

### Good Ship Daniel Jay Completes Its Mission in War

On the fifth of January 1945 we set our course for Mindoro, an island on the western expanse of the Philippines. One day out from our destination we heard some startling news—a concentrated air attack by the Japs had destroyed many ships, wreaked havoc and destruction on the shore installations. This was definitely no morale builder, but we sailed on to a future of uncertainty, perhaps annihilation. The following morning as we steamed into Mangarin bay Mindoro, except for the burning burning ships and wrecked shore facilities it was a picture of serenity and we even had movies on the fantail with the scars of war surrounding us.

The officers and men started wondering was this a ship they were, or a myth, a fantasy. They knew one thing for certain as long as they were out in the Pacific they didn't want to get off the Daniel A. Joy. She was the finest vessel in the navy, and they wouldn't trade her for the biggest battlewagon of the fleet.

The men's love and faith in me were all I desired and I knew now we were partners for the remainder of this war. I only hoped I would always be able to live up to their wildest expectations, and carry them safely back to the land they loved.

On the 11th of January we again headed north to Lingayen gulf and found a once blazing hell very very peaceful.

For several months we operated between Lingayen and Mindoro doing various jobs such as patrol, escort work, duty on the ping line at Ligayen and rescue work.

On the 4th of March we sailed for Leyte and then escorted a convoy back to Manus in the Admiralties.

Upon our return to Leyte in the middle of April I went into dry-dock for what I hoped a good overhaul, but 'twas only 48 hours so the crew worked day and night, painting my sides and getting me ready for sea. Then on 19 April we again set our course for the western Philippines. First stop was Puerta Princesa Harbor in Palawan. Then on 22 April, 1945 we took the first large convoy into Manila. American planes were bombing the islands around Corregidor as we steamed into Manila bay.

Manila, the pride of the Philippines, was in smoking ruins. The harbor was cluttered with sunken ships and there was hardly a building left standing. Between the Japs and our own shelling, the city was a picture of complete devastation.

After several other trips were made to Leyte, Mindoro and Cebu, on the 26th of May we took over the Fox patrol from Subic Bay to Mindoro.

This patrol really rendered us a sorely needed rest. We split the duty with several other destroyer escorts and thus had about a third of the time in port. Along with submarine search we played nurse maid to all the ships running north and south, getting them by and off the reefs; the most dangerous was Apo, a large mid-channel reef off Mindoro. We were also sent on rescue trips and mail runs along the western Philippines.

We kept the Fox patrol for about two months and then on August 10, we had orders to take a slow tow north to the Ryuku chain. Yes, we were to go to that already famous rendezvous, where the navy had lost more ships and personnel than ever before in its history—the Island of Okinawa Shima.

So we steamed out of Manila Bay and had just passed Corregidor at 2230 and set our course on 350 (T) when the signalman intercepted a blinker from the Island Fortress which said Japan had capitulated. It came over in plain language in the radio shack and although all hands were asleep it wasn't long before everyone was out and shouting, "Danny Boy really did it this time." This announcement of surrender was not official however, but was made so on 15

August 1945. The war was over. Yes it was a great day throughout the world, Japan had accepted the Potsdam ultimatum.

### Lexington Items . . .

By MRS. MARY EDWARDS  
 Maj. Eugene (Buster) Gentry and wife were visiting relatives and friends in Lexington last week. They were on their way home to Rapid City, S. D. and planned to stop at Halfway to visit his parents.

Mrs. H. M. Mars left Friday for Palo Alto, Calif. after a short visit of a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Edwards.

Joe Way left Wednesday for Faragut Ida, where he will receive his discharge from the navy.

Ben Grant arrived Monday from Great Lakes Naval Station on leave.

### GENERAL CHAIRMAN THANKS COMMITTEES AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

As chairman of the "Welcome Home" banquet committee, I wish to thank those who cooperated so

splendidly in making the banquet possible. The following chairmen with their respective committees made the many hours of work a pleasure and by their efficiency made success certain:

Kenneth House, Mrs. R. A. Thompson, Bob Runnion, Mrs. Cyrene Barratt, J. J. O'Connor, J. O. Turner, Loyal Parker, Miss Grace Gadeken, Conley Lanham, Mrs. Effie Morgan, Mrs. Ellis Carlson, Mrs. J. O. Hager, Mrs. Ed Bennett, L. E. Dick and Mrs. F. E. Parker were chairmen of the 13 active committees involving personnel of at least 80 people. In addition I wish to thank the staff of the Gazette Times for the beautiful programs and "Welcome Home" cards so generously donated; the restaurants for the use of their bake ovens and the Elks for the use of their spacious hall. To all those who by donations of food, time and equipment contributed to the event I extend my sincere thanks.

Fletcher Forster  
 General Chairman

### Paris Shopping Interests Army Regular

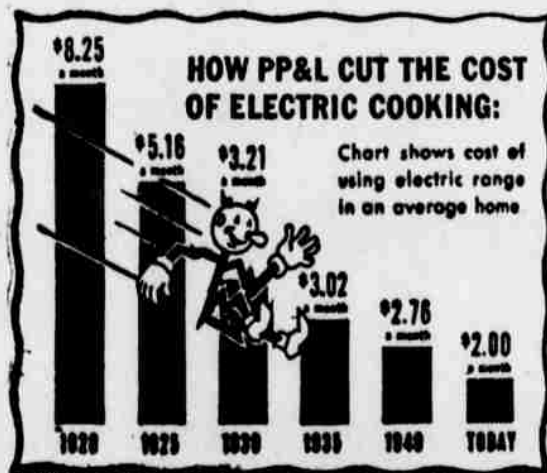


This soldier has just made a few purchases in a Parisian shop, as souvenirs for the folks back home. Unlimited travel opportunities are available to qualified civilians, 17 to 34 years of age, inclusive, who join the Regular Army.



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