

George Frederick Gabel, Electrician's Mate, Third Class

George was born on March 27, 1912 to Fred Gabel and May Louise Pries. I am not sure why, however, although he went by Fred, his name, from the marriage certificate, was also George Frederick Gabel. George was born and grew up in Forest Park, Illinois, near Chicago.

I am not sure what happened to George's parents but his death records show his home of record as Walworth, Wisconsin and his only next of kin as his brother, Chester Robert Gabel, even though he enlisted through Chicago, Illinois.

George enlisted on October 26, 1942. Being in Chicago, he most likely went to boot camp in Great Lakes, where he would also have gone to A school. I came to that conclusion due to the fact that the next record I could find was his reporting through the Mare Island Receiving Station to the USS Yorktown (CV-10) for transport to Hawaii on September 15, 1943 as an EM3. He was transferred to COMSUBFORPAC for duty, four days later on September 19. George was received aboard the USS Corvina on October 15th. The "Aloha" signature on the picture above indicates that this was probably the last photo of George.



Charles Cline Ghent, Jr. Motor Machinist Mate First Class

Charles was born on December 25, 1919, in Carterville, Illinois, a Christmas present for Charles and Maude Ghent. He and his three sisters grew up there in Carterville. His Father passed away in 1936 and his mother raised him until he joined the Navy in St. Louis on November 21, 1938.

Charles reported aboard his first sea command, the USS Preston DD-379, as a Seaman Second Class on April 30, 1939. The Preston was based out of San Francisco and did training missions along the west coast.

While aboard USS Preston, Charles changed rate from Seaman Second Class to Fireman Third Class on June 6, 1939 and Fireman Second Class on December 16, 1939.

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In March of 1940 Charles was transferred from San Francisco to Honolulu via the USS Henderson for

assignment to ComDesFlotOne. I'm not sure what he did while assigned to DesFlotOne, however, On November 16, 1940, he was transferred to the USS Canopus, at the time assigned to the Asiatic Fleet, and then to the USS Pike SS-173.



When World War II started, the USS Pike was in Cavite and left on her first war patrol on December 8, 1941. After his first war patrol they operated out of Darwin and Freemantle, Australia for two more patrols. Her fourth war patrol began in Pearl Harbor. She was attacked with depth charges for a full day by a destroyer off Honshu, Japan and was damaged badly enough that she had to return to Pearl Harbor for repairs. Charles was transferred just before she left on her fifth patrol. During his time on the Pike he changed from MM2 to MoMM2 on June 30 and MoMM1

on October 1, 1942. He then extended for 3 years on November 21. He was then transferred to CSD-44 on February 12, 1943. He was then transferred in March of 43 and transited to Submarine Base, New London. He then reported aboard USS Corvina on August 6, 1943 at commissioning.



Delbert Lloyd Green, Jr. Chief Radioman

Delbert was born on January 28, 1919 in Sulphur, Oklahoma, to Delbert Lloyd Green and Leta Howard Rose Green.

It appears that the ocean called to him early because he applied for Seaman Protection papers in April of 1933. Two years later he enlisted in the US Navy on November 18, 1935.

I could not find any indication of the first couple of years of his Navy Career, however, on March 4, 1938 he reported aboard the Porpoise Class submarine, USS Shark SS-174, as a Seaman First Class.

While he was on the Shark they were doing peacetime training missions and then a yard period from San Diego and Mare Island, CA. In December of 1938 they were transferred from Sub-Ron 6 to SubRon 4 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Delbert operated with them there until July 29, 1939 when he was transferred to Sub Base Pearl Harbor for duty.





On March 31, 1940, Delbert arrived in San Diego, via Navy vessels and commercial, for further transfer/transport to the Portsmouth Navy Yard in New Hampshire. He was transferred from the Navy Yard to the USS Sailfish SS-192 at her recommissioning on May 15, 1940.

While in the Portsmouth area Delbert married Elsie L Arsenault on December 22, 1940 in Sanford, Maine where they set up their home.

The USS Sailfish was the first submarine with that name, however, that was her second name. The sub began life as the USS Squalus which sank on her 19th test dive due to a failed induction valve, after an extended yard period in Portsmouth. After being salvaged, rebuilt and refitted, she was recommissioned as the USS Sailfish. With refit completed in mid-September, *Sailfish* departed Portsmouth on 16 January 1941 and headed for the Pacific. Transiting the Panama Canal, she arrived at Pearl Harbor in early March, after refueling at San Diego. The submarine then sailed west to Manila where she joined the Asiatic Fleet until the attack on Pearl Harbor. While on Sailfish, Delbert made RM3 on August 16, 1940.

On April 17, 1941, Delbert was transferred to Portsmouth Navy Yard for further transfer to the USS Grampus SS-207. He made RM2 during this tour. He was on the Grampus until his Honorable Discharge on November 17, 1941.

Delbert re-enlisted on December 4, 1942. His first command after coming back was the USS Corvina on August 16, 1943 as a Chief Radioman.



Sidney Eugene Grisham Chief Torpedoman's Mate

Sidney was born on July 5, 1914 in Denton, Texas, to Dock and Hazel Grisham. His father was a farmer and he grew up in the fields around Denton and Fisher, Texas.

Not much is available about his young life until he joined the Navy on October 17, 1934. The records before WWII are not readily available, however, the first ship that I have records for is the USS Pickerel SS-177. From the timing, I figure he was on board at commissioning or shortly there after in 1937. The USS Pickerel operated out of San Diego and Pearl Harbor before being transferred to the Asiatic Fleet, operating out of Covite, P.I. While on board he made TM1 and then CTM.



On August 3, 1940 Sidney was transferred from the USS Pickerel and sent via the USS Chaumont to San Francisco and then San Diego for the first leg of his trip. The interesting part of this transfer was that he was making a change of coastal fleets and was not being sent to a specific boat but to CFO for assignment to one of the ten O class boats. His transport across the US was also at his own expense. Although I could not find any record of it, It took him four months to report, on January 30, 1941, and after that is listed as living with his wife, Laura Belle, in New London, it appears that he had a wedding and honeymoon prior to reporting to the O-7 (SS-68) on February 12, 1941, when she was recommissioned. The O-7 was used to train submarine crews for the rest of the war. He was only on the O-7 for a short time when he was transferred to the O-10 (SS-71), another training boat, on November 22, 1941.



On December 10, 1942, Sidney was transferred through BuShips to the crew of the USS Muskallunge (SS-262), three days before her launch. The USS Muskallunge was a Gato-Class commissioned on March 13, 1943. After their initial shakedown cruise, Sidney was transferred on July 29th, just prior to their departure to Pearl Harbor. Sidney was transferred to Sub Base New London for another new construction assignment aboard the USS Corvina.