

release from that institution, he went through the State University of Iowa (in the front door and out the back).

Upon leaving the University our hero joined the Coast Guard and is now serving a term aboard the USS Amazing. (Now he wishes he were back in jail).

His present activities include running the Ship's Clip Joint and acting as Gun Water Boy on this ship. He was well trained in civilian life for this as he was once waterboy on the newspaper of the State University of Iowa.

That is all for this issue gentlemen, your author wishes to remain anonymous (purely from modesty). Next week some other unlucky man will suffer the like fate of Lee Elgin (never on time) Bienfang.

August 15, 1944
(Joe Altomere)

Norfolk to New York Lat. $36^{\circ} 52'N$, Long. $70^{\circ} 10'W$

I was on the 2400 to 0400 watch and was wearing the earphones. Suddenly I heard Chuck Beal and Marvin Gaston Crumpler cussing up a storm. I told them to keep it down and you wouldn't want to hear what they told me. Mr. Emery found out about this and for my reward had me give the Sunday blessing. Needless to say, I never said another word on the phones again.

August 17, 1944
(Jim Godlesky)

Got a new addition to the crew, Arnold S. Jackson, S2/c, whose ability to blow the bugle made him necessary to the captain's plan to make us an alert, responsive crew. This is an "amazing" situation in a Coast Guard vessel in wartime.

BEGINNING OF RUSS MEYERS DIARY

USS ALLENTOWN AT WAR
August 18, 1944

Departed from NYC escorting English troop ships HMS Lothian, Glencairn, Lamont, Empire Mace, Arquebus, Empire Spearhead and Battle Axe. Our sister frigates were USS Machias, Sandusky and Charlottsville. Bound for Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone. All the British transports were in the invasion of France and have an excellent record. They are loaded with soldiers, sailors and marines bound for the Pacific and it is our job to protect all these troops and see that they reach their appointed places. We are the PF 52, USS Allentown and are in charge of all escorts. Lat. $39^{\circ} 34'N$ Long. $72^{\circ} 57'W$

August 19, 1944

Enroute Cristobal, Panama - Lat. $36^{\circ} 0'N$ Long. $73^{\circ} 36'W$ Sun sighting

August 20, 1944

August 20, 1944 - Lat. $33^{\circ} 42.5'$ Long. $76^{\circ} 21'W$ Sun sighting

August 21, 1944
(Larry Radle and Admiral Ryssy)

Put into Charleston, South Carolina to avoid a severe Atlantic storm. We were escorting troop ships south toward the Panama Canal when a storm came up and we pulled into Charleston to wait out the storm. While in Charleston we were tied up outside another ship. That night half of the crew was given liberty. Being in the half of the crew that did not get liberty, I drew fantail watch. Later that evening one of our shipmates came across the ship tied up inside the Allentown and handed me a bag. He then went up and checked in at the duty desk. When he came back he opened the bag which contained two bottles of wine. He opened a bottle and we drank the whole bottle. He then took the other bottle and went into the crews quarters. After about an hour of walking the deck I sat down on a gear locker and fell asleep. The officer of the deck came by and found me sleeping. He put me on report and in the morning reported the incident to Captain Collins.

A few days later at sea I appeared before Captain Collins in a deck court. He told me in a situation like this he could have me shot. After a long speech I was knocked back from seaman 1st class to seaman 2nd class. I do not remember the names of the officer on duty or the shipmate who brought the wine.

August 22, 1944

Depart Charleston

August 24, 1944

Morning Star Sirius Lat. $25^{\circ} 54'N$ Long. $75^{\circ} 3'W$

August 25, 1944

Passing Jamaica at midnight.

August 26, 1944

Morning Star Sirius Lat. $14^{\circ} 45'N$ Long. $77^{\circ} 45'W$

August 27, 1944
(Amazing Wreckord)

Dixie Howell is trying to get Chief Micklas to send for his state police uniform so he can get an idea how he will look when he makes the New York State Police. He has decided that 20 years before the mast is a long time - he'd rather have flat feet, or motorcyclist's spread.

Gil Severino or Blackie misses his stooge Golfballs since Callari is playing Dr. Kildare in the Sick Bay, learning to be a panhandler.

George Bauer, master of the hounds, has been officially designated wet nurse to our pooch "Amazing". George doesn't know if there is a salary with the job but CMA Micklas says he ought to clean up! The laundry staff has been augmented by the acquisition of G.I. Pierce who has been appointed V.P. in charge

of Dungarees. G.I. isn't exactly robust but denies vehemently that he can take a shower in a fountain pen.

Can you identify any of the braid by their nicknames?

"Pearly", "Jack the Ripper", "Rigger", "Mousie", "Ace", "Worry Wort" "Chiefy", "Sawbones"

Get "Chico" Piazza to tell you how (with gestures) he made himself attractive to women while pounding the beach at Spring Lake, New Jersey.

Schedule of Church Service

Church services will be held this morning. The Catholic service will be conducted by M. Wallace, with McEwen RM 3/c assisting at 0930. Music will be furnished by Homestead and Goryl. All are cordially invited to attend.

Protestant services will take place at 1030. Campbell RM1/c will conduct and Johnson GM1/c will lead the prayer. Kaufmann S1/c will read scripture. Homestead and Goryl will again furnish the music and also play a special hymn. A special number will be rendered by a quartet consisting of Young BM2/c, Bienfang, 21/c, Davis PhM1/c and Severino, Cox.

August 27, 1944

Cristobal, Panama, (Lemon Bay) Lat. $9^{\circ} 22'N$ Long. $79^{\circ} 56'W$
Arrived here about 5:30pm. Cities of Cristobal and Colon are on Manyinillo Island and are the port of entry for the Canal Zone. It seems we hit the rainy season, with some 100 inches of rain from May to December. The second section has liberty.

August 28, 1944
(Russ Meyers) Panama Canal

Left our dock at 6:00am after fueling and taking on stores. We were the first ship of our convoy to enter the canal from the Atlantic side. The canal runs from Chistobal to Balboa on the Pacific side. The water level in the lake inland is 85 feet higher than the ocean and the ships must be raised and lowered by a series of locks on each side. The water in the canal is fresh. Came out of the canal at 2:00pm, a seven-hour trip. Arrived Balboa about 3:00pm in heavy rain. The 3rd section had 3-hour liberty. Russ Meyers was first off the ship and went to Panama City. Front streets are modern and beautiful; back streets are pig styies.

(Jim Godlesky)

I was anchor watch talker thru the canal and got to see every inch of the waterway. Even though travel through the canal was from the Atlantic to the Pacific, by compass you travel West to East. Strange!

August 29, 1944

Departed Balboa Sun sight Lat. $7^{\circ} 29'N$ Long. $79^{\circ} 39'W$
Left transport HMS Lamont behind with engine trouble. Balance of transports and escorts are with us enroute to Bora Bora in the Society Islands.

August 30, 1944

Enroute to Bora Bora Sun Sight Lat. $40^{\circ} 32'N$ Long. $82^{\circ} 0'W$

August 31, 1944

Enroute to Bora Bora Sun sight Lat. 03° deg. $10.2'N$ Long. $86^{\circ} 52.1W$

September 1, 1944

Enroute to Bora Bora Sun sight Lat. $02^{\circ} 20'N$ Long. $91^{\circ} 06'W$

September 2, 1944

Today at prox 1330 (Sun sight Lat. $0^{\circ} 55.5N$, Long. $95^{\circ} 37.1W$ hours, Neptunus Rex was piped over the side to deal out to all officers and men, all the ordeals known to men and to add to his number, a group of new shellbacks. In the Royal Party was the King, (Shelton), Queen, (Smith), royal barber (Shea) royal recorder, royal doctor and royal guard. His majesty was heard to remark it was the sorriest looking collection of polliwogs he had ever cast his royal optics upon. Each polling was called before the King by name and the charges read against him. After being sentenced, he was lead to the Royal Dr. who with an oil can filled with oil and other strange things gave each a good throat spraying job, in order not to spread disease in the new order. To ease the taste, each polliwog was given a piece of cake (with a quinine pill in it). Much to our surprise the next step was a trip to the Royal Barber who never got his diploma at barber school. It was murder - a little off here, a lot off there. While in the chair, a wash job was performed with a paint brush on the face and body, using some strange mixture. Next is a ducking in the Royal Bathtub of sea water taken from the Equator. While being ducked, you are flailed with salt water wet rags. Then down a line of old shellbacks and new in a mad dash, for each one in the line has a water soaked bag just waiting to beat hell out of you. When you reach the end of the line, you stop, feel your tender parts and feel proud in the fact you are a full fledged shellback. Now we await our turn to get our hands on some other poor polliwog. Royal Party consisted of: Neptunus Rex, Chief Shelton, Queen, Cooper Smith; Royal Doctor, Chief Adams; Royal Recorder, A. Asserson; Royal Barber, Gill Severino; Royal Musician, Duke Ellington.

Hear Ye!

All Polligogs, Squid, Snails, Turtles, Toads, and all lowly, slimy, scummy denizens who abide in the deep, prepare to receive your punishment for so brazenly attempting to invade the domain of His Oceanic Majesty, NEPTUNUS REX.

His Majesty and the Royal Cortege will board this vessel, at High Noon or later, on SATURDAY, 2 September, 1944, after which the Royal Court will convene, and justice, not mercy, shall prevail!

BY HIS ROYAL HAND AND SEAL



Neptunis Rex

TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE

THIS TO CERTIFY THAT

James P. Godlesky, S2c(RdM),

was duly initiated into the solemn mysteries

of the

ANCIENT ORDER OF THE DEEP

having crossed the Equator on board the

U.S.S. ALLENTOWN

bound southwest for Borabora, Society Islands

on the 2nd day of September, 1944, at Longitude 98° 18'W

DAVEY JONES, Royal Scribe
NEPTUNUS REX, Ruler of the Raging Main