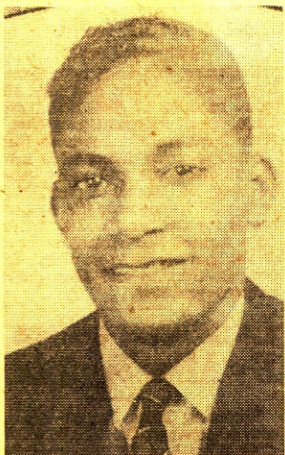


# 1st Nashvillian To Die in War



**BEN EDWARD HOLT**, 21, Negro mess attendant, was listed today as the first Nashville man to give his life for his country in the war against Japan. Holt's sister, Inez Stewart, received a letter from Honolulu last Saturday in which the boy said he had ordered two tons of coal for his mother and father for Christmas. Yesterday Elder R. E. Holt, Sr., minister of the Negro Church of Christ in Springfield, received a telegram from Rear Admiral C. W. Munitz saying that Ben was "lost in action in the performance of his duty and in the services of his country." The boy's mother and father, four brothers, Mack, R. E., Jr., Homer Cleoplus, and Hawthorne, and two sisters, Mary and Juanita Holt, all live at 508 Fourteenth Avenue, North. His grandmother, Missouri Oliver, also survives.

Holt graduated from Pearl High School of Nashville and then attended A&I State College here for one year.