



ULS. SUBMARINE SERVICE



THE USS SABALO NEWSLETTER





<u>FLAG DAY - 14 June 2022</u> The American flag does not fly because the wind moves past it..... The American flag flies from the last breath of each military member who has died serving it."

## ARE YOU A.W.O.L. ?

If you are reading this, please check the AWOL list. See pg 15 & reply to take your name off and let shipmates know how you're doing.

## CONTEST-FREE PRIZES

There are **258** men on the Sabalo rosters on the web site that are shown as not found, **13** of these had previously known whereabouts, but have disappeared.

In the pursuit of locating any of these Sabalo vets, past searching has not been successful.

In the hope of finding more, a contest with prizes is announced. See page 5

## THE SUBMARINER

"Only a submariner realizes to what great extent an entire ship depends on him as an individual. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, but it is so!

A submarine at sea is a different world in herself, and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of submarines, the Navy must place responsibility and trust in the hands of those who take such ships to sea.

In each submarine there are men who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to each other. These men are ultimately responsible to themselves and each to the other for all aspects of operation of their submarine. They are the crew. They are the ship.

This is perhaps the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as a submariner that he can escape the grasp of responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small, nevertheless, it is the spur which has given the Navy its greatest mariners the men of the Submarine Service.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the proud and time honored title of *... Submariner".* See pg 5

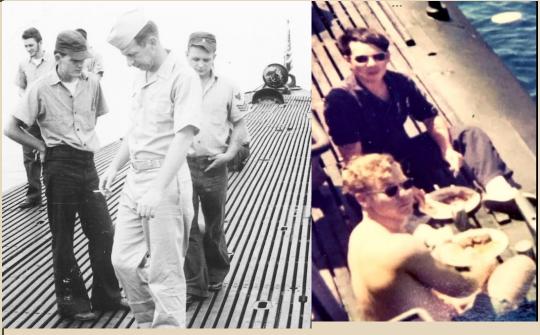
### SHIPMATE PICS

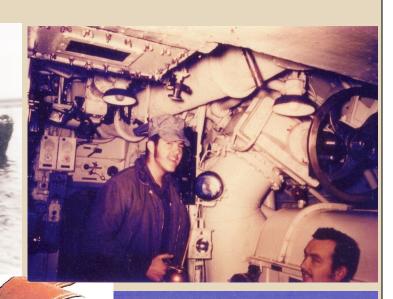
**Top: L**- Foregnd-Ron Horsman TM3, Dave Morgan ENC, Wally Horsman TM1, bkgnd-Wayne Hachey TM2, ca, '67-68;

R- QM's Vic Duarte & Tom Wilhelm ca'70 (pic fm Vic, he's the upper sailor) Mid: L- Jerry Johnson w/yard barge;

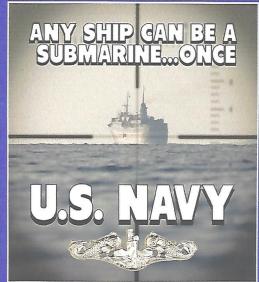
R- Earl Gates EN3 & Wm.
Whiting? Pic fm Johnson who only identified Whiting as
RM1. Based on dates abd '56-57, it must be Whiting –verify anyone?
Bot: L- Card fm Enrile Trini-

dad; **R-**Decal fm Ken Burtner





Life is one grand, sweet song, so start the music. -Ronald Reagan





Vol. III No. 13 June 2022

**CLEVER BOY** is a privately authored and published newsletter of the USS Sabalo Association. An informal group for the preservation of the submarine's history, the assemblage of the list of all who served in her, chronicling her exploits and missions, and celebrating the memories of those who manned her.

"Clever Boy" was the radio call sign for Sabalo, and NXYO was her flag identification code.

CB is currently distributed via online and hard copy to 280+ veterans of the U.S. Navy submarine, USS Sabalo SS-302.

Online viewers—Follow the links with each item for the full story.

Hard copy readers only get the first two pages in color. On the Sabalo web site all pages have color possible.

WEB SITE: http://usssabalo.org For more information about the men who served in her, the ship's details and exploits, and copies of past Clever Boy newsletters beginning from 2009

Editor: Jeff Owens ETN2(SS) Aboard Mar 67-Aug 69 273 Pratt Hollow Rd Nicholson, PA 18446-7866 570-942-4622 owensj@epix.net

Editor Emeritus: Ronald D. Gorence, QMC(SS), Ret. Abd 302 Jul66-Feb70 (Final Patrol-Apr 2018)



2022 USSVI National Convention

August 22-27, 2022

Buffalo, NY at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Details: http://ussviconvention.org/2022/

PLEASE NOTIFY ME IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. SO I CAN POST NAMES ON THE SABALO REUNION WEB PAGE FOR POSSIBLE MEET UP WITH SHIPMATES.

Attribution: "The Submariner" on page one from: https://www.csp.navy.mil/About-SUBPAC/The-Submariner/ For a really cool T-shirt with this quoted: https://loveusnavy.com/a-submariner?pr=200FF&s=hanes-5250&c=Deep% 20Royal&p=BACK and many other unusual Navy themed shirts: https://loveusnavy.com/navy-veteran

#### **ALL HANDS MAGAZINE**

Remember reading it? You can get all the news in the online edition. https://allhands.navy.mil/

#### STARS AND STRIPES NEWS

E or print version—99c/wk or \$13/mo—details: https://ww2.stripes.com/subscribe

THANKS TO RECENT DONORS (with rank/rate & dates aboard 302) Barker, Richard EN2(SS) Aug56-Dec59 Huckfelt, Larry YN3(SS) Aug60-Aug61 Longenecker, Don QM3(SS) Dec51-Oct54 Reilly, Dave ETN2(SS) Aug59-Sep62 Toloski, Ray FN(SS) Dec55-Oct57

PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS EITHER USPS OR EMAIL. If you can no longer receive email, please remember to communicate so that you can be switched to receive a hard copy. The cost of those who receive hard copies is supported by donations. you have no interest in this newsletter, please communicate so unds can be conserved.

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## HEADLINE NEWS

Follow links for full story **FEEDBACK NEEDED**—Your editor searches far and wide for topical info to pass along. <u>If you see some cool</u> <u>stuff, send it in for inclusion.</u>

### The Navy Fires Fourth Commander in Seven Days

-15 Jun 2022 <u>https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/15/navy-fires</u> -fourth-commander-seven-days.html Since the start of the year, the sea service has relieved or reassigned at least 15 commanders, executive officers or command enlisted representatives. [Does this indicate problems in officer qualifications, command selection process, an unreal expectation of performance, woke b.s., or some other factor. Something seems amiss - what's your thoughts? - ed.]

#### Navy Commissions USS Montana (SSN-794) 27 June 2022

**NORFOLK** - The Navy commissioned the Virginia-class fastattack submarine USS Montana (SSN 794) in a traditional ceremony held Saturday, June 25, at Naval Station Norfolk. https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/News-Stories/Article/3074846/navycommissions-uss-montana-ssn-794/

The last USS Montana was commissioned 101 years ago. <u>An earlier ARTICLE</u> in the *Helena Independent Record* on the commissioning was sent to me by Tom Wilhelm QM2(SS) which started an exchange. See MAILBAG page 11.

USS Connecticut near loss - and the Year of Lost Subs. In 1968 four Submarines were lost: the French Minerve, the Israeli Dakar, the Soviet K-129 and the American USS Scorpion. 22 Jun 2022 ..." clearly, the Connecticut Incident was a clearly defined chain of catastrophe."

"WHATEVER THEIR FATE, SUBMARINES FROM ALL NATIONS CONTINUE ON PATROL, AND WHATEV-ER THEIR NATIONALITY, IN TIME OF PEACE, WE HOPE FOR ALL HUMANITY'S SAKE THAT THEIR CREW'S DO NOT ADD THEMSELVES TO THE ROS-TER OF SUBMARINES ON "ETERNAL PATROL."

https://theaviationgeekclub.com/uss-connecticut-near-loss-and-the-year-of-lost -subs-in-1968-four-submarines-were-lost-the-french-minerve-the-israeli-dakarthe-soviet-k-129-and-the-american-uss-scorpion/ (Includes video)

Before the submarine Connecticut and its crew collided with an undersea mountain last fall, red flags abounded https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2022/05/24/before-thesubmarine-connecticut-and-its-crew-collided-with-an-undersea-mountain-lastfall-red-flags-abounded/

#### USS New Jersey SSN-796 Nears Commissioning

New Jersey is expected to be delivered to the Navy late in 2022, and should be commissioned shortly after.. The 3rd Navy vessel

named USS New Jersey SSN-796 will become 11th Virginia-class sub built by Newport News Shipbuilding. When she's commissioned, the USS New Jersey will become the 23rd overall Virginia-class sub. —— Launching 22 April 2022 (3 min hi speed vid) : <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMRFG5av-rc</u> Brief info: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\_New\_Jersey\_%</u> 28SSN-796%29

[News reports are that they have embraced a theme in New Jersey lore of the "Jersey Devil" in both the ships patch design, and pictures on line show them wearing <u>RED</u> dolphins, although this seems to be an unauthorized insignia. - ed.] Red Dolphins explained: <u>https://youtu.be/bGoL4\_XIXIc</u>

### San Diego Submarine School Commander Fired 29Apr22

...."for a "loss of trust and confidence in his ability to command —the military's boilerplate" <u>https://www.military.com/daily-</u> <u>news/2022/04/29/san-diego-submarine-school-commander-fired-amid-</u> <u>investigation.html</u>

### USS Scranton SSN-756 CO Relieved after 8 months Same reasonless reason—"inability" https://taskandpurpose.com/news/navy-fires-nukesubmarine-captain-after-only-8-months/ Now this is a worthwhile effort: Navy Veteran Used His Military Training to Create Award-Winning Whiskeys Tom Lix, founder of Cleveland Whiskey, first learned the distilling process while in the USN. (It would have been bad if Sabalo stills could have done this !!!) https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/navy-veteran-used-hismilitary-training-create-award-winning-whiskeys.html ..... **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FY 2023** PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST 28Mar2022 [Still Pending] By The Numbers • Total request of \$301.4 billion (13.3% over 2022)

Discretionary request: \$139.1 billion (with collections),
 \$21.9 billion

(+18.7%) over 2022 budget.

• Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund (RETF): \$968 million, for Construction

• Mandatory request: \$161.3 billion, +\$8.6 billion (+5.7%) over 2022

- ⇒ <u>https://www.va.gov/budget/docs/summary/fy2023-va-budget-rollout-briefing.pdf</u>
- ⇒ <u>https://www.va.gov/budget/products.asp</u>

⇒ <u>https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service/congressional-testimony/2022/6/a-review-of-the-fiscal-year-2023-budget-and-2024-advance-appropriations</u>

### FROM OUT OF THE TOMATO BOX

**By Editor Jeff Owens** 

Not a day goes by, in which my mind doesn't slip away to those days on the Sabalo.

#### ARE YOU A.W.O.L. ?

If you are reading this, please reply and take your name off the AWOL list. See pg 15 In the last issue the same list was included. Only 5 men responded to verify they are receiving and reading CB. Does this mean the rest are not ??

### **CONTEST—WIN FREE SUB STUFF**

## FIND A MISSING OR PREVIOUSLY UNLO-CATED SABALO VET AND GET A PRIZE. — 258 CHANCES TO WIN

FOR 1 MISSING MAN YOU CAN GET 2 LUGGAGE TAGS AND 1 OF THE NIFTY 'WHEEL BOOK' NOTEPADS SHOWN ON THE WEB SITE SHIP STORE PAGE— <u>POSTPAID.</u>

For 3 missing men— 2 tags + 2 wheel books + 1 Sabalo patch

In an effort to complete the Sabalo informational history on all who served in her, the search is nearing the point of no further effort. So if you can, check the rosters and your memory, or general search ability, and help finish the project.

'You can't get much done in life if you only work on the days when you feel good." ...Jerry West

Sabalo Sailing List Stats - 30 Jun 2022	
Total shipmates listed	1461
Current Address or Email / Receives CB	353/ 286
Known Deceased	848
Not located/ lost contact	259

## **Marking Time**

Do you know how weird it is being the same age as old people?



→ One minute you are 21, and staying up all night drinking beer, eating pizza, and doing sketchy stuff just

for fun. *THEN*... in a blink of an eye, you're 78, drinking water, eating salads, and you can't do any sketchy stuff, because you've pulled a muscle putting on your socks.

 $\checkmark$  Old age comes at a bad time! When you finally know everything you start to forget everything.

 $\checkmark$  I envy people who grow old gracefully. They age like a fine wine. I'm aging like milk: Getting sour and chunky.

### **I feel the need to explain something** to

the generation that does not remember, or never saw, a world where one person with a high school education could support a family of 5 comfortably. This was real; for millions of US families, it was \*normal\*.

**It was stolen from you.** Now what is required is years of student loan debt, and the ability to overcome runaway inflation, Federal Reserve economic monetary manipulation, crooked equity and commodity markets, and burdening taxes.

## THANK YOU TO ALL DONORS ! Past & present, for helping keep Sabalo alive.

The Host of the Sabalo web site is IPower. The current annual fee is \$215 for an ad free site with our current memory usage.

KEEP SENDING GOOD STUFF !

Some of the stuff in this issue came from readers. Thanks guys,. If you see something you like or find informative, probably shipmates will too.

A Man and a Woman-

<u>Husband: "Why do you keep buying plants when</u> you just end up killing them?"

 Wife: "Just to remind you what I'm capable of!"

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#### **THE OLD BOATS:**

\_Featuring WWII Craft & Exploits

#### "USS Tang—1944:

#### "The WWII U.S. Navy Submarine That Sank Itself"

https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/06/uss-tang-the-wwii-u-snavy-submarine-that-sank-itself/

"But O'Kane and seven of his men managed to don their Momsen Lungs and exit via the escape trunk in the forward torpedo room. These eight men were picked up the next morning by a Japanese frigate."

& Here's what Wikipedia says: "Beginning at 6:00 AM on 25 October, using the Momsen lung, the only known case [during WWII] where it was used, thirteen men escaped from the forward torpedo room. By the time the last had exited, the heat from the battery fire was so intense, paint on the bulkhead was scorching, melting, and running down. Of the 13 men who escaped from the forward torpedo room, only five were rescued. One sailor who was near the group of five but injured during the ascent was not rescued. Three who were on the bridge were rescued after swimming for 8 hours. Another survivor escaped the conning tower and used his pants as a flotation device. A total of 78 men were lost."

#### Editor debunks the above, first the poorly researched web post with inaccuracies, and also some clarifications in the Wiki account.

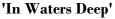
This story has been repeated many times in submarine lore. Just about any sub sailor has heard it.

Tang's last torpedo sank her while it was still light in the evening of the 24th. After firing while surfaced, the torpedo was observed broaching and making a circular run, and despite evasive turns she was struck about amidships.

O'Kane & 8 other men were thrown from the bridge by the explosion. <u>One additional man escaped from</u> <u>the conning tower by free ascent\*</u>, Below decks, the after three compartments immediately flooded. Thirty men from the remaining crew, some severely injured, made it forward to the torpedo room, and about 0600 prepared to make ascent with Momsen Lung gear via the forward escape trunk. The report is that 13 men attempted escape.

By daylight, Of the initial 9, after being in the water all night, only 3 were left. Of the 13 using the Momsen gear escape only 6 survived. Eight men were captured by the Japanese (one injured man was not taken) and they spent the rest of the war in Omori Prison Camp.

\*The free ascent escapee was LT Lawrence Savadkin, who later was CO of Sabalo '51-53. For more of the prison camp ordeal related by Savadkin see page 7. For more: O'Kane's memoir: *Clear The Bridge* & Account included in *Silent Victory* by Blair, pp.767-69



In ocean wastes no poppies grow No crosses stand in ordered row, There young hearts sleep beneath the wave. The spirited, the good, the brave, But stars a constant vigil keep, For them who lie beneath the deep. 'Tis true you cannot kneel in prayer On certain spot and think, "He's there." But you can to the ocean go. See whitecaps marching row on row; Know one for him will always ride. In and out...with every tide. And when your span of life is passed, He'll meet you at the "Captain's Mast." And they who mourn on distant shore For sailors who'll come home no more, Can dry their tears and pray for these Who rest beneath the heaving seas. For stars that shine and winds that blow And white caps marching row on row. And they can never lonely be For when they lived...they chose the sea. ... poem written by Eileen Mahoney

**THE RANK OF FIREMAN** - Established 1842; pay grades 1c and 2c [today's E3 & E2 respectively] established 1847; pay grade 3c established 1917. Re-established as Fireman 1948. Fireman 3c changed to Fireman Recruit 1948; Fireman 2c changed to Fireman Apprentice 1948.

https://usnhistory.navylive.dodlive.mil/Recent/ Article/2686986/the-history-of-navy-rank-or-rate-enlistedpersonnel/





#### <u>USS Nautilus gets a refurb and restoration</u> Work done to keep her a museum boat for another 30 years.

"Facelift for a fabled submarine that has sailed into history" Boston Globe March 19, 2022

https://www.bostonglobe.com/2022/03/19/metro/faceliftfabled-submarine-that-has-sailed-into-history/

As with the bulk of typical MSM reporting so much is poorly researched, e.g.: "But here, where the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics has been designing and building subs since 1899, beginning with the USS Holland,"

#### **WRONG !** - New Jersey gets the credit:

The details from Wikipedia:

"USS Holland (SS-1) was the United States Navy's first modern commissioned <u>submarine</u>, although not the first military submarine of the United States, which was the 1775 <u>submersible</u> <u>Turtle</u>. The boat was originally laid down as Holland VI at the <u>Crescent Shipyard</u> of <u>Elizabeth</u>, New Jersey for John Holland's Holland Torpedo Boat Company, and <u>launched</u> on 17 May 1897. She was acquired by the USN on 11 April 1900 and commissioned on 12 October 1900."

Another sub pioneer, Simon Lake was also a Jersey boy: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon\_Lake</u> A lot of his work was done at Cape May and Sandy Hook. The 1st one he built: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argonaut\_Junior</u>

[Ed. Note: As a proud Jersey boy, born and raised, I have checked the history. The above, from wikipedia, not a perfect source, and some other articles on submarine history posted there have inconsistencies and errors, but in this case accurate about where Holland was constructed.

My brother Roy, likewise a Sabalo vet, sent me the original article from the Globe. His comment: "I was aboard Nautilus for a reserve cruise in the summer of 1972. Just after I graduated from college. The inside living conditions were much like diesel boats."

My experience much more limited—I went on a tour of Nautilus ca. 2008-2010 at Groton.]

#### More on Nautilus:

https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/04/uss-nautilus-thenuclear-powered-submarine-that-changed-everything/

#### A glimpse of the future --

It was a quiet Monday morning in September 2053, when John awoke with a need to go to the head. For John, it wasn't just any ordinary day! This was the day he would use the last roll of toilet paper his parents bought during the shortage scare of 2020. CIRCULAR RUN—On pg 6 there is note of the Tang (SS-306) sunk by its own torpedo making a circular run. One of those who managed to escape was Lawrence Savadkin who was CO of Sabalo on recommissioning for the Korean War.

Some bio info from The Lafayette University web site: Born September 10, 1920; Death April 1, 2007

Scheduled to graduate in 1942, Lawrence Savadkin was enjoying "the thrill of a lifetime" at Lafayette when his education was cut one year short by the call to serve his country in World War II. His action in the war also was curtailed after he was captured by the Japanese and spent the last nine months as a prisoner of war.

A winner of the Navy Cross, Savadkin drew upon his wartime naval experience while being filmed for Silent Service, a submarine documentary shown on the History Channel earlier this year. [2007] He spoke about Commander Richard O'Kane, skipper of the Balao-class diesel submarine USS Tang, for "The Captains," one of the four parts of the series.

Providing commentary on camera was a new, interesting experience. "The History Channel person would ask a question, and the hard part was that I was supposed to respond in a positive way so people knew what the question was without hearing it," says Savadkin. "My role was to give an idea of how O'Kane felt about what he was doing."

The Tang waged a legendary campaign of destruction against Japanese ships before one of its torpedoes malfunctioned, circling back and sinking the sub. Although he was the last man on board, Savadkin was one of just nine to escape, executing a free ascent to the surface. "The secret is that you don't hold your breath, or your lungs will expand and burst," he explains.

After the war, Savadkin went on to complete a 31-year Navy career, which included command of several vessels. He retired at the rank of captain, finishing in Brussels as part of the multinational planning group that devised ways to prevent Berlin from being blockaded again by the Soviet Union.

Savadkin ran track and field and cross-country at Lafayette, where he was majoring in engineering physics.

See: History Channel: <u>https://news.lafayette.edu/2001/10/17/</u> savadkin-42-featured-on-history-channel/

Addtl. account with some errors: <u>http://ss563.org/306/</u> survivors.html

#### Navy Cross - partial citation:

..."Though trapped in the flooded conning tower, where a delay of a few seconds might preclude all chance of escape, Lieutenant Savadkin, with disregard for his own peril miraculously brought a shipmate clear of the vessel. "

#### **Omori prison camp pics:**

http://www.warfish.com/tang/scrap5\_t.html

#### Next issue:

A tale told by Savadkin about a post-war visit to Japan.

#### **MEET YOUR SHIPMATE**

Filipino citizens in the U.S. Navy- [Ever wonder how foreign citizens can join the U.S. Navy? It never occurred to Filipinos on the Sabalo could have been either U.S. or Philippine citizens. The fact never mattered, they me. were just shipmates. This online article was forwarded to me by Chris Sanborn (EN '67-68) with some details on how some Filipinos joined the Navy. –ed.]

'An American dream:' • Stars and Stripes • 31 Mar 2022

Navy warrant officer retires with 30 years of service that began in the last class of Filipino recruits

While immigrants legally living in the U.S. can enlist in the military, the Navy's recruitment of Filipino citizens living in their own independent country was unique. A post WWII program begun in 1947 enlisted more than 35,000 Filipino men into the Navy before it was ended in 1992. "This was a pipeline for ambitious, young, usually super-talented sailors to enlist directly into the U.S. Navy" There was only one other similar program, still active, for South Korean men with the U,S, Army

https://www.stripes.com/branches/navy/2022-03-31/navy-sailors-filipinos-recruits-military-career-5540616.html

\_\_\_\_\_

## MEMORIAL DAY 30 MAY 2022

"J do solemnly swear that J will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic, and that J will bear true faith and allegiance to the same."

These sacred words are the foundation upon which service to our nation is built. This documentary video is a somber reminder that countless numbers of our brave countrymen have made the supreme sacrifice so that our nation will be preserved and its people will flourish. They are American heroes entombed in hallowed graves at home, abroad and beneath the seas - many whose final resting place is known only to God.

A PRICE FOR FREEDOM - featuring Hymn to the Fallen and Mansions of the Lord https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZoaxJcCWoE 10:15

## OS THE SUBJECT OF WOKE B.S.

 $\bowtie$ Concerned Graduates of West Point Challenge Leadership of Military Academy 26 Jun 2022 https://www.theepochtimes.com/concerned-graduates-of-west-point-challenge-leadership-of-military-academyletter\_4558445.html Excerpts:  $\Rightarrow$ "We all want the Military to get back on track to training and leading our Armed Forces to secure America and its Citizens," ",,,the West Point Academy is "conducting business in a manner that ignores time-honored principles of the Academy,  $\rightarrow$ 

- Constitutional Law, and our sworn oath of office."
- $\Rightarrow$  "We wanted to challenge the leadership of the Academy and the Defense Dept on their WOKE actions, CRT, Diversity training and the other discrepancies in the Academy. We found it pervasive at the Naval and Air Force Academies so we knew it was directed from the highest levels of our Military Leadership,"

More Woke b.s. https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/03/24/marines-canhave-longer-hair-wear-different-color-socks-under-new-uniform-changes.html ABSOLUTELY, 100% POSITIVE THAT THIS WILL INCREASE RETENTION, DISCIPLINE AND MORALE, AND MAYBE SAVE THE **GOVERNMENT MILLIONS ON THE DEFENSE BUDGET.** And WTF is This? PRONOUN TRAINING FOR SAILORS https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=-gp7ZsJKjQA

**Navy Jargon**—"*Pisscutter*" = Garrison cap. Today's Navy uniforms include one for both enlisted and officer ranks. E1-E6 wear black for both sexes, eliminating the former female 'bucket' style hat. Unisex style of all covers was adopted for all personnel in October 2016 including 'dixie cups for all enlisted E1-6. CPO & officer's garrisons are khaki. It's all kinds of confusing trying to figure out the current style and colors authorized. The wear of garrison caps began in 1943 as optional wear, but were eliminated in '47 for a period of time. It became too confusing for me to figure out the full history, but here's one site to see the old type: <a href="https://www.usww2uniforms.com/USN garrison\_cap.html">https://www.usww2uniforms.com/USN garrison\_cap.html</a>

## VA LINKS

These are shown as clickable links in the online issue. If you • need the URL, send me an eml. –ed.

- ⇒ 2020 VA Agent Orange Newsletter
- ⇒ Check the status of a disability claim you have filed
- ⇒ <u>VietNam-era deck logs</u>
- ⇒ Blue Water Navy Association

VETERAN'S DISCOUNTS

https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/85765/veteran-discounts -available-year-round/

More links: <u>North Face; Outback; HomeDepot</u> & 16 Companies with Military Discounts on Mattresses

https://www.military.com/discounts/companies -offer-sweet-military-discounts-mattresses.html

Movie Night in the After Battery

## In Enemy Hands - Trailer- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aH8nPI4-ZzU

Missing link in last issue Full Story Line (If you want to mess up the suspense) <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In\_Enemy\_Hands\_%</u> 28film%29

**Company Of Heroes** - With the Germans apparently near defeat in the latter part of <u>World War II</u>, a <u>squad</u> of American soldiers from the <u>2nd Infantry Division</u> on a routine mission near Elsenborn in the Belgian <u>Ardennes</u> encounter a surprisingly strong German tank destroyer and infantry force. After a fierce firefight, the Americans escape and try to make their way back to their own lines to report the German surge. En route, they stumble across a German experimental site, still smoldering with flames from some devastating event. Surprisingly, this site is in Heidenfeld, <u>Thuringia</u> in Germany, although their own lines are hundreds of kilometers away in Belgium. They come across an American <u>OSS</u> agent suffering from horrific burn



wounds, and learn that the Germans are close to development of a super-bomb which will enable them to turn the tide of war and achieve victory. The American agent, knowing that he is near death, asks the soldiers to complete his mission: to find the bomb; disable it; and extract the scientist developing it, who wishes to defect. With their sergeant and other NCOs dead, the youngest of the soldiers, Nathaniel "Nate" Burrows, Jr. (Chad Michael Collins) and Dean Ransom (Tom Sizemore) (a cook who had been demoted from Lieutenant after the D-Day landings) lead them deep into Nazi territory. There, they are joined by escaped British airman

Brent Willoughby (<u>Vinnie Jones</u>) and <u>Red Army</u> soldier Ivan Puzharsky (<u>Dimitri Diatchenko</u>). Discovered and pursued, the Allies make a series of hair-breadth escapes from vastly superior numbers of well-armed Nazi soldiers and finally make contact with a woman named Kestrel (<u>Melia Kreiling</u>), their link to the bomb and to the scientist Dr. Luca Gruenewald (<u>Jürgen Prochnow</u>). Trailer: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pn\_4KIFmkbU</u>

Watch it: <u>https://www.netflix.com/title/70266110</u> 2013, time 1 hr 40 min More: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Company of Heroes %28film%29</u>

[My rating:  $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow 5 F^{***in'}$  stars+- I put it in my personal top five war flicks of all time, right up there with Saving Private Ryan. It's blood & guts, and a great story. -ed.]

**The Steel Bayonet** 1957 British war film set during WWII, in the Tunisian desert when a small British observation force are surrounded in a farm by overwhelming forces of the German Afrika Korps. Desc: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0051009/

Plot: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Steel Bayonet

Watch on YouTube: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=f3wA3acx9lQ 1 hr 20 min

Google title for other platforms that may offer better quality

( $\bigstar$  grainy, fuzzy and audio not synced, but good story –ed.)

### $ightarrow rac{What the foreign Navies are doing <math> ightarrow$

#### China's Plan to Conquer the U.S. Navy -- MINISUBS ?? Why China's New Mini-Submarines Could Be More Lethal Than US' Nuclear Subs In The Taiwan Strait https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hB0eNGWf1xY

"China has been looking at options to take on AUKUS that will provide Australia with eight nuclear submarines. With 80 submarines, China has the highest proportion of submarines in relation to surface vessels than any other navy. However, China only has 6 nuclear-powered submarines and 67 conventionally-powered submarines. While US allies like Australia are investing in nuclear-powered submarines, China has decided to focus elsewhere."

Lengthy discussion (23 min) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> app=desktop&v=RrS-B9nm7KQ

#### **Russian Typhoon Class**

Why are Russian Typhoon class nuclear submarines more than twice the size, by displacement, of the US Navy's Ohio class? Unlike some claims, it wasn't big for propaganda purposes. There were multiple reasons for its massive size.

The first reason was the firepower it carried. When the Ohio and Typhoon were first commissioned in 1981, the Typhoon had double the firepower. The Typhoon carried 20 R-39s ((NATO Designation: SS-N-20 Sturgeon - The largest SLBM ever.)) with 10 x 200 kt warheads each. Giving total firepower of 40 Mt. The Ohio had 24 Trident 1 4Cs with 8 x 100 kt warheads each. Giving total firepower of 19.6 Mt. The R-39 also had a range advantage against the Trident 1 C4. They had ranges of 8300 km and 7400 km respectively. What Soviets lacked in nuke yield density and solid fuel tech, they compensated with brute size successfully.

Addtl info w/pics: https://www.wearethemighty.com/articles/ why-russias-typhoon-class-submarines-are-so-massive/ & https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/04/meet-the-typhoonclass-why-russia-built-the-largest-submarine-ever/ & https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Typhoon-class\_submarine

## <u>Austrailan Submariners</u> push for new 'son of Collins' fleet before AUKUS nuclear boats arrive in 2040s

Former submariners with over 500 years of collective service in the Royal Australian Navy are warning a newer version of the Collins-class boat is needed as a stopgap measure. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v= -</u> <u>XHNppIHol</u>

#### Sweden's 'ATOMIC' Submarine

Sweden really nearly built a nuclear-powered ('atomic') submarine during the Cold War. Swedish submarine design has a history of innovation and unusual features, making it among the most interesting histories in the world.

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=3iUqTdh2WMU

#### Movement at North Korean port may signal new plans

for experimental sub - Stars and Stripes • April 1, 2022 Analysts detected "unusual movement" of an experimental ballistic-missile submarine at a North Korean shipyard after combing through satellite imagery in March. The submarine, docked at the Sinpo South Shipyard on the eastern coast, was spotted being pulled out from under a canopy by a tugboat,... https://www.stripes.com/theaters/asia\_pacific/2022-04-01/ north-korea-shipyard-ballistic-missile-submarine-satellitebeyond-parallel-5546281.html

# HISTORIC NEWS — The time a fishing boat helped capture a North Korean submarine June 1998

"On June 22, a North Korean Yugo-class became disabled in South Korean waters. About 11 miles east of Sokcho and 21 miles south of the inter-Korean border, the submarine became tangled in a fishing drift net. The North Korean sailors attempted to free the submarine to no avail."

"The surfaced and disabled submarine was observed by South Korean fishermen who notified the South Korean Navy of their sighting. A corvette was promptly dispatched to intercept the North Koreans. The submarine was towed by the corvette back to the navy base at Donghae with its crew still inside. However, the submarine sank on its way into port. "

"On June 25, the submarine was salvaged by South Korea. It had sunk to a depth of approximately 30 meters. The bodies of nine North Koreans were recovered from the submarine. The five sailors who crewed the submarine were apparently executed. Four of them had been shot in the head. "It appears that four men, including the commander, shot the five men to death, then committed suicide,"

Full Story: https://www.wearethemighty.com/articles/

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember that mustering in from time to time is the way shipmates can know you're still out there. The last Sabalo muster in July 2021 was poorly responded to. 88 men with known address were not heard from. The previous muster request was in 2018. The number not heard from precludes making a repeat search for all the missing. See page 15

Your only excuse is that there is no phone or internet in the cemetery.

## 🖼 MAILBAG 🗖

LATE NEWS: 18Jul22 My father, Theodore Kistner, passed away July 6, 2022. He always remembered his days in the service fondly. In fact, I was born in Honolulu while he was still active on Sabalo. (son) TheodoreKistner <tukkisner-at-comcast.net> See pg 13

Eml fm **Charles Gilson** 26Mar22 Hey Jeff. I get your mail, but am NOT very tech savvy. Currently in South Texas for the winter (snowbird), from Missouri.

Have trouble with pdf and such. Am getting TOO old. Had right knee replaced last May. Will have left knee this May. Otherwise am healthy Still located outside Lebanon, Mo.

Am in touch regularly with LOSBY and BEATTY. Thanks for what you do, Chuck Gilson

**Harold Losby** via telcon reports He had a nice celebration of his birthday on 30 May [90 yrs].

Reply to pc sent -fm **Ray Toloski**—Hi Jeff, Great read. Still kickin' - 84 yrs old.

**Ken Burtner** sent some nifty decals—one is on pg 2 'any ship'

Excerpts from note received fm **Don Longenecker**— "I will be 90 on Sep 14, 2022. At my age I tend to fall asleep, but I've been very fortunate on the health basis ... various operations haven't killed me yet. My wife, Lou has some serious back pains, but is pretty good. She just hit the 91 spot. I wish all the best of health,"

**Rick Blevins** sent a pic of his mementos fm Sabalo: that includes one of the older patches, a shoulder strip, and a color photo of 302.

Late June Eml exchange with **Tom Wilhelm** re **QMC Gorence** and his corn cob pipes:

>TOM: I am mailing you an article on the newly minted USS Montana (SEE PG 4) which will be stationed in Pearl. The Bitterroot River flows through Hamilton [Montana, where Tom lives] and Bitterroot is what they named the passageway through the lower flats. ...I cannot get away from the bilges.

>JEFF - Tom, What the hell you talking about? Like my self, you spent at least 1/3 of your time in the conning tower with air conditioning and heat control.

{of course the hatch was always open) Except for quals crawling around down there, and one time volunteering to help with major engine work. I never went in the bilges. Even as below decks watch I only looked down there. Well there was dozens of times going into #7 for parts, and the time the store room under control with 90% of our test equipment got flooded. The oft-going OOD caught hell for not noticing that on his walk thru.

'Course, I do remember your past tale of being lowered into the scope well for Gorenz' [sic] pipe. >TOM: The conning tower had bilges under the floor matts and deck plates which we pulled up in port, cleaned and painted. As far as Gorence's pipe retrieval since I was the lowest 2nd class QM I had to go into the bilges below the Control Room and remove the inspection plate at the bottom of the periscope well and fish the damn pipes out. He tended to lose one every other week underway. Also when mess cooking like you.

>JEFF-Never did mess cook, was PO3 when I came aboard and there were enough other newbies that I didn't have the pleasure.

>TOM: I spent a lot of time in #7 fishing out canned goods for Tony Parra and loading them in when in port. The only time I got seasick was in #7 during some rough seas. Damn stern always did figure 8's underway.

>JEFF: Gorence never had a regular, briar pipe that I remember, always the corn cobs. One time during a long at sea trip his last one burned through. I guess he forgot to get some at the exchange before leaving, or they didn't have any. They only seemed to last a couple weeks because they were almost continually lit. He was frantic when the last pipe was a goner. He borrowed some cigs from one of the other goats to tide him over, but I think the next stop was Okinawa and he couldn't find any, so had to keep the cig thing going.

Maybe he did have another kind of pipe at some point. Now that i reflect, he may have had one of those rain free pipes that are closed on top and have a screen on the bottom to light it and let the air in. He also was fond of those special pipe lighters that have a hole in the middle where the flame shoots out sideways over the bowl.

Miss the old chief.

>TOM: I too miss Ron, his wit and wisdom. Before we left port he would always go to the exchange and buy an entire card of corncob pipes. I believe there were 10-12 different pipes on a card. For a long cruise he would buy 2 cards. He would eventually lose them down the periscope well or overboard. Not sure if he had them long enough to completely burn out, but I do remember that funny sideways lighter he used on the bridge.

**BINNACLE LIST** Send your health reports so shipmates can know how you're doing.

6Nov2021 eml fm **James Robertson, 'Robbie', CS2(SS)** - I have found that the older we get the tougher it is to just get through the day. As for me, I have been diagnosed with MS and that makes it really hard. Enjoyed my cruise on the Sabalo and was discharged from the Navy after our WesPac in 1970.

## VA NEWS

#### History of VA in 100 Objects

The History of VA in 100 Objects explores the history of the nation's efforts to honor and reward Veterans for their service by spotlighting individual objects that tell key parts of the VA story. To join the journey through VA's past, visit the 100 Objects Gallery where new entries are posted each week.

https://www.va.gov/HISTORY/100 Objects/Gallery.asp

#### Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange, Radiation, Toxic Water Included in Landmark Burn Pit Bill

<u>https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/16/veterans-</u> <u>exposed-agent-orange-radiation-toxic-water-included-</u> <u>landmark-burn-pit-bill.html</u> **STATE VETERANS BENEFITS**— Each state offers their own benefits. Some are quite lucrative including zero income tax on military retirement income, and many other monetary programs. For a state-by-state listing check this web site: <a href="https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html">https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html</a>

## VA Asks for 22% Increase in Spending on Medical Care as Part of Record \$301 Billion Budget

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/03/28/va-asks-22increase-spending-medical-care-part-of-record-301-billionbudget.html

**SHIP'S STORE** — <u>https://usssabalo.org/Ship's\_Store.html</u> See web site for current items available. If you are looking for something specific, not on the web site, please contact me.



*Sabalo Patch—*\$11 each - which includes mail cost for regular 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mail

Battle Flag Posters—PRICE REDUC-TION — \$25 price includes shipping There are 5 copies left and I hope you will take advantage now,

(16 1/2" x 21" fits std 16x20 frame) - \* These look great on the wall of any man cave !



#### Injured Navy Pilot's Attitude!

There is attitude and then there is positive attitude! "Life is not the way it's supposed to be, it's the way it is. The way you cope with it

is what makes the difference."

After his plane was hit and he was forced to eject, the Navy fighter pilot finally regained consciousness. He was in a hospital in a lot of pain. He found himself in the ICU with tubes/IV drips in both arms, a breathing mask, wires monitoring every function and a nurse hovering over him looking worried. It was obvious he was in a life-threatening situation.

The nurse gave him a serious look, straight into his eyes. Knowing he was not only a fighter pilot, but a Sailor, she spoke to him softly and slowly, enunciating each word:

"You may not feel anything from the waist down." Somehow, he managed to mumble in reply,

"Can I feel your tits, then?"

And that, my friends, is a real positive attitude.

A breath of humility is a quality of some people I have known and admired over the years. Unfortunately, this isn't a requirement for an individual in politics or bureaucracy. We have people running this country who are never wrong.

#### WUHAN VIRUS NEWS -

The SARS-2 virus (aka COVID-19) spreads mostly through the nose and mouth, but scientists have now concluded that the greatest risk comes from assholes.



Seeing how some people wear their masks, I now understand how condoms fail.

China claims that Corona Virus came from an old stupid bat. Nancy Pelosi denies having been involved.



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Remember when we had to smack the TV because the channel wasn't coming in clearly? I feel that way now about far too many people.



## SAILORS

REST YOUR OAR



Campbell, William Lloyd, d. 31 May 2006, ag 80, Lincoln, DL WWII vet, was S2c-S1c in 302 Jun45-Apr 46

Gavieres, Oscar Reynoso, d. 6 Sep 2021, ag 90, San Diego, CA, was EN2-1(SS) in 302; later ENC(SS), Ret. Obit: https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/bonita-ca/oscar-gavieres-10343464 Pics: 103 online with obit—Google search using his name

Honeysett, Richard C. 27 Dec 21, ag 92, Renton, WA, was RMSN-2(SS) in 302 Jul 52-Apr54

LaPointe, Lavern Lee, d. 28 Apr 1968, ag 27, in S. Dakota, was MM3(SS) in 302 Feb61-Dec61

Leggett, David Houston, d. 19 Dec 2016, ag 77, Henderson, TX, was RMSN(SS) in 302 Jul 60-Aug60 TAD from Bashaw 241 – Obit: https://www.crawfordacrim.com/obituaries/David-Leggett-3/#!/Obituary

Schlife, Jerome Martin 'Jerry', d. 11 Oct 2014, ag 68, St. George, UT, b. 26 Mar 46 in Colby, KS; was RM3-RM2(SS) in 302 Dec67-Jun69.

Obit w/pic: https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/thespectrum/name/jerome-schlife-obituary?id=12336134

Stringer, John Lloyd, d.5 Mar 2018, ag 77, Searcy, AR, abd 302 Mar59-Apr 59 for 12 days FFT to Sterlet; later USNA grad '65, and highest rank LT, other info not known. Obit: https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/ar/searcy/john-l-stringer-7079388



Late notice:

Kistner, Theodore Clayton Howard, d. 6 Jul 2022, ag 90, San Jose, CA, was SN-FT2(SS) in 302 Feb54-Sep55



\*The Lat-Long for the Sabalo resting place is 32.7112, -117.442400. Plots ~due west of Point Loma, estimated at 14-15 miles .



 $\Rightarrow$  "I was that which others did not want to be. I went where others feared to go and did what others failed to do. I asked nothing from those who gave nothing, and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness... should I fail. I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love. I have cried, pained, and hoped... but most of all, I have lived times others would say were best forgotten. At Least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was... a Soldier."

attributed to George Skypeck - see: https://slideplayer.com/7220491/24/images/slide 1.jpg

#### HERDING CATS - Are you AWOL ? - LOOK FOR YOUR NAME

I try to record the date and nature of each communication received using a one line note in one of the cells in the Sabalo db. Sometimes this slips by and I miss recording.

The main reason is, of course, is to know if you're still kicking. Sabalo men are fast going to Davy Jones' Locker or where ever submariners end up. And secondly, I try to make sure that addresses and emails are correct for receiving the Clever Boy. In July 2018 & July 2021, I sent out communication asking for verification. The below list of 85 men are indicated as not communicating recently. I may have missed recording a couple, but **if you see your name please take the little time to communicate**. One day there won't be enough readership to keep up the newsletter.

I believe many on this list are getting the CB okay. I need to hear from you. If these 85 men are not reading the CB, then that currently leaves only 199 who have communicated maybe over the past 44 months or so since the 2018 muster.

Abbott, Ernest Lee, Jr. Forsman, Ronald Sidney Ryan, Gerald Thomas Adams, James Richard, Jr. Fuhrer, Terrence Lee Sette, Carl Joseph Ashworth, John T., Jr. Garrison, Gary G. Sluhan, Alan Robert Bates, James E. Gersna, Robert Emmett Sneeden, Samuel Benjamin, Jr. Beach ,Roger Allan Giacomelli, Andre Louis Stafford, Edward Marvin, Jr. Gonzales, Pastor Bravo Beatty, John Daniel 'Clyde' Stone, Stanley Hall, Jr. Beauchamp, Donald Wayne Greco, Vito Louis Sturgess, Daniel W. Blackburn, Bruce McClaren Gregorio, Rogelio Pusugac Towery, William Clyde Bolen, Roger Dale Hidde, Rodney A. Tulk, Thomas Charles Bowlby, Carl Albert Houck, Michael James Van Nest, Ronald Lawrence Bracey, Douglas Allen Huskey, John Robert Vignola, Bruce Norman Bryant, Gregory James Hutterman, William R. Wallace, James William, Jr. Jacob, Ulrich Peter Buchanan, John Leslie Wessner, Peter H. Camper, Richard John Janke, Dale Alfred Wetzler, John Garth Capouch, Stanley Lawrence Klug, James Allen Wheeler, James R. Cataldo, Salvatore James Kreuzer, James Henry Wieczorek, Stephen G. Chesser, Phillip Jerome Manning, David Houston Williams, William (n) Clark, Loren Lee McCormick, David P. 'Mac' Wisswell, Robert Clark Colby, Frank Crosby McLane, A. L. 'Al' Wood, Verne E. Meliota, Greg Lee Collier, Richard Walter Woodhead, David Arthur Mengden, Joseph David Contrady, Eugene Thomas Yarbrough, Ernest Ray Crawford, Donald Rex Newton, Raymond Neff Douglass, John Charles, Jr. Porter, George I just read an article Power, Stacy B. Eddins, Hollis B. Pratt, Gerald L Elger, Al B. Robisch, Herbert Eugene Espana, Francisco Javier Vealed the shit out Rosenboom, Roger Dale Fedor, Charles William Ruden, Peter Mapes Ferguson, Gary Alan NO MORE RE Ruest, Robert L. Flanagan, Patrick John

### LEFT IN THE WAKE

IF THE CURRENT POWER GRID CAN'T HANDLE A NIGHT OF 20 DEGREES TEMPERATURES WITHOUT ROLL-ING BLACKOUTS, HOW ARE WE GOING TO PLUG 100 MILLION ELECTRIC CARS IN AT NIGHT?

I hate it when I can't figure out how to operate the iPad and my tech support guy is asleep. He's 5 and it's past his bedtime. Today's 3 year-olds can switch on laptops and open their favorite apps. When I was 3, I ate mud.

"If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, but make allowance for their doubting, too."

... From "If", by Rudyard Kipling

If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write something worth reading, or do things worth what others will write about.

LIKE IT OR LUMP IT—Whiners on the Carrier Geo. Washington told, "...at Least They Aren't 'Sleeping in a Foxhole Like a Marine'" <u>https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/04/26/navys-top-enlisted-leader-tells-george-washington-crew-least-they-arent</u> -sleeping-foxhole-marine.html

[The ship is in a yard period at Newport News. There is some kind of crew problem associated with 3 recent suicides, which makes one wonder what the problem is. Some crew have lodged complaints about noise and disrupted schedules, etc. Action to date consists of moving some personnel to shore side berthing and living spaces. ...Or is there some association with the cultural and societal attitudes of today's recruits? Maybe more Woke B.S.?? - ed.]

US Navy announces off-ship housing for sailors aboard USS George Washington after apparent suicides 2 May 22 <a href="https://www.wric.com/news/virginia-news/us-navy-announces-off-ship-housing-for-sailors-aboard-uss-george-washington-after-suicides-reports-of-poor-working-conditions/">https://www.wric.com/news/virginia-news/us-navy-announces-off-ship-housing-for-sailors-aboard-uss-george-washington-after-suicides-reports-of-poor-working-conditions/</a>

"The parents of one young sailor who was found unresponsive last month spoke to 13News Now over video. "This can't happen to any other sailors," the parent said tearfully. "It's not fair, when these boys and girls sign up to enlist to serve their country. It's not fair."

"Out of the 400 sailors currently living on the George Washington, 260 will be given accommodations, ... Now. About 50 sailors will be given off-ship housing each week after that, though a small number are required to stay onboard."

#### **FRIENDS**

Around the corner I have a friend, In this great city that has no end, Yet the days go by and weeks rush on, And before I know it, a year is gone; And I never see my old friend's face, For life is a swift and demanding race. He knows I like him just as well As in the days when I rang his bell And he rang mine, but we were younger then! Now we are busy, tired men... Tired of playing a foolish game, Tired of trying to make a name. "Tomorrow," I say, "I'll call on Jim Just to show I'm thinking of him." But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes, And distance between us grows and grows. Around the corner, yet miles away, "Here's a telegram, sir... Jim died today." And that's what we get and deserve in the end,

"How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of,

and which no other people on earth enjoy!"

**THOMAS JEFFERSON**