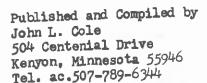
CALVERS ION

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

"The Ship and Men of Distinction"





VOL. NO. 14 1984

TO CONTROLLE DE LA CONTROLLE D L'ANGENT DE LA CONTROLLE DE LA

COMMENTS from the

Commander



Once again its time to put out another newsletter. I know that you have been waiting for it so here goes. Well we are off and running with our 1985 Reunion. Our Host Jim McFetridge has the ball rolling. Our statis is as such, Denver Colorado is definite and the dates are set for July 26-28 1985. Jim has contacted the Denver Convention and Visitors Eureau and given them the info. that they need. As I understand it, they send out to all hotels this info. and the hotels submit a bid for the group. We will not know for sure where we are going to stay till March 1 1985. They will contact Jim at that time and he will make the decision. Eccause of the short time till our Reunion in July, I will be puting out only one newsletter before we get together. Jim has to get some idea of the number of people that plan to attend. On the bottom of this page is a form that you can use or write Jim a letter if you dont want to cut up your newsletter and tell him your plans. This will help him a lot. When he gets all the info ready he can send it right out, that way you wont have to wait for me to get it in a newsletter. Most of you will wantto know before our next issue in June.

Some of you are a little lax on letting me know when one ofour group dies. I really appricate all the letters I get and if you know something that you think the guys should know tell it to me. Some times I run short of things to put in the newsletter and then I get some things that I really cant print, if you know what I mean..... I was asked what the RAT was doing on the front page, well I may be a rat at times but the little animal is a gopher. Since thats our state animal that makes me the Minnesota Gopher, And I Dig For News.... Please keep me posted on all adress changes if you can... The Post Office has address change cards you can use, then I wont have to look for you when your newsletter comes backed marked MOVED.....

Jim McFetridge, Chairman 2671 So. Yarrow Lakewood, Co. 80227 Phone 303 985 1165

Jim plea	ıse	send	me	info	on	the	1985
Reunion	in	Denv	er (: · O	July	26-2	:8

Jim please count on me and
as we plan to attend the Reunion.
Send all info.as soon as you get it.

Nаше			
Street_			
City	State_	Zip	

Phone_	/	 -



P.S. WE CALL THIS ONE "CONFUSION AT CHRISTMAS."

FOLEY RENZ "Watch those other ships get jealous."

mail call

Dear John,



First, I want to tell you what a fine job you are doing in the publishing and distribution of the "newsletter". It has provided me with much enjoyment and pleasure in reminiscing of another time and another group of friends. Thank you very much. I am enclosing a donation to help with newsletter expense. Second, I want to add a former shipmate's name to you roster: John Henry Groff RM1/C. He came aboard in 1943 in the boat division, was Coxswain of the Captain's gig, and was acting Chief Master at Arms when the ship was de commissioned in 1946. What a shame he was not "found" by the time Dave Cullen had the Mini-Reunion in April 1982. It just so happened that we too stayed at the Willow Valley Inn. I was fortunate and was able to contact John Henry and he came to the Inn and we enjoyed a much too short visit. I remember also a Spangler from Lancaster who came aboard in the Boat Div. earlier than Groff. I can't remember his first name and the telephone directory had too many people by that last name for me to research and possibly locate him in my brief time there. By the way, I have never noticed in any of the newsletters any mention of Fubar. The little black & white terrier that kept many of us entertained -- and he too had a "dress blue" jacket with all campaign ribbons. I received a post card that he was found in a residential area of Seattle and was given a home until he could be claimed, but by then we were far out in the Pacific. I came aboard the Calvert early in 1943, in Norfolk, direct from Ft.Peirce, Fla. The train backed right out on the dock and about 250 "boat crewmen" unloaded. In the count off (about 125) we were told "this group go to that ship and this group go to the other ship" [the Monrovia, APA 31] It was late in the evening and we had not eaten for most of the day. We were taken care of with the usual "baked beans and corn bread" meal. After a period of time in the Boat Div. I became the Mail Clerk when Rudy Kohlruss BNIC was transferred to shore duty. By the way, I wonder if Sandy Slessor has any knowledge of Rudy, As I recall they were close

friends at the time of Rudy's departure. The Calvert arrived in San Francisco in late November 1945 following a trip that took her from Seattle to Zamboanga, PI, to Buckner Bay, Okinawa, to Kure, Japan. At that time we were the Flag ship of the ships carrying the occupation forces into Central Japan. After a brief stop off at Tokyo we then set sail for Frisco and upon arrival I (and many others) left the Calvert for the last time. As I recall there was a shipmate in the "black gang" from Pittsburg, to the best of my memory his name was J.R.Smith. He left the ship with practically a library of pictures and snapshots and names & addresses. If he could be located and still has this info it would be a valuable addition to the Calvert archieves. John, again I want to express my genuine appreciation to you for what you have done and are doing. On a recent trip I stayed overnight in Hendersonville, N.C. and enjoyed a fine visit with Bill Marks and his wife Dorothy. And in closing I think it fitting to quote a paragraph from Bill Marks letter. "John you and I certainly owe John Cole a sincere thanks for the Calvert newsletter which made the visit possible." JOHN L. RHEA

Yes, we are finally all moved in, okay ... even as far as dreaming up a way of getting some of the gang down here for a reunion in 184...no answers as yet, but there aren't too many "movers and shakers" in our crew. I can't get over the lack of correspondence, except from the No. 1 writer in America, Ed O'Brien! I received the pictures of the San Francisco Reunion from Hoyt and they were really nice, but lacking in one of the main ingredients...peeple! Too Bad! And I thought that it would get all those Californians moving in the right direction. At any rate, we are close to a very good, inexpensive public golf course.. no waiting ... and not too far from the beach which is never crowded like those on Long Island ... and near enough places of interest, like the Battleship No.C. to make a couple of days pretty interesting ... and the hotels are cheaper here too ... depending of course, on what time of year you are arranging to have a bash... I sure did miss not being able to make the Reunion...we had hoped to be early and stay late, and spend some time visiting with old friends out there ... but, the best laid plans of mice and men.... We do want to wish you and yours the best of everything in the coming year and hope to see you all in Denver in 185... DAVE CULLEN (and Helen, too!)

Not too much to blat about but while I had some spare time to knock out a few letters thought I'd ask you to put this inquiry in the next issue of CALVERSION. what I'm trying to pin down (just the facts, Mam/) is exactly what happened to Bos'n Sween. He came aboard the Calvert as a replacement for Ch. Bos'n Cobb, who went back to retirement (he had been called back to active duty after retiring as a Ch. Bos'ns Mate in the 30s) Sween (I can't recall his first name or initials) reported aboard sometime in April 1945 & was aboard the Calvert when I reported into 12th NavDistHDQTS on 23 Nov.1945. He was reported to have been killed in a plane crash aboard a NATS(Naval Air Transport Service) while going home on leave sometime in Mid-1946. All the dope I've been able to find out has come in second & third hand. I did get a letter from Chaplain Brown in late '46 saying Sween had been killed but gave no details. I did talk to 'Hunky' Habrat a former Ch. Bos'ns Mate who served in Calvert from '43 to sometime in '46 but with all the confusion going on at the reunions never did get all the details. Anyway, put some kind of a notice in the CALVERSION saying you want some info on Sween & see what answers you get in return, if any. Last year about this time Mary & I were putting on the finishing touches for our 3rd CALVERT reunion & getting all the gear together (we took most of the stuff into our Daughter's in S.F. about a week before the bash & saved us a lot of headaches at the last minute) While it was a lot of work, especially the letter writing back & forth for the reservations & the bus trip, everything worked out 4.0 in the end. I was disappointed that not more west coast Calvert personnel showed up, but I guess a lot of them just can't be bothered, with all the names you've got on your rosters I would imagine we'd get more old shipmates & their wives to show up, like a side trip as part of their vacation, and with all of us old retired moss=backs there should be no trouble.

On the other hand, I know there are many, both enlisted & commissioned, who, when they walked down the gangway for the last time, just shut all memories of the CALVERT & former shipmates out of their mind forever. I*ll admit some of the times we had on board during the war were mot the most pleasant things to remember, but just the fact that we're still here to recall those events & look around & count our blessings makes me want to attend each & every reunion I can, if for nothing else than to meet with old shipmates & share once again our joys & sorrows of the past. I had some very fine men in the 'R' division & having been an enlisted man myself I naturally lean their way. Many of them have done especially well in their civilian jobs & occupations, makes me proud to call them 'shipmates'. I suppose I sound like an old has-been, but the above are my true feelings, at my age I can look back at a lot of things I would've liked to do, that million I never could quite pin down, the rolls royce we never owned and a thousand other things that never got done, but we did raise a couple of kids & for the last 14 years have been enjoying my retirement our own way. just how lucky can you get?? That's about it for now, let me know when the next issue of CALVERSION is coming out & if you're short for some scuttlebutt to fill some voids perhaps I can edit one of my 'sea storys & you can use the material. Mary joins me in sending all our love & best wishes for all the good things to Lila & yourself, take care, Warmly EDWARD F. O'BRIEN (OB) I just received newsletter No. 13 2 was so glad to get it. I was aboard the U.S.S.Harry Lee % we started out for Saffi French Morroco, well we weren't to far out & had a breakdown, so back to port we went. There the U.S.S. Calvert was waiting, half the crew from the Harry Lee went to the Calvert I being one of them and half the Calvert crew went aboard the Harry Lee. Yes, Ole Pete Whitfield was the skipper and I remember Chief Bowstan Sweeney very well, God bless him. They went ashore at Saffi, & when they were coming back aboard ship from a dock we were tied up to, Capt. Whitfield looked down & saw Sweeney with a red Arab hat on tossle & all bombed to the hilt & yelled from the bridge that mans not coming aboard my ship, well Sweeney looked up and aid, "who's not coming aboard" & up the gang plank he came. I'll never forget that as long as I live, by the way I'm 60 years old as of February, but have fond, wonderful memories of the Calvert & her crew. I'm sitting here trying to pick out names I could remember as I was aboard only from 1942 to 1943. After the Invasion of Africa we came stateside, I was sent to Fort Pierce, Fla. for amphibious training, small boats, beach party etc. I came back to Norfolk, Va. & the skipper of that base was none other than Pete Whitfield. I stayed there for about 1 month went aboard the U.S.S. Wayne, out to the Pacific, Marshall Islands, Saipan, Guam, & Okinowa. Finally got sent home for a 30 day leave, went to San Franciso & put the U.S.S. Tuscon CL-98 in commission, & was in Tokyo Bay when the war ended. John I'm sorry I missed the 3 reunions, but God willing I will be in Denver in 1985. I hope if some of the old guys from 42-43 aboard the Calvert can make it also, but it will be great to rap with any of the mates from the Calvert no matter what years they were aboard. I would love to see some day the Calversion be large enough that pictures of the guys could be put in every so often. I also wish to commend you, and family the best for doing such a wonderful job. SAM MC AVOY S 1/C P.S. Excuse my spelling, bad subject in

Just received the Calversion today and I really do enjoy them. Hope you are enduring all that snow shoveling, you sure have been getting your share. I have a sister in Fergus Falls. I didn't realize there were as many from Iowa, or CA. Now comes the excuse & sob story. I really did intend to attend the Frisco reunion. We have a daughter, in VA, she is a school nurse, (son-in-law Ret.Ltd. Comdr.) teaches at Hampton Coledge 2 grand children in Coledge. Old est daughter & family in Okla. I try to visit one one year the other the next, this year was Okies in Sept. so planned on the reunion, however the youngest daughter convinced us it wouldn't be to much more as a package. Some excuse eh? We did inform them no more visits till they come here. I assure we will try to make Denver if we are still kicking. When you get to be 76 you never know. Have had so many of our friends just go like that. We have 1 or 2 of our shipmates from the Flett Res.-branch #47 that I belong to, joing the Supreme Comdr. every mo. I missed a ship-

school.

mates name or just didn't see straight, we exchange Xmas cards and he was one of the originals, name C.J. MITCHELL 777 Ave. e. Box 535 Marrero, La 70073. He made CPO I believe was a boiler make or M.M. I am gardening now, have been eating, lettuce, radishes, etc, next week will have young beets with top for greens. Our port district acquired a block in the flight pattern just above the air port, fenced it in and divided it in to plots. I have a plot 14 ft by 14 ft. and if you work it right you can have some thing fresh most of the year. My neighbors in the Apt. are all enjoying salad now. We took a trip to Alaska in the spring, in Juaneau, as we were walking along a street, 2 drunken Indian gals started fighting, one of them took a swing at the other but missed and hit the wife, knocking her against a car, as we had strung out single file along the curb broke her glasses, blacked her eye, she has had two exams by our eye Dr. since and he is sending her to a laiser spec. now. Was to leave for a 3 day trip to Death Valley today but the doctor advised the wife against it. Am enclosing a check to help with the cost. You and your family are surely putting a lot of work in to this and just want you to know I for one appreciate getting the paper. I saw Capt. Sweenys name mentioned, I really liked him and he came & had a drink with us a few times in the CPO Quarters. Think this is enough yacking for now but thanks a lot for all your hard work. RALPH F. SHEEHY

I have received the newsletter of the U.S.S. Calvert (32). It was very interesting. I was glad to see my name on the list. You listed me as being on the ship in 51. I do believe I was on the ship during 51-52. Then I think I was on the Cacpon A052 later. Then the Princeton and later the HMS Ghary as a lasion personel. For the Austrilannavy - off Korea - and later at Wonson and other ports. I do remember the Calvert APA 32 - cause I was on her when we made a landing at IwoJima on Feb. 52 - I was one of many coxsians of Peter Boat 7 - and I have good menories of the Boat Capt. of the USMC, but, I forget his name - I do recall we had on board the Navy's only Comander USNR - McGahghis, I believe was his name. I have a photo of him and I have other pictures of the ship at Korea and other places. I have looked at the names of many men who were on board when I was, but it's been a very long time - I just can't place them. I hope I am here at Denver when you have the ships '55 Reunion. I'll be sure to attend. I am Capt. of Security at the Denver Hilton and I am Sr. man of the Dept. Well I must get going. My best to all those who served on the great ship. JAMES P. CROWLEY Thanks for forwarding the U.S.Calvert newsletter to my brother, Carroll R. Jones. Carroll died 12-17-83 in the Veterans Adm. Medical Center in Houston, having suffered a spinal cord injury two months before, which left him a quardripkgic. I brought home his pictures of the U.S.S. Calvert which was still proudly displayed in his home at the time of his injury. It now hangs beside my LST Picture.



R.V. Jones 1129 Williams - Nacogdoches, Texas.



DRAMATIS PERSONAE (All Original Shellbacks)

MEPTURUS REX QUEEN AMPHITHITE ROYAL BABY DAVY JONES ROYAL DOUTON ROYAL CHIEF JUSTICE ROYAL NAVIGATOR ROYAL BARBERS

ROYAL DESTISTS

ROYAL CHAPLINS

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHER DEFENSE ATTORNEY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY EXECUTIONERS

CHIEF OF POLICE
LEADER OF MEARS
DEVIL
KING OF THE SOUTH SEAS
ROY.L COPS

HOYAL DEARS

MORSE, H. J., WILC. HUTCHISON, N. H., CSK STUTTS, K. W., BM2c. BENO, S., CBM ALFORD, D. L., SCle. NOBLE, A. S., WOLLAGE. MIERZAA, L. A., QIAC. SHARF, J. M., BM2C. LINKER L. R., MGC. DIACHD, E. K., CMK THOMPSON, L. L., Phile. ARNODD, R. D., Ylc. WESP, S. S., SSMB2c. KEEFE, T. J., Lt. (jg) FOLEY, J. A., SMIC. HOOK, W. G., LIEUT. RANKUS, R. P., COM FREIDAN, M. K., EIGC. HABRAT, W. J., BIGC. ZDANOWICZ, J. S., CRE JENKINS, J., CCK GCODJIN, J. A., STELLE. MC MARON, T. C., Balc. FOLEY, J. J., SFlc. MELSM, F. W., 1022c. MRIGHT, J. E., Cox. LEE, J. .., ST2c. ARNOLD, E. B., ST2c. SLITH, J. R., BEZC. HENDRICKS, H. R., CMLc. SUESS, H., CCN TOBIL, T., Molise. HILDEBRAID, K., RIZe. SHILLMAN, C. F., EMIC. STRAHM, L. M., Cox. GROFF, J. R., EM2c. OTTEY. E. H., Bkr2c. DAVIS, d. C., CH2c. NOWILL, W. T., CM3c, CUSICK, J. R., EM2c. SQUINES, N., REGO. DAJANCHYK, D. D., GHZc. SUMDYKA, A., Bille. MIBIN, L: E., Sle. FOURTAIN, M. S., H. 2c. REX, J. C., Q3c. SOUTHARD, C. B., Cide. BEIER, T. J., Hollie. RANDEL, A. E., Rdajc. H. VERLO, J. H., Cox. HCKINNEY, H. O., AT2c. HALIN, G. L., AT1c. CUESINGS, O. H., B12c.



"ODE TO A SHELLY JOG OR .. POLLY 3/CK"

They took away me beauty, when they took away me hair,
They did away with me certain umph, when they clipped me head all bare.
I used to be a gorgeous trick, the zals all stopped and gaped,
But Now, I'm just a nuttin, since this head of aims been raped.
Now Sampson lost his strength they say, when Deliala cut him so,
Yeah, but now he's in the opera, and making lots of dough.
I wouldn't mind so very much, but for one little catch,
that de hell can I now show, when a babe I tries to snatch.
I used to be a Gable with a touch of Donlevy,
How Curly, The Stooge is gorgeous after a second look at me.

I used to be a polly - now my wogging days are thru,
I'm now a salty shellback, with a body black and blue,
I'm now a salty shellback, with a body black and blue,
I'm hide's been tanned, my fanny fanned they put me thru the mill,
They climed my hair, my rate's now here, like a luscious headeache pill.
But I don't mind, cause now I find it pleases me mateys all,
To vision instead of a towseled head - a model billiard ball.
Now the rituals done, we've had our fun, and we all resume the chore,
Of putting the freeze, on the Nipponese and putting an end to this war.

E DIVISION



THIRD DIVISION

R DIVISION

 $F_{IRST}D_{IVISION}$



SCUTTLEBUTT













Frank Shemanski submitted the cliping of Rear Admiral John Paul Jones that he cliped out of an issue of Navy Times. According to the clipping Jones was on the Calvert in 1954..... ExSargent Al Grote, 45 Div. sent in a contributation for the newsletter fund. Al was on manovers on the Calvert off Virginia then went on to the African Theater, madethe first wave in Sicily. He said it was a nice ship, clean and the food was good. Ships personal were great...... Charles Simpson was sorry he was late getting to the San Francisco Reunion but will do all in his power to arrive on time in Denver. He says, untill then everybody and looks forward to receiveing his Calversion Newsletter...... Opal Lee, wife of Harold Lee writes that he really enjoyes getting the names and address in the last newsletter M.O. Hanson wrote that he was on the Calvert from 45-46 and helped put her in moth balls in New Port News Va...... Gerald L. Jones visited John Cole and gave him a wooden letered " U.S.S. CALVERT APA 23" that will be used in a display for reunions..... Oscar Woody writes that both the wife and Oscar had been in the hospital but were home now and feeling better. Our best wishes go to them. They both have made two reunions that I can remember..... Sherman Dickson exCaptain of the Clay-Stanton Reunion Association writes from time to time. Sherman was in charge of their last reunion and really did a bang up job with Caps, Reunion Yearbook, programs with Pictures and ship history in them, and a great time was had by all...... Raymond Glasco had an enjoyable visit with the Trouts and Worthingtons in Nashville last summer. They saw the tapes that Hoyt made of the Frisco Reunion.... John Conkling Daughter, Deb Cantrell wrote that her father passed away from a Coronary Occlusion. She Said that her father had many fond memories of his days on the Calvert..... Dave Cullen is settled down now in their new home in N.C. and have been visited by the Shusters, Shwabbys, Lees and Pete Berry...... George Mackey Sent a note that they were looking forward to the next gettogether in Denver be the good Lord willing. George hasn't missed one yet......

WW II PACIFIC VETERANS

PBS Film maker desires to contact WW II Pacific I cliped this item out of the Minnesota veterans who have become friends with Japanese veterans V.F.W. Paper. Though it might be of of same battle or theatre. Please contact Sam Low, Box 242, intrest to some. Here is your chance Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

to be in the movies......

LIGH OF CHIPS OPERATING WITH CALVERT IN OPERATIONS "GALVANIC"

- 4 BATTLESHIPS: TDAHO EHISSISSIPPI PENSYLVANIA (FLAG) NEW MEXICO
- 4 CRUISERS:
 NEW ORLEANS (HEAVY)
 HINNEAPOLIS (HEAVY)
 BALTIMORE (HEAVY)
 SAN FBANCISCO (HEAVY)
- 14- DESTROYERS:
 BURNS --- MUSTIN --- PHELPS
 DALE --- HOEL --- HUGHES
 RRANKS --- GRIDLEY --- MAURY
 DEWEY --- MAC DONOUGH --- HULL
 KIMBERLEY --- MORRIS
- 3 CARRIERS: LISCOME BAY (SUNK WITH LARGE LOSS OF LIFE) CORRECTION CORAL SEA

- 4 TRANSPORTS (ATTACK): LEUNARD WOOD CALVERT NEVILLE PIERCE
- 1 CARCO (ATTACK): ALCYUNE
- 1 LANDING SHIP DOCK: BELLE GROVE
- 1 MINE SWEEP: REVENGE
- 3 LANDING SHIPS TANK NOS. 179 --- 78 --- 31
- 35- TOTAL NUMBER OF SHIPS OPERATING WITH CALVERT

NOTES:
"H" WAS 0830 ON THE 20TH OF NOVEMBER 1943
MAKIN WAS SECURED ON THE 23RD OF NOVEMBER 1943
ARMY UNIT ON CALVERT LOST 7 MEN DEAD
CALVERT LOST NO REPEAT NO MEN DEAD OR WOUNDED
SHIP WAS UNDERWAY ON RETURN TRIP 25 NOVEMBER 1943
CREW AND ARMY HAD PORK FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER



Sandy's Birthday August 1 1944 left to right Russel Arnold Y1/c Captains Office Sandy Slessor Y2/c Exec's Office J.L.Rhea BM2/c Mail Clerk Sterling Wesp SSMB2/c Barber



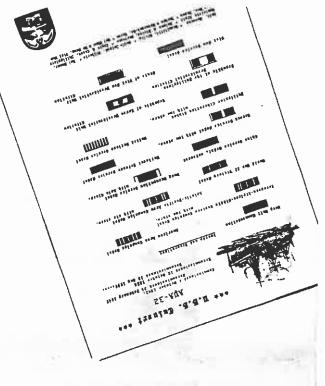


You can still get this special scroll with your name and rank, and a decal for your car window can be yours for \$5.00 postage included. The scroll is $8\frac{1}{2}$ by 14 inches and the decal is 4 by 14 inches and in full color. Order from Dave Cullen 55.00 Eagle Nest Drive, Wilmington, N.C. 28403.

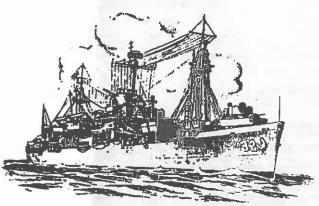


CALVERT ASSOCIATES KENYON, MN. 55946

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



3rd CLASS PERMIT NO. 10



U. S S. CALVERT APA-32

Sterling S. Funck 208 N. Enola Dr. Enola, Penna. 17025

Many Thanks

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

M.O.Hanson John P. Lusk Gerald Jones Ralph Sheehy Harold Lee Tom Sawyer Alfred Grote Charles Simpson Howard Tilley John Rhea Pat Troiano R.W.Glasco Oscar Woody George Mackey	\$20.00 10.00 16.00 10.00 20.00 10.00 5.00 2.00 12.00 28.00 20.00 4.00 20.00	Mrs.Ray(Gloria)Rankus10.00 Richard R. Morse20.00
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WE MOURN THE PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES

Carrol R. Jones 44-45 December 17, 1983

John Conkling Lt. 55-57 October 22, 1984

Edwin A. Brunstad Lt. 44-45 Setember 1984

Robert E. Harlan Sr. July 13 1983