Health, Prosperity and Enjoyment to everyone; Every second, minute, hour, and day in which we are priviledged to be present!

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A decade of reunions … Back Page
Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group Completes
Seven-Month Deployment

From USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Nearly 7,000 Sailors and Marines deployed with the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (CSG) returned to their homeports Dec. 20, following a seven-month deployment.

The Norfolk-based Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3, guided-missile cruiser USS Normandy (CG 60) and guided-missile destroyers USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81), USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79) and USS Ross (DDG 71) returned after supporting Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in Afghanistan, Operation New Dawn (OND) in Iraq and maritime security operations in the Mediterranean Sea.

"This has been a great deployment because of the hard work and professionalism of our Sailors and Marines over the last seven months," said Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, commander, Harry S. Truman CSG. "Whether conducting combat flight operations in support of U.S. and coalition ground forces in Afghanistan, preventing piracy on the open seas, or interacting with the local community during well-deserved port visits, the strike group represented themselves and their country with the greatest pride and professionalism."

Shortly after departing Norfolk May 21, the Truman CSG participated in the 100th anniversary of French naval aviation celebration. French aircraft landed and catapaulted off Truman, while F/A-18s and E-2s from CVW 3 touched down on the French nuclear aircraft carrier CVN Charles de Gaulle (R 91). French maintenance crews embarked aboard Truman to conduct a practice engine change on a French Rafale F3 in Truman's hangar bay.

The Truman CSG joined the 5th Fleet Area of Operations in June 2010 and began combat operations in support of OEF and OND. During the next five months, CVW 3 aircrews flew 2,915 missions into Afghanistan and Iraq, providing vital close air support to coalition forces on the ground.

"Our success in support of OEF and OND is a glowing testament to world-class training, the high caliber of men and women who volunteer to serve and the manner in which they came together to perform as a mission-focused team," said Capt. Jay Synum, commander, CVW 3. "We are so thankful and blessed to be returning home with all our Sailors, Marines and aircraft and to be reunited with our families to enjoy the holiday season."

While operating in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, several Truman CSG ships rescued mariners adrift at sea. The visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) teams from Winston S. Churchill rescued 62 distressed mariners after their dhow capsized in the Gulf of Aden Sept. 27, while the VBSS team from Oscar Austin provided assistance to two Iranian mariners after their dhow sank Nov. 18.

"Whether conducting counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden, operating with the Harry S. Truman in the Northern Arabian Sea, or conducting escort operations and other duties in the Arabian Gulf, the ships of Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 26 were essential in maintaining peace and stability throughout the 5th Fleet AOR," said Capt. Bob Barwis, commander, DESRON 26.

Returning a few days before Christmas, the leadership aboard Truman is both proud and thankful to have safely achieved so much while deployed for 213 days and travelling nearly 55,000 nautical miles.

"It is truly wonderful to return to our homeport and reunite with our families and loved ones after seven months at sea," said Capt. Joe Clarkson, Harry S. Truman's commanding officer. "With the invaluable support of family and friends throughout this deployment, we accomplished the mission we were sent to do, and it is good to be home to celebrate the holidays with our families."

For more news from USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), visit www.navy.mil/local/cvn75/.
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on this extraordinary ship in service to their country whether at times of war or peace

President’s Report

Well here we are into another New Year! I’m hopeful this year will go as our New Years Eve Party went; it was one of the best I’ve ever gone to. Good friends, good music & food! What else can you ask for? I hope all of you have a great New Year!

I don’t know how Dave Long is going to do any better then he did in Tampa, but I know he will surely try! At this time of the year, Dave is trying to lock in some good rates for the hotel and tours. I am sure we’ll be hearing from him in the upcoming months as things come together. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Jackie and I were in Indianapolis just last summer for our VFW National convention. I had never been there before other then to drive through it, and I was very impressed. If you like nightlife and an active downtown area, this place will not disappoint you. There are a lot of good restaurants to choose from. There are also several casinos in driving distance if you’re into that!

If you’re new to our group, let me be one of the first to welcome you! And if you haven’t been to one of our reunions, let me tell you, you have no idea how much fun your missing. We’ve been doing them for a long time, and I think we’ve gotten it down pretty well. But, the biggest thing you’re missing out on is the people! Most members, who come for the first one, usually come back time and again. If we’re near you area of the country, you should really think about coming to see for yourself. If you enjoyed your time on the Mighty Mac, I can promise you’ll enjoy our reunions!

The day-to-day business of our association seems to be on track and uneventful. I just love it when you have such competent people running things. Having done many of the jobs my associates are doing, I know what dedication they have to make sure things of going in the right direction. Had I know being President would be so easy; I’d have done it long before this. We are very fortunate to have people who are willing to further our association through their efforts. And, I can see that we will have other new people coming up to step in and take their turn at directing our destiny. It’s truly the strength of our association.

Now that we’re into 2011, we can begin thinking about the Indianapolis Reunion in September. As soon as Dave gives us the details, make sure to set those dates aside on your calendar. In the mean time, I’m hoping for some really nice weather, better health and better government! Please keep your loved ones in your heart, and those needing care in your thoughts. Wishing you all smooth seas and following winds!

Yours in service,
Dennis Pilny

Radio Press News    USS Mt. McKinley July 26, 1944
(Excerpts from a shipboard newsletter)
(The Mt Mac was crossing the Equator later that same day)

United States Headquarters in Normandy:-
American troops have opened a coordinated offensive against the Germans. The advance was preceded by heavy air bombardment. The Germans are resisting furiously.

London:-
Adolf Hitler appointed Reich Marshal Hermann Goering Chairman of the Council for Defense of the Reich Tuesday night, and issued a decree ordering total mobilization of Germany and occupied territories. Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels was appointed Reich’s Commissioner for the total war effort, an announcement by DNB official news agency said. Earlier, Heinrich Himmler had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the German Army after a bomb attempt on Hitler’s life last Thursday. The bulletin said Goering himself appointed Goebbels Commissioner for the total War effort. The changes came as the Russians pounded closer to Germany.

Salt Lake City:-
Trailing four strokes at the end of two days play Philadelphia’s Harold McSpaden shot a record 63 Sunday on the 6,575 yard Fort Douglas course and then turned the final 18 holes in par 72, to snatch the $2500 Utah Open from Byron Nelson, of Toledo Ohio

“Crack of the Bat”

BB American:– Boston 7– Detroit 3 , Washington 6– Chicago 9    BB National:– Pittsburgh 15– New York 0, Chicago 14– Brooklyn 6, Cincinnati 6– Boston 2
On Dec 6th it started all over again. 30 planes from the south 10 from the west, hit Dulag, Tanauan, and Tacloban. We are anchored about between Tanauan and Tacloban. One plane came in only 100 feet high and flew completely around San Pedro Bay, under fire the whole time. Three were knocked down by AA fire before the Marine Night Fighters drove them off. We all feel the Japs are up to something for Dec 7th, tomorrow, well, so are we (up to something). Landing will be made on Ormac Bay on the other side of the Island 60 miles from here. So they will get a surprise too. 23 bombers and 9 fighters (Japs) were reported heading for Mindanao at 2000 this evening. We expect to hear from them before long. The Cruisers Portland, Nashville, Boise, and Phoenix, left at sunset. We had three air-raids during the night.

Dec. 7th We pulled our landing on Ormac Bay. They were under air attack all day. The Japs tried to land 11 ships at Northern Leyte, Our planes sunk 8 of them, and are hunting down the remaining 3. 68 planes hit them in our first air strike. Then all day long the fighters shuttled back and forth over the mountains.

We are only 30 miles East of Ormac Bay and 70 miles from where the Japs tried to land on Leyte. We lost one ship (APD-16) in the landings, That's the only report so far.

It is now Dec 15th—The Army and Navy pulled another surprise. They landed on Mindinao– All the was across the islands from here. There was no opposition to the landing itself, but enroute the ships tangled with a group of suicide planes. A Cruiser was hit killing 125 men, A Destroyer was hit with 47 casualties and an LCM was sunk.

Almost daily another Destroyer is badly damaged by being hit by a suicide plane. Especially around Ormac Bay between Leyte and Cebu. Several (Destroyers) had to be towed in. The results on a ship from a suicide attack is dreadful, no alone in damage, but in loss of life. There are six disabled Destroyers in here now, some of them badly mangled too. These “Suicide Planes” are really bad. One got in here yesterday and crashed into a Tanker before anyone knew it was here. No one even had time to fire a single shot at it before it dove and hit. We will probably be here a while longer. Altho we all want to get into another scrap. We have at least some protection by our planes in here. It's just that hanging around always gets us mad… Fourteen months in rank today, wonder when I'll make the next step up???

In 31 days we have had 97 General Quarters and about 125 red alerts. The majority of G.Q’s saw enemy planes here and there was shooting done. There have been 25 planes knocked down over us here. (continued page 7)
# Mount McKinley Ship's Store - Order Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Size / Color / Style</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Golf Shirt</td>
<td>Navy Blue S, M, L, XL</td>
<td>29.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Short Sleeve, 100% Heavyweight Cotton)</td>
<td>XXL, XXXL</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Baseball Caps</td>
<td>Khaki, Navy Blue, Stone w/ Navy bill One Size - Adjustable</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ship's Patches</td>
<td>3 1/4&quot; Mountain, 6&quot; Diesel Gang Patch, 5&quot; Association Mermaid/Turtle, Task Force 90 Patch, Snipe Force Patch</td>
<td>5.00 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Laser Engraved Key Tag</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>&quot;Master Engraved&quot; by Dick Armstrong</td>
<td>Red Cover 1944-1970 (listing of all years)</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Custom Laser Engraved Plaque</td>
<td>Includes your name, division and years of service</td>
<td>65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Call Steve Schermerhorn 574-831-2843 for special order form</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>&quot;Cruising in the Mac&quot; by Ken Boenitz</td>
<td>A Chronology – USS Mount McKinley, AGC – 7, 1944-1970</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Matted Color Print</td>
<td>16&quot;X20&quot; Matted Color Print on Canvas</td>
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More items are listed on the website ussmtmckinley.com New items will be available at the USS Mount McKinley Association Fall Reunion.

Make Checks Payable to: USS Mount McKinley Association
Mail Order to: USS Mount McKinley Ship Store c/o Steve Schermerhorn
69272 County Road 23 New Paris, IN 46553

Subtotal
Shipping 5.00
Total

Ship to information: Please Print Clearly or attach your address label

Name__________________________ Address__________________________

City__________________________ State__________________________ Zip__________________________

Phone # area code (_________) E-mail address__________________________
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on this extraordinary ship in service to their country whether in times of war or peace

New members since 9/30/10
Welcome aboard
10/2010-Skipper, Clarence (Skip)
51-55 re-joined # 612 EN2 “A” Div

12/2010-Call Harold D.
66-67 # 1188 PH2 OA Div

12/2010 Sailors, James T.
59-60 ET2 01 Div

Notified deceased since 9/30/10
Stokes, Lloyd F. QM1
Passed away 10/10/10
#977 46-48 -Flag

Depoorter, Chuck EM3
Passed away 12/6/2010
#672 49-52 EM3 “E” Div.

Final Salute!

Longaberger*
Mary Ruth Halas
Independent home Consultant
5502 Schueller Blvd
Sheffield OH 44054-2300
(H) 440-934-0565
Cell-440-396-3992
mhalas2001@yahoo.com
www.longaberger.com/maryruthhalas
Jan/Feb Specials: Super Bowl XL V
Basket Set- Key to my Heart Basket Set.
Contact Mary for more information

USS MOUNT MCKINLEY ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Year end December 2010

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Cash/Asset</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>TD Bank *Checking</td>
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<td>Ship Store Cash sales @ reunion</td>
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<td>Annual Membership Dues</td>
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<td>Life Membership dues</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Refund Marriot Overcharge rec’d</td>
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<td>Less Total Expenses YTD</td>
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* Bank Name change from American First to TD Bank

• Total Assets as of 1/1/2010

* $37,357.45
Dec 19th

Finds us at Leyte. We have had one more air raid a NELL tried to crash dive us, but he was shot down about 500 yards before he reached our stern.

Dec 23rd

At 1400 we left Leyte bound for Seeadler Harbor-Manus. To pick up a new Flag and go off to another operation—probably Luzon. It is rumored that we will only be there 1 & 1/2 days before we are on our way again, but that remains to be seen.

Dec 28th

We arrived at Seeadler Harbor in the Admiralties, the trip down was very quiet and even tho I was busy as hell, it was very enjoyable.

Dec 30th

Finds us already to leave again. We will anchor at 0700 and join up outside the Harbor. The sip will be Fleet Guide for a nine day run up to Linayen Gulf on Luzon. It’s going to be a tremendous operation and we will land about 250 thousand men; The 37th and 42nd Div. Sixth Army. Our Admiral’s name is Kiland and most of his staff were at Normandy, so the Atlantic Sailors are really coming out this way.

Our route will take us thru Surigao Strait across the Mindinao and Sulu Seas out into the China Sea then up to the Gulf right past Manilla. We hope the Japs have used up their Suicide Planes. We have no use for them at all. 165 sacks of mail were sent up to Hollandia three days before we arrived here. So... as usual we got little or no mail (darn it)

January 4th, 1945

We are about 200 miles beyond Palau and due to hit the Leyte Gulf at 0430 day after tomorrow, then the fun will begin. We have had five submarine contacts in the last two days. Plenty of depth charges were dropped too. In fact, one DE is sitting on one (submarine) way astern of us right now. We are all set and ready to go with 64 ships in our outfit. More will pour in from Hollandia, Palau, Guam, Saipan and Leyte Gulf. We expect to put 1/4 million men ashore, with all the stuff that goes with them. It sure will be some show.

Admiral Halsey is up North with his gigantic fleet, waiting for the Jap fleet to try and stop us. We hope they try......

At 0430 Tomorrow, 6, January-we will be back in Leyte Gulf then down through the Surigao Straits into Mindinao and the Sulu Sea, up thru the Mindinao Strait, into the China Sea, passing 50 miles outside of Manilla, and in broad daylight too. We will be only 62 miles from the airfield used by the “Kamakachi” the Jap Suicide Planes. Nice! Eh what? We expect to have a rather busy time from tomorrow on, and are due in Lingayen Gulf 0930 Jan. 9th, another day for the history books.
This Newsletter is dedicated to all of the men who served on this extraordinary ship in service to their country whether in time of war or peace.

USS Mt McKinley Association - Our Purpose: To Promote Patriotism and Camaraderie among those who served on board the USS Mt. McKinley during that ship’s 25 years and 10 months active service to the U.S. Navy from May 1st 1944 (Commissioned) to March 26th 1970 (De-Commissioned)

USS Mt McKinley Association 2011 Reunion will be in Indianapolis, Indiana. Start making your plans to be there! More details will be forthcoming in the future Mastheads and on our Web Page.

Pictures and interesting sights from previous decade of reunions 2000-2010

Reunion 2010 Tampa, FL
Reunion 2009-Corpus Christi, TX
Reunion 2008 Reno, Nevada
Reunion 2007 Buffalo, NY-Niagara

Reunion 2006 Dayton, Ohio
Reunion 2005 Charleston, SC
Reunion 2004 Branson, Mo
Reunion 2003 San Francisco, CA

Reunion 2002 Washington, D.C.
Reunion 2001 Cleveland, OH
Reunion 2000 Newport R.I.
Reunion 2011 Indianapolis, IN

Picture you and yours here! Indianapolis!