

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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506 Red Wing Ave.
Kenyon, Minnesota 55946
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VOL. NO. 43, 2001



Comments from the Commander

First of all I want to thank John Groff for the fine time we all had at Lancaster. I ate two meals at a Amish farm home and put on at least five pounds. Beautiful country and a nice time was had by all.....Larry Masterson 205 Mokema Ave. Waltham, Mass. 02154 has lost his Calvert cruse book. He served on the ship from 1955-57 and would like to copy a book if any one has one. If you do contact Larry and help him out..... Hal Winter a long time contributor to the newsletter has dug in his sea-bag again and come up with some great pictures of practice landings at Cove Point, Maryland. Both photos are 8 by 10 and I couldn't shrink them down to save space as that would take away some of the things on the picture. I wont know how good they will copy till after the newsletter is printed. Any way I did my best.....The Ships Store has a lot to offer this time. We have only about eight coffee cups left so if I run out I will refund on any item that has run out. All the items are sold with no mark-up as we want to be able to provide low cost affordable quality products. Send all orders to me and I will ship ASAP.....If you were aboard during the Korean War there is a form to get your Republic of Korea Service Medal. If you are not a V.F.W. member write me a letter and I'll send you a form for nonmembers. The form is in the newsletter so order yours today. I got mine and its not too bad considering its about 50 years late.....Its also time to think of the 2001 Reunion in Orlando, Florida. Bud Ruth is the host and has been working hard to get things organized. There is a reservation form inclosed for you to make room reservations. The agenda for Orlando will be in the July newsletter. Room price for the Orlando area is very good and the motel complex is fairly new. Don't wait till the last minute..... Carl Rogers also has been working on the 2002 reunion which will be held across the river from Cincinnati in Fort Mitchell, Ky. which is the same town the Cinci Airport is located. I will keep you updated as time goes along.....One final note on the Orlando Reunion is that a one night deposit is required on reservations and a 24 hour cacle notice must be made or forfeit your deposit. This can be done with a credit card and is getting to be more a standard procedure with Hotels. Best New Year Wishes To You All.....j.l.cole.....



mail call



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



I just read the most recent edition of the Calversion newsletter. Always nice to hear of my brother officers and seamen from the U.S.S. Calvert.

You do a terrific job of keeping everyone posted on the activities of those with whom you keep in touch. Please find enclosed a small contribution to help defray some of the costs of publishing the newsletter.

Jon M. Huntsman

I see by the Navy Times that you are the contact person for the USS Calvert APA 32 upcoming reunion, and I wonder if you might be able to help me locate a friend.

Bob Frye and I were school mates at Hill Crest School, a one room elementary school, at Madison Wisconsin and we later matriculated to West High School also at that city.

I think Bob was a year or so older than I because he joined the Navy before I was eligible to do so, and the last time that I saw him was either late 1944 or early 1945. At that time Bob told me that he was on the Calvert and that he was a Storekeeper.

I joined the Navy in June 1945 and I never went back to Madison.

R.A. Morgan
PO Box 41675
Bakersfield, CA 93384

If you have Bob on your membership roll, I would appreciate his address.

It was so good to see you and my many good friends at the Reunion Banquet.

I was glad to have a chance to chat with you and happy that you were doing so well after your by-pass episode. Also, hope your book continues to do well. I appreciate the effort by so many to make these events successful. I especially appreciate the kindness and friendship shown me over the years by so many. I wish more widows would attend - these wonderful people were a tremendous help to me as I dealt with my grief.

Thanks again for all you do to encourage attendance and keeping everyone informed via the Calversion.

Marietta Holmes
122 Delphia Drive
Brevard, NC 28712

I will try to make the Reunion in Florida.

I want to thank you for the newsletter on the U. S. S. Calvert. There was nothing mentioned about the first commissioning on Oct. 1st 1942. The U. S. S. Calvert number was P65. The Harry Lee broke down on the way to North Africa. The U. S. S. Calvert was in the Chesapeake Bay on maneuvers. The Harry Lee was in Norfolk and they called the U. S. S. Calvert in from the Chesapeake Bay. They switched the Captain, crew, and all the cargo from one ship to the other in 48 hours painted it from the water line to the top of the mast. There were only a few left of the crew I was one of them. All we had was two destroyers until we caught up to the convoy. Second day out we broke down they switched to a water tank instead of oil tank. We lay dead in the water for about two hours the destroyers circled us. It took about five days to catch the convoy. It took all day for us to go to the position in the convoy. All you could see was ships. That was our shakedown cruise. The first few days at sea all we did was throw things overboard to clear the 5 in. gun on the fantail. Our destination was North Africa the little town of Sife in North Africa 140 miles south of Casablanca we landed our troops on November 8th 1942. Got back to Norfolk Virginia November 26 1942.

I was put in the beach party.

February 26 1943 the Calvert beach party was transferred to Camp Bradford Virginia. We went to Fort Pierce Florida for beach party training.

The U. S. S. Calvert went to New York and got radar install and went to the invasion of Sicily.

August 17 1943 we went back to the U. S. S. Calvert.

August 22 1943 left for the Panama Canal to San Diego California.

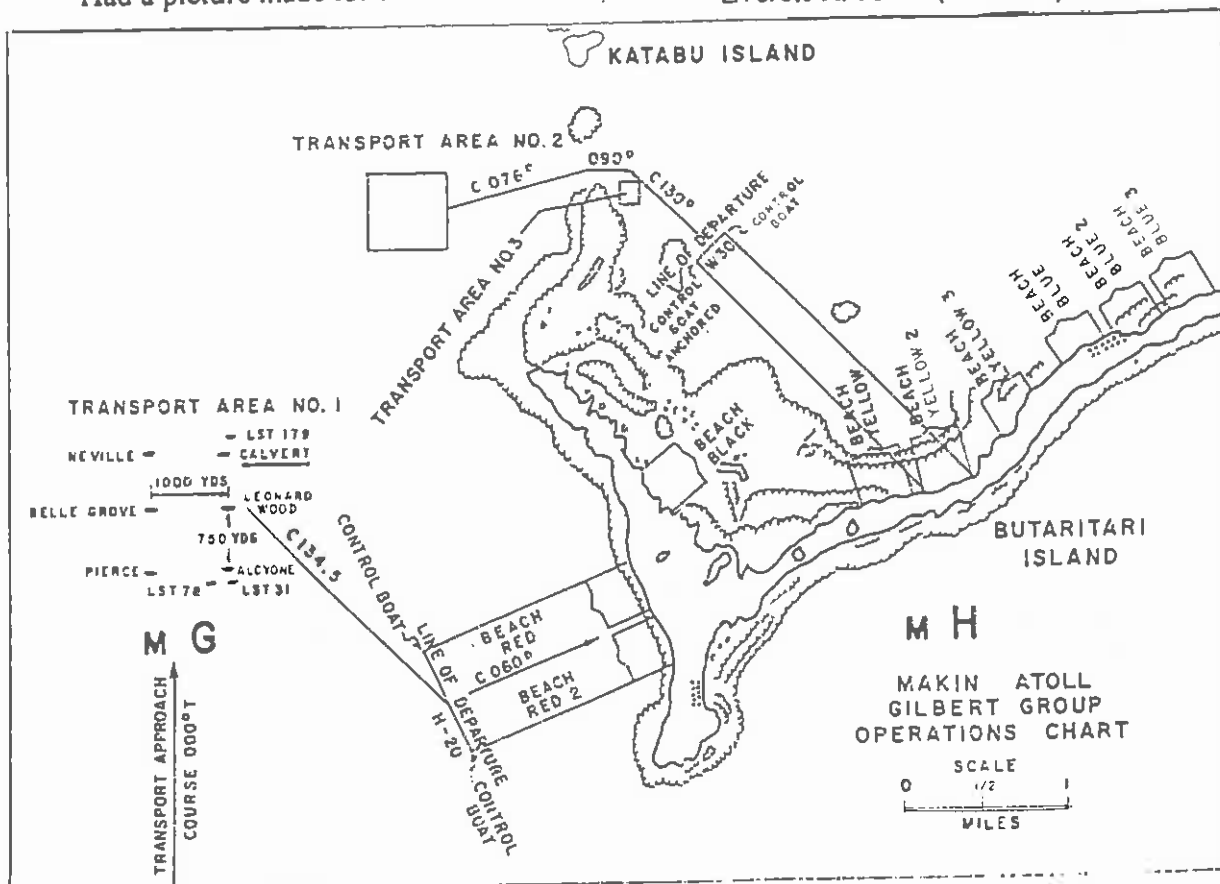
September 9 1943 got to San Diego.
 September 10 1943 left for San Francisco California
 September 12, 1943 got to San Francisco California
 September 20, 1943 left for Honolulu.
 September 26, 1943 got to Honolulu
 September 28, 1943 the beach party was transferred to the U. S. S. Monrovia
 September 29, 1943 left for New Zealand

Lawrence C. Wagner
 8580 Calais Circle
 Sacramento California 95 828



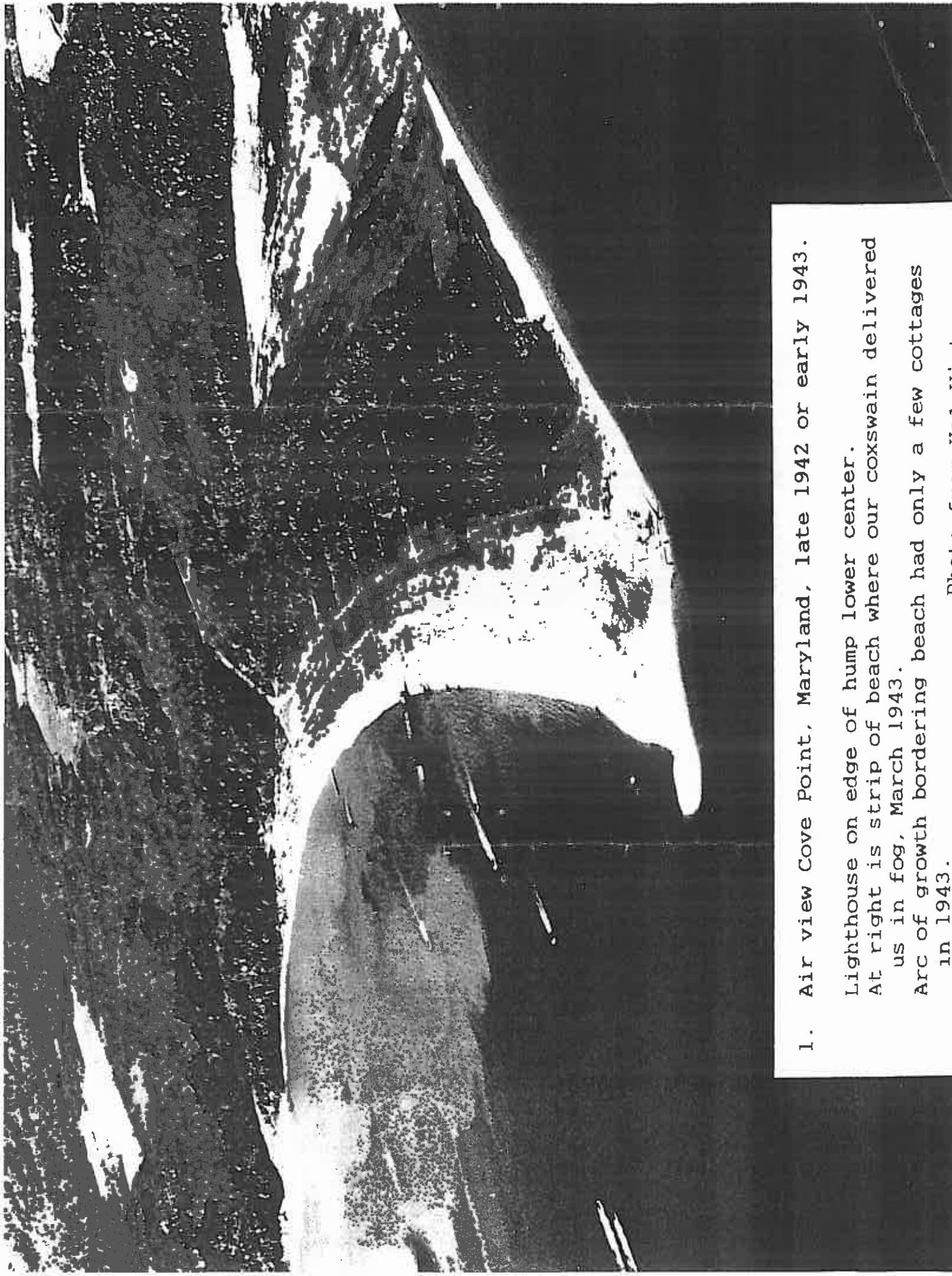
Ed. Note; Sasebo, Japan, August 3, 1953, Photo. E. R. Jones
 While going through some old slides, I found an old picture of the USS Calvert.

Had a picture made for the Calvert history book. Everett R. Jones (1958-59) BMCS USN - Retired



Makin Atoll, Gilbert Island Group, Operations Chart.

Map from Hal Winter



1. Air view Cove Point, Maryland, late 1942 or early 1943.

Lighthouse on edge of hump lower center.

At right is strip of beach where our coxswain delivered
us in fog, March 1943.

Arc of growth bordering beach had only a few cottages
in 1943.

Photo from Hal Winter

2. Landing beach looking north.

Photo from Hal Winter

Cove Point light center horizon.

Photo probably taken under overcast. Notice shadows of men on lower left are not sharply defined.



SHIP STORE

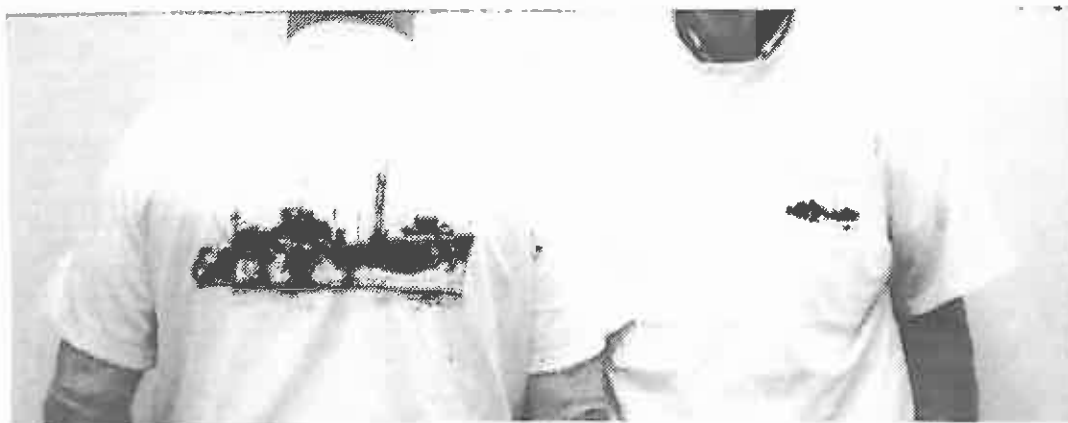
STORE ITEMS:

Blue Poplin Cap.....	\$5.00
T-shirt,gray,M,L,XL.....	\$6.00
T-shirt,XXL.....	\$6.25
Calvert Coffee Cup.....	\$2.00
Luggage Tags (each).....	75¢
Foam Kan Koolies.....	\$1.00
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
506 Red Wing ave.
Kenyon, Minnesota 55946

CALVERT FACT'S FROM THE PAST

Navy Transport Ends Last Trip In Her 3rd War

Pictures—Page 8

By ROBERT ZIMMERMAN
The San Diego Union's
Military Writer

The attack transport Calvert (APA32) returned to San Diego from Viet Nam yesterday, an old veteran ready for retirement.

The ship which landed troops

in North Africa and Sicily, and on half a dozen Pacific islands during World War II is heading for the "mothball" fleet this summer.

Capt. John G. Ward brought the Calvert home from what will be her last combat deployment—at least for the foreseeable future.

"She's a fine old ship and in good shape," he said. "But the Navy has newer ships that can carry more people and have more modern equipment."

The Calvert was one of four San Diego ships that returned to the Naval Station yesterday from duty in the Far East. Others were the destroyers Shelton (DD790), Lyman K. Swenson (DD729) and Duncan (DD874).

The destroyers had performed escort duty for 7th Fleet carriers and also had moved close to the Vietnamese coast for bombardment of Communist positions along the shoreline.

Altogether, the four ships returning yesterday brought more than 1,000 men home from a six-month absence. Hundreds of wives and children were waiting on Naval Station piers for their return.

The Calvert had left last August loaded with Marines and

equipment bound from Camp Pendleton to Okinawa. After delivering these men, the ship visited Japan and then headed for Korea to help transfer the famous Korean "Tiger" Division to Viet Nam.

"We took more than 1,000 Korean troops aboard, along with their trucks and Jeeps and supplies, and delivered them to Qui Nhon," Ward recounted yesterday.

The Calvert then returned to Okinawa, picked up more Marines, and carried them to Da Nang. The transport tied up in the Da Nang harbor and served for a month as a floating "hotel" for crews unloading ship in that busy port.

UNLOADED FASTER

"They're doing much better now with the shipping problem there," Ward said. "At one time the ships were stacking up, but now they are getting them unloaded as soon as they arrive."

Ward, who lives at 5355 North Way, said the Calvert will go to San Francisco for decommissioning on June 30, and then will join the Reserve Fleet at the Mare Island shipyard.

The Calvert had been built in 1941-42 as a commercial freighter at Sparrows Point.

Md., but before completion the Navy acquired the vessel for restyling as an attack transport. It was named for George Calvert, first Lord Baltimore, who settled the Maryland in colonial days.

Commissioned on Oct. 1, 1942, the ship interrupted its shakedown cruise to go to war. By Nov. 8, it was off the coast of North Africa participating in the assault on French Morocco.

IN ISLAND ASSAULTS

The Calvert poured troops and equipment ashore in Sicily in 1943, then moved to the Pacific to take part in assaults on Makin, Kwajalein, Saipan, Tinian, Leyte and Mindoro. She was decommissioned in 1947, but then was called back to duty for amphibious operations in the Korean War.

In 1954 the Calvert carried out an operation that foreshadowed her most recent deployment. She carried 6,000 Vietnamese refugees from Haiphong, in the north, to Saigon and other ports in the south when the only colony of French Indochina was divided into North and South Vietnam.

The top article was printed in 1965 and came from Mrs. Harold Sparks. The lower well worn article came from Charles A. Johnson HM3 and is dated 1954. The Calvert operated during WW2, Korea and Viet Nam and ended up as a training ship before being sold

for scrap
AUGUST 26 1954

RADIO PRESS NEWS

PAGE ONE

U.S.S. CALVERT (APA 32)

The following dispatch from CALVERT is quoted:

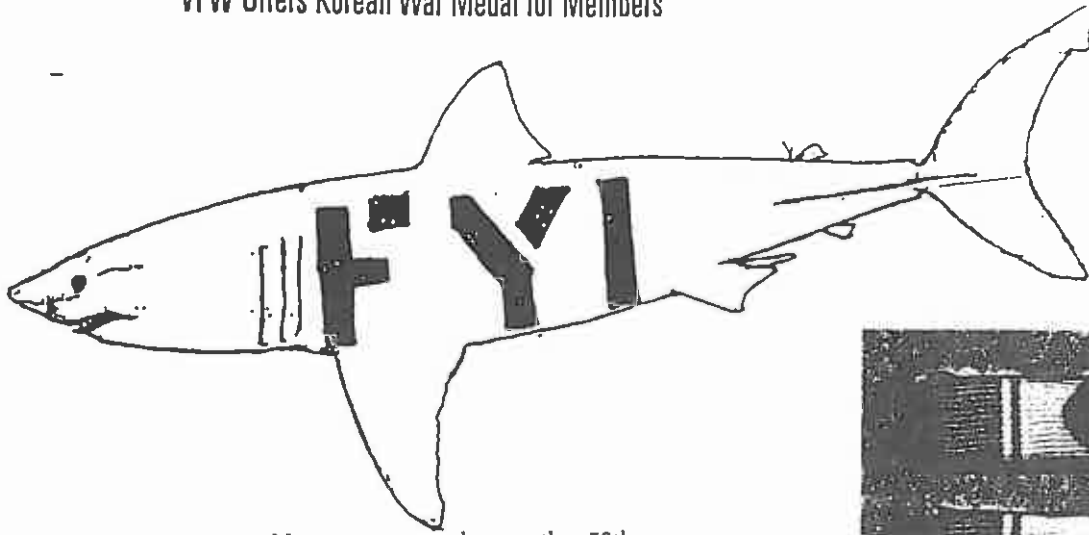
"The USS CALVERT is today heading South along the coast of Vietnam with over two thousand refugees aboard. The majority of these refugees come from the Catholic villages of the Tonkin Delta South and Southwest of Hanoi. The USS CALVERT is a ship designed to carry amphibious combat forces to hostile beaches in time of war but today all hands are occupied with a peacetime mission: The feeding, well being and general comfort of penniless refugees who have left their homes and most of their possessions behind in a general flight from Communism. The refugees were loaded aboard the USS CALVERT from a rolling LSI of the French Navy. They arrived aboard tired and sick, many of them having walked miles from their own village to the reception centers in and around Haiphong. Once aboard they were fed and bedded down in the quarters usually occupied by combat ready Marines. Instead of platoons checking their weapons and going over beach maps mother's were breast feeding their babies and stuffing rice and beef stew into their mouths. During the loading young American Sailors assisted the aged and young among the refugees. Later they invaded the refugee quarters with ice cream and candy for the children. For most of the young ones it was their first taste of such delicacies. In the Tonkin Delta ice cream is so hard to come by. This morning, their first morning here, they were all lining up topside to see at close hand the ship that

are of the ship that

are of the ship that

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VFW Offers Korean War Medal for Members



As the world prepares to observe the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, GIs who helped fight it are finally eligible for a long-awaited form of tangible recognition from Korea. The Republic of Korea War Service Medal, created by South Korea in 1951, was recently authorized by the Pentagon as an official award for U.S. Korean War vets.

And now VFW members who qualify for the medal can obtain it through the organization. It will be distributed only to eligible VFW members who served in Korea during the war, 1950-1953.

Supply, however, is limited. VFW initially ordered 2,000 medals in April, and officials believe they will be distributed quickly. Although the organization paid \$17,000—or \$8.50 for each medal—eligible VFW members may obtain them for only \$5.

"VFW's leaders decided this was an appropriate method of honoring the organization's Korean War vets during the war's 50th anniversary," said VFW Commander-in-Chief John Smart. "Those veterans sacrificed so the people of South Korea could live free from the tyranny of communism. Their service may have been forgotten by some, but it never will be forgotten by VFW."

The medal's \$5 fee will cover eligibility verification, processing and postage.

VFW will distribute only one medal to each member who qualifies. To order a medal, members must send their name, address and copies of their DD-214s or discharge papers (military orders showing eligibility also will be accepted) to:

KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL
VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111.

Medal Approved 48 Years Late

The government of South Korea created the medal nearly 50 years ago in appreciation for foreign soldiers who helped fight its war against North Korea and China. All nations but one authorized their Korean War veterans to wear it. For reasons never fully explained, U.S. veterans were prohibited.

That all changed on Aug. 20, 1999, when the Pentagon finally approved the medal as an offi-



cial award to be worn on military uniforms.

According to VFW's Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs Bruce Harder, South Korea (officially the Republic of Korea) sets the eligibility requirements because it is a ROK award, not a U.S. award.

He says that to be eligible for this foreign medal, veterans must have:

- served between the outbreak of hostilities, June 25, 1950, and the date the armistice was signed, July 27, 1953;
- been on permanent assignment or on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days; and
- performed their duty within the territorial limits of, in the waters immediately adjacent to or in aerial flight over Korea while supporting or participating in combat.

According to the Pentagon, the Republic of Korea plans to produce 300,000 Korea War Service Medals over the next two years. Distribution has yet to be determined.

Delta Orlando Resort Maingate at Universal Studios Florida®

5715 Major Boulevard • Orlando, Florida 32819-7900
Phone: (407) 351-3340

U.S.S. Calvert Reunion

Room Rate: \$69.00 per room (up to four people),
per night, plus tax which is currently 11%


Available Dates: September 10, 2001 - September 19, 2001

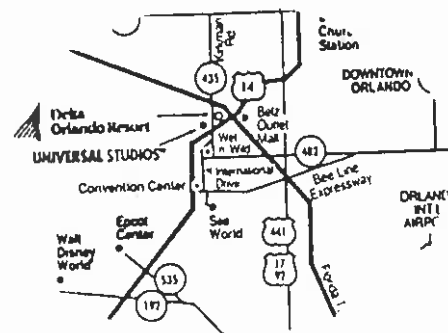
Reservations must be received by hotel no later than August 15, 2001

- For hotel reservations call 1-800-634-4763 or fax 1-407-351-1429. Check in time is 4:00 pm & check out is 11:00 am
- Requests received after the above date are subject to space availability only
- Every effort will be made to confirm the rate/room type desired. If it is not available, a room will be assigned at the next available rate/type

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ # of Rooms _____
Name _____ Sharing Room With _____
Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
of Adults _____ # of Children _____ Arrival Time _____

Preferences — Check all that apply: Preferences are on a request basis only. Special accommodations are not guaranteed.
Please call hotel directly for prices on upgraded rooms and/or suites.

- ☐ Non Smoking
- ☐ Cot \$10.00 per night, plus tax
- ☐ Smoking
- ☐ Mini Refrigerator \$10.00 per night, plus tax
- ☐ Crib
- ☐ Other Handicapped  _____



A one night deposit is required and must accompany this request for a reservation to be made. Please indicate type of payment below.

- ☐ Enclosed a check or money order for \$ _____ including sales tax, which currently is 11%
- ☐ Credit card information authorizing my reservation to be charged in the amount of \$ _____
- Circle type of Credit Card: American Express Visa MasterCard CB/Diners Enroute Discover

Credit Card Name: _____ Credit Card # _____
Print name as it appears on Credit Card

Signature: _____ Expiration Date _____

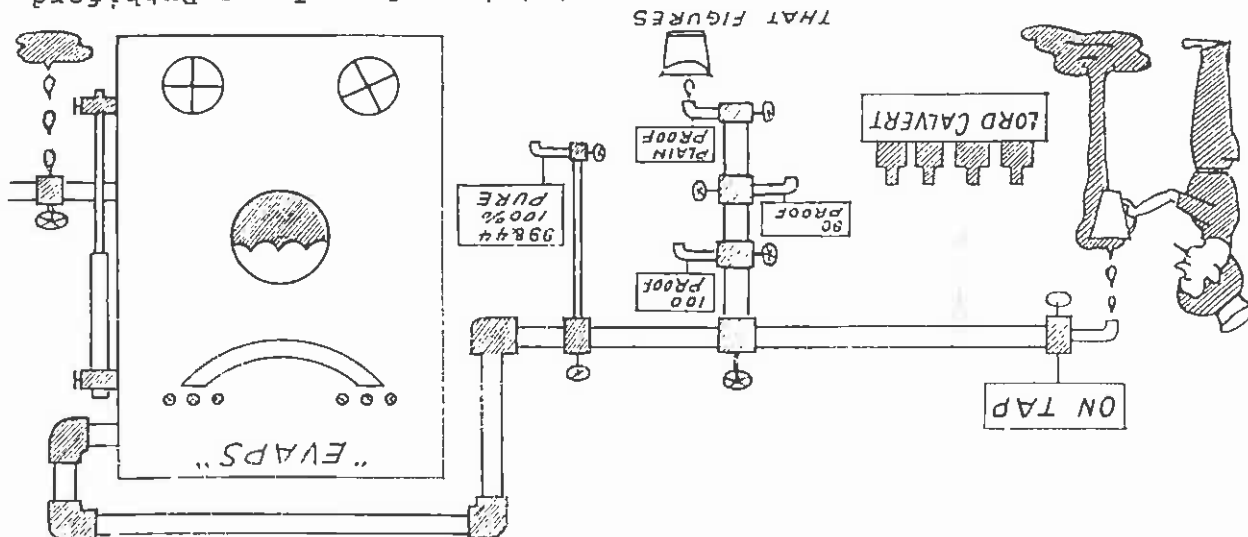
Failure to cancel your reservation 24 hours prior to arrival will result in forfeit of deposit

Many Thanks

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

Sterling Wesp.....	10.00	Norman Durr.....	25.00
Jon Huntsman.....	50.00	William Haggarty.....	25.00
W.H. File Jr.....	25.00	Ray Brink.....	20.00
Laurence Masterson.....	20.00	Sterling Funk.....	10.00
Harry Cunningham.....	25.00	John Tollensdorf.....	20.00
Leonard Hanscom.....	25.00	Mrs. Roy "Marietta" Holmes	30.00
Daniel Brotherton.....	20.00	Stanley Edmonds.....	20.00
Stewart P. Brown.....	25.00	Jack Ferris.....	20.00
Gerald Ford.....	20.00	Henrietta Rybarczyk.....	10.00
Joe Prubela.....	20.00	Mrs. Holmer "Bev" Taulbee	20.00

From Calvert Cruse Book of 1955, A Division, from James Ruthford



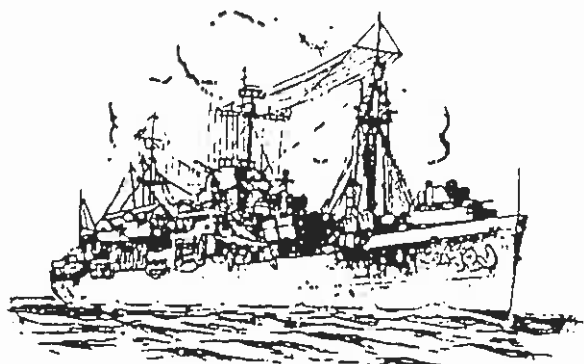
CALVERT ASSOCIATES

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3rd CLASS
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10

"Change Service Requested"



U S S CALVERT APA-32



STERLING FUNCK BM1 42
208 N ENOLA DR
ENOLA PA 17025-2247



WE MOURN THE PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES

Wayne T. Allison RM3, 42, April 2, 2000

Dolan Kelly EN 50-51

Jack N. Reynolds 43-44 August 11, 2000

Casimir J. Mitchell CWM, 42-45 August 21, 2000

Vincent Szwabowski BM2, 44-46 September 24, 2000

Douglas D. Glasco S1/c, 44-46 September 30, 1973

