

# CALVERTS

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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VOL. NO. 49



## Comments from the Commander

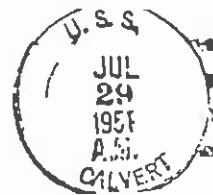
The logo on the right side came from the letter that Bill McGregor sent me. I thought it was nice and want to share it with you.....Rich and Glynna Morse really showed us the best of Savannah. We had fun filled days. Weather was perfect. Attendance was down from previous years which will happen. All in all it was a very good reunion and we all thank the Morse's for a swell time. There was some problems that no one could plan for, and that was when Mary Wallace had a stroke. She is better now and I published a letter from her in the newsletter.....Lila and I are planning to go to Springfield Mo. in February to make final plans on the 2004 Reunion in Springfield. We chose Springfield rather than Branson because of many things. The biggest thing was if you came by plane it would cost quite a bit to get transportation to Branson. The hotel we have picked is really nice and the rate is 64.00 which includes a FREE breakfast buffet. We are planning one or maybe two trips to see shows in Branson by charter bus. We have to wait till after the first of the year to get the rates for 2004. We are hoping for a good turnout so make your plans now.....The ship store has some new items. We don't have any t-shirts left but we have white polo shirts with the ship and number embroidered on them. I think there really nice. We sell all items to cover cost and at \$16.00 thats a good price. Also the new license plate frames at \$3.00 postage paid are a steal. Had to order 500 to get a good price. I have seen these on other cars and have tried for a couple years to find someone to make them. They are to arrive around the last of December so they will be ready by the time you get this newsletter.....If you belong to a V.F.W or American Legion or some other service organization and your state has a newsletter or paper that comes out why don't you put something that we (Calvert Associates) are looking for former Calvert shipmates. I get into at least 20 national magazines once a year. If you could do this we could get the word out about our organization to more people. We have about 20 or more that pass away each year and only get about 15 or less new members. When I do get a mew man they all wonder why they haven't heard about us before. Thanks.....j.l.cole.



# mail call



U. S. S. CALVERT (APA-32)  
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



Hello all, Calvert Shipmates. In regards to my health, I am still kicking, but not very high anymore. The right carotid artery is 100% blocked and the left one is 45% blocked. Due to the blockage, I lost sight of my right eye, but fortunately the blood somehow found away around and now I can see fine again. The blood clot is still there and unless it moves it poses no problem. While in the hospital they gave me 2 small bags of some medications in my I.V. that only cost \$1,000.00 a bag. (I'd rather have a martini). Taking so many pills I feel like a junkie. On a blood thinner called warfarin. Our neighbor's dog scratched my leg and I bled for two days. Wound up going to the E.R. They cut the dosage in half. The doctor takes blood once a week, to keep me regulated. I would like to thank you all for your concerns. I have received so many phone calls, cards and notes that makes me feel special. You Shipmates and wives and friends are a special group of people. May God bless you all! See you in Springfield. Love you all. Mary, Mrs. David Wallace

I was on the Calvert in 1945 at Hiroshima. What ever information you have about being there and other ports in Japan would be appricated. Would like to hear from anybody else that was there.  
Perry G Potiris 6460 Havenside Dr. Sacramento, Co. 95831-1504

## "As a sailor aboard the Calvert"

Between 1943 to 1945. During my time aboard the Calvert, I was in Seven Invasions from Sicily in the Mediterranean to Lingayen gulf in the Philippines.

I was a Coxswain of one of the Higgins boat landing craft. Boatswains Mate Second Class.

Thanks to my grandkids, I have put down on paper, each story of what Happened to me and the Calvert .I Do have some pictures of my old Ship-Mates. I have had some of my Writings published in our local paper.

From an old sailor, I am 81 years. old still kicking.

Ernie Baumgardner 4124 Round Lake Road Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

### Old Navy Chief

The old Navy Chief finally retired and bought that chicken farm he always wanted. He took with him his raunchy life-long pet parrot that had served with him on every tour. The very first morning of retirement at 0430, the parrot awoke, preened, then raised himself to full height and squawked "Ark, Ark, two bells, two bells!!! Reveille, Reveille. Up all hands. Heave out and trice up. The smoking lamp is lit in all authorized spaces, now all hands, Reveille"

The old Navy Chief jumped out of bed, throttled the parrot and said, "Look you little pencil neck, we're no longer in the Navy. Now shut up and sack out for another couple of hours or I'll feed you to the chickens"

Old habits are hard to break and the next morning the parrot did the same reveille routine. The Chief grabbed the parrot and true to his word, the old Salt tossed the noisy parrot out into the chicken pen.

About 0630 the next morning, the Chief was awakened by a helluva ruckus in the chicken pen. He went out to see what the matter was and couldn't believe his eyes. In the pen, the parrot had about 40 white chickens at attention in formation, and on the ground lay three badly bruised and beaten brown roosters. The parrot was standing over the three roosters shouting, "All hands!! By God, when I give an order to muster and fall out in dress whites, I don't mean khakis!"

Want to thank you for your service to Calvert Association. These most enjoyable Reunions would Not happen if it were not for you and the dedicated volunteers that lend assistance. Just got back from the Newport News Reunion in Quincy Ma. They had 500 attending and will have to say I enjoyed myself more at Calvert Reunion. Don't see any room for improvement.

Am enclosing the form for the Korean War Service Medal issued by Korea. If you served on Calvert during this period and were awarded the Korean Medal you are eligible for this Medal. Will take about 6 weeks and you will receive the Medal, Ribbon and an impressive Certificate. I urge those eligible that have not already applied to complete the form and mail to the address included in the letter.

Bill McGregor

10 Pinson Drive

Honea Path, SC 29654

Please change my mailing address

HQ AFPC/DPPPRK  
550 C Street W, Ste 12  
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

Please send me a Korean War Service Medal for my service as a member of the United States military during the authorized period of June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. I have enclosed a copy of a source document with my Social Security Number/Military Service Number/Foreign Service Number, which verifies my service. I understand that the enclosed copy of my source document will not be returned. Additionally, since this is a Foreign Service award, I understand that this is a one-time issuance.

Please mail my Korean Service Medal to the following address:

Sincerely,

My Social Security Number is:

My Service Number is:

Enclosed, find my DD-214 as requested.



Enclosed are the old photo's of your CALVERT that were taken sometime during World War II. I thought they were most interesting and I am sure your fellow shipmates will enjoy seeing them during your upcoming reunion. Some time after the reunion, please return them to me. Hope you have a great reunion. I was stationed on the USS CHARA in 1958 and 1959 and we are having our annual reunion in October in Louisville, KY which is about 100 miles from where I live.

P. S. I remember the CALVERT from when I served on the staff of Commander, Amphibious Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet in San Diego. It was one of our better transports. The other transport that I remember well was the GEORGE CLYMER. In 1962 VADM Yeager my boss let me go on TAD to the Seattle World's Fair on the USS RENVILLE (APA-227). Every one on the RENVILLE including the Captain thought I was a spy from the admiral's staff. I was treated royally. Take care.

Jim Stern 11410 River Dr. E. Carmel, In. 46033

Ed. note...I made copys of the 12 pictures and I need someone to tell me approximate time frame and place. Two of the pictures were of the Calvert but most were taken at dock side of the personell that was being hauled. Also there is no landing craft on the ship. What happened to the boats?

I hope this letter finds you in good health. I wanted to thank you for your letter of March 6 and apologize for my delay in responding. I have had some excellent oral history interviews with USS Calvert shipmates as a result of the newsletter as well as a number of slides, photographs, newspaper clippings, and documents. It has been very interesting and educational. The success I have had with the Calvert shipmates is due to you and I wanted to make sure you knew how much I appreciated your help. I received a letter from Billy Hester in the mail shortly before the one you sent me. I have been truly impressed with the scope and content of all the Calvert shipmates and their history.

Ron Frankum

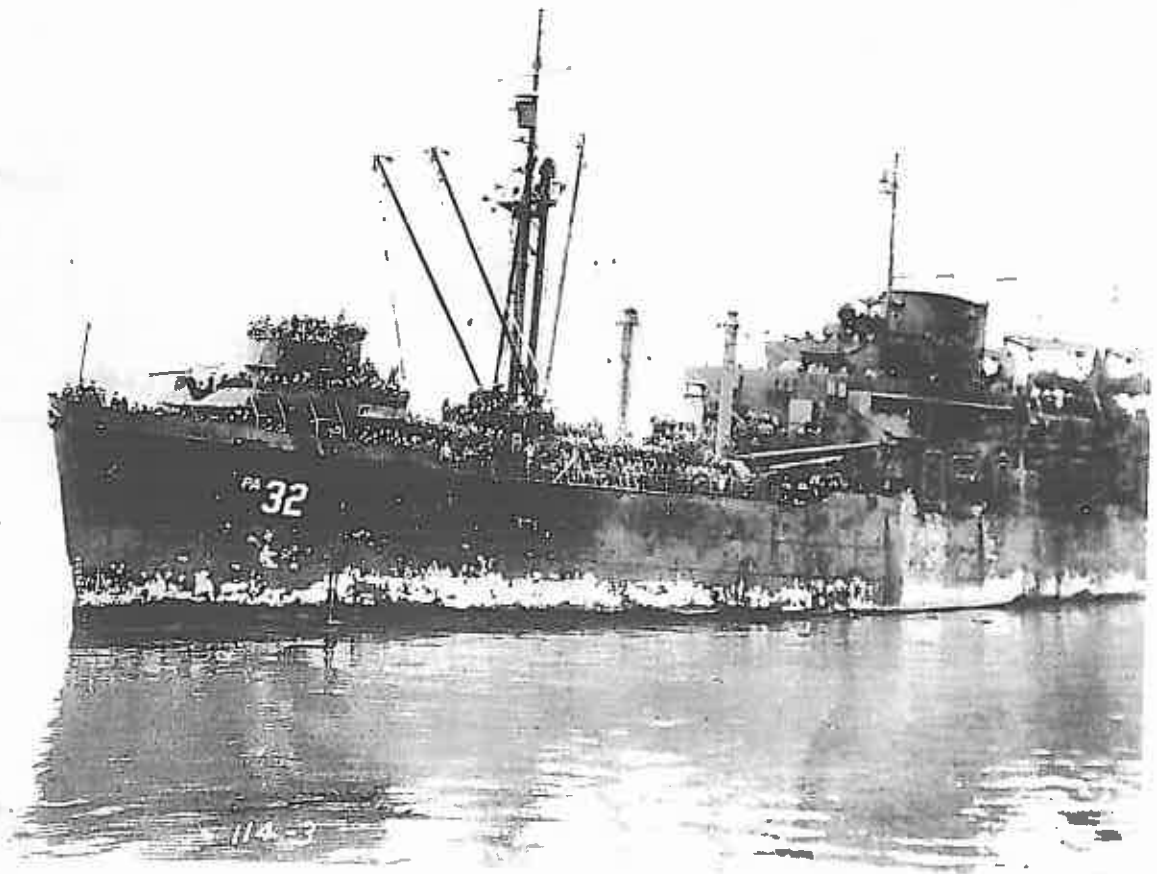
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## Many Thanks

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

V.H.Stewart.....15.00  
Robert L. Hart.....20.00  
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Ray Brink.....40.00  
Urban Butler.....20.00

The following are in Memory of:  
Harley Wenninger, IMO, Joe Pribula 25.00  
Billy Trout, IMO, Joe Pribula 20.00  
Judith Silvers, IMO, Lew Silvers 50.00  
Dave Cullen, IMO, Alexander "Sandy" Slessor  
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William McGregor.....25.00  
Ben Rathke.....50.00  
Sam Pressley.....50.00  
Floyd Alderman.....20.00



These are two of Jim Stern pictures. Any info you can supply will be greatly appreciated. Send to John Cole editor.





This article and picture on the next page came from Rex Gaugh Lt. wife Jane. The photograph was on the cover of the Times Magazine of August 12, 1951. It was published by the New York Times newspaper.

Los Angeles Examiner 8-7-1951

## 160th Men Ogle Typhoon 'Louise' as She Turns to Harass Chinese

By Julian Hartt

(Los Angeles Examiner star reporter and veteran war correspondent assigned to the 40th Division for on the spot coverage of the Division's activities overseas. Hartt will report especially on the Los Angeles and Southern California officers and men. He is the only staff representative of a Los Angeles newspaper actually with the Division.)

(Editor's Note: The following dispatch by Julian Hartt was written before the 160th had completed its change in location.)

**ABOARD USS CALVERT, AT SEA, "D-Day Minus 2"**—This has been a "touch and go" day, over something that wasn't written into the planning of the 160th Regimental Combat Team's prac-



JULIAN HARTT

tice assault landing.

Cause of it all was a fractious, unpredictable young lady named Louise.

She was born just a few days ago, about the same time the first of these troops were loading aboard ship.

The far-from-blessed event occurred in a nameless area of the far Pacific, some 2000 miles southwest of here, half way between Guam and the Philippine Island of Samar.

For Louise, you see, is a typhoon.

### CAREFUL CHECK —

Periodically since then the intricate weather services of the Far East have checked Louise's movement and growth with the same painstaking care an expert pediatrician would give any active, lusty youngster.

Ships at sea and observers ashore on Pacific pinpoints of land have radioed their reports.

Here the data is transformed into dots and notations on big charts of the Pacific by the attack force commander, Comdr. K. C. Hurd of Detroit, and the ship's captain, Glenn W. Gegwen Jr. of San Diego.

### TERRIFIC STORM —

Each report has swelled Louise's intensity. The last, for instance, estimated her force at 100 knots at the center—a terrific storm to ride out at sea; one in which a landing would be impossible.

And each report has showed Louise's path march steadily northwest by west up the Pacific's "typhoon highway," to the crossroads where typhoons must "make up their minds" whether to swing westward across the Philippines and the China Sea, or wheel northeastward along the Ryukus, the home islands of Japan and ultimately Tokyo Bay where these Southern Californians are due to land.

### SUFFER HEAT —

The men of the 160th Regiment, the 144th Field Artillery, suffering out the heat but grateful for the calm seas, are ignorant of this silent drama taking place topside.

Louise has posed major problems to the Marines who have trained the Army troops in amphibious warfare, now a routine part of every Army infantry unit's education.

Col. Paul Wallace, for instance, knows that even the tail end of a typhoon, even the fringe of it, would kick up the waters of Tokyo Bay to the point where small boat landings would be extremely hazardous.

### MOVING POINTS —

And this Coronado, Calif., officer knows the full typhoon would force the fleet to run to sea and stay there until it passes, delaying the operation for days.

Those moving map points also weigh upon his assistants: slim, tough Lt. Col. Steve Munson, who "got his" in the real thing at Tarawa, and Lt. Col. Art Pindexter, taken prisoner with Major Devereaux after the gallant stand at Wake Island.

They are Californians now, their homes, wives and families at Coronado, like the rest of the Marine officers, including Capt. Don Blanchard, Capt. Robert Zeugner, Maj. Lonnie McCurry.

### GOOD NEWS —

Then at last came the good news. A communications officer ran the flimsy out to Captain Legwen, and his face lighted up into a big grin as he read it.

"Louise has turned west," he said happily, hurrying to the chart room to get the new "fix" plotted.

The captain laughed:

"She'll cross the South China sea and hit the Chinese Communists instead of us. Just what they deserve."

Down below the bridge on the weather decks, the soldiers of the 160th RCT were still leaning on the rail, watching the sea roll by.

For them, Louise was just a blind date they'd never keep.





**OFF JAPAN—**  
**Amphibious Training**  
[See Page 2]

# U.S.S. CALVERT

## National Crew Reunion

### in Springfield, Missouri

Group Name: USS Calvert

Arrival Date: Wednesday September 8, 2004

Departure Date: Sunday September 12, 2004

Rate: \$64.00 plus tax (*Rate includes a voucher for our breakfast buffet*)

Please return by: August 9, 2004

**Please reserve the following accommodations:**

\_\_\_\_ Room(s) with two Double Beds for \_\_\_\_ people

\_\_\_\_ Room(s) with King Size Bed and Sleeper Sofa for \_\_\_\_ people

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\_\_\_\_ Room(s) with Handicapped Features for \_\_\_\_ people (King Size bed only)

\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking

\_\_\_\_ Smoking

**Call Toll Free: 800-223-0092**

**email: [jmccallum@springfieldmosheraton.com](mailto:jmccallum@springfieldmosheraton.com)**

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Nights: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card or a first night deposit. Total with tax per night \$71.44 (tax rate is 11.620%)**

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please place this form in envelope and return to:**

Jennifer McCallum  
Sheraton Hawthorn Park Hotel  
2431 N. Glenstone Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65803

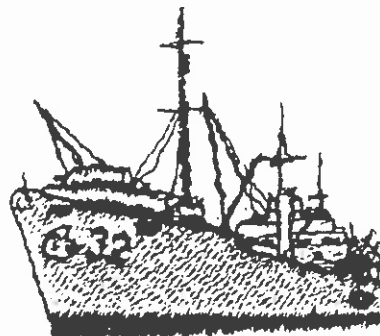




# SHIP STORE

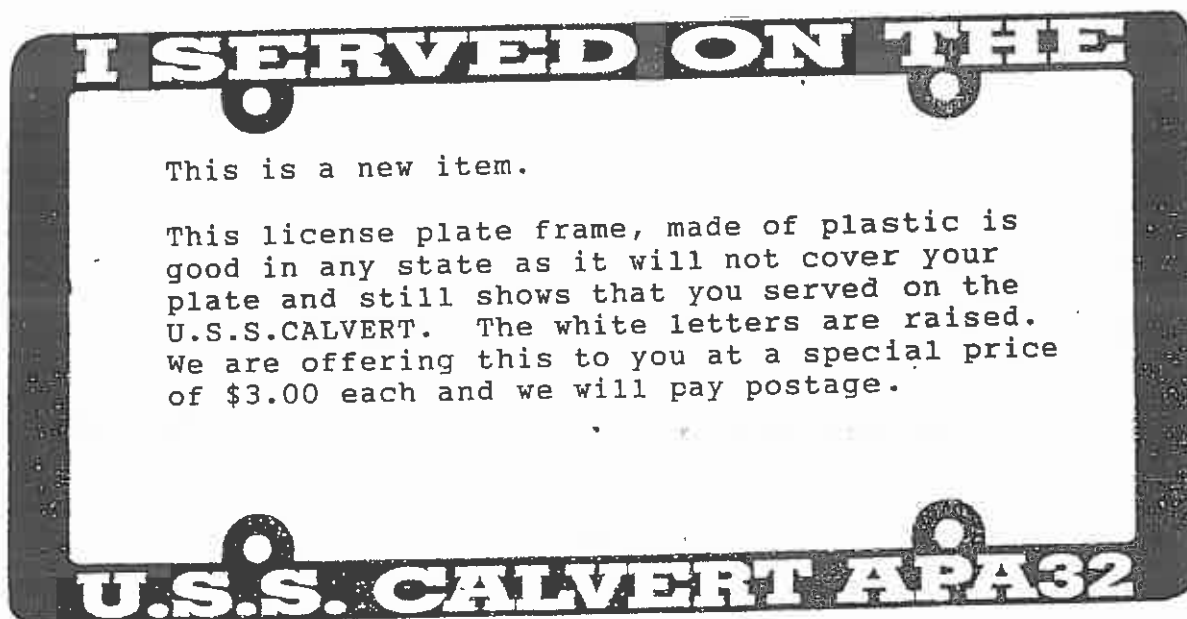
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Poplin caps.....\$5.00  
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XXL. \$18.00  
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Auto Plate, plastic....\$3.50  
  
Licence frame..(new)..\$3.00P.P.  
  
Calvert white patch...\$2.00  
Calvert red patch.....\$4.00



**U.S.S. CALVERT  
APA-32**

Embroider on Polo Shirt and  
blue caps.



Red Calvert Patch  
4 inches high  
Red, Yellow and Black

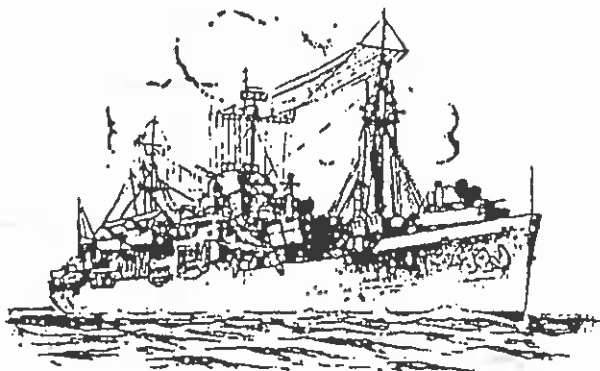
Please make checks payable to; Calvert Ships Store.  
Add \$3.00 postage to each order total.  
Send orders to; John L. Cole  
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Kenyon, Minnesota 55946



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506 Red Wing Ave.  
Kenyon, MN 55946

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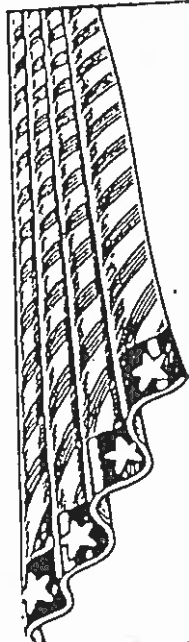


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STERLING  
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ENOLA  
FUNK  
BM1 42  
PA 17025-2247



17025+2247 01



WE MOURN THE  
PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES

Joseph Pribula Cox, 42-45. July 12, 03  
Bobby Raper RD1, 53-56. Nov. 11, 02  
Delbert Mabe S1/C, 44-46.  
John M. Young 46. Nov. 23, 99  
George E. Rapier Capt. August 23, 02  
James T. "Pete" Berry Sept. 10, 03  
William J. Eiskamp Cox 43-45. Nov. 28, 03