

-USS LOWNDES INFORMATION SHEET--NUMBER ONE-

September 11, 1988

Hello Crewmen USS LOWNDES,

I hope you have recieved the materials on the Lowndes and her disposal. It was a surprizing fact she lasted so long,I have tried to do further research on her in the hope of getting possibly some artifact off her,maybe the bell,but will have to wait till next month to do more hunting, telephone bill will excede the limit.

I contacted Commander Perdues son Saturday, September 10th, he lives in San Diego,California. He stated his father Commander Perdue died in 1975, he had retired from the Navy in 1960,and settled in San Diego to be a Grandfather and assist with raising of the Grandchildren. He stated,he had other ships and was Commander of a Hospital ship during the Korean War. He himself now is a Grandfather and now knows what his father went through the later stages. Commander Perdue had two children Charles and a ^{daughter} ~~sister~~, Commander Perdues Grandson is also a Flight Deck Officer.

I also spoke with Colonel Scales the Marine CO who was in charge of the Marines on the Lowndes who made the IWO JIMA landing,he lives in Martinsville,Virginia. He spoke highly of the Lowndes,Commander,Crewmen,who assisted them in making it somewhat easier for them,to face what was ahead of them. He stated, the Lowndes had the best cook and food of any other ship he had been on, he often ate in the cabin of Commander Perdue(he asisste

me in securing Commander Perdues home. Colonel Scales is retired and enjoying the goodlife.

I have hope that other crewmen of the Lowndes can be reached and given information that we might have, also the possibility of several get together, although I am only related to former personnel I feel privilege to help you fellas, and do bird dogging for you. I have many photos coming and will be glad to share them with you when they come in. If you have any information on other crewmen, please share it with me, so I can contact them, even if it was during WWII, if you have any photos of yourself, ship or crew let me know or just write and let me know what you did aboard and whats happened to you since the War.

I know you are proud of what you did and the possibility may exist, a old friend may emerge, help me out if you can! Sorry, for poor typing, but Majored in Agriculture not typing. Will close for now, hope you and family Well,

Best Wishes, Proud To Serve You,

DJW
Dan Wisdom, Associate Member
USS LOWNDES, APA 154

PS Although Lowndes has been scrapped maybe bell might exist? Will send further information sheets concerning USS LOWNDES as they develop.

USS LOWNDES APA 154 Information Sheet No. 2

Enclosed you will find listing of all crewmembers who have been contacted to date, the number is slowly growing. I wish I could do better job at locating, but I just don't have enough time to spend on it.

I have alot of material and materials coming and photo's which some of you maybe interested in seeing, I will be glad to send Xerox copies of any, I will work anyway you wish on any materials. My problem is that its getting to where I can't remember who's got what are what I have previously sent, so if you request anything give me an idea of what I have previously sent. I will try to make listing of materials sometime in near future.

Some of you are sending me money for postage it is very appreciated, since postage is expensive, but I do not require any, any money sent me will be put in a fund USS LOWNDES Association with 2-3 crewmembers controlling account, really do not wish to get involved with any money, but if you do send me any at present time, I will either forward it to crewmember to put in account or start small account, for future useage at reunion, or some type of Lowndes publication.

I am very excited at the response that has been coming in, regards to the Lowndes. It is my hope that a reunion of you fellows could come about.

I am in frequent contact with Richard Jones, Gene Engles, who will be helping with details for Reunion, we need your help

also, if any of you have any ideas please respond, we need help in securing more crewmembers. We also need to know if you would come if one was centrally located and what time of year would be the best for you, although please understand we will have to choose what's best for the majority. Well anyway this all maybe a little to premature, as of yet, but please respond, your input is important.

I wish I had more information to send, at present.

I am sure all USS LOWNDES Crewmembers wish Mrs. Herbert D. Lemley, Dermott, Ark. a get well wish, she is in the hospital.

Glad to hear Arvil Sefers is doing better with his hip.

Many Thanks, to William Thomas Jr. who send me many photo's of the Lowndes crew and ship's activities.

Will close for now, Hope everyone is well and in Good Spirits.

Your Friend

Dan Wisdom

Dan Wisdom

For USS Lowndes Members/Crew/
Marines

Thank you very much
at a early hour
Roster

December 4, 1988

USS LOWNDES-APA 154

NEWSLETTER #3

Dear USS LOWNDES CREWMEMBERS,

Many new Crewmembers have been located, as you can tell from additional Roster pages (You should have 9 total pages now) many names come in everyday.

At present 50 Crewmembers have been located, if each of the 50 would locate 1 person we would have 100.

Make use of local paper and put an ad in it about forthcoming reunion, possibly others could be located.

I hope everyone understands it is very difficult for me to make plans for future reunion, since I was only related to former Crewmember. I don't want to step on toes, possibly one of you fella's would like to head the Reunion part, if you do please contact me and let me know of your desires, it definitely will not bother me, otherwise I will go ahead and set date and place by mid January, because I wish to have it by November 1989.

Again, I have been in contact with over 50 people who have expressed an enthusiastic and supportive interest in having a reunion. I am sure those who have wives, girlfriends etc will want to come and meet, visit, and enjoy a get-together. THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST, SO LET'S DO IT....YOU DESERVE IT, BEEN LONG IN COMING!

Hopefully, by end January I will have more information regarding

#3

12-4-88

reunion date, place, hotel requirements, registration fee, airport information, car rentals, hopeful reunion activities and miscellaneous material. This is a Tremendous Job for me or whoever is Chairman, many mistakes will occur, so don't get upset they are trying. If you have suggestions give them, we need them. The format will always be flexible, so if you have an idea, a change or whatever, let's run it up the flagpole and see if anyone salutes.

I look forward to meeting the many friends that I have been in contact with during this venture.

On behalf of USS LOWNDES Ship/Crew and Myself I hope Each one of you have THE BEST HOLIDAY SEASON YOU HAVE EVER HAD.

With Kindest Regards and BEST WISHES,

Sincerely,

Dan Wisdom

Dan Wisdom, USS LOWNDES Associate
Member-APA '154-Reunion

PS A friend has access in acquiring total Lowndes Roster during WW II, hopefully we will be able to enclose you a copy sometime in future.-----MERRY CHRISTMAS-----
DJW

1-15-80

APA 154USS LOWNDES NEWSLETTER NUMBER 4

HELLO CREWMEMBERS,

Well another Christmas and New Year has come and gone and I hope all of you had a Great Holiday Season!

Many new Lowndes Crewmembers have been located in the past 4 weeks and names just keep coming in. We must try and locate as many fella's as we can so they can be informed of the Reunion events, coming up.

AND NOW SHIPMATES SHOWTIME*****

The 1st Lowndes Reunion will be held in St. Louis, Missouri the latter part of June (date will be officially set soon, since we are checking into Hotel accomidations) the biggest problem we are facing now is that we need to know if you will attend (with wife, children, grandchildren or close as possible). This would give us an idea, for hotel accomidations, so we can bargain with them.

The hotel will send out pre registration cards and will require a deposit, so your room will be held, they will explain when they write you.

We will also have to charge a fee to take care of expenses such as Banquet meal, meeting room, etc, also small registration fee. I know the above seems like alot of expense, but planners are trying their best to give you the Best Reunion possible at Lowest possible cost. Newsletter No. 5 will tell you of complete cost above, other than Hotel.

I am trying to draw you an outline of some of the expenses, so it will give you an idea of the cost, place, and possible date, so

a commitement can be made by you if your going to attend. I must know if your going to attend or at least very probable,as soon as possible. I then will forward to Earl Robertson and Gene Engles who are working on the above.

I know money is in short supply these days,but alot can be prepaid,monthly or whatever,but don't let the 1st USS LOWNDES Reunion slip by.

St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission is offering their services to us and they have many exciting ideas,a Reunion is being planned that you will not forget,we want this to be a family event,bring children,grandkids and show them off.

St. Louis is centrally located that is why it was selected there will be some travelling for some,but make it a vacation and enjoy the view. Newsletter No.5 will also contain brochures of St. Louis and the many exciting things to do.

Remember the USS LOWNDES contained the BEST FELLA'S in the US NAVY think how much brighter St. Louis will become when all you fella's arrive.

I am also sending this newsletter to deceased Crewmembers family as well and extending to them a personnel invitation to attend, we would like for your attendance to be made.

Everyone please write let me know if you can possibly attend, so we will have a figure to work from. I know this newsletter hasn't contained enough information,but newsletter No 5 should have all complete details and hopefully will be out to you by end of February,

February 1989

3/4/89

USS LOWNDES (APA 154)NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

Dear Crewmembers and Friends,

I must apologize for the delay in sending this newsletter, but much has been happening and it is a slow process to work out all the details to putting on a reunion, but the reunion committee has completed the task at hand, and I might add did a excellent job so at the present time all engines are ahead full.

The USS LOWNDES reunion is scheduled for June 23,24,25 1989 at the Breckenridge Lambert Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri.

This is one of the nicest hotels in St. Louis, with excellent facilities pools, restaurant, pub lounge and all support services. Their guest services office knows we are coming and will arrange tours, transportation, etc.

Ladies, don't feel left out, while your husbands in a meeting there will be a tour bus that will take you around St. Louis for a small fee, or go swimming or sauna or as some of us fellas, just don't like to think about, go shopping. So there is more than just something for everybody, and between coffee breaks, there is something to see and do.

If I sound like I'm pushing hard---I am!!! We want You to come to this Reunion of the Best Fella's that Sailed the Seas!

Below is a tentative schedule of some of the activities that will take place. Remember tentative schedule and may change as we progress, correct schedules will be mailed or picked up at the hospitality room at the reunion.

LOWNDES NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

Reunion Schedule--Tentative to be changed or modified as we progress.

June 23rd--Registration at the Lowndes desk, we have a hospitality room Friday afternoon and evening, so pick up your name tag and register and meet everyone.

June 24th--Registration, Organizational meetings, group photographs, roll call, discuss future plans, swap stories, histories etc, and prepare data for booklet. A reunion booklet will be prepared by a local photo shop.

Banquet in Evening (Time to be set) This is a catered dinner with a Lowndes program.

June 25th--Sunday morning breakfast with memorial service.

COSTS-----THE MOMENT OF TRUTH

Rooms--All rooms are delux, prices start at 45.00 single, 50.00 double and 52.50 for single suite. Registrations must be made by the individual(s). Rooms will be held without prepayment as long notification is made by enclosed card or telephone, there will be tax charge on rooms.

Registration Fee--25.00 per person--And I hate to mention that the registration fee is most important, and is required by no later than May 23rd, this is for banquet meal and Sunday breakfast. We will assume that number attending will be amount enclosed. Please send all registration fees to--Earl Robertson, 1520 E. Obear, St Louis, Missouri 63107 telephone 314-534-4470.

#4

page 3

Please send just postcard and state if you are coming and possible how many to me as soon as possible.

Earl Robertson has just had bypass heart surgery and should just be home by the time you read this letter, his wife stated surgery went well, Drop him a get well wish.

Bud Kautz is doing a excellent job on the Roster and helping to keep me straight, and finding new members, also to all the Crewmembers who are sending material and photo's to be used at Reunion, Many Thanks, To those who have sent stamp money as well, since postage as gotten quite higher since I started.

Enclosed is additional listing to Roster not for sure if you have the new fella's names. Will have complete Ships History pages 1-16 or 17 and Old ships Roster as soon as it comes from Washington, will share with you if you request it or can be secured at Reunion.

Will close for now, Will see you soon in No. 5, Hope everyone well.

A Friend of USS LOWNDES APA 154
BEST WISHES

djw

Dan Wisdom

PS If I ask for any money for Reunion expense I will give you Crewmember who will be in charge of such, please don't forward to me.

THANKS DJW

LOWNDES NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

Make checks out to Earl Robertson--Put note bottom check for Lowndes registration fee

Miscellaneous Information--Enclosed is information from Delta Airlines which might save you some money if you fly, be sure to use reference number E 18047.

Some Fella's have mentioned RV's--RV's are premitted on hotel premises, no charge, no hookups though. RV hookups parking at 900 N. Jefferson and 7474 St. Charles Rock RD.. Look at enclosed map to check location.

24 hr. shuttle free transportation from airport, telephone or call board near baggage pickup.

I know there will be things left out of this newsletter, by all means check with me or reunion planners Earl Robertson, Gene Engles, Bud Kautz if you should have any questions concerning above. Many thanks to above fella's for all there hard work in getting this thing off the ground.

I fully realize that many of you may live on a budget like me, but by all means don't miss out on the first Lowndes reunion, Yes, in some ways it sounds expensive, but don't be one of those fellas who say I should have gone. We want to see you there and give you a good hand-shake and become acquainted again, so you have changed a bit, more fella's will know you than you think, so come out and join the BEST GROUP OF SAILORS IN THE NAVY. There will be some special surprises

APA 154 NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

That you will not want to miss!

In closing this has not been a easy task for me, although I have enjoyed it greatly and have made many new friends, who I will cherish always. I will try and send short reminder out before reunion, I will try my best to keep searching for the rest of the Lowndes Crew, and with your help maybe all can be located. In words of Mrs Leo Pothast, Recalling the memories of those days will certainly bring back to life the ship and her famous captain.

Hope to see you in St. Louis-----

REMAIN ALWAYS A FRIEND,

Dan Wisdom

Dan Wisdom

PS Enclosed are new fellas just located.

SPECIAL EDITION

Crewmembers the time for the 1st Lowndes Reunion is drawing near (June 23,24,25). I hope that all of you are planning on attending Remember Earl Robertson needs your registration fee,as soon as possible,so he can make arrangements.

I have talked with Bud Kautz and he has an exciting schedule planned for everyone. He and Earl have relayed there will be a large number attending,so don't stay at home watching TV join in on the fun.

Enclosed is an updated Roster,Bud has put together for us,many new names have been added,since the last Roster was sent.

Several crewmembers have asked about a Reunion Booklet or information they have recieved. Yes, a booklet will be prepared cost will be \$10.00 per booklet,if you cannot attend make sure you send a photo to them anyway,so you can be included.

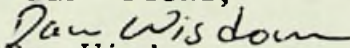
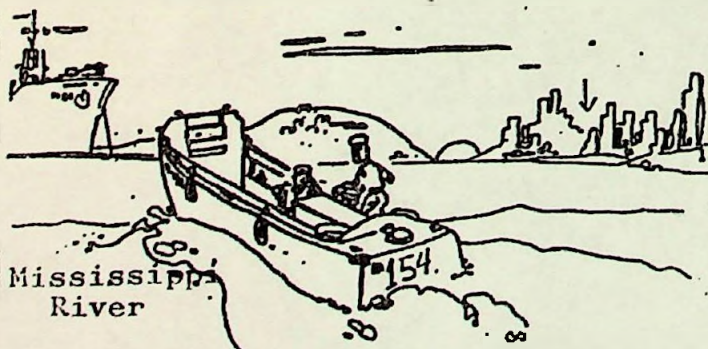
Bring all your shipboard material,since everyone will enjoy seeing things from those days.

Remember,as the cartoon at the bottom page states,"just no use there all in St. Louis,"So don't head for that LCVP OR LCM or back to the ship, set your course for St. Louis and Hoop it Up,We want you there to renew old friendships and recall things from those days,this may be a chance of a lifetime. Will close hope to SEE YOU IN ST.LOUIS,KEEP WELL.

USS LOWNDES

ST. LOUIS

Your Friend,


 Dan Wisdom


Well,Its no use going back again.
 THEY ALL WENT OVER THE HILL TO
 ST. LOUIS