

# CALVERT



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MEN OF THE U.S.S. CALVERT APA 32

"The Ship and Men of Distinction"

Published and Compiled by  
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Kenyon, Minnesota 55946  
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VOL. NO. 10

1982

Well as you can see it's San Francisco in 1983. Ed & Mary O'Brien have made arrangements at the Marine Memorial Club in San Francisco for Sept. 23-25, 1983. If you have ever been to Frisco you know that room rates are not low. But by joining the Marine Club we as a group can save quite a bit and still have a very nice place to hold a reunion. Ed has a letter in the back of the newsletter telling a few things you should know that have to be done.

As I try to send out something in interest to all I am going to dedicate this issue to the guys who put the Calvert back into commission in the 50's. Since that was my time I got a few items that may (I hope) interest everybody. That was the time when the crew was mostly reserves that were called back to duty because of the Korean War. All seaman & firemen were young recruits still wet behind the ears. We found out what navy life was really like fast. We saw great places like Norfolk? - Panama Canal - San Diego etc. then on to Japan. Looking back at the history of the Calvert both in WW2 and Korea she was put into service fast & sent over seas right away. Being in the boiler room I knew the Babcock & Wilcox boilers inside & out when the Reserve P.O. got done with me. I was really proud to belong to the B Division of the Calvert.

*John C.*



**MARINES' MEMORIAL CLUB**  
609 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California 94102  
PHONE: (415) 673-6872

*"A tribute to those Marines who have gone before,  
and a service to those who carry on."*

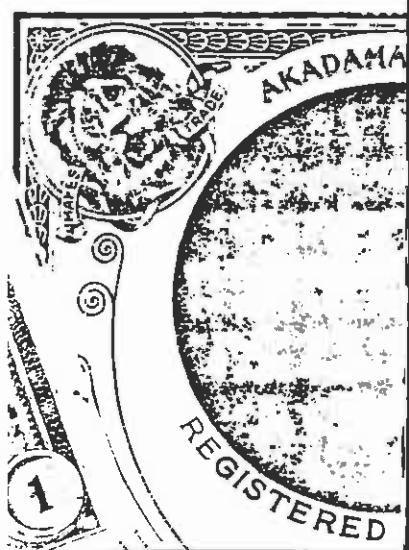
We have received many inquiries with reference to membership at the Marines' Memorial Club, and some of our Members have been referring their friends to us. We do appreciate all of your efforts in this regard. To assist you in telling your friends of the Club, we have prepared the following information for your use so that you may tear it off and give it to a friend.

Did you know that located in the heart of San Francisco, just a stone's throw away from the City's finest shopping, stands the Marines' Memorial, a 12-floor 145 room 1st class private hotel and Club. Facilities include: banquet and meeting rooms, beautifully decorated to accommodate groups from 25 to 350; an elegant Skyroom Dining Room and Bar, overlooking downtown San Francisco (breakfast, lunch and dinner served); a Club Exchange, where one can purchase military-oriented items, a complete line of traveling aids, gifts, souvenirs and package liquors at prices well below retail; a Memorial Library/Museum, where the momentos of yesterday and the news of today combine in a quiet and comfortable atmosphere; swimming pool and gymnasium, to mention just a few.

Our motto, "A tribute to those Marines who have gone before and a service to those who carry on," is certainly applicable when one realizes that the Memorial was started back in 1946, after the end of World War II when the Commandant of the Marine Corps decided to build a Memorial to Marines who had lost their lives in the Pacific. What could be more meaningful than a monument that lives on and is of service to others... thus our purpose, to provide our Members with all of the aforementioned facilities at reasonable prices.

Although originally intended to serve Marines exclusively, more recently the facility has opened its membership to *all branches* of the U.S. Armed Forces and Allied Forces, honorably discharged or retired. Active duty personnel are eligible to use the Club without joining, while former and retired personnel are required to join and contribute a nominal annual donation. For membership information, please fill in the request form below.

This brief description can only give a limited view of all the facilities and services to be found at the Marines' Memorial Club. We invite you to visit us in person and judge for yourself. Once you have been exposed to the Marines' Memorial Club we are sure that you will find it to be the only place to stay in San Francisco.



NATURAL  
**PORT**  
MADE IN

株式會社 壽



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SERIES 100

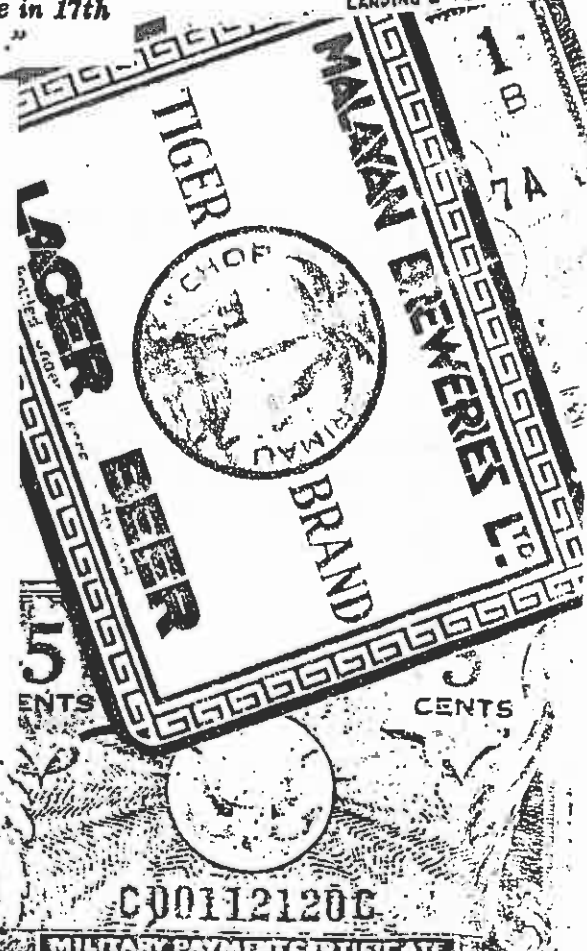
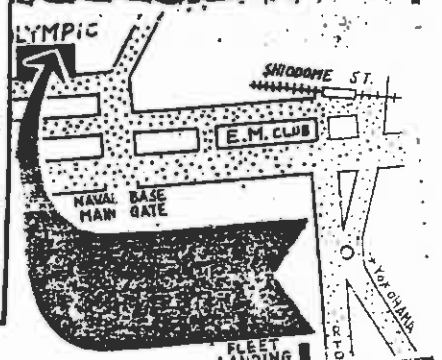
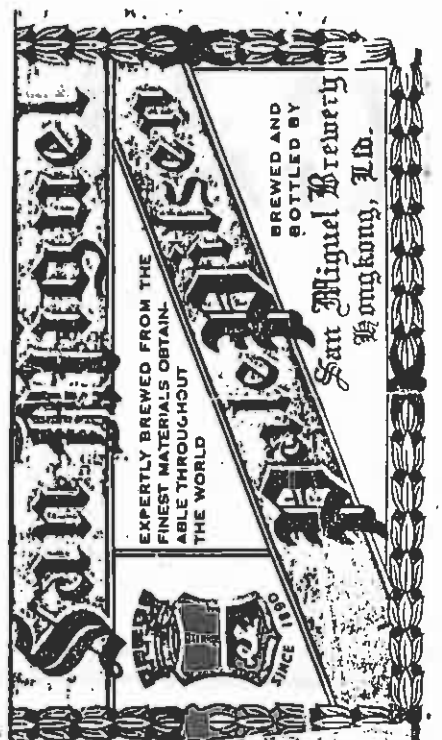
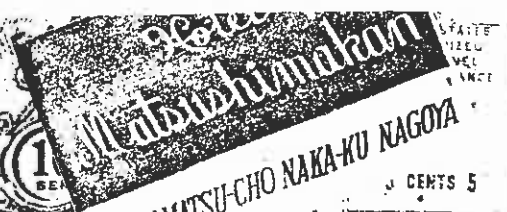


"Antietam come 15th—Joe-san on Boxer come in 17th  
—takusan sailors on number 32 . . ."

Babysan believes that a man's mate should be able to talk about his work, know something about his business. In this department she does amazingly well.

She and her girl friends, with apparently the help of everyone else in town, have a highly efficient communication system that the Americans call the grapevine. The system not only provides material for light conversation among the girls and gives them a forecast of their economic future, but it is also a necessity for knowing the whereabouts of specific individuals. For instance, it can be most embarrassing not to know Joe-san's ship has returned and that he is now "pitching a liberty" in town the same time as Freddie-san, a base sailor. Both are good friends of Babysan but Joe-san and Freddie-san have never met.

If Babysan can arrange it, they never will.



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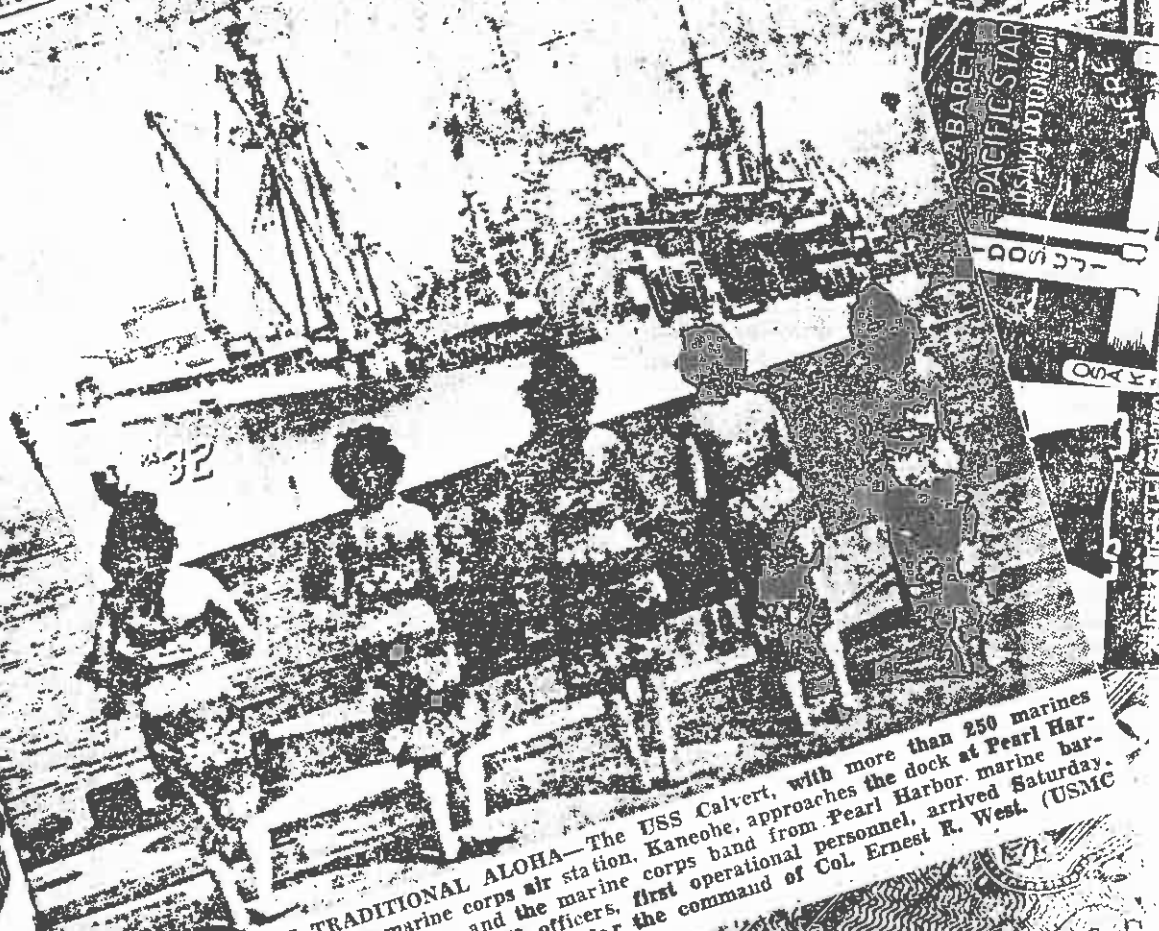


松島館

MENT CERTIFICATE  
GITE  
Light BALLANTINE Beer

**The Honolulu Advertiser**  
Territorial Newspaper

HONOLULU, HAWAII, U.S.A.  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1952.  
95TH YEAR, NO. 33,027.  
To Reach All Departments Telephone 52977  
U.S. Weather Bureau forecast for Honolulu and Vicinity: Showery Sunday; morning, Monday generally fair. Moderate trades. Temp.



**MARINES RECEIVE TRADITIONAL ALOHA**—The USS Calvert, with more than 250 marines headed for duty at the new marine corps air station, Kaneohe, approaches the dock at Pearl Harbor to be greeted by a hula troupe and the marine corps band from Pearl Harbor marine barracks. The marines, 296 enlisted and 53 officers, first operational personnel, arrived Saturday. They are members of Marine Air Group 13 under the command of Col. Ernest R. West. (USMC photo.)

## First Group Of Marines Here For New Base

The advance echelon of a 1,000-man marine air group arrived at Pearl Harbor Saturday and the group commander said his outfit will be flying off Kaneohe air station "within three weeks."

More than 300 officers and men tied up at K-10 dock at 10:30 aboard the transport USS Calvert while the marine barracks band blared a welcome and a hula troupe danced.

# The USS CALVERT

by M. H. McKELLAR

Reprint from

OUR NAVY

"THE BEAUTIFUL APA" they call her. They being the men who serve in the USS CALVERT APA-32, and rightly is the ship so called. First of all her lines are entirely different from that of the usual attack transport. In fact there are only four ships in the entire United States Navy so built.

These four are identical ships and comprise Transport Division 13. The other ships are the USS MONROVIA, the USS CRESCENT CITY and the USS JOHN CARROL, all formerly civilian cargo passenger ships. Of the four the USS CALVERT is the flagship and carries the Commodore of the division, Captain Walter C. Winn.

THE USS CALVERT carries a complement of forty-two officers and four hundred men. Her present skipper is Captain Otto A. Scherini and her Executive Officer is Commander W. C. Beattie.

Originally the SS *Deloreans*, the USS CALVERT was commissioned 1 October, 1942, at Norfolk, Virginia. Just before the traditional bottle was broken over her bow and she slid down the ways, the CALVERT was named by Mrs. Margaret G. Fitch. The ship was built by the Bethlehem-Sparrows Point Shipyard, Inc., Sparrows Point, Maryland. With a full load her displacement is 14,249 tons.

The primary function of any attack transport is boat transportation. The USS CALVERT has a capacity of twenty-seven boats and can carry twelve hundred troops. Normally she comes within ten miles of the beach for unloading, and is sent to advanced areas for landing operations.

She has served in several theaters of operations. In the European Theater she took part in numerous engagements both in 1942 and 1943. In the later part of 1943 and in 1945 she was sent to the Pacific Area.

LET US NOT FORGET the Far East where the USS CALVERT spent four months in 1951, 7 April to 27 August. She is now on her third tour to that part of the world.

DURING WORLD WAR II the USS CALVERT was in on the invasion of North Africa and of Sicily, and assisted during the operations in French Morocco. Late in 1943 she was transferred to the Pacific Theater and participated in engagements at Makin Island, the Marshalls, Saipan, Tinian, Leyte, Luzon and finally at Kure, Japan.

On 2 October, 1943, when the ship was fully loaded for combat, fire broke out in the Number One hold. This could easily have proven fatal for the ship and all hands for at that moment the hold was filled with ammunition which

threatened to explode at any minute. But in every crisis there is always some one who rises to the emergency. In this case it was Donald Earl Brotherton, BM1, USN, who descended into the danger area and carried to the deck above, a box of chemical grenades which was already smoking and might at any moment explode. Brotherton was recommended for the Legion of Merit for this heroic act.

During the Sicilian invasion the USS CALVERT unloaded four hundred and twelve boat loads of personnel and cargo in record time. In spite of the extremely bad weather and heavy surf, and often under fire from the enemy and attacks from enemy planes, the landing was made safely and, as stated before, in record time.

While the primary use of the USS CALVERT is carrying boats and men, her secondary mission is that of evacuation and of use as a hospital ship. Her wardroom is equipped with unusually strong lamps for use in such an emergency.

THE HOME BASE of our ship is San Diego, California. Here, while the ship shuttles forth and back from the West Coast of the United States to the far Pacific, her families wait on the beach for the return of their men. Wait, did I say?

Usually they do, but not always. For instance in 1952 the USS CALVERT was ordered to Pearl Harbor for overhaul. This time instead of staying home and waiting patiently (?) for the ship to return the families went along. Approximately one hundred and ten women and children sailed aboard the ship and with their men. The USS CALVERT became a floating hotel and nursery. At Pearl Harbor while the ship underwent overhaul, the families moved into a housing area on the beach for six wonderful weeks. What a glorious vacation for those families and what a perfect spot in which to spend it.

However, it makes me think of the young recruit on his second hitch observing a batch of new recruits. He turned to an old time Chief Boatswains Mate standing nearby and remarked "the Navy sure ain't what it used to be." The Chief looked the young man over from head to toe, shifted his chew to the other cheek, spat to leeward and answered, "No son and it never was."

The Chaplain LT Warren L. Bost formerly of Chicago, now calls San Diego his home. It is his duty to keep the men happy and occupied during the long hours away from home. He is the only chaplain in the division, and his days are filled providing comfort and help for the men.

He arranges and supervises the Happy Hours, smokers etc.

RECENTLY WHILE THE ship was in San Diego during the annual March of Dimes, a drive was made to raise funds for polio victims. The men of the USS CALVERT have not only fighting hearts, but sympathetic hearts as well. A special drive was made aboard ship with the result that \$2000 (almost five dollars per man) was raised.

Instead of merely handing the money over to the local headquarters in San Diego, the crew decided to have their own ceremony. In La Jolla, a suburb of San Diego, lives a young lady, Miss Joan Bishop, a victim of polio.

Miss Bishop was stricken early in 1953 and altho still unable to move about too much under her own power, her spirit is unusually high. She was invited to receive the ship's contribution for the March of Dimes.

MISS JOAN FONTAINE, one of Hollywood's loveliest, was invited to be guest of honor aboard ship for a special luncheon after which she presented Miss Bishop with the \$2000 purse. Just another incident in the CALVERT life.

## Two Vessels Recommissioned At Yard Today

Two naval vessels, the USS Calvert (APA 32) and the USS Mellette (ABA 156) were recommissioned at ceremonies which began in the Navy Yard at noon today.

Orders placing the USS Calvert back on active status were read by Capt. H. P. Thompson, USN, commander Sub Group One, Atlantic Reserve Fleet, at noon. New skipper of the vessel is Capt. G. W. Legwen, Jr., USN.

At 12:30 p. m. orders placing the USS Mellette back in action were read by Comdr. R. H. Moureaux, USN, commander Sub Group Two, Atlantic Reserve Fleet. New skipper of the Mellette is Capt. D. C. MacMillan.

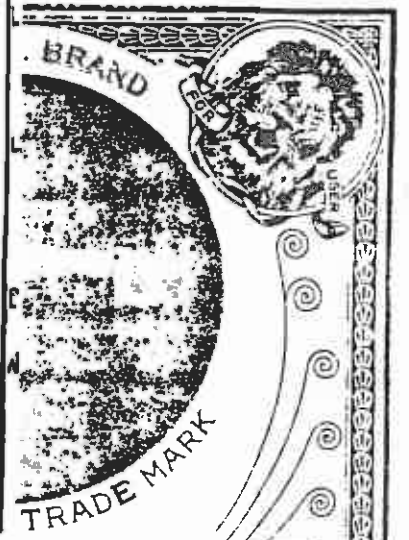
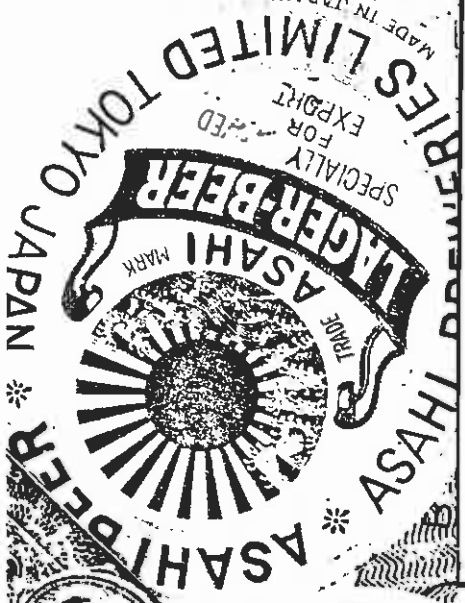
A third ship is also slated for recommissioning this week. The USS Deuel (APA 160) will be placed on duty in ceremonies at the Yard at noon Monday. Her commanding officer will be Capt. C. A. Johnson, USN.

18 Oct. 1950





**Babysan**



*"Never happen—whoops—it happen!"*

The first sailor-English that Babysan learned must have been "never happen." Although she was never able to pronounce it correctly, it was a good answer for almost the first question any sailor would ask her. Then she discovered that variations of that phrase brought different results. Replacing "never" with "it" brought her more friends, regular *gohan*—meals—a comfortable place to live, and dresses that gave her "nice style."

In America jewels and furs may put the twinkle in a damsel's eye but in Japan there's nothing like a thing called *yen*. Not to be confused with the yearning kind of *yen*, this *yen* is the big paper Japanese money that doubles for the American greenback.

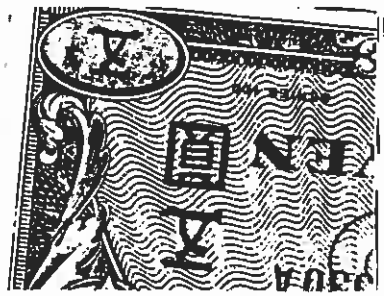
**SWEET WINE JAPAN**

屋大町



std 1383

**WELCOME AMERICA'S FAVORITE**  
GIRLS Beautiful Dancer  
DRINKS Not Bartender Mix  
FOODS Not Cooking



**LÖWENBRÄU MÜNCHEN**

Brewed & bottled in the cellars of the Lion Brewery of Munich, the biggest brewery in Bavaria (Germany)

# mail call

Dear John,

Just a little note to let you know that the Lancaster affair was a very nice get-together, and it is the first chance I have had after writing half of the guys that were there, to tell them I was glad they could make it.

The others that attended the party at Willow Valley Mini Reunion in April 1932 were: M/M Fiandaca - M/M Cullen - M/M Pribula - Pete Berry - Joe Evans - Lee Strahm - M/M Mackey - M/M MacLean - M/M Holmes - M/M Brady - M/M Francher - M/M Collins - M/M Northington - M/M Simon - M/M Shuster - M/M Shwab - M/M Fine - M/M Elliott - M/M Lee - M/M Rankus - M/M Habrat. - M/M Lewis Smith - M/M Robert Smith - Bill Hahn.

Chaplain Elliott showed the films and also introduced all of us to his family, wife Sylvia, daughters Heather and Jade.... Sarah and Hoyt Worthington took a bunch of pictures, including the brides and grooms (just like a 2nd honeymoon).....

Three weeks before the date, the place had no more room at the Inn and the Chaplain was obliged to find other quarters nearby, but it didn't dampen the proceedings, neither did the rain late Saturday night. Weather was ideal Spring weather and allowed for tours of the Amish country and a couple of rounds of golf that some of the men took part in. DAVE CULLEN

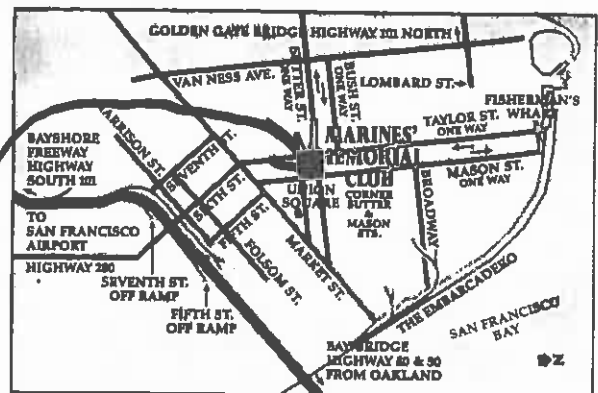
You were right, the Stanton AP 69 and the Calvert did leave Norfolk on 25 October 1942 and did cross together, but when we got there we went different routes. The Calvert and five other transports went into Saifi. We went into Fedhala with eleven other transports. We had a third of that group sunk. We lost Hewes, AP-50, Bliss, AP-42, Rutledge, AP-52 and the Hugh L. Scott, AP-42. I think that's right, and they say one sub got three of them in just a few minutes. It gets harder and harder to remember, but those four always stuck in my mind. SHERMAN DICKSON - ASSOCIATION CAPTAIN U.S.S. STANTON.

As you see we have moved to the Land of Sunshine. We are finally getting settled, still boxes to unpack ietc. Planned to move in September, but made it October 1st. Please publish our change of address and tell all WELCOME.....12100 Seminole Boulevard -(Alt. 19) Largo, Fla. 33540 - Tel. 813-581-3792 - Margaret & Al (Charley) NOBLE

Editor note ... The following is part of a four page letter which I am publishing part of. The article about LCS(S) by Elsemann & Speer was interesting - it must have been the best kept secret of the war because I can't remember the Calvert carrying rocket boats and I found the article very educational. I do remember, the exercises in Chesapeake Bay and one particular instance where LCT's were used to simulate submarines on the surface to see if the "new" radar could pick up such low lying vessels in the water. Another letter you printed was a very touching one from Kenny Tully, Jr. about the sudden death of his father from a massive heart attack. I remembered Lt. Tully as the Gunnery Officer on the Harry Lee & subsequently transferred to Calvert in Oct. 1942 but something else made me check back on my notes & I found out he had been transferred to a destroyer and in 1944 he was the executive officer on the U.S.S. Norman Scott, a destroyer supporting our landing on Tinian. The Scott had been hit hard by Japanese shore batteries. This is the note I found: "Badly damaged - Captain dead - Severe casualties - Proceeding to Saipan - S.K. Tully, Lt. Com. assumed command". This message came over the TBS on our bridge and later I wrote it down as I heard it.

CHARLES FRANCHER

The following page from our next reunion Host will give you some information on the 33 event. Also the map on the right will show you where the Marines Memorial Club is located...



Well, we finally got into S.F. & went directly to the Marines Memorial Club, we were well received by Mr. Jerry Levin who is the man in charge of all reservations. He took time to show us everything we had any questions about & even had suggestions for some of the tours we've got in mind.

On the reservation for rooms, the forms as self-explanatory & you can make your own selection as to what kind or type of room or rooms you desire. By having the Marines Memorial people take care of all this it does away with a lot of headaches. The reservation manager told us that with people flying in to S.F. they can get an airporter Bus at reasonable rates which takes them to a central depot in S.F. & you can get a cab from there to the Club for a couple of bucks. Also, if the person or persons making reservations wishes to come in early or stay longer he can make this known when he makes his reservations. They have a fine restaurant right in the building serving three meals a day & room service is also available. They will also take care of any special buffets or dinners for private parties.

Another thing on this reservation bit, as we are getting a special rate for our group all reservation forms will have our own code which is USCA, this will be noted on each form as it is sent in, when you put this info in the Newsletter, be sure & stress using USCA.

Now, to go back to the Application for membership in the club. As you will note, it is \$35 for persons (Vets other than Ex-Marines) by being a club member you save \$10 a day on the room, if you stay 3 days or more you've already gotten your money back, & if some of the gang intend to make this reunion part of their vacation & want to stay in S.F. say a week or so, it will more than pay to join. Incidentally, rooms in that location at any of the other Hotels in the same class as the Marine's Club are running from about \$65 up, so in the next CALVERSION you might give this information a good boost.

Another thing the Reservation Mgr. told us was that the price of the rooms would probably go up by next year but didn't think it would be excessive, you might just mention that fact because there will always be somebody who don't, or wont, read the brochures & send in the wrong amount, then crab about prices going up. But, here again, with the reservation fee set at \$20 really nothing can go wrong except that whoever misunderstands the rates will get squared away when he checks in.

They took Mary & I all over & showed us the different types of rooms, singles, doubles, a combination with one single & one double & also two doubles. But the special Executive suites were really plush they had everything including a small kitchen for setting up a personal buffet, including a bar with all the fixins. All of the rooms are very nice, neat as a pin & when you compare room prices with other hotels in the downtown district of S.F. they are a steal.

That's about it as far as I can see now, we've tentatively reserved 65 rooms which can be adjusted up or down as soon as we send out the Calversion & get some inquiries, after that we'll make up some sort of an information sheet-questionnaire sending that out to all hands & make our final plans from the returns. I know you cannot pinpoint exactly the number that will attend but you can come within a reasonable figure. By making our plans early & getting commitments we can make a better deal with the people who handle the tours.

Also, there is a garage handy for those that will be driving in but this will be extra, just how much I can't recall (if he Mr. Levin told us) but I imagine it will be reasonable.

And I note that the stay is limited to two weeks, but I doubt if that will affect anyone in our group.

That's about it John, do hope all is going along 4.0. Also, hope the information I'm sending you will be sufficient for you to whip up an article for the CALVERSION to stimulate some interest in the coming reunion so we'll have a super-duper turnout in '83.

Almost forgot, the dates for the bash are: THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER thru to SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER. Actually it starts 23 September but we thought possibly some might want to come in a day early. O.B. & MARY

Editors Note....

You can get additional information on the next National Crew Reunion by writing

Mr. Edward F. O'Brien  
Leisure Lake Park  
300 Stoney Point Road #240  
Petaluma, California 94952



# marines' memorial club

609 SUTTER STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102  
TELEPHONE (415) 673-6672

## APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

### NAVY, COAST GUARD, ARMY, AIR FORCE, ALLIED FORCES

OFFICIAL VERIFICATION OF HONORABLE SERVICE MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

Please Print

Date.....

Name..... Phone.....  
Last First Middle

Mailing Address.....  
Number and Street City State Zip

Business..... Phone.....

Business Address.....  
Number and Street City State Zip

Social Security Number..... Birth Date.....

Circle Branch: NAVY COAST GUARD ARMY AIR FORCE

ALLIED FORCES/OTHER.....

Circle Status: ACTIVE RETIRED FORMER RESERVE

Spouse, children over 21 years of age (who are not eligible in their own right) and parents of a member are eligible for guest cards on an annual basis. If you wish cards for anyone in these categories, please list names and relationships below:

Name..... Last	First	Middle Initial	Relationship	Age
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

ENCLOSED IS MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUILDING  
FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35.00

We the undersigned Regular or Associate members recommend the above  
named applicant for membership:

NOTE: Life Membership = \$250.00  
Perpetual Membership = \$500.00

.....  
Signature of Sponsor

.....  
Membership No.

.....  
Signature of Sponsor

.....  
Membership No.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (All applications must be signed.)

Do not write in this space

Approved.....

Date Initial

Reg or AM.....

Guest.....

Guest.....

Guest.....

☐ 80 ☐ 81 ☐ 82



To apply for membership, please send the following to the Marines' Memorial Club.

1. A completed application; (please sign your application)
2. A completed Internal Revenue Service Form; (see below)
3. A Photocopy of official verification of honorable service in the armed forces (DD214 or Retired I.D. card);
  - (a). If you cannot find your verification, or know that it has been lost, you can obtain copies by writing or calling:

National Military Personnel Records Center, GSA  
9700 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63132 PHONE: (314) 263-7247

The Internal Revenue Service requires a copy of this information attached to each applicant's file along with the below IRS form completed.

4. Attach the appropriate annual donation (\$25.00 for Former Marine or Associate Members, and \$15.00 for Retired Marines). Plus a one time only processing fee of \$10.00 for a total of \$35.00 for Former Marine and Associates Members, and \$25.00 for Retired Marines. Thereafter the accepted applicant will be billed \$25.00 or \$15.00 respectively on a yearly basis;

Attached is an application. If you wish membership in the Club, please complete and attach the above requirements. Thank you for your interest in the Marines' Memorial Club. We look forward to serving you as a member.

NOTE: PLEASE FILL IN YOUR BUSINESS AFFILIATION ON THE APPLICATION!

\*\*\*\*\*

### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FORM

#### PLEASE PRINT

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that I served in the Armed Forces of the United States at  
(Name)  
some time (at least one day) during the periods or periods checked below:

April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 \_\_\_\_\_

December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946 \_\_\_\_\_

June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955 \_\_\_\_\_

August 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975 \_\_\_\_\_

I served in the Armed Forces of the United States,  
but not at any time during any of the foregoing periods. \_\_\_\_\_

I am the widow of a veteran \_\_\_\_\_

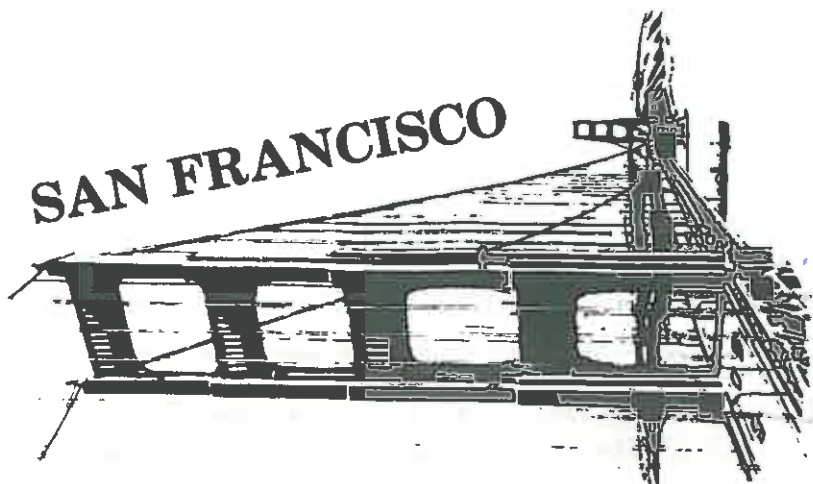
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Membership Number)



\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

**MARINES' MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION**  
609 Sutter Street  
San Francisco, California 94102  
Telephone (415) 673-6672

**SAN FRANCISCO**



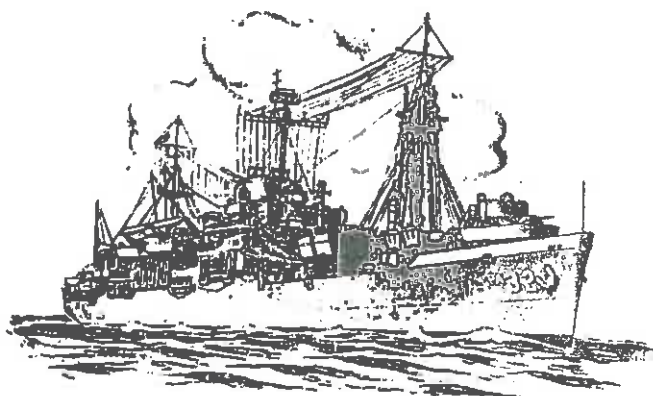
**SEPT. 23-25 1983**



**3RD NATIONAL CREW  
REUNION**

**U. S. S. Calvert**  
(APA-32)

Mr. John L. Cole  
504 Centennial Drive  
Kenyon, Minnesota 55946



U. S. S. CALVERT APA-32

*M Sterling S. Lunch*  
*208 N Enola Dr.*  
*Enola, Pa*  
*17025*

## Many Thanks

To the following persons who are  
helping with newsletter expenses.  
Thank you very much.....

F.C. McMahon	20.00	Tom Miller	7.00
Arthur Graham	10.00	Ed Pieart	12.00
Tom Sawyer	11.00	Ueal Stewart	6.00
Ralph Sheehy	11.00	Pat Kuhner	11.00
Charles Francher	11.00	Al Noble	10.00
William Joecken	6.00	Guy Wine	2.00
Edward Britt	6.00	Hoyt Worthington	20.00
Orvin Forski	16.00	John Dugan	10.00
Jim Xanders	5.00	Mildred Levett	10.00
Al Posey	2.00	Louis Kina	10.00
David Wallace	21.00		

## WE MOURN THE PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES

Thomas J. Beier  
Jan. 9, 1982

Charles L. Schooler CD 42-45  
in 1932