

February 3, 1945. FWS

(Remarks by Rear Admiral F.A. Daubin, USN, Commandant, at commissioning ceremonies of U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS)

Commander Smith, Officers and men of the U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS:

Today, it gives me much pleasure to be aboard the U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS, and witness her commissioning. All of you have been awaiting this event, and I am sure that each one of you is proud to be a member of the crew of a fighting ship, designed and built to help defeat our enemies.

Materially, your ship is the product of the best engineering talent, and workmanship. In addition, her offensive power is greater than any enemy ship of equal tonnage. No finer destroyer has ever been built.

But splendid man-of-war that she is - she is not a fighter unless you make her so. Constant drill, constant attention to detail, will make you into a skillful and powerful fighting crew, so certain of your own power, that when the enemy is met, there will be no question of the outcome. The victor in a battle is the ship that is best trained.

Your ship is named in honor of Brigadier General Frank Edgar Evans, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired, who died in 1941. I am confident that you officers and men will do honor to his name and to the United States Navy.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief, I welcome you to the Fleet and to active service. The best of luck and God's blessings to you all.

And now it gives me pleasure to introduce Colonel H.L. Parsons, who is here today as personal representative of the Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

(Remarks by Colonel H. L. Parsons, U.S. Marine Corps
at commissioning ceremonies of U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS)

Mrs. Evans, Admiral Daubin, Commander Smith, Officers and men
of the U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps regrets that he is
unable to be present, and has designated me to represent him.

Brig. General Evans was born in Pennsylvania in 1876.
In the war with Spain, at the age of 21, he served as a private
in the First Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, and was mustered out
in November, 1898.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine
Corps in February, 1900 and served in the Philippines during
1903.

During the World War he sailed for France with the Sixth
Regiment of Marines in October, 1917, and participated in the
Aisne-Marne Defensive at Chateau Thierry and in the San Mihiel
Offensive.

For his conduct at Chateau Thierry he was awarded the
Navy Cross for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished
service.

General Evans held the good will and respect of all who
knew him. I know that this ship will earn a similar high
rating among the vessels of the Navy.

We wish you Good Training, Good Hunting and Good Luck.