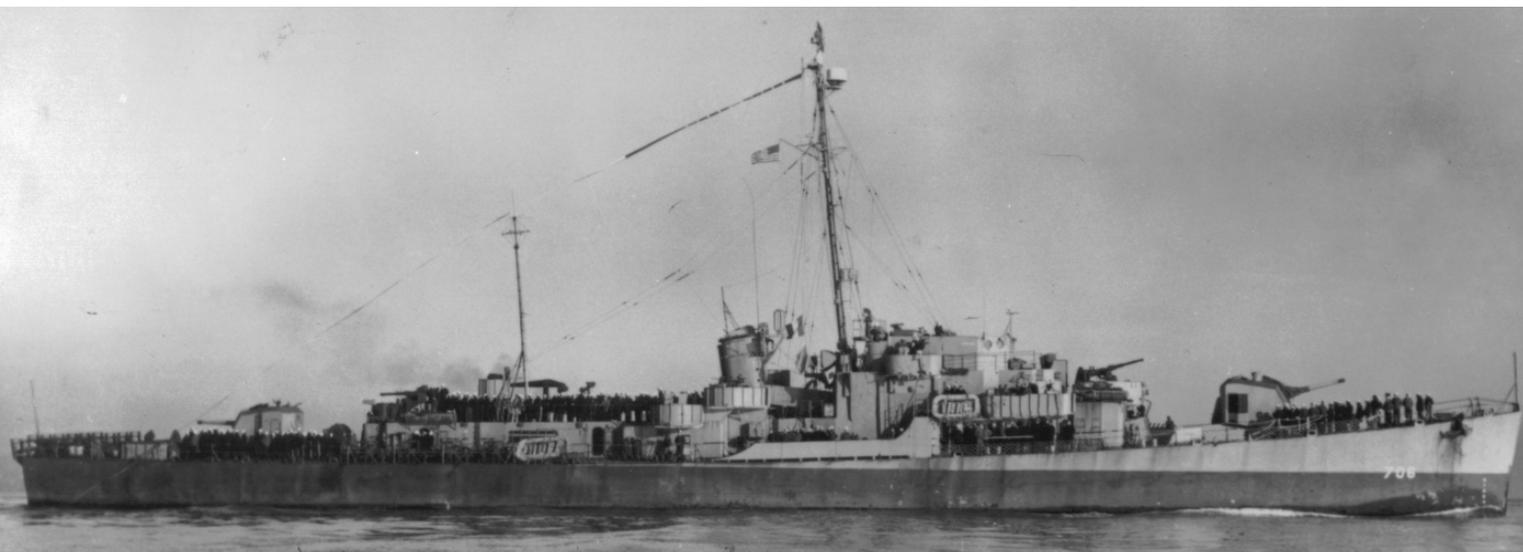


HOLT HAPPENINGS

A NEWSLETTER FOR AND ABOUT THE CREW AND THEIR FAMILIES



February 2007

Vol. XVII; No. 1

IN MEMORIAM

Bill Morgan: Shipmate Bill Morgan passed away on June 25, 2006 in Dallas, Texas following a battle with lung cancer. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Lois, two sons, Dave Morgan and wife Jill, and Jeff Morgan and wife Sylvia. Condolences are extended to Lois and their family. Lois' address is: [REDACTED]

Bill and Lois worked tirelessly for more than fifteen years to bring the crew of the USS Holt together. He not only founded the organization of the Holt shipmates; he located and contacted as many former shipmates as he could; he organized and led many reunions; and he produced this newsletter. His death has left a significant void in the organization that he created. Although it will be impossible to replace Bill and all of the work that he has done; many of those of us who have been active in the reunions believe that it would be a disservice to him and the other shipmates to not continue what he began. Therefore, with the assistance of many of you, hopefully, the newsletter and reunions will continue.

John Coward: Shipmate John Coward passed away on June 21, 2006. Condolences are extended to his widow, Charlotte. Charlotte's address is: [REDACTED]

Abe Silver: Shipmate Abe Silver passed away on December 25, 2005 from cancer. Condolences are extended to his widow, Gloria. Her address is: [REDACTED]

BINNACLE LIST

Kess Adams is recovering from hip surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery. His address is: [REDACTED]

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

We are in need of volunteers to provide us with articles of interest for future newsletters. Also, if anyone has information that they would like to share concerning shipmates and their families, please send it to:

Paul Pickett
4805 Greenview Lane
Hixson, TN 37343
423-877-7727
Email: ppickettsr@aol.com

or: Jerry Hightower

[REDACTED]

2008 REUNION

We are checking on the possibility of holding the next reunion in the **Boston, MA** area in **May of 2008**. The dates being considered are May 22nd - 25th or May 29th - June 1st. Judy Mansur is in the process of checking on room rates and tours of interest. More information will follow as soon as it is available.

USS HOLT WEBSITE

Holt shipmates are very fortunate to have an excellent website that has received numerous compliments from not only those within the Holt crew and families, but also from many outside the organization. The creator and webmaster is Jeff Cope. The web address is: <http://www.usholt.com>. Jeff's email address is: [REDACTED]. On the Holt website you can find many items of interest. Jeff is also in the process of writing a book about the Holt and her crew.

Recent Contacts Received Through the Website:

From: George Bartlett, Yoncalla, OR;
email: [REDACTED]

To: ppickettsr@aol.com

Subject: USS Holt

Date: Wed, 24 Jan 2007 3:37 PM

“Dear Mr. Pickett:

I was Quartermaster First Class on the USS Holt from June, 1944 through June, 1946. I'd like to relate some information to you that I feel is important:

The USS Heavy Cruiser Indianapolis delivered the atomic bombs to the island of Tinian in the Marianna Island chain and then proceeded toward Leyte Gulf in the Philippine Islands. The USS Holt, DE 706, was sent approximately halfway to the Marianas to rendezvous with the Indianapolis.

The Holt went into a holding pattern for approximately eight hours; the evening was partially cloudy, the seas were moderate, there was moonlight.

The Indianapolis did not show, it was sunk by a Japanese submarine. Instead of the Holt being sent to locate the cruiser, we were ordered to return to the Philippines. Because of this bad order, the crew of the Indianapolis was left in shark-infested waters for over four days. Many of the crew drowned while others were attacked and devoured by sharks.

Why wasn't the truth reported? Does anyone have any answers to this question?

Thank you, George Bartlett, Yoncalla, OR"

From: **Marguerite Sweeney;**
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2007 1:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ppickettsr@aol.com
Subject: Thank you

"I entered your site today on a whim because my father, Vincent Sweeney, EM 2/C served on the USS Holt during 1944-46. I found his name on the crew roster and was pleasantly surprised to find a photo had been posted of my father and 4 other crew members taken at the Monaco Theatre Restaurant in San Francisco. Today happens to be my mother's birthday and so you can imagine how I felt when I clicked on the link and up came that photo of my father! I was wondering if you knew who donated the picture to your site (I assume it was John Steinhauser who attended your reunion in 2006 and is also in the photo) and if it would be possible to get in touch with him to ask for a copy of the photo. I would be willing to reimburse him for the cost of making the copy and mailing, etc. Thank you so much for making my day a happy one today. I am so glad that this site is there and live and appreciate all the work and donations of those involved. Good luck and thank you again.

Best regards, **Marguerite Sweeney;** [REDACTED]