good letter quote

U.S.S. Missouri
Sept. 23, 1945

Dear Friends,

I am sorry that I have waited so long to write you, but I wanted to have something worthwhile to tell you when I did write.

First let me thank all of you for making my absence from home almost bearable. It is really comforting to relax with my latest copy of "Letter From Home" and read the news about the people I know.

I am enclosing one of our ship's papers which tells you more about our activity than I could ever find words to write. I am very proud to be on the ship selected for the Japanese surrender ceremonies, and no one is any happier than I

that the war is finaly over.

I happened to be one of the gobs that went ashore at the Yokosuka Naval Base as an occupational force Aug. 30. We got a small dose of what the Marines & Army have had all along, and believe me I don't envy them.

While patroling the beach I ran into one of my old friends & school-mate from Montgomery, Charlie Carrigan. I hadn't seen him in almost three years. He is on an SS and as anxious as I to get back to the old home town.

My greatest thrill, I believe, came when we bombarded Muroran on Hokkaido and later the Tokyo area. I am in the loading crew of the right gun turret one. I named all the projectiles for

my family and friends and got quite a bit of satisfaction afterwards.

We are really lucky as we are now in Pearl Harbor headed for the good old U.S.A. and a leave in Montgomery, I hope.

I close hoping to see you all soon.

Your friend,
Wilbur F. McAthee
210 Capitol Avenue

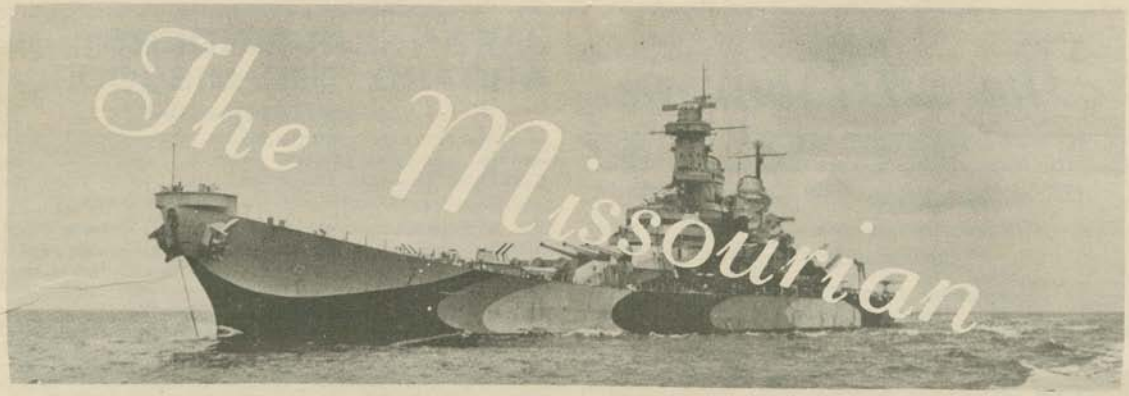
Wilbur F. McGhee S1/c
U. S. S. Missouri - 1st Div.
% Fleet Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

U. S.
SEP 26
3 30 PM
1945
NAVY

U.S. POSTAGE
AIR MAIL

"Air Mail"

"Your Letter From Home"
% Radio Station WSFA
Montgomery 2, Ala.



VOLUME 2 SEPTEMBER 10, 1945 NUMBER 12

JAPAN SURRENDERS ABOARD THE USS MISSOURI

MISSOURI'S REPORT OF BATTLE ACTION

Filled with the cream of American manhood, and sprinkled with seasoned veterans, the MISSOURI sailed off to the wars only nine short months ago. Following her illustrious predecessors, she was off to test her mettle against the Japs and take her part in the fighting Navy which was doing so much to finish once and for all Japan's war of aggression The ship was on her way with good advice from her Captain, William M. Callaghan, that the ensuing days and months would not all be spent in fighting but also in many long hours of watchful waiting.

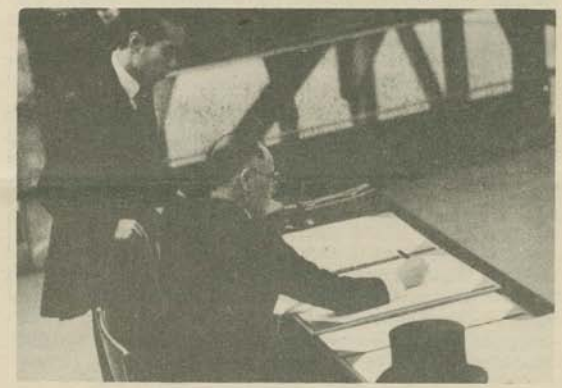
Thus it was not until the nineteenth day of February that the Missouri was destined to see her first action. At this time, while steaming off Iwo Jima as a part of Task Force 58, the ship's first kill was made. At 1944 on that evening several small groups of bogies were picked up by radar and condition one was set in the anti-aircraft battery; as the bogies continued to close "Air Defense" was sounded. Having a good solution on the rapidly closing plane, the ship opened fire and almost immediately the target tentatively identified as a HELEN, burst into flames. This was the first kill for the MISSOURI and one of which all hands could well be proud. Because of good tracking, good shooting, and perhaps a little luck, the reputation of the Missouri spread far and wide as a straight shooting ship.

Not until the eighteenth of March did the ship again have a chance to actually test her shooting ability. This time, still as part of Task Force 58, the first air strikes against the airfields of Kyushu in what was the forerunner of the Okinawa operation. Although bogies were being reported frequently in the vicinity of the Task Group, none closed into visual range until at 0741 when a Jap plane, believed to be a ZEKE, suddenly dove out of the clouds from the direction of the sun and dropped a bomb on the carrier just off the port beam. "Air Defense" was immediately sounded and everyone

(Continued on Page Three)

SHIGEMITSU JAP FOREIGN MINISTER SIGNS PEACE DOCUMENT

When Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu, Foreign Minister of Japan affixed his signature to the Instrument of Surrender on September 2, 1945 the fighting between Japan and the Allied nations was formally ended. Many precedents were broken in the signing of the



historic document aboard the USS Missouri. Never in all the history of the United States Navy had such an event taken place aboard a ship of war.

On the morning of September 2, Admiral of the Fleet Chester W. Nimitz, USN arrived on board at 0802 with his staff. High ranking Army and Navy Officers began coming aboard shortly after 0800. Generals Stilwell, Krueger, Hodges, Spaatz, Kenney, Doolittle, and Eichelberger were among the Army leaders present for the ceremonies. Perhaps the most noted of all was General Jonathan M. Wainwright, who carried the fight for Corregidor to its bitter conclusion in 1942 and was recently released after three years in a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

(Continued on Page Two)

The Missourian

Vol. 2 September 10, 1945 No. 12

Official ship's paper, USS Missouri (BB63)

Captain Stuart S. Murray, USN
Commanding Officer

Commander Louis T. Malone, USN
Executive Officer

Edition by the Chaplain's Office

"RIG FOR CHURCH"

PRAYER AT THE SURRENDER OF JAPAN

(By ROLAND W. FAULK, Chaplain, U.S. Navy)

Eternal God, Father of all living, we offer our sincere prayer of Thanksgiving to Thee on this day which we now dedicate to peace among the nations, remembering another Sabbath Day that was desecrated by the beginning of this brutal war. We are thankful that that those who have loved peace have been rewarded with victory over those who have loved war, May it ever be so!

On this day of deliverance we pray for those who through long years have been imprisoned, destitute, sick and forsaken. Heal their bodies and their spirits. O God, for their wounds are grievous and deep. May the scars which they bear remind us that victory is not without cost and peace is not without price. May we never forget those who have paid the cost of our victory and peace.

On this day of surrender we turn hopefully from war to peace, from destroying to building, from killing to saving. But peace without justice we know is hopeless and justice without mercy Thou wilt surely despise. Help us therefore, O, God, to do justice and to love mercy and to walk humbly before Thee.

We pray for Thy servant, the President of the United States, and for the leaders of all lands that they may be endowed with wisdom sufficient for their great tasks. Grant unto all the peoples of the earth knowledge of Thee, with courage and faith to abide within the shelter of Thy sovereign law. Amen.

SIDELIGHT ON SURRENDER

Perhaps the most dramatic aspect of the entire surrender ceremonies lay in the fact that men who for years had been driven and beaten by Japanese guards were permitted to witness the abject surrender of the government and people that had imprisoned them. Heading the list of those present was General Jonathan M. Wainwright, the great leader of Bataan and Corregidor, whose brave leadership in the tragic early days of the war gave the United States time to prepare for fighting.

JAPAN SURRENDERS ABOARD THE MISSOURI

(Continued from Page One)

The Navy was represented by men who had made history--- Admirals Halsey, Turner, Towers, McCain, Lockwood, Sherman and others while Lieutenant General Geiger represented the U. S. Marine Corps.

At 0830 representatives of the Allied Powers began coming aboard. The Republic of China was represented by General Hsu Yung-Chang; the United Kingdom by Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, GCB. KBE; the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by Lieutenant General Kuzma Nikolaevish Derevyanko; the Commonwealth of Australia by General Sir Thomas Blamey; the Dominion of Canada by Colonel L. Moore Cosgrave; the Republic of France by General Jacques Le-Clerc; the Commonwealth of New Zealand by Air Vice Marshall Isitt; the United Kingdom of the Netherlands by Admiral Helfrich.

The press was represented by correspondents from the press and news services of the world and the entire proceedings were covered by scores of photographers.

The ceremonies took place on the gallery deck on the starboard side of the ship. Representatives of the Allied powers were grouped facing forward with senior representatives in the front row backed up by their juniors, with Admiral Nimitz outboard. American Army and Navy Officers were facing outboard in several lines from alongside turrett 2 and aft.

A few minutes before 0900 General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers arrived aboard to accept the surrender of Japan on behalf of the Allied Powers. He was brought aboard from a destroyer which came alongside to port, where he was met by Admiral Nimitz, Admiral Halsey and Captain Murray. General MacArthur proceeded to Admiral Halsey's cabin for a short conference with Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Halsey.

At 0855 a Missouri boat brought the Japanese delegation to the gangway. The Japanese party consisted of the foreign Minister, Mr. Shigemitsu, General Yoshijiro Umezo, Chief of Staff, Japanese Army Headquarters; Mr. Katsuo Okazaki, Director General, Central Liason Office; Mr. Saburo Ohta, Director Central Liason Office; Mr. Shunichi Kase, Director Number One Government Information Bureau; Lieutenant General Shuichi Miyakazi, representing Army General Headquarters; Major General Yatsuji Nagai, Army Staff; Colonel Kaziyi Sugita, Army Staff; Rear Admiral Tadatoski Tomioko, representing Naval General Headquarters; Rear Admiral Ichiro Yokoyama, Navy Headquarters, and Captain Katsuo Shiba, Navy Headquarters,

The Japanese delegation mounted the gallery deck and took positions facing aft towards the assembly of representatives of the Allied Powers. Promptly at 0900, General Douglas MacArthur came from the Admiral's cabin and took his position in front of a battery of microphones, one which picked up his speech and carried it throughout the ship so that the Missouri crew who were not able to witness the ceremony might be able to hear as much as possible.

At the conclusion of his speech, General MacArthur requested the representatives of Japan to advance and

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MISSOURI'S REPORT OF BATTLE ACTION

(Continued from Page One)

stood by for more to come. At 0805 the Missouri along with others opened fire on a NICK. The solution was excellent and the plane almost immediately burst into flames. This being the ship's first actual experience with the Jap Kamikaze, everyone was amazed to find that although this plane, afire and almost completely out of control, tried and almost succeeded in crashing into one of the carriers. Twice again during that morning we opened fire on bandits, the second of which was splashed by the Missouri gunfire. Bogey business continued in the afternoon and at 1316 a plane came in and dropped a bomb near one of the carriers and was almost immediately thereafter splashed by ship's gunfire. Fire was opened on the second one shortly thereafter at a range of only 2,500 yards and it was splashed just off the starboard beam. The solution on this one was good and the Missouri claimed another kill. Numerous bogies were present during the afternoon, but none closed to within shooting range.

On the 24th of March the ship was scheduled for its first bombardment of enemy territory. Early in the morning the bombardment group was formed with the NEW JERSEY, WISCONSIN and screening destroyers and proceeded in toward the south-western coast of Okinawa to use the Japanese real estate as a testing ground for the then virgin sixteen inch guns, and to try and soften up the Japs for the eventual invasion. This exercise was carried out at extreme range and no opposition was encountered. While a certain disappointment arose over not being able to accurately assess the damage done, everyone knew that this was only the beginning of more to come.

Five days later on the 29th of March, while continuing strikes on the Kyushu area, the formation was heckled by several bogies. In the early afternoon bogies were reported southwest of the group and condition one was set. Shortly after 1400 a bogey was picked up only 12 miles away and closing fast. Two of the CAP planes got on his tail and followed him down through the clouds as he dove on the formation. Ships of the group opened fire and the bogey was splashed. During this foray one man, Ganas, J. J., S2c. was injured by a 20MM cartridge which passed through his stomach without exploding.

A couple weeks later while still in the area of Okinawa furnishing air cover and support to the invading troops on the beach, the group was again molested by the Japs. The morning hours passed uneventfully with the first CAP'S and sweeps taking off just before daybreak. But by 1440 reports were received of thirteen splashes by the Combat Air Patrol. At this time three or more bandits were closing on the group quickly and very low on the water, and at 1442 fire was commenced on a low flying ZEKE coming in on the starboard quarter, and although a murderous hail of fire was thrown at the plane, the pilot succeeded in coming through it all to crash into the MISSOURI on the starboard quarter at the main deck level, Parts of the plane sprayed the whole starboard side of the ship and the pilots mutilated body landed on the main deck. The right wing of the plane was thrown far forward, inboard of 5-inch mount No. 3, where it started a gasoline fire. Luckily the damage was entirely superficial and the fire was brought quickly under control by the alert action of men standing by, including Lt. (jg) O. D. Scarborough, who was the junior officer of the watch at the time. By this time fire had opened on a second plane diving on another battleship in the formation. It was shot down quickly, but succeeded in crashing close aboard its intended target. Numerous bogies were reported approaching the formation about 1905 and "Air Defense" was sounded again About this time the ship commenced firing on a twin engine bandit which passed astern about 12,000 yards. No hits were observed but the raid got in no closer. Again at 2327 the ship opened fire on a plane distant about 11,000 yards, but again no results could be determined. This was April 11, 1945.

Looking at the whole picture in retrospect it is clearly seen that the 16th of April was the "fightingest" day the men of the Missouri ever had. It was around this time that the Japs had finally committed themselves to attempting to save Okinawa at any cost, and consequently they were throwing everything they had into the foray in what proved to be an abortive effort to stem the tide of the American advance. This particular day started early for the Naval Forces patrolling the waters off Okinawa and at 0038 condition one was set in the anti-aircraft battery when a raid approached the formation. The bogey turned away however when fired on by the screening destroyers and went out to the northwest. The screen was clear at 0132 and the normal condition of readiness was set. But again at 0756 condition one was set in the anti-aircraft battery upon receipt of bogey reports. From then until 1136 six raids were picked up, but none closed the group. Finally at 1303 a group of planes was picked up about 75 miles away and coming directly for the formation, These very shortly thereafter proved to be a group of Kamikazes and at 1326 "Air Defense" was sounded. The ship opened fire on a low flying ZEKE about 6,000 yards away and hits were obtained almost immediately. After being fired on for thirty seconds the plane burst into flames and crashed close aboard one of the carriers. Two minutes later fire was opened on a second ZEKE also coming in from the North. Again the solution was good and although the plane was hit quickly, the pilot made a definite attempt to crash the MISSOURI. The wing of the plane clipped the crane on the fantail before he crashed a short distance astern and exploded violently. Debris was thrown aboard the ship, but only minor damage was sustained. At 1335 fire was opened on a HAMP diving towards the ship from the port quarter; the plane burst into flames, passed over the ship at about 300 feet and crashed into the water just off the starboard bow. Almost immediately thereafter two planes which had come in very high dove on the carrier on the port beam. One succeeded in crashing her but the other was splashed. Again at 1514 the ship fired on two planes closing the formation from the North. Numerous hits were obtained, but one plane crashed forward of a carrier and the other close aboard one of the destroyers. A third plane was taken under fire a few minutes later passing astern of the ship. No hits were observed on this plane and it passed on over the horizon. Two men, A. J. Palermo, S1c, and D. J. Guliano. S1c, had been wounded by shrapnal and strafing during the afternoon, and fortunately they were the only casualties. A few hours respite was achieved, but at 1850 "Air Defense" was sounded again when planes began to close the force. Although no planes appeared over the group

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MISSOURI'S REPORT OF BATTLE ACTION

(Continued from Page Three)

at this time, bandits were being splashed left and right by other groups in the general vicinity. "Air Defense" was secured at 1953 but again at 2050 the men were called to their guns when planes approached the formation. During the ensuing thirty minutes two bogies were fired on, but both were out of gun range and neither attempted to close after fire was opened . . . , and so ended a busy day for the boys on the front.

At dawn on the 29th of April the MISSOURI'S Task Group was already in the anti-aircraft cruising disposition ready for whatever might come. The morning passed uneventfully with only a few scattered bogies here and there, none of which closed the group. It was not unttil late afternoon that the force actually underwent an air attack. At 1737 "Air Defense" was sounded and a few minutes later a low flying ZEKE came in astern of the formation and was taken under gunfire. This plane was splashed without causing any damage, but in the meantime two of the picket destroyers had been crashed by suicide planes. About 2000 the radar screen was clear. Although it was not known at the time the Missouri had shot at her last Jap plane until the Nips last feeble flurry was to come over three months later:

Having just taken ComThirdFleet aboard, the Missouri was scheduled for bombardment on the 27th of May. That afternoon the ship got underway from the Hagushi anchorage off Okinawa to give the Japs another sample of sixteen inch guns. This was to be a part of the continuous bombardment the Nips on Southern Okinawa had been taking for two months. Everyone felt very good about being able to take a direct part in helping to crack the enemy Naha-Shuri-Yonabaru line. The ship got underway in the early afternoon and for fifty minutes took various targets on the southwestern coast of Okinawa under heavy bombardment. No opposition was encountered and upon completion of the bombardment, the ship sailed off to join Task Force 38.

The next close contact with the enemy was not to come for forty-nine more days. Then on the morning of the 15th of July the MISSOURI joined with her sister ships, WISCONSIN and IOWA plus screening destroyers to subject the city of Muroran on the island of Hokkaido to the second bombardment the Japs had felt on their sacred home islands in as many days. By 0930 that morning the group was squared on the bombardment course just off the Jap mainland and at 0935 commenced the fifty minute rain of shells on the Nihon Steel Works and Wanishi Iron Works. Again, much to the surprise of everyone, no opposition was met and the retirement to rejoin Task Force 38 was without incident.

After a two day respite this same force was again ordered to bombard the Jap homeland. This time the industrial targets of Hitachi, only sixty miles from Tokyo. In all types of daring offensive warfare some opposition is expected from the enemy and in the afternoon of the 17th of July, as the bombardment group was formed, it was certainly expected by all hands that this time the Japs would put up a fight. The target area was reached about 2300 and as the navigational position was checked, the guns trained, and the range to the target determined, all hands were alert for any type of enemy action. The weather was exceptionally poor with low visability and a steady rain. At 2315 the word was given to commence firing and the big guns of the MISSOURI again sent word to the Japs that the Navy was here to stay to destroy their power and will to resist the inexorable advance of the American Forces. For fifty minutes the pounding continued and although numerous bogies were on the radar screen, none interfered with operation . . . . thanks partly to the weather and also to the black magic furnished by CIC. That no opposition had been encountered was indeed paradoxical and it was felt by all hands that if the Nips could take something like this lying on their backs, their power to resist was fading fast.

On the ninth of August . . . . the day before the Japanese government made its first peace overtures . . the MISSOURI had its last opportunity to fire on a Jap plane. Around 1500 of that day it was reported that one of the picket destroyers had been crash-dived by a Jap plane and as bogies were picked up and closing the formation "Air Defense" was sounded. At 1600 a GRACE was sighted coming in fast and immediately taken under gunfire. The presence of the MISSOURI in the center of the formation and the close pursuit of the CAP did not afford the gunners much of a shot. However, the 40MM did succeed in getting one good shot burst. With all ships firing the plane was splashed close aboard one of the carriers.

A few days later the war had come to end and the MISSOURI'S prime reason in being . . . to protect our ships and to destroy the enemy . . . had been fullfiilled in a manner of which all hands could be proud.

Although all the fighting and destroying Japs in the MISSOURI'S wartime life had taken only eleven days, many were the long days and hours when the guns were manned and the watchful wait was kept. The days of fighting are the ones that will be remembered longest and talked of most often, but in many respects serving by merely standing and waiting was the most difficult part.

To all hands who served the closing months of the war can well go an enduring feeling of self satisfaction in having played a major part in bringing the treacherous Jap to his knees.

PRINT SHOP ANOTHER BUSY SPOT IN SURRENDER PREPARATIONS

Although the preparation for the surrender ceremonies on board the Missouri involved all hands, the efforts of some received more notice than others. One of the chief desires of all persons attending the ceremony was to have some souvenir or symbol of the ceremony. Under the acting Executive Officer Commander H. B. Lyon. USN, a card bearing the signatures of representatives of the United States attesting to the presence of an individual was devised.

The burden of preparing this card fell to the Print Shop. Chief Printer George J. Campbell. with his assistants, Louis A. Gainsley, PrtrM; Marco Zambrano, S1c (PrtrL) and Robert D. Fields, S2c, turned to and came up with a souvenir card which immediately caught the eye of all visting dignitaries

The cards were printed on card board in two colors with the lettering printed in black over a representation of the rising sun printed in red. The cards were

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JAPAN SURRENDERS

(Continued from Page Two)

sign the documents which were spread on a green, cloth covered mess table. (A highly polished table from H.M.S. King George V, which had been brought aboard to be used for this purpose, was not used since it was too small.) Following the signing by the Foreign Minister, General Yoshijiro Umezo, representing the Japanese General Headquarters signed for the military forces.

General MacArthur then announced that he would sign for the Allied Powers collectively after which each representative would sign for his country. General MacArthur requested that General Jonathan M. Wainwright together with General A. E. Percival, Commanding the British garrison at Singapore when it fell, stand beside him as he signed. The first pen which General MacArthur used in affixing his signature was given to General Wainwright while the second pen was given to General Percival.

After General MacArthur had signed, he invited the representatives of the various Allied nations to sign. Admiral Nimitz then signed for the United States, followed by the Chinese, British, Russian, Australian, Canadian, French, New Zealand and Netherlands representatives.

When all had signed, General MacArthur announced that it was his purpose to see to it that the terms of surrender were carried out and he announced that the ceremonies were completed. The Japanese then stepped forward to receive their copy of the surrendor documents, whereupon it was discoverd there was some irregularity in the signatures. A representative of General MacArthur's headquarters made certain corrections with his pen. The Japanese then acepted the document and left the ship to be returned to the destroyer which would return them ashore.

POST OFFICE FORCE PUT IN LONG HOURS ON SURRENDER DAY

One of the busiest spots on board ship the day of surrender was the Ship's Post Office. A special cancelation stamp, to be used only on that day, kept the five man crew of the Post Office close to the mail room most of that day stamping, according to an estimate, some 15,000 pieces of mail.

The men, who started working at 0545 Sunday and closed up the office only at midnight, were D. L. Hartzoge, MaM1c; C. G. Adams, MaM3c; William M. Emory, MaM3c; C. S. Henderson, S1c, and D. J. Burke, S2c.

Designed and executed by Donald G. Droddy, CSF, the stamp bore the words: "USS Missouri, Tokyo Bay, Japanese Formal Surrender", and the date. Each member of the crew was allowed to write five letters to be stamped with this special cancellation, most of the men took advantage of the offer. The stamp had to be affixed by hand and it is a credit to the patience and endurance of the Post Office Crew that the final cancellation on all letters was done prior to the deadline which was midnight, 2 September 1945.

ADMIRAL HALSEY HAS COLORFUL CAREER

Since 18 May 1945 the USS Missouri has been the fighting flagship of Admiral William F. Halsey, USN, Commander of the Third Fleet. With his four star flag flying from the Missouri, Admiral Halsey led the Third Fleet out of Guam to complete the Okinawa campaign, retired to Leyte, then headed north to scourge the coast

Admiral W. F. Halsey, Comdr. 3rd Fleet

of Japan and deliver the climactic strokes of the war that did not cease until, still aboard the Missouri, he stood alongside Fleet Admiral C. W. Nimitz while the Commander in Chief of the Pacific Forces signed the Japanese Surrender terms on 2 September 1945.

It was only fitting that Admiral Halsey should be thus honored on one of the greatest days in the history of the United States, for during three and a half years he had fought in practically all the major sea battles of the Pacific war, until to the Japanese his name became synonymous with United States Naval Power.

Born in Elizabeth, N. J., on 30 Oct. 1882, he graduated from the Naval Academy in 1904, and began the long series of command and other duties which today give him 26 years at sea. During World War One he commanded consecutively the destroyers Benham and Shaw, operating out of Queenstown. For this he received the Navy Cross.

In 1934 at the age of fifty-two Admiral Halsey entered Pensacola for flight training, and won his wings after having completed the full course. His first air command was as commander of the aircraft carrier USS SARATOGA in 1935. In June, 1940, he assumed command of the Pacific Fleet Aircraft Battle Force.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor he was at sea with this carrier force, and for weeks he exercised the sole defensive patrol in the mid-Pacific. In the first offensive action of the war in the Central Pacific he led a task force on 1 Feb. 1942, against the Marshall and Gilbert Islands and scored a notable victory. For this action he received the Distinguished Service Medal.

Then followed Admiral Halsey's participation in some of the vital offensive actions of the war. In March

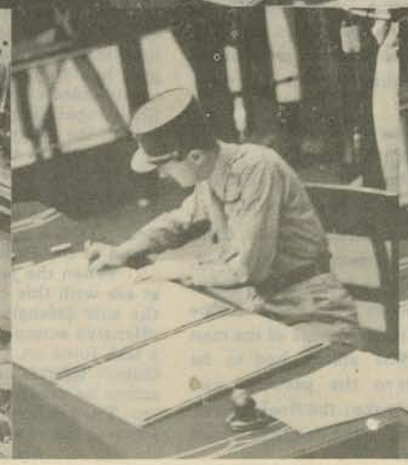
(Continued on Page Eight)

SURRENDER CEREMONIES

From left to right (top) 1. General MacArthur arrives, escorted by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and Admiral W. F. Halsey. 2. Japanese Delegation. 3. Gen. MacArthur Opens Ceremonies. 4. Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu signs for Japan's Government. 6. Gen. MacArthur for Allied Powers.

Center: Admiral Nimitz for U.S.A. 8. Gen. Hsu Yung-Chang for China. 9. Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser for Great Britain. 10. Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey for Australia.

Bottom: 11. Col. L. Moore Cosgrave for Canada. 12. General Jacques LeClerc for France. 13. Admiral Helfrich for the Netherlands. 14. Air Vice Marshall Isitt for New Zealand. 15. Gen. MacArthur closes ceremonies. 16. Japanese depart.



ADMIRAL HALSEY HAS COLORFUL CAREER

(Continued from Page Five)

1942, his task force struck Wake and Marcus Islands, and launched Doolittle's bombing raid on Tokyo a month later. Appointed Commander, South Pacific Force and South Pacific Area, he directed the Battle of Santa Cruz and on 13-15 Nov. forces under his command routed the Japs in Battles of Guadalcanal. Three days later the late President Roosevelt appointed him a full Admiral.

Then followed the successful battles in which Admiral Halsey, in command of Naval, Marine and Army ground and Air Forces invaded the central and northern Solomons to bring the South Pacific campaign to a successful conclusion in the spring of 1944. He was awarded a gold star in lieu of a second Distinguished Service Medal by the War Department.

On 27 August 1944, as Commander Third Fleet and Commander Western Pacific Task Forces, he left a trail of enemy ruin and destruction in the Palaus, Philippines, Formosa, Okinawa and the South China Sea. Greater loss was inflicted by the Third Fleet upon the Japanese than any fleet of any country in history has ever inflicted upon an enemy.

In the five months ending 21 January 1945, Admiral Halsey's warships and planes destroyed 7,315 enemy aircraft, sank 90 warships and 573 merchant vessels for a combined total of more than 1,000,000 tons of shipping.

The Third Fleet added substantially to its bag in the final offensive of the war, opening with an assault on the Ryukyus on 28 May 1945, and continuing against the home islands through 15 August. During this period it destroyed or damaged 3,040 planes, sank 40 warships, including 3 battleships, sent almost 500 merchant vessels to the bottom of home waters and thus administered the coup de grace to the Jap Navy.

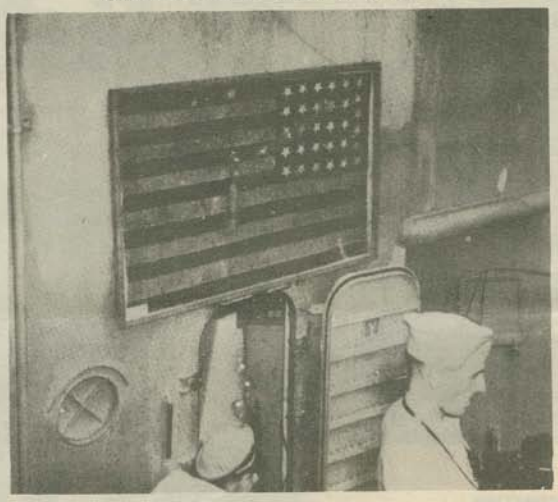
With this record of service to the United States Navy behind him, well might Admiral Halsey have felt a sense of personal triumph when the Japanese representative affixed his signature to the unconditional surrender document on board the USS MISSOURI on 2 September 1945.

MISSOURI GETS A "WELL DONE"

Although the MISSOURI played host to many world famous and distinguished men, the ceremonies could not have been carried off with precision had it not been for the contribution made by MISSOURI personnel, officers and men. The ship itself had to be prepared for the big event, and as is customary, field day was held for days in advance. Paint was scraped off and fresh paint added where needed, platforms built and a host of other things done to make ready. The Band and Marine Guard of Honor were rehearsed so that their evolutions would proceed with clock-like precision. Officer Escorts for all visiting dignitaries were instructed in their duties, under the direction of Commander H. V. Bird, USN. A complete schedule had to be worked out with the Third Fleet Staff so that every phase of the surrender was perfectly timed. The operations of small boats was no small part of the day's activities.

The success of the efforts of the personnel of the MISSOURI was revealed in the congratulatory messages from General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz who praised the efficiency with which the entire day's proceedings were carried off. To all hands went a "WELL DONE!"

COMMODORE PERRY'S FLAG

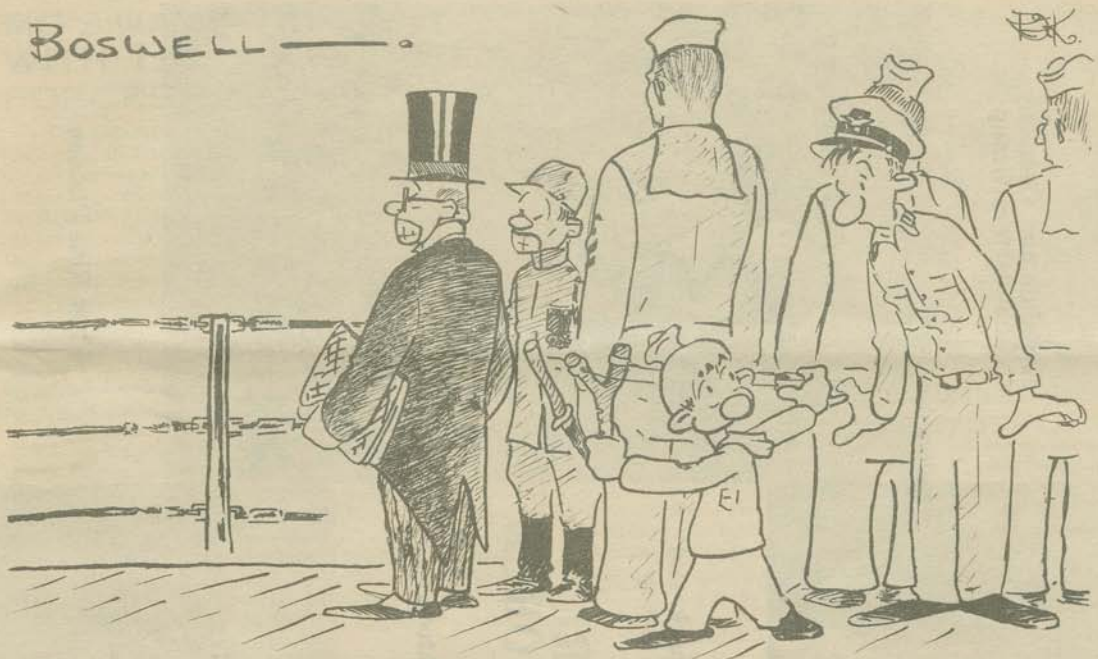


PERRY'S FLAG BROUGHT FROM U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY, ON DISPLAY AS JAPAN SURRENDERS

Prominently displayed at the surrender ceremonies was the flag flown by Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, U. S. Navy, on the occasion of his visit to Japan over ninety years ago. This flag was brought by air from the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland to be displayed during the surrender ceremony.

Commodore Perry had been entrusted, in 1852, with a letter from President Fillmore to the Emperor of Japan which had as its purpose the establishing of diplomatic and trade relations with Japan. The mission was one requiring astuteness and patience. Commodore Perry experienced many strange things, not the least of them when, in waiving a point of precedence, he went to the Japanese ship anchored near his flagship, and instead of being met with the usual honors befitting a representative of a great nation he was shoved sprawling back into his boat by a soldier at the gangway of the Japanese ship.

He did succeed in delivering the President's letter, although the Japanese had ordered him to go to Nagasaki instead of Yedo, where the safe delivery was made. He returned again in 1854, bringing with him more ships in order to make a stronger show of force and concluded at Yokohama the treaty which inaugurated a new chapter in the history of Japan---a chapter which was concluded on board the U.S.S. Missouri just a few miles from the place where the first treaty was signed.



BOSWELL, PLEASE, THE WAR IS OVER.

PRINT SHOP ANOTHER BUSY SPOT IN SURRENDER PREPARATIONS

(Continued from Page Four)

inscribed with the words:- "Certifying to the presence of (individuals name) at the formal surrender of the Japanese Forces to the Allied Powers."

The cards bore the signatures of Captain Murray, General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Halsey.

The print shop also turned out a limited number of post cards (limited by the supply of materials) which were popular as souvenirs. The post cards bore on the address side a picture of the magnificent saddle presented to Admiral Halsey by the Reno, Nevada Chamber of Commerce and on the reverse side, "Greetings from Tokyo Bay," with a picture of the ship at sea.

Although the print shop has sometimes worked under handicaps incidental to the operation of an off set press in a tropical climate at sea, the work has been appreciated by all hands because of the ship's letters and ship's papers which have been available to be sent home. The 34 page Missouri Annual recently distributed to the crew was printed in the Missouri's Print Shop in connection with the first anniversary of the commissioning of the MIGHTY MO.

The Missourian is published irregularly on board the USS Missouri in compliance with articles E-7606, E-7602, E-7603, E-7604, BuPers Manual,

NEWS MEN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ABOARD MO. FOR CEREMONY

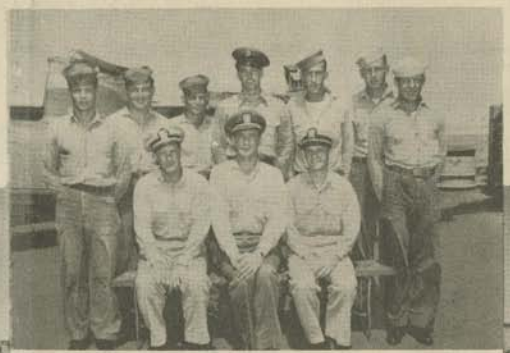
The most picturesque visitors on the Missouri at the surrender ceremonies, apart from the military delagations, were the press correspondents. Army and Navy correspondents as well as all the press services of the world were represented. The Russians in military garb were much in evidence as they continually took pictures. They seemed to be interested in human interest photographs and stories as well as the surrender ceremonies, for they carefully took pictures of a working party handling the lines to the Missouri from a destroyer. The Austrialian correspondents were eaily identified by their rakish wide-brimmed hats. There were Chinese, French, British and Colonial, Dutch and even a few Japanese representatives.

For the ceremonies, the photographers were given assigned places and literally thousands of pictures were taken during the proceedings. The list of correspondents was most impressive with many of the world's most famous war correspondents covering the surrender. Among the distinguished publishers present was Mr. Ochs Adler, of the New York Times.

The Japanese correspondents watched the proceedings with lackadaisical interest as though they had eaten something which disagreed with them.

Among all the photographers present were the Missouri cameramen whose skill and proficiency are second to none. Led by P. Ferrigno, PhoM3c, the Missouri's photography team of H. I. Campbell, Bkr2c; L. J. Schmidt, S1c, and J. M. Sturm S1c, got a complete coverage of the surrender and to them goes the credit for the excellent pictures in this issue of the Missourian

Third Rifle Platoon

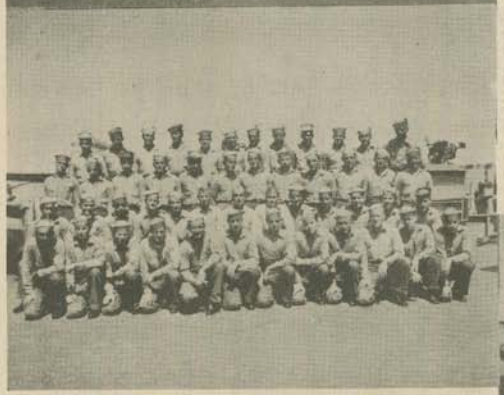


Battalion and Company Headquarters Group

Comdr. P. C. Stromback and Ordnance Disposal Group

MISSOURI LANDING FORCE

Second Rifle Platoon



Weapons Platoon

First Rifle Platoon

MO'S NAVY COMPANY WITH 1ST THIRD FLEET FORCES TO HIT BEACH

The capitulation of Japan came so suddenly that the forces of the Allied Powers were caught unprepared for an immediate landing on Japanese soil. It became necessary, therefore, to prepare a THIRD FLEET LANDING FORCE, whose duty it would be to move ashore in advance of the main fleet's entry into Tokyo Bay and occupy and hold the Yokosuka Naval Base, just inside Tokyo Bay.

Hurriedly a Naval Regiment was organized with Commander L. T. Malone, USN., Executive Officer of the USS Missouri, as Commanding Officer of the Regiment. The MISSOURI was directed to form a Navy Company for the landing force as well as furnish officers for the Regimental and Battalion Staffs.

Lt. Commander R. J. Matusek, USNR, was designated commander of the Missouri Company, and assigned to the Company were one hundred and seventy-six men from the ship. Much was asked of these men who had not been trained either as infantry men or as Marines. However, knowing the job which lay ahead, all turned to with a will in preparing for the historic landings which were to be made. Close order drill, lectures on the use of arms and other subjects were the order of the day every day for these men. Gear had to be assembled and checked.

On 20 August the USS IOWA came alongside to receive by whip transfer the Navy Company from the MISSOURI and also members of the Regimental and Battalion Staffs. In one hour and nineteen minutes, over two hundred men and ten tons of gear were transferred while these two mighty ships of war steamed along on parallel courses less than a hundred feet apart. Later in the day a second ship to ship transfer was made when the party moved from the Iowa to the USS MONITOR, an LSV which was to be the home, school and drill ground until H-Hour of D-Day.

By noon of 21 August, the bulk of the Navy Regiment, which soon came to be known with esteem as "MALONE'S MARAUDERS," was aboard the MONITOR, with infantry companies from the WISCONSIN, SOUTH DAKOTA, ALABAMA, MASSACHUSETTS and INDIANA. Companies from the MISSOURI and WISCONSIN formed the FOURTH BATTALION.

While in training aboard the MONITOR, full details concerning the approaching operation were given out. It was announced that the task of the THIRD FLEET LANDING FORCE would be to occupy, guard and patrol the Navy Yard Area. The days were spent in drill, and more drill. It was necessary to learn the proper use of 50 and 30 caliber machine guns as well sub-machine guns, automatic rifles, pistols and hand grenades. All this was in preparation, not for the duties of assault troops, but for the duties of occupation troops. It was thought that a full Marine regiment of experienced assault troops would lead the way ashore and that after they were safely dug in, the occupation force from the Third Fleet would occupy the Navy Yard.

On the morning of 30 August, the word was passed to move ashore to an area in the Yokosuka Base designated as "Green Beach." The landing force would move ashore in four waves, seven minutes apart, with the MISSOURI Company landing in the first two waves. Moving on schedule over the sides of the ship into landing boats and loaded down with full equipment, the Third Fleet Landing Force handeled themselves like veterans doing an old and familiar job. The boats moved in ashore but instead of finding the full regiment of Marine assault troops dug in ashore, it was soon discovered that only one Battalion had landed. "Malone's Marauders poured ashore, however, there being no opposition.

THE REGIMENTAL STAFF

The Third Fleet Landing Force moved to the assigned bivouac area which was the Japanese Gunnery School about half a mile from "Green Beach." Perhaps the most vivid impression of this entry into the Japanese homeland and military stronghold was the stifling odor of decaying sewage and decaying fish in the garbage dumps. Lt. Commander T, Scott, (MC), USNR, of the Missouri, the Regimental Surgeon, soor. had the area disinfected and the garbage properly disposed of.

The MISSOURI Company was assigned the top floor in the Gunnery School Barracks. Although the barracks were quite clean a good Navy field day was held to make it truly ship-shape. Enlisted personnel slept in hammocks while the otficers slept on tables without the comfort of mattresses which the medical officers ordered to be removed. The use of all Japanese water and food was prohibited thus food and water was limited to that which had been taken ashore.

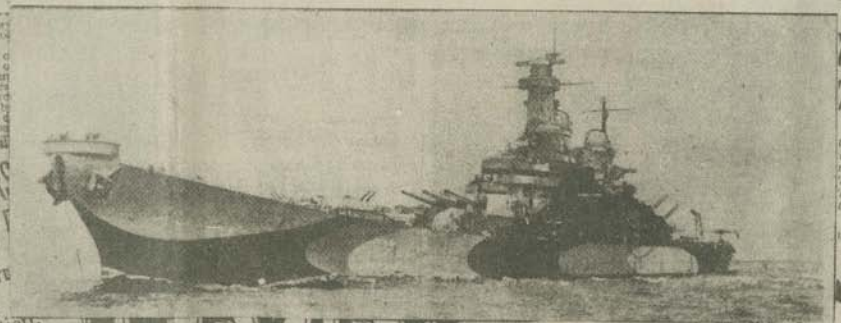
In carrying out assigned duties, the Landing Force was organized into sentry watches, in addition to providing working parties and guards in the Green Beach Area. Japanese munition dumps had to be guarded as well as the entries to the many caves and tunnels in the hills, and neucleus crews placed aboard Japanese ships of which the Nagato was the largest. The watches were long and the weather was terrible the first three days. By the night of the third day, however, Pay Clerk E. Odom, USN, of the Missouri, had established himself ashore and set up "ODOM'S STEW PALACE," an open air cafeteria which specialized in hot coffee and C rations. "Odom's Stew Palace" was the brightest spot of the base, a fine example of the ingenuity of the American Bluejacket properly supervised by a competent officer.

Soon rumors began to fly thick and fast that the Missouri would be departing from the Tokyo Bay Area. This caused moments of uneasiness for no one had a desire to stay behind. However on September 4th the Third Fleet Landing Force returned to their respective ships, fully conscious of a job well done.

JAPS SURRENDER

TOLEDO BLADE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1945

Battleship Reported Scene Of Jap Surrender



REVIEW — Editorial, Mar

2, 1945. PRICE TEN CENTS SPOKANE,

ON WARSHIP MISSOURI

Two Nipponese Put Names

Mighty 'Mo' to Fulfill Forecast Made at Launching by Truman

It was on Jan. 29, 1944, that President Truman, then a United States Senator, addressed 26,000 persons, shivering in a raw wind under leaden skies, at the launching of the battleship Missouri in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. At that time he predicted that "Big Mo, with batteries blazing, will sail into Tokyo Bay."

President Truman's prediction will [illegible] the peace which will follow our total victory."

Named for the President's home state, the 45,000-ton battlewagon was christened by the Chief Executive's daughter, Margaret Mary Truman. Mr. Truman also attended the commissioning at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on June 11, 1944.

The Missouri was under frequent [illegible] flagship. Soon afterward she returned to action to take part in the bombardment of the Japanese homeland.

The first commanding officer of the ship which will be the setting for the historic event was Capt. William M. Callaghan. Last May he was promoted to rear admiral and was succeeded in command by [illegible]

U.S.S. Missouri Figu[illegible]

MISSOURI HA[illegible] 2 CLOSE CA[illegible]

Washington — (AP) — The [illegible] disclosed yesterday that the battleship Missouri, scene of forthcoming surrender cere[illegible] Tokyo Bay, had at least [illegible] escapes from Japan[illegible] planes.

Fixed Battleship Missour[illegible] With Halsey Ab[illegible] ters Tok[illegible]

Issued on MacArth[illegible] Command, It Lists Many Duties.

[illegible]ociated Press. [illegible] S. MISSOU[illegible] Sunday, [illegible] No. 1

an Pro[illegible] J Day but Not [illegible] Termination of W[illegible]

By Associated Press.

[illegible]HINGTON, Sept. 1—President Truman proclaim[illegible] [illegible]ptember 2, as "V-J Day—the day of formal surre[illegible] in a radio speech tonight. [illegible]aking over a radio hookup [illegible] which the surrender wa[illegible] the President said:

[illegible] of all [illegible]

WIFE OF MISSOURI [illegible]KIPPER THRILLED [illegible]VER SELECTION

"All I know is what I re[illegible] the papers," said Mrs. Stu[illegible] hadrick Murray, attractive w[illegible] f Capt. Murray of the U[illegible] lissouri, aboard which the s[illegible] ender of Japan will be sign[illegible] Tokyo Bay. [illegible] who grew up in Sa[illegible] visiting her inv[illegible] Mrs. Alice Rodgers [illegible] Valerio St.

It was one tim[illegible] opular Will Roge[illegible] lerally true.

"Is it really so t[illegible] ouri is chosen?" [illegible] wife, who had not [illegible] er husband since [illegible] d eagerly asked a[illegible] representative. She [illegible] children will b[illegible] pieced".

She referred to [illegible] rt Grant Murray, [illegible] the U. S. Naval [illegible] Annapolis, and [illegible] Susanne [illegible]

SURRENDER INSTRUMEN[illegible]

U. S. S. MISSOURI, Tokyo Ba[illegible] Sept. 2 (Sunday). (AP)—Official te[illegible] of the surrender instrument:

"1. We, acting by command o[illegible] and in behalf of the emperor o[illegible] Japan, the Japanese governmen[illegible] and the Japanese imperial gener[illegible] headquarters, hereby accept [illegible] visions in the declaration issued b[illegible] the heads of the governments o[illegible] the United States, China and Gre[illegible] Britain July 26, 1945, at Potsd[illegible] and subsequently adhered to by [illegible] Union of Soviet Socialist Re[illegible] which four powers [illegible] referred to as th[illegible]

"2. We [illegible] com[illegible] pon[illegible] gem[illegible] Jap[illegible]

HIROHITO ORDERS HOSTILITIES'[illegible]

Text of Sure[illegible] Instrument [illegible] Proclamation[illegible]

By Associated Press.

U. S. S. MISSOURI, Tokyo Bay, Sept. 2, (Sunday).—Official text of Emperor Hirohito's proclamation, issued upon order of the supreme allied commander by connection with Japan's formal sur[illegible] render:

"Accepting the terms set forth in the declaration issued by the heads of the governments of the United States, Great Britain and China on July 26, 1945, at Potsdam, and subsequently adhered to by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, I have commanded the [illegible]

[illegible]ITZ ASSIGNS [illegible]GE ARMADA [illegible]IN SURRENDER

Guam—(AP)—A mighty armada of [illegible]SS American and British ships, led by the battleship Missouri and two other superdreadnaughts of the same 45,000-ton class, will steam into the waters around Tokyo for the occupation of Japan, Admiral Nimitz announced yesterday.

Admiral Halsey's U. S. Third Fleet will embrace 170 combat ships, including 32 battleships, 17 [illegible]

Propose Battleship As Surrender Stage.

By the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Chairman Carl Vinson (D. Ga.) of the House Naval Committee [illegible] today that Japan's sur[illegible] [illegible]ally received on deter[illegible]

Battleship Missouri In N. Y. October 27

NEW YORK (INS).—The U. S. S. Missouri, scene of the Japanese surrender ceremonies, will drop anchor in the Hudson River October 27—Navy Day.

Her arrival, proudly leading a dozen battle wagons and a host of smaller craft from the Pacific, will make Navy Day the greatest in the Navy's history.

Included in the lineup will be fast cruisers, destroyers and battle[illegible] [illegible] The flight [illegible] will [illegible] [illegible] Amer[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] efforts helped to defeat [illegible]

[illegible]ailors From City On USS Missouri

[illegible] the USS Missouri soon [illegible] [illegible] of the formal surrender [illegible] [illegible]nese Empire, are at least [illegible] [illegible]aren bluejackets, will [illegible] [illegible] information indicating [illegible] [illegible]thers may be in [illegible]

[illegible]ocal Me[illegible] On Missouri

The battleship Misso[illegible] [illegible]een to be the scene of th[illegible] [illegible]ing of surrender terms by [illegible] [illegible]this serving on board two [illegible] Barbarians who have been [illegible] [illegible]ped in June, 1944. The [illegible] [illegible] the ship since she was com[illegible] [illegible]son of Mr. Arthur E. Colton [illegible]

[illegible]an Reduced to Four [illegible]Islands by Acceptance

U. S. S. MISSOURI, Tokyo Bay, Sunday, Sept. 2 (AP) —Two nervous Japanese formally and unconditionally surrendered all remnants of their smashed empire to the Allies today, restoring peace to a war-battered world.

Surrender hour was cool and cloudy, but the sun broke through the overcast 20 minutes later as Gen MacArthur intoned "these proceedings are closed."

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, who signed for the Japanese Government, doffed his hat and nervously fingered his fountain pen before he finally signed the [illegible]

[illegible]19 Greater Boston Navy Men [illegible]board Battleship Missouri

[illegible]board the U. S. S. Missouri [illegible]e time of the historic sur[illegible]r of the Japanese were [illegible]119 Greater Boston Navy [illegible] the Fleet Home Town [illegible]

Sic GEORGE KOUTHOUSIDES, 4 Florence st., Boston.

RM1c JOHN CUNNINGHAM, 37 Callaghan way, South Boston.

[illegible] Mus FRANK J. CAVALLARO, 884 Huntington av., Boston.

Sic GERALD F. CAHILL, 415 Old Col-

[illegible]ni[illegible] [illegible]efea[illegible] [illegible]Pres[illegible]

[illegible]oard Missouri, Pledges Justice [illegible]es Wainwright 'Peace Pen'; [illegible]le Today in America