

Invitation Contributed by Karl Plange

Brochure Contributed by Jon Burdett

The Commandant, Navy Yard

Charleston, South Carolina

requests the honor of your presence at the

launching of the

U. S. S. REGISTER

and the

U. S. S. BROCK

on Thursday, the twentieth of January

nineteen hundred and forty-four

at 4:50 p. m.

eastern war time

Sponsor

U. S. S. REGISTER

Mrs. Ethel L. Register

Sponsor

U. S. S. BROCK

Mrs. James W. Brock

Please do not bring cameras

R. S. V. P. to Flag Lieutenant



Launched



U.S.S. REGISTER

DE 233

U.S.S. BROCK

DE 234

JANUARY 20, 1944



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JOHN WILEY BROCK
Ensign, U. S. Navy

ENSIGN JOHN WILEY BROCK was born in New Brockton, Alabama, on August 15, 1914, and died as a result of enemy action in the Pacific Area, the presumptive date of his death being June 5, 1942. He was officially reported missing in action as of June 4, 1942, when the plane of which he was pilot was shot down in the Battle of Midway.

Ensign Brock enlisted in the United States Navy on May 12, 1936, and served continuously until the time of his death. On April 14, 1942, he was appointed Ensign, for temporary service, to rank from March 21, 1942. He was assigned on April 20, 1942, to duty with Torpedo Squadron SIX (U.S.S. ENTERPRISE) for duty involving flying, reporting April 21, 1942.

Ensign Brock was designated a Naval Aviator (heavier-than-air). He was awarded the NAVY CROSS, with the following citation:

"For extraordinary heroism and courageous devotion to duty while piloting an airplane of Torpedo Squadron SIX in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Midway on 4 June 1942. Participating in a vigorous and intensive assault against the Japanese invasion fleet, Ensign Brock pressed home his attack with relentless determination, in the face of a terrific barrage of anti-aircraft fire. The unprecedented conditions under which his squadron launched its offensive were so exceptional that it is highly improbable the occasion may ever recur where other pilots of the service will be called upon to demonstrate an equal degree of gallantry and fortitude. His extreme disregard of personal safety contributed materially to the success of our forces and his loyal conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

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PAUL JAMES REGISTER,
Lieutenant Commander, U. S. Navy

Lieutenant Commander Paul James Register was born at Bismark, North Dakota, November 5, 1899, and under date of December 27, 1941, was declared officially dead as of December 7, 1941, as a result of enemy action (Japanese attack) in the Pacific area.

Lieutenant Commander Register was appointed a Midshipman from North Dakota on June 12, 1917, and during his course of instruction at the Naval Academy completed cruises aboard the U.S.S. MISSOURI and the U.S.S. DELAWARE. On June 4, 1920, he was commissioned Ensign to rank from June 5, 1920. February 21, 1924, he was commissioned a Lieutenant (junior grade) to rank from June 5, 1923; commissioned Lieutenant to rank from June 2, 1927; commissioned Lieutenant Commander to rank from July 1, 1939.

Upon graduation from the Naval Academy on May 6, 1920, he was assigned to active duty aboard the U.S.S. FLORIDA, reporting July 9, 1920, being detached July 1, 1921, and from that time he served aboard the following vessels: U.S.S. TRUXTON, 1921; U.S.S. SHAW, 1921-22; U.S.S. GEORGE E. BADGER, 1922; U.S.S. ROCHESTER, 1922-23; U.S.S. CHEWINK, 1923; ARGONNE, 1923; U.S.S. MARYLAND, 1929; U.S.S. OKLAHOMA, 1930; U.S.S. ARKANSAS, 1932; U.S.S. MELVILLE, 1937-38; U.S.S. ARIZONA (Communication Officer), from May 23, 1941. He also served with Destroyer Squadrons, Atlantic Fleet, 1922; Submarine Division, Asiatic Fleet, 1923; Assistant to Squadrons Engineer Officer in 1922; Destroyers, Battleforce (Aide and Flag Lieutenant on Staff of Commander) 1935-37; Destroyers, Scouting Force (Aide and Flag Secretary on Staff of Commander), 1937.

During his career of Naval service, Lt. Comdr. Register underwent courses of instruction as follows: Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut (Submarines, May 26, 1923, to August 30, 1923; Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland (General Line post-graduate course), 1927-28; Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, 1928-29; Battleship Division Secondary Battery Gunnery School, 1930. He also had the following shore duty: Navy Recruiting Bureau, New York, N. Y., 1935-40; Officer in Charge, Naval Reserve Educational Center, Third Naval District, New York, N. Y., 1940-41; Instructor, 31st Division Naval Reserve, State Armory, New Rochelle, New York, and 32nd Division, Naval Reserve, Yonkers, New York. Lieutenant Commander Register received the VICTORY MEDAL (Grand Fleet Clasp), U.S.S. FLORIDA.
