

USS HOLT (DE 706)

“HOLT HAPPENINGS”A Newsletter for and about the crew of the ship and their families.

Vol. XII, No3

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HOLT WEB SITE

Jeff Cope, son of Glen & Helen Cope, is a professional computer web site developer. His work in developing the HOLT web site is outstanding. Log on to www.ussholt.com and see what Jeff has done. It is very easy to navigate around the various items. He has such things as the ship's history, the complete list of the crew, HOLT's size specifications and armament, a photo section for each of our ship reunions plus more. Click on each category for more photos. Thanks to Jeff and his folks, Helen and Glenn Cope for sponsoring this tribute to the ship and the crew. Their efforts in perpetuating the history of the USS HOLT are appreciated.

OUT OF SADNESS COMES GOOD

(This is an E-mail from a young Ensign aboard the USS Winston Churchill - DDG-81, to his parents after the events of last September 11th. USS Churchill is an Arleigh Burke class AEGIS Guided Missile Destroyer, commissioned 10 March 2001, and is the only active U. S. warship named after a foreign national.)

“Dear Dad, We are still at sea. The remainder of our port visits have all been cancelled. We have spent every day since the attacks going back and forth within imaginary boxes

drawn on the ocean, standing high security watches and trying to make the best of it. We have seen the attacks and photographs, and they are sickening. Being isolated, I don't think we appreciate the full scope of what is happening back home, but we are definitely feeling the effects.

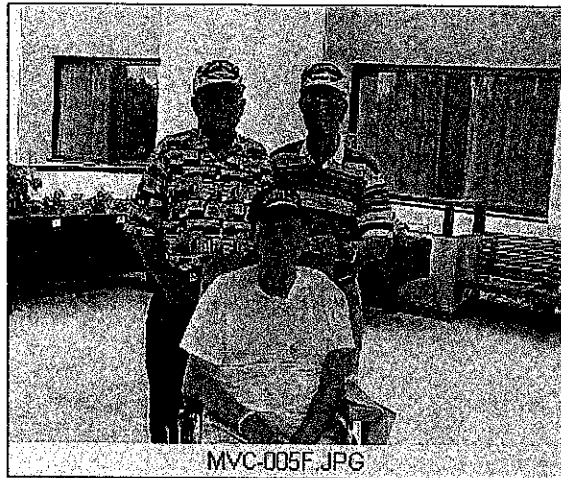
About two hours ago, we were hailed by the German destroyer, LUTJENS, requesting permission to pass close by our port side. Strange, since we're in the middle of an empty ocean, but the captain acquiesced and we prepared to render them honors from our bridgewing. As they were making their approach, our conning officer used binoculars and announced that LUTJENS was flying not the German, but the American Flag. As she came alongside us, we saw the American Flag flying, half-mast and her entire crew topside standing at silent, rigid attention in their dress uniforms. They made a sign that was displayed on her side that read "We stand By You". There was not a dry eye on the bridge as they stayed alongside us for a few minutes and saluted. It was the most powerful thing I have seen in my life. The German Navy did an incredible thing for this crew, and it has truly been the highest point in the days since the attack. It is amazing to think that only half-century ago things were quite different. After LUTJENS pulled away, the Officer of the Deck, who had been planning to get out later this year, turned to me and said, 'I'm staying Navy'. I'll write you when I know more."

(Thanks to Oak Ramsey for sending this article from the Legion Magazine).

OTHER

In early August Bill Morgan and Karl Nease paid a visit to Ralph Parks who is in the Iowa State Veterans Home, Marshalltown, IA. The veterans home comprises several buildings in a campus-like atmosphere. It was good to spend a few hours with Parks. His spirit is strong and he is getting physical therapy to regain use of his arm and leg. We had a good visit, had dinner with him and spent the night in one of the Home's Guest Cottages. After breakfast the next morning, we said goodbye and headed back south.

Anyone traveling in the vicinity, drop in and see Parks. He would be glad to see you. The staff at the Veterans Home is outstanding, very friendly and helpful. If Ralph continues with his physical therapy program, he just might be in attendance at the next HOLT reunion! Ralph's phone number is [REDACTED]. He would appreciate a call or he can be reached [REDACTED]



Bill Morgan and Karl Nease with Ralph Parks

We have received several "Thank You" notes from our ailing or bereaved shipmates and their wives, expressing appreciation for the cards that were sent them from the reunion, which just proves that our shipmates appreciate your thoughtfulness.

SPECIAL REQUEST

For those of you who attended the Jacksonville reunion, does anyone have a photo of the incident involving Doc Steinhauser's personalized license plate?(Jay Decker holding the plate). Or Jay Decker's shorts? If so, would you send a copy to Lois Steinhauser. Her address is [REDACTED]. Those two incidents were hilarious.

BINNACLE LIST

Folks that are still ailing include Jeri Pickett who is coming off chemotherapy and recovering from cancer surgery; Russ Coates continues to improve and Phil Corriher is doing much better after suffering a stroke last spring. There are others sick, (see the last Newsletter) but we just do not have any information as to their condition. Mary Anne McGauley has recovered from her recent cancer treatment and is doing fine. She and John are coming to Fort Worth in a few weeks to attend their grandson's wedding. We plan to have dinner, along with Arch and Charlotte West, with the McGauley's .

Do your shipmates a favor and let us know who is sick so we can keep the crew advised. They will appreciate your cards, calls and prayers.

IN MEMORIAM

Helen Nease passed away on June 20th after a short illness. She was not feeling well enough to attend the Jacksonville reunion but insisted on Karl going without her. We'll miss Helen and her sense of humor. Karl's address is [REDACTED]

In a phone call today, September 10th, Bob DeAngelis advised that our shipmate, **Fred Davis**, passed away in St. Petersburg, Fl. Last Saturday September 7th after a long battle with cancer. His wife Edna survives him and may be reached at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We extend our deepest sympathy to Edna and the family. Bob said that Fred was to be cremated and his ashes buried in Rhode Island next spring.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Charlie Chavis' new address is: [REDACTED]

Kess Adams new address is [REDACTED]

Our last newsletter to **ELLSWORTH BECKER** was returned as undeliverable. So far, all attempts to locate him have failed. Anyone with information on him, please let us know.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our deceased shipmate, **Bob Kent**, was the 1944 North Dakota Heavy Weight Golden Gloves champion! He won the title in January 1944 while attending Machinist's Mate School in Wahpeton, ND.

2002 REUNION PHOTO BOOKLET

Enclosed is the 2002 photo memory book from our Jacksonville reunion. We tried to include everyone who attended, but a couple got away before their photos could be taken. If you have a photo of Bob Cooper, please send us a copy. It's too late for the memory book, but we will run it in a future edition of the HOLT Newsletter.

Remember, this is your newsletter. If you have anything you would like to pass on to you shipmates in the way of stories or photos, send them in and we will be glad to include them.

Hopefully, by the next newsletter, we will have something to report on the 2004 reunion plans.

Until next time, **FAIR WINDS**