

Sergeant Nelson Smallbone, No.2 Commando 6 Troop.



Commando Killed in Italy

THE news of the death in action of their only son has come as a tragic blow to Mr. and Mrs. Smallbone, Adare-walk, Leignam Court-road, Streatham Hill. On Thursday of last week they were informed that Sergt. Nelson Smallbone (aged 25) had been killed in Italy while serving with No. 2 Special Service Commando, which he joined soon after entering the Army in January, 1940.

Sergt. Smallbone originally served with the Royal Fusiliers, but, imbued with a spirit of adventure, asked for a transfer. He subsequently took part in Commando raids on Norway and islands in the Adriatic, operating from the island of Vis. He also saw service in Yugoslavia, Gibralt-

ar, and at the Salerno beach-head in Italy.

This is the second loss his parents have sustained during the war, for his last leave was specially granted to enable him to attend his sister's funeral.

A keen sportsman, Sergt. Smallbone was educated at Tellerscot-road School, where he played cricket and football. He also played football for the Corpus Christi Church, Brixton Hill, and was a member of the Church Youth Club. He was a member of their team when they were the runners-up for two years in Division 2 and 6A—1936-37 and 1938-39, and played for them when they won the Junior Cup in 1939.

Sergt. Smallbone will also be remembered by members of St. Simon and St. Jude's Church, Streatham Hill, and the Streatham Hill Knights and Squires of St. Columbo, who have lost, not only another popular member, but a fine sportsman, whose accurate bowling brought the church cricket team honours in 1936.

The Commandos were represented by Sergt. Smallbone at football and boxing.