

Story #22 Vol IV Hubert (Bud) Harris

Eddie Pinson our longtime yeoman is usually the first one to get a new contact for our group. He was probably jumping up and down earlier this year when contacted by Hubert (Bud) Harris. His familiar bright light lit up. Eddie probably called his old ex shipmate and long time buddy Earl and shouted "We have a big fish on the line." He's from Carson City, Nevada, a retired regular navy man and best of all an ex Chief Yeoman before he received a commission. Maybe he will help us at the Reno reunion. Well, you who received the reunion notice know the rest of the story. Bud and Anita Harris graciously agreed to help Eddie and Terrell and Earl and Karen with the reunion. What could be a better administrative combination than 3 ex yeomen. I think Bud deserves an introduction.

Bud Harris entered navy boot camp at San Diego, CA Oct. 17, 1949. Following boot camp he attended Yeoman School at Naval Training Center at San Diego. He left there with a YNSA rank

In early 1950 he was given orders to report to the Net Tender USS Elder AN-20. During World War II there were 77 Net Tenders. At this time there were only 6.
(Later 9 more would be taken out of the Reserve Fleet)

Arriving at Pearl Harbor in March of 1950 Bud learned that Elder was lost at sea, having sustained a serious engine room fire. As it turned out Elder appeared doomed. Her engines were damaged beyond repair. She drifted helplessly for a week before assistance in the form of USS Comstock (LSD-19 Dock Landing Ship) and Piedmont (AD-17 Destroyer Tender) arrived on March 18th. The next day Elder was taken in tow by USS Deliver (ARS-23

Submarine Rescue Ship) and began the long slow haul to Pearl Harbor.

Bud then reported aboard and had the duty of typing up all the reports associated with the fire.

After being repaired, Elder left the shipyard for Guam where they put down moorings. Later they went to Tinian Harbor to clear World War II wreckage, then to Enewetok for Operation IVY where they put down sonar gear for the First Hydrogen bomb test.

In 1951 Elder went to Yokosuka, Japan, a key operating base in the Korean war. There they put nets down to open and close the gates around Yokosuka Harbor. For this the ship earned the Korean Medals.

Elder returned to Tiburon in January 1952. Subsequently they went back to the Western Pacific, returning to Tiburon in November 1952.

They were later assigned to the 13th Naval District with duty in the Pacific Northwest.

Bud served aboard USS Elder AN-20 from March 1950 to July 1955. When he left the ship he had risen in rank to YN-1. Bud states that Elder was his first ship and the smallest one on which he served, but also one of the most enjoyable assignments of his navy career

He went on to serve on FIREDRAKE AE-14, AFSWSP, Albuquerque, MATS, Travis AFB, COMFLTAIRSOWESTPAC, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 and retired after a tour of duty at NAVSTA, Treasure Island as Security Officer. He progressed in rank up thru YNCM to LDO LT.

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