

Edmund Ocumpaugh, IV, Lieutenant

Edmond was born in New Haven, Connecticut on November 29, 1918, to Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Ocumpaugh, III. Edmond, the father, was a sales executive for the International Silver Company in Meriden, Connecticut.

Edmond was raised in New Haven and then went to the Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts in preparation for entry into college.

Edmund was a member of the PHI GAMMA DELTA Fraternity and graduated from Yale with the Class of 1941. He must have enlisted shortly there after because he is listed in the Navy and Marine Corps Registry of 1941 and 1942 as an Ensign aboard the USS U.S. Grant (AP-29). *U. S. Grant* operated between ports on the west coast and into the Aleutian Islands through the outbreak of war in the Pacific on 7 December 1941. She carried passengers and cargo to Alaskan ports as the United States built up its defenses in that area against possible thrusts by Japan. In February and March 1942, *U. S. Grant* conducted voyages to the Hawaiian Islands. During the former month,

she returned some 1,000 enemy aliens (mostly Japanese with a sprinkling of Germans) for placement in internment camps in the southwestern United States. Among these passengers was prisoner of war number one, Lt. Kazuo Sakamaki, whose midget submarine had run aground off Barbers Point, Oahu, on 7 December 1941.

In April, *U. S. Grant* resumed trips to Alaskan ports carrying troops from <u>Seattle</u> to American bases on the



Alaskan mainland and in the <u>Aleutians</u> and continued this vital routine until the spring of 1942. The <u>Battle of the Coral Sea</u> during May 1942 convinced the Japanese that a thrust at <u>Midway Island</u> was imperative, in an attempt to draw out the American fleet - particularly the dwindling number of vital <u>aircraft carriers</u>. Consequently, a powerful Japanese fleet sailed for Midway, while a smaller task force headed northward for the Aleutians to launch a diversionary raid. Carrier-based planes from the carrier <u>Ryujo</u> struck <u>Dutch Harbor</u>, <u>Alaska</u>, on 3 June, and Japanese troops occupied <u>Attu</u>

and Kiska islands on the 7th.

During this time, *U. S. Grant* carried troops to Kodiak, Alaska, and Cold Bay into the summer. She narrowly escaped being torpedoed while proceeding from Seattle to Dutch Harbor in convoy on 20 July. Alert lookouts picked out the tracks of two torpedoes and evasive action enabled the ship to avoid the deadly "fish" which passed close aboard, from starboard to port.

The venerable transport disembarked Army troops at Massacre Bay on 14 June, three days after the initial landings. The following month, as American and Canadian troops prepared to assault Kiska, Rear Admiral Francis W. Rockwell broke his flag in *U. S. Grant* as Commander, Task Force 51. During this operation, *U. S. Grant* served as combination transport and communications vessel. The Americans eventually discovered that the Japanese had stolen away like nomads, leaving only a few dogs to "contest" the landings, and had completed their evacuation, undetected by the Allies, by 28 July.



During the Kiska landings, the transport not only carried Army troops, but also a Mexican liaison group; a detachment of Canadian troops, and a group of civilian correspondents.

I do not know the circumstances or the action that proved it, however, during his time aboard the U.S. Grant he was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal which is awarded for "Distinguishing oneself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy of the United States".

Edmund made Lieutenant and volunteered for Submarine Service. He was a member of the commissioning crew for the Corvina.



Paul Carney Oliver Torpedoman's Mate, Third Class

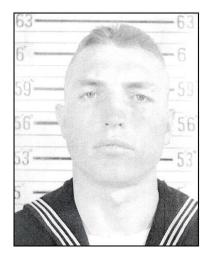
Paul Carney Oliver was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to Blance and Emma Oliver on September 16, 1920. The family lived in Landcaster until 1935, when they moved to Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. There Paul attended and graduated from Upper Darby High School in 1939.

In 1940, Paul moved to Seattle, Washington, on his own and was working for the Boeing Aircraft Company.

Paul made his way back to Pennsylvania and enlisted in the Naval Reserve at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Philadelphia on March 31, 1942. He must have volunteered for Submarine Service and with the location, he was received aboard USS Corvina with the rest of the commissioning

crew on August 6, 1943.

If you look up his records, it will show a home of record of Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania. I believe his parents moved there while he was in Seattle. His father passed away and that was the home of record for his mother.



Randall Ward Osburn Electrician's Mate, Third Class

Randall Ward Osburn was born on April 29, 1922, in Grandview, Texas, to Joseph Bengamin and Susan Earle Osburn, one of four siblings. Joseph, Randall's father, was a farmer in Nolan, Texas at the time. They later moved to the town of Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Randall grew up in Hot Springs and by the time he was 20 was on his own, working for Warner Construction Company in Caballo, New Mexico.

Early in 1942 Randall married Lydia Jane and set up house keeping near his parents in Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Randall enlisted in the Navy Reserve (V-6) on August 31, 1942. After Boot Camp and schooling he reported to USS R-2 for submarine training on May 19, 1943. He then reported to precommissioning crew and was officially received aboard USS Corvina on August 6, at commissioning.

Note: If you look for Hot Springs, New Mexico on the map, you won't find it. In 1957, the town name was officially changed to Truth or Consequences for a contest to have the radio show of the same name broadcast from there.