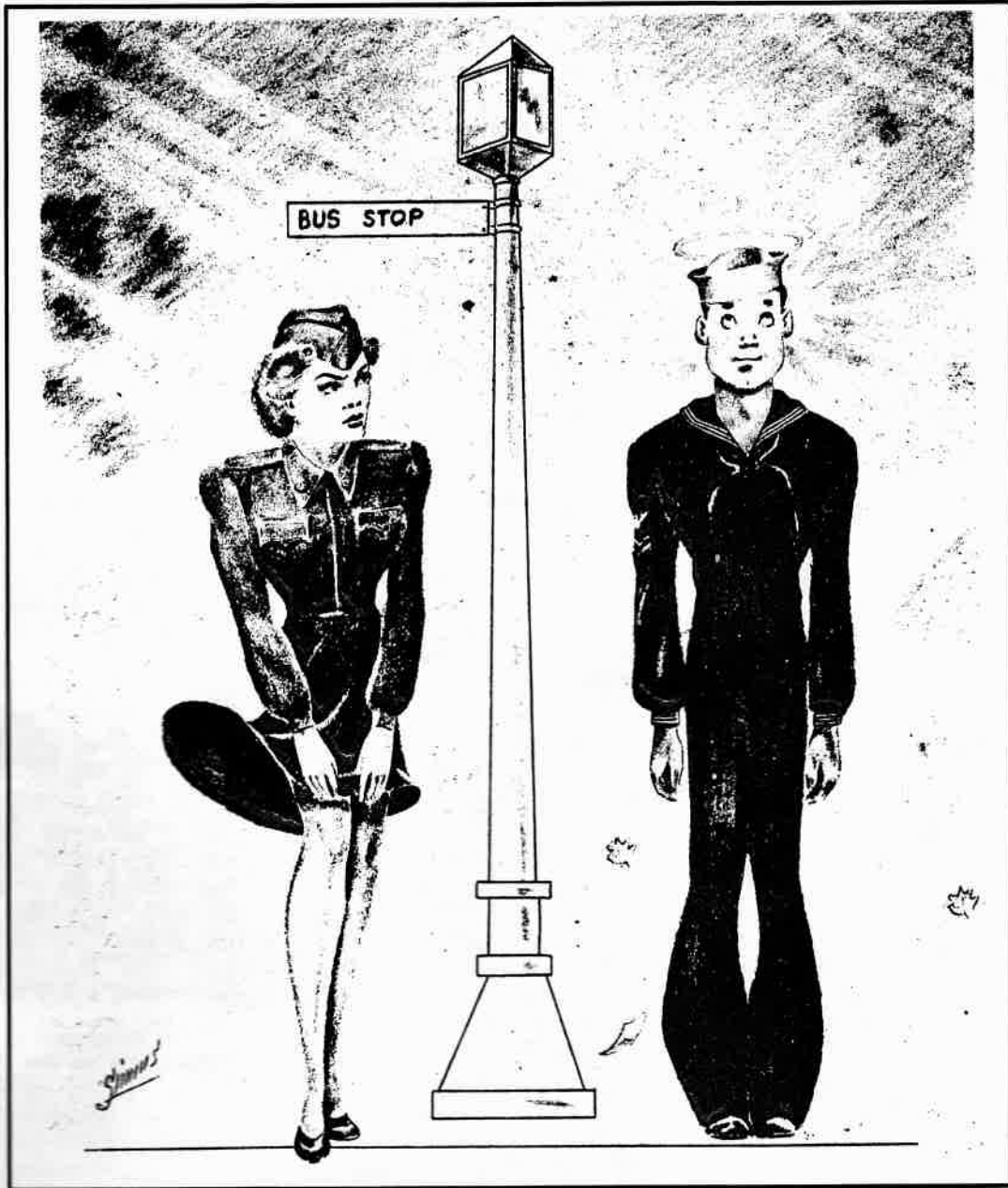


JANUARY, 1992

THE POINTER

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See article on page 15.

Reprinted from "The Pelican," March 5, 1945



THE POINTER

Officers for 1992

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 5702 Partridge Lane
 Raleigh, N.C. 27609
 1-919-876-5537

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 1992 Reunion Hosts
 29051 Chandelier Street
 Covington, LA 70433
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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"

Board of Directors

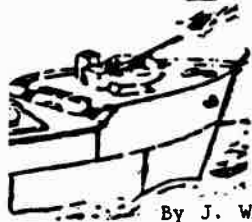
C. A. Lloyd NC
 L. D. Lloyd NC
 Don Gleason KS
 Joe Piccolini CA
 Walter Magalis MD
 Pete DeLa Cruz IN
 Ralph McNally OK
 Len Carlson MN
 Ray Didur MI
 Ralph Jacobs IN
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Lyle Kell WA
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Some Thoughts On V-J Day

By J. WAYTE FULTON, JR., LT. COMDR.
 Chief CHAPLAIN

With almost dramatic suddenness that day for which we have fought and striven and hoped and prayed has now come. The terrible conflagration which was kindled on distant shores only finally to envelop us has now died down into gray ashes. The temple of Janus is closed. The long hard war is over.

Surely it is an occasion of rejoicing for all of us. We have fought well. We have suffered. We have not faltered. We have gained a just victory, but our exaltation in our triumph must be tempered in the knowledge of the terrible force by which we have gained this new birth of freedom. The prodigal expenditure of our national resources, the almost astronomical indebtedness which we have saddled upon our children's children, the giving of our time and talents to an unprofitable and unholy business and, most of all, the irreparable price of the supreme sac-

rifice of so many of our finest young men --- all of these thoughts cause us deep sadness in retrospect even over the jubilant flush of victory.

Also, our rejoicing is clouded by the knowledge of the critical days ahead. As a nation we face monumental problems both in our domestic and foreign affairs and undoubtedly as individuals most of us have problems of varying intensity. A happy solution depends upon the spirit, the patience, the forbearance with which we face this new day.

God has preserved us as a nation; therefore, let us turn to Him with gladness of heart in humble acknowledgement of our utter dependence upon Him for grace, and wisdom in the matter of securing once and for all a just and blessed peace. May He hasten the Golden Age of the Kingdom of Heaven where there shall be heard again the primal chorus, silent so long amid the clash of arms, in which the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy.

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



Top (L-R): Charles Savona, Poe Piccolini. Bottom: Rod Raymond, George Haling, Gerald May, Joe Stringer and Charles Baca are proud to show off a fine gun crew.

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

Dear Everyone!!

HAPPY VALENTINES

Jan-Feb.-1992

I hope SANTA was good to Y'ALL and you brought in the Year of 1992 with a Joyous Celebration. It sure did past fast at our house!! At least, the Year of 1991 brought more ARMED GUARD onboard. Hope all the "NEW D'SALTS" have enjoyed the info sent to them as much as I have in being able to send it out. Everyone's letters of encouragement and donations saw us through another year without "DUES". I'd like to THANK Y'ALL for keeping the ARMED GUARD AFLOAT. Also, for helping finance the costs on the S.S. JOHN W. BROWN, S.S. JEREMIAH O'BRIEN and the LANE VICTORY. Those who sailed them, feel as I do.

As of Jan.10,1992, the Balance in the ARMED GUARD CHECKING ACCOUNT #301-183-839 was \$13,321.65 which is enough to do " 2 POINTER MAIL-OUTS." This is the first time I felt comfortable since we started in 1982. I can assure you that all monies donated is used on ARMED GUARD EXPENSES ONLY and I appreciate your trust in me. We "do not" have time to spare and I do not have time to get into a POPULARITY CONTEST!! I just hope my health will hold out until we find all of those who would like to be mustered onboard again. Many of you are in ill health. We wish you a speedy recovery. Many of you can not read this fine print. A few do not need glasses. Most are hard of hearing. I hope the doctors can attend to the sick and others can have their eyes checked. You can take it to a printer and have the print enlarged. And if you're hard of hearing, get a hearing aid!

The 11TH U.S.N. ARMED GUARD NATIONAL REUNION should be the largest of all the REUNIONS and I hope you have started making plans to be with the crew there. Elmer and Doris Vincent are our hosts they've informed me that over 100 had signed on by Jan. 1st. The other 500 rooms will go fast now that the Holidays are over so sign early to be at the "CLARION HOTEL ARMED GUARD RECEIVING STATION"!! It sure helps the Hosts and it avoids the last minute rush. The rooms will get no cheaper but they will become scarce before the last minute. The meals will be the same price, too.

On PAGE 16, November POINTER, I ask you to write in VERNON JOYCE's name in place of Doug Sephton, which I also misspelled. Also, it should have been "OFFICERS for 1991" instead of 1990. On Page 16 with pics of the Memorial Plaque Commemorating the "FIRST CONVOYS" to take supplies to Russia through Murmansk, Archangel and Molotov, Russia, I can not express my feeling as I again reread Bill Ryan's wording:"AND THE COLD WAR IS OVER!" So much has taken place in all of Russia since August 29,1991 and I know that each of us wish the Russian People a successful and everlasting transfer of Government, to a Democratic Form of Government and they will live in Peace and and that an abundance of food will arrive to remove the hunger.

Our shipmate, Andy Knapp sailed on to that Undiscovered Country, on January 7th 1992. Andy and Madelyn devoted many hours over the last few years running the raffle to make up money for the "ARMED GUARD" expenses. I for one was real appreciative for their help. Andy will be missed by all who knew him. Our sympathy goes to Madelyn, family and friends. His brother Joe came with Andy to the Reunions.

Our sympathy is also extended to our Shipmates of the Sea, who have joined the others. One that I was real close in correspondence, and reunions was "Dale House". He and Virginia were always there with a a smile. Many of the those listed on the deceased list could never attend any of the gathering but they and their families are special to all, for these men were "ARMED GUARD"! The surviving members of the families are encouraged to attend any functions held and we welcome you to be with us. We are all FAMILY. There were 3 Armed Guard Widows at the 50th Ceremony and they have expressed their thanks for being allowed to attend. I know of two who have signed on already.

It is not my intent to publish info "ONLY" of the ARMED GUARD DUTY in the "ATLANTIC". I have asked you to write your story. I "DO WANT FACTS" for "YOU WERE THERE". I was not, but I have studied and read

a lot. I never faced the "KAMIKAZE" planes, was not in any invasion nor did I ride an ammunition ship or tanker. I went where they told me; did what they told me; ate what they fed me; slept when I could, and got out as soon as I could. I believe most of you did the same. So, it's up to you to write your story. I do appreciate sincere, constructive letters like the one that I will reprint now, and I quote: "I was reading the POINTER about how the war went in the Atlantic. I never got to the East Coast as all my time was in the "PACIFIC." I left Treasure Island on Jan.1,1944 and did not return until August of 1945. I was a GUNNER on the S.S. W.B.RODGER. I tried to find out about her but it is a hopeless case. I was wondering why there's not much said about the "boys" who served in the "Pacific". I know there were a lot of men lost in the Atlantic Ocean and there were some who were lost in the Pacific, too. We did not loose any killed in action but we did have two who went OFF THE EDGE. We came back to San Francisco with one Jap plane on our stack and 18-20 bombs painted on it, too, which meant each bomb was for one of the air raids we were in. You know how they used to paint them on. I thought I would write you and let you know that I really enjoy reading of the ARMED GUARD, and thank you for the POINTER. D.Edwards R1 Box 1359 Sarcoxie, Mo. 64862.



PART of one day's Armed Guard mail-out.

Thanks Dallas!!! I did send Dallas the story, "A KAMIKAZE SCORED ON MY LIBERTY SHIP" of Bob Norling's article from the Boston Globe 3/11/85 and I did promise him that if he would write his story, I'd print it. From his letter, I learned something. I always spelled it "KAMAKAZI". I guess I would have been more accurate if I had survived the 20 bombing attacks!! Or one had hit my ship!!

WEBSTER'S defines it:

"KA-MI-KA-ZE":n (Jap lit. devine wind) 1: a member of a Japanese air attack corps in World War II assigned to make a suicidal crash on a

target (as a ship) 2: an airplane containing explosives to be flown in a suicidal attack on a target. Also:

kamikaze, adj. 1: of, relating to, or being a kamikaze

2: SUICIDAL (the city's — taxi drivers)

At least I rode with one in BROOKLYN to BAY RIDGE AND SURVIVED!!!
WHEN!! I did notice that WEBSTER did not list the ARMED GUARD. YOU were "SUICIDAL MATERIAL" from 1941 til the war was over, especially on an ammunition ship! Think I'll write to get our group recognized.

Many of you wrote agreeing on my view in favor of "MINI-REUNIONS". They write that they are not physical, or; financial able to go, nor could they stay away from home long due to sickness of their mate, family members, etc. but attended one close by and enjoyed every minute of it. I do encourage you to join us at the "NATIONAL" if at all possible. The "ARMED GUARD NATIONAL REUNIONS" are the best thing to happen since "GRITS"!!

I can furnish the itinerary on the INTERNATIONAL REUNION to be held in ENGLAND for anyone who cares to go. This may be extremely important to some of you to know of it and would like to help Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the famous PQ-17 Convoy to RUSSIA. We have many listed who were there and some of you who were members of the ill-fated cargo ship, the S.S. CARLTON, sunk July 5th, 1941 and were taken prisoner and spent the war in a concentration camp. I felt as if I was obligated to make public this important "HISTORICAL EVENT" that was to take place and give those who can, a chance to attend. I hope to attend "IF" I can get a SUPER SAVER plane ticket and can borrow \$4,000. on a '54 PONTIAC. Mr. Skinner has informed me costs have not been finalized, but will know soon and will send to me so I can send on to you who are interested, to speed up process once I receive information. You will have to deal with him after that. It takes only 3 days for me to get your mail. When you go through him

first, it take 10-15 days one way and same back to you. Call me if you like. Let the phone ring a long time! My understanding is that "AMERICAN" and "NORTHWEST AIRLINES" fly to GLASGOW where the EVENT starts to take place on 7/2-12/92 and you can cut short, or extend your visit and let him know. The schedule is from Glasgow, down to London; Liverpool; Portsmouth and a wreath laying Ceremony in Bladon at Winston Churchill's grave and other places. Accomodations are at Universities for about 20 pounds per day. You are to go to the bank here and transfer DOLLARS into STERLING for the deposit which I hope to have the amount soon. You can stay at a Veteran's home while in London but you have to carry proof that you are a VETERAN. Rooms are small but clean and cozy says Bill Ryan who has furnished me this information and has stayed there before.

Many of you have written whether you would be getting the "RUSSIAN MEDAL" you were entitled to. George Hinkley, V.J. Mangiafico and others have received theirs and hopefully you will get yours soon. If you have written to them before, or; one who sent me a letter of which I made copies and sent to them, you may want to refresh their memories by writing again. I encourage you to remind them that you had written previously to keep from doubling up the process. Send a copy of discharge and YOUR "NOTICE OF SEPARATION FROM THE U.S. NAVAL SERVICE (NAVPERS-553) which shows the ships names but no dates. you can get your NAVY RECORDS from: NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER, (MILITARY PERSONNEL RECORDS), 9700 PAGE BOULEVARD, ST. LOUIS, MO. 63132 by filling out and sending FORM-180 which I have sent to all of you in the past. If you want another one, send a S.A.S.E. to the ARMED GUARD ADDRESS. The dates on and off ships will show on these PERSONNEL RECORDS. Then you can furnish them with with the: ship's names, dates onboard, Ports-of-Call, Etc..

The Philippine Embassy called immediately upon my request to see if they were still issuing Ribbons and Liberation Medals. They are and



Now!! This is where the "POINTER" you are reading begins. I can assure you, the room was straightened up before!!

have one in stock and the other had been sent for a resupply. There is a \$7.00 fee for shipping and handling. I would send now for them before the rush starts before other branches of service gets "wind" of them issuing them. They will require the "same" information that the Russians do. I understand many British and Canadians applied for the Russian Medal. They went and they're entitled to them, too. The same goes with the P.I.s. Best of luck. Here's their addresses.

Honorable Vicktor G, Komplektor,
Soviet Ambassador to the USSR,
1825 Phelps Place,
Washington, D.C. 20008

Philippine Embassy
Att. Mr. Poloma
1617 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Please send me your forwarding address 3 weeks prior to moving, or; when you are "MIGRATING". Also, if you are on the mailing list now and you don't get a "POINTER" within a 4 month period, write to see what is wrong or call a local Armed Guard and see if he received his! Ken Watt from Statesville, N.C. attended the 50th Reunion in Norfolk and gave me his name. I evidently lost it. He called today to say he would be in town and wanted to come by and I gave him the directions and after he hung up, I looked up his name up in the computer and on the printout and it wasn't there. If he had not called and come by, he would still be among the approx. 65,000 of the original 144,940 we have not reached. We had a nice conversation and visit.

If you have ANY CHANGE of ADDRESS, ZIP CODE, ETC., send it on to THE ARMED GUARD ADDRESS SHOWN ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE POINTER!! I have the MAIN COMPUTER THAT ALL NAMES, "CHANGES SHOULD AND WILL BE MADE". If you send in a "NEW OL'SALT's NAME" to someone else, I may never get it or I MAY GET IT "SOMETIMES". Many are sending this info to those who hold REUNIONS and MINI-REUNIONS. They have to send it here to be changed. I had rather receive it through 10 hands though than not to receive it at all. If you have had a zip code, or area telephone number changed in the last 3 years, check with me for accuracy. It may be that that "POINTER" you look for has been DEADLETTEREDBOXED! If you take a trip and have your mail stopped, they mark it TEMPORARILY AWAY" and return it so you may be back home and I am sitting here with the "POINTER" waiting to know when you're back.

Here it another error I made in the 11/91 "POINTER". On Page 3, Al Sniff stays on "DURANGO DRIVE". See the notice on the "NOLA MUGS."



Hilda Lloyd collates 16 sets of ship's lists, 16 alpha name lists and 16 by zip code that go out to 13 different men who hold mini-reunions and one each for each of the ships. I appreciate her. Thanks, Hilda.

SNIFF called to say that if you are attending the NOLA REUNION, you could save \$3.50 postage by letting him know NOW, he could bring on to New Orleans. The PELICAN MUGS makes a good conversation piece. If you ordered anything from me and did not receive it, please notify me. I could have overlooked it or could have been lost in the mail.

If you have read this small print this far, please do not stop now. I saved the best for last. I highly encourage you to call a reporter and get a story on the ARMED GUARD. WHEN YOU DO, PLEASE get them to place the NATIONAL ARMED GUARD ADDRESS somewhere in the article so if an Armed Guard reads it, he can contact HERE!! I have had a few to call that they got a story in and calls. I asked- "DID YOU GET THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES?" PLEASE GET THAT PERSON'S NAME and as much info from him as possible and YOU SEND IT IN. I want to send him the information on the Armed Guard whether I ever hear from him. "BLESS Y'ALL", stay Healthy and will see you in NEW ORLEANS. cal



Sitting on the front row (R-L) are three of the "DIRTY THIRTIES:" Marshall L. Daniels, of Dale City, CA; Floyd W. Jones of Natural Bridge, VA; and Marvin Fentress of Virginia Beach, three of the first Armed Guard.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED SHIPMATES AND LADIES REPORTED SINCE 11/18/91

Alves	Anthony	Escondido	Ca	Alvina	11/27/91
Baird	Donald R.	Largo	Fl	Jean	91
Butler (MM)	William	Hall	Portland	Or	Velma P.
Byrant	Leslie		Elma	Wa	Thelmaleen
Craft	Paul		Akron	Oh	?
Dodendorff	Jack		Omaha	Ne	Lois
Dorsey	William	Boyd	Sumner	Wa.	Any
Dutton	C.	S.	Largo	Fl	?
Galung	Grover	H.	Merrimack	NH	Jean
Giddens	Bert	Albert	Okla. City	Ok	Anita
Graf	Arthur		Otis	Or	?
Gregory	Roy	A.	Azle	Tx	Marcia
Hart	Howard	E.	Omaha	Ne	Bernadine
Hines	Lloyd		Okla. City	Ok	Margaret
Knapp ++	Andrew	"Andy"	Glenburnie	Md	Madelyn
Maciejewicz	Edward	J.	Naples	Fl	Norma
McCoy	Winfield		Dayton	Ky	Margaret
Mulhern	Joseph	B.	Rochester	NY	Elizabeth
Roark	David	Dean	Denver	Co	?
Smart	Thomas	J.	Ryan	Ok	Hazel
Stone	Cullie	C.	Tulsa	Ok	?
Vermette	Raymond		South Gate	Mi	?
Washburn	John	R.	Mentor	Oh	Mary A.
Wyszinski	John		Somerville	Ma	Victoria

#Had preceded in Death

Gregory+ Marcia Azle Tx Roy A. 10/9/91
 +Reported killed instantly in car wreck. Roy is injured. Died later.

++Andy was instrumental in raising money for the ARMED GUARD through different sources. He will be missed not only through the ARMED GUARD but the MERCHANT SEAMEN and the Historical Ship-S.S. JOHN W. BROWN CREW.

(If any of the deceased were real close and you would like to make your next donation to the ARMED GUARD in their Honor, please do so.)



(Above) (L-R) Joe Piccolini, Gerald May and Charles Savona proudly show off the 5"38 and the 40mm guns of the S.S. LANE VICTORY.

(Right) Chairman C.A. Lloyd and Commander Paul K. Kessler shake hands after accepting the wreath to be tossed to the Deep on their return trip out to sea as Marvin Fentress looks on.

12/12/91
 Dear Charles,
 In the November 1991 issue of the "POINTER", on page 7, there is a list of the number of personnel assigned to the U.S.N. Armed Guard. The number included "GUNNERY AND COMMUNICATION OFFICERS, SIGNALMEN AND RADIONEN. I did not see any: "COOKS, BAKERS, MEDICAL CORPSMEN, STOREKEEPERS, SHIP'S COMPANY, ETC. I just wonder if these men are included in the 144,970 figures, or; are we a group of the ARMED GUARD that nobody wants to admit it as being a part of this fine OUTFIT? I think that we were as much a part of the ARMED GUARD as any of the others! I spent almost 2 years aboard the DUTCH SHIP, M.V. SOMMELSDIJK, a cargo ship converted to carry troops. We had approx. 100 Armed Guard officers and men onboard. About one half of these were Officers, Gunners, Radiomen and Signalmen. The other were the ones mentioned above. I enjoy reading the "POINTER", even though it doesn't mention "20 per cent" of the ones who served.

Charles, I was going through some dresser drawers the other day and came across an ARMED GUARD LIBERTY PASS. You can have it to go on the S.S. JOHN W. BROWN for the museum. I would like to wish you and your family and all ARMED GUARD and their ladies a MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR. I have also enclosed a check to help with expenses of the "POINTER"!!

John A. HERNER 859 Reda Rd., Indianapolis, In. 46227.

***** ***** ***** ***** *****
 (Answer)

Dear Shipmate Herner, You have asked a question that I have NOT been able to find out but will inquire through proper channels to see if I can come up with an answer. As far as the U.S.N. ARMED GUARD VETERANS ASSOCIATION and I am concerned, you and the other 20% were just as much ARMED GUARD as anyone else was. We have not ruled out anyone who drew on an "ARMED GUARD PAY CHIT"! It's a shame that Walter Cronkite or some one does not do a story on those who did the "DIRTY" work. Many of those who ended up in shore jobs were placed there because they did these particular jobs in "civilian life" even before going into the service. Some were injured Armed Guard and was given shore duty because they would have been a liability on a gun crew for various reasons. YES! I am aware of the "SHANKER MECHANICS", COOKS and BAKERS (The Best), PHOTOGRAPHERS, TRUCK DRIVERS, all the Ship's Company and many others. One job that I remember real well was the RADARMAN on the U.S.A.T J.W. McAndrews. How he knew what the little "blips" meant on the screen was a mystery to me.

Some ran the boats from the docks to the ships and back for liberty parties. Too many jobs to name!! We all were in the SPECIAL BRANCH of the NAVY!! ARMED GUARD!! Your letter is well taken and very constructive. Thanks and I hope it answers many of the others questions. Keep it up! Sincerely, cal 12/18/91



Dear Charles,

November 2, 1991

I want to pass along this information which may be interesting for your next "POINTER". A couple of issues ago, you ran a copy of my article about the disappearance of the Liberty Ship, S.S. SUMNER I. KIMBALL which had been published in the "BOSTON GLOBE". This is a followup as a result of that story. I am so pleased to recount this to you because of your wonderful work in getting the "ARMED GUARD" CREW together again.

I got a phone call from a JOSLIN in Glen Falls, New York telling me that his family had just heard from a relative in Connecticut who had sent to him the "GLOBE" article. It turns out that his uncle, Holman S. Bell, was a 3rd Mate on the KIMBALL. In other words, Bell was his mother's brother. The family was so appreciative of finding out so they had a reporter from their local newspaper to do a story on this. (By the way, Bell's widow is still around at 78)

As a result of that news article in the Glen Falls paper, a Mrs. Raymond Keech read and recognized the name of the ship and immediately contacted the JOSLINS and told him that her brother was a member of the ARMED GUARD on that ship. He was Bruno Lovett S1/c, #600 96 91. Her family "was never told what happened". She contacted me at once and I filled her in to other the other details available to me. She knew another boy who went into the Navy with her brother and he was on the ship also. She contacted that family and told them the story. This boy was ARNOLD GEORGE EDGERLY S1/c #600 93 21.

Then she heard about another boy from the area named DURWOOD BELMONT JOHNSON S1/c #608-78 59 but the family had moved across the State to the Buffalo area. She wrote a letter to the editor of the local paper there and asked about this family. Lo and Behold!! She received "eight" letters from that family, all eagerly asking many questions. The boy's mother was still around at 88 years young and very active. The boy's father had died---never believing his son was dead. I had letters from two of JOHNSON's sisters. One was 5 and the other 9 at the time of the tragedy. So, Charles, 3 Navy families now know what happened to their loved ones after 47 years. At least the wondering is over, although it's not good news per se.

Just thought you'd be interested in this story. I have heard from another family whose father was a Fireman on the S.S. KIMBALL. As it turns out, the daughter lives only 60 miles from me. I will keep you informed if I locate others.

Please accept my best regards to you and your wife and crew. I enjoy the "POINTER" so very much. You have a wonderful organization. I saw Alex Lombardi from New Jersey several times during the AMV/VWII 1991 National Convention in Las Vegas. I hope your 1992 National Reunion in New Orleans and your 1993 one in Las Vegas is an enjoyable one. BOTH ARE GREAT CITIES!! Sincerely,
Captain Art Moore, Rt.1 Box 210 Hallowell, Me. 04347 207-623-9165



The Crew visits the Armed Guard Plaque placed Oct. 15, 1986 in Memory to all the 144,970 Armed Guard who served.

In behalf of the U.S.N. ARMED GUARD VETERANS, I wish to thank Art for all his efforts since 1983 in helping to bring our crew and the Merchant Marine from Darkness to Light so the World is more aware of what both groups did during World War II in helping to bring Victory against invaders of other Nations. I would like to bring it to the attention of all the "NEW OL'SALTS" that Captain Moore is the Author of the book, "A CARELESS WORD, A NEEDLESS SINKING" which lists 710 sunken ships and tells about where sunk during WW II. COST is \$69.95 and worth it if you can not afford it, your Library may have it. The Library of Congress Book Number is: 82-73552. It's a MASTERPIECE. (cal)

Dear C. A.,

November 28, 1991

Just a little note along with a small contribution. A lot of us out here in ol' Armed Guard land really appreciate what you have done and are continuing to do. Putting out the Pointer is not the short-time, easy job that some people may imagine. You manage to put together a lot of correspondence, old pictures, newspaper clippings, etc., to bring the Armed Guard experience to life. No matter what some will say, I believe that you have set up the momentum that will carry on the association for a good many years to come.

We're looking forward to seeing you down in ol' New Orleans (N'yalluns). Keep well, and give a swift kick in the pants of whoever doesn't volunteer to help you keep the old bunch together with the mailouts.

Love t' y'all,
Harold Skinner
S. 2003 Lincoln
Spokane, WA 99203



(Above) Marvin Fentress (center) of Virginia Beach, VA, stands in place of his shipmate, Bernard Wilkerson of Norfolk, VA who sailed on to meet his Maker the day before the 50th U.S.N. Armed Guard Ceremony took place on Oct. 15, 1991. They joined the Navy together, trained and helped establish the Base and were shipmates and friends for over 50 years. To his right Cmmr. Paul K. Kessler, USN; along with C.A. Lloyd (left).

Wild Gaiety on Base Greet Victory

Reprinted from "The Pelican."

By RONALD MAY, QM3c

The war was over. It was a fact. Weeklong rumors had raised false hopes on the base; when the real thing was announced by President Truman it came almost as an anti-climax.

But there still was plenty of celebrating. Whistles, sirens and fog horns blew; crowds gathered in the barracks to listen to the radio reports. They shouted and whistled.

Since the news came in the evening little work was being done and the carnival spirit shot through the base like a bolt of lightning.

Laughing sailors looked at each other and shouted, "Hey, did you know the war is over?" It was on everyone's lips: The War is Over.

In the base theatre the announcement brought five minutes of cheering, clapping and feet-stamping. The sailors who came out of the theatre were different men from those who had gone in. Mostly they were men from duty sections who did not rate liberty, and they raced to the canteen to celebrate with beer and laughter the end of the fighting.

At about eight, attention was called and a boatswain's mate read Secretary of the Navy Forrestal's admonition to sailors the world over to maintain their traditional discipline and dignity now more than ever.

This is only a milestone, he said in effect, and there are many battles ahead of a non-military nature. He issued a "well done" to each man in the Navy.

Despite the announcement the canteen soon became a place of noise and unrestrained hilarity. Everyone was gay and alcoholic, but it was good natured fun. Now and then a terrific roar would be raised as a Wave was kissed soundly by an app-

reciative sailor. The loudest acclaim came when a Wave entered holding a newspaper with a foot-high headline: PEACE. She fought off her would-be kissers.

Later when the canteen was closed the men drifted back to the barracks, which were as noisy as any other place. Two portly Armed Guard men challenged fleetmen as follows: "OK, just send your best two men out and we'll show you bunch of boots!" The challenge remained unheeded and the men finally ended up singing "Home Sweet Home." And it was the of home that most men dreamed that night.

War's end meant many things to many men. But to the average sailor it meant home. The ways of peace were better after all, he had decided, no matter how enthusiastically he had done his part to produce victory.

Some wondered how the peacetime Navy would find enough men who wanted to remain in and make a career of the sea. Would radical changes have to be made in the peace-time Navy? Perhaps the Navy was thinking of this when it began giving questionnaires to small groups of arbitrarily chosen sailors on different bases, asking them what they thought of the Navy & its uniform. They didn't have to sign their names to their answers and were invited to speak their mind frankly. From some of those who were given the questionnaire on this base came the conclusion that very few had indicated a desire to remain a sailor.

L.B. Collins, Cox., from Burlington, Iowas, voiced the feeling of most on the Naval Repair Base on the thrilling night of victory. Said Collins: "I just want to get back to Iowa and go fishing for awhile."

Me Too! cal

D. J. "JIM" VILLAS
5337 Humboldt Av So
Minneapolis, MN 55419-1123
June 19, 1991

U. S. Armed Guard Association
5712 Partridge Lane
Raleigh, N.C. 27609

Dear Sirs:

Wow! I'm excited. Tonite at the local city lake I ran into a WWII Armed Guard veteran with a sticker on the back of his pickup camper. I tried hard 20 years ago to find my fellow signalman on a ship out of Treasure Island, and never got a response from the Oakland, CA phone book or the VFW that tries to find people for you. And now I understand that I can join your organization and find the whole crew...24 gunners, one officer, another signalman and me.

Please send an application for membership, tell me your dues, and the cost of getting the list of my shipmates. The veteran I met tonite said you send out a form to gather information. Why don't I just give you what he said you need, and we'll go from there.

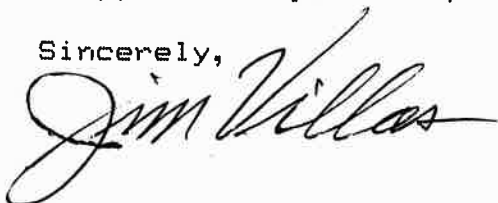
Name & Ser No..... Demetrios John Villas 757 40 00
enlisted date..... 43-12-15
discharge date..... 46-07-01
last rating SM 3/c
branch..... USNR Armed Guard
ship name & call letters SS Drake Victory ANYN
port of shipout Treasure Island, CA
approx. date shipped out July 1945
approx. date returned US Dec 1945 or early 1946
name of other signalman.. Parker Raymond Howard
Navy officer in charge .. Lt. Guy Wrinkle
Other Armed Guard men.... George, Henry, Mc Daniels, Mc Neal,
Markman, Middleton, Medford, Meyer,
Montesano, and 14 others for whom

I have pictures aboard ship, but not names.

The ship went past Hawaii and then stopped at Tacloban, Leyte, Phillipines, then to Okinawa, to Hong Kong (they flagged us of), then on to Shanghai, to Calcutta, through the Suez canal, then a dock strike in N.Y. city rerouted us to port of entry of Charleston, SC. A lot of disappointed sailors!

Any help in finding these and the other 14 characters will be appreciated. Also, are any of the merchant seamen findable? I appreciate your help. Please explain all charges.

Sincerely,



Dear Y'all. Getting all info, "FIRST TIME"
makes it easier for me!! cal

War is hell: Friendships are



(Above) Ernest Cochran shows some of the weapons he collected as a result of World War II. He holds a Mauser and has a .30 caliber U.S. Carbine, a 7.7 caliber Japanese bayonet on the bed in front of him. Cochran collected some of his war souvenirs during his service, but a few of the pieces in his collection were purchased after the war. (TR Photo by Larry Rich)

(At right) One of the Japanese guns Cochran has is very rare. The symbol on the barrel, a chrysanthemum, was usually scratched off by Japanese soldiers before being confiscated by the enemy. (TR Photo by Larry Rich)

By LORI WINCE
Staff Reporter

World War II brought several people together for hours, days, weeks, even years, but many of those people never saw each other after the war. Several veterans have tried to locate the people they served with; some have been successful in their search and some have not.

Ernest Cochran, a local veteran, tried to find members of the crew he served with on the Julius Rosenwald, a Liberty model merchant ship.

He began a few years ago, consulting the only reference he had: a small black book, about two inches square, that bears a look of days gone by. And it should, since the first entry was made 48 years ago. In it is a list of the 28 crewmen who, as members of the United States Navy Armed Guard, worked side by side with Cochran on the ship.

Using the old addresses Cochran began making phone calls and he located James Close in Louisville, Ky. Close and Cochran split the remaining names and each began calling the towns listed in the book.

Their determination paid off, since they were able to locate 12 out of their 27 comrades. But it wasn't easy.

One man Cochran remembers tracking was very hard to find. The address Cochran had for Bob Clay was in St. Clairesville. But after many phone calls to different places in the town, he could not seem to find anyone who knew the whereabouts of a Bob Clay.

As a last effort, Cochran took out an ad in the local paper asking about Clay. He ran a photo he had taken of Clay during the war with the ad and the next day he received a phone call.

A woman questioned him about the ad and, after a brief discussion, she gave Cochran her brother's address.

When Cochran contacted Clay, the conversation wasn't smooth at first but with a little prodding Cochran was able to identify Clay. When Clay discovered who had given his address to Cochran he was surprised. He and his sister had not been on speaking terms for some time.

The men meet at the annual conferences of the USN Armed Guard World War II Veterans. The conferences are held at many different locations in the United States.

Cochran, seaman first class, joined the Julius Rosenwald in 1943, just after joining the service. He was "volunteered" into the Armed Guard and was sent to a gunnery school.

The Armed Guard served on the cargo ships, manning guns on deck and were ready to protect their cargo. The need for the Armed Guard increased with a great number of cargo ships being sunk off the eastern coast of the United States.

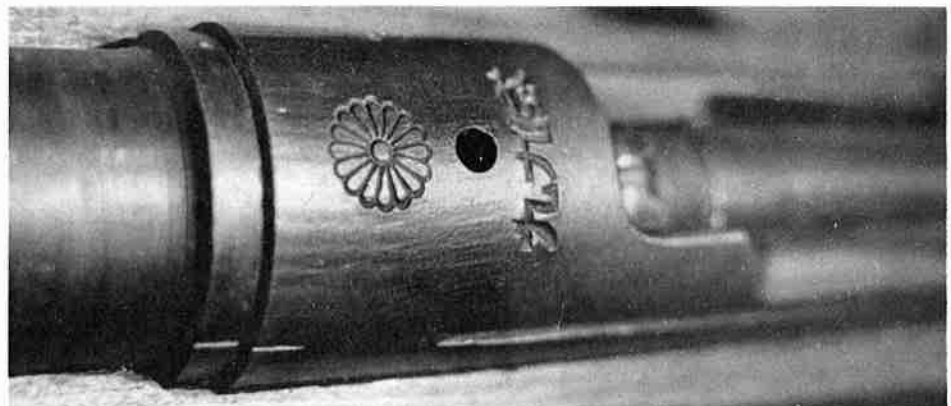


On the Julius Rosenwald, one of Cochran's shipmates, Doug Flagg, posed with one of the guns the Armed Guard used. (Photo courtesy of Ernest Cochran)

The Liberty class merchant ships like the Julius Rosenwald traveled in convoys. Larger convoys ran with three rows of ships, with each row 700 yards apart and each ship 500 yards from the next.

The convoys had smaller ships surrounding them, serving as escorts. The larger vessels did not have radar for firing capability so the escorts were in charge of protecting the convoy and destroying any approaching enemy ships.

The Julius Rosenwald dropped off its load of Coast Guard Cutters in San Juan in 1943 and picked up some raw sugar. The next stop would be in New York, but this wouldn't be a routine run. The ship would be traveling without escort, meaning if the enemy attacked much of the convoy would be lost. You can bet the crew wasn't worrying about the future of their cargo: they



precious

The Times Recorder
Sunday, Dec. 22, 1991

were more concerned about their own futures.

The crew already knew of other convoys' encounters with German submarines, which the soldiers referred to as part of the "Wolf Pack."

Once the ships were underway, the tension shifted to the back of the fleet, to the two ships that brought up the rear. The men referred to the ships' place in the convoy as "Coffin Corner," since these two vessels were the easiest targets for the enemy. Luckily, the trip was without incident.

One of the crew's next trips out was not so uneventful.

The Julius Rosenwald made three trips to England carrying various cargo. During one of the trips, Cochran was on the ships directly in front of Coffin Corner. And with a new merchant Marine in charge, Cochran was not completely at ease.

His fears were not unfounded, as the inexperience of the Marine would prove later.

One evening, while running without lights so the enemy would have less chance of spotting them, the escorts alerted the convoy there could be a wolf pack ahead.

As planned, after dark set in, each ship in the convoy was to make two 45 degree turns to port.

Cochran was on the bridge. The night was uncommonly dark.

After traveling on the new course for awhile, the Marine in charge became worried. They should have been able to see some signs of the other ships.

He decided to increase speed to try and get within sight of the ship ahead. The order was given but still no ships came in sight. Cochran was worried.

The next order by the young commander was to change course two degrees, with the hope a ship in the next row would appear. Still, nothing was seen.

Cochran could sense the Marine's distress.

The deck was quiet. Everyone was looking out into the sea, hoping to see something they knew was not there.

The cook came up on deck. "No sir. Ain't nobody out here but us and him," he said pointing to the sky.

Having played all his cards, the officer broke radio silence and called for help. It seems he had misunderstood the emergency orders and had turned the ship to starboard, not port.

The ship was alone, off course, unprotected and far from the convoy.

Their only option was to turn around and head for the convoy. An escort found them later, but it was well into the next day by the time the Julius Rosenwald was back in the convoy.

After serving nine months on the Julius Rosenwald, Cochran was transferred to the Winifred L. Smith, another merchant ship.

The Winifred L. Smith was on its way to Murmansk, Russia, when Cochran joined the ship. Carrying steam locomotives and tenders on the deck and canned goods in the hold, the ship joined 29 other cargo ships in Scotland to form a large convoy.

The convoy had three baby flattops (or small aircraft carriers), one British battlecruiser, destroyers, destroyer escorts and a Russian torpedo boat. All together around 70 ships were in the convoy.

(Continued on page 11)



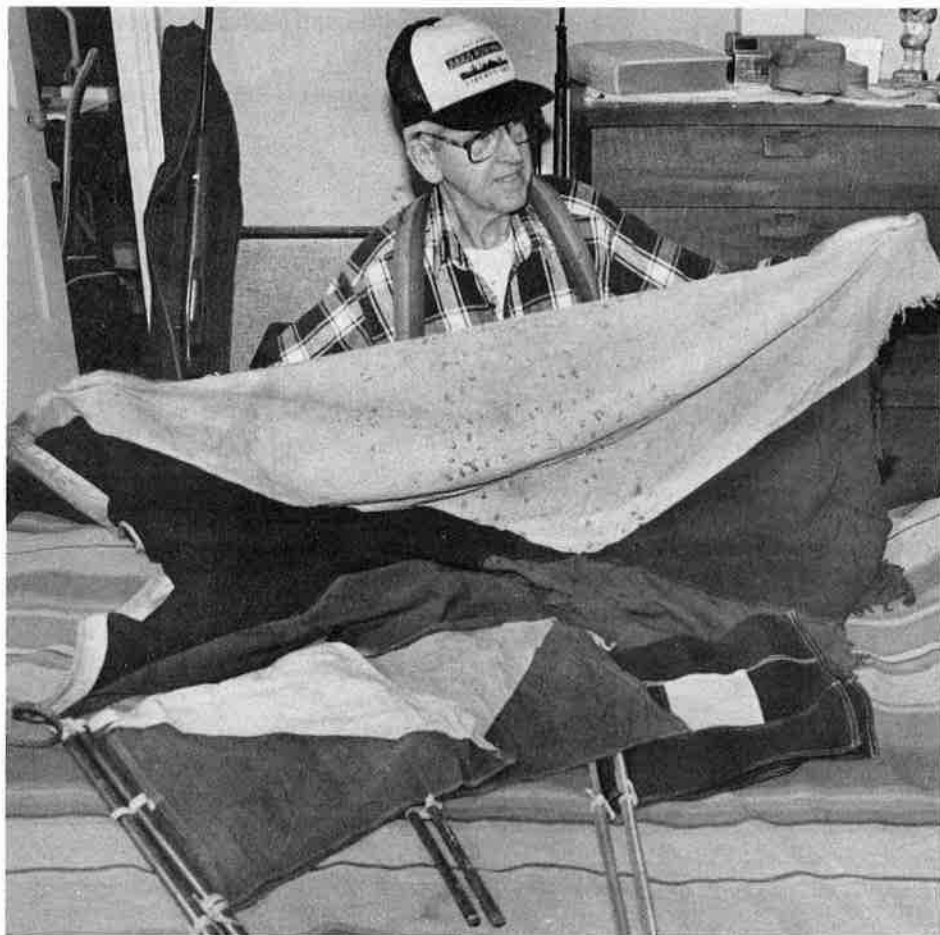
(Above) Cochran's shipmates often posed for him. He has located several of the men he served with on one ship (L—R):

Arthur Gorgen
Maurice Garrison
Wayne Christopher
Mike Chlebana
Bill Cochran
Doug Flagg
Edward Ciomcia
Jim Christian
Harry Chemerys

(Photo courtesy of Ernest Cochran)



(Above) One of the ships Cochran served on traveled into San Francisco. That's where he took this picture of the Golden Gate Bridge. (Photo courtesy of Ernest Cochran)



(At left) In with some of his war paraphernalia Ernest Cochran has one of the signal flags used on the merchant ships. The flags were sewn with difference colers and each different flag represented a letter or a signal. Messengers would hold up the flag to signal to other ships. This flag represents the letter "Z."
(TR Photo by Larry Rich)

Off the coast of Norway the ship encountered some German planes.

Somewhere in the Norwegian Sea the large convoy moved, splitting the sea with the mass of its ships.

On the way to Murmansk, the ships were suddenly attacked from the air. German planes emerged from the clouds in the sky like shadows dancing out of the dark and attacked the convoy escorts. Lots of fire ensued, but the men on the Winifred L. Smith held their guns silent. It was nearing dusk and, without radar, the men would be firing blindly.

The enemy was trying to draw the ship's fire so waiting submarines would know where to fire.

Cochran was thinking about what he learned before leaving the American shore. In this part of the Atlantic, a person could only last 2 minutes in the water before freezing to death. Chances of survival were only increased by 18 minutes if the person in the water was wearing a rubber suit. Needless to say, the rubber suits (commonly referred to by the men as monkey suits) were not kept on deck. And Cochran's standard issue "fowl weather gear" seemed no match for the cold Atlantic water.

Finally, the subs fired torpedos and the convoy picked up the metal monsters on sonar. The convoy turned away from the beasts and Cochran breathed a sigh of relief, thanking God for the silence. No explosions could be heard and the convoy was safe.

The escort ships soon fought off the remaining enemy attackers, sinking two of the subs and the convoy was back on course.

Some memories are more painful than others. Like Cochran's story of getting a mess

kit from a ship that had been torpedoed and having to remove flesh from the metal tray before using it.

But there are also less painful memories. Like the time Cochran and his buddy Harry Chemerys were docked at Murmansk, Russia, and they had some fun with a Russian soldier.

Russian guards were lined up every 100 yards along the decks. Cochran and Chemerys sat on watch on the deck of the Winifred L. Smith.

They watched the Russian sentry closest to them with interest. Cochran decided to play a game and see if he could get a response from the guard. He pulled out his harmonica and played a polka.

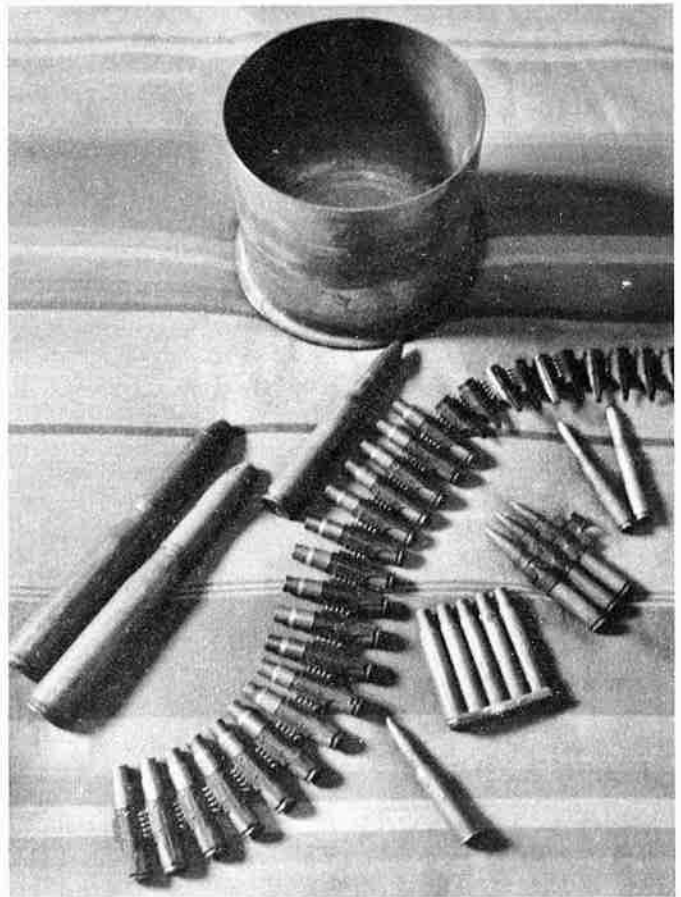
The two Americans were delighted as the sentry did a little dance for them.

Then they carried the game a step farther. They made the sentry a sandwich and a pint of coffee. Since Chemerys spoke a little Russian, he took the snack over to the guard who, to Chemerys' surprise, refused the food. He did allow the American to place the food in his chanty though and, once Chemerys had gotten back to his post, the sentry sneaked in the building and grabbed a few bites.

Chemerys questioned the Russian about the stunt and he explained it was not acceptable to take anything from Americans.

Cochran has many more memories of the war and he has collected much war paraphernalia he keeps in his house to show guests.

He has been in contact with a man in Pennsylvania who served with him on the Winifred L. Smith and he will soon start to contact all his buddies from that ship, as well.



(Above) Some of the ammunition Cochran has collected includes various U.S. ammo, a string of machine gun bullets from a German soldier's gun belt and a large shell from the weapons he used during his service with the Armed Guard.

(Below) Russian War Bonds

(TR Photo by Larry Rich)

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest H. Cochran
12775 Titus Road
Dresden, OH 43821

Dresden, Ohio
Jan. 10, 1992

Dear Charles,
Enclosed are the photos that were in the Times Recorder which you requested. I also sent one (no 8) that was not in the paper. As you can see it is the three Russian War Bonds that I have been telling you about.

You asked me to remind you to return all photos to me when you are through with them.

Also if the article and photos are in the Pointer I would like about fifteen (15) copies of that issue. If there is a charge let me know.

Sincerely,
Ernie Cochran



AMBASSADOR OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
1125 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

Mr. George Hinkley
6250 Roosevelt Blvd., Apt. 76
Clearwater, Fl. 34620

**Probably one of
Gorbachev's last
acts in office!!**

December 24, 1991

Dear Mr. Hinkley:

On behalf of President M. Gorbachev I am honored and pleased to inform you that you have been awarded the Commemorative Medal "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War (WW II)".

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 who fought for freedom against Nazi Germany.

Please, accept our heartfelt congratulations and wishes of good health, well-being and every success.

V. G. Komplektov
Viktor G. KOMPLEKTOV

Enclosure: commemorative medal, certificate.



West end of the Original Armed Guard Gunnery School at Little Creek, Virginia of Oct. 15, 1941. (2001 Building)



Front view of the Original Armed Guard Headquarters, Building 2001 as it is now.



Full Armed Guard Gun Crew of the U.S.A.T. James Parker.

Dear Charles Lloyd,

31 Dec. '91

I'm enclosing a check to help in the publication and whatever else you might need it for in the way of ARMED GUARD business. Sort of like dues for our "SPECIAL FRATERNITY".

I would like to see more pictures of the South Pacific fighting. I saw a picture in WW II of an ARMED GUARD on the Murmansk Run with ice on his beard!! Well, NOT FOR ME!! So I went to the PERSONNELS OFFICE in GREAT LAKES and asked for the SOUTH PACIFIC!! They sent me to Camp Shelton for gunnery school, out into the Chesapeake Bay on the U.S.S. MENEMSHA for gunnery practice and caught a train to San Francisco, California where I caught a Liberty Ship, the S.S. WILLIAM H. CLAGETT.

Later, I was on a Tanker, the S.S. La Placentia, in the Pacific at LEYTE GULF when the shore batteries would open up with red flares, signaling our "nightly" air attack and from which direction they'd be coming from. Then, one night, they all opened up showing an air attack from EAST, NORTH, SOUTH, and WEST. We thought, "HOLY \$^&%#(\$ Yeah!! The war was over and they were celebrating it's end instead of telling us what directions the Japs were coming.

I do wish that I could contact some of my shipmates!! Delmar Malone from Idaho!! Charles Garfinkel from Boston, Mass.! That's all I can think of at the moment!! Keep up the good work!! Thanks,
David S. Hedden, 5-50 Rocky Mtn. No., Effort, Pa. 18330.

Dear David: Thanks for the input. I will try to cover the "Pacific" Area after the NOLA REUNION. Your letter tells several things that is constructive. First, You must have been cold at Great Lakes and you wanted to warm up on an Island, with nothing but pretty women in the grass skirts. Next, after your training at Camp Shelton, Va. you were one of many who caught that train that took days to cross the U.S.A. to the West Coast. Many have written of that ride! Then, it tells me that you were glad to know the Jap planes were not coming back to try and kill you and that you wanted to "go home". It also tells me that shipmates that you sailed with are still in your memory. I don't have the ones you have listed as yet but I'm sending a few others from the ship list that I hope you will remember and they may still be in contact with the others. Maybe, people from Idaho and Boston will search for them. Best of luck! Check the list if you attend a Reunion to see if anymore has signed on. cal

Dear Charles:

December 30, 1991

Enclosed you will find a check for donation to the ARMED GUARD. Under separate mailing, I am sending you a Zanesville, Oh. paper, the "TIME RECORDER" 12/22/91. Staff reporter, Lou Wince did a feature story on me and my shipmates on the S.S. JULIUS ROSENWALD and the ARMED GUARD and I thought it might be of interesting to all.

Since the article was published, two former ARMED GUARD called and they wanted to talk about past experiences and get more information on the ARMED GUARD!! I am enclosing their name and address. It has been real interesting and rewarding where the ARMED GUARD TRAIL has led since my former shipmate, James Close, 4036 Preston Highway, Louisville, Kentucky, got me interested about two years ago. Hope this finds you well and will like the article.

Ernest Cochran 12775 Titus Rd., Dresden, Oh. 43821. 614-754-1589 (Ernie also served on the S.S. WINFRED L. SMITH 9/44-1/45; USAT BRAZ-IL--2/45-5/45 and the LST-917 9/45-4/46.) Call your Newspaper and find two more of the crew. Please get full name and address (wife), Service Number, birthday. Ships with dates on and off, if injured, YOU SEND DIRECTLY TO THE ARMED GUARD ADDRESS. CALLOYD



Leslie Bennett (L) of Pinkney, MI, and Clarence Burkhart of Springfield, IL met at the Indianapolis Mini-Reunion after 45 years. That's what the reunions are for. ASK THEM!



Elmer Vincent and C.A. Lloyd pose at the Plaque installed at ALGIERS, LA Armed Guard Center (NOLA) three weeks prior to the Seattle, WA Reunion by Richard Langenderfer and the Ohio delegation funded by monies leftover from '88 Reunion. A ceremony will be held at the site in May. Y'ALL BE THERE!



Armed Guard Ernest A. Price, Jr. has his picture taken with Bob Hope on Oct. 27, 1991 at March Air Force Base. Bob, we'd like to say, "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES." COME TO NOLA!!

Port Chicago survivors memorialize blast victims

By Robert Oakes
Staff writer

CONCORD — For the first time since a 1944 explosion destroyed two ships and killed 320 people, a handful of former sailors who survived the Port Chicago blast returned Wednesday.

The men came for the dedication of a chapel at their old base, now the Concord Naval Weapons Station. Their visit brought back solemn memories of the worst stateside disaster of World War II.

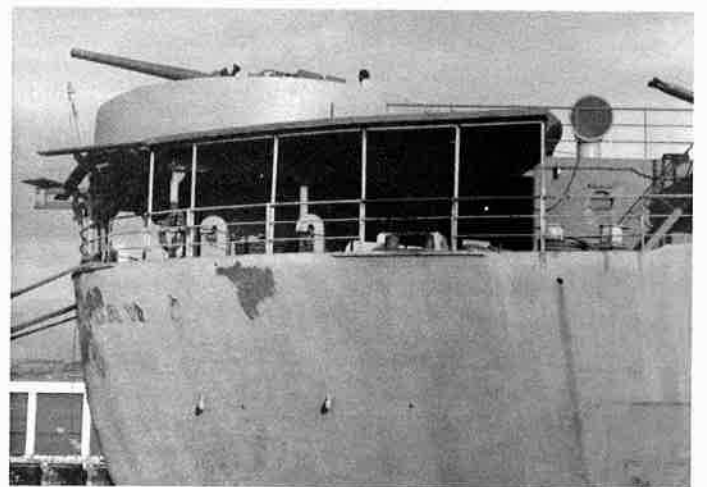
Contra Coastal Times
Thursday, December 15, 1991

(Top) Floyce and Judy Waits pose in Concord, CA Naval Weapons Station's Church in front of the two windows honoring the men killed in the Port Chicago, CA Ammo Depot when the Liberty Ship S.S. E.A. BRYAN and the S.S. QUINAULT VICTORY exploded killing all the Armed Guard and Merchant Marine Crew and various other Navy Personnel and civilians.

(Right) Another view of the windows containing 320 names on the clear glass on each side, a tribute to those killed.



Floyce Waits shows off the 5"38 on the S.S. LANE VICTORY during the Dec. 7, 1991 50th Anniversary Celebration.



The 5"38 gun back aft over the Armed Guard sleeping quarters.

Ingenuity

An outstanding characteristic of sailor Mac is a canny ability to think for himself, particularly when the going is tough. The History of World War II is replete with instances when in a hopeless situation, some simple idea of a guy who had his eyes open turned disaster into triumph. CBs and SRU men have improvised Coca-cola bottles and bulldozers as combat weapons. They're repaired ships with dud shells.

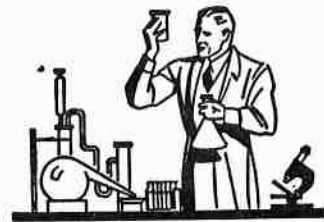
Not only on the battlefield does this characteristic manifest itself, for Mac has an inventiveness that pays dividends in comfort and labor saving. Comes the peace, ideas like these will turn into greenbacks.

Elsewhere in this issue are stories of inventiveness right here at the Repair Base. One shows men of the industrial command turning old oil drums to "modern" heaters - another illustrates the dream of an officer who wanted a better method of handling critical truck tires. Last issue depicted our new gunnery school with training gadgets - the result of clever thinking and practical application of what an officer and his men needed in order to better demonstrate gunnery training.

But our sailors are not alone in ingenuity. Also in these pages is a story of hard work, ingenuity and personal sacrifices of two civilian Supply employees, who were recognized by receiving the highest Base Civilian Award of merit.

Yes, mates, it took plenty of ingenuity to out-produce the world for war - to accomplish in months what our enemy had taken an equal number of years to produce.

Here at the Repair Base are many experts in diverse fields ready and capable of helping your idea to crystalize. Here too are shops and facilities which can be utilized. That lady Opportunity is waiting for a "date"!



**"REMEMBER
PEARL HARBOR"**



Kodak technology enhances Navy Memorial



Visitors at the Navy Memorial Log Room access records of loved ones via the Kodak-designed interactive computer system.

By Michael DiGiorgio

Those who visit the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., will have an innovative way to pay tribute to past and present Navy personnel—thanks to Kodak.

The memorial's "Log Room" which contains photographs and records of individual servicemen, is equipped with new interactive systems designed, built and installed by Kodak's Advanced Imaging Systems.

These six systems enable visitors to locate records of friends and loved ones—from a database of almost

(Continued below)

This is for ALL Navy personnel and Merchant Marines.

More information or free brochures can be obtained by calling 1-800-821-8892.

Navy Memorial

200,000 such records—and to purchase thermal prints of them. The prints are made with Kodak SV-6510 color video printers.

"The Log is everything we hoped it would be and more," said Rear Admiral William Thompson, president of the Navy Memorial Foundation.

Growing interest

The memorial is privately funded and relies on Navy personnel and veterans to supply data and personal photographs for the logs. Right now, 15 to 20 percent of the entries have photographs, but that percentage is growing. The memorial, in fact, receives up to 2,000 new entries a month.

"People are excited about the memorial," noted Robert Parrett, senior

engineer and imaging systems specialist for Photographic Resources & Laboratory Services, of which Advanced Imaging Systems is part. "They develop strong friendships in the service. They can look up friends and family members they haven't seen in years."

What's more, those who use the system "see the Kodak logo and realize we're involved in electronic imaging," he said. The solicitation of pictures for

logs also promotes the use of photography, Parrett added.

Building on success The computer systems in the Log Room are similar to those used in the America's Family Album exhibit Kodak prepared for the Statue of Liberty anniversary celebration. That exhibit currently is enjoying success at Ellis Island.



Shown above is a typical service record stored in the Log Room's computer system.



U.S. Navy Memorial

Other military branches are now considering exhibits of their own.

Parrett said Kodak doesn't aggressively market the interactive systems because of their expense. "But," he pointed out, "we'll install more of the systems as long as organizations come to us, and as long as Kodak and those organizations mutually benefit."

**U.S. NAVY ARMED GUARD WWI and WWII VETERANS
 "11th NATIONAL REUNION — May 27-31, 1992**

Clarion Hotel, 1500 Canal Street, New Orleans (NOLA) Louisiana 70112
 Outside LA 1-800-824-3359 In LA 1-800-843-4833 Local 522-4500 Fax 504-525-2644

Dear Everyone

January 22, 1992

The NEW ORLEANS CREW are counting the days to May 27, 1992 to entertain you and make this the BEST REUNION EVER, and the others are hard to beat. Reservations are really starting to come in since the Holidays so get onboard early to be at Headquarters. The Clarion Hotel Staff keeps me informed of those signing on and I have a computer also to help Doris and I to keep up!! I understand that they also send Charlie Lloyd up-to-date printouts and he tells me that you are to look on the MASTER ALPHA LISTS when you get here to see if a shipmate that you sailed with has also signed on. You will have to wait til you get here to check that out, or check with him as I don't have that information.

In case you did not receive your September "POINTER" with the Itinerary of the EVENTS taking place, he thought it would be better to place it in once more to keep from leaving anyone out. After the CUT-OFF DATE of April 27, 1992 showing on the CLARION HOTEL RESERVATION, those rooms not filled, "IF ANY," are then opened up to the PUBLIC so BEAT THE DEADLINE IF POSSIBLE! If you decide later to come, you will be honored with the same rates if the rooms are not taken. If they are filled when you make reservations, you will be placed at the BACKUP HOTEL near the CLARION and everything possible will be done to make you enjoy your stay in NEW ORLEANS and the REUNION worth coming to.

Your Hosts,
 Elmer and Doris Vincent
 20181 Chandler St., Covington, LA 70433, 1-504-892-7537



Name _____
FIRST LAST

Address _____

CITY STATE ZIP

Phone Number _____

Name of additional person(s) sharing rooms:

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ARRIVAL TIME _____ DEPARTURE TIME _____

PLEASE NOTE

All Reservations must be accompanied by FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT (room plus 11% tax). Payment of Deposit can be made by personal check or accepted credit card number (American Express, Carte Blanche, Diners, Discover or Euro Card, Visa, Master Charge Card). Deposit is refundable only if hotel is notified 72 hours before arrival date.

SERVICES AVAILABLE...

- Complimentary shuttle to and from French Quarter and downtown shopping/entertainment complexes
- Two restaurants, two lounges and a 24-hour deli
- Pool, exercise room, and hot tub
- * CHECK-IN TIME — 3:00 p.m.
- * CHECK-OUT TIME — NOON

Number of persons per room _____ Number of beds per room _____

**Reservations must be received by APRIL 27, 1992
 in order to guarantee the convention rate.**

SINGLE	\$67.00
DOUBLE	\$67.00

PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION AND RATE:

If the rate/room you have requested is no longer available, the next available rate/room category will be assigned.

TOTAL ENCLOSED PLUS 11% TAX _____

ADD \$1.00 per room per night occupancy tax _____

or Accepted Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature _____

AHOY!! IT'S HERE!! "A 50th VIDEO TAPE" IT'S GREAT! AHOY!!

Shipmates

12/6/91

I am happy to report that VIDEO TAPES of the 50th Anniversary Ceremony, Banquet and other FUNCTIONS are available to you shipmates. The price is \$20 per tape which includes shipping and handling. It contains 2½ hours of the Amphib Base, Little Creek, VA, with welcoming remarks by the Base Commander; Former "FIRST" Armed Guardsmen; Charlie Lloyd, Chairman; Armed Guard "Brig." General Robert D. Floyd (my former shipmate from S.C.) who stole the show with his Armed Guard training experiences. Lloyd says Floyd is the "ANDY GRIFFITH" of NEW BERRY, S.C., not MAYBERRY, N.C. The film footage was made for you that could not attend to enjoy. All monies derived from this will go to the National.

Please make check or money order to: "U.S.N. ARMED GUARD WW II." MAIL TO me the Host of the event:
 ROBERT D. BURRILL
 5320 Brockie Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Thank you for participating in this first time project. It is a **KEEPSAKE** to look back on or pass down to your children. You may make tapes from it. Thanks to all that were with us there and hope to see you and others in New Orleans for the 11th Reunion.

Your Shipmate from "JOIRSEE,"
 Bob Burrill

(AHOY) U.S.Navy Armed Guard WW II "11TH" National Reunion (SAILORS)
 Clarion Hotel, 1500 Canal St., New Orleans, La. 70112
 1-800-824-3359 or; Local 504-522-4500
 May 27-31, 1992

(Y'ALL COME) ----- (YOU HEAR)

Registration: Wednesday May 27, 1992 10:00 AM til 5:00 PM
 Thursday May 28, 1992 10:00 AM til 5:00 PM
 Friday May 29, 1992 10:00 AM til 5:00 PM
 Saturday May 30, 1992 8:00 AM til 9:00 AM__11:00 AM til 5 PM
 Sunday May 31, 1992 7:00 AM til 8:00 AM "Late Comers"

 Our Itinerary for the Reunion is as Follows:

Wednesday May 27 Day Open Tours Available in the Lobby MENTION ARMED GUARD
 FREE SHUTTLE BUS AVAILBLE TO AND FROM HOTEL.
 Thursday May 28 9:00 AM Hospitality Room Open. Enjoy the City
 6:00 PM Board Buses for the RIVER BOAT "NATCHEZ" for Cruise
 and Cajun Food Festival.LIMIT. FIRST-700 ONLY BASIS
 Friday May 29 9:00 AM Board Buses to NAVY BASE for Memorial Service at
 the ARMED GUARD PLAQUE, ALGIERS, LA.
 6:00 PM Cash Bar Open in GRAND BALLROOM
 7:00 PM DINNER DANCE IN the BALLROOM til--?? DON'T MISS IT!
 Saturday May 30 9:00 AM Business Meeting til 11 AM. Day open!! Hospitality.
 Room open til 5 PM. PLEASE HAVE PICTURES TAKEN.
 6:00 PM til 7:00 PM CASH BAR OPEN IN GRAND BALLROOM.
 7:00 PM Banquet in the GRAND BALLROOM
 Sunday May 31 8:00 AM BREAKFAST GRAND BALLROOM
 10:30 "SO LONGS"--"ADIOS" til LAS VEGAS in 1993.

 ITINERARY COSTS: (You do not have to cut out form, WRITE OUT what's desired)

Thursday	"RIVERBOAT NATCHEZ" Cruise	\$36. Per Person	Total \$ _____
Friday	Bus to Algiers Naval Base	\$ 6. Per Person	Total \$ _____
	Dinner Dance in BALLROOM	\$35. Per Person	Total \$ _____
Saturday	Banquet in GRAND BALLROOM	\$35. Per Person	Total \$ _____
Sunday	Breakfast in BALLROOM	\$15. Per Person	Total \$ _____

YOUR CHECK OR M.O. # _____ GRAND TOTAL PAID---\$ _____

 LAST NAME: _____ FIRST _____ M _____ MATE _____

STREET _____ BOX _____ CITY _____ SATE _____ ZIP _____

TELE:() _____ HANDICAPPED? []-YES []-NO []-SPECIAL DIET

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER OUT TO: "U.S.N. ARMED GUARD REUNION".

MAIL TO:

ELMER VINCENT 20181 CHANDLER DR., COVINGTON, LA. 70433

"EVERYTHING" IS ON A "FIRST COME BASIS"

"OUR MOTTO WAS" WE AIM TO DELIVER-"WE DID"

You do NOT have to cut any forms out of your "Pointer!" Make a xerox copy or send in your own order.



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!



USN Armed Guard WW II Veterans
5712 Partridge Lane
Raleigh, N.C. 27609-4126
1-(919)-876-5537



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Remember Pearl Harbor!
December 7, 1941



Support The USN Armed Guard
WW II Veterans Reunions
JANUARY, 1992