

In the Pacific, the squadron received further training and was transferred from the *Cord* to the *Natoma Bay*. Of Hazard's own service—except for his last action—no details have been reported. But letters from other members of his squadron make it plain that he was highly thought of, both as a pilot and as a man. "His presence and steady influence helped the younger boys many times over rough spots."

At the time of Iwo Jima, Hazard wrote home expressing admiration for the Marines, among whom were not a few of his friends. And, very characteristically, he added:

"I was impressed by the Jap commander's words, even though I realize they may have been put in his mouth by some publicity office in Tokio. The main thing is he will live up to them. 'I will die here,' he said. That might have been said at the Alamo, or at any other fortress that has been defended to the last man, and I see no reason for denying to our enemies recognition for qualities that in ourselves we would consider glorious."

A month later—on the morning of March 27, 1945—off Okinawa, Hazard was flying a torpedo plane in company with other planes of his squadron to a land target area, where he was to act as Air Coordinator. They were nearing the target area and were in sight of some American warships when they received word that enemy planes were near. Shortly afterwards two Japanese dive bombers appeared. Hazard, realizing that the Japanese were about to make a run on the ships, immediately broke off and attacked. The ships opened up with anti-aircraft fire, into which he pursued the enemy. No one, either on the ships or in the squadron's other planes saw what happened after that. The area was carefully searched; only a dye-marker was found. Hazard was at first listed as missing, later as killed; and he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, posthumously, for heroism in his last action.



ROBERT MACKENZIE LEVERIDGE

1937

Robert MacKenzie Leveridge entered St. Paul's from the Malcolm Gordon School in 1932, and spent one year there. He then went to the Fountain Valley School in Colorado, spent three years at Harvard, where he took courses in preparation for the Medical School, and went into the Army Air Forces.

He rose to the rank of First Lieutenant, served over a year as a Bombardier in the 92nd Bombardment Group, based in England, and took part in many missions. He was killed in action over Europe, August 3, 1943.

Leveridge was the only child of Robert MacKenzie Leveridge, who was killed in action in France in July, 1918, while serving in an American machine-gun battalion.