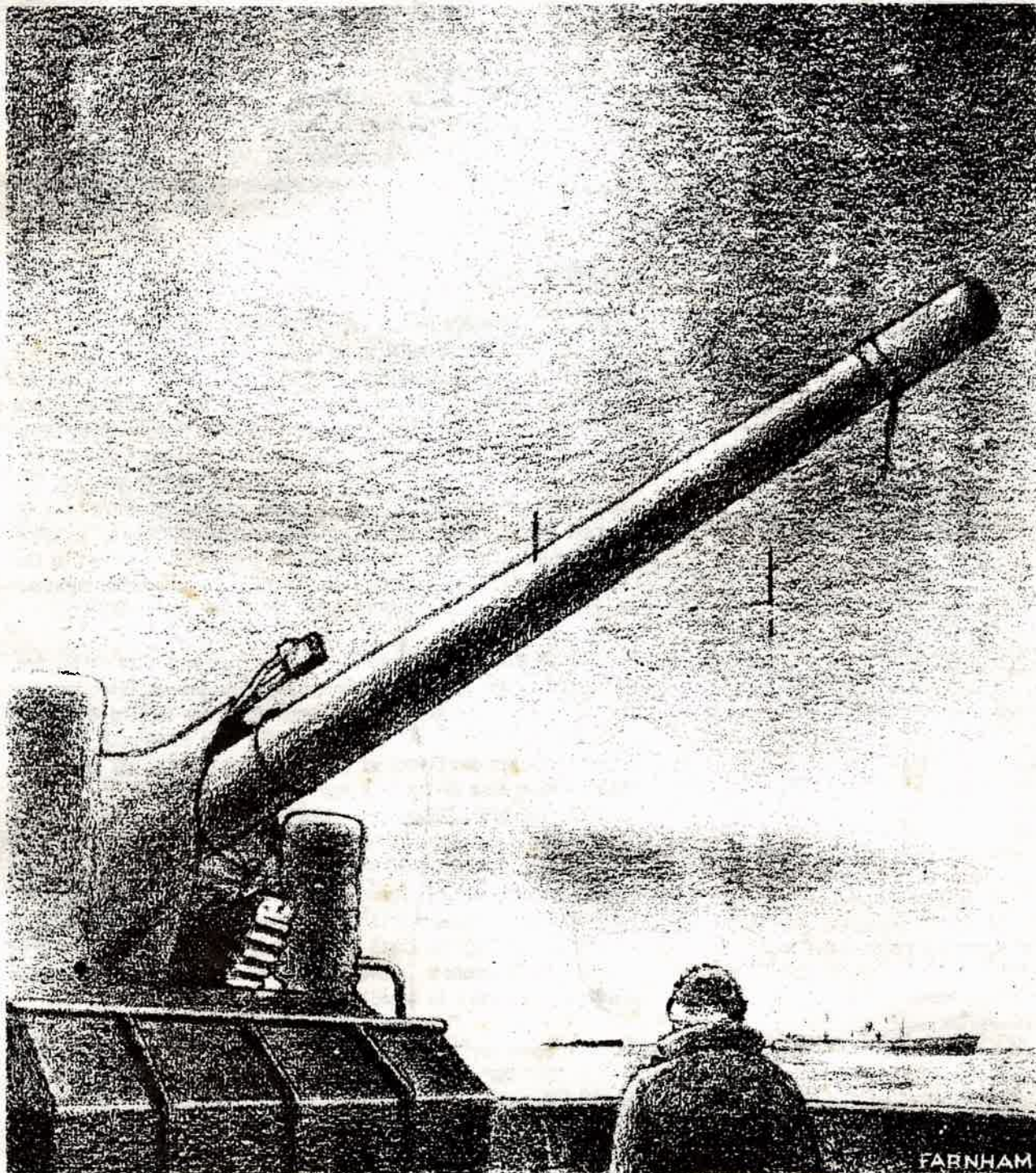


MARCH 1992

THE POINTER



The cover for this Armed Guard Dedication Issue of *The Pelican* was drawn by staff artist Alexander Farnham and depicts the day's end, as seen from a gun position on the S.S. Milton B. Medary, part of a convoy which sailed from Antwerp, Belgium, in the closing months of the European War. Farnham, as a member of the Armed Guard gun crew on the Medary, explains that the scene "represented the epitome of peace to me. The guns were secured for the first time in days and home was only a few weeks off." The scene was drawn from memory of the original which is in his home in New Jersey. (Does anyone out there have his current address?)

Reprinted from "The Pelican," Vol. 5, No. 4 - February 5, 1946

THE POINTER

AND



THE PLANE SHOOTER

Our Motto: "We aim- To Deliver" and "We-Did"

USN Armed Guard World War II Veterans

"PLAIN SHOOTING FOR PLANE SHOOTERS"

Elmer and Doris Vincent
1925 Reunion Hosts
20181 Chandelier Street
Covington, LA 70433
1-504-892-7537

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ATTENTION

You know where you are.
You know where we are.
We know where we are.
But we don't always know where you are.
Please notify us when you move.

Non-Profit Organization
Tax Exempt No. 74-2316668

Well Folks!! How's Y'All?

March 10, 1992

As this will probably be the last "POINTER" before the U.S.N. ARMED GUARD 11TH NATIONAL REUNION to be held in NEW ORLEANS, I will keep my letter as brief as possible. "THANKS" for your continued support in expenses and letters of encouragement. We do not have many more Reunions ahead of us. I hope you will take advantage of those left. You have earned it and I ask of the families to support you and encourage you to be at NOLA, because it means so much to you, for the sacrifices you made when the world needed you and you served beyond the call of duty. Early in the war many of you volunteered for this hazardous duty, because the war supplies had to be delivered to the people who's life depended on them. Knowing your chance of survival was bleak, you upheld the ARMED GUARD MOTTO-"WE AIM TO DELIVER".

The CLARION HOTEL has extended to you the courteous same rates, few days prior to and after the reunion if you so desire. Elmer Vincent has informed me that they're ready and things are looking GREAT for a big turnout. This is not an easy task to take on "AT OUR AGE", so PLEASE-if things don't work as you think they should, ask yourself-"Could I have done BETTER?" If your answer is "YES", we are looking for HOSTS for 1995, FORWARD- til 2032!!

Today, number 9345 has been entered into this Computer with a total on this mailing list of approx. 8500. The cost of the JAN. "POINTER" was \$6800 which includes printing, postage and labeling and we still stay "AFLOAT". Each one costs about 5 per cent more due to NEW ARMED GUARD OL'SALTS located. Twelve in one week was located by the bumper stickers alone and 6 by Armed Guard caps and a few with jackets.

I have entered the Itinerary for the "INTERNATIONAL CEREMONY" to be held in "ENGLAND" and the information should be self explanatory. If you plan on going, "DO NOT FORGET TO GET YOUR PASSPORT EARLY". The reason I have inserted this is in the POINTER is to reach as many of you as possible on THIS SIDE, due to the time factor whereby you may have a chance spread the word of this "Historical 50TH Ceremony" and to which the ARMED GUARD and MERCHANT SEAMAN gave so much for FREEDOM. A lot of ESCORT SHIP PERSONNEL were there and may want to attend so if you know of any, please inform them. You will be representing the

Officers - Gunners - Signalmen - Radiomen - Medics - Waves - Boatswains - Coxswains - Ship's Company - Radarmen

U.S.A. and all of those who served. Also, we "REACH OUT" and "TOUCH" many of our friends in other countries so they will know too. YOU'RE ASKED TO CONVERT YOUR DEPOSIT MONEY INTO "BRITISH STERLING" AND THE OTHER PAYMENTS ARE TO BE PAID IN STERLING. SEE ITINERARY. Many from the STATES and CANADA has already signed on. Our Flag Colors will be displayed there. You are on your own as to flights and which events. I would suggest you fly into "GLASSGOW" and attend the events listed. There may be an extension to the trip, for who may want to return to Archangel or Murmansk. I would like all of your names who plan to go.

When you send in a change of address, please put your "LABEL NUMBER" and NEW telephone number on the card. Sure helps!! Many of you have not sent in your ships to me and they're not listed in the COMPUTER! AND!! PLEASE!! SEND IN CHANGE 3 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVING!! ALL POINTERS returned costs 35 cents now and 52 cents to send another!! It costs approx. \$55. for each mailout and we don't want to loose an OL'SALT. SEND ALL CHANGES, NEW NAMES, ETC. TO POINTER ADDRESS. IF YOU KNOW OF A FRIEND WHO WAS ARMED GUARD, SEND ME HIS NAME AND ADDRESS. "DO NOT" SEND HIM THIS ADDRESS AND WAIT FOR HIM TO CONTACT ME. He may misplace it. REMEMBER!! NAMES and CHANGES COME HERE, FIRST!!

Wilson and Margaret Leggett of Houston, Texas will be in charge of a U.S.N. ARMED GUARD "THEN" and "NOW" "LOOK-A-LIKE CONTEST" at the NEW ORLEANS 1992 REUNION. They ask you to bring YOUR SAILOR PICTURE taken in WW II and a "LATE picture of you now. It's not compulsory for you to enter but you have to enter to win the prize. The pictures are to be labeled on the back of them with your name and address. PLEASE!!! WRITE THIS INFO ON PAPER or LABEL, and tape it to the back so they do not loose it. The "LADIES" can enter also. These pictures are to be posted and judged. (NOT BY WILSON!!)

For those attending for the first time, there will be "20 copies" of NAMES of those located so far "ALPHABETICALLY" by LAST NAMES, and 20 copies by ZIP CODE. The ZIP CODE lets you know those located near you. There will be 20 COPIES of the ships listed by the last names.

Example:

C.#	SHIP	NAMES	DATE	NAMES	NAMES
3655	NORLVS (TKR)	ONSTOTT,C	3/45-9/45	PERKINS,FRED	43/44 ADDISON,R.?
	M.T	MESSORE,T.	6/43-3/44	PLUMBERLY,R.	6-9/45 BOLESLOW,J?
		RHODES,LEFOY	3/45-9/45	(JUST LOCATED WITH STICKER)	

As you can notice, if your dates are not listed, it's hard to know what time you were onboard. That is why I've asked you to fill out and send the FORM-180 in to St.Louis. The cost to receive your PERSONNAL RECORDS from them is "FREE". YOU CAN GET FORM-180 by sending a S.A.S.E. to the ARMED GUARD RETURN ADDRESS.

Those of you who cannot attend, send a SELF-ADDRESSED-STAMPED-ENVELOPE (BUSINESS SIZE) to the following, by last your name alpha as shown:

A -through- K	L -through- Z
Phil Bradley	Ralph Lucas
2207 Foxhunt Dr.	1220 Hawthorne Rd
Monroe, N.C. 28110	Hanahan, S.C. 29406

I send these A.G.s backup of Computer weekly. Remember, you are to send all ships and "NEW" OL'SALTS directly to "POINTER" address. SAVE ADDRESS.

Mary Bauer (ARMED GUARD WAVE) 1220 Johnson DR. Sp-152 Ventura, Ca. 93003 informs me that she is only State Director of WAVES NATIONAL and that she does not have access to all WAVES names and addresses. I am sure you WAVES will have something to talk over while at NOLA REUNION.

Many of you are getting articles published in the newspapers. I have a few reprinted in this POINTER that I thought you'd like. I regret that I can not put all the wonderful stories in. Several have written as to why their picture was not printed. The picture published represents all photos, ships and personnel who served. This is the only way I know how. Now!! To put this all together, get it printed and sent to you. Here's hoping Y'ALL another "Happy Easter Holiday Season" and looking forward to a GREAT REUNION IN NEW ORLEANS; 1 of the 3 U.S.N. ARMED GUARD WW II "SHIPPING AND RECEIVING CENTERS", better known as "NOLA". cal

REUNIONS, "MINI-REUNIONS, REGIONAL REUNIONS" LUNCHEONS, Etc.

PLEASE NOTIFY HOSTS IF POSSIBLE IF ATTENDING MEETINGS. IF YOU ARE DROPPING IN WHILE TRAVELING, DO SO. THAT IS NOT A PROBLEM. IF A HOST HAS 40 SIGNED UP AND 100 SHOWS--THEN--IT IS A PROBLEM.

CHICOPEE-LUDLOW, MA. AREA: Tom and Priscilla Dufresne 289 Munsing St., Ludlow, Ma. 01056 413-583-8580 hosts a 2ND SUNDAY 9 AM BREAK FAST at the MOOSE CLUB in CHICOPEE assisted by Roger Fournier of Springfield, Ma.. They started out 7/17/90 with two couples. They now boast of 27, and the lists grows. (SEE THIS POINTER ARTICLE)

OHIO-IND-MICH. "REGIONAL MINI-REUNION" will be held 9/18-20, 1992 at the Clarion Hotel 141 W. 6th St. Cincinnati, Oh. HOSTS are Bob and Dorothy Ober, 7115 Dunn Rd., Cincy, Oh. 45230 513-231-3181.

S.C. Crew are to keep in contact with Jeff and Mabel Haselden 120 Richardson Blvd. Lugoff, SC 29078 803-438-1491 for meetings. Jeff informed me that Harold and Peggy Cook R3 Bx 255 Prosperity, S.C. 29127 803-364-3258 will host the quarterly meeting in Newberry on 3/21/92. This is a LUNCHEON and sez YALL COME for dance that night.

Pittsburgh, Pa. crew meets on the 3rd Sat. for a NOON LUNCHEON at THE GREENTREE MARRIOTT. Contact: Hosts Jack Cross 119 Lycoming DR. Corapolis, Pa. 15108 412-264-8058 or Hilary Makowski 202 Wedgewood Ct., Carnegie Pa. 15106 412-429-8510, another fine meeting.

Richmond, Va. Crew meets at 1 P.M. for a Luncheon at Morrison's Cafe, 7035 W. Broad St., Richmond, Va. on the 2nd Saturday. HOSTS Clarence and Helen Durham, 4813 Lowells Road, Richmond, Va. 23224 804-233-6023. Take I-64 AT BROAD AND GLENSIDE EXIT--TURN LEFT ONTO BROAD-2 BLKS ON LEFT. The Durhams stopped by on their way South.

AMPHIBIOUS FLAGSHIP ASSOC. REUNION WILL BE HELD IN PENSACOLA, FL. 9/9-12/92. Contact: Stan Galloway, P.O.Box 11157 Pueblo, Co. 81001.

Norfolk, Va. Crew meets 12:30 at C & M CAFETERIA, Virginia Beach Blvd. on 4th Saturday. Contact Robert Burrill 5320 Brockie Street Virginia Beach, Va. 23464 804-479-4608. Bob states that the 50TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO TAPE can still be ordered from him for \$20.00.

DESA 17th National Reunion Buffalo, N.Y. 8/10-14/92. Contact: Don Glaser P.O.Box 680085, Orlando, Fl. 32868-0085 407-877-7671.

LST ASSOC.: Contact Mike and Linda Gunjak P.O.Box 167438 OREGON, Oh. 43616-7438 1-800-228-5870. They have a great LST Newspaper.

The Texas Breakfast Club holds quarterly meeting at 8:15 A.M. at Wyatt's Cafeteria, Loop 410 N.E. and Tesoro Dr. Those who'd like to spend the night, arrangements have been made with "TOWNHOUSE WESTERN HOTEL" 942 Loop 410 N.E. San Antonio, Tx. 1-800-289-0165. Tell them A.G.! Hosts: George and Francis Hastings 2611 Woodbury, San Antonio, Tx 78217 512-824-3636 and Lloyd and Marilyn Tholen 6007 Archwood Dr., San Antonio, Texas 78239 512-657-2708.

Lee and Betty Logan, 4526 Sycamore St., Wichita, Ks. 316-524-6166 hosts several "Bit-to-Gethers". Contact them and enjoy yourself.

R.C.N.A.-D.E.M.S. Reunion 5/15-18/92 Cornwall, Ont. Holiday Inn. Doug Sephton, RR 13-752 Lakeshore Dr., Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B-5E4

HOFFMAN ISLANDERS WILL HOLD THEIR-1ST-NATIONAL REUNION 4/8-10/92 AT THE CLARION INN ON HARRISON PIER 5 IN BALTIMORE'S INNER HARBOR WITH THEIR PRINCIPLE MEETINGS TO BE HELD ONBOARD THE S.S. JOHN W. BROWN. REGISTRATION FEE is \$60. per member and \$50. for guests and includes

a dinner on the 9th, breakfast on the 10th and hospitality facility. The ARMED GUARD are invited. WHO ARE THEY? They are the "GRADUATES" of HOFFMAN ISLAND RADIO SCHOOL, U.S. MARITIME SERVICE perched in the Center of New York City's winding harbor with Atlantic Ocean staight ahead and STATUE of LIBERTY astern, where the SHIP'S COMPANY manned the GUNS which were used during WW II in both the "GUNNERY TRAINING" and DEFENSE of the NEW YORK HARBOR. They are also the ones who have sent me many of the ARMED GUARD names who were their friends from WW II who also get to read this "POINTER" and they seek your help in helping to locate their crew. Contact ROBERT C. HAEN 1404 ABBEY LANE, SEBRING, FL. 33870 (813)382-9267. "THESE MEN MAY HAVE SAVED YOUR LIFE"

IDAHO AREA HOSTS Milan and Dolly LaMarche 1113 W.Main St. Sandpoint, Id 83864 will hold a Mini there 9/8-10/92. They also informed me that the FARRAGUT IDAHO BOOTS will hold their 50TH ANNIVERSARY 9/11-14/92.

Ex-crew members of all AOG ships should contact Jim Truetken, 4960 Kennewick Dr. Black Jack, Mo. 63033 1-800-862-7288.

USS LCI NATIONAL ASSOC. HOST Robert Kirsch, Rd #4 Box 117 Evans City, Pa. 16033 412-538-8151 in search for all LCI's, L, M, R, FF, G and D Hulls Nos. 1 through 1098. They will hold their 2ND National Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee May 28-31, 1992.

Kansas-Missouri-Oklahoma-Nebraska will combine into a MID-WEST FALL REUNION October 2-3, 1992 in Lincoln, Nebraska with Moe Carlton 6601 Benton St., Lincoln, Ne. 68507 402-466-1058 as HOST.

For all Fleet Ships Reunions, check with your local American Legion, DAV, VFW, Etc. listed in your local Telephone Directory.

"YOU OF OTHER ORGANAZATION" that I have listed your reunions. I would appreciate the RETURNED FAVOR, or I may stop being so GRACIOUS."

Any "ARMED GUARD" who would like to get his local area together, send THE HOST:PLACE: TIME: DATE: HOW OFTEN? Notice! I WILL NOT PLACE these Reunions in next POINTER so save this copy if interested but will insert any "NEW" crews meetings, to help them get started. (HERE'S ONE)

ROCHESTER, N.Y. AREA: John and Mary Shevlin 37 Winfield Rd. Rochester, N.Y. 14622 716-467-2057 gets that area together on the 2ND TUESDAY at 11:00 A.M. at the KODAK PARK BLDG. 28. BEST OF LUCK Y'ALL! KEEP IT UP. John sent in the KODAK article of Navy Museum in Washington, D.C.

If someone from California does not send in the LOCAL MEETINGS, I can not let the others know through the "POINTER". Any of you who does not care to receive the "POINTER", please notify the "POINTER ADDRESS".

Contact:Project Liberty Ship S.S.JOHN W. BROWN P.O.Box 8, Long Green, Md 21092 for 5/17/92 5 hr sailing. \$100 ticket-\$65. is tax deductible.

We still hold our 1st Sat. of each month breakfast at Griffin's 1604 N. Market Dr., Raleigh, N.C. Tel-876-0125, off 4500 Blk Old Wake Forest Rd. behind RED LOBSTER. We welcome you to come and be with us. We hope to have as our SPECIAL GUESTS, Billie Kohse and Madelen Rigg of Washington State for our April 4th, '92 "GRIT FESTIVAL".

George Milk, 449 St.James St. Port Charlotte, Fl. 33952 813-627-6759 and Drew meets 7 P.M. 2nd Friday of the month at 1st Federal Bank Bldg., Virginia and Taylor Rd. Punta Gorda, FL.

Rudy Kozak, 4950 Dory Dr. Gulf Harbor, New Port Richey, Fl. 34652 813-847-4038 gets that area of crew together. They had 61 people at their meeting 2/18/92. Rudy and Eleanor came up for the 1/4/92 breakfast. Y'all come back, you hear!!

JOHN and JOAN NOYES 4651 East 17th St. Tucson, Az. 85711 602-294-1082 WILL HOST the ARIZONA MINI 9/15-17/92 IN BULL HEAD CITY, NV.

Gerald and Lena Greaves 143 East Killingly Rd., Foster, R.I. will Host the "NORTH-EAST" ARMED GUARD MINI-REUNION to be held at the Sheraton-Plymouth, Ma. Oct.18-21,1992. All are invited to attend. They also meet monthly.

Mich-W.Pa.—Ray Didur, P.O.Box 282, Cement City, Mi. 49233 will host his 9th Annual ARMED GUARD, Army Transport & Merchant Marine WW II Veterans "GET-TO-GETHER" 7/11/92.

Illinois-Wisc Mini Hosts, Jim and Evelyn Cepican 9341 Montgomery Dr., Orland Park, Il. 60462 708-403-5220 will hold their Annual Reunion at the Holiday-Inn in Oak Lawn, Il 10/23/92. GREAT ONE!!

Joseph and Mildred LeDuc 4233 E. Villa Theresa, Phoenix, Az.85032 602-992-5771 will be hosts in their area and all are invited.

American Merchant Marine Veterans WW II 6TH National Reunion will be held at the FLANDERS HOTEL in OCEAN CITY, N.J. on 6/7-12/1992. Contact: Charlie Hanneman 446 Hoover Ave., Westwood, N.J. 07675. All ARMED GUARD WW II VETERANS and LADIES INVITED.

PATROL CRAFTS REUNION will be held 4/29--5/2/92 Charleston, S.C. They will also be at the S.S. Leopoldville Reunion listed below Contact:Wes Johnson,6484 N.Park Av. Indy, Ind.46220 1-317-253-4801

SAMPSON BOOTS:Contact William Russell 3916 Idumea Road, Corryton, Tn. 37721. Many Armed Guard attended in WW II and go back.

Western NY American MM Veterans meet 1st Thursday 1:30 P.M.at the Polish Falcons, 445 Columbia, DePew, NY 14043. A.G. ARE WELCOMED! Contact Jay Ralph, 54 Eastwood, DePew, NY 14043 716-668-1488.

COMBAT MERCHANT MARINERS will hold their 4TH ANNUAL REUNION 7/92 at the THAYER HOTEL, U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, N.Y. Ken HABER, 14 CASTLE DR., Chestnut Ridge, N.Y.10977 914-623-8484 host.

The Survivors of the S.S. LEOPOLDVILLE which was torpedoed Christmas Eve 1944, with a loss of 802 men, will be held at the Holiday Inn, Omaha, Ne. 6/20-27/92 and HOSTS:66TH PANTHER VETERANS ASSOC. Contact:Bob Hesse 26 E.Curtis St.,Linden, NJ 07036 (908)-925-0192. Bob is a survivor. Their Motto: "LET A BUDDY KNOW"

LARRY FRENCH will be our photographer again at the Reunion in NEW ORLEANS. He asks you to have your picture made whether you buy the book or not so others can know who they were talking to. It's great to be able to look up who he or she was as our MEMORY ain't what it usta be. Others, who can not attend, and would like to have your picture in the year book should send a billfold size picture of you and your lady and \$12. check or M.O. to Reunion Memories, P.O.Box #161939 Altamonte Springs,Fl. 32716. (407) 862-2311.GREAT KEEPSAKES.



Elmer Vincent and Al Sniff on Coast Guard boat 4/4/90 as they prepare to drop wreath into the Mississippi off Algiers Naval Station, New Orleans to all the ARMED GUARD. This Service will be rendered again at Reunion.

IN MEMORY OF
DECEASED U.S.N. ARMED GUARD WW II VETERANS SINCE JAN.1992 POINTER

Aulicino	John	J.	Troy	NY	Irma	1/30/92
Corso	Joseph	E.	Pittsburgh	Pa	Pauline	2/8/92
Duncan	Lewis		College Park	Ga	Bertha	??
Feehan	Donald		Levittown	Pa	Edith	1/26/92
Flint	Franklin	F.	Lynchburg	Va	Dona	1/13/92
Green	Winford	M.	Fayetteville	NC	Isabelle	1/11/92
Hegedus	Alexander		Daisettown	Pa	?	??
Jones	Clifton		Dawson Springs	Ky	Mary	2/10/92
Krupski	Edward	J.	Grand Island	Ne	Ann	12/24/91
Middleton	Frank	A.	Catonville	Md	Charlotte	1/30/92
Pohl	John	J.	Pittsburgh	Pa	Ann	??
Seals	William	E.	Brooklyn Center	Mn	Florence	1/2/92
Webb	Rufus	Ray	Bell Arthur	NC	Evelyn	2/22/92
Adams	John	F.	Cape May CH	NJ	Patricia	2/20/92

#Killed in auto wreck

		Shipmates "Mates" Deceased Reported			
Hartsfield	Merle	Oakland	Fl	William N.	1/10/92
Hicks	Beulah	Orange	Tx	Richard E.	2/92

A "THANK YOU" NOTE

I Quote:"C.A.,I hear from Alex Lombardi, Mel and Marie Klass, Walt Magalis, Arthur and Olive Freitas often and so many more and would you place in the "POINTER" a "THANK YOU" to everyone who has been so thoughtful to me during Andy's sickness and since his passing. I can not contact and answer all of them so maybe you could let them know I do appreciate everything. As I told told you and Alex when you were talking of sending flowers to the hospital, Andy did not want flowers and said you could give that to the ARMED GUARD, which you did and if any of the other ones wanted to make a donation in his Memory, make it to the ARMED GUARD. Love to all, Madelyn Knapp." - Unquote

Madelyn, I know the feeling in answering for I received many Donation checks sent here in his Honor and I lost track. Checks were deposited and I got behind. We all meant well! If anymore of you would like to make a donation in Andy's Honor, just make it out to the "U.S.N.ARMED GUARD WW II VETERANS" as you have in the past. This could be your regular donation.

Alex Lombardi called to inform me that the "ARMED GUARD" and the "MERCHANT SEAMEN" were holding a Memorial Service onboard the S.S. JOHN W. BROWN in Andy's Honor May 3rd 1992 1 P.M. with Rev. Ramon F. Reno officiating. cal

The SS Thomas Sully sailed from Boston on August 1, 1944. The lumbering Liberty ship loaded with cases of food, ammunition, and deck cargo of flatbed trailers and trucks, was bound for Oban, Scotland, then Omaha and Utah Beachheads.

We joined a convoy headed for Halifax, Nova Scotia. Three days later we arrived and dropped the hook. The following morning, Friday, we joined a larger convoy and bucked heavy seas and dense fog in the roller coaster Atlantic.

Seven days later, August 11, 1944, John Hallissy, one of the gun crew, had severe cramps in his right side and couldn't move from his bunk. He was given shots of morphine to deaden the pain. After consulting a small medical book, the lieutenant and purser thought it was appendicitis. Like all other Liberty ships, we had no doctor or medical corpsman aboard.

The following afternoon, the seas had calmed; then more luck. There was a British hospital ship in convoy, and in the next column on our port side. At our request, they launched a lifeboat and came alongside.

John was strapped to a metal stretcher and lowered over the side by block and tackle into the British boat. I leaned over the railing and snapped the accompanying picture.

John's problems were far more serious than any of us realized. His appendix had burst more than twenty hours earlier. That evening we received word that he had been operated on and was doing good, which brought many sighs of relief from his shipmates. John was well liked by all the gun crew.

Through the AG Association, and 47 years later, I finally found John Hallissy living in Murrell's Inlet, SC. I had always wanted to get this picture to him so he could see how he looked being lowered into the British lifeboat. It was a piece of his history. I finally succeeded.

From the British hospital ship, John recuperated for seven weeks at a British hospital. The doctor said he was alive then only because he was a young seventeen. Following his discharge from the hospital, he went aboard a ship bound for Murmansk. Talk about double punishment; John got it.

John and I now correspond by mail and phone. He was a wonderful person on board the Sully, and still is today. Bill Faust is another shipmate from the Sully, and recently visited John at his home where they had a great time reminiscing.

I am grateful for the wonderful efforts CA, and all the others, have put into our Association. I'm proud to be a part of it. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Eugene W. Davis
Eugene W. Davis

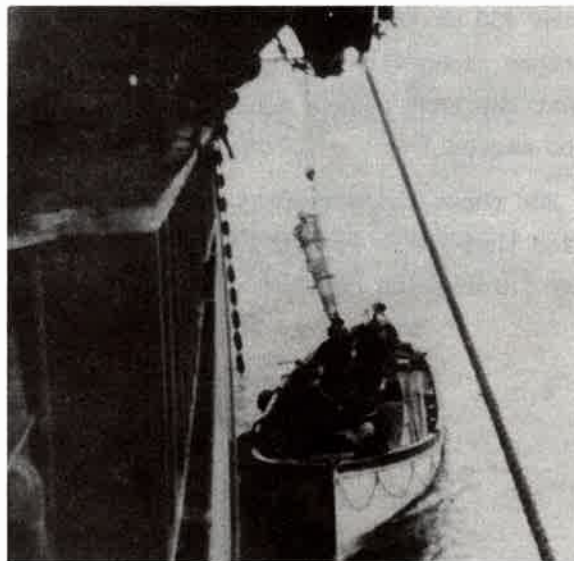
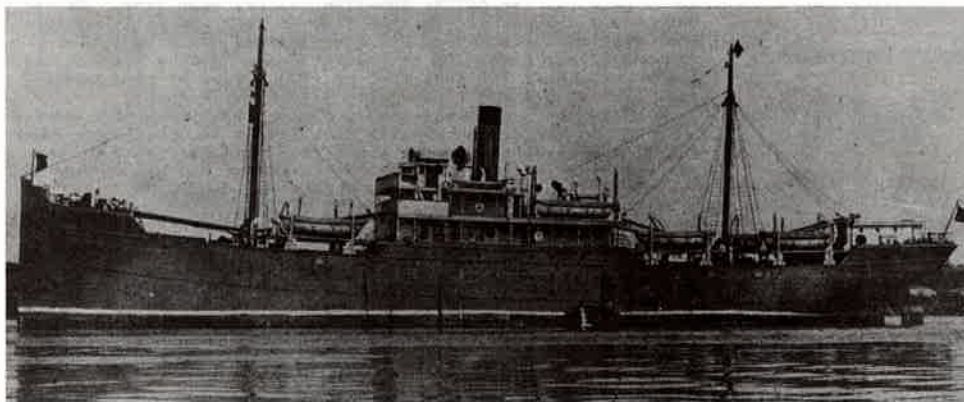


Photo of Gunner John Hallissy being lowered over the side to be taken to British Hospital ship. Photo taken by his shipmate Eugene David, Rd. #1, Box 326B, Port Crane, NY 13833. (Gene, I hope you, Hallissy & Faust can read this together.)



USS NEWTON, picture taken during WW I, was one of 5 ships made of wood in the 1st World War. She was remodeled with living and office quarters on the main deck and was used as a BRIG, dispensary, prison, barracks and various other facilities in WW II. After WW II, she was put in the Surplus Fleet and somehow, caught fire and was sunk according to Librarian Norman Brower of the South Street Seaport Museum in NYC, who furnished the photo to Mike and Lena Molinari, 1422 East St., 54th, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Mike had gone to the Museum to enter ARMED GUARD material, one being the "UNSUNG SAILOR" book and found a "TREASURE." (THANKS Y'ALL.)

21 September 1991

Dear Charles,

I am writing primarily to give a short report on the BURMA STAR REUNION held in Vancouver ,BC August 9th to August 15th. Attention to this prestigious event was announced in the column REUNIONS of the December 7, 1990 issue of THE POINTER .First of all who are the BURMA STAR ?

They are those armed forces of the British Commonwealth who served to engage the Japanese in India, Burma and China during WW II .Along side the BURMA STAR were U.S forces .Today they are known as the C.B.I.A., (China ,Burma,India Veterans Association). Altogether there were some 450 at the reunion . Many events were staged along with two memorial services .One must say that Canada honors the memory of those who served !

For those who served at sea in that area may find that there is a CBI "BASHA" post near by. For information contact;

Wendall A. Phillips,
National Commander,
China-Burma-India-Veterans Assoc.
1017 North Popcar Street,
Whitehall,
PA., 18052-6922.

Of all who were in attendance at the BURMA STAR Reunion I was the only from the U.S. Navy .Even so I was not alone for there were some from the Canadian DEMS (Defense Equipped Merchant Ships) their equivalent of the ARMED GUARD .

I appreciate the publication of THE POINTER and always scan the REUNIONS column . In fact I attended a recent mini-reunion held in Yakima . ~~just recently~~ . A most interesting session of "spit & chew" with fellow "shipmates." Enclosed is a token gesture towards keeping the organization afloat.

Sincerely yours,

William Geo. Shank

William Geo. Shank
AG# 7945

7726 30th Ave,
Seattle, Wa. 98115-4722

Dear Lloyd:

While on an European Tour last year I made the acquaintance of William Shank Computer No. 7945. In our conversation we both discovered we had been members of the U.S. Navy Armed Guard out of Treasure Island, Calif. during World War II.

He has been sending me materials of the activities that has been going on for years, which I'm just finding out for the first time. It's quite a surprise I'd assumed we were still the "Orphans of the Navy".

I'm enclosing the following information about myself:

MIKE BEROIZ, Seaman First Class Service No. 564-76-52

836 WEST DENNI STREET WILMINGTON, CALIFORNIA 90744

Phone Number: (213) 834-0857 Birthday May 13, 1923

Home Town: Wilmington, California Occupation: Self-employed Semi-Retired

NAME OF SHIP DATE ON BOARD DATE OFF SHIP

1. M.V. TYDOL #2 (Tanker)	May, 1943	August, 1944
2. S.S. SEA BASS (Troop Ship)	September, 1944	October, 1944
3. S.S. LAUREL HILL (Tanker)	November, 1944	December, 1944
4. S.S. CHARLES P. STEINMETZ (Liberty Ship)	Jan. 1945	Sept. 1945

NOTES OF INCIDENTS:

No. 1 M.V. Tydol #2: Ran aground with full load of aviation fuel which the Skipper ordered to pumped overboard. This happened at 2:00 o'clock in the morning between two Army camps which got reports that maybe we were a part of a invasion force and the camps directed their guns on the ship until they sent patrols to see what was happening. All this was made more spooky because all this occurred in a zero visibility fog off the coast of California. One camp is still in operation in Fort Ord, California. When the Army discovered us they immediately patrolled and guarded the vicinity so that nobody would enter the area and start smoking which might of set off an inferno with all that gas fumes in the air. We ran aground on low tide so when the high tide came in and all the thousands of barrels discharged, the ship was able return to open waters.

Another time we collided with a fuel barge. We each had full loads of fuel. We also collided with a bridge when fully loaded. This skipper had a history of having mishaps throughout his career, but he had an angel at his side. His father-in-law owned the ship.

During my tour of duty on this ship, we were in drydock four different times and each time we were left on board while repairs were made.

I'm sure you can make good use of the donation enclosed.

Still An Old Salt,

Mike

THE GALLUPS ISLAND RADIO ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 1211



CORRALES, NM 87048

James A. Kinkel
President & Personnel Locator

Corrales, NM
12/14/1991

Dear Elmer:

I have enclosed the raffle tickets for the 1992 reunion and a personal ten dollar donation towards your fund. It isn't much but all I can afford this time of year. I well understand your financial problems. Our organization has a hard time staying afloat also. If the tickets come up as a winner, use the money either for your fund or if you know of some member that is hard pressed financially give him the money.

I have strong memories of a couple signal men that worked with me and some gunners mates that taught me how to load, aim and fire a three inch fifty and a four inch fifty. Over the years I have lost track of all of them as I did with other men that I sailed and trained with during the war.

I wish you great success with your reunion and there are many MM radio officers that remember the Armed Guard radiomen and signal men that sailed with them during that trying time.

Sincerely and Best Holiday Wishes,

Jim K

September 16, 1991

Dear Mr. Lloyd:

Well we made it to Northern Russia although it was a hectic last minute: pier head leap as you might call it.

We arrived in London Heathrow Airport two hours prior to plane departure to Murmansk. It was quite a struggle and very tiring, but it was worth it.

Yes I presented your books. In Murmansk I gave it to a library in a school that taught English. We took a picture of the presentation from my camera but it took a lousy picture, real fuzzy and undistinguishable. In Archangel I gave your book to a public library. Both places were very elated at receiving the book.

This trip was one of the greatest experiences of our life. My wife and I stayed with Russian families in both cities. They were very caring people that are ~~anxious~~ for democracy, and want nothing but peace and friendship with us.

Bill Ryan, whom I think you know was in the group. He received his Russian medal in a presentation in Archangel. I made two trips to Murmansk, one in 1944 and another in early 1945. I applied for my medal 14 or 15 months ago but haven't received it yet.

I could go on and on about the trip to Russia but it was a heart rendering experience. We were thanked over and over again on the street and every place we went for saving Russia. Our convoys actually saved Russia.

So I will keep in touch.

Sincerely,



G. Victor Chamberlain
3011 Merriweather Rd.
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

P.S. My official name is George V. Chamberlain but I go by my second name Victor.

"Books were "THE NAVAL ARMED GUARD IN WW II-UNSUNG SAILORS"
By Justin Gleichauf 222 Shadow Mtn.Dr. El Paso, Tx.79912
(I have these to distribute @ \$30.Ea. Mark Ck:Book-Donation)



The Armed Guard

(NOTE: The following article, written by Henry McLemore, is reprinted with permission of The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

A SEAPORT SOMEWHERE IN THE BRITISH ISLES.—A year ago Lonnie Garvin was a country lawyer practicing in Aiken, South Carolina. His routine then consisted of a lazy breakfast, a lazy amble to his dusty little law office, a few cokes and sandwiches with the boys at the corner drug store and a little bird and duck hunting. The big excitement to Lonnie and other old Aiken residents was the annual arrival of the Hitchcocks and Stoddards and Bostwicks to play polo and ride to the hounds.

I saw Lonnie here yesterday. He wore the stripes of a lieutenant in the United States Navy and was in complete charge of an Armed Guard naval crew which had just brought a Liberty ship and a cargo of munitions across the Atlantic. Lonnie Garvin, thirty-four and bespectacled, with a wife and two kids at home, is typical of the men who are doing just about the toughest job in the Navy.

A year ago Lonnie Garvin had never ridden in a boat bigger than the one pushed by an outboard motor that took him out looking for ducks in the marshes. He had never fired a gun bigger than a twelve-gauge shotgun. Today he had Oerlikon machine guns under his command as well as three-pounders and five-pounders. Under him is a crew of twenty-six sailors — all gunners who give merchant ships the right strength to cross the Atlantic despite subs and dive bombers.

When he volunteered, the United States Navy was in dire need of officers and men to man Merchant Marine guns. Lonnie had practically no schooling in the traditions of the sea or in handling guns and neither did his crew that shipped with him on the first trip.

"The damndest thing happened to us about midway in the Atlantic," Lonnie told me. "We got lost from the convoy in a fog and for four days were out there alone. I didn't leave the guns and neither did any of my boys during that time."

For every Lonnie there is someone else from some other part of the country. I talked to a Briggs body designer from Detroit who had charge of a gun crew. I talked to a Remington Rand salesman. I talked to an Internal Revenue collector. I was put on the trail of these men by Lieutenant Barry Bingham, publisher of the Louisville Courier Journal. He told me that in the Armed Guard officers I'd find almost the best story of the Navy. He was right.

The Armed Guard officer is more than just an officer. He is the doctor for his crew and must be able to treat them for any sickness from head colds to shrapnel wounds. He is their chaplain and to him the men turn for spiritual help. He is their teacher. They go to school two or three hours a day and he must correct papers all the way across the Atlantic. He is their psychiatrist and the crew, which averages barely more than eighteen years of age, gives him many tough problems.

In short, an Armed Guard officer on a freighter must be almost a complete man and I will say that those I have met have lived up to that requirement. Every Armed Guard officer is a volunteer. That in itself is the answer to what kind of men the Armed Guard officers are.

This appeared in a San Francisco, Ca. Bay area Paper and sent in by:
John Cornell, 1735 Bedford Rd. San Marino, Ca. 91108 818-284-5663

Dear C.A.Lloyd:

February 7, 1992

Got your "POINTER" today in this morning's mail and enjoyed everything in it, as I do all the "POINTERS" of the past. The ARMED GUARD would have been dead a long time ago if it were not for you and others. "GOD BLESS YOU".

That picture of your Computer Room at your home, looks like a MESS and kinda like one I use to have along time ago. If you got a job for me, I'd be glad to come and clean up the room but I WILL NOT CLEAN the dirty windows!!

Cal, I'm enclosing an article out of the D.A.V. Magazine, the February Issue on the BARI, ITALY DISASTOR. Try to find room in the next "POINTER" for these men so they can be aware of this Public Hearing in Washington, D.C., April 15th, 1992.

Hope this letter finds you, your family and others in the best of health and the best of everything in 1992. We hope to see you and all the shipmates in NEW ORLEANS. Stay well and keep in touch.
With warmest regards,

Herb and Mary Norch, 74 Sutton Pl., El Paso, Tx. 79912 915-581-1553

(Reprinted from Disabled American Veterans Magazine, Feb., 1992)

Mustard Gas and Lewisite Public Hearings Announced

The Committee to Survey the Health Effects of Mustard Gas and Lewisite of the National Academy of Sciences will be holding a public hearing to encourage veterans who participated as subjects in mustard gas and Lewisite tests during their military service (or their families or representatives), to tell the committee their experiences in these tests and subsequent health problems. The information will be part of the committee's task to review the published literature on the long-term health effects of mustard gas and Lewisite; summarize the strength of association between exposure to these chemicals and specific diseases; identify gaps in knowledge regarding long-term health effects associated with these chemicals; and recommend ways to reduce these gaps in knowledge.

The hearing will be held:

Wednesday, April 15, 1992, 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
National Academy of Sciences Lecture Room
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.

Those interested in giving a brief oral history should contact the committee at the address below by Monday, March 16, 1992. Information may also be submitted by writing or phoning.

Constance M. Pechura, Ph.D.
Institute of Medicine (FO3036)
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20418
Phone: (202) 334-3387; Fax: (202) 334-2939

The Cincinnati Post, Tuesday, December 10, 1991

Dr. Stewart F. Alexander, who secretly helped save hundreds of soldiers gassed in World War II and advanced the science of chemotherapy, died Friday in Park Ridge, N.J., at age 77. Sent to Bari, Italy, after a German bombing in 1943, Alexander found 600 Allied soldiers dying of an unknown ailment. He diagnosed the cause as exposure to poisonous mustard gas seeping from an Allied ship. His finding was in defiance of orders from officials who feared disclosure the Allies had the gas. In treating mustard gas victims, Alexander documented that the gas lowers white blood cell counts and shrinks lymph nodes, work that contributed to the fledgling field of chemotherapy.



ROBERT OBER
7115 DUNN RD
CINCINNATI OH 45230

United States Naval Armed
Guard WWII Veterans
5712 Partridge Lane
Raleigh, NC 27609-4126

During WWII I attended the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kingspoint. During that time we were assigned to Merchant Ships as part of our practical education. Among others, I served on the SS John M. Schofield as a cadet/midshipman. We participated in the invasion of Sicily and were at Bari, Italy on December 2, 1943 when the port was attacked by German bombers. There were 17 ships sunk that night, but fortunately we were able to survive the raid. Our ship, however, had damage to the starboard bow at the waterline.


My main reason for writing is to request a copy of your newsletter or other publications. I will gladly pay for these publications.

I also understand that the Naval Armed Guard of the SS John M. Schofield was awarded bronze stars for their invasion of Sicily. As a USNR Midshipman I received U. S. Navy ribbons because I graduated from Kingspoint. Do you think I am eligible for it? I also suffered a mustard gas burn during the bombing of Bari. I would also like to know if I am eligible for the Purple Heart.

I guess the last question relates to membership in your organization. Are Merchant Seamen eligible to join either as regular or associate members? I have received an Honorable Discharge from the U. S. Coast Guard.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Theodore M. Schober
1549 Sandpiper Street, #18
Naples, FL 33962
1-813-775-2825

Whether or not you are entitled to the PURPLE HEART is up to NAVAL OFFICIALS and the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. The Merchant Marines have been declared Veterans Status in January of 1988. I would look into it, if interested. You have a PURPLE HEART CHAPTER in your Area.

To: The Schobers and other WW II Merchant Seamen or Coast Guard Crews. I will put you on the mailing of the "POINTER" as an Associate Member. We are working together as a TEAM to locate interested Crews of all three Units. No Dues! Donations are accepted to: U.S.N. ARMED GUARD WW II VETERANS.

CORRECTIONS:

Page 3 Nov. 1991 "POINTER"---S.S. SUMNER I. KIMBALL Crew KIA.
1. TAYLOR, Lt. (jg), Clement Adams (Ser.#-178902)
2. Edgerly, Arnold George Ser. #600 93 81
3. Johnson, Jr., Durward Belmont Ser. #608 78 99
4. Lovett, George Bruno Ser. #600 96 91

Page 4 (next Page) Gerry Greaves notified me that the U.S.N. Armed Guard Monument at the Rhode Island Cemetery in Exeter, Ma. will be dedicated at 2 PM and all are invited to attend.

Page 4 Jan. 1992 "POINTER". CHANGE "R" to "V" in KOMPLETOV.
Page 5 " " " " I apologize to Roy A. Gregory P.O. Box 1226, Azle, Texas 76020 for erroneously listing him as deceased as was mistakenly reported to me in good faith and our sympathy is extended to Roy in the loss of Marcia. Also, I apologize to those holding February, March and April Mini-Reunions for not listing in Jan. "POINTER". Also, to everyone who has sent me great stories and pictures, for leaving out these things which means so much to them. There is not enough space. Some say add another 4 page. Would cost over \$1,000.

1992 INTERNATIONAL REUNION

Dear Charles,

10th January, 1992.

I am very honoured and proud, to become an Honorary Member of the U.S. Navy Armed Guard WW II Veterans. I have heard a lot about your organisation from Bill Ryan and others, and I really appreciate this gesture. I am already a member of D.E.S.A. (Destroyer Escort Sailors Assn.) in my own right, as I served aboard one from November 1943 to the middle of 1945. I went to Boston Mass. where she was built, to Commission, spent a week or so at Portland Maine, and then down to Bermuda for working up trials. The ship I was on was DE 518, or when in the R.N. H.M.S. LAWSON K.516. It was on this ship that I went to Murmansk in November 1944.

Thank you for all you are doing to publicise the International Reunion, yes, we will be able to cope with 100 + from U.S.A. I have had a lot of enquiries already from your members, and also from Veterans in Canada. You suggest to your members that they may want to carry a State and/or USA flag. If you have got an Armed Guard Flag, bring that as well. We have two Parades arranged, and the one in Glasgow will be led by a Royal Marine Band. I hope also to have a R.M. Band in Portsmouth. The booking forms and brochures should soon be ready now, and I will send you a few, Bill Ryan has asked for a few to be sent to him, and I will of course send them out to individuals who have written to me over the last 12 months.

I would like to emphasise that we must have payment for the reunion in STERLING. If sent to me in US Dollars, we will lose so much in conversion fees. To give you an example - I was sent a five Dollar bill last year. I took it to the bank to change for Sterling and received .85p less than £1.

Thank you again for all you are doing.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Skinner
P.T.O.

Secretary:
P. SKINNER
THE ANCHORAGE
BURSCOTT, HIGH CLOVELLY,
BIDEFORD, DEVON EX39 5RR
0237 431481

GLASGOW 2nd - 5th July, 1992

THURSDAY 2nd JULY

Registration from NOON onwards at Clyde Hall or Baird Hall at the University of Strathclyde. Buffet and informal socialising at Clyde Hall in evening. Licensed bar available.

FRIDAY 3rd JULY

Coach Tour along South Bank of Clyde, to Gourock, calling at 'Old Haunts' along the way. Buffet lunch arranged.

Evening. Civic Reception and Dinner at Glasgow City Chambers (decorations will be worn).

SATURDAY 4th JULY

Visits to Clyde submarine base at Faslane, and Glengoyne Whisky Distillery. Between the two, coaches will skirt Loch Lomond.

Evening. Banquet at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Principal guests will be Vice Admiral Sir Hugo White KCB CBE and the Lord Provost of Glasgow. Music for dancing will be provided by the Royal Marine Band FOS&NI. Particular emphasis will be placed on the fact that this is the 50th anniversary of P.Q.17, and is also American Independence Day (decorations will be worn).

SUNDAY 5th JULY

A.M. Wreath Laying Ceremony at the City War Memorial in George Square. Parade to Glasgow Cathedral led by Royal Marine Band. Salute will be taken by Vice Admiral Sir Hugo White (decorations will be worn).

P.M. Free time for 'Sightseeing'.

MONDAY 6th JULY

For those travelling to Liverpool, coaches will leave after breakfast and stop at Blackpool where a cooked lunch has been arranged.

LIVERPOOL 6th - 8th JULY

MONDAY 6th JULY

Registration from NOON onwards at University of Liverpool.

Evening. Social evening at Liverpool branch of Royal Naval Association. Basket meals will be available. Entertainment by courtesy of Liverpool R.N.A.

There will be a short wreath laying ceremony at two Memorials in the Club grounds.

TUESDAY 7th JULY

Guided tours of both Cathedrals.

1230 - 1345 hrs. Coffee with Lord Mayor of Liverpool at Town Hall, followed by Buffet Lunch at Albert Dock.

1830/1930 hrs. Olde English Dinner/Dance at Bootle Town Hall. Principal guests will be Vice Admiral Sir Alan Grose KBE, who will be flying his Flag in H.M.S. Brazen, and the Mayor of Sefton (decorations will be worn).

WEDNESDAY 8th JULY

A.M. Tour of Maritime Museum.

14.30 hrs. Annual General Meeting of the North Russia Club. Knowsley Room at University of Liverpool. All overseas Members will be particularly welcome at the A.G.M.

19.30 hrs. Dinner at University.

THURSDAY 9th JULY

For those travelling to Portsmouth, coaches will leave after breakfast, and will stop at Woodstock for a buffet lunch at the Social Club, and then on to Bladon for a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of Sir Winston Churchill.

PORTSMOUTH 9th - 11th JULY

THURSDAY 9th JULY

On arrival, registration and allocation of accommodation.

2000 hrs. Social evening in the Royal Sailors Home Club, with buffet and musical entertainment.

FRIDAY 10th JULY

0930 hrs. Tour of the Portsmouth Naval Heritage Trust. This will include H.M.S. Victory, H.M.S. Warrior, Mary Rose and the Royal Navy Museum.

Lunch will be at the Royal Sailors Home Club from 1300 - 1415 hrs.

Evening. Social evening at the Portsmouth RNA Club.

SATURDAY 11th JULY

A.M. Parade from RSHC to Portsmouth Cathedral led by a Royal Marine Cadet Band. Salute at March Past will be taken by the Flag Officer Portsmouth Rear Admiral David K. Bawtree.

The Service will include the Dedication of an Arctic Campaign Memorial Trust, Memorial Window. Afternoon. Free time.

Evening. Civic Reception and Banquet at Portsmouth Guildhall. Principal guest, Rear Admiral David K. Bawtree (decorations will be worn).

SUNDAY 12th JULY

Coaches will leave after breakfast to travel to Brookwood for a wreath laying ceremony at the Russian Memorial. This will be followed by a Buffet Lunch nearby, before travelling on to London, Union Jack Club.

Those wishing to stay overnight at the UJC should make their own arrangements, and book early.

Union Jack Club,
Sandell Street,
Waterloo,
London, SE1 8UJ
Tel: 071-928 4814

GLASGOW

Bed and Breakfast accommodation at University of Strathclyde.

I/We wish to stay in Glasgow for . . . nights.

Single B & B	@ £20 P.P.P.N.	£
Single B & B with private bath	@ £38 P.P.P.N.	£
Twin B & B	@ £16 P.P.P.N.	£
Twin B & B with private bath	@ £20 P.P.P.N.	£
Thurs 2nd July (Night)		
Buffet at Clyde Hall	@ £10 each	£
Friday 3rd July		
Coach Tour inc. of buffet lunch	@ £13.50 each	£
Civic Reception	F.O.C.	
Saturday 4th July		
Coach Tour inc. of buffet lunch	@ £16.50 each	£
Banquet	@ £25 each	£
Registration Fee	@ £5 per person	£
Monday 6th July		
Coach to Liverpool	@ £17.50 each	£
inc. of lunch at Blackpool		

Total at Glasgow £

(see over)*

LIVERPOOL

Bed and Breakfast accommodation at Liverpool University.

I/We wish to stay in Liverpool for . . . nights.

Single rooms only . . . nights	@ £20 P.P.P.N.	£
Monday 6th July		
Social Evening at Liverpool RNA Club	@ £5.50 each	£
Tuesday 7th July		
Guided Tours and Visits, buffet lunch	@ £7.50 each	£
Dinner/Dance, Bootle Town Hall	@ £20 each	£
Wednesday 8th July		
A.M. Completion of Tours		
Dinner at University	@ £15 each	£
Registration Fee	@ £5 per person	£
(if not already paid at Glasgow)		
Thursday 9th July		
Coach to Portsmouth	@ £15 each	£
inc. of buffet lunch at Woodstock		
Buffet lunch only at Woodstock	@ £3.50 each	£

Total at Liverpool £

(see over)*

PORTSMOUTH

Bed and Breakfast accommodation at Portsmouth Polytechnic and Hotel Arcade.

(N.B. Single and twin bedded rooms are available but price is fixed at £15 per person per night).

I/We wish to stay in Portsmouth for . . . nights.

Thursday 9th July		
Polytechnic Single	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Polytechnic Twin	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Hotel Single	@ £30 Per night	£
Hotel Twin/Double	@ £40 Per night	£
Friday 10th July		
Polytechnic Single	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Polytechnic Twin	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Hotel Single	@ £30 Per night	£
Hotel Twin/Double	@ £40 Per night	£
Saturday 11th July		
Polytechnic Single	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Polytechnic Twin	@ £15 P.P.P.N.	£
Hotel Single	@ £30 Per night	£
Hotel Twin/Double	@ £40 Per night	£
Thursday 9th July		
Social Evening at Royal Sailors Home Club	@ £9 each	£
Friday 10th July		
Conducted Tours of Portsmouth Naval Heritage Area inc. of buffet lunch at R.S.H.C.	@ £16 each	£
Social Evening at Portsmouth RNA Club	@ £2 each	£
Saturday 11th July		
Civic Reception at Portsmouth Guildhall	F.O.C.	
Registration Fee (if not already paid at Glasgow or Liverpool)	@ £5 per person	£

Total at Portsmouth £

Sunday 12th July

Coach to London via Brookwood

inc. of buffet lunch

Buffet lunch only

@ £12.50 each	£
@ £5 each	£

Total at Brookwood £

Total Glasgow £

Total Liverpool £

Total Portsmouth £

Total Brookwood £

GRAND TOTAL £

Signature

* DEPOSITS for complete tour £50 per person. Deposits for one venue only (i.e. Glasgow, Liverpool or Portsmouth) £10. Attendance at one event only - Payment in full by 31st March, 1992.

Balance to be paid by 31st May, 1992.

Names in full of all people in your party 1
2
3

Address Telephone No.

N.B. Overseas cheques required in STERLING please. The Committee has ruled that Civic Receptions cannot be attended in isolation. At least one other event must be booked and paid for. Booking forms, and cheques made payable to North Russia Club, should be sent to Reunion Secretary, P. A. Skinner, The Anchorage, Burcott, Higher Clowelly, Bideford, Devon, EX39 5RR Tel: 0237- 431481.

All of the above fees convert to
approximately \$720.00 U.S. dollars.

Highly recommended!

C.A. Lloyd

Service in Russia honored

Del. man gets Soviet medal for war duty

By **PHIL MILFORD**
Staff reporter

WOODCREST — One of the final official acts of Mikail Gorbachev before he resigned as president of the Soviet Union last month was to authorize a medal for a Delaware man who served in Murmansk during World War II.

Bernard T. "Dean" Marro, 67, of 219 Victoria Ave, Woodcrest, was in the Navy assigned to the liberty ship SS John Fitch for part of the war.

As a machine gunner in 1943, he sailed from New York in a 200-ship convoy to Murmansk, an icy Barents Sea port above the Arctic Circle, to help resupply Soviet troops in northern Russia.

"I didn't realize how dangerous it was until I grew up," said Marro. "They called it the suicide run." His ship came under repeated attack, and Marro saw the ship next to his torpedoed by a German U-boat as the convoy made the long voyage to Russia.

Marro recently received the colorful commemorative medal in the mail. In a letter dated Dec. 24, 1991 — the day before the Soviet president resigned — Ambassador Viktor G. Komplektov "on behalf of President M. Gorbachev," cites Marro for "outstanding courage and personal contribution to the allied support of the people of the Soviet Union who fought for freedom against Nazi Germany."

The medal, according to the letter, was struck in honor of "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War," which is how the Soviets referred to World War II.

Marro learned of the medal from a U.S. Navy Armed Guard Association newsletter. According to the Raleigh, N.C.-based group, only about 115 Navy men are eligible for the medal nationwide.

Convoy duty across the Atlantic, around Britain and past the Baltic was no milk run, according to Marro. "Most of the attacks occurred between England and Russia," said Marro. "We had six machine guns on each ship" and would shoot at Nazi warplanes as they flew out to bomb the convoys, he said.

Marro and a handful of other Navy men on the civilian vessel spent about



The News Journal/**CHUCK MCGOWEN**

Bernard T. "Dean" Marro talks with a reporter as granddaughter Gina Marro, 2, examines his Soviet medal, awarded to him for service in north Russia during World War II.

two months in Murmansk as merchant crews unloaded food, ammunition, tanks and trains.

"The Germans bombed us every night, like clockwork," Marro said. He's not sure if he ever shot down any planes, because so many guns were firing at once when a target was hit.

The town, almost on the German-Russian front lines, was devastated by repeated bombing.

For recreation, Marro and other sailors would go into town "and sit in the hotel lobby and sing around the piano." He said Murmansk was a fairly dull liberty port for a Navy man. "About the most exciting thing I can

remember is having a jelly omelet," he said.

After weathering a memorable hurricane in early 1944 and returning to New York, Marro was transferred. He served on several other ships, and in 1946 ended up in Shanghai, China, aboard a fleet oiler.

He said the sailors who served as armed guards on the dangerous convoys recently formed a North Russia Club, and are holding a reunion this summer in England. Marro said he would like to hear from any other Delawareans who saw similar service, and perhaps form a local branch of the club.

All Navy and Merchant Seamen are eligible for the Medal.

Gorbachev sends a medal of honor

Tony Leonardo thanked for his WWII heroism

Tony Leonardo and the others spent the night in the galley, dead in the water, buffeted by an Arctic storm, listening to the radio calls of sinking ships.

And waiting their turn.

A German torpedo had buckled the hull of the Vermont, flooding its engine. Then night had fallen, and a storm, and the ship pitched violently among the seas.

Watches were canceled and the men waited, together, in their life jackets, for the end.

That was 49 years ago.

"That's why I don't worry about anything," Tony says now. "What the hell, every day after that was a bonus."

Tony came home from the war and had a successful career as a Rochester police officer. He was a captain, supervising the night shift, and when he retired in 1986 it was on the front page.

A wall in his garage, and another in his den, are covered with mementos and photographs. There is Tony as a sailor, Tony as a young cop, Tony with his friends. And certificates and plaques and little boxes with medals.

That's what reminded Tony about that night adrift.

He just got another medal. From Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Look at that, December 24th," he says, pointing to a letter from the Soviet Embassy. "A couple days after that there wasn't any Soviet Union."

The medal commemorates, "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War."

"This award is a token of recognition of your outstanding courage and personal contribution to the allied support of the people of the Soviet Union for freedom



The medal Leonardo received from Mikhail Gorbachev

against Nazi Germany," the letter says. High-powered words. And they describe a west side Rochester kid, sent out on a ship to fight a war.

Tony was big for his age, with a yen for adventure. He tried to join the Civilian Conservation Corps at 14, and the Marines at 15. He was kicked out when each discovered his true age.

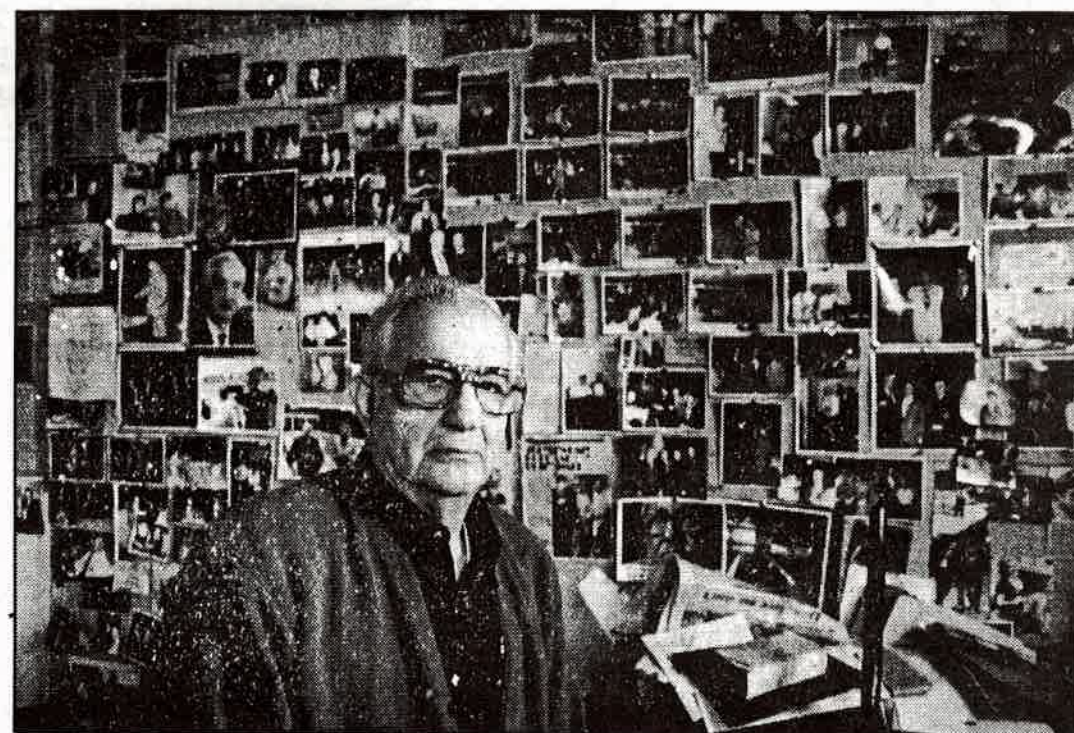
Then he turned 17, in February of 1942, and was old enough to legally enlist. Two days later he joined the Navy.

Tony was trained to be an armed guard. The guards were assigned to civilian cargo ships — known as the Merchant Marine — to man the guns newly bolted to their decks. In December 1942, Tony was sent to Scotland. He was assigned to the Vermont. As he went aboard he noticed it was being loaded with crates marked "USSR."

That meant trouble.

The only open Soviet port was Murmansk, kept ice-free by a fluke of the Gulf Stream. It was the only significant supply point the Soviets had early in the war, and the trip from Great Britain was known as the "Murmansk Run." Cargo ships making the run were subjected to almost constant German attack.

Twenty percent of the ships were sunk en route. In some convoys, like the one Tony would go on, two-



Annette Lein/Times-Union

Tony Leonardo with some of the photos that chronicle his life, including experience as a Navy sailor on the Murmansk Run during World War II.

thirds of the ships went down.

"Most of the crew, as soon as they found out where we were going, they got off," Tony says. "They were civilians, they could do it. We were military, we had to follow orders."

A week before Christmas, the Vermont left port. British navy ships provided escort.

"We were attacked all along the way. But New Year's Day, that's when we really got it. That's when the German fleet came out."

British cruisers circled the cargo ships, chugging smoke to form a blinding screen. The Royal navy ships fired, and tried to engage the Germans. The cargo vessels, with their tiny guns, could do nothing but wait, and hope.

"I couldn't express it any better way — we were sitting ducks," Tony says. Ships went down throughout the convoy.

"They'd go jump in the water and you could hear them scream,"

Tony says. "A lot of them up there died horrible deaths in the icy water. They didn't have no chance. They died like rats, rats of the sewer."

It took 13 days to get to Murmansk. The Vermont docked there for three months. German bombers, based minutes away in Norway, came over every day.

"You'd hear the alarm and follow the people. Go down the hole, 60 feet, and sit there on the bench all night, in puddles of water," Tony remembers. "It was terrible."

Tony turned 18 in Murmansk. He was the youngest man aboard the Vermont.

The run out of Murmansk was also in escorted convoy. But in the smoke of battle, the Vermont became separated, and was hit, and lost its engine. The men gathered in the galley, ready to abandon ship.

"We were just waiting, just waiting to go down," Tony says. "You weren't allowed to use the radio,

unless you were going down, because the Germans could find you. All night, on the radio, we heard them, 'Boat torpedoed, ship swamped. Please help.'"

Tony remembers the exact phrase, and repeats it.

The next morning, three ships were spotted. They were British corvettes. They towed the Vermont to safety.

Tony was an armed guard for the rest of the war. There are souvenirs of his later service, framed, on display at his home.

And there is another medal. In a little box. From the American government.

"Let's not talk about that," he says, taking back the Purple Heart, and returning it to the shelf.

"I got burned, that's what that was. On the Murmansk Run."

February 13, 1992

Dear CA:

Just a note to accompany these two gems that I hope you can use in a Pointer. The Ed Sullivan clipping came from The Daily News of New York City back in late 1945 or early 1946. It certainly speaks well of the Armed Guard guys.

The clipping of the pile of guns that we all were so well acquainted with also came from The Daily News. Too bad the John Brown couldn't have grabbed a few spares from the pile, but they're long gone to the scrap heap.

Also enclosed is a copy of my updated shot card. Use whatever you want at your discretion, and you certainly have my permission to use any and all.

February has been a cold month so far in this area. This morning it was a -4°, and most other mornings this past two weeks have been about the same. Days don't warm up very much. Yesterday we got up to 15°, but spring isn't that far away. It's the only positive thing to look forward to.

Hope you and your wife have been well and enjoying each day as it comes. My best regards to you both.

Sincerely,

Eugene Davis

Eugene W. Davis

Depot Hill Road
RD #1 Box 326B
Port Crane, NY 13833
(607) 723-3146

Type	Date	Remarks	Signature
Cowpox	1-23-45	8/6/45	<i>[Signature]</i>
Typhoid	5-25-44	9/20/45	<i>[Signature]</i>
Tetanus	5-25-44	9/28/45	<i>[Signature]</i>
Yellow Fever	3-28-45		<i>[Signature]</i>
Typhus	6-29-45		<i>[Signature]</i>
Typhus	7-11-45		<i>[Signature]</i>

U.S. NAVY IMMUNIZATION RECORD
NRD-45312-9 Nov 44-60M.
(Name) *[Signature]*
(Rank or Rate)

R. W. HUTCHINSON
CAPT. (MC), USN

By ED SULLIVAN

The Passing Show

Dear Ed: Your praise of the Armed Guard kids is 4-0. The first 150 men assigned to our ship in November, 1943, were Armed Guards, and a really rugged bunch. They covered themselves with glory when we took a terrific beating March 9, 1945. In case you've forgotten, the ship happened to be the U. S. S. Franklin.

Joe Lafferty, U. S. Naval Hospital, Newport, R. I.

Dear Ed: Thanks for your mention of the Armed Guard. These kids were the heroes of the hush-hush phase of the war. They got the stuff through to Gen. Ike.

Peter Ryan, Merchant Marine mate.

Dear Ed: You're not kidding when you say the Armed Guard deserves a big hand, and an affectionate pat on the back from all of us. Those boys were the men who brought the supplies across, and supplies won the war. They didn't get any extra bonuses, either, for air raids or for serving in dangerous territory, and every inch was dangerous. Another thing, Ed. Tell New Yorkers to treat service men better now that the war is over. All the men in the Navy have rated N. Y. a good liberty town, but lately I've heard the men complaining that it's not as good as it used to be.

Greg Thompson, S1/c, Pier 92, U. S. Navy.

Little Old
NEW YORK

Dear Mr. Lloyd:

I am sorry I have not been able to come to one of the reunions. Most of my vacations have been spent with my family. I would like to see some of my shipmates.

I joined the Navy on December 17, 1941. Boot training was in Norfolk, VA. I was assigned to the Armed Guard in Little Creek, Virginia. Then to the Gun Crew 121, Armed Guard Center in Brooklyn, New York. My first ship was the S.S. Catawba on February 13, 1942. We made several coast-wise trips to Texas, with a seven-man gun crew ~~trailing~~ ^{trailing} along.

I will never forget one trip when we were off the coast of Miami, Florida. When a searchlight played on the starboard side, the coxswain and seaman were on watch on the stern with a four-inch gun. The gunnery officer requested the gun be loaded when we were at sea so the watch could get the first round off while the crew were getting to their gun stations. The coxswain and the seaman decided to take a look at the light through the 4-inch gun telescope, the coxswain in the pointer seat. His arm hit the lever for misfire. The gun fired and the concussion brought the crew and gunnery officer out of their quarters. The gunnery officer ordered another round in the gun, not knowing what had happened, with the two on watch trying to tell us it was an accident. The gun was pointed toward downtown Miami when the gun fired.

We went on and picked up a load of heavy oil on our way to the west coast. Before we reached Panama, we got lost. A sub had been chasing us so we went up on the beach off Balboa in seven feet of sand. With all the tugboats out of Balboa, they could not move our ship. We had a gun boat watching over us, so we pumped a 13,000 barrel over the side. Then we were on our way again. When we arrived in Panama two days late, the skipper went ashore for a hearing. After checking the plates, we were on our way again.

When we arrived in Wellington, New Zealand, the gunnery officer told us to lock up the ready boxes and all the gun crew went ashore. The next morning we left on our way back to the States. After 48 hours the Steward went down to the linen locker and found two stowaways. The skipper assigned one to the deck crew and one to the engine crew. When we arrived in Pedro, California, we turned the stowaways over to customs. When we picked up our load the next day, we picked up our stowaways again. This time we were on our way to Sydney, Australia with a stop to deliver our stowaways to Wellington, New Zealand.

Before we arrived, one of them released one of the barges trying to escape. The skipper locked them in the paint locker until we arrived and turned them over to customs.

After completing our trip, we returned to the States. The next trip was to Pearl Harbor, then back to Pedro. The Navy then took over the S.S. Catawba. We went to Treasure Island and from there back to Brooklyn on delayed orders.

I was on four other ships. They all were new when I went aboard. They were the S.S. Charles Bullfinch, S.S. Irwin Russell, S.S. Bernard Carter, and S.S. Rich Mountain. I will always remember that first ship and the crazy crew.

Thanking you,

Charles Leslie Gwaltney, GM 3/C
656-18-30

107 Dellwood Avenue
Swannanoa, N.C. 28778-2603
(704) 686-3200

Lloyd

Dec 19, 1991

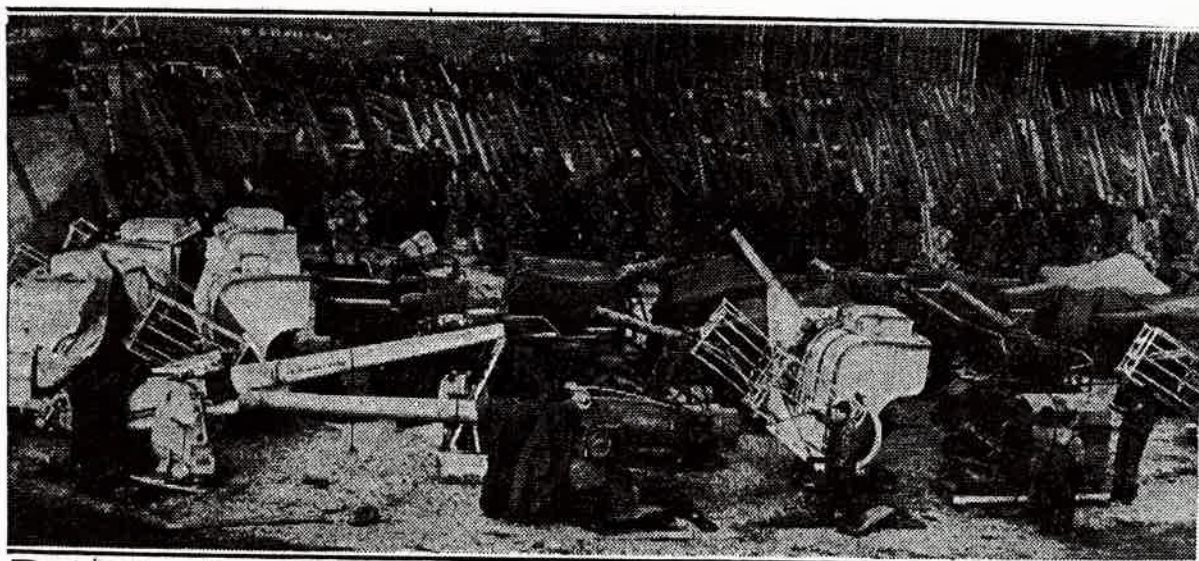
I was reading in the Pointer about the Armed Guard training Centers. I went thru Gulf Port and Shell Beach. Later I was sent to a armed guard School in Noroton Heights Conn. Small place, an old soldiers home. At that place they had cooks & bakers school, plus signal & radio school. Funny thing about it I got assigned to a gun crew at 52nd Street, I didn't know it until we had left N Y harbor. I had been assigned to the ship as a signalman, and I was not a signalman, but we had a nice captain and gunnery officer, I knew the code from boy scout days and a few flag signal but could not read the

light, anyhow they told me to practice with the radioman (the captain could read lite) and said when we got back to the states they would get me in a school for communications, and that is how I ended up in Noroton Hgts. Was there 6 weeks. About an hour from N Y City. I was assigned to 2 other ships after that as a signalman, I never went for SM3/c I remained as striker, but always sailed without another signalman. I was in European and pacific. Our ship was about 2 dayes out of Leyte, headed for Mobile when the surrender came, and I was discharged in about 2 months.

Charles E Buckingham

CHARLES E. BUCKINGHAM
3737 PITTSBURG AVE.
DAYTON, OH 45406

PS I remember when I was assigned to Armed Guard at Great Lakes my buddies says go ahead be shark food..
I shipped from AGC Brooklyn, Treasure Island and New Orleans.



Ready to Shoot and not a war in sight. Ever wonder what happened to gun from dismantled fighting ships and disarmed merchantmen? Well, here are a few awaiting disposition in Navy Yard Annex, Maspeth, Queens.

Pearl Harbor remembered

December 7, 1991
Australia

VETERANS, dignitaries, friends and curious spectators took up their places at Bankstown Memorial Oval on Saturday to mark the 50th anniversary to the day of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

The thinning ranks of the men who actually witnessed the fiery catastrophe brought home just how long ago the event took place — Sunday, December 7, 1941.

Bankstown RSL president Danny Cole and Mayor Ray Buchanan opened proceedings, before US Consul-General Mr Philip Lincoln made a special address. Commander David Raymond, of the American Legion, presented the prizes for the commemorative essay awards and then gave a special gift to Mr Buchanan on behalf of the citizens of Bankstown.

The gift was in the form of a letter from the Governor of Hawaii, Mr John Waihee.

This is the text of Governor Waihee's letter:

It is a pleasure to extend the greetings and warm aloha of the people of Hawaii to everyone participating in the annual Pearl Harbor Day observances in the City of Bankstown, Australia.

At this anniversary observance, you honor those who were at Pearl Harbor 50 years ago, especially those who gave their lives.

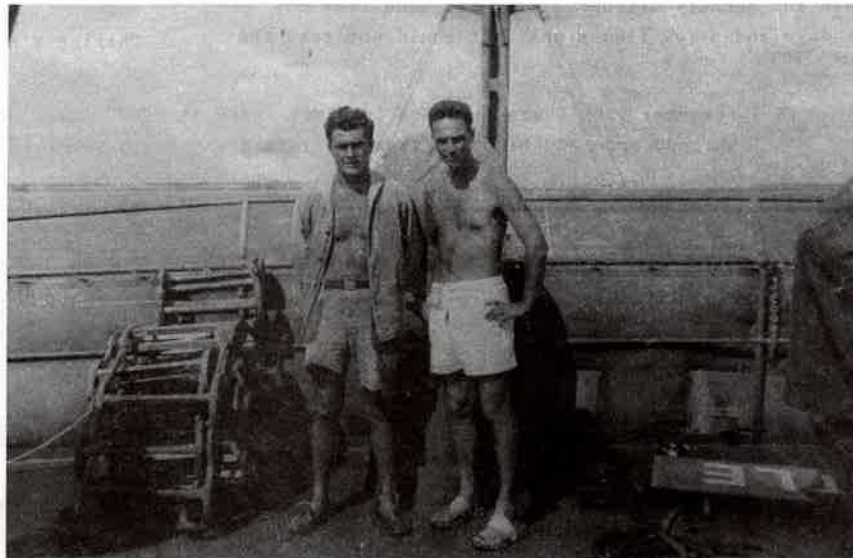
This commemoration takes place under the flags of the United States, Australia and Hawaii, demonstrating the strength of the bond between our two countries and cementing the relationship between our peoples.

The people of Hawaii appreciate the efforts made each year in Bankstown to commemorate this day and to acknowledge the role our islands played in World War II. I wish to express our gratitude for your dedication to the observance of Pearl Harbor Day each year.

John Waihee,
Governor of Hawaii.



Comradeship and memories of the "old days" were the order of the day at Bankstown's commemorative service marking the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor



Tom Connors (in his "evening jacket") of Largo, FL and Jim Rochester, 5104 S.W. Scholis Ferry Rd., A—E—210, Portland Or 97225, show themselves off in their "DRESS OF THE DAY" and the Jacobs Ladder. Photos by Jim.

View from the bridge of the S.S. MONTEZUMA CASTLE in February 1944. Notice the wake of the ship on a ZIG-ZAG course. She was bound for LUZON.

Gunner was 'unsung hero'

By Frances DeVore
Staff Writer

There were very few Purple Hearts among us," Arthur Clark reflected. "Mostly our men went down and stayed there. We weren't the heroes fighting the war."

But men like Clark, who served aboard the freighters, got the others to the war. They took them fuel, food, ammunition and equipment that made heroic deeds possible in the bloody land, sea and air battles around the globe in World War II, and protected U.S. shipping from the U-boat menace. Others called the Navy Armed Guard, in which he served, the "Unsung Heroes" of that war, out-manned, out-gunned and tasked with a near-impossible mission.

One of the most dramatic, but least-known stories of the war, the Armed Guard was composed of a comparative handful of men, suffering losses far out of proportion to its size and to the Navy as a whole.

Dormant since the end of World War I, the Armed Guard was reactivated and rushed to sea to man guns aboard U.S. merchantmen and tankers combatting German U-boats, planes and armed raiders that were sinking allied supply ships faster than they could be built in World War II.

German "wolfpacks" were spread over a vast area of ocean. When a convoy was spotted, the sub would trail it until it was joined by others and then strike in force. The need for protected supply lines was desperate.

The Armed Guard had only one job aboard ship... to man the guns. All runs were dangerous, but by far the deadliest was the notorious Murmansk Run to the U.S.S.R. where 25 percent of all ships were lost including 77 U.S. merchantmen.

Death was a constant companion with nature assisting the enemy. Ice often locked convoys into paths from which there

was no escape. Crewmen had no illusions about their life expectancy when their ships joined a convoy to Murmansk.

Clark's service is well-documented in a diary compiled by his sister from letters he sent home. He was a senior in high school in Port Jervis, N.Y. when he joined the Navy at age 17 right after playing his last football game Thanksgiving Day in 1942.



Inducted on Feb. 13, 1943, he was assigned to the Armed Guard Unit, Navy Gun Crew on merchant ships, including tankers, cargo and troop transports. By the end of the war, he had served in the European, Pacific and American theaters of operations.

As a gunner on a 20 mm. weapon aboard the freighter SS Steel Trader, Clark's first trip took him to Cuba, Trinidad and Brazil, traveling in a convoy that delivered men and cargo along the way and picked up new cargo going home.

His "diary" tells of sub scares and an accident in which a blimp trying to drop a message hit the ship's mast, broke off the top of it and tore the front of the blimp's cabin. Several men were hurt, the worst being a signalman in the blimp who had his legs smashed. Then the war came closer.

"We lost about a third of our convoy in the Nazi sub-infested waters of the North Atlantic while the Steel Trader was carrying ammunition to England," Clark said.

"Ammunition cargo ships and tankers sailed in what we called coffin corners, away from the rest of the convoy in case we were hit. In a convoy, troop transports would be in the center, surrounded by destroyers for protection. We were on the outside corners in case we were hit and blew up."

Please see Gunner on 4B



Barry R. Tice/Star-Banner

Arthur Clark collected souvenirs such as money from Japan, Germany and Italy during his time on detached service. Clark was part of the Naval forces assigned to defend civilian convoys.

4B

OCALA STAR-BANNER, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1992

Gunner among Armed Guard's select few

Continued from 3B

Aboard the S.S. Sharpless, Clark found himself celebrating his birthday as "an old man of 19," shrugging off sub threats and others, enjoying the weather and joining a convoy to Naples.

He tells of seeing the Stromboli Island volcano, which erupted every 15 minutes, the Isle of Capri, Mount Vesuvius and Civitavecchia, a small place "pretty well shot up" and deserted, where cargo was offloaded.

Unable to write about the war, he told of visiting Rome and eating at "Broadway Bill's," visiting a prison camp and taking on 500 German, Mongolian and Polish prisoners bound for Naples.

Later 500 German prisoners from General Rommel's crack tank battalions were taken on at Oran, Africa, to bring to the United States. Now and then he mentioned briefly depth charges being dropped, manning guns during alerts and similar items that let his sister know the enemy was near.

In a brief note, he tells about Christmas in 1944 while docked at Marseilles, France. The watch had doubled the night before because of sabotage on the dock area, then "good chow" and a trip ashore on Christmas Day and the shocking news that snipers had killed 21 Army and Navy officers in town. Also that 19 German paratroopers with GI uniforms and dogtags had been captured.

Transferred to the Pacific theater, Clark notes that word had been received May 7, 1945, that Germany had unconditionally surrendered, "which doesn't do us guys much good here in the Pacific."

During the liberation of the Philippines, he had a 10-day stay aboard the USS Refuge (hospital ship) recovering from malaria and saw many Bataan Death March survivors aboard who "all looked like death warmed over."

"I guess VJ (victory over Japan) isn't quite here yet," he wrote Aug. 22, his ship loaded and waiting in the harbor for orders.

"They're supposed to sign papers within 10 days. Army and Navy occupation troops are supposed to land the 26th. We don't know where we're going."

But finally the day of peace came and on Sept. 6 all blackouts were lifted, guns secured, and the ship was running with open ports pulling into Tokyo Bay, where a surprise waited for them.

"A little typhoon caused quite a bit of trouble

Transferred to the Pacific theater, Arthur Clark notes that word had been received May 7, 1945, that Germany had unconditionally surrendered, "which doesn't do us guys much good here in the Pacific."

last night," Clark wrote Sept. 19, when a couple of Japanese ships broke loose, causing some battering of their hull and smashing the starboard wing of the bridge. He and shipmates went aboard a Japanese ship with no crew aboard and got Japanese books, chairs and other souvenirs.

He was discharged in January 1946, as Gunner's Mate 3rd Class, and has received the following medals and ribbons: the American Theater, European Theater, Asia-Pacific Theater, Philippine Liberation, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Independence and Philippine Liberation Victory Medal.

He immediately joined the carpenters union in Buffalo, N.Y. and began building bridges, but served during the Korean War on selective call-up as a gunner's mate, where he kept the rating, but ended up in construction with the SeaBeas building barracks at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Once that was over he returned to bridge-building and married Marlene Elston, of Unionville, N.Y.

Charles, I attracted the attention of F. DeVore (age 77) when I wrote a letter to the paper concerning opening V.A. Hospitals to NON-VETS. She asked if I would help her on a story "REMEMBERING WW II." I showed her material you had sent and my notes and scrapbook. Since the article, I have received 4 calls from ARMED GUARD VETERANS. More expected !! (and did!) (Also served on the S.S. Geo. Kendall and Oliver Evans in PAC.)

Arthur L. Clark
96 N.W. 137th Terr.
Ocala, FL 32675

**WHY DON'T YOU TRY
TO GET A STORY IN
YOUR PAPER?**

(cal)

U.S. MERCHANT MARINE -- U.S. NAVY ARMED GUARD

HONORED AT U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON



**I'm proud
to have
instigated
these to
both crews.
CAL**

Merchant Marine - Navy Armed Guard Bronze Sculpture

Bronze sculpture to pay tribute to U.S. Merchant Marine and U.S. Navy Armed Guard

The Navy Memorial Foundation will honor the U.S. Merchant Marine and U.S. Navy Armed Guard when it installs a large bronze sculpture at the Navy Memorial in our nation's capitol. It will join 21 others on two walls which flank the main Pennsylvania Avenue entrance into the Memorial.

Technically known as a bronze-relief, it can be likened to a coin with its raised and recessed areas. Appropriately, the sculpture for the bronze was a World War II Merchant Marine veteran. Robert Lamb was graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. He served as an engineering officer and saw service on the Murmansk run -- which he depicts in his sculpture.

When the Congress approved the Navy Memorial it stipulated that all funding for construction had to come from private contributions. And this applies also to the sculptures which must be "sponsored".

Merchant Marine and Armed Guard veterans, as well as those now serving in our Merchant Marine, are being asked to help with this sponsorship. As with the Lone Sailor statue which stands as a centerpiece at the Memorial and represents all who have worn a sailor suit, so will this one sculpture pay tribute to all who have served in our Merchant Marine, and their shipmates of the Navy Armed Guard.

(over)

You can enter your name, address, serial number and photo among the archives for a generous fee.
Call 1-800-821-8892 for free information and brochures.



**Your
comments
are
welcomed,
pro or con.
CAL**

One of the sculpture walls showing some of the installed reliefs

We need to raise \$50,000 for this project. We are asking the help of all Merchant Marine and Navy veterans in raising these funds, as well as the maritime industry. There is no other place in this country where there is told the contributions of the U.S. Merchant Marine, and embarked U.S. Navy Armed Guard, who served together in two World Wars. A unique story is depicted where merchant mariners served in gun crews shoulder to shoulder with their Navy shipmates in the face of the enemy. The Merchant Marine/Navy team delivered the goods!

Originally, the Navy Memorial Foundation had decided that no sculpture would be installed on the granite walls until sponsorship was achieved. However, because it has complete faith in us, it has gone ahead and put up the U.S. Merchant Marine -- U.S. Navy Armed Guard bronze. Incidentally, these are not little "plaques". They measure 36 inches wide and 32 inches high, and cast in bronze, weigh about 200 pounds.

To participate, cut off and mail the following form TODAY:

I will participate in sponsoring the U.S. Merchant Marine - U.S. Navy Armed Guard bronze sculpture at the Navy Memorial.

Name and address : _____

My contribution is: ____ \$50 ____ \$25 ____ \$10 ____ Other

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ made payable to U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation
or charge my MasterCard/Visa - number _____ Expiration ____/____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

Daytime telephone () _____

Mail to: U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, 701 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Suite 123, Washington, DC 20004-2608

Check One: ☐ U.S. Navy Armed Guard WW I and WW II Veteran
☐ U.S. Merchant Marine WW I and WW II Veteran
☐ Other (Received info through Armed Guard)

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Lone Sailor

U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL
Washington, D.C.



DEDICATION

To the Officers and Men who sailed the ships of
World War II,
especially to those who lost their lives, and to
their families.

THE U.S.N. ARMED GUARD WWI AND WWII VETERANS "11th" NATIONAL REUNION WILL BE HELD AT THE "CLARION HOTEL" 1500 CANAL ST., NEW ORLEANS, LA 70112 TELEPHONE 504-522-4500, FAX 525-2644, 1-800-824-3359 ON MAY 27-30, 1992. THE HOSTS WILL BE: ELMER H. AND DORIS VINCENT, 20181 CHANDELER ST., COVINGTON, LA 70433, 1-504-892-7537. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY. PLEASE TELL THEM YOU ARE AN ARMED GUARD VETERAN TO AVOID CONFUSION. YOU EARNED THIS LIBERTY! TAKE IT!



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