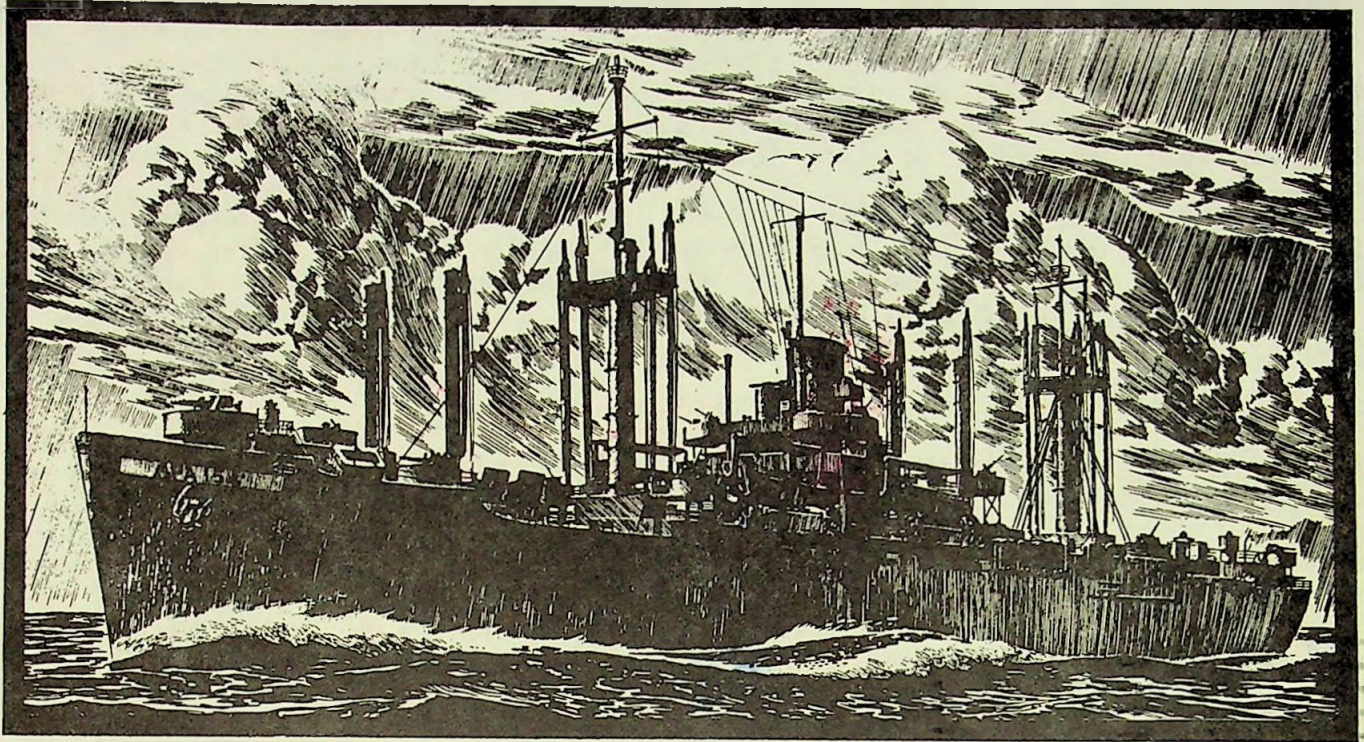


USS LOWNDES APA-154



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BUD KAUTZ EDITOR



USS LOWNDES APA 154
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FIRST CLASS



Martin Wishnoff
196 Dante Ave.
Tuckahoe, NY 10707



A reminder that the "FOURTH ANNUAL LOWNDES REUNION" will be held on June 25 thru June 28, 1992 in Harrisburg, PA. The previous News Letter had a Reunion form to be returned to Bill Taylor by April 15, 1992. A date that will, I'm sure, stick in your minds. The Brunners have been the first to register for the tours. Please get them in so Bill can make the final arrangements for buses, etc.

O'Brien, Rauseo & Vernale are working on the 1993 reunion in the Bahston area. June presents a problem in booking hotels. How does the first week in July come across? PLEASE give us some feedback on this before the Harrisburg get together. It will help the boys to make a presentation at our business meeting in June.

How about it, McNamee, where is Lake Suzy, FL?

Since our last News Letter our efforts to trace relatives of D. Bowman & N. Richards have met with success. Note the following:

D. Bowman's Relatives
William E. Haling - Nephew
8 A Barr
Pueblo West, CO 81007
(719)547-3570

N. Richards Siblings
Mrs. Virginia Duncan Keith S. Richards
1549 No. 10 Street 2845 Brookside Dr.
Nebraska City, NE 68410 Bloomington, IN 47401

Wallace Richards
1915 - 7 St.
Columbus, NE 68601

Mrs. Shirley White - Niece
5000 Red Creek Spring Rd.
No. 188
Pueblo, CO 81005
(719)564-7959

I enjoy putting out the News Letter, however I must depend upon shipmates (you fellows out there) for items of interest. Certainly appreciate the input from Engles, Friedens, Henkels, Jurica, Kindle, Martin, Pilchard, Rauseo, Taylor, Tuppan, Vernale & Walker.

Write, use the enclosed news sheet if you are short of writing paper.

Roster Changes - H. Contreras - Address 1233 to 1253 2nd Pl.
E. Trevillyan - Zip 92050 to 91950
Mrs. D. Haling - Phone (719)544-7840 to (719)564-0685

Does anybody know where Lake Suzy, FL is?

March Birthdays	April Birthdays	Anniversaries
B. Robinson	J. Dyer	Morrissey's - 3-17-32 (WOW!)
D. Stratton	D. Long	Michalski's - 4-28-47
	C. Munson	Wanits' - 4-26-47
		Chasteen's - 4-27-46

Don't worry about being "Over the hill" 'tis better than under the hill.

Thank you E. Robertson & J Ross for Iwo Jima Memorial contributions.

Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal - Military veterans who served in Hawaii during the Japanese attack and some civilians are eligible to receive a new Congressional medal commemorating the 50th Anniversary. Call 1-800-545-4052 for information & forms.

I am writing this letter slowly because I know you can't read very fast.

RECOLLECTIONS

Leo O'Brien - A few of the thoughts that come to mind about the Lowndes At Iwo Jima, one of the LCVP's was being brought on board (I think it was Dudash's boat). In the process of connecting the falls or block & tackle to the O rings on the bow & stern the ship rolled to port and the boat went down and all the cables became taut. The force was so great the hook snapped and the fall flew up and snapped around the davit. It's a miracle that no one was killed. In the meantime the stern hook was still attached almost sinking the boat. Eventually the boat was brought aboard at another davit.

On another occasion I "acquired" a gallon can of pears and bet someone - I think it was Erle Niemi \$5.00 that I could eat them all at one time. What a dumb thing to do regardless of how hungry I was - my eyes were bigger than my stomach. Of course I ate about four and that was it. I lost \$5.00.

Gene Engle - I continued to gamble & win. Can't say how much I won, but it was a hell of a lot in those days. Didn't draw any pay from June '45 until I was discharged in April '46, just let it ride & it almost got me in trouble. I had so much that my money belt became uncomfortable so I had some of the fellows hold some for me. Niemi held a bunch along with Briscoe & Ravenscraft. Chief Hornsby suggested I put the money in the ship's safe. I put a \$bunch in & damn near lost it. Some Marines or Soldiers claimed they were fleeced, who do you suppose the brass called on the carpet? They saw I hadn't drawn any pay & had the \$bunch in the safe & thought I was the culprit (no way I won fair & square). The brass didn't know what to do with it & were going to give it to Navy Relief of all things but Hornsby & Judeen the exec. stepped in on my behalf & I was allowed to keep it. But I sure took it out of the safe.

Clark & Eve Martin attended the 50th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. I asked Clark to give us a report of the activities concerning this event. His report is enclosed with this News Letter. Thank You Clark.

Don't forget the auction Thursday evening - bring lots.

Northwest Airlines is offering a discount, call 1-800-326-2216/Code#07560. But check, your senior citizen's discount may be a better deal.

SCHEDULE/LOWNDES REUNION/HARRISBURG MARRIOTT

Thursday June 25, 1992

3:00PM - 6:00PM Registration
 4:00PM - 6:00PM Hospitality Room
 6:00PM - 8:00PM Dinner on own
 8:00PM - 11:00PM Auction(Hospitality Room)

Friday June 26, 1992

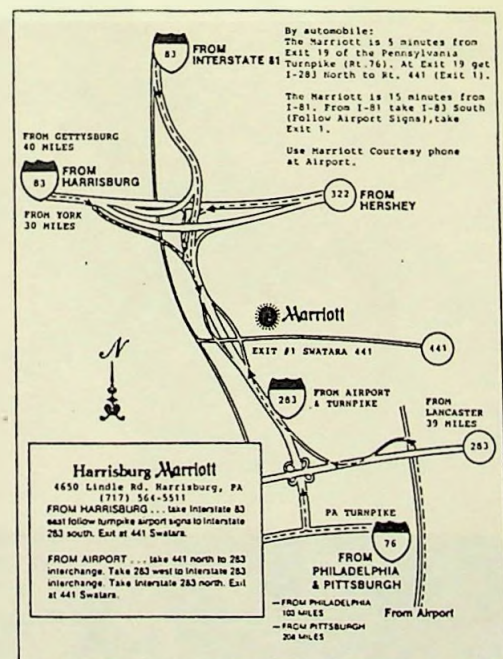
8:30AM - 4:30PM Tour of PA.Dutch Country
 4:30PM - 8:00PM Free Time & Dinner on own
 8:00PM - 11:00PM Business Mtg.(Hospitality Room)

Saturday June 27, 1992

8:30AM - 3:30PM Tour of Gettysburg
 3:30PM - 5:00PM Free Time
 5:00PM - 6:00PM Photo Session(Men & Women)
 6:00PM - 7:00PM Cash Bar
 7:00PM - 10:00PM Banquet

Sunday June 28, 1992

8:00AM - Brunch



His goal is to compile a directory



DIVERSIONS

By Steve Clark

When the bombing and the strafing and the killing began with the rising of the sun on that historic Sunday morning, Clark Martin was standing in his underwear in front of the mirror in his quarters on a battleship in the harbor.

"I had on my skivvies and I was shaving," Martin said.

He heard sirens and the sound of running footsteps in the corridor, so he stuck his head out of the door and asked a passing sailor, "Is this a drill?"

"No, sir, this is NOT a drill!" yelled the sailor.

Martin got dressed quickly and hustled to his battle station in the coding room of the USS Pennsylvania, which was part of the U.S. Navy fleet anchored in Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

"The messages we got that morning were not in code. They were in plain, direct English," said Martin, who at that time was a young Navy ensign fresh out of the University of Virginia.

If memory serves, Martin said, the exact wording of the first message he saw that morning in the Pennsylvania's coding room was: "AIR RAID PEARL HARBOR. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."

Fifty years later, Martin is one of thousands of Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans who have returned to the scene of the crime.

He flew from Richmond to Honolulu last Sunday to attend ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

While he is in Hawaii, Martin also will attend a reunion of officers who served on the Pennsylvania in World War II.

"We have had 10 reunions, but this one will be special," said Martin, who lives in western Henrico County.

The Pennsylvania was hit by one 500-pound bomb at Pearl Harbor, but was repaired and served in the Pacific throughout the war.

Project keeps him busy

Martin, a Chicago native who grew up in Norfolk, made a career of the Navy and rose to the rank of commander before retiring in 1961. Since then he has held several civilian jobs, including one in Henrico County's budget office.

These days Martin is fully retired, but stays busy on a research project. He is trying to compile a complete and accurate list of all the Virginians who were in the military at Pearl Harbor on the day of the attack.

"It's easy to find war service records of individual Virginians who were at Pearl Harbor," Martin said.

"But the records are scattered and many contain incomplete information. My goal is to put together a directory of all Virginia military personnel who were at Pearl Harbor."

Martin got the idea in 1987 when he was state chairman of the Pearl Harbor Survivors organization.

"I couldn't believe a complete directory of Virginians at Pearl Harbor did not exist," he said. "So for the past four years I have been researching the records to find names. It's time-consuming, but it is interesting and it keeps me out of trouble."

Most of his research has been done in the archives of the Virginia State Library, which keeps personal war service records of Virginians who died in World War II.

These records were compiled in the late 1940s by the Virginia World War II History Commission, which distributed forms to be filled out by family members of Virginians who had been killed in the war.

Martin has combed those forms in search of names of Virginians who were stationed at Pearl Harbor on the day of the attack. He has found many, but he is convinced there are many more to be found.

Martin has another mission. He is trying to get a message across to family members of deceased Pearl Harbor veterans. The message is that these family members may be entitled to receive the Pearl Harbor commemorative medal created by a 1989 act of Congress.

The bronze medal, about the shape of a dollar coin, has been presented this year to thousands of Pearl Harbor survivors and to family members of Pearl Harbor veterans now dead.

Many next-of-kin can't be found

"But a large number of men who died at Pearl Harbor, or who have died since then, have next-of-kin who cannot be located," said Martin, who received his medal on Nov. 11 in a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Amphibious Base at Little Creek in Norfolk.

"It would be a shame if these people do not receive the medal because the government can't find them."

People who think they are eligible to receive the medal should call a toll-free number for more information and to request an application form.

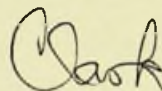
The number is (800) 545-4052.

any of the Lowndes crew who could get to Texas.

I have Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for June 25 - 28, 1992 on my calendar and expect there will be a few pennies left from the Hawaii splurge to get there.

From time to time I've discussed briefly with others the necessity to organize and here put down my thoughts on how formal the Lowndes reunion should be. Some of the crews of the big ships have formal organizations, incorporated in various states with elected directors, officers and IRS tax-exempt status and non-profit mailing priveleges. There may be a few advantages to that, including self-perpetuation, but there is a disadvantage in the loss of volunteerism and the rejection by persons who resist the formality. I think the Lowndes should continue the "hang loose" status of a governing committee of volunteers. The chairman of the committee is the person who volunteers to be the host of the upcoming reunion, the vice-chairmen are the immediate past host and the immediate future host and the committee is rounded out by anyone who has ever been a host or wants to be a host. Dan Wisdom as the founding father is ex-officio a member as is the volunteer chairman (CEO?) of the Lowndes Lovelies. As self-perpetuating as I hope you will be, you might be annually appointed by the Chairman as the Editor of the Newsletter and Master of Unceremonious Ceremonies. The spouse of any designated unofficial is automatically the back-up with full rights and authority of the principal. The only disadvantage of this system is that anyone who puts Lowndes money in an interest bearing account has to report the interest income under his social security number (I suggest the committee consider compensation to the extent of any additional tax liability).

Eve joins in best regards from your shipmate.



Copy for:

Mike Michalski, Bill Taylor, Jim Frieden, Leo O'Brien, Dick Jones, Earl Robertson, Dan Wisdom, Agnes Bencie.