

*m. j. s. [signature]*

FILE -  
MR CROTTY'S FILE

Washington, D.C.,  
October 28, 1942.

*MAA*

Vice Admiral R.R. Waesche,  
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard,  
1300 "E" Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.

FILE  
A. R.

Dear Admiral Waesche:-

Following our conversation at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria on the evening of October 16, 1942, the following information is forwarded concerning Lieutenant T.J.E. Crotty, U.S. Coast Guard.

Lieutenant Crotty arrived on the Asiatic station about six weeks prior to the commencement of hostilities and was attached to the in-shore patrol headquarters of the Sixteen Naval District, with offices at the Navy Yard, Cavite. Lieutenant Crotty continued on these duties until the afternoon of December 10, 1941, when the Cavite Navy Yard was bombed and destroyed by the subsequent fire. Lieutenant Crotty continued to perform duties in the Navy Yard area while Admiral Rockwell maintained temporary quarters at Sangley Point. When the evacuation of Manila and the Cavite Navy Yard areas became necessary on December 24, 1941, Lieutenant Crotty, because of his special qualifications in handling explosives, supervised the demolition of the U.S.S. SEA LION and other naval, military, and other important civilian establishments in order that they might not fall into the hands of the enemy. To the best of my knowledge Lieutenant Crotty arrived at Fort Mills on Corregidor the afternoon of December 25 or 26, 1941. I recall that Lieutenant Crotty accompanied a further expedition to Sangley Point on at least one night between December 26, 1941, and January 1, 1942, prior to the Japanese occupation of Cavite Province and Manila. This was again in connection with special demolition work. Lieutenant Crotty, while attached to Naval units at Fort Mills, performed various duties with the guard battalion of naval headquarters. For a period of about six weeks during February and March Lieutenant Crotty was attached to the U.S.S. QUAIL as Executive Officer. In this capacity he assisted with the regular sweeping of the channel through mine fields, which made the servicing of submarines possible. The U.S.S. QUAIL at this time also bombarded the west coast of Bataan and thereby greatly assisted the naval battalion in the Marivales area in overcoming a strong Japanese landing force that had landed on the flank of General Wainwright's corps area and threatened to sever the line of supplies for this organization. To the best of my knowledge Lieutenant Crotty returned to Fort Mills for duty with the naval units the latter part of March, at which time he became adjutant of the headquarters guard battalion of the Sixteenth Naval District Headquarters. The headquarters company at that time consisted of about one thousand naval enlisted men who had been on duty in the Manila Bay area prior to its general evacuation to Fort Mills. In this capacity Lieutenant Crotty continued to serve until the capitulation of the forts in the Manila Bay area on May 6 and 7.


*62*

-2-

Lieutenant Crotty impressed us all with his fine qualities of Naval leadership which were combined with a very pleasant personality and a willingness to assist everyone to the limit of his ability. He continued to remain very cheerful and retained a high morale until my departure from Fort Mills the evening of May 3rd. Lieutenant Crotty is worthy of commendation for the energetic and industrious manner in which he performed all his tasks. He continued to be an outstanding example of an officer and a gentleman to all hands and was a source of encouragement to many who did not possess his high qualities of courage and perseverance that he displayed. Having seen Lieutenant Crotty undergo all the trials during my five months in the Manila Bay area, I feel sure that the rigors and trials of a prisoner of war will produce little if any change, and I look forward to the return of Lieutenant Crotty to active duty, for I am sure he will continue to perform his duties in keeping with all the traditions of the Naval and Coast Guard Services.

It is a pleasure for me to forward the above remarks concerning Lieutenant Crotty. Lieutenant Crotty in all his duties was a distinct credit to the U.S. Coast Guard and a fine example of the outstanding officers which your service possesses. I will be pleased to forward any additional information concerning the foregoing remarks if such should be necessary to complete the records. From the information that is available I feel there is no doubt that Lieutenant Crotty is now a prisoner of war at a camp near Tarlac, in northern Luzon, and that he is being treated by the Japanese in accordance with the laws of war.

Very Respectfully,



DENYS W. KNOLL,  
Lieut. Comdr., U. S. Navy.

3-1  
file  
mjm.

(PMM)

CG-71

10 September, 1943

Mrs. Helen Crotty  
18 Milford Street  
Buffalo, New York

my dear Mrs. Crotty:

In the absence of definite information as to the date of your son's death, the Secretary of the Navy, acting under an Act of Congress approved 7 March, 1942, presumed that death occurred on 30 September, 1942. I regret that I have so little information to give you. Please accept my sincere sympathy.

You will find inclosed the forms necessary to effect settlement of the sums due the estate of your son, Lieutenant Thomas J. E. Crotty, USCG. Inasmuch as the final pay due his estate is approximately \$2,119.00, it will be necessary that you apply to the Court for Letters of Administration, since amounts in excess of \$500.00 may be paid only to a legally appointed executor or administrator. As soon as you receive the appointment, please forward a copy of the Court Order showing same, together with the completed Form No. 1055.

Veterans Administration Form No. 535 is inclosed in order that you may make application for the pension award. It will be necessary that you furnish a copy of the public record of birth or church record of baptism of your son to support the application for award of pension.

All forms are to be completed in the presence of two witnesses and a notary public, taking care to answer all questions. Upon completion, please forward them to Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

By direction of the Commandant.

Very truly yours,

J. R. HINNANT  
Lieutenant Commander, USCG  
Chief, Military Morale Div.

Incis

- 1 Form No. 1055
- 2 Form No. 1057
- 3 Form No. 535

U. S. COAST GUARD

SEP 11 1943

BSH:mjm return to 2-4

mjm

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
Baltimore 11, Maryland

U.S. Marine Hospital  
Wyman Park Drive and 31st Street

August 29, 1946

Commander L. H. Morine  
Chief, Military Morale Division  
U. S. Coast Guard  
Washington 25, D. C.

Through: Medical Officer in Charge

Dear Sir:

Your letter (file CG-71) referring to Lieutenant Thomas J. E. Crotty has just been received.

At Cabantuan I recognized Lieutenant Crotty's Coast Guard cap insignia and went up and introduced myself. His morale was excellent and he was as cheerful as any of us in spite of malnutrition and the environment. I saw him not infrequently with various Navy Officers whom I do not recall now. We exchanged jokes and reminiscences of home on occasion.

The one striking thing that I remember was his continued optimism and cheerfulness under most adverse circumstances. He was outstanding in this respect at a time when such an attitude was so necessary for the general welfare.

Lieutenant Crotty, as I recall, contracted diphtheria and died in the fall of 1942 at Cabantuan. I regret that I am unable to give a definite date.

Further specific information concerning Lieutenant Crotty I do not have. Other Public Health Service officers at Cabantuan were Surgeons James A. Grider and Albert N. Sarwold. Possibly they may be able to give you more information.

Very truly yours,

/s/ V. J. Dorset

V. J. Dorset  
Surgeon, US PHS

VJD:tko

Respectfully forwarded

/s/ J. F. Van Ackeren, Medical Director

J. F. van Ackeren, Medical Director  
Medical Officer in Charge

COPY

*Return*

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*note*  
*file*

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*jac*

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

The Secretary of the Navy takes pride in commending posthumously

LIEUTENANT THOMAS JAMES EUGENE CROTTY  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

*Doc*

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For outstanding service in connection with operations against enemy Japanese forces in the Pacific War Area from October 1941 to May 1942. Highly skilled in the handling of explosives, Lieutenant Crotty ably supervised the demolition of the U.S.S. SEA LION, together with other naval, military and important civilian establishments to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy during the evacuation of Manila and the Cavite Navy Yard areas in December 1941. Subsequently attached to the USS QUAIL as Executive Officer, he rendered invaluable assistance to his ship during mine-sweeping operations and the bombardment of the west coast of Bataan and, returning to Fort Mills as Adjutant of the Headquarters Guard Battalion, continued to discharge his responsibilities under extremely hazardous conditions until the capitulation of the forts in the Manila Bay area. By his courage, marked professional ability and unswerving devotion to duty throughout this critical period, Lieutenant Crotty served to inspire all who observed him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

A copy of this citation has been made a part of Lieutenant Crotty's official record and the Commendation Ribbon and Metal Pendant are authorized.

/s/ Dan A. Kimball

Secretary of the Navy

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COAST GUARD BULLETIN

## LT Thomas J. E. Crotty Commended by SecNavy

The Honorable Dan A. Kimball, Secretary of the Navy, has posthumously commended LT Thomas J. E. Crotty (deceased), for outstanding service in connection with operations against the enemy Japanese forces in the Pacific war area from October 1941 to May 1942.

Some time around 6 or 7 May 1942, LT Crotty was taken a prisoner of war by the Japanese upon the capitulation of the forts in the Manila Bay area, and is now legally presumed to be dead inasmuch as no official record of his death or prison incarceration have been found.

LT Crotty, arrived on the Navy Yard, Cavite, about 6 weeks prior to the date of Pearl Harbor; he was attached then to the inshore patrol headquarters of the Sixteenth Naval District at Cavite.

He continued on these duties until the afternoon of 10 December 1941, when the Cavite Yard was bombed and destroyed by the resulting fires. However, he continued to perform duties at the Navy Yard area, but when the evacuation of Manila and Cavite areas became necessary on 24 December, he, because of his special qualifications in handling explosives, supervised the demolition of the USS *Sea Lion* and other naval, military, and important civilian establishments in order that they might not fall into the hands of the enemy.

It is believed that LT Crotty arrived at Fort Mills on Corregidor the afternoon of 25 or 26 December. He accompanied an expedition to Sangley Point shortly before the Japanese occupation of Cavite Province and Manila. It was again in connection with special demolition work that, while he was attached to the Naval units at Fort Mills he worked with the guard battalion of naval headquarters.

Then for a period of about 6 weeks during February and March, LT Crotty was attached to the USS *Quail* as executive officer. In this capacity he assisted with the regular sweeping of the channel through mine fields, which made the servicing of submarines possible. The *Quail* at this time also bombarded the

west coast of Bataan, thereby greatly assisting the naval battalion in the Mari-vales area to overcome a strong Jap landing force that had landed on the flank of General Wainwright's corps area and threatened to sever the lines of supplies for this organization.

Later LT Crotty returned to Fort Mills for duty with the naval units in the latter part of March, at which time he became adjutant of the headquarters guard battalion of the Sixteenth Naval District headquarters. That company at the time consisted of about 1,000 naval enlisted men who had been on duty in the Manila Bay area prior to its general evacuation to Fort Mills. It was in this capacity that LT Crotty continued to serve until the capitulation of the Manila Bay Area. It is from this point in his career that LT Crotty's official record is a blank.

According to official records, LT Crotty was the only Coast Guardsman to be a Japanese prisoner of war during World War II.

Dep.

File 3-7

12'52