



THE BRIGHT PENNY

June 2002

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) ASSOCIATION

H.S. THEMISTOKLES DECOMMISSIONED

The announcement became known about one week before the decommissioning took place. On 18 February, 2002 the colors were hauled down for the last time for this great ship that has served two navies. For nearly 40 years she plied the seas with grace and determination. Now she rests next to a pier at the Salamis Naval Base, Greece where later she will be towed to Crete for final disposition. There she will be either scrapped or sunk as a target ship.

The Hellenic Navy will also be decommissioning H.S. NEARHOS (ex-Waddell) at later time, but the date has not been established. Based on earlier information H.S. FORMION (ex-Joseph Strauss) was decommissioned some time ago. Replacements for these ships will be Spruance Class destroyers leased from the U.S.

Several color photos of the decommissioning have been received and externally H.S. THEMISTOKLES appeared to be exceptionally well maintained and free of rust. Internally is where the problems lie. Upkeep of the 1200psi plants has been an ongoing challenge for the Greek Navy. Ever since they were acquired in 1992 NAVSEA has continued to participate in the support of these plants. Their poor condition was the prime reason leading to the decision to decommission the ships.

Rick Bennett, President of the USS Waddell (DDG-24) Association, has been instrumental in tracking the events regarding these ships. He is working with contacts in Greece and with Ray Bartlett to acquire the bells from both ships and other memorabilia that have historical significance. His ongoing efforts are praised and greatly appreciated.



Moments before decommissioning when all flags and pennants were hauled down for the last time.

SKIPPER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Admiral Howe became Executive Director of the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations in June 1995. Just prior to joining the Foundations in 1994, he served for a year (March 1993 - March 1994) in Somalia as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. From December 1991 - January 1993, he was Deputy Assistant to the President of the United States for National Security Affairs.

Graduating with distinction from the US Naval Academy in 1957, Admiral Howe retired in the rank of Admiral in June 1992. Sea assignments and commands included: nuclear submarines, destroyers, cruisers and an aircraft carrier Battle-Group. Admiral Howe commanded USS Berkeley from March 1974 to January 1975. During that period, Berkeley deployed to the Western Pacific, including escorting the USS Constellation into the Persian Gulf. During the May 1989 to December 1991 period, he was simultaneously Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe with headquarters in Naples, Italy and Commander, US Naval Forces Europe with headquarters in London, England. Other tours abroad included Chief of Staff, Seventh Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan and Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee, Brussels, Belgium.

Shore assignments outside the Navy included: Military Assistant to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (1969-73), Assistant to the Vice President for National Security Affairs (1974-76), Senior Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense (1981-82), Director of the State Department's Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs (1984-86), and Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1987-89).



Admiral Jonathan T. Howe

During two years of postgraduate studies (1967-69), Admiral Howe earned M.A., M.A.L.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. He is author of the book *Multicrises: Seapower and Global Politics in the Missile Age* and numerous articles on foreign policy and national security issues.

Admiral Howe has been awarded six Defense Distinguished Service medals, two Navy Distinguished Service medals, the Defense Superior Service medal, and three Legions of Merit. As a civilian, he also received the National Security medal.


Admiral Howe is married to Dr. Harriet Mangrum Howe and they have six grown children.

FAREWELL TO A GREAT SHIP!



THE FINAL MUSTERING OF HER CREW

USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION
 P.O. Box 267
 Claremont, CA 91711-0267
 909-981-7587
 E Mail: u.ussberkeley@verizon.net
 Website: www.USSBerkeley.com
 Biennial Dues: \$10.00
 Association Manager: Ray Bartlett



Editor: CDR Jim Barrett (Ret)

**BERKELEY HISTORY
 JUNE**

30 Years Ago

01-02, inport Subic Bay; 03-05, enroute to the Tonkin Gulf; 06-19, Linebacker Operations - North Vietnam; 20-23, Naval Gunfire Support - South Vietnam; 24-30, Linebacker Operations - North Vietnam. CDR Jerry Dickman is the Commanding Officer.

20 Years Ago

In Drydock #2, Long Beach Naval Shipyard. CDR Joseph L. Lockett III is the Commanding Officer.

10 Years Ago

In port and underway training in the San Diego OpArea while preparing to turn the ship over to the Hellenic Navy. CDR Fred J. Mallgrave is the Commanding Officer.

Association News

The 2002 reunion is getting closer and promising to be one of our best. Reunion packets were mailed the end of April to any crewmember who responded with an interest to attend. As of this time the count is about 125 including members and guests. The Charleston area has much to offer in activities and sightseeing and our reunion banquet, as planned, should be enjoyable for all. Its not too late to sign up; give us a call, send a letter or email and we will get a packet out to you.

We are currently building up the Ship's Store. Now available are ball caps, pens, key chains, stainless steel mugs, decommissioning pins and photos. Plans are to add more items as finances permit. We have put a price list together with a description of the items. If you are interested let us know and we will send you a list.

I have spent some time researching other reunion associations and have more research to do. I am trying to see what works and what doesn't in other associations in an attempt to make the Berkeley Association one of the best for its former crewmembers. I will have a full report on this research in the December Newsletter. In the meantime, any and all suggestions would be appreciated.

Ray Bartlett

NOTE: The Association e-mail address has changed. The new address is:

u.ussberkeley@verizon.net

Ray's
 License Plate



"I like the Navy."

I like standing on the bridge wing at sunrise with salt spray in my face and clean ocean winds whipping in from the four quarters of the globe—the ship beneath me feeling like a living thing as her engines drive her through the sea.

I like the sounds of the Navy—the piercing trill of the boatswains pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the IMC and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.

I like the vessels of the Navy—nervous darting destroyers, plodding fleet auxiliaries, sleek submarines and steady solid carriers.

I like the proud sonorous names of Navy capital ships: Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea - memorials of great battles won.

I like the lean, angular names of Navy 'tin-cans': Barney Dahlgren, Mullinix, McCloy—mementos of heroes who went before us.

I like the tempo of a Navy band blaring through the topside speakers as we pull away from the oiler after refueling at sea.

I like liberty call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. **I even like** all-hands working parties as my ship fills herself with the multitude of supplies both mundane and exotic which she needs to cut her ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe where there is water to float her.

I like sailors, men from all parts of the land, farms of the Midwest, small towns of New England, from the cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trust and depend on them as they trust and depend on me—for professional competence, for comradeship, for courage. In a word, they are "shipmates."

I like the surge of adventure in my heart when the word is passed "Now station the special sea and anchor detail - all hands to quarters for leaving port", and **I like** the infectious thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pierside. The work is hard and dangerous, the going rough at times, the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of the sea is ever present.

I like the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flit across the wave tops and sunset gives way to night. **I like** the feel of the Navy in darkness—the masthead lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters—they cut through the dusk and join with the mirror of stars overhead. And **I like** drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad noises large and small that tell me that my ship is alive and well, and that my shipmates on watch will keep me safe.

I like quiet mid watches with the aroma of strong coffee—the lifeblood of the Navy—permeating everywhere. And **I like** hectic watches when the exacting minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed keeps all hands on a razor edge of alertness.

I like the sudden electricity of "General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations", followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship transforms herself in a few brief seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war—ready for anything. And **I like** the sight of space-age equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I like the traditions of the Navy and the men and women who made them.

I like the proud names of Navy heroes: Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut and John Paul Jones. A sailor can find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade. An adolescent can find adulthood. In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, they will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods—the impossible shimmering mirror calm and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. And then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief's quarters and mess decks. Gone ashore for good they will grow wistful about their Navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port of call was ever over the horizon. Remembering this, they will stand taller and say: 'I WAS A SAILOR ONCE. I WAS PART OF THE NAVY BUT THE NAVY WILL ALWAYS BE A PART OF ME.'"
Author: VADM HAROLD Koenig, USN (Ret)

GRADE & YEARS OF SERVICE	67 Base Pay	02 Base Pay	67 Sea Pay	02 Sea Pay	67 BAQ w/o Dep	02 BAH w/o Dep	67 BAQ w 1 Dep	02 BAH w 1+ Dep	02 Family Sep. Allow
E-1 <2 Yrs	95.70	1,022.70	8.00	50.00	55.20	240.60	55.20	429.60	100.00
E-2 <2 Yrs	106.20	1,239.30	8.00	60.00	60.00	269.70	60.00	429.60	100.00
E-3 2 Yrs	179.70	1,385.40	9.00	100.00	60.00	332.10	60.00	450.90	100.00
E-4 3 Yrs	235.50	1,599.60	13.00	280.00	70.20	338.40	105.00	484.20	100.00
E-5 4 Yrs	285.00	1,828.50	16.00	300.00	70.20	389.10	105.00	557.40	100.00
E-6 6 Yrs	335.10	2,117.40	20.00	325.00	70.20	421.80	110.10	619.80	100.00
E-7 12 Yrs	415.50	2,726.40	22.50	520.00	75.00	465.90	114.90	670.50	100.00
E-8 16 Yrs	502.20	3,210.30	22.50	600.00	85.20	545.70	120.00	722.40	100.00
E-9 20 Yrs	601.20	3,944.10	22.50	620.00	85.20	594.30	120.00	783.30	100.00

Internet Annoyances

Tired of those pesky pop up windows. Hit Alt F4 to close each one

TAPS: EM1 Walter Harrison (Ret), passed away February 26, 2001. Walter served in Berkeley 1965-70.