

MARCUS GEORGE VETERANS' MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

JANUARY 31, 1949.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MILLIKIN, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 372]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 372) to provide for designation of the United States Veterans' Administration hospital at Americus, Ga., as the Marcus George Veterans Memorial Hospital, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The official record of service of the late Lt. Joseph Marcus George, United States Naval Reserve, active, is as follows:

1911—November 16. Born in Vienna, Ga.

NATIONAL GUARD SERVICE

1935—January 21. Enlisted in Company L, One Hundred Twenty-first Infantry, Georgia National Guard.

February 2. Promoted to rank of sergeant.

1936—June 15. Discharged.

ENLISTED UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE SERVICE

1938—July 13. Enlisted in United States Naval Reserve.

October 10. Enlistment terminated.

OFFICER UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE SERVICE

1938—October 11. Accepted appointment and executed oath of office as aviation cadet, United States Naval Reserve, to rank from October 3, 1938.

October 30. Reported to United States Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., for active duty undergoing training.

1939—September 18. Designated naval aviator (heavier-than-air).

October 20. Accepted appointment and executed oath of office as ensign, A-V (N), United States Naval Reserve, to rank from October 15, 1939. Detached United States Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., and transferred to Patrol Squadron 53 for active duty involving flying. Reported November 9, 1939. Further transferred to Patrol Squadron 83 for duty involving flying.

1942—January 23. Accepted appointment and executed oath of office as lieutenant (junior grade) A-V (N), United States Naval Reserve, for temporary service.

June 27. Accepted appointment and executed oath of office as lieutenant, A-V (N), United States Naval Reserve, to rank from June 15, 1942, for temporary service.

1943—February 7. Detached Patrol Squadron 83 and transferred to a bombing squadron for duty involving flying. Reported February 18, 1943.

Education: University of Georgia.

Medals: American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp, Purple Heart.

Died: Presumptive August 8, 1944. Officially reported to be missing in action as of August 7, 1943, when the plane which he was aboard was lost in the Atlantic area. In compliance with section 5 of Public Law 490, as amended, death is presumed to have occurred on the 8th day of August 1944.

Place: Atlantic area.

Cause: Plane lost (enemy action).

According to the records on file Lieutenant George was listed on the records of the Navy Department in the status of missing in action as of August 7, 1943. He was on board a plane which took off from the naval air station, New York, on an antisubmarine patrol flight. Several minutes after the plane took off, it was instructed by its base to proceed to position 37°35' north latitude and 71°20' west longitude, in order to investigate that area and to stand by a plane which had landed to pick up survivors of another plane which had been shot down by an enemy submarine. The last message received was an acknowledgment of the receipt of the above message. Weather conditions in the area at the time included excellent visibility and a calm sea with light swells. Extensive but unsuccessful search operations were conducted. Reports received state that the reason for the failure of the plane to return is unknown but its loss is believed to have been the result of enemy submarine gunfire.

The committee is in accord with the purposes of the bill and recommends its enactment.

