



U.S.S. PHELPS SHIPMATES 7th Reunion

Marriott Hotel - Nashville, Tenn.
Sept. 22 - 25, 1982



In the gathering together, Sept. 22-25, 1982 at Nashville, Tenn., for the 7th Reunion of PHELPS Shipmates, there was a special feeling of friendship and closeness that has been developing since the First Reunion in Houston in 1969. It is, perhaps, a closeness even greater than any that ever really existed while aboard the USS PHELPS, for though it is built on the mutual dangers and duties of those days, it now has the reciprocal qualities of relationships with wives, families, and friends which time alone generates. It is beautiful, and it is comforting, and it is reflective of the common thought that 'there is something special about a PHELPS shipmate!'

In preparing this report many incidents and events heretofore mentioned in the BULL-HORN are omitted, since the prime purpose here is to give other values to those unable to attend, and to proudly present major actions & moments of interest. I hope it will meet with approval,-

Stan Parker

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ROSTER OF ATTENDANCE (**= First Reunion)

(Two shipmates, - Emile LaLande, MMLc, '38-45 & Ida; Leon McMahan, FLC, '36-39, & Corrine, came to Nashville but were not in attendance. Leon, because an emergency appendectomy put him the VA hospital in Nashville; and 'Frenchy' because a sudden death in the family required his immediate return home.)

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| **1. Bernard Alvey, SoM3c, '42-45
& Mary - Louisville, Ky. | 12. Leo Brown, TM3c, '41-45
& Gwen - Citrus Hgts., CA. |
| 2. Art Anderson, TM3c, '42-45
& 'Forchie' - Los Angeles, CA. | **13. Claude Carawan, QM3c, '44-45
& Isobel - Alexandria, Va. |
| 3. George Andrews, TMLc, '42-45
- San Jose, CA. | 14. RAdm. Dan Carlson, XO, '39-42
& Natalie - Clearwater, Fla. |
| 4. Charles Bahr, BM2c, '41-43
& Ruth - Orange, Tx. | 15. Bill Cauffman, QM2c, '42-45
& Gwen - McKittrick, CA. |
| 5. Tom Bailey, MMLc, '38-45
& Mickey - Danville, Ill. | 16. Henri Champagne, Cox, '40-43
& Madeleine - Dracut, Mass. |
| 6. Ira 'Joe' Baker, FCLc, '42-45
- Brooklyn, N.Y. | 17. Frank Chebetar, CSC, '41-45
& Joan - Virginia Beach, Va. |
| 7. RAdm. Ed Beck, CO, '41-43
- Bradenton, Fla. | 18. Charles Christen, CMM, '40-45
& Virginia - Charleston, S.C. |
| Lola Roth | 19. Frank Clark, Bmkr, '38-42
& Dorothy - Terre Haute, Ind. |
| Edward Beck Jr., | 20. Scotty Clark, MM2c, '40-42
& Melva - Bull Shoals, Ark. |
| & Pat | 21. Chet Colbert, MMLc, '40-42
& Ruth - Watsonville, CA. |
| **8. Jim Bedingfield, BM2c, '43-45
& Gloria - Nashville, Tenn. | 22. Walter Collins, MM2c, '42-45
- Laramie, Wyo. |
| 9. Gene Blythe, EM3c, '41-42
& Mary - Pascagoula, La. | 23. Frank Day Jr., TMC, '42-
& Marian - Santa Rosa, CA. |
| 10. Jim Boetje, TM2c, '43-44
& Shirley - Rock Island, Ill. | **24. Yves Dupre, BM2c, '35-37
& Rhea - Opelousas, La. |
| Hugh Epperson | 25. Ira Edwards, CTC, '41-43
- Theodosia, Mo. |
| & Alice | |
| Jack Miers | |
| & Helen | |
| 11. Charles Brock, RM2c, '41-44
& Margaret - Rossville, Ga. | |

26. RAdm. J.E. Edwards, Flag/CO, '41-43 **
& Millie - Glendale, CA.
27. Warren Ermish, FC3c, '44-45
& Anne - Douglaston, N.Y.
28. Harry Everly, TCLc, '40-45
& Fran - Pacifica, CA.
- **29. Thomas Fallon, RM3c, '44-45
& Margaret - Waldwick, N.J.
- **30. Frank Flynn, Slc, '45
- Chicago, Ill.
31. Cullen French, CPO, '35-44
& Anne - Auburn, Wash.
32. Wm. Golden, SC2c, '40-43
& Freda - Nebraska City, Neb.
33. Julian Gould, Y2c, '42-45
& Norma - Hollywood, CA.
34. Henry Griffoul, MMLc, '40-45
& Eileen - San Jose, CA.
35. Lee Hankins, BMLc, '42-44
& Mary Lou - Lakewood, Colo.
36. Fred Hansen, CWT, '41-44
& Ida - San Leandro, CA.
37. Thomas Harrison, Lt, '43-44
& Kathleen - Arlington, Va.
38. Gus Heller, Flag/Y, '43-45
& Rose - Closter, N.J.
39. Beecher Henderson, GMlc, '42-45
& Helen - Webster Groves, Mo.
40. Albert Kater, GM2c, '43-45
- Wichita, Kan.
41. Robert Kelly, FC3c,
- Buffalo, N.Y.
- **42. Richard Kenedy, TCLc, '36-39
& Julia - Tacoma, Wash.
Arlene Malcom (dtr)
43. Howard Kenyon, EM2c, '41-44
& Clarisse - Montgomery, Ill.
44. Leonard Kephart, WT2c, '41-44
& Barbara - Crystal Falls, Mich.
Leonard Jaborski
& Kay
45. Jack Kirbey, Flc, '41-42
- Laramie, Wyo.
46. Al Kolenda, EM2c, '43-45
& Betty - Sherman, Conn.
47. Capt. Bill Kurtz, Lt, '42-44
& Betty - Front Royal, Va.
48. Emile LaLande, MMLc, '38-45
& Ida - Jacksonville, Fla.
49. RAdm. Dick Lambert, Lt, '35-38
& Priscilla - Pittsburgh, Pa.
50. John Lawhon, GM2c, '38-43
& Lois - Summerville, S.C.
51. Bob Loftis, SM3c, '42-45
& Mary - Grand Rapids, Mich.
52. Russ Lott, Cox, '41-43
- Ft. Dodge, Iowa
53. James Love, FC3c, '42-45
& Betty - Springfield, Pa.
- **54. Dom Mangone, SCLc, '42-45
& Theresa - Poland, Ohio.
55. Luke Marden, SoMLc, '42-45
& Fran - Camino, CA.
56. Leon McMahan, Flc, '36-39
& Corinne - San Diego, CA.
57. Harvey Michael, EMlc, '40-45
- San Francisco, CA.
58. Mack Miller, GMlc, '41-45
& Vivian - Greensboro, N.C.
59. Albert Neny, MMLc, '42-45
- Birmingham, Ala.
60. Tony Oliverio, TM3c, '39-40
& Sivvy - Waterford, Conn.
61. Stan Parker, Slc (Rdm), '44-45
- St. Paul, Minn.
62. Dr. Ralph Pelegrin, Lt(MD), '43-45
& Jaye - Cleveland Hghts., O.
63. Jess Peters, Rdm3c, '42-44
& Lorena - Portage, Ind.
64. Harold Placette, Rdmlc, '40-45
& Gloria - Port Arthur, Tx.
65. Charles Quinlan, MM2c, '43-45
& Edna - Park Forest, Ill.
66. Dr. Max Rosenfeld, Rdm3c, '44-45
& Maxine - Silver Spring, Md.
- **67. John Rymal, FCLc, '40-45
& Mary - Newark, Ark.
68. LtCdr. Clarence Sasse, CTC, '40-4
& Alma - Norfolk, Va.
69. Jim Seddon, WTLc, '43-44
& Mary - Victorville, CA.
70. Alton Seeliger, SK3c, '44-45
& Alvira - Lockhart, Tx.
71. Cdr. Robert Stampley, Lt, '43-44
& Peggy - Long Beach, CA.
72. George Stodola, SF, '40-43
- Cape Coral, Fla.
- **73. Seldon Stout, SK3c, '38-41
& Betty - Maryland Hghts., Mo.
74. Lee Roy Tatom, WT2c, '42-44
& Hazel - Kountze, Tx.
75. J 'Tommy' Thompson, FC2c, '43-45
& Joyce - Atlanta, Ga.
- **76. Bill Triska, RMLc, '36-37
& Jane - Lake Havasu City, AZ
77. Gil Turner, GM3c, '44-45
& Earleen - Covina, CA.
78. Bill Wavak, Flc, '45
& Josephine - Westmont, Ill.
79. Joe White, RMLc, '42-45
& Steffie - Yucaipa, CA.
80. Joe Wise, CSM, '40-45
- Salem, Mo.
81. Don Yeager, SKlc, '38-42
& Esther - La Mesa, Ca.
82. Clint Zachry, FCLc, '40-45
& Doris - Ventura, CA.
83. Ralph Zingg, BMLc, '36-41
- Davenport, Iowa.

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 1982

Though several Shipmates arrived earlier the influx began on Wednesday, with Gwen Brown and the unofficial PHELPS auxiliary taking registrations & giving-out program brochures. Without an official hospitality room it was a day for individual reunion and social activities.

Thursday, Sept. 23, 1982

With still more arrivals, the hospitality room was in full swing, with displays of PHELPS mementoes and pictures, refreshments, and the recounting of 'big sea stories'. Courtesy of Dr. Ralph Pelegrin & Harold Placette a continuous showing of WW II PHELPS slides and previous reunions, plus albums, personal records, etc., were of interest to all. A Board of Directors meeting was held in the afternoon & the evening found a big attendance at the 'Country Style' dance, with music by the "Knott Brothers", which lasted until midnight.

Friday, Sept. 24, 1982

With almost the full-quota of Shipmates, families, & friends present and registered, the regular Business Meeting of Shipmates was held at 10 A.M. It was the customary informal get-together of the 'ship's company' with greetings and meetings predominant in a convivial atmosphere. Recognition was given to Gwen Brown & her ladies for handling the registrations, to Gil Turner & his wife, Earleen, for their donation of the beautiful afghan being raffled to raise funds, as well as to LtCdr. Sasse for his carved gun-rack & hurricane lamp, also being raffled. After long, open discussion, it was voted to hold the 1984 (8th) PHELPS Reunion in San Francisco, pending suitable agreement on hotel prices and arrangements. Second, and substitute choice, was Charleston, S.C., with Charles (Pat) Christen describing Charleston's facilities, and Henry Griffoul outlining San Francisco's delights. Vice-President Bob Loftis then suggested a 'tarpaulin muster' (known in PHELPS' circles as "passing Lee Roy Tatom's cowboy hat"! - which started in Houston.) with the magnificent contribution of \$1,290.00 to the Shipmate's Fund! Harold then opened a gift-wrapped package, presented by Frank Chebetar. It was a brass 'ship's bell' mounted in a hand-carved wood frame, with the lettering: USS PHELPS SHIPMATES - 1936-1945. Chebetar's accompanying note read:

"I'd like to present to you this small memento in remembrance of our fellow shipmates, past or present, as we come together every two years from different parts of the country for a reunion., and so we can pause and remember those who served on the USS PHELPS, DD 360."

Cullen French, as Chief of the Ship, then came forward, and the ringing of 'Eight Bells' was followed by a long moment of 'memory silence'. Stan Parker then said a few words about "The Bull horn" & described the chance-selection of a "MR. PHELPS" for each reunion year, - & the awarding of the Cdr. Sasse trophy: in 1978 (two), Adm. Bob Erly & 'Shanghai' Hansen; in 1980, Henry Griffoul. (Prior to the meeting Leo Brown had given Stan the number '8'; and Tom Bailey the number '3'.) Counting seat #8 in row #3 designated Cullen French as "Mr. PHELPS of 1982", and there was a big round of applause. The meeting then adjourned.

At 1:30 P.M. in the hospitality room, Joe White & George Stodola showed movies taken at all previous reunions, beginning in 1969, with appropriate background music, which was heartily enjoyed by all. (During the reunion Joe White also played a personal tape he had made describing the Battle of Saipan in 1944, which he backgrounded with sound effects, etc.) Ralph Zingg also entertained with expert, dramatic poetry.

At 6:30 everyone gathered at a cash bar, & the shipmates had a group picture taken in the dining hall. This was followed by the,-

"For the Good Times" Reunion Banquet

As Master of Ceremonies, Luke Marden had the Colors advanced by the Color Detail,- George Stodola, Pat Christen, Mike Michael & Henri Champagne. ('j j' Lewis, who was to have been a part of the Color Guard, was unable to attend because of major surgery.)

Max Rosenfeld then gave the following Invocation:

"Dear Lord, we ask your blessing on this gathering of gallant men, their families and friends, who have come from near and far to this place, at this time, to kindle anew old friendships. We thank You for inspiring Harold and Stanley for preparing these occasions, and those who have helped them. We thank You for sustaining us in battle and during the routines of shipboard life, and ashore, and also for sustaining us in the years that have ensued since we left that ship that was our work, and was our home, and was so much more than that to all of us. We also thank You for the privilege of getting together with wives and loved ones, and our shipmates. This has been a blessing to us all. We ask You for your blessings on our shipmates who are not able to this time, and to remember those who are no longer living. We pray that You sustain us in prosperity and health until we meet again,- as we all say, Amen . . ."

All joined in singing "The Star Spangled Banner" and there followed a "Moment of Silence" in memory of departed shipmates.

The buffet dinner was then served & enjoyed by all.

MC Luke Marden then made a few announcements & introduced those at the head table: Max & Maxine Rosenfeld, Bob & Mary Loftis, Stan Parker, Harold & Gloria Placette, and Luke's wife, Fran. He then read the names of the outgoing officers and introduced the newly-elected officers:

Vice-President Cullen French. Directors,- Jim Boetje, Frank Chebetar, Charles 'Pat' Christen, Lee Hankins, Albert Neny, Jess Peters, 'Tommy' Thompson, & LeeRoy Tatom.

The 'plankowners' present were then introduced: Yves Dupre, Cullen French, Richard Kenedy, RAdm. Dick Lambert, Bill Triska, & Ralph Zingg. Those attending their first reunion were asked to stand. They were,- Bernard Alvey, Jim Bedingfield, Claude Carawan, Yves Dupre, Tom Fallon, Frank Flynn, Dick Kenedy, Dom Mangone, John Rymal, Seldon Stout, & Bill Triska. The absence of Gil Allan, Leon McMahan, Emile LaLande & J.J. Lewis was given mention, and the Color Guard was introduced & given a round of applause. Thanks and applause were given to Joe Baker for printing the programs, to Earleen Turner for donating the afghan for raffle, to Warren Ermish for the PHELPS bumper-stickers, to CDR Sasse for donating the rifle rack and hurricane lamp for raffle, and to Frank Chebetar for the Memorial Ship's Bell.

Before reading the prepared 'Keynote Address' of Gil Allan, Luke Marden made mention of the reasons for Gil's absence.

The Master of Ceremonies then read:

"Returning Patriotism to America"

by

Gilbert Allan

Mr. President, Shipmates, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,- first, I would like to thank Harold and Stan for the honor they bestowed on me in asking me to speak at this reunion.

When Harold first phoned me it was his thought that it would be nice to speak about the final days of the PHELPS, from our last Atlantic crossing until she was decommissioned in Brooklyn. After much soul-searching, I wrote Harold as I promised I would, and told him that I'd be happy to speak but that I felt there were other things more appropriate for the occasion. I told

Harold that I would like to express how patriotism was a real part of our way of life, and what we, as veterans, might do to instill this same pride in our country in our young people today. Harold responded that he concurred with me that this was a very worthy topic and gave me the 'green light'.

Patriotism, or rather the disturbing lack of it, is one of the pressing concerns facing America today. This dangerous attitude can be seen in the growing trend toward indifference to America, her values and ideals, and it is a significant threat to our national security.

During the last 4th of July week one of our local newspapers, to illustrate my point, devoted a column to interviews of grammar school age children, and their replies to the question, - "What is the meaning of the July 4th National Holiday?" To summarize their responses, - it seems that July 4th is the day to shoot firecrackers! When most of us in this room were of grammar school age the 4th of July holiday was marked with patriotic speeches, a parade, and then finally, the fireworks as a climax to the day's activities. All of us, however, had a basic knowledge of what the independence of our country meant and why we were celebrating the occasion.

As Thomas Palmer has stated, we (and certainly most of us here this evening) look back on Pearl Harbor as a great line of demarcation in our lives. It was the event that transformed many of us from teenagers to maturity in a remarkably short time. The war-time years that followed Pearl Harbor were interlaced with hardship, exhilaration, accomplishment, and sometimes suffering. But, on balance, we were a privileged group, - participants in a great communal effort, united by clearly understood national goals. It is difficult to explain the pride we felt, our sense of brotherhood, and the intensity of our dedication. In the decades that followed, national idealism was diluted and cynicism strengthened, and it has become unfashionable to think in terms of common goals. We, as a society, have perhaps more to fear in the diminutive trend of our national spirit than in any overt military attack. I believe that only during the crisis with Iran was a hint of this national unity experienced since World War II.

Next month is the Navy's official birthday. This commemorates the date 207 years ago that the Continental Congress appointed a committee to outfit two vessels with 24 guns to cruise the Atlantic Ocean and intercept British transports. Since that time, the hardware we use in the defense of our country has changed radically but it is still manned by America's youth.

When Harold first asked me to speak, the Navy, as well as the other branches of our services and our country in general, was faced with the terrible problem of drugs. At first, I had planned to dwell on this to some extent, but since that time, thankfully, the Navy has taken steps to correct this situation. The last Chief of Naval Operations, Thomas B. Hayward, approached the problem with several bywords, - such as 'Pride and professionalism', - meaning the Navy is trying to attract 'higher qualified, better prepared' young people; and a second byword is 'Not on my watch; not on my ship; not in my Navy' which illustrates a growing intolerance for drug abuse in the Navy.

I recall the statement of one of our Congressmen who came forth with the opinion that "boredom and loneliness" led 60-percent of the 425 young sailors surveyed aboard the aircraft carrier FORRESTAL to admit they used drugs or alcohol while the ship patrolled in the Mediterranean Sea. The type of 'high' that our servicemen should endeavor to attain is the natural one that comes from accomplishing something worth doing, - knowing you've done your job as well as you possibly can. With this approach, there will be no time for boredom or loneliness!

I'll never forget the thrill we experienced when the PHELPS pulled into

Dutch Harbor after successfully participating in the campaign to win back Attu. A crowd of local townspeople were on the dock and roof-tops cheering, and they even had a makeshift band playing for us! This is the type of 'high' our young service people should reach for,- and not one from a pill or needle!

Of course, one of the big problems/^{has} been, as Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale has stated, that our all-volunteer force entices people into the armed services by promising such things as a choice of duty station, specialized training, educational credits and higher salaries, etc. But the factors that have kept this nation free for the last 200 years,- namely, 'duty, honor, and country' are not stressed and are not a major reason for people joining the armed forces today. History has shown that people committed to their country and bound by a common duty win wars and maintain deterrence.

One cannot speak of patriotism without automatically thinking of freedom, and then, of course, follows the necessity of staying strong to preserve that freedom. We should count our blessings for the freedom we have, but every American has an obligation to serve his country in some way to preserve these freedoms.

One of the local columnists in Charleston, Ashley Cooper, summed-up the situation pretty well in an article recently, as he stated: "All through history, as inevitably as death following life and Winter following Fall,- countries which have not been able or willing to defend themselves have been conquered and enslaved . . .". So the question comes down to whether mankind has changed since World War II, to the extent that there are no longer any ruthless countries eager to conquer the weak and to spread their influence around the world. The answer to that is so plain that it's hard to see why our bright young people don't grasp it immediately.

The Soviet Union is the classic example. In the last 40 years, the Russians have extended their empire east all the way to the Pacific, and west to include half of Germany, Czechoslovakia, etc. Just within the last couple of years they've seized Afghanistan and tightened the noose around Poland. They have gone into Ethiopia and other African countries; they have recruited Cuba; and they are sending arms and military strategists into Central America. So what do we need to convince our draft dodgers and the 'books not bombs' advocates that Russia will seize us the very moment we become either unwilling or unable to defend ourselves? We must band together and decide, as did our forefathers, that liberty was, and is, worth dying for.

The war that is being waged today is a propaganda war, a struggle for the hearts and minds of people. Those of us fortunate enough to live in a democracy have an enormous armory of weapons to choose from to fight this war.

The Commander of the Charleston Naval Base recently made the statement that being an American is a privilege that brings with it a special responsibility. We live in freedom in a beautiful and bountiful land, a privilege enjoyed by too few of the world's people. Our freedom must never be taken for granted. As Americans, each of us is responsible and accountable to ensure that the liberty we hold so dear is preserved.

The dedicated men and women of our armed forces today are stationed around the globe, as a symbol of the principles upon which America was founded. They serve not only their country, but also all freedom-loving people of the world.

In 1774, Patrick Henry was sent by Virginia as a delegate to the First Continental Congress. The next year, at the second revolutionary Convention called in Virginia, he made his most frequently quoted speech, in urging the colony to arm its militia: "Gentlemen may cry 'Peace! Peace!' he said, "but there is no peace! The war is actually begun! Our brethren are already in the field. Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others

may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

I feel strongly that it is the responsibility of all in this room, as well as all of the older generation, to take more time to explain just what freedom in America is, and take steps to instill this spirit in our youth, so that in the event they ever have to make a decision, as expressed by Patrick Henry, they will make the right decision without hesitation.

I also feel that our organization, as well as other service groups, should bring pressure to bear on our newscasters, particularly those in television, to give us a balanced picture of the Communist countries. What they've shown our children of Red China is the Great Wall, zoos with unusual animals, and the fact that the Chinese are expert at ping-pong! So that our young Americans can evaluate China properly, - also tell of the political prisons where citizens are thrown if they utter any criticism of the regime. Prisons where 'brain-washing' and beatings go on constantly until the so-called offenders are no longer deemed to be effective in society, - then, and only then, are they released. And what has television really shown us of Russia, - other than televising their athletic achievements and their great ballet? Let our newscasters balance this with a report about the fear that strikes every household when there is a knock at the door late at night and the fact that the mother and father may be taken away and never be seen or heard from again! Every communistic country in the world takes a 'pot shot' at America every chance they get and I think it's time our reporting on them goes deeper than ping-pong or ballet. Give our youth all of the facts and they'll make the right decisions, - and they will return patriotism to America!

I would like to conclude with these words from another great American, - Abraham Lincoln . . . "From our honored dead we must take increased devotion, and highly resolve that our dead shall not have died in vain, that our nation, under God, shall be secure in its freedom" Thankyou . . .

(Shipmates may obtain verbatim cassette-tapes of both the business meeting and the banquet. by sending \$2.00 to: Joe White,

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The latter part of the banquet program included presentation of honorary plaques to Gil Allan (in absentia); to Luke Marden; and to "The Sweetheart of USS PHELPS Shipmates", Gwen Brown. Vice-President Bob Loftis read the following letter from RAdm. David L. Martineau (Commanding Officer, 1943-44):

"I deeply regret that circumstances make it impossible for me to be with you at the 1982 Reunion of shipmates who served on our great destroyer PHELPS during World War II.

It was my honor and privilege to have commanded PHELPS during that part of her long participation in the war, - from Roi-Namur and Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands, to the operations against Palau, to her last Pacific action at Saipan in mid-1944, then on to the Atlantic where she spent the remainder of the war. PHELPS was one of the few ships in the Navy that served on front-line duty from Pearl Harbor to the final victory in 1945.

The exceptional performance of duty, self-disciplined teamwork and great spirit of the entire ship's company enabled PHELPS to serve throughout the war with outstanding success, smartness, and a can-do spirit second to none, and which still prevails.

Serving the Navy and our country on board PHELPS was something special. It also marked a period in our lives that we can all look back on with everlasting pride and satisfaction - with many memories which I am sure will be the source of many sea stories and old yarns re-told at this reunion.

I also regret that I will miss out on hearing this year's keynote address by Gil Allan. During his three years on PHELPS, Gil kept his own war diary. I have had the pleasure of reading it, and found it to be one of the best I have seen anywhere. I know that Gil will make a great talk.

Again this year we all salute Harold Placette, Stan Parker and the others who have done so much to keep this wonderful organization of PHELPS Shipmates moving ahead and serving us all.

To all our shipmates at this reunion, I send my sincere greetings and every best wish. I am proud to have been your Captain, and look forward to being with you at the next reunion."

s/ David L. Martineau

Harold Placette then asked for indulgence for the cassette-tape reading, by Ralph Zingg, plank-owner, of a poem by Mary Lang, entitled: "The Day of Infamy". After some further acknowledgements the banquet ended and most everyone retired to the hospitality room.

Saturday, September 25th

While awaiting the 11 o'clock Grand Old Opry Tour buses, many of the shipmates, wives, & friends were entertained (and took pictures) of the young crack drill unit of the First Infantry from Washington, D.C., who were preparing an appearance for the Grand Old Opry and practicing on the Marriott Hotel parking area. With their flashing chrome-plated rifles and bayonets they were a most colorful group.

Three full-loaded tour buses took the PHELPS party to historical spots in Nashville, with a final stop to see the Grand Old Op'ry. They returned to the hotel about 5:30 P.M. and the reunion culminated in a lively, impromptu party in the hospitality room that lasted 'til midnight . . .

Sunday, Sept. 26th

It was "Bon voyage and farewell" for many, with some gathering later in the day at Knoxville, while attending the World's Fair. But the good word was:

"See you once more in '84 . . . !"