

CV-37



U.S.S. PRINCETON (CV-37)

SLIPSTREAM

CHRISTMAS 1948

Home For Christmas!

WE SAW TSINGTAO

Christmas this year must mean more to all of us on the Princeton than it has meant in years gone by. We have seen Tsingtao! We have seen miserable, cold, hungry people. In this month of December, they must be even more cold, more hungry, and more miserable than when we left them.

If you find yourself complaining about conditions in the States, just remember Tsingtao. If you have troubles that seem great and staggering, just remember Tsingtao. If you ever feel sorry for yourself, just remember Tsingtao. Yes, we have cold, hungry people this Christmas even in our land of plenty. But there are many Good Fellow Clubs to help them. There are many sympathetic neighbors to bring Christmas baskets to the homes of the needy. There are many churches to take up collections for them. But in Tsingtao it is hopeless. One would not know where to begin. No matter how much charity was distributed or how many Christmas baskets were brought to the hungry, it would only be a drop in a bottom-less pit. Now you know what a lucky fellow you are. Now you know why other nations envy us. Get on your knees this Christmas and let God know what a grateful person you are. Don't keep your gratitude to yourself. Just think...you might have been born in Tsingtao!

Christmas is a birthday, not of Santa Claus but of Christ. What are you going to give Him for His birthday? He doesn't ask much. Just that you be as fine as you once were when you were a little lad about eight or nine. Just be that healthy, clean cut, wholesome American boy again, inside and out. Thank Him for the privilege of being born in America.

Take the New Year resolution to be a booster for your country, never a knocker. Take another resolution to clean up your language, to be more particular about your girl friends, (Stay on this side of the border. Chap. Kelly.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN ARNOLD

One year ago the Princeton was immobilized because of lack of personnel. We were given the bodies to make up a crew. After nine months of arduous operations culminated by the cruise to China, I believe we have welded those bodies into a fine organization, the crew of a real Man-of-War.

I wish all hands a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and an opportunity to see your loved ones during a well earned leave. But - don't come to see me after leave! Get back from leave and liberty on time!

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OUR FORWARD AREA CRUISE

When Point Loma appears on the horizon, we will be almost home, San Diego that is, after a trip of 84 days and some 19,000 miles. Here is the itinerary and dates:
Left San Diego 1 October, 1948
Arrived Pearl Harbor, 10 October, 1948

Left Pearl Harbor, 13 October, 1948
Arrived Tsingtao China, 29 October, 1948

Left Tsingtao China, 16 November, 1948
Arrived Yokasuka Japan, 21 November, 1948

Left Yokasuka Japan, 25 November, 1948
Arrived Guam, Marianas, 29 November, 1948

Left Guam 8 December, 1948
Arrived Pearl Harbor, 16 December, 1948

Left Pearl Harbor, 17 December, 1948
Arrived San Diego California, 23 December, 1948

The best liberty spots were in Japan. But the most excitement was in Guam, at least for 196 men marooned there.....Remember?