

CALVERTSION

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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Comments from the Commander

The Drawbridge Motel in Ft. Mitchell Ky. was a super place to hold a reunion. Carl and Betty Rogers kept us on the move all the time. Great reunion, Great Hosts.....The O'Brien family sent me a check for 50.00 and I used that money (most of it) for U.S. flags for our memorial service. I used to barrow from my local Memorial Day Association but the man I got them from died so I was forced to look elsewhere. Thank O'Briens for your usefull donation. Our last reunion we had about 30 names that were read off and flags planted in their honor.....I also have a 13 page story of "Beachhead #2-Sicily from 1943 that I will send if you let me know you want a copy. If you have a computer you can find it under http://www.1stbeachbattalion.org/beachhead_.htm and if I didn't make any mistakes that should work. I don't have a computer so I cant try it. one of these days I may have to get one.....Our next reunion will be next year in Savannah Ga. with Rich and Glenna Morse as Host. I am waiting on some information from them as to dates and Hotel and saving space in the newsletter for that info when it comes. Because of 9-11 we missed a reunion and the Morses have only one year to do all the planing. It has been done in the past but its a lot of work and we thank them for taking on the task.....In 2004 we will be going to the Branson area useing Springfield Mo. as a base with side trips to Branson or staying just at Brandson. We will be looking at all the options and you will know in one year. If you have any ideas I would like to hear from you on your preference.....As you have already found out I put a little gift inside the newsletter for you. This is a luggage tag for your own personal use. I have all my bags marked With tags and I get a lot of comments from people in the airports. I think we had to buy 1000 of them and they go a long way. I should have enough for all the newsletters but if you didn't get one let me know. It may have dropped out or I ran out of them. Anyway enjoy the gift.....

May the new year bring you the best of everything.....

john l. cole Commander



the old crew

U. S. S. CALVERT (APA-32)



Fire Room Gang May 1954

Back Row; McGhee, Smith, King, McCracken
2nd Row; Raulerson, Harrison, Curtis, Crowdes
Towler, Goodman
1st Row; Barlow, King, Beckwith, Mr. Falconer
Chief Cupp
Absent; Morse, Baggetty

A TRIBUTE TO JACK DAVIDSON

Jack Davidson, a man you could not say just a few words about.
Jack and I met in the early 50's and a close friendship formed that lasted for a life time.

We were in the operation called (passage to freedom) that will always be remembered by the friendship we both enjoyed with a boy we called Honyok, that was not his name but that is what we called him. As far as we knew he had no parents or family and how he got on the ship, we don't know, but he spent practically all of the cruise with us back on the fantail of the ship, drinking coffee and shooting the breeze.

You have heard the old saying (a jack of all trades and good at none,) well that did not fit Jack at all. Jack was a man very skilled at many trades, a journeyman cement finisher, a master mechanic, an accomplished welder, a finish carpenter, a sheet metal mechanic, a automatic transmission mechanic, a great horseman, and the list could go on and on.

after the navy years Jack, His wonderful wife Carole and his two daughters, Cindy and Lori and my family and I spent a lot of time together, deep sea fishing, all night card playing, going to the drive in movies.(remember them). riding horses, raising cattle together. many a good meal together, and this list goes on and on,

What do I remember about Jack? he was a quiet man of few words, a very intelligent man, but the thing I remember the most was that very bashful, or very shy, but very becoming smile. In all the years that I knew Jack, I never knew him to get angry or use foul language.

I consider it one of my most cherished memories to have known Jack and his family, my family has stated on many occasions that they share those same feelings.

Jack Passed away on September 13 2002, but he lives on in the minds and hearts of a lot of people that knew him and loved him. and respected him.

Jack K. Davidson MM3, my shipmate, my life long friend , my pal.

James E. Chapman BMSN.
U.S.S. Calvert A.P.A. 32



Article from Charles J. Pairis

Crewmen Train Koreans In Amphibious Warfare

The attack transport Calvert helped strengthen the military arm of the free world recently by providing training in amphibious warfare techniques for units of the Republic of Korea Navy and Marine Corps. Chinhae Harbor was the scene of wet net and amphibious operations, involving over 1100 men, during the period 6 - 10 February 1961. Calvert, the flagship of Amphibious Squadron Five, is commanded by Captain W. J. Collum, and is presently serving with the Ready U.S. Seventh Fleet.

After an early morning arrival and pre-exercise conference on February 6, Calvert played host to 100 ROK Marine officers and 450 ROK Marines. Calvert officers and petty officers provided tours of the ship which for a majority of ROK Troops was their first time aboard an APA.

Wet Net Training

The first two days of actual training were taken up by wet net training and LVP/LCVP transfer line operations. In addition to this training for Marines, Calvert's crack boat group was training Korean boat crews in the handling of amphibious craft.

The last two days of the training were spent conducting full scale ship to shore movements. All phases of these operations are performed by ROK personnel. Calvert's boat officers and boat crews acted solely in an advisory and supervisory capacity. Improvement was marked from day to day and Calvert left Chinhae on February 10, satisfied that the benefits of the training had been substantial and mutual.

Plaque Presented

A major highlight of the recent Korean amphibious training occurred with the presentation of US Calvert's plaque to Commodore Lee, Commander-in-Chief, ROK Fleet, by Captain W. J. Collum. Rear Admiral Kim, ROK Navy, Commodore Chull Nam, ROK Navy, Commander Floatilla Two; Captain M. A. Shellabarger, former ComPhibRon Five; Captain R. B. Erly, present ComPhibRon Five and Captain E. F. Higgins, Chief-of-Staff, ComNavFor, Korea, witnessed the ceremonies aboard Calvert in Chinhae Harbor.

Commodore Lee promised that Calvert's plaque would always remind him of the training and hos-

pitality rendered to the ROK Navy by Capt. Collum and Calvert personnel, and would be permanently displayed in his headquarters as a lasting memento of the solid United States-Republic of Korea friendship and alliance.

Article from,
Larry Rickert

SF. CRONICLE
1945

15,000 Veterans Will Arrive In S.F. Today

More than 15,000 high-point veterans will arrive in San Francisco Bay today in time to join servicemen at local posts at Thanksgiving dinner.

Largest passenger list of the day is aboard the General John Pope, due to dock at 5 a. m. at Pier 15 with 5387 returnees.

Other troopships scheduled to arrive today include the General E. T. Collins, 4 p. m. at Pier 15 with 3232 passengers; Allendale, 8 a. m. Pier 7, 2033; Calvert, 7 a. m. Pier 7, 1948; Albert Robinson, 11 a. m. Pier 34, 309.

No time of arrival was given for the Bladen, docking at Pier 7 with 1064 passengers; Mountair, Pier 7 with 608; Fort Clatsop with 20; LST-522 with 15 or Maya with 30. The H. L. Gantt, scheduled to arrive yesterday, was delayed by storms and will dock tomorrow while the Ferdinand A. Sicor, also due in yesterday, has been diverted to Portland.

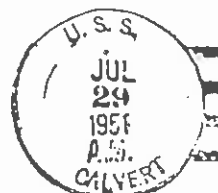
APA'S

1	DOYEN	63	BLADEN
2	HARRIS	64	BRACKEN
3	ZEILIN	65	BRISCOE
4	BARNETT	66	BRILE
5	KEYWOOD	67	BURLESON
6	FULLER	68	BUTTE
7	BIDDLE, WILLIAM P.	69	CARLISLE
8	NEVILLE	70	CARTERET
9	LEE, HARRY	71	CATRON
10	FELAND	72	CLARKNDON
11	WOOD, LEONARD	73	CLISBURN
12	DICKMAN, JOSEPH T.	74	COLUSA
13	LIGGETT, HUNTER	75	CORTLAND
14	ALLEN, HENRY T.	76	CHENSHAN
15	SKILL, J. FRANKLIN	77	CRITTENDEN
16	AMERICAN LEGION	78	CULLMAN
17	JACKSON, PRESIDENT	79	DANSON
18	ADAMS, PRESIDENT	80	ELKHART
19	HAYES, PRESIDENT	81	FALLON
20	CRESCENT CITY	82	FERGUS
21	MIDDLETON, ARTHUR	83	FILLMORE
22	CHASE, SAMUEL	84	GARRARD
23	CLYMER, GEORGE	85	GASCONADE
24	CARROLL, CHARLES	86	GENEVA
25	JEFFERSON, THOMAS	87	NIAGARA
26	MONROVIA	88	PRESIDIO
27	CALVERT	89	PUNSTON, FREDERICK
28	BAYFIELD	90	O'HARA, JAMES
29	BOLIVAR	91	ADAIR
30	CALLAWAY	92	ALPINE
31	CAMBRIA	93	BARNSTABLE
32	CAVALIER	94	BAXTER
33	CHILTON	95	BURLEIGH
34	CLAY	96	CECIL
35	CUSTER	97	DAUPHIN
36	DU PAGE	98	DUTCHESS
37	ELMORE	99	DADE
38	FAYETTE	100	MENDOCINO
39	FREMONT	101	MONTOUR
40	HERRICO	102	RIVERSIDE
41	KNOX	103	QUEENS
42	LANAR	104	WESTMORELAND
43	LEON	105	SHELLEY
44	ORMSBY	106	CLADWIN
45	PIERCE	107	GOODHUE
46	SHELDON	108	GOSHEN
47	SUMTER	109	GRAFTON
48	WARREN	110	ORIGON
49	WAYNE	111	GRINDY
50	WINDSOR	112	GUILFORD
51	LEEDSTOWN	113	SITKA
52	GILLIAM	114	HAMLEN
53	APPLING	115	HAMPTON
54	AUDRAIN	116	HANOVER
55	BAHNER	117	HASKELL
56	BARNOW	118	ISKENDRY
57	BERRIEN	119	HIGHLANDS
58		120	HINSDALE

mail call



U. S. S. CALVERT (APA-321)
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



Received your interesting newsletter about the Calvert..Present health conditions due to major surgery prevent me from considering the reunion but I sure would like to get any letters from shipmates who were on the Calvert, during the SAFI North Africa landing, Scoglitti Sicily and Makin in the Gilberts..

I left the ship after that to commission the USS Herald of the Morning. Felix F Hierbaum Jr 1290 Harbor Town Circle
Radioman 2/c on Calvert Suntree
Left Navy as Radioman 1st. Melbourne Florida 32940
Telephone: 321 242 0758
E mail: Felix77h@aol.com

Just received the Retired Officer's magazine and saw with interest that you are having a reunion of the USS Calvert and curious whether it was for World War 11 or Korean War.

My husband although deceased for a number of years was called back and we reported to Norfolk when they got it out of mothballs and just wondering if any of our friends back in those days would be attending.

Rex enlisted in the Navy in June of 1942 before he was 18 and went to Great Lakes, before going overseas on a LCI to S. Pacific and in New Guinea the Capt recommended that he be sent back to go to V-12 at U. of Mich., and West. Mich, then to Ft. Schuyler, N. Y. where he got his commission, July 3, 1945 and were married on the 5th in Ohio where we both grew up, moving all over with various companies but staying in active Reserve and called up when we were in Birmingham, Ala. Sept to go to Norfolk to get Calvert out of mothballlls and he stayed in until the following Oct., he continued in the Reserves and CO of training center here and made Capt, I believe in 1975. Thanks again for writing, by the way our close friends are, Tom & Dorie Knowlton who now live in Calif., I just emailed them to give info you gave me, perhaps they are already on your list, yes I would like to see who attended the one in San Diego and also the newsletter would be fun for me to receive

Yes I would like to be put on the mailing list, I noticed LeRoy Collins on the list, Rex knew it quite well, I guess I had forgotten he had been on the Calvert at one time, I think he was at one time in Rex's reserve unit.

Jane Gaugh
727-367-2010

My best wishes for a successful reunion. Wish I could be there. I am now 76 years old. I was a member of the Yeoman Group 43 to 46 and still remember all of them, particularly Harold Pottinger, Frank Danca (who got me in as a striker), Harry Underwood, Sandy Slessor, Arnold, Lewis and others. Enjoy the newsletter very much.

Donald C. Woodfin, YNCS,
2015 Stumpf Blvd.
Terrytown, Louisiana 70056
504-361-0275

As usual, I greatly enjoyed reading the mail call. Of special interest were the letters from:- Billy Hester, who went thru boot at about the same time I did (Company 063, Jan-Mar 52), reported aboard about the same time (Calvert returned from a dependents cruise to Hawaii-I think), and was assigned to boat division. I don't remember him, cause I was later assigned to sidecleaners until my transfer to the radio gang. Arthur Graham is not familiar either, during Operation Freedom, we did nothing but eat, sleep and stand watches having to relay all the loading reports to PacFlt, etal... Ensign Stein - ah yes, he was our Radio Officer for a spell. Am glad to read that he went on to his own command. I also wonder if he was about DC when I lived there from 1966 - 1989. I was at NAVCOMMSTA Washdc, GPO, Pentagon, and finished up at the Quantico Marine Corps Base. I didn't know him as RED, but that was also my nick-name. Red on the head likecan't remember how that went???!!!!??? Would be interested to hear from any of you. e-mail - daford352@aol.com - (352) 307-8384, 14270 SE 85th Ave, Summerfield, FL 34491. Gerald 'Red' Ford 4/52-2/55 - left the Calvert with Captain Hilles when his staff moved to the Montrose and later Telfair. I remember the 52 incident when a fellow SA was walking ahead of me coming back from liberty and fell thru an open hatch- from the first deck to the bottom... Can't remember his name, only that he was hispanic. And the incident of the flares from nowhere coming back from westpac about a day or two out of SFRAN. We never did find any reason for them. Memories....NEQS/HAPG Sadly, I do not remember John Yamnicky. I wish I had known him Red. Lest we forget.

I was pleased and very excited to receive the copy of the *Calversion* last week. For years I have wondered what had ever happened to her. I served aboard her from 1962 to 1965 as a Machinist Mate. I was assigned to "A" Division. When I reported to the Calvert, I was a Fireman MM E3 and when I was discharged in 1965, I was a Machinist Mate 2nd Class. My primary duties were, fresh water, air conditioning, and during landing operations, I was the engineer on LCVP 12 or LCM 4.

The Calvert was the only ship I served on during my four and one half years in the U.S. Navy. I spent aprox. 18 months in Norfolk Va. and at Great Lakes Ill. We made two WestPac. cruises, in 1962 & 1964. When I left the ship in 1965, they were preparing to go to Vietnam. In 1966 I was surprised to see the Calverts coat of arms in the comic strip "Terry & the Pirates" along with several other ships, that were in the South China Seas. After that I had lost all contact with the Calvert.

Stephen J. Straka Jr.
7153 W. Parkview I
Parma, Ohio 44134ng a

We want to let you know how much we appreciated your attendance at U.S.S. Calvert's reunion. The final count of associates and their guests was 98 wonderful people from 26 different states. In addition we had 14 more guests join us for the Saturday evening affair.

We thank you for your donation for the door prizes and/or silent auction. Because of your thoughtfulness we were able to have a door prize for everyone and still maintain the lower activity charges.

It was brought to our attention that a few of you did not receive a copy of the names and address sheet at the banquet. If you have e-mail, contact Betty and Carl at brogers@dragonbbs.com. We will get a copy right out to you. If you are still with the other mail service, drop us a note for your copy.

It was a pleasure to be your host for this year's annual Calvert reunion. We look forward to seeing you in 2003 in Savannah, Georgia with Richard and Glynna Moore.

Carl & Betty Rogers
Bob & Maxine Hitch
Co-Hosts

My name is Ronald J. Maciejowski and I am the Membership Chairman of the United States Navy Cruiser Sailors Association. We have been underway since April 1992 and this year celebrated our 10th year with a reunion in Annapolis, Maryland.

To acquaint you with our Association, I am sending you a copy of our Association magazine. I have also sent a News Release. Could you please insert the release in your Association newsletter? Many Navy career men not only served aboard fleet auxiliaries but also aboard cruisers, and these are the Sailors that I am trying to contact and make them aware of our organization. To enable me to make a mass mailing of our magazine to your shipmates, could you send me a copy of your Association membership roster? Any list that is provided me will not be given to anyone or sold for any commercial purpose and only used for recruiting purposes.

Ronald J. Maciejowski
55 Donna Terrace
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780-2824

mail this reservation form to:
Attn: Reservations
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
#17 Gateway Blvd. East
Savannah, GA 31419

RESERVATION FORM
FOR
USS Calvert Associates Reunion

Holiday Inn
EXPRESS
HOTEL & SUITES

The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is pleased to accommodate the
USS Calvert Associates Reunion {Group Code: USC} in Savannah
during the dates of September 10th - 14th, 2003

Reservations must be made by August 10th, 2003 to guarantee availability
and the special room rate of \$76.00 + 12% tax for single/double, per night,
\$10.00 each additional adult person in room.

You may call Toll Free to: (800) 465- 4329, FAX to: (912) 927-1027 or

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Number of rooms: _____ Number of people: _____

Room Type Request: _____ (king bed _____ or 2-queen bed _____)
(smoking or non-smoking) Special Request _____

Room reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card number or you may send
a deposit for the first night's payment to confirm booking.

Credit Card Number: _____

Card Name: _____ Exp. _____

Card Holder: _____

Captain Edward J. Sweeney-APA 216 Neshoba

Passengers and crew need have no fear that the Neshoba is in unseaworthy hands. Twenty-eight years a sailor is the record of her new Captain, Edward J. Sweeney and as one looks at Captain Sweeney they can almost hear the sound of the sea as he recounts his life. His slight New England accent and the twinkle in his eyes, which have scanned the oceans of the world, add interest to his stories, which fascinate sailor and landlubber alike.

At eighteen he became an Apprentice Seaman in the Merchant Service. His first ship was the Andrea Luckenback of the Luckenback Steamship Company of New York. All ships on this line were named after members of the Luckenback family. For seven years the Captain stayed on the Andrea. The first three years were spent sailing between New York, Thames Haven. England, Rotterdam, Holland, and Hamburg. Germany. At Thames Haven they used to tie up at the well-known Kilbury docks, which during this war the Germans blew to bits.

Regardless of any sailing hazards the Captain stuck to the sea. Three times on his European voyages fires broke out upon the ship. They were grain or coal fires caused by spontaneous combustion and as the Captain puts it, "There was little we could do except keep all air away from the fire. Let the bulkheads cool and continue on our way."

The ship was finally assigned to the inter-coastal trade and carried her cargoes between the East and West coasts of the United States. "I was never one to stay aboard in port," the Captain states with a smile, and became familiar with all the port cities of the country.

It was with some regret that the Captain left the Andrea, and one can imagine how he must have felt when he learned that the ship on which he started as a Sea Faring man was sunk on Saint Patrick's Day 1943.

He stayed with the Luckenback line, a line with which he has over twenty-three years of service. In October 1932 the Captain fulfilled a Horatio Alger ambition for it was at this time that he made the final step and became the Mater of his own ship.

He Captained many well known vessels, among them the Florence Luckenback which became a war casualty in March 1942.

Captain Sweeney joined the Naval Reserve in 1928 with rank of Lieutenant and was called to active duty as a Lt. Commander on the 29th of October 1941. His first duty was as First Lieutenant on the A.P.A. U.S.S. Harry Lee. It didn't take Pearl Harbor to convince Captain Sweeney that we had a dangerous enemy on the high seas for in carrying American troops to Iceland and Bermuda, the Harry Lee was attacked by U-boats. Captain Sweeney rates an A and a battle star on his American Defense ribbon for participation in this hazardous task.

At last the U. S. was ready to strike back and Admiral Hewitt assembled a fleet of ships at Newport News, Va. to carry General George S. Patton's task force into the invasion of North Africa. The Harry Lee broke down and her crew was transferred to the U.S.S. Calvert, with Captain Sweeney taking the post of Executive Officer. Owing to the transfer the Calvert was two days late in sailing, but she caught up to the rest of the convoy. Passengers on this trip were untested in combat but destined to become one of our greatest divisions, the famed 2nd Armored or "Hell On Wheels."

Captain Sweeney recalls one incident that was different than the impending combat. A General was standing in the corridor as a seaman swabbed the passageway. "Move along buddy," said the seaman. The General turned in rage and spying a Navy Warrant Officer, asked, "Have these sailors no respect for rank?" "What's the matter with you?" said the warrant to the sailor. "Don't you know a Major when you see one?"

The Calvert landed her troops in Safia and the convoy received a letter of Commendation from General Patton.

Sicily was next on the invasion schedule and the Calvert took elements of the 45th Infantry "Thunderbird" Division. This Division was mainly from Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Colorado, and contained many American Indians, among them Lt. Ernest Childers, Medal of Honor winner. "Commando" Kelly was also in the 45th and General Cushing was a passenger on the Calvert, especially air attacks, and Captain Sweeney said they had many anxious moments, but the support they got from the big British Battleships was very effective.

Coming home Captain Sweeney was now Commanding Officer of the Calvert, and winner of the American Theatre ribbon with two battle stars. He picked up troops of the 4th Marine Division, and General Cumming and took them to the West Coast.

Proceeding to Pearl Harbor the Calvert loaded with the 27th Infantry "New York" Division, and Captain Sweeney brought his skill into Pacific Warfare. The 27th landed on Makin in the Gilbert Islands. The Captain's next passengers were the, now familiar, 4th Marines who were taken into battle in the Marshall Islands at Roi and Neru.

Again the 4th Marines and this time the (captain went into Saipan and Tinian. At Saipan the Captain says the "Going was really tough." The Japs had Mortar fire coming from the hills. It was hitting the water and the beaches and we lost two boats and six casualties. The combined fire power of the Pacific Fleet was behind us, though."

For his outstanding work at Saipan and the performance of his Ship Admiral Turner awarded Captain Sweeney the Bronze Star, and he won a third battle star on his Asiatic Pacific ribbon.

Captain Sweeney was then assigned to shore duty and for eight months held the post of Auxiliary Training Officer at Treasure Island being thankful for a chance to be with his wife.

Many Thanks

To the following persons who are helping with the Newsletter expenses; Thank You very much.....

Robert Upton.....25.00
Anthony Chlan.....25.00
Daniel Lucy.....50.00
Bill Weddleton.....25.00
Stewart Brown.....25.00
Charles Wrenn.....20.00
Frank Shemanski.....50.00
Donald C. Woodfin....40.00
Dan Brotherton.....20.00
Jerold Benjamin.....25.00
Felix Hierbaun.....20.00
Elizabeth Kenefick...25.00
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C.L.Foley.....20.00

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Kim Kaufman.....20.00
unknown.....20.00
Stephen Straka.....20.00
Robert Oliver.....50.00
William Haggarty.....25.00
Edward McElroy.....20.00

In Memory of

Billie Stoker by Billie Trout....25.00
Roy Holmes by Wife Marietta.....20.00
Don Coy by Wife Lois.....25.00
Ed O'Brien
Louis Lund
Vincent Simon by O'Brien Family..50.00
Jack Davidson by Jim Chapman.....30.00

SHIP STORE

STORE ITEMS:

Tan Poplin Cap.....\$5.00
 also about a dozen white caps
 T-shirt,gray,M,L,XL.....\$6.00
 T-shirt,XXL.....\$6.25
 Calvert *Sabotee out*.....\$2.00
 Luggage Tags (each).....75¢
 Auto Plates.....\$3.50
 Calvert Red Patch.....\$4.00
 Calvert White Patch.....\$2.00

All of the above items have the
 Calvert name and most have the
 picture of the ship.



USS CALVERT



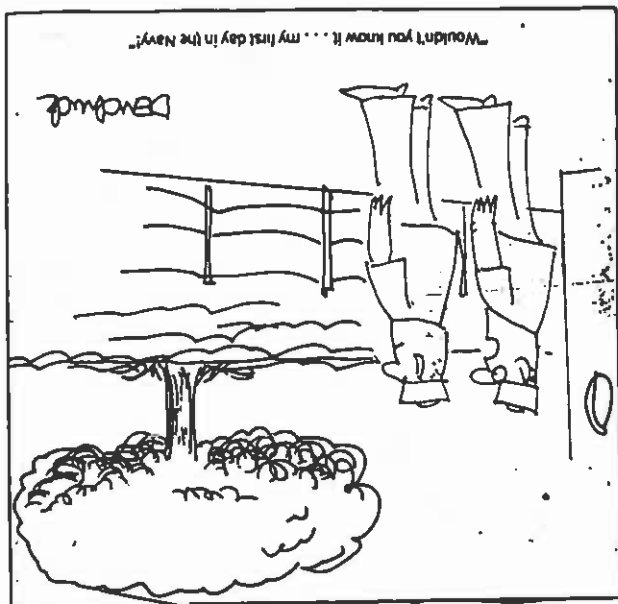
Back and front of gray T-shirt. Models chose to
 remain concealed for personal reasons.



Red Calvert Patch
 4 inches high
 Red, Yellow and Black

Please make checks payable to; Calvert Ships Store.
 Add \$3.00 postage to each order total.
 Send orders to; John L. Cole
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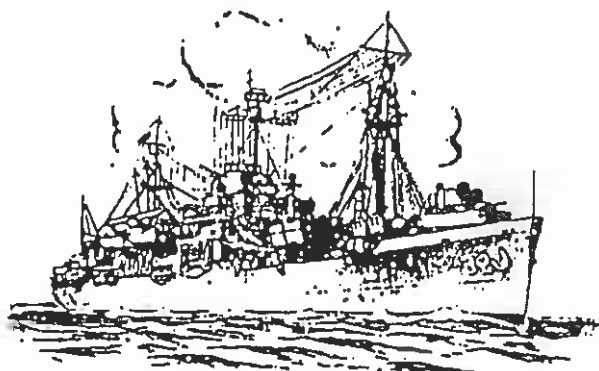
Kenyon, Minnesota 55946



CALVERT ASSOCIATES
 506 Red Wing Ave.
 Kenyon, MN 55946

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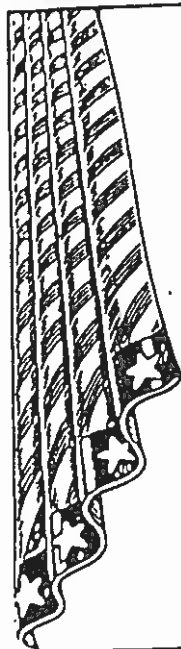


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 ENOLA PA 17025-2247



WE MOURN THE
 PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES



Russell E Johnson Sr. R3/c 45, 1994
 James P. Farmer Cox 44 5-24-02
 Allan M. Breitinger WT2 43-46, 5-11-02
 Eldon Thorson
 John P. Beckwith BT3 51-54, 5-30-00
 Rex Gaugh LT. 50, 7-10-77
 Howard Rayburn 43, 12-26-88
 Frank L. Logsdon 43-45, 3-23-94
 Jack Davidson MM2 53-55, 9-13-02