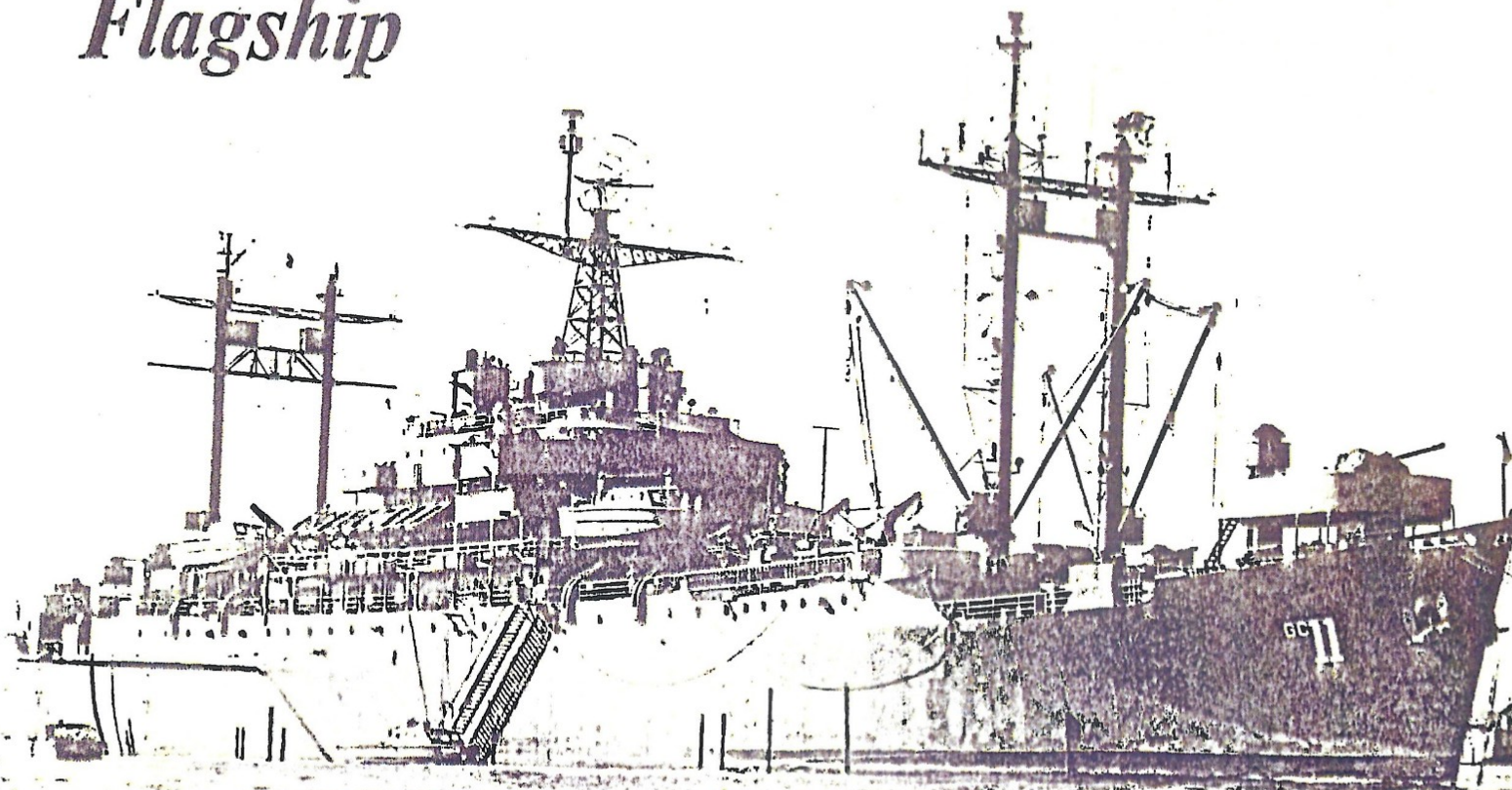


AGC-11

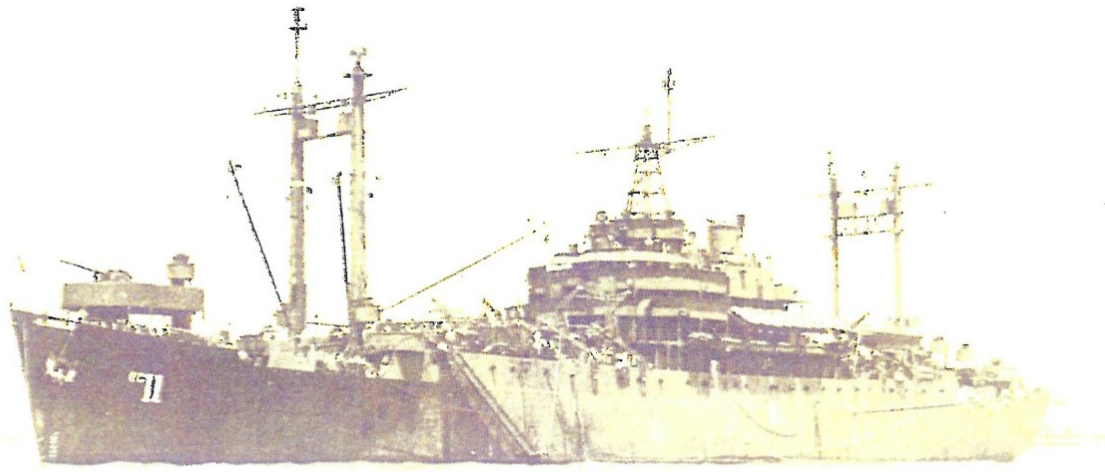
Flagship

USS ELDORADO



REUNION
Sept. 22,23,24, 2006
Newport, Rhode Island





USS EL DORADO AGC 11

FLAGSHIP

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS FORCES PACIFIC FLEET

ADMIRAL RICHARD KELLY TURNER USN

COMMANDER INVASION IWO JIMA 19 FEBRUARY 1945

MARINE GENERAL HOLLAND "MAD" SMITH USMC

COMMANDER INVASION OKINAWA 1 APRIL, 1945

ARMY GENERAL SIMON BUCKNER U.S. ARMY

(KILLED BY A SNIPER AND BURIED ON OKINAWA)

INVASION OF THE PHILIPPINES 21 OCTOBER 1944

14 JUNE 1945

DROPPED ANCHOR IN MANILA BAY PREPARING FOR NEXT "OPERATION"

9 AUGUST 1945

PRES. TRUMAN'S DECISION TO DROP ATOMIC BOMB

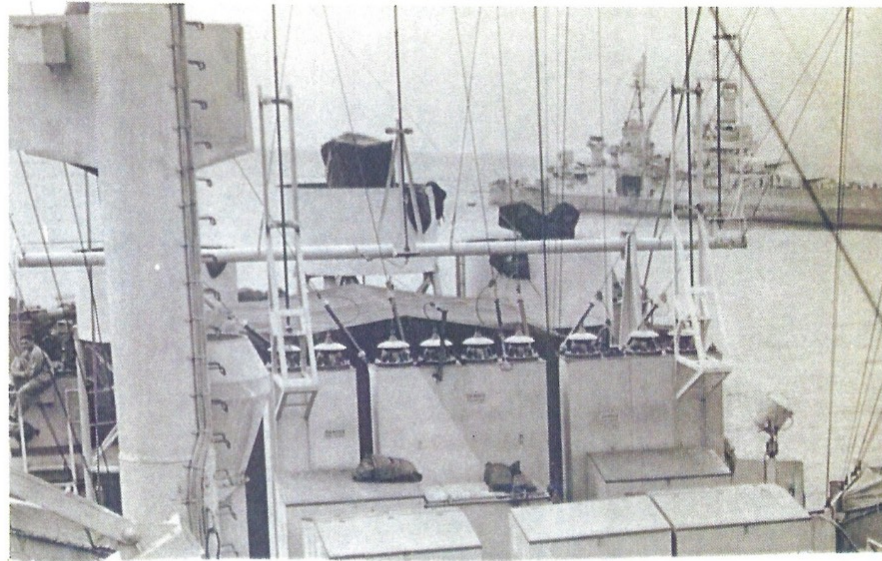
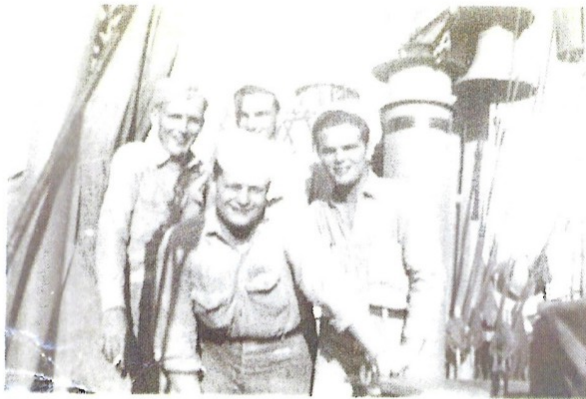
(SAVED MANY SERVICEMEN'S LIVES)

DIGNITARIES ABOARD SHIP

NAVY SEC. JAMES FORRESTAL

PHOTOGRAPHER JOE ROSENTHAL

FAMOUS PHOTO: FLAG RAISING ON IWO JIMA





June 14th 1945

September 27, 1992 AGC 11 Reunion Louisville, Kentucky

Barrie Jones
Alma, Georgia
Deceased

Joe Germano
Mamaroneck, New York

John Ross
Venice, Florida



60th Anniversary of World War II

DAV
HONORS THE
GREATEST
GENERATION

In celebration of the 60th anniversary of the end of the war, *DAV Magazine* continues its series of reminders of the historical events of World War II.

5 Philippines Declared Liberated

In October of the previous year, Gen. Douglas MacArthur fulfilled his promise to return to the Philippines. In early July, the general safely declared the islands had been liberated from the Japanese.

30 The Sinking of USS *Indianapolis*

The USS *Indianapolis* is torpedoed by a Japanese sub in the Philippine Sea after delivering the atomic bomb to the Island of Tinian. Of the 1,196 aboard, only about 900 made it into the water before the ship sank. Shark attacks began with sunrise of the first day and continued until the survivors were removed from the water five days later. Only 316 crew members survived.

6 Atomic Bomb Dropped on Hiroshima

The *Enola Gay*, an American B-29, flown by Col. Paul Tibbets, drops "Little Boy," an atomic bomb, on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. In an instant, 70,000 inhabitants are victims of a massive explosion. Approximately 70,000 more would die from radiation. Three days later, a second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, killing 70,000 of its 270,000 inhabitants. Despite the cost to civilian life, proponents say President Harry Truman's decision saved thousands of American and civilian lives by ending the war and preventing a land invasion of Japan.

14 V-J Day

Following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and a fast-moving invasion of Manchuria by the Soviets, the Japanese Emperor announces his decision to end the war by accepting the Allies' terms. Nearly three weeks of celebrations, preparations, prisoner of war recovery, and initial occupation activities followed.



Ships Diary

Aug. 25, 1944

A brief ceremony marked the occasion of the ELDORADO's commissioning Captain Wallace accepted command of the ship, the first watches were set, and officially the Navy took over from Bethlehem Steel Corp. Actually the commissioning made no noticeable difference in life aboard the uncompleted ship. Work continued at a furious pace, workers swarmed over the hull with welding torches, pneumatic chisels, other scientific noise makers; ship's crew continued to work day and night to ready the ship for sea. On....

Sept. 6, 1944

The ELDORADO was ready, and cast off on her maiden voyage. For the majority of men aboard, this was their first ship and their first voyage, and they made the usual contribution to Neptune as the ship rode the rough water between New York and Norfolk. These nouveau-salts offered fervent thanks when the ship dropped anchor in Norfolk on

Sept. 7, 1944

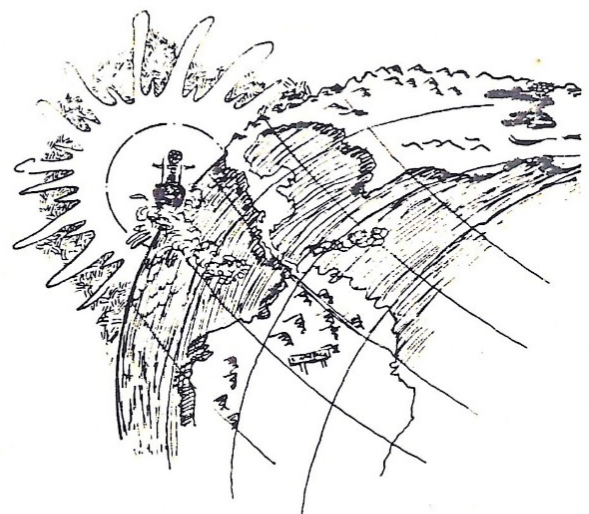
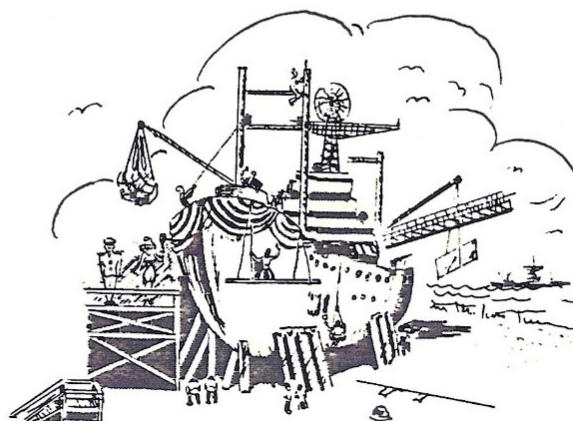
Although they may have thought themselves dying of mal-de-mere enroute, these new-comers recuperated swiftly and discovered for themselves why Norfolk is the sailor's FAVORITE LIBERTY PORT! It was with mingled feelings that the ship's company readied the ship for another step toward her ultimate destination. By September 14th the ship was standing out to sea, when the reports of a great hurricane sweeping the East Coast began to come in. The ELDORADO wisely remained at the mouth of the harbor, until the next day. During that time she performed her first service by picking up a weak "SOS" signal on her radio equipment and by relaying it, she was directly responsible for the salvation of a vessel in distress. The hurricane abated sufficiently by

Sept. 15, 1944

So that the ELDORADO was able to continue her voyage. Smooth sailing from Norfolk to the mouth of the Panama Canal, and on September 21st the ELDORADO slipped through the Canal and emerged in the Pacific the next morning. No stop-overs in Panama.....time was too valuable to waste and the ELDORADO was a vital ship, so it was straight from Panama to San Diego, where she arrived on

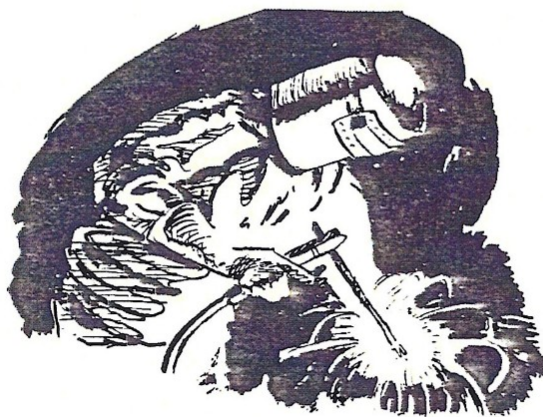
Sept. 29, 1944

She stopped there long enough only to take on stores and ammunition, and to drop the weeping Marine Detachment, which, instead of enjoying liberties in San Francisco and Sacramento, would undergo a "toughening" process in San Diego. Sadly we said good-bye to the Marines, and left San Diego, to arrive next day.



Sept. 30, 1944

At Mare Island. There it was Bethlehem Steel Yard all over again, with shipyard workers crowding aboard and cutting viciously into the vessel. Apparently the entire ship had to be torn apart and reassembled on different lines. The job was miraculously completed in a few short weeks; stores were brought aboard, ammunition, all last minute bits of miscellaneous gear. Our Marines were returned to us, tanned and rugged, and still weeping. No liberty for them, for we shoved off.



Nov. 22, 1944

Our destination was one of those secrets known to everyone.... Pearl Harbor. Enroute a plane crashed into the ocean near the ship and we stopped long enough to pick up the planes former occupants, who were damp, but unhurt.

Nov. 28, 1944

And the ELDORADO pulled into Pearl Harbor with the crew eagerly gazing over the side for a first glimpse of the Hawaiian Islands, Land of Paradise, hula girls, leis! No leis.....work! More last minute repairs, gear brought aboard, stores.... and the boys came back from liberty saying much the same thing about Pearl Harbor as they said about Norfolk. Almost a month there, but on

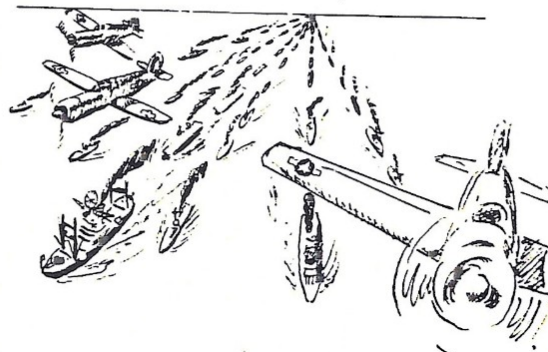


Jan. 27, 1945

We pulled out of Pearl Harbor, bound for the forward areas of the Pacific. We stopped for two days at Eniwetok.... not much to see on that atoll.. and hove to at Saipan on

Feb. 11, 1945

We took a long look at that island, taken only a short time before from the Japanese. It began to dawn upon us that war was some thing besides liberties and chow lines. The meaning of war became even clearer on

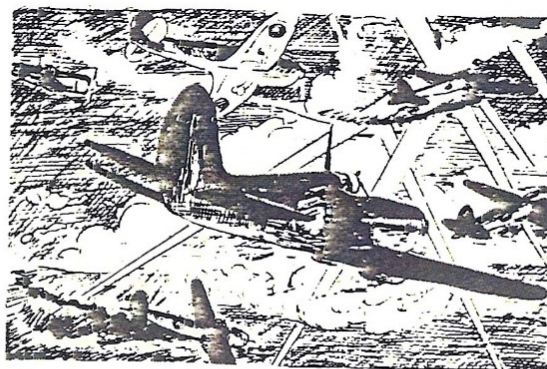


Feb. 12, 1945

When we left Saipan for a short rehearsal, off Tinian. A dress rehearsal, complete with planes, bombs, ships, marines. It proceeded, apparently, quite satisfactorily, and on February 16th we left Saipan in convoy, and arrived at Iwo Jima in time for the grand opening on

Feb. 19, 1945

Our first contact with those little yellow men we'd been hearing so much about! None of us were scared..... even on February 22, when the Japanese deluged us with 12 air-raids that one night.... but our sensations were rather peculiar! No one seemed to regret it when we left Iwo Jima on



March 9, 1945

Two days later we arrived in Guam, and two days after that, before we had a chance to tell the Guamanians that we were heroes, we left Guam. Leyte, of the Philippines, was our objective this time, and we arrived on

March 16, 1945

We successfully invaded the fleet recreational area, drank beer, traded with the natives (and many of us lost our shirts), and on



March 27, 1945

We left Leyte again in convoy, and on

April 1, 1945

We arrived for the opening of "Okinawa". To us, the battle-worn and bogie-wise veterans of one invasion, it was all routine...the "Flash Red, Control Green" that sounded night after night, the smoke that filled our compartments, the suicide bent Japanese airmen. It was more intensified at Okinawa; the raids came oftener, and the Japs dived more recklessly. There was the night of Hirohito's birthday, celebrated by the Jap airmen in an unprecedented mass raid on the Okinawa invasion fleet. On

May 18, 1945

We left Okinawa, and cheerfully! The Japanese suicide plane that swept close by us shortly before we left and, missing us, plunged into the New Mexico, did nothing to dampen that cheerfulness. We made Guam by

May 22, 1945

Where we breathed deeply once again and relaxed. Stores, painting, ship's work....everything possible was done to make the ship perfectly conditioned. On

June 9, 1945

We left Guam, bound for the Philippines, and on

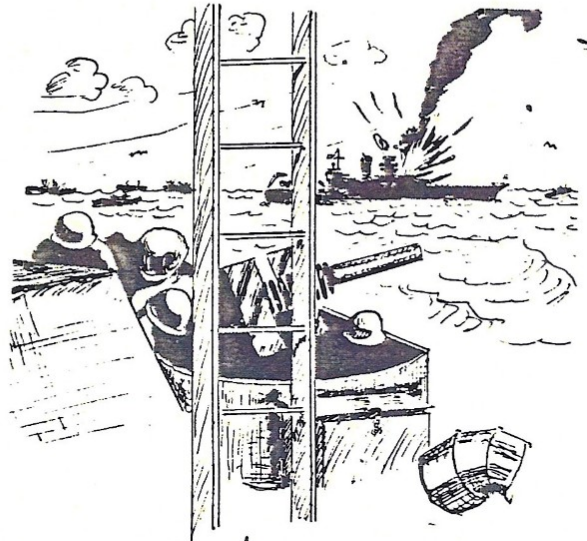
June 14, 1945

We dropped anchor in Manila Bay. Liberty ashore..... we gaped at the blasted city, explored the sights, sounds----and smells; aboard ship we were readying for the next operation, when on

August 9, 1945

The first atomic bomb was dropped! From then on smooth sailing! The ELDORADO had accomplished her mission, and was an honored survivor!

Frisco, here we come!!



"Paid \$100.00 mustering-out payment (Z) 1 February, 1946."

268

Inducted Earl F. Stanley Capt. USMC

~~XXXXXXXX~~ DHIRS, New York City, N.Y. on the 20th day of August, 1943, to serve Duration years
Born 19 June, 1925 at Mamaroneck, New York
When enlisted was ^(Date) 6 1 1/2 inches high, with Brown eyes, Black hair,
complexion: Swarthy citizenship: U.S.
Previous service: None

Rank and type of warrant at time of discharge: Corporal(TW)(CP) 1 February, 1946.
Weapons qualification: Rifle, Marksman, 19 October, 1943.

Special military qualifications: High-Speed Radio Operator

Service (sea and foreign): MD Serving Aboard USS ELDORADO
24 July, 1944 to 19 October, 1945.

NO FURTHER GUARANTY BENEFIT UNDER TITLE III OF THE SERVICE PERSONNEL READJUSTMENT ACT OF 1924, AS AMENDED, IS AVAILABLE TO THE PERSON TO WHOM THIS DISCHARGE WAS ISSUED. ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Wounds received in service: None

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: Participated in the operations at
Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, 19 February, 1945 to 9 March, 1945;
Occupation of Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, 1 April, 1945 to 17 May
1945.; in the invasion of the Philippines, 21 October, 1944 to
12 December, 1944.

Remarks: Service honest and faithful. Issued honorable service
lapel button. Inducted, Discharged and Enlisted in the USMCR, 20
August, 1943. Art. 3-15 MCM LofI 1190.

Character of service excellent.

Serial number 886287 EARL F. STANLEY, Captain, U. S. M. C.



Is physically qualified for discharge. Requires neither treatment nor hospitalization.

I certify that this is the actual print of the right index finger of the man herein mentioned.

J. H. Kolmer, U. S. N.
J. H. KOLMER Lt(jg) MC USNR and Medical Officer.

Monthly rate of pay when discharged: Sixty-Six Dollars

I hereby certify that the within named man has been furnished travel allowance at the rate of five cents per mile from Philadelphia, Pa. to New York, N.Y.
and paid \$ 4.55***** in full to date of discharge.

Joseph Germano
(Signature of man.)

Earl F. Stanley Captain, U. S. M. C.
EARL F. STANLEY, Commanding Officer.

