



U.S.S. PRINCE WILLIAM - CVE 31

Xm/2

On December 7, 1941 the Japanese government, with dreams of Empire, openly boasting that they would dictate peace terms in the White House in Washington, made their infamous Pearl Harbor attack.

Americans from every walk of life, to make a lie of that boast and to preserve their way of life, entered into the struggle. The PRINCE WILLIAM was one of the ships built in the Navy program to defeat the enemy, and while not one of those that made head lines, she always did her assigned duty well. The Ship was on her way to the Philippines when the announcement came that Japan had surrendered unconditionally. In connection with the surrender certain things transpired aboard the ship in keeping with the historic event -- many of which, with a short history of the ship, are preserved in this "VICTORY LOG". With honor and pride we present this souvenir record to all the officers and men who were serving aboard her on 14 August 1945.

Commanding Officer:	Captain Oscar Pederson, USN.
Executive Officer:	Commander W.C. Asserson, Jr., USN.
Editor:	Chaplain E.J. Katterhenrich, USNR.
Historian:	Lieut. J.P. Wilder, USNR.
Assistant Editor:	J.P. Stull, Slc, USNR.
Art:	Don Knudsen, RM 3c, USNR.

U.S.S. PRINCE WILLIAM
 WEDNESDAY, 15 AUGUST 1945
 AT SEA - Lat. 20° 00' N. Long. 169° 35' W.
 Enroute Pearl Harbor - Saipan.

11/rwh

WORKING DIVISION: 1st.
 STANBY DIVISION: 2nd.
 DUTY WATCH: STARBOARD.

OFFICER'S DUTY SECTION: 3rd.

DUTY COMMANDER: Lt. C.C. SCHMIDT, USNR.

AIR DEPARTMENT DUTY OFFICER: Lt(jg), C.G. BISHOP, USNR.

SPECIAL V.J. DAY HOLIDAY ROUTINE.

- 0700 - 0800 - Breakfast.
 0900 - Sick Call.
 1000 - Church call followed by a short address by the Chaplain and Commanding Officer in thanksgiving of the successful conclusion of World War II.
 1200 - (a) National Salute (21 minute guns).
 (b) Dinner.
 1300 - MOVIES FOR ALL PASSENGERS. "All By Myself" with Rosemary Lane and Patric Knowles.
 1625 - Retard all Ship's clocks one half hour.
 1630 - Pipe sweepers.
 1700 - SPECIAL HOLIDAY SUPPER.
 1730 - V-2 division rig for movies.
 ---- - Sunset, darken ship.
 1800 - MOVIES FOR SHIP'S COMPANY.
 1930 - Muster 8 o'clock reports. (Compartment cleaners police living compartments).
 2000 - MOVIES FOR OFFICERS AND WATCH STANDERS.
 ---- - Working division police movie area.
 2130 - TAPS.

NOTES

1)- The following ALNAV 194 is quoted for information:

"ALL HANDS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD MAY TAKE SATISFACTION IN THE CONCLUSION OF THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN AND PRIDE IN THE PART PLAYED BY THEM IN ACCOMPLISHING THAT RESULT X THE DEMOBILIZATION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE RETURN TO CONDITIONS OF PEACE WILL CREATE PROBLEMS TAKING PATIENCE AND CONTROL ALMOST AS GREAT AS THE TENSIONS OF WAR X I ASK THAT THE DISCIPLINE WHICH HAS SERVED SO WELL TO BRING THIS DEMOCRACY THROUGH HOURS OF THAT CRISIS BE MAINTAINED TO THE END THAT NOTHING SHALL MAR THE RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND GLORY THAT NOW BELONGS TO THE NAVY MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD X JAMES FORRESTAL XXX

W.C. Asserson, Jr.
 W.C. ASSEKSON, Jr.
 Commander, U.S. Navy,
 Executive Officer,

APPROVED:

Oscar Pederson
 OSCAR PEDERSON,
 Captain, U.S. Navy.

CAPTAIN'S ADDRESS

Fellow Shipmates:

Yesterday the long awaited day arrived - the surrender of Japan - ending what we all pray will be man's last war. It is indeed fitting and proper that we should celebrate and give thanks that the barbarians of Germany and Japan have been defeated. The road has been long and hard with many privations and heartaches along the way. Nearly all of us have lost a relative, friend or shipmate in this bitter struggle. Just the other day, I heard that the boy that flew as my wingman in the beginning of the war was missing over Tokio.

It is therefore our duty, we, the living, to see that never again shall madmen like Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini be permitted to plunge the world into another conflict for their own selfish ambitions. To that end, our country has taken the lead in formulating the United Nations Charter.

For better or worse, our country has accepted the mantle of world leadership, both spiritual and material, of leading the nations of the world out of the morass of war into permanent peace. You men, who soon will return to civilian life - never forget that you are public opinion - and you are the ones who will formulate the policies of our great country. On you, therefore, to a large measure rests the peace of the world.

We must not, however, delude ourselves into believing that Utopia is just around the corner. Every war has been followed by a period of hardship, unrest and want. This period of readjustment will require from all of us, the same fortitude, patience and guts that the war has - if we are to regain our footing and enjoy the years of prosperity and peace that we have so dearly earned.

The war, despite all its evil and suffering, bore one fruit - it accelerated the discovery of how to utilize atomic power. True, we have used it as a destructive force but in the years to come we can confidently expect to see it harnessed and put to useful work. When the war is but a chapter in the history books of yet unborn generations - atomic energy will be their servant, providing them and their's with the comforts and leisure of an abundant life. But here again we have a grave and serious responsibility to see that this powerful and terrible power is used for the good of mankind and not for its destruction. In the hands of evil and unscrupulous men it could well lead to the enslavement or obliteration of man from this earth.

In looking back over the long years of the war we can be justly proud of the part we and our good ship the PRINCE WILLIAM has played. Although we have not been fortunate enough to take our ship into action - we have none the less played an important altho unspectacular and prosaic role. It was duties such as ours, training pilots and ferrying aircraft that have made possible the brilliant and spectacular work of our carrier task forces. We too can feel that we have earned a "Well Done".

In closing I want to tell you how proud I am to have had the privilege of commanding this ship during the last few months. I know that we have been ready for any job - from bombing Tokio - to that of helping bring back to the U.S. the men and material we have stationed throughout the Pacific.

I want to end with a word of caution - we must not relax our vigilance. The Japs are still just as treacherous and vicious as any deadly snake. Last night, 12 hours after they had surrendered - Kamikazi planes attacked our fleet and Okinawa. We must remain alert against air or submarine attack until Japan is completely occupied by our troops.

Now I will turn the microphone over to the Chaplain who will lead us in a short thanksgiving service. God bless you all!

CHAPLAIN'S ADDRESS

In this happy hour we turn to the words of an old hymn which expresses our deep and sincere gratitude to almighty God.

Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices; Who, from our mothers' arms Hath blessed us on our way With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to-day.

Yesterday we were 900 miles South of Midway when our government announced that hostilities had ceased and that Japan had accepted our surrender terms. We are at peace! We have been victorious! The day will be remembered as long as we live, because it marks the attainment of the goal constantly before us. Now we see accomplished that one outstanding purpose for which we left home, school and job. I know you will join me in saying sincerely: "Thank God that this hour has come," and I would add: "God give us grace and manliness to work energetically to win the peace, so nothing be lost that was won by the strength of arms." Americans, civilian and those in uniform of Pearl Harbor Day to dictate to the aggressor the terms of surrender --Terms that reflect the inability of the enemy to further wage war.

We are victors, let us not be drunk with victory! Rather as we fill our place in life - some in the navy, in the class room, in the office. Some in the city, some on the farm, in the factory, in the shop, in the home, in the community, let us remember the price of Victory. The price to maintain a just peace will also be high and I hope that there too you and I may prove ourselves good American citizens. Do not say these years were wasted, they are a part of the price of Victory, a price you helped pay to be able to say something about the kind of a world you and your children were to live in.

Since Victory has come many of us are thinking about demobilization. Let us be patient and cooperative knowing full well that we will be released as soon as possible in keeping with our government's ability. When at last you get home you will be able to assist your family in taking down the Service flag with a blue star. I ask you to be considerate of those who in a moment of sorrow and loneliness will un-assisted remove from their window a star of gold. They understand the price that was paid for Victory, and for the sake of those represented by the gold star we the living must devote our life to the making of a better and happier world. The hour of Victory is but a moment, to maintain a just peace, to make this a better and a happier world, is the mission of a life-time. We will need to hear in mind the words recorded in I Corinthians 13 and place special emphasis on the last verse-"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

There are so many things to be said in this happy hour, Victory, peace, the kindness of Providence, nearness of home and family, so many for which we all are thankful and for which all hands now may render thanks in a moment of thanksgiving and prayer.

Hear the opening words of Psalm 103- "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life

from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

This prayer for our country followed:

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In the time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble suffer not our trust in Thee to fail.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction. "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen."

RADIO PRESS NEWS
September 4, 1945

President Truman made the following address last night immediately after the broadcast of the Japanese surrender ceremonies on the Battleship Missouri:

"My fellow Americans: The thoughts and hopes of all Americans - indeed of all the civilized world - are centered tonight on the Battleship Missouri. There on that small piece of American soil anchored in Tokyo Harbor the Japanese have just officially laid down their arms. They have signed terms of unconditional surrender.

Four years ago the thoughts and fears of the whole civilized world were centered on another piece of American soil - Pearl Harbor. The mighty threat to civilization which began there is now laid at rest. It was a long road to Tokyo - and a bloody one. Let us not forget Pearl Harbor.

The Japanese militarists will not forget the U.S.S. MISSOURI. The evil done by the Japanese war lords can never be repaired or forgotten. But their power to destroy and kill has been taken from them. Their armies and what is left of their navy are now impotent. To all of us there comes first a sense of gratification to Almighty God who sustained us and our Allies in the dark days of grave danger, who made us grow from weakness into the strongest fighting force in history, and who now has seen us overcome the forces of tyranny that sought to destroy his civilization.

God grant that in our pride of the hour, we may not forget the hard tasks that are still before us; that we may approach these with the same courage, zeal and patience with which we faced the trials and problems of the past four years.

Our first thoughts, of course - thoughts of gratefulness and deep obligation - go out to those of our loved ones who have been killed or maimed in this terrible war. On land and sea and in the air, American men and women have given their lives so that this day of ultimate victory might come and assure the survival of a civilized world. No victory can make good their loss; We think of those whom death in this war has hurt, taking from them husbands, sons, brothers and sisters whom they loved. No victory can bring back the faces

they longed to see. Only the knowledge that the victory, which these sacrifices have made possible will be wisely used, can give them any comfort. It is our responsibility - Ours, the living - to see to it that this victory shall be a monument worthy of the dead who died to win it.

We think of all the millions of men and women in our armed forces and merchantmen all over the world who, after years of sacrifice and hardship and peril, have been spared by providence from harm. We think of all the men and women and children who during these years have carried on at home, in lonesomeness and anxiety and fear.

Our thoughts go out to our civil service and to the thousands of Americans who, at personal sacrifice, have come to serve in our Government during these trying years; to the members of the Selective Service Boards and Ration Boards; to the Civilian Defense and Red Cross workers; to the men and women in the U.S.O. and in the entertainment world - To all those who have helped in this cooperative struggle to preserve liberty and decency in the world.

We think of our departed gallant leader, Franklin D. Roosevelt, defender of democracy, architect of world peace and cooperation. And our thoughts go out to our gallant allies in this war; to those who resisted the invaders; to those who were not strong enough to hold out, but who nevertheless kept the fires of resistance alive within the souls of their people; to those who stood up against great odds and held the line, until the United Nations together were able to supply the arms and the men with which to overcome the forces of evil.

This is more than a victory alone. This is a victory of liberty over tyranny.

From our war plants rolled the tanks and planes which blasted their way to the heart of our enemy; from our shipyards sprang the ships which bridged all the oceans of the world for our weapons and supplies; from our farms came the food and fiber for our Army and Navy and for our Allies in all the corners of the earth. From our mines and factories came the raw materials and the finished products which gave us the equipment to overcome our enemy. But back of it all were the will and spirit and determination of a free people - who know what freedom is, and who know that is worth whatever price they had to pay to preserve it.

It was the spirit of liberty which gave us our armed strength and spirit of liberty that made our men invincible in battle. We now know that that spirit of liberty, the freedom of the individual and the personal dignity of man, are the strongest and toughest and most enduring forces in all the world.

And so on V-J Day, we take renewed faith and pride in our own way of life.

We have had our day of rejoicing over this victory. We have had our day of prayer and devotion. Now let us set aside V-J Day as one of renewed construction to the principles which made us the strongest nation on earth and which, in this war, we have strived so mightily to preserve.

Those principles provide the faith, the hope and the opportunity which help men to improve themselves and their lot. Liberty does not make all men perfect nor all society secure. But it has provided more hold on progress and happiness and decency for more people than any other philosophy of government in history. And this day has shown again that it provides the greatest strength and the greatest power which man has ever reached.

We know that under it we can meet the hard problems of peace which have come upon us, a free people with free Allies, who can develop an Atomic Bomb, can use the same skill and energy and determina-

tion to overcome all the difficulties ahead, Victory always has its benefits and its responsibilities as well as its hardships.

But we face the future and all its distress with great confidence and great hope. Americans can build for themselves a future of employment and security. Together with the united nations, they can build a world of peace founded on justice and fair dealing and tolerance.

As President of the United States, I proclaim Sunday, September Second, 1945, to be V-J Day - The day of formal surrender by Japan. It is not yet the day for the formal proclamation of the end of the war or of the cessation of hostilities. But it is a day which we Americans shall always remember as a day of retribution - as we remember that other day, December 7, 1941, the day of infamy. From this day we move forward. We move toward a new era of security at home. With the other United Nations we move toward a new and better world of peace and international goodwill and cooperation. God's help has brought us to this day of victory. With his help we will attain that peace and prosperity for ourselves and all the world in the years ahead."

INFORMATION ON PRINCE WILLIAM TRAVELS
All Figures Computed as of Sept. 7, 1945

Total miles since commissioning-----165,859
Total miles steamed in August 1945-----7,764
This is more than in any month since returning to the Pacific.
Total miles steamed equal 7.6 circumnavigations of the Globe,
at the Equator; or 7/10 of the distance to the moon.

Congratulatory ALNAV'S

It is with great pride that I pass to you the following message received from Fleet Admiral King, "PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS UPON YOUR SUCCESSFUL CONDUCT OF THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN X THE WAR HAS BEEN AN ALL HANDS JOB IN WHICH TEAMWORK HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR VICTORY X UNDER YOUR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP ALL PERSONNEL IN THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET AND PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS HAVE CONTRIBUTED THEIR FULL SHARE" BT

FLEET ADMIRAL C.W. NIMITZ TRANSMITS TO THE PACIFIC FLEET AND PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS WITH THE GREATEST SATISFACTION AND PRIDE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECNAV: "MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A GREAT TASK. PLEASE SEND TO THE COMMANDERS OF THE FLEETS AND FORCES THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC AND ALL HANDS IN THEIR COMMANDS MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS AND THE DEEP PRIDE WHICH AMERICA HAS IN THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. X LET US KEEP IN REVERENT RECOLLECTION THE MEMORIES OF THOSE OF OUR COMRADES WHOSE SACRIFICE HAS GIVEN US OUR FREEDOM X (SIGNED) JAMES FORRESTAL"

A Brief History of the
USS PRINCE WILLIAM--CVE-31

On April 9, 1943, at the Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Washington, the USS PRINCE WILLIAM was commissioned, and thereby launched upon a career which, though perhaps not devastating to the enemy in a direct manner, helped in a more subtle way to bring about his ultimate defeat. She was built by the Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Corp.,

and specifically, added a carrier to our Fleet, augmented the training program, increased the number of ships so desperately needed for convoy work and became, because of her ample room and facilities, an excellent one for ferrying planes and transporting personnel.

After her shakedown on the Pacific Coast in May of that same year, she was loaded with planes and passengers at San Diego, California, and sent on her maiden voyage. Highlight of this trip was the initiation of all lowly Pollywogs into the supreme status of Shellbacks when the ship crossed the Equator. Stops at Pearl Harbor and then Noumea, New Caledonia, were accomplished, and the trip lasted from June through July.

The second voyage afforded a bit more excitement as well as new territory to see; and it proved to be the longest from the standpoint of time spent outside the United States that the ship would take. Off Canton Island planes were unloaded onto lighters while the ship was under way because Jap subs were in the area. And while at anchor at Espiritu Santo, some bombs from a Jap relative of "Washing Machine Charlie" dropped uncomfortably close. It was during this second trip that Buoy number 8 in Palikulo Bay, Espiritu Santo, became known as the Pee Willie's own as she spent, all told, ten weeks swinging around it. Christmas Day, 1943, will long be remembered as there was an engine breakdown at 0500 when the ship was some seventy miles off Noumea. During this voyage also such places as Samoa, British Samoa and Efate were visited. It is thought that our ship was the first carrier to stop at British Samoa. This time the ship was away from home from August, 1943 until January, 1944.

The third voyage, lasting from the latter part of February through the month of March, was a near duplicate of the ship's maiden trip, while the fourth, which originated in San Francisco, took it all the way (and non-stop, too) to Townsville, Australia. About 19 days were spent en route each way, but the last of May found the ship once again at San Diego.

In June, 1944, the ship was ordered to the Atlantic, presumably to replace the USS BLOCK ISLAND, which had been lost during anti-submarine warfare. Such, however, did not prove to be the case. Interspersing long periods of qualification work with one ferrying trip to Casa Blanca, the ship spent almost a year to the day on this coast. Cheseapeake Bay during the summer, Quonset Point in the fall, and Key West from January, 1945 until May, were the locales for the qualification work. And the ship pioneered those off Key West.

In June, 1945, the PRINCE WILLIAM was ordered again through the Canal, this time westward, and to new lands in the South Pacific. Lands with names which had been synonymous with that of Japan one short year before.

The ship's first trip after her return included stops at Pearl Harbor and Guam, and occupied the rest of June and most of July. Starting in August, her second took her farther; this time to Saipan, Samar, Cebu, Ulithi, and again to Guam.

But it was during this second voyage that incidents took place which kept the crew at fever pitch. A few days out of San Diego en route to Pearl Harbor, news of the atomic bomb was announced. Then Russia declared war on Japan. The handwriting on the tumbling wall that was the Empire of the Sun loomed larger. But the war was not yet over, and a minor casualty in the form of an engine breakdown stopped the ship one night for about an hour when the air was hot with late hour reports. However, the efficient engineering gang quickly had the trouble repaired, and the ship sailed on to greet the news of Japan's final capitulation on August 14.

Such is the brief history, but perhaps a few statistics would

prove of interest:

The ship's engineering record, compared with those of others of her class, is an enviable one. She is near, if not at, the top for economy; and before she was six months old, she held the record for her class in refueling destroyers at sea in the shortest time. It is believed that this record still stands.

The ship has a total of 12,394 day landings and 1,699 night landings for a grand total of 14,093. Only 191 crashes occurred, and of these but two proved fatal.

She has ferried an average of about seventy planes per trip, for a total approximating 500, and has brought back about 200 wrecked or outmoded aircraft. Many squadrons and personnel of note have found passage aboard. Among the latter were Lt. Commander E.H. O'Hare, Lt. Commander Joe E. Clifton, and Lt. Commander J.T. Blackburn.

Here are the PRINCE WILLIAM'S Captains and Executive Officers; Captain H.E. Regan, reported April 9, 1943, detached March 31, 1944. Captain R.C. Sutliff, reported March 31, 1944, detached February 18, 1945.

Captain Oscar Pederson, reported February 5, 1945

Commander David B. Young, reported April 9, 1943, detached January 15, 1944.

Commander Samuel B. Randall, reported January 15, 1944, detached November 12, 1944.

Commander William C. Asserson, reported November 5, 1944.

Thus is the brief history of our ship, and the story in a nut shell of over 165,859 miles travelled (to September 7, 1945); miles which made the world smaller for many men, and which added to the sum necessary to defeat our Country's enemies.

SPACE RESERVED FOR AUTOGRAPHS

U.S.S. PRINCE WILLIAM
August 1945

VICTORY DINNER

Tomato Juice Cocktail Turkey Broth Saltine Crackers

Roast Young Tom Turkey

Baked Spiced Ham

Giblet Gravy Celery Dressing

Lettuce & Tomato Salad

Snowflake Potatoes Buttered Peas

Asparagus Tips Iced Celery Sticks

Thousand Island, Dressing

Stuffed Olives Cranberry Sauce Sweet Mixed Pickles

Apple Pie Ice Cream

Parkerhouse Rolls Butter

Lemonade

Hard Candy Hershey Chocolates Mixed Nuts

Cigars & Cigarettes

Commanding Officer - Captain O. Pederson, USN
Executive Officer - Commander W.C. Asserson, Jr. USN
Supply Officer - Lieut. (jg) D. A. Hempson, (SC) USN
Commissary Officer - Lieut. (jg) C. A. KiENZle, (SC) USNR
Chief Commissary Steward - J. Landregan, USN

VICTORY DINNER

-AUGUST 15, 1945-



U.S.S. PRINCE WILLIAM