

September 3, 1944

The prize for the winning name of the "A's" newspaper will be divided between Tarquinio QM2/c and Piskorski WT3/c who, in the opinion of the Judges, came closest to the name finally agreed upon - "The Amazing Wreckord".

September 4, 1944

At Sea Sun Sight Lat.  $3^{\circ} 03'S$  Long.  $105^{\circ} 50'W$

(The Amazing Wreckord"

HEARD AROUND

No one will ever convince Captain Collins, Mr. Dugan and the rest of the braid that King Neptun's barbers ever worked for the Terminal Shops back in the States - Severino and Shea are bad men with a set of clippers .... Mr. Gates and Mr. Emery received what is vulgarly referred to as a good going over back in Brooklyn... the Emery epidermis was put on view for one and all to stare at when Neppy's pirates decided he was showing poor taste by over-dressing for the ceremonies. All in all, it was good clean fun (?) and only one casualty resulted when "Dimio" Howell came up with a cut eye in performing his duties as royal copper - good training for that trooper job. Mr. Wallace is of the opinion that the Panama City bistros are less than modern... imagine not having heard of good old Atlas beer in that benighted town... the rumor persists that Brush, the Steinmetz of Miami, Florida, is no longer toying with the idea of becoming a 20-year man.

Jim McGrath, famous as the poor man's Charlie Atlas, back in Decatur, Ill., is the bane of the navigator's life, since we changed time. He's been waking the nav up an hour too early for the star sights... that rumba number, complete with castanets and maracas, staged on the pier at Cristobal, by Nichols, Tarquinio, James, Mercier, and Company was real big-time talent. No one is accusing the boys of having a dash of lavender but it looked too good to be only fooling... the other morning, Mr. Gates was deep in the arms of Morpheus when one of the seamen gave him a friendly poke and asked if it would be okay to do a little paint removing in the room. Mr. Gates' reaction to the proposed project was in the best tradition of that salty character, Captain Bligh... "Big Guns" Johnson (that staunch Democrat from Indiana) had himself a time initiating the lowly polliwogs - he employs a deft technique in applying the paddle... Mystery Dept: - Someone made off with a string to "Slewfoot" Nolan's fiddle - the armory inmates say 'perish the thought' but seem to wear a pretty damn smug look.

September 6, 1944

At sea Sun Sight Lat.  $6^{\circ} 30'S$ , Long.  $116^{\circ} 18'5''W$

(Paul LaFrance)

Insert Note 2 here - can't find it.

September 7, 1944

At sea Sun Sight Lat.  $7^{\circ} 47.5'S$ , Long.  $121^{\circ} 10'W$

September 8, 1944

At sea Sun Sight Lat.  $8^{\circ} 42'S$ , Long.  $124^{\circ} 44'W$

September 9, 1944

At sea Sun Sight Lat.  $10^{\circ} 09'S$ , Long.  $130^{\circ} 09.3'W$

September 10, 1944

At sea to Bora Bora Sun Sight Lat.  $11^{\circ} 48'S$ , Long.  $141^{\circ} 13'W$ .

September 11, 1944

At sea Morning Star Nigil Kent Lat.  $12^{\circ} 48'S$  Long.  $141^{\circ} 13'W$ .

September 12, 1944

At sea Evening Star Vega Long.  $13^{\circ} 41.6'S$ , Long.  $145^{\circ} 31'W$

September 13, 1944

At sea Morning Star Canopus Lat.  $13^{\circ} 08'S$ , Long.  $147^{\circ} 55'W$

September 14, 1944

Arrived Bora Bora at 1000 Lat.  $16^{\circ} 31'S$ , Long.  $151^{\circ} 45'W$   
Arrived here in the Society Islands after being at sea 17 days. A barrier reef surrounds the island which is distinguished by double peaked Mont Pahia which is 2,165 feet high and located in the center of the larger island, Mont Timanee one-third mile east which is 2,379 feet high. The reefs are one and one-half miles out from shore and the sea breaks heavily over it. The only passage to harbor is Leavanui Pass on the western side. The mountain tops are cloud covered, giving an eerie appearance. The movie King Kong was filmed here. The water inside is clear and bright blue.

Many outrigger canoes with males and females followed us in through the reef and began trading negotiations. They had for sale crudely carved miniatures, shell necklaces, grass skirts, bananas and coconuts. Instead of offering money, a better bargain can be made with clothing. Bananas and coconuts were all over the ship, bought with bedsheets, T shirts, soap and money. There was a reluctance to permit us ashore as previous crews had so depleted the natives' staple foods when ashore. We did have a swimming party in the lagoon between the island and reef. Almost everyone ended up with a grass skirt and beads as souvenirs. (I still have mine. JPG) The natives are influenced with a French background and some of the French cross girls are quite handsome.

September 15, 1944  
(Admiral Ryssy)

We stopped off in Bora Bora for a few days. The grapevine indicated court martials were being conducted on the British flagship for men who protested their new assignment after being promised re-assignment to England.

(Marv Crumpler)

We took on fuel and supplies. I wanted in on some of the trading action so I swapped my peacoat for two soda bottles of Saki. I didn't think I would need a peacoat in the South Pacific, and I was right!

September 17, 1944

The transports fueled first, then the escorts. We were the last to leave at about 1500 this day. Destination - Finschhafen, New Guinea where the Japs are still holding out. Lat.  $16^{\circ} 00'S$ , Long.  $165^{\circ} 0'$

September 18, 1944

Enroute Bora Bora to New Guinea Lat.  $16^{\circ} 8.7'S$ , Long.  $156^{\circ} 3.2'W$   
Morning Star Sirius.

September 19, 1944

Enroute New Guinea Morning Star Capella Lat.  $15^{\circ} 17.8'S$ , Long.  $161^{\circ} 38'W$

(Amazing Wreckord)

WHAT'S IN A (NICK)NAME?

KRULIC.....	"Bird Dog"
CARTY.....	"Chicken Legs"
SEVERINO.....	"Fish Eyes"
MCGRATH (QM1c).....	"Peaches"
NACLERIO.....	"Dago"
BRENNAN(Laundryman).....	"Honest Tom"
ORFIN.....	"The Greek"
CHIEF HOGAN.....	"Ashcan"
MOUNTAIN.....	"Rocky"
COOPER.....	"Eddie, the Wolf"
HOWELL.....	"Dixie"
CHIEF HUG.....	"The B.T.O."
FOCKLER.....	"Dink"
CHIEF MCCARTIN.....	"Rover"

September 20, 1944

At Sea Morning Star Capella Lat.  $14^{\circ} 50'S$  Long.  $167^{\circ} 38'W$

September 21, 1944

Passed the famous island of Tutuila in the Samoa group. It is famous for its harbor, Pago Pago, the best and safest in the South Seas. It is located in an immense volcano, the south side of which is broken away and open to the sea. We passed over the International Date Line at 400 of the 21st of September, but instead of the 21st it was the 22nd. We lost a day of our lives. We were awarded a certificate to that effect.

September 21, 1944  
(Amazing Wreckord)

The 21st of September is ordinarily the birthday of John McRae, WT2c, but that old debbil International Date Line, puts him in a helluva spot. Rather than cheat John out of his natal remembrance, the Black Gang knocked themselves out in shipping up the following hunk of epic poetry, in honor of the event and just got under the wire in beating the Wreckord's deadline. We give it to you in unexpurgated form.

Twenty-five years ago today,  
Born to Mr. and Mrs. McRae;  
A bouncing boy whom they called John  
Built streamlined for the Allentown.

Three months to school went "Muscles" McRae,  
To learn boilers for the Mighty "A";  
And when, at last, the school did end,  
McRae decided he'd rather sack in.

So he sacked in for a week or two  
Aboard the good ship 52,  
With "Dick Tracy" always on his trail,  
Who would shake and shake him; to no avail.

So when he rolls out with mournful look;  
"Too late", says Dick, "you're in my book!"  
And when the work is nearly done,  
He then reports to Fireroom One.

But inside, John, we know you're an ace,  
So come out of your sleeping place,  
That each one of us may cheerfully say:  
"A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, McRAE".

September 22, 1944

At Sea Morning Star Sinus Lat.  $14^{\circ} 50'S$  Long.  $173^{\circ} 38'W$ .

September 23, 1944

At Sea Morning Star Carropus Lat.  $14^{\circ} 53'S$  Long.  $173^{\circ} 38'E$

September 25, 1944

At Sea Morning Star Aukerman Lat.  $14^{\circ} 37'S$  Long.  $174^{\circ} 12.8'E$



(Amazing Wreckord)

ANNOUNCEMENT

TONIGHT.....ON THE MESSDECK  
MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

At about 1900 this evening, just before the showing of the movie, TED HOMESTEAD, Larchmont's challenge to Phil Baker, will unlimber his "squeeze box" so you guys can indulge in some mass vocalizing. As an extra added attraction, BILL HARWOOD, of the Radar Combat Team, will trot out some of his clever impersonations and kick a few gags around, with HOMESTEAD acting as straight man.

September 25, 1944

Today at about 600 hours we passed between Aurora Island in the New Hebrides Group and Gana Island in the Banks Group. The USS Machias came along side and took our mail, then with the HMS Spearhead and HMS Battle Axe left for Espiritu Santos in the New Hebrides Group to discharge troops. We continued on.

(Admiral Ryssy)

A few ships of the British Convoy, broke off to return troops to Australia.

September 27, 1944

September 27, 1944 Meridian Altitude Lat.  $9^{\circ} 06'S$  Long.  $157^{\circ} 5'E$   
At sunset, the USS Charlottesville had a sonar sub contact and dropped a full 13 charge pattern. Probably a school of fish.

September 28, 1944  
Lat.  $6^{\circ} 32'E$

Arrived Finschhaven, British New Guinea at prox 8:00am after 13 days at sea. Landemah Bay is not easily recognized due to the uniformly forested shore line and the absence of any break in the mountains.

(Russ Meyers)

Finschhaven and Landemah Bay is really some hole, nothing there but a supply depot. There is only jungle and swamps. The soldiers and U.S.C.G. live in huts with grass roofs or tents. It really is a frontier base. The Captain says we will be in the area for prox. 18 months before going home, a real "blow to morale".

September 30, 1944

Finschhaven to Hollandia, N.G. Lat.  $2^{\circ} 30'S$  Long.  $141^{\circ} 10'E$   
Left Finschhaven with sister PF Sandusky and HMS Gleancarn and Lothian, for Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea. Hollandia is the present front with the main Jap army holding out in the mountains. You wouldn't know it to look at the lights of Finschhaven.

October 1, 1944

Sun Sight Lat.  $03^{\circ} 4.0'S$  Long.  $143^{\circ} 53'E$

Sunday night we passed where the Japs are still holding out in small groups. We could see the gun flashes from the American big guns blasting away at the Japs.

October 2, 1944

Hollandia, Dutch N.G. Lat.  $2^{\circ} 30'S$  Long.  $140^{\circ} 45'E$

Arrived here prox. 8:00am. I have never in my life seen so many ships in one port, must be over 300. There are frigates, transports, destroyers, cargo ships, tankers, LST's and landing craft of all types. We are anchored in Humboldt Bay which is the port for Hollandia and I am really surprised to find we are so close to the front and they don't have any sub nets across the entrance to the harbor. We had a movie tonight called "George Washington Slept Here". It is an old picture but still very good.

(Amazing Wreckord, October 2, 1944)

THERE'S ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE, ETC.

Tony Sperduto, who doubles as caddy to Chief Hug and the Yankee Clipper, Denny Shea, decided to play "Trader Horn" at Finschhafen and came up with a Jap helmet for his collection of souvenirs. "Trader" had to lay ten bucks on the line to get the Nip "thunder mug", which ain't tin, but we have a suspicion that the slant-eye headpiece is.

October 3, 1944

Today we pulled alongside a British tanker and refueled. First section went ashore on liberty with 3 cans of beer. When they returned they said the place was full of bomb holes and broken Japanese landing craft, guns and airplanes. It's surprising there is no blackout at night, the ships and shore lights are brighter than New York City. We are taking it easy and awaiting orders to move further up for our crack at the Japs.

October 4, 1944 (Amazing Wreckord)

PEARL - DIVER

Chet "Baron Munchausen" Pearl just missed in his bid for fame when, in his zeal to salvage what apparently appeared to be a sack of V-mail floating by the fantail, fell into the drink fully clothed. As it turned out, the sack, upon investigation by Mr. Dugan, contained some very select garbage. The "Baron", Lakewood, New Jersey's pin-up boy, is not one to be easily discouraged - in an informal interview, while changing clothes, announced he will seek the garbage removal concession in his hometown, after the war.

October 7, 1944 (Amazing Wreckord)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Marvin Gaston Crumpler, of the Deck Force, upon reaching his 20th natal anniversary. The Supply Office presented the pride of Goldsboro, North Carolina with a pair of GI dancing slippers in honor of the event.

"Stump Juice" claims they will come in mighty handy for stamping out forest fires when he gets back home.

October 8, 1944

Still at Hollandia awaiting orders. Went ashore on a beer party to the 7th Fleet Rec. Center. We have 3 cans of beer each and got ashore in a transport landing craft. It was a really rough and wet ride. The center is only a roofed building to keep it shady. This place is a dirty hole with all the Army trucks kicking up clouds of brown dust everywhere from the potholed road. The dust was an inch thick on everything and everyone. We got souvenirs from the soldiers, such as Jap money and guns. The worst sight was an American cemetery with crude crosses with dog tags hanging from them. It was in a swamp and smelled bad. Some of the crew walked through the woods and saw unfound, unburied bodies. Much havoc happened when a Jap plane luckily hit one of our ammo dumps and the area was still dangerous with unexploded shells and bombs. Malaria is common here and we were told to wear long sleeved shirts because we do not take quinine like the soldiers. In all, it was an interesting day. (JPG) The natives are black black with fuzzy hair and profess hate for the Japs.

October 9, 1944

Today was a happy day on the "A". We got a bag of mail, the first since leaving Panama. The letters were dated up to about a month ago. They were read over and over. Something big is in the wind. The LST's and LCI's are loading up with troops and supplies. About 50 left this evening. The big transports are also loading. It may be the start of the Philippine invasion. There is talk that it will happen October 17-18. We hope we are in on it.

October 10, 1944

More transports came in today including the USS Monterey. She supposedly came here with a load of WAACS to take the place of troops going north. I bet the soldiers love the WAACS for making it possible for them to fight again.

October 11, 1944

Still more transports taking on troops. Also a group of old 4-stack destroyers that have been made into marine transports. Again we had a happy mail call. I got 13 letters from home. (RM) Ships work was knocked off for the day to read mail.

October 12, 1944

Today some of the big ships moved into Hollandia, the light cruisers Phoenix and Boise plus two heavy British cruisers. They were escorted in by 15 to 20 destroyers. Our Captain says we may be replaced by ES in the near future. This is gossip, but the reason given is that we are better equipped for North Atlantic duty than equatorial as we are not air conditioned sufficiently. The temperature below decks in daytime is never below 100° and at night about 85° to 90°. Many men sleep on topside, rain or shine.



We departed Hollandia this pm at 3:30 along with the Sandusky and Charlottesville for Woendi Lagoon in the Padaido Islands, Lat. 2° 25'S, Long. 140° 46'E

October 13, 1944

Arrived Woendi Lagoon, Lat. 1° 15'S Long. 136° 20'E, at 1:30pm. Looks like a very nice place. A wrecked Jap plane was at the entrance. This group is made up of five islands, Meos, Pol, Noesi, Serew and Konari. We went swimming off the fantail in water warm as toast. We keep our guns manned at all times here. Had a show at night.

October 14, 1944

Our ship group departed Woendi at 2:30am bound for Morotai Island. Passed over the equator at 2:00pm. Lat. 1° 25'S Long. 136° 20'E

(Amazing Wreckord) The news today -- Importance of American efforts in the Pacific rendering helpless the Japanese base at Halmahera was stressed by the experts. It will ensure making the way back to the Philippines a much easier, less costly task for MacArthur's forces. The Jap garrisons on Halmahera are cut off from supplies and reinforcements by sea and the Americans hold air supremacy.

October 15, 1944

Arrived at Morotai at 1:30pm. We are anchored. The Japs hold about one-half the island and last Wednesday they tried to retake the island. All watches are manned at all times keeping ourselves ready for aircraft that does not answer IFF, a radar identification system. We were having our movie when we had an air raid and GQ. The Japs were over the island bombing the airfield but never came close enough for us to fire. We could see the Army's AA guns going to work. Now we know we are at the front. Morotai is the closest island to the Philippines being 200 miles from Mindanao. The Japs hold the island across the bay about 12 miles away. There are about 15,000 Japs on Halmahera but they can't go anywhere as we hold the air strips and control the water access. Our job is to keep a Jap sub and several ships trapped in Kaoe Bay, Halmahera. The Sandusky and Charlottesville are out there now patrolling the bay entrance. We are anchored as our sound gear is out of order. So we are protecting this harbor, the only warship left to do so. Our replacement parts may have to come from the states. The natives sail their canoes up to the ship waving white flags and saluting to show they are friendly. Got some occupation money for a bar of soap.

October 16, 1944

Had three PT boats come along side today to ask for fresh water which we supplied. Had them stay for chow and see a movie. Two of the boats were on a raid to Kaoe Bay last night attacking barges running along the coast. They ventured in too far and got fired on from shore. PT161 had one boy killed, another hurt. She had 20 bullet holes in one side and out the other plywood side. Another air raid that didn't come near us.

(Bill Harwood) The seaplane tender and supply ship "Tangiers" was a highly desirable target at Morotai and even got the attention of Tokyo Rose. She was



moved nightly to confuse the Japs and make it more difficult for them to quickly locate her on their early morning air attacks.

October 18, 1944

Russ Meyers' Story - There is one day in my life never to be forgotten. At about 1:00pm the 3rd section went ashore to an island called Koloiai, which is about 800 yards long and 400 yards wide, for a beer party. My buddies were Baker, Leroy Myers, McCabe and Wathen. We immediately hightailed it to a native village at the other end of the island. While enjoying our second can of beer and watching a native climb a coconut tree, a native next to me started howling about Japan and pointing toward the other side of the island. All the natives started howling Japan and running around like mad with their long knives and spears. We didn't know what was coming off and all five of us were sure the Japs were trying to retake Morotai again. Here we were, armed only with our beer and hunting knives and our whaleboat had left for more men from the Allentown. We were all set at the sound of gunfire to grab a native canoe and hightail it to the Allentown. The natives calmed down a bit and said there was only one Jap on the island and wanted us to go after him with our knives. Believing him to be around and not likely to give up easily and would have to be killed, all of us just stood around and looked at each other and figured we would rather live to drink our beer than get killed by a Jap. When we joined a group of sailors later, we saw that some of our fellows had captured the Jap. It seems that they were across the island from us and the Jap ran right up to them. Guess it almost scared them to death. I believe the Jap was scared of the natives as when they held Morotai, they had taken all the young girls and the natives were mad enough to rip him to pieces. He was a Jap officer, dressed in tan shirt and short tan pants. He was about my size, very clean and appeared to be educated. Found in his possessions were a camera, maps of Morotai, a drafting set, personal clothing, razor, pictures. Underclothes were of fine silk. It seems he was placed on the island during the night from Halmahera and was to take pictures of the harbor and ships, and plot their position on the map so they could be used in raids on the harbor. He was then taken aboard the "A", kept under guard in No. 33 gun tub and later given over to the army who came out in a landing craft. When the Jap stepped to the rail to descend to the LU, a soldier put his foot in his back as he hesitated, and kicked him off the ship to land on the steel deck prox 8-10 feet below. I almost felt sorry for him. Our men present at the capture were Don Miller, McRae, Micklas, Doyle, Rodeghero and Howell. The natives living here are dirty by our standards, leaving in lean-to shelters of wood, grass and palm fronds. They are friendly and want to trade Jap money for clothing. The kids are naked as are the adults except for a piece of cloth around the waist. The food in their cooking pots appeared to be anything that swam, ran or crawled.

(Admiral Ryssy) While in the Halmahera Sea, a group of men from the ship visited a small island where Dr. Eslick treated a princess of the inhabitants. The grateful chief advised us of strangers on the island. Our group took a well dressed Jap, educated in the U.S. and brought him to the Allentown and later turned him over to the MP's and Army Intelligence.

Morotai is about ten and one-half miles east of the north end of Halmahera, and is about 40 miles in extent and is largely mountainous. The highest elevation is 4,101 feet. The natives fish among the off shore islands and also

OCTOBER 20, 1944

Invasion of Leyte, Phillipines begins.

OCTOBER 21, 1944

Refueled this morning and at 1600, departed Morotai to go on barrier patrol off Keo Bay, Halmahera. The Sandusky and Charlottesville there now and we will relieve one so she can refuel. The orders read as follows: U.S.S. Allentown, Sandusky and Charlottesville -

1. This unit will maintain a barrier patrol across the entrance to Kaoe Bay to deny exit to ships and subs trapped there.
2. Reported gun positions in this area are:
  - a. Concentrated on western approaches to Kaoe
  - b. Entrance to Kaoe Bay (5-inch guns)
  - c. Miti Island (3-inch and possible 5-inch)
  - d. Galela Bay (AA and 3-inch)
3. This unit will patrol on a line between these points:

A. 1° 43'10"N	128° 7'30"E
B. 1° 34.34'N	128° 25'40"E
C. 1° 39.30'N	128° 28.10'E
D. 1° 48.30'N	128° 20.00'E

OCTOBER 22, 1944 (SUNDAY)

All we do is run back and forth across the mouth of the bay and look for trouble. The Japs are known to have 5-inch and 3-inch guns at the entrance of the bay and we just stay out of range. I hope we don't miss making our turns or we will be getting a hot time from shore. Attended church this morning. We could see gunfire over Morotai and over the TBS radio they stated they were under air attack. Charlottesville went in for fuel.

OCTOBER 23, 1944

Charlottesville retuned and relieved Sandusky so she can refuel. Still patrolling. We went back to Morotai at 2000 hours to have a sick man taken to the Army hospital. It was Pete Padisak from Snowshoe, PA., who was accidentally overdosed with morphine or some such injection. A very sick young man. (JPG) Returned to patrol although our sound gear is out of order.

OCTOBER 24, 1944

At 3:00 am. we got this message via radio:  
"Under aerial attack at 231715Z, 5°Nmk27° 5'E BT2317163 USS Comfort Urgent"

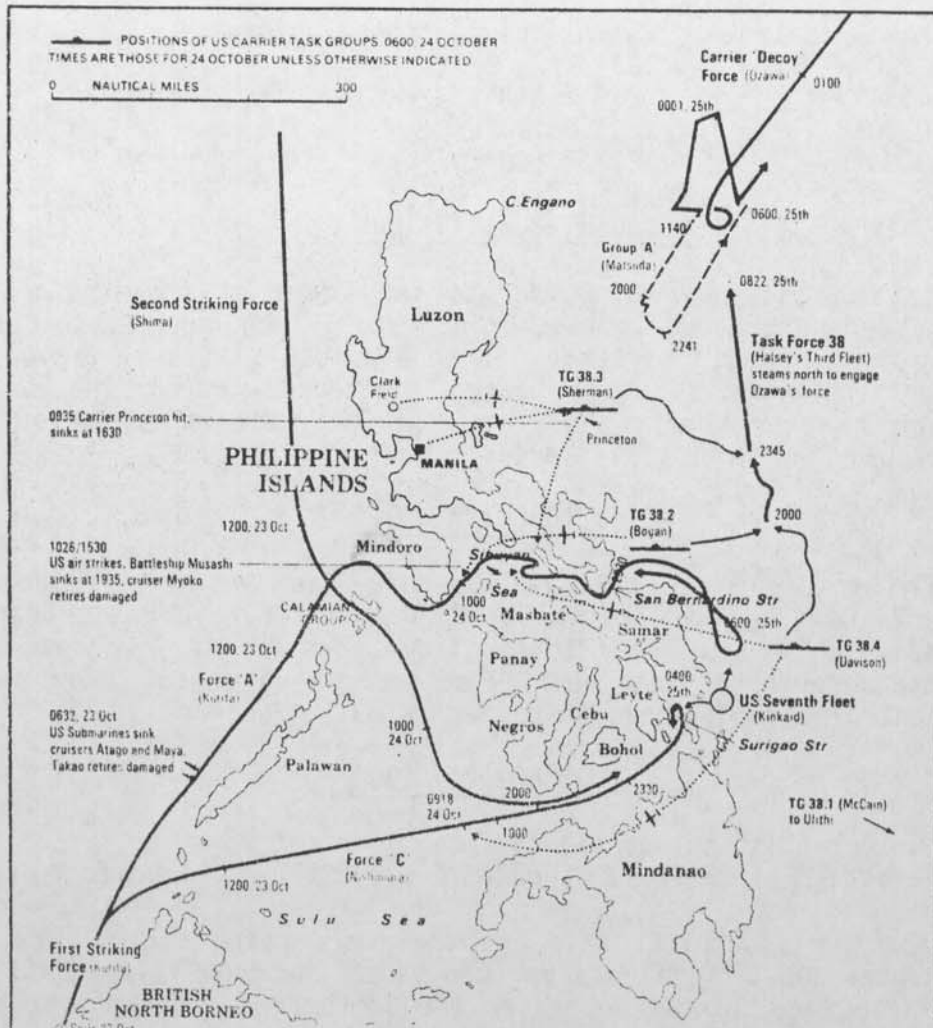
The USS Comfort is a hospital ship and they were being attacked on the other side of Halmahera about 60 miles away from us as the crow flies. While we were coming from Woendi to Morotai we passed the Comfort on their way to somewhere. You should have heard the aircraft taking off for the Comfort, right over our heads. Sandusky rejoined us after refueling. Still Patrolling.

## OCTOBER 24, 1944

The great naval battle of Leyte Gulf took place today. The Japanese fleet was decisively defeated. Actually, 4 separate engagements were fought from October 23 - 25 over a 500 mile area. Japs lost 4 carriers, 3 battleships, 6 heavy cruisers, 4 light cruisers, 9 destroyers and about 10,000 men.

U.S. losses were 1 carrier, 2 escort carriers, 2 destroyers, 1 destroyer escort and about 3000 men. This battle ensured the success of the Leyte landings and ended the power of the Jap Navy.

Our escort division was fortunate not to have been caught in this far ranging sea battle.





October 25, 1944  
(Jim Godlesky)

About 3:00am GQ was called and all guns manned and loaded. A radio report of 5 Jap destroyers in the area had everyone at a high pitch of excitement. When radar picked up 5 blips approaching and no IFF responding, we thought our time had come. At the last minute identification was made - it was 5 PT boats going out to bombard Mite Island. A sigh of relief was felt through the ship as many men thought we had bought the farm.

Note: Jesse Hayden reports that Captain Collins was severely chastised and may be slapped by Commodore Ryssy for losing his cool on the night of Oct. 25. (Meyers) I made second class today. When we get back to the states, Mac and Mom will have to put new crows on my jumpers.

October 26-27, 1944

Still doing barrier patrol. On the 20th, while listening to Tokyo Rose on the Tokyo radio station she stated in her news of the war the reason they can't get the 20,000 Japs off Halmaheras is because 3 cruisers are patrolling the island. Some joke, there are only three frigates guarding the island. In fact, we are the only warships in the area. So we are now cruisers. For once, no air raid.

October 26 1944 (Amazing Wreckord)

Congratulations are in order for: Benz, Cunningham and Russ Meyers on their making second class - - Also: Finger, Crowe and Ryder on making third class. P.S. Don't forger the cigars.

Emil Benz, of the St. Louis Benz's, suffered a mishap yesterday during the airing of bedding. Someone threw a lighted Chesterfield in the middle of his sack. Needless to say - Benz is far from satisfied.

\*\*\*\*\*

These pearls of wisdom are from the lips of that old clam-digger from Noank, Lieut. Lane. Lane, better known in the flesh-pots as "Rigger"...

\*\*\*\*\*

Al Macelis is called a parasite because he goes through revolving doors on other peoples pushes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Izzy Frittito, "Milwaukee Mauler" (98 lbs. with lead line) will meet Chief Hug in a fast two-round grudge fight at "Collins' Coliseum" next Tuesday. Izzy is top heavy favorite at 1 to 4.

\*\*\*\*\*

T.S.?????? (T.S. slips will be issued by ex-chaplain striker Moseley..

\*\*\*\*\*

Jackson says that girls don't bother him, but he wishes that they would.

Shea's Gift Shoppe will soon be open for business with a complete line of remodeled 3-inch shells and assorted trinkets, woven belts, 1e strand turk heads -- come in and browse around. You can always have your hair cut.

\*\*\*\*\*

October 28, 1944 (Amazing Wreckord)

Java Joe White, the Allentown's Ernie Pyle, is seriously thinking of having "Reciproating" Williams to act as his blocking back when the GQ alarm goes off.

\*\*\*\*\*

Shea's tonsorial parlor is getting a little competition. Just yesterday Dirksen and Rohaly filed their applications for stand-by ships' barber. Mones agreed to be their first patient.

\*\*\*\*\*

The toilet tissue situation has become acute. This alarming mess together with the fact that all Macy catalogues are of the slick variety necessitates this warning - "Don't throw away your copy of the "The Amazing Wreckord".

\*\*\*\*\*

October 29, 1944 (Meyers)

Took a shower and went to church. Showers are hooked up on the fantail with 3 salt water showers and one fresh. We wet down with fresh, then soap up good and wash it off with salt water, then rinse in fresh. It's a swell set up and it means that the fresh water is on at all times in the head, not 5 minutes before and 5 minutes after the hours. The army air corps bombed Mite Island this morning during church and raised hell.

October 27, 1944 (Amazing Wreckord)

Here and There About the Ship  
(GOSSIP)

Have you ever seen a ship without water? Then you've seen Harwood without Foster.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our boy Haggstrom (signalman to be some day) seems to be quite the jitterbug, at least he and Clifford put on a pretty good exhibition early this week during one of our record playing sessions out by the stack. - - Marcelas was right there, and as usual entertaining the boys. This time giving pantomime imitations of playing various musical instruments heard on the record. The synchronizing of his movements to the record were uncanny - or should I say "amazing".

\*\*\*\*\*

The fighting spirit of the ship was unleashed through the medium of what some call the "Art" of boxing - We don't know whether it was "art" or not, but brother some of those bouts were pure moider. Enjoyment was had by both spectators and contenders alike. Hope we have more of it. (Afterthought) This could be the nucleus of a regular contest. Anybody want to take over? Just an idea.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our newly formed bull sessions present an interesting, educational pastime. If you are off watch during these sessions it would be well worth anyone's while to attend. Suggestions as to topics to be discussed in future sessions are urgently requested. The Wreckords' box on the Mess Deck, is the place. Everyone has his say and some pretty wise and interesting thoughts are expressed, after all we are the civilians of tomorrow and the country will be run as our will demands. Let us be prepared for the future, by understanding the problems of today.

\*\*\*\*\*

A fire in ye ol Charlie Nobel brought many to the call Wednesday night. Repair parties were right o the ball, the fire was soon subdued, and all was normal again.

\*\*\*\*\*

The General Alarm gave us all a semblance of the real thing last Tuesday night, however all was clear within an hour. No casualties, with the exception of a little loss of sleep. Oh hum, perhaps next time.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pete Padisak F2/c was removed from our ship last Monday evening due to serious illness. Let's hope he'll have a quick recovery.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. Wallace raised to the rank of Lt. Senior Grade. Best wishes and good luck are extended.

\*\*\*\*\*

Card Sharks Beware Have you seen Mr. Earnests' card tricks yet? Pretty sly, pretty sly.

Item Extra If Chief Hogan (Ho-Gan) is seen with that "I'll get you in the end" gleam in his eye, do not become alarmed. He has been reading up on methods of Undertaking and Embalming and is merely eying up some future business. I can see it now - "Hogan Funeral Parlor" - Special rates this week. Die now and save - be one of my Lucky Stiffs. That's all ...



### SING TO THE TUNE OF 'PAPER DOLL'

I'm just a seaman lad aboard the Allentown  
The ship that never ever sees the war.  
Oh yes we sail upon the sea,  
have our share of misery -  
And listen to the bugle we adore.  
We have our General Quarters for an hour,  
And gaze into the skies of azure blue.  
We shoot some kites and toy balloons up in the air  
Oh yes I'm sure we are a gallant crew.  
(and I mean it)  
Oh yes we are I'm sure a gallant crew.

\*\*\*\*\*

Stavis was rummaging around the garbage cans the other night and Milslagle caught him - "Stavis, you keep out of there", he said, upon which Stavis replied, "Aw gee chief have a heart, I was just hungry". "Oh yeah", said Milly, "you're no better than the rest of us, and you eat in the mess hall from now on".

\*\*\*\*\*

Hans Kroncke S2/c of Sayville, Long Island received word that the hurricane they had up north last month, damaged the roof of his house almost beyond repair. Guess he knows now that he's not the only one who can raise the roof at home. (p.s. joke).

SOMETHING WE MOST LIKELY WILL NEVER SEE - BILL PICKEN S1/c carry on a conversation without once mentioning the name of DORIS.

October 30, 1944

Still patrolling till 13:30 when the three ships went back into Morotai for fuel. Will probably get different orders. We are sure glad this barrier patrol is over. We took on fuel and stores, anchored out after fueling and had a movie.

(The Amazing Wreckord)

October 27, 1944

### THE WEEKLY BIOGRAPHY

The subject of our little story today is one of the best liked and respected, among officers and men alike, that your reporter has ever run across. He was brought into this world in the little town of Bothell, Washington, of which he says Seattle is a suburb, on the twenty-first day of July in 1920, almost two years after the end of that other catastrophe, World War I. He was born into a modest income family, his father being a local teacher, and according to him, his mother was the best housewife that ever lived, with the exception perhaps of his own wife.

His boyhood was much like that of any pure blooded youth. He loved to hunt and fish, and took part in all sports. He excelled in basketball and golf and he tells us that his most proud accomplishments were in these sports. He made the second team of the Washington All-State Basketball squad for two years,

and his best feat in golf was the time when, in scoring a 31 for 9 holes of golf and tying the course record, he made six 3's and a hole in one (Vas you dere Charlie?)

His post war plans are to go back to school and then either go into business or run a golf course. He graduated from the University of Washington in 1943 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the same year, shortly after graduation he joined the U. S. Coast Guard with the rating of Apprentice Seaman. He later went to the Coast Guard Academy and was commissioned an Ensign in December of 1943 from where he reported aboard the U.S.S. Allentown.

A man more proud of his home state could be found nowhere on earth. He has made this challenge, "If anyone in the crew will come out to Washington, I will show them what Shangri-La is really like". (He must never have been in the Middle West).

After his lengthy description, probably lacking in many essentials (he was too modest for some of it) there shouldn't be a man in the crew who cannot readily identify Ensign George A. Earnest.

\*\*\*\*\*

October 31, 1944

Still standing all gun watches and radar watches even though in port. (Jim Godlesky) I came off watch, 8:00pm to midnight on 10/30/44 and sacked in on the starboard side of 31 gun shield, on the deck. I awoke with the sound of firing and upon opening my eyes, saw red tracers going directly overhead. At the same time came the sound of a plane motor sounding like a washing machine. The plane came towards us then veered forward toward the beach strafing as it went. It was in plain sight although it was dark and hazy. GQ rang, the time being about 5:00am and we manned gun 32. The light was still hazy 20 minutes later as 3 zeroes came up on our port side doing about 200 mph and heading over the port bow to starboard and shore. They bombed a small island on the way over, probably seeking the Altair. All guns opened up as they came in sight in close formation. None appeared to be hit until they flew over the shore and a land battery downed one. There was a big orange explosion and the plane plummeted to earth in a streak of flame. The army was credited with him. About 5 minutes later we got a "standby" for a plane coming up on the port quarters. It came into sight and all batteries opened up. When bearing about 190 degrees, a 3-inch shell burst beneath it and brought forth an explosion. It rocked the plane but the Zero kept coming, all guns still following. On the starboard quarter it began to streak smoke and as it neared shore it went into a sloping dive, guns open, firing at the beach. Over the land, the plane became a bright streak of flame and deteriorated into nothingness in a giant explosion. One Zero got away but was reported shot down by one of our planes later. Several other ships confirmed our claim to having downed the plane. I was hot shellman in this fracas, seven rounds fired, no casualties. This action was at Moratai.

A great sight was the wall of flack put up in firing at a B-24. It was not downed. (Many years later, Ace Emery, by a strange coincidence talked to the pilot of that plane.)

November 1, 1944

(The Amazing Wreckord)

#### SIDELIGHTS OF THE AIR RAID

It is understood that the crew of 33 gun is now in the money after "Millions" Maile dished out the monetary reward. Rumor has it that the first prize money will be twenty dollars next time, with Mr. Emery and Mr. Cardwell contributing ten dollars apiece.

Perhaps we can keep on pyramiding this custom so that on the ninth plane each member will receive ten dollars.

Mr. Lane has suggested that the Jap flags be placed on the Venturi so that the eventual effect will be similar to a "Greek Frieze".

Did you see Chief Hug beating on the deck with that pair of bolt clipper, and whooping like a wild Indian everytime a flamer went down? Several of the boys have suggested that a certain ship whose name begins with CHARLOTTESVILLE paint the right kind of a flag on their bridge instead of trying to horn in on ours.

#### ZERO IN TROUBLE

One little Zero zoomed through the dawn,  
Shot a few tracers and then he was gone.  
All over the harbor ships came to life,  
The Army on shore was ready for strife.

Three little Zeros came back to attack.  
Dropping eggs from an improvised rack.  
The guns of all units beat out a tatoo,  
And when they were gone there were only two.

Two little Zeros came back to attack,  
They'd not been discouraged by Army ack-ack.  
Two little Zeros cocky as could be,  
Until they met up with Cordiv 33.

One little Zero returned to its base,  
To him it was probably no disgrace,  
For how could three Zeros be expected to  
Sink the TANGIER and four "battleship" too!!

(What Tokyo Rose claimed as battleships four,  
Were Comcortdiv's four frigates, no more.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### TOKYO ROSE REPORTS

Last night a flight of three of our honorable sons attached to the Suki Yaki Squadron attacked a formidable force of battleships, cruisers and destroyers