



YANCEY MEMORIES

COORDINATORS MESSAGE

I hope you are all well and looking forward to some nice Spring and Summer weather. I wanted to get this newsletter out sooner but was waiting on reunion information.

Unfortunately, there is not as much as I was counting on. I will post the most current information on the Yancey website whenever it becomes available. There is a separate writeup included with the information I have so far. I hope we can have a good turnout this year since it is in the Midwest and drivable for many.

Ric tells me he is running out of stories. I know many of you have some good stories so just send them to Ric to make our newsletter more interesting.

George Clifton

clifs@ameritech.net

MY FIRST NAVY DUTY STATION



"I finished my "Boot Leave" in the summer of 1955, and headed for Travis Air Force base in Northern California. I was to report for duty on the USS Yancey, AKA93, which was in Sasebo, Japan. For some reason I was given a "Class A" travel clearance. We loaded onto an old "Gooney Bird" (C-47), with bucket seats and headed out over the Pacific Ocean for Hawaii. It took us something like 13 hours of misery to get there, but finally...we made it.

I spent two days waiting for my air travel, and when it arrived...it departed without me. They forgot to call me. But, they had a special flight going to Tokyo, and they put me on that. It was a DC-6 (4 engine). I climbed onboard and discovered that I was flying with "Toscanini's NBC Philharmonic Orchestra."

After we were well out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, one of the band members asked me, "Do you play an instrument?" I said, "Yeah...drums." "Come on" he said, let's jam. Some one handed me a couple of table knives and a card board box and we went to the rear of the plane and started playing Dixieland Jazz. It was great! Then more of the band people headed back where and started playing. Soon, the cabin door to the cockpit burst open, and the 1st Officer came running out with his eyes as big as saucers. He saw us all crowded in the back of the plane, and we had thrown the center of gravity off, and the plane was ready to stall. He screamed at us to all get back into your seats. We complied immediately!

We landed on Wake Island for fuel, where the Marines had put up one hell of a battle against the Japanese in WW2. Their were still old Japanese ships sunk around the island. I sure wouldn't have wanted duty there. We finally landed at Tokyo International Airport, and it was dark. The door opened, so I stepped out onto the landing, and a thousand flash bulbs went off. The press was there to meet the Orchestra. Then, a big arm reached out of the plane and grabbed my Jersey, and drug me back inside.

I caught a Navy bus to a receiving barracks in Yokosuka, and spent the night. The next day, I caught another bus to an Air Force Base that was by water and climbed onto a twin engine Grumman Mallard Sea Plane. On take-off, the starboard engine started smoking and the pilot shut it down, and we had to land back on the water. They tore the cowlings off and worked on it for a while, and off we went again. This time, it stayed lit. We headed South...along the way we passed Mount Fuji and I took some pictures.

Finally, we splashed down in Sasebo harbor, and we were met by a motor whale launch. It was pitching and rolling about pretty good. My stomach started feeling kind of weird, but I just shook it off, and I was ok. The Yancey was anchored out in the Sasebo harbor waiting for an empty berth at 'Item' basin. We pulled up to the gangway and I saluted on board my first Navy duty station, the USS Yancey, AKA 93.

Mike C. Steinberg, Signalman "O Division".

2023 AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS REUNION INFO



As you may or may not be aware we were informed by Ray Casey, Military Reunion Planners, our planner for the last 8 years, that he will no longer continue doing future reunions for us. Since Skip Sander is very ill and unable to continue working on our reunion, we thought this would be the end of reunions. Fortunately, Jerry Wotherspoon from the USS Muliphin AKA-61 volunteered to take charge. He found another reunion service, Armed Forces Reunions, and is planning the reunion this year. Jerry has been planning the Muliphin reunion for many years and is experienced.

The reunion will be at the Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn I-675 in Dayton, Ohio from October 18th until October 22nd. The negotiated room rate is \$149 per night. You can call the hotel directly at 937-426-9800 and mention the Amphibious Ships Reunion. Or use the link on the Yancey website www.ussyancey.com

The reunion will be somewhat different than recent past reunions. Due to high costs for bus transportation for tours the plan is to car pool or Uber. This is something the USS Muliphin has done in the past so has been tested. There are not as many planned tours so you will be on your own to do what you want or spend more time socializing in the hospitality room. The hospitality room will not provide alcohol but you can bring in your own. As soon as I have firm information such as costs and itinerary and a link to register, I will post that on our website as well.

I am hoping the links will be available before you get this newsletter but as always you can contact me for information.....George clifs@ameritech.net

USS Yancey Reunion Group



9620 Mansfield Av • Oak Lawn, IL 60453

**A Newsletter Exclusively
for Former USS Yancey
(AKA-93) Sailors & their
Families**

**Our Webpage:
www.USSYancey.com**

**Publisher:
Former Crew Members of
the USS Yancey AKA-93**

**Editor:
George Clifton
clifs@ameritech.net
708-425-8531**

**Staff: Ric Nicastro
info@iawards.com
858-373-9393**



East River New York City, USS Yancey possibly leaving the Brooklyn Navy Yard, looking toward Manhattan Island, that's the Manhattan Bridge, behind it is the Brooklyn Bridge. Picture provided by Radioman Michael (Boomer) Weigel.
