

# TWO WASHINGTON BOYS

ROTOGRAVURE SECTION

*The Seattle Sunday Times*

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**T**HIS IS THE STORY of two Washington boys who went into action in the South Pacific—and only one came back. Raymond J. Evans and Douglas A. Munro were children of neighboring families in Cle Elum. Ray and his parents moved to Puget Sound when Ray still was a very small boy. After his graduation from Broadway High School in 1939, Ray joined the United States Coast Guard. The same day, Doug Munro enlisted. The boys met, compared notes and soon became fast friends. By a series of coincidences, they remained together. Then came Guadalcanal. Evans and Munro led a flotilla of ten barges in a hazardous attempt to evacuate 500 beleaguered Marines. The story of that history-making exploit is told in these drawings by Ken Riley, U. S. C. G. R.



RAYMOND J. EVANS



**1.** DRIVING FORWARD through choppy seas, the barges manned by Coast Guard volunteers met a hail of fire from the Japanese. Evans and Munro, together in the leading boat, joined their companions in returning the fire as the barges nosed toward the beach where the trapped Marines waited.

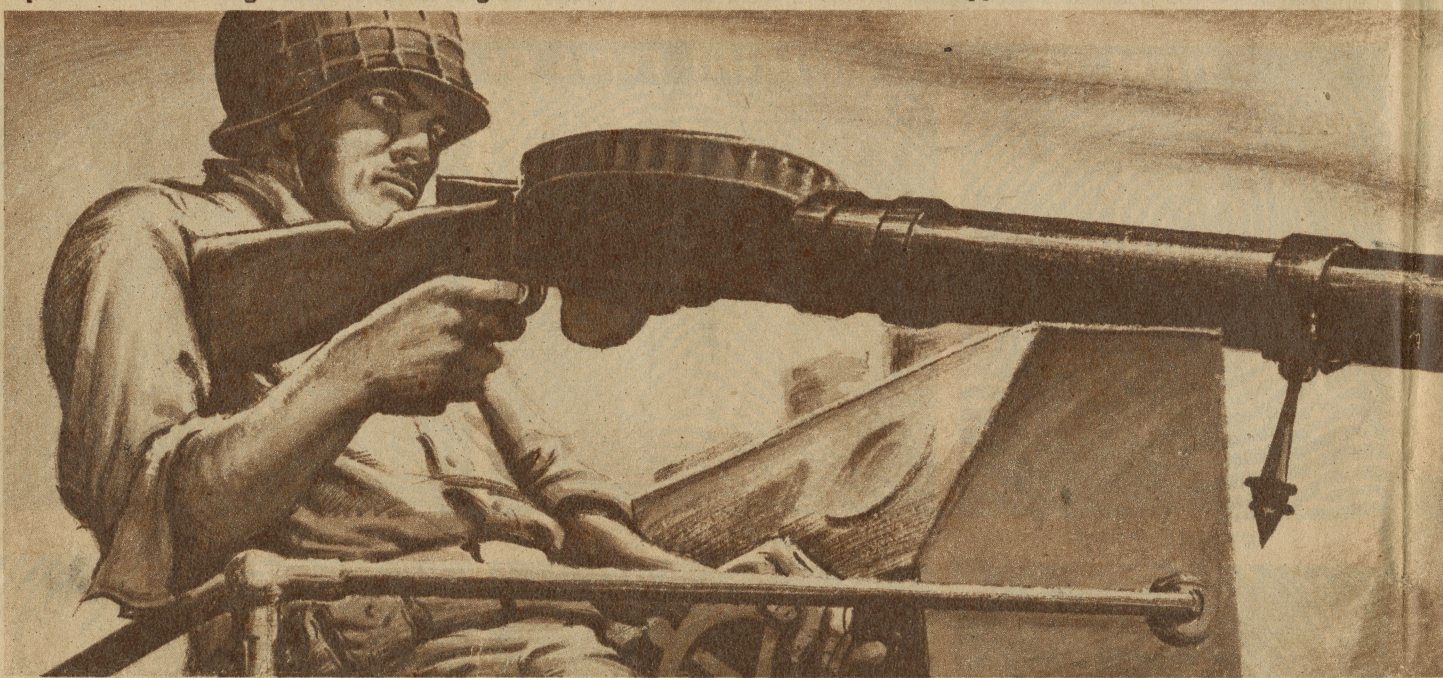


**2.** WOUNDED MARINES were helped into the barges by the Coast Guard men while other Guardsmen held off the enemy. Evans and Munro stood up fearlessly, directing the rescue.

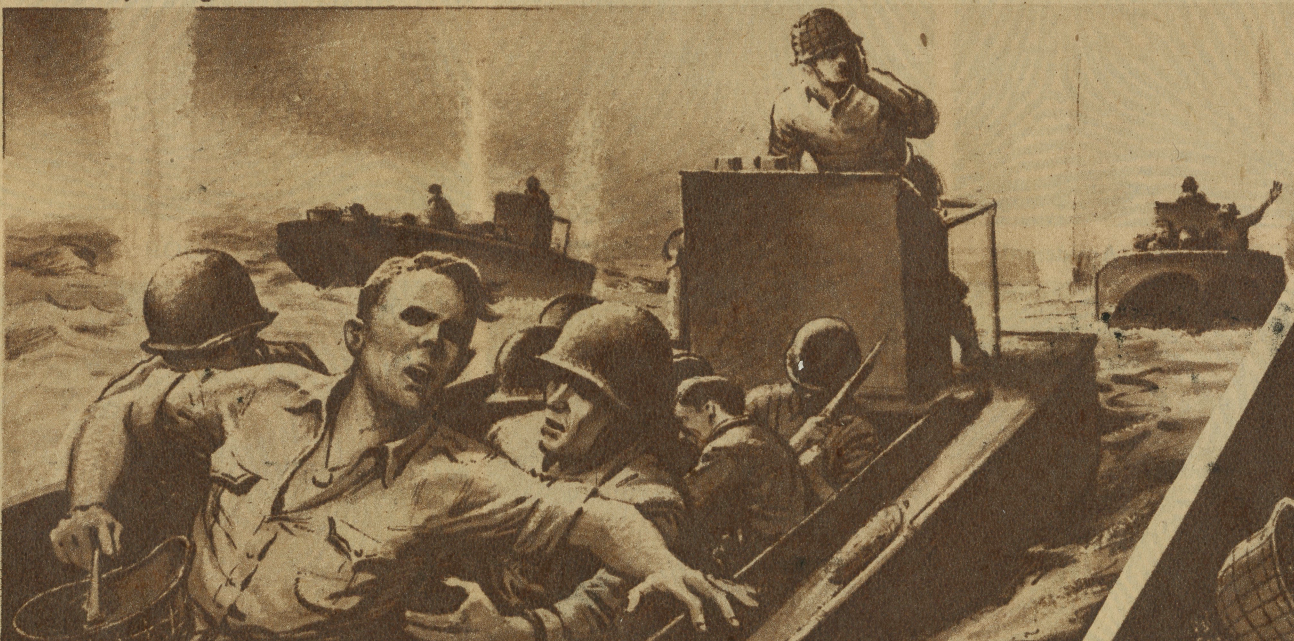
## EPILOGUE

**H**IGHEST military decoration of the nation, the Congressional Medal of Honor, was awarded posthumously to Douglas Munro. Presentation was made to the hero's mother, Mrs. James Munro, by President Roosevelt. Mrs. Munro promptly was commissioned a lieutenant, junior grade, in the Coast Guard's SPARS. Ray Evans, whose parents live at Bryn Mawr, has married his childhood sweetheart, Miss Dorothy Jackson of Tacoma.

A simple cross over a grave on Guadalcanal marks the last resting place of Munro.



**3.** EVANS, waiting for the signal from Munro to take the barges back to the safety of American lines, saw his helmsman shot down. He grabbed the wheel of the barge with one hand and, firing a machine gun with the other, backed his craft away, using it as a shield to cover the retreat of other boats of the gallant little fleet, which already had put to sea.



**4.** WHILE EVANS STEERED, Munro made a hasty survey of his flotilla, to ascertain that all boats were accounted for, then turned his eyes toward the beach to make sure no Marines had been left behind. As he did so, a Jap bullet through the temple felled him.



**5.** AFTER THE MARINES had been taken safely ashore behind American lines, a doctor stood over the dying hero. Evans knelt beside his chum. "Did they get o'?" Munro asked. Evans nodded. With a smile, Munro died.



**6.** AT A CEREMONY in Alameda, Calif., Rear Admiral Edward D. Jones pinned the Navy Cross on Evans, the only man in his barge who came out alive, uninjured.