



This book is dedicated in memory of
Glen Edward McMullen and of his
service as a seaman 1st Class
gunner aboard the Destroyer USS
O'Bannon in World War II

Glen Edward McMullen

Glen Edward McMullen, of Grinnell, IA , at age 33, enlisted in the U. S. Navy in the fall of 1943 and was sent to San Diego CA for Boot Camp followed by Gunnery School. He was joined in San Diego by his wife, Ruth Leary McMullen, and daughter Donna Jeanne McMullen. When Glen was ready for sea duty, his wife and daughter returned to Iowa.

Donna married Leonard Hartley Deaver, February 1954. Together, they had five children. They are:

F. Scott Deaver, John Edward Deaver, Robert Charles Deaver, Sheryl Lynn Deaver Wilkerson, and Richard James Deaver.

It is for them and their children that this history is being written.

Glen sailed from San Diego on April 22, 1944 on the troop transport, Orizaba and began keeping a personal diary and keeping track of his activities on a map of the Pacific cut from Des Moines Register.

Glen was assigned to the U.S. destroyer, O'Bannon near New Caladonia on
May 18, 1944

. The O'Bannon carried him through World War II to its conclusion and the surrender of Japan.

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal



The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal was awarded to all personnel for service on permanent assignment within the Asiatic-Pacific Theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946.

Seaman 1st Class Glen McMullen won this medal with 4 bronze stars, each star indicates participation in one or more of the following campaigns:

- New Guinea 24 January 1943—31 December 1944
- Northern Solomons 22 February 1943—21 November 1944
- Western Pacific 17 April 1944—2 September 1944
- Leyte 17 October 1944—1 July 1945
- Luzon 15 December 1944—4 July 1945
- Southern Philippines 27 February 1945—4 July 1945
- Anti-submarine 7 December 1941—2 September 1945

Philippine Liberation Medal



The Philippine Liberation Medal was awarded for participation in the initial landing operations of Leyte and adjoining islands from 7 October to 20 October, 1944 and/or Participation in any engagement against hostile Japanese forces during the Philippine Liberation of 17 October 1944 to September 2 1945.

Seaman 1st Class Glen McMullen won this medal with a bronze star indicating that he took part in both of these actions.

American Campaign Medal



The American Campaign Medal was awarded to personnel for service within the American theater between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 who were permanently assigned as a Member of the crew of a vessel sailing ocean waters for a period of 30 days or 60 consecutive days. Seaman 1st Class Glen McMullen easily qualified for this medal.

World War II Victory Medal



The World War II Victory Medal was awarded to all military personnel for service between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946. Seaman 1st Class Glenn McMullen easily qualified for this medal.

USS O'Bannon, Lexington Class Destroyer commissioned at Boston 26 June 1942. During the Battle of Guadalcanal, became one of the few destroyers in history to survive a one-on-one duel with a battleship. Other surface engagements included Kula Gulf, Kolombangara, and Vella Lavella. With *Nicholas* and *Taylor*, she escorted Admiral William Halsey's flagship, the *Missouri*, into Tokyo Bay in August 1945. They damaged submarine *RO-34*, which was finished off by *Strong*, and helped sink *RO-115*.

No crew members were lost throughout the war.

Earned 17 Battle Stars, leading all destroyers in World War II

Awarded Presidential Unit Citation for her yearlong action in the Solomons

Fletcher Class Home

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USS Blandford

USS Blandford

USS Blandford

USS Blandford



USS O'Bannon

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION to the

UNITED STATES SHIP O'BANNON

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For outstanding performance in combat against enemy Japanese forces in the South Pacific from October 7, 1942, to October 7, 1943. An aggressive veteran after a year of continuous and intensive operations in this area, the U.S.S. O'BANNON has taken a tremendous toll of vital Japanese warships, surface vessels and aircraft. Launching a close range attack on hostile combatant ships off Guadalcanal on the night of November 13, 1942, the O'BANNON scored three torpedo hits on a Japanese battleship, boldly engaged two other men of war with gunfire and retired safely in spite of damage sustained. During three days of incessant hostilities in July 1943, she gallantly stood down Kula Gulf to bombard enemy shore positions in coverage of our assault groups, later taking a valiant part in the rescue of survivors from the torpedoed U.S.S. STRONG while under fierce coastal battery fire and aerial bombing attack and adding her fire power toward the destruction of a large Japanese naval force. In company with two destroyers, the O'BANNON boldly intercepted and repulsed nine hostile warships off Vella Lavella on October 7, 1943, destroying two enemy ships and damaging others. Although severely damaged, she stood by to take aboard and care for survivors of a friendly torpedoed destroyer and retired to base under her own power. The O'BANNON's splendid achievements and the gallant fighting spirit of her officers and men reflect great credit upon the United States Naval Service."

For the President,
/s/ Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy

The Presidential Unit Citation was awarded 7 December 1941 and afterward to a military unit displaying such gallantry, determination, and *esprit de corps* accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign. O'bannon received the written citation together with the ribbon and one battle star. Seaman 1st Class Glen McMullen received the ribbon.

DECORATIONS

World War II

BATTLE STARS

O'Bannon earned 17 bronze service stars on her [Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal](#), the leading total among all American destroyers in World War II. *The following list includes actions—indicated in italics—in which O'Bannon participated but for which she was not separately credited:*

- 1 Star **CAPTURE AND DEFENSE OF GUADALCANAL**
12 November 1942–19 January 1943.
- 1 Star **GUADALCANAL**
Third Strike, 12–15 November 1942 (Naval Battle of Guadalcanal).
- 1 Star **RENNELL ISLAND**
29–30 January 1943.
- 1 Star **CONSOLIDATION OF SOUTHERN SOLOMONS**
5 March–16 June 1943.
- 1 Star **ANTISUBMARINE OPERATIONS**
4 April 1943.
- 1 Star **NEW GEORGIA GROUP OPERATION**
New Georgia, Rendova, Vangunu occupation, 4–5 July 1943.
Kula Gulf action, 5–6 July 1943. (Battle of Kula Gulf).
Kolombangara action, 12–13 July 1943 (Battle of Kolombangara).
Vella Lavella occupation, 15–18 August 1943.
Action off Vella Lavella, 6–7 October 1943 (Battle of Vella Lavella).
- 1 Star **HOLLANDIA OPERATION**
Aitape—Humboldt Bay—Tanahmerah Bay: 21 April–1 May 1944
- 1 Star **ESCORT/ANTI-SUBMARINE OPERATIONS, TASK GROUP 30.4**
22 May–15 June 1944.
 - **CONSOLIDATION OF NORTHERN SOLOMONS**
15 June–28 August 1944.
- 1 Star **WESTERN NEW GUINEA OPERATIONS**
Morotal landings: 15 September 1944.
- 1 Star **LEYTE OPERATION**
Leyte landings: 18–31 October 1944.
Ormoc Bay landings, 7–8 December 1944.
- 1 Star **LUZON OPERATION**
Mindoro landings, 12–18 December 1944.
Lingayen Gulf landing, 4–18 January 1945.
- 1 Star **ANTISUBMARINE OPERATIONS, 31 January 1945.**
- 1 Star **MANILA BAY–BICOL OPERATION**
Mariveles–Corregidor, 14–28 February 1945.
- 1 Star **CONSOLIDATION OF SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES**
Palawan Islands landings, 28 February–1 March 1945.
 - **MANILA BAY–BICOL OPERATION**
El Fraile (Fort Drum), Manila Bay, 13 April 1945.
Carabao Island, Manila Bay, 16 April 1945.
- 1 Star **BORNEO OPERATIONS**
Tarakan Island operation, 27 April–5 May 1945.
- 1 Star **OKINAWA OPERATION**
Raids in support of Okinawa Gunto operation: 28 May–15 June 1945.
- 1 Star **THIRD FLEET OPERATIONS AGAINST JAPAN**
10 July–15 August 1945.

OTHER DECORATIONS

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

South Pacific, 7 October 1942–7 October 1943.

Glen Edward McMullen joined the crew of the O'Bannon 18 May 1944. Operations after that earned 10 of the 17 Battle Stars for O'Bannon. Since his ribbons show only 6 battle stars it seems likely that he had 10 and the other 4 were lost. See his personal Diary for information on this discrepancy.

The history of the Pacific war can never be written without telling the story of the U.S.S. O'Bannon.

Time after time the O'Bannon and her gallant little sisters were called upon to turn back the enemy. They never disappointed me.

Out-numbered, out-gunned, during the dark days of '42 and '43 they stood toe-to-toe with the best the Japanese Fleet could offer—and never failed to send them scurrying home with their tails between their legs.

No odds were ever too great for them to face. They fought battleships and heavy cruisers; escorted vitally needed supply ships for marines on Guadalcanal; bombarded Japanese positions; aided in dangerous rescue operations; and derailed the Tokio Express so often that the Japanese admirals ran out of excuses.

No medals, however high, can reward the gallant men of the tin-can fleet for their brave deeds. In her darkest hour their country called. They answered with flaming guns and high courage.

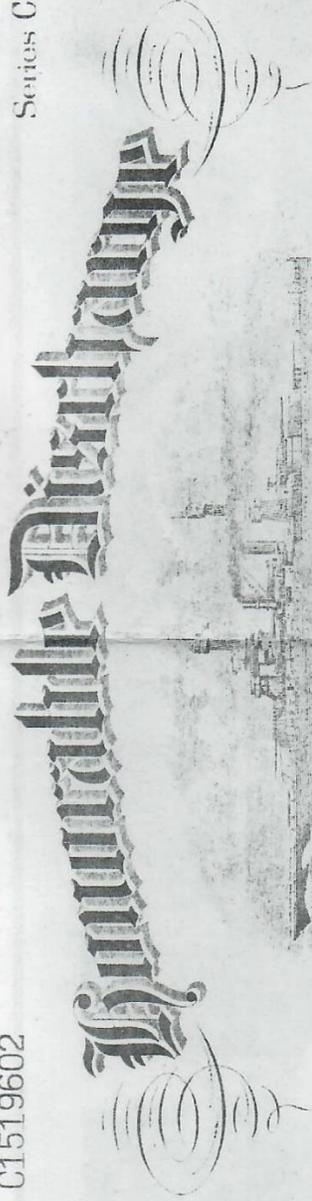
This is their story.

— Admiral William F. Halsey

foreword to James D. Horan's *Action Tonight*, 1945

C1519602

Series C



from the

United States Navy

This is to certify that

GLEN EDWARD McMULLEN

SEAMAN FIRST CLASS

is Honorably Discharged from the USN PERSONNEL SEPARATION CENTER

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

and from the Naval Service of the United States

this 3RD day of NOVEMBER 1945

This certificate is awarded as a Testimonial of Fidelity and Obedience.

C. E. Austin

C. E. AUSTIN, COMMANDER, USN
COMMANDING

Inst. No. 9157
POLK COUNTY, IOWA
FILED FOR RECORD
AT 12:01 FEB 10 1949 P. M.
AGNES GIBSON, Recorder

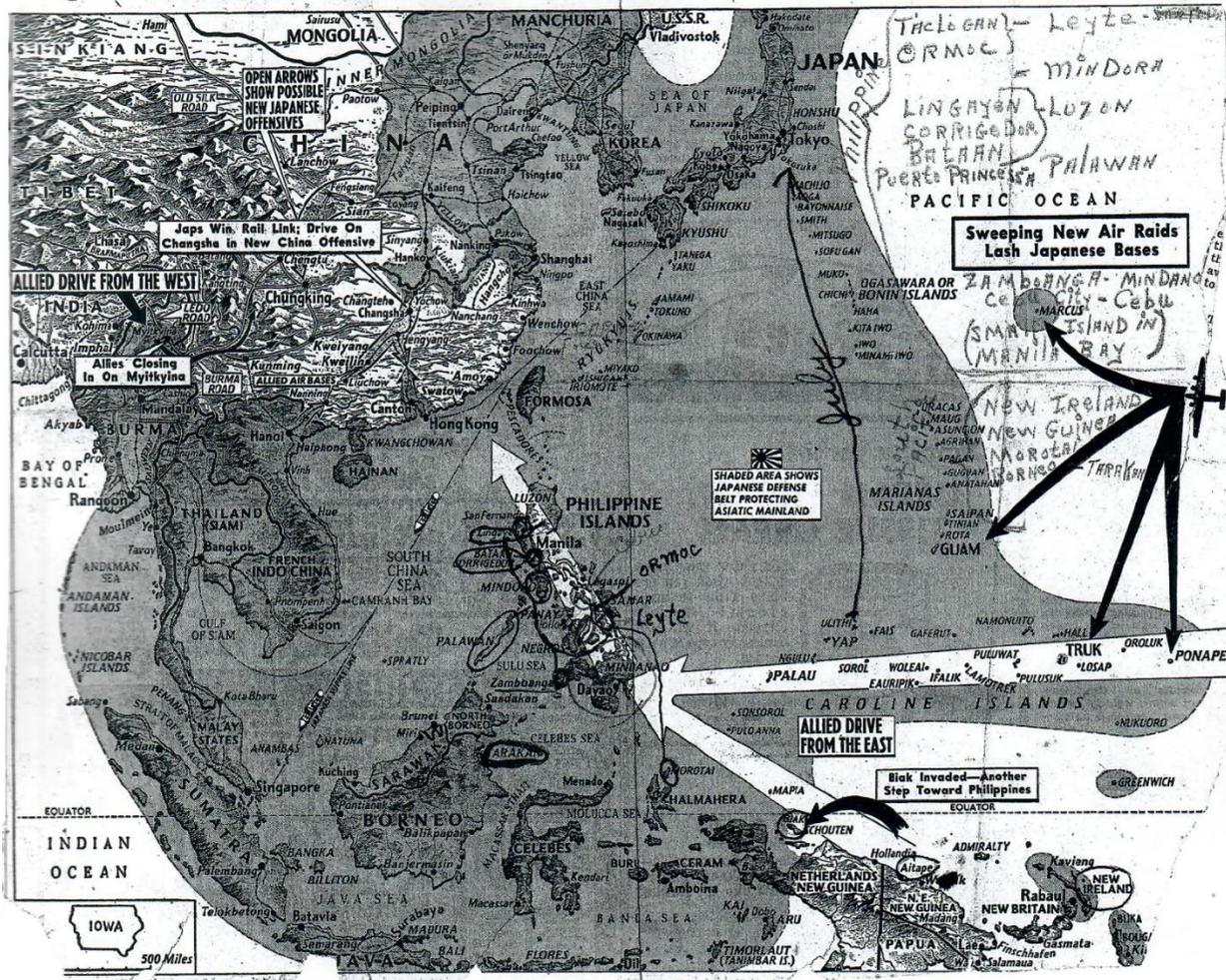
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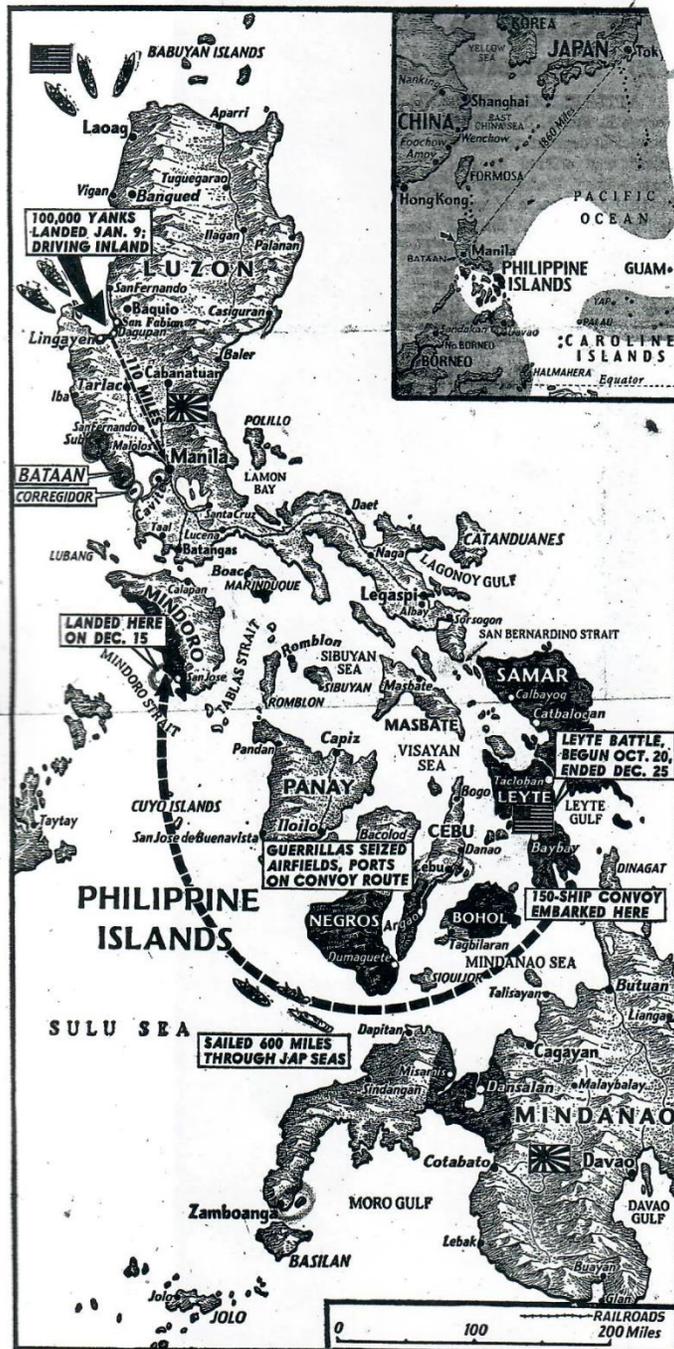
Picture taken Shortly after Enlistment in the Navy



27 Oct. 1943 Glen McMullen

Danger in Asia: Can Japs Knock Out China Before Allies Arrive From Pacific?





MAP PREPARED BY REGISTER STAFF ARTISTS

This map of the Philippines traces events leading to landings on Luzon Island by U. S. troops who Wednesday were reported driving south toward Manila from the Lingayen gulf beachheads. Yank naval forces, which participated in the pre-invasion shelling of the area, are remaining offshore and a second American armada is reported standing off the northwest coast of Luzon to block Japanese reinforcements from the north. Shaded areas are held by U. S. forces or Filipino guerrillas. Inset map shows islands in relation to China coast, Formosa and Japan.

On board of Destroyer O'Bannon Q.1

Daisy - Alex McMullen

April 22, 1944 - Saturday

Left San Diego on
transport Orizaba.

May 1st - crossed Equator
may 1st ~~st~~ crossed International date
line. ~~spined Friday~~

May 3rd - Christmas Islands

~~May~~ May 4th - Refueled at Pago.

^{Pago}
(Pago Harbor - Samoan Islands)

~~May~~ May 10th - Arrived Noumea

New Caledonia.

May 18th - Assigned to

O'Bannon

May 27th - Guadalcanal -

Purvis Bay - Tulagi

May 28th - Treasury Islands

June 5th Bombarded
plantation-headquarters of
Japs on New Ireland. Some
return fire from shore.

June 11th - Admiralties and
joined carrier force patrolling
(and bombing)
north of Truk. Crossed Equator
10 times in 9 days. (1 air raid
1 sub. Taylor)

June 25th - Jap Fleet reported
going south toward New Guinea.

Went to meet them but they
didn't show up.

June 26 - 2nd anniversary Treasury

July 4th - Treasury Island

July 10th - Dry dock at

New Hebrides.

Aug. - Four Day bombardment
around Newak and Aitape,
New Guinea where Japs were
trapped. Mostly patrol and
drill. Escort to Finchhafen
New Guinea. Started operating
at of Hollandia N.G.

Sept. 20th - Morotai in Halamas
-has Islands. Several air
raids and several Jap landing
craft sunk. Patrolled harbor
several days. Return to
dry dock at Hollandia.

Oct. 20th - Leyte - Philippines
Lot of air raids and dive

smashers. McArthur on Washville

Oct. 26th - Rescued 3 U.S.
airmen after sea and air
battle.

Oct 29th Returned to
Hollandia to get troop
transport.

Nov. 13 - Troop transport
and us under heavy air
attack. Back in San Pedro
bay - Leyte Nov. 14th and
laid anchor. Plenty of
air raids.

Dec. 7th - Ormoc Bay - Leyte.

Dec 9th - Ormoc Bay - Leyte.

Dec. 15 - Mindora Island.
Nashville caught live smasher
on the way. 3 L.S.T. also
used by Japs as landing
strip. 2 or 3 small Jap
ships sank.

Dec. 25th Xmas at Leyte.

Dec. 26th - Japs bombarded

Mindora. Several Jap ships
sank. Got 1 Jap out of water
PT boats took care of plenty.

Jan. 9th - Lingayen Gulf -

Luzon - Took Conway and then
joined carrier force. On
way to Luzon 2 Jap destroyers
and 1 sub sank, 2 or 3 air raids

Feb. 1st - Possible sub.

Feb. 4th - Subic Bay - Northwest
part of Bataan.

Feb. 13th to 18th - Bombarded
and supported landings on
Bataan & Corrigedor. Paratroopers
landed on Corrigedor.

Feb. 28th - Puerto Princesa
Palawan.

March 1st - Possible sub.

March 8th to 12th - Bombardment
and landing at Zamboanga
Mindanao.

March 26th - Cebu City -
Cebu Island.

April 4th & 5th - Manila Bay.

April 15th & 16th - Concrete Battle
ship and small island ^(Caraboa) off

Corrigedor bombarded and landing

April 27-28-29-30 May 182

Tarakan - Borneo (by Ausies)

Week of May 20th - Released
from 7th fleet.

May 22-23-24-25th Manila

June 1st - Left Subic Bay
for (San Pedro) Leyte - assigned

to 3rd Fleet.

June 15 - Left Leyte for

Okinawa to join carrier
force.

June 17th - joined carrier force of 5 carriers

June 18th - Raid on Saki Jima
Planes sank light Jap destroyer
Raids on Okinawa and Ryshu.

June 24th - Left carrier force for Leyte to pick up another carrier force.

June 26th - 3rd Anniversary - Leyte

June 28th - Left for Ulithi close to Yap & Saipan

July 3rd - Left Ulithi with carriers & tankers for bombardment of Japan proper.

July 4th - Somewhere between Saipan & Japan

July 10th - Task force starts
bombarding & Bombing Japan

July 12th - Torpedo attack on
TF-38 coming to refuel (Very cold)
snow

Joined (TF 38)

July 13 - Bombarded Japan

July 14 - Air raids on Japan

Force 50 to 75 miles off coast.

July 14th - Picked up 4 crash
U.S. pilots off carrier Bataan.

3 Battle ships and 2 heavy
cruisers bombarded Japan.

July 18

Planes got Jap battleship in dock.

July 21st - Alongside battleships

Missouri (Halsey's Flagship) and

King George V. Delivering messages.

July 21-22 - North of TF
to divert attention from

TF and radio messages to
Guam - Japs jam radio messages

from Japan

July 29th - Missed magnetic
mine 5 or 10 ft. while taking
mail off of tanker.

Aug 15th (official 10.50)
- Japs surrender
3rd Fleet 50 to 100 miles

off Japan. Made 1st air
strike of day. Jap planes
attack 3rd fleet 3 hours
after surrender. Halsey speaks
over T.B.S. (All members of

3rd fleet to be written
in gold in U.S. history)
44th day in Jap waters
as war ends.

Aug. 16. - 3rd fleet (TF 38)

grouped for aerial picture		
Iowa	Yorktown	
Missouri	Shangri-la	
Wisconsin	Wasp	
New Jersey	Essex	64
Indiana	Randolph	destroyers
S. Dakota	Bon Richards	6 converted
N. Carolina	Ticonderoga	carriers
Mass.	Bennington	18 cruisers
Alabama	Saratoga	2 C.A. Cruisers
Washington	Bataan	
King George	Valient	} British (8)
Duke of York		

Aug. 19th - Transferred Halsey
from Missouri to King George
and back (Forming landing party)
for Japan.

O'Bannon, Nicholas & Taylor
not listed on news broadcast.

Had replaced damaged ships.

O'Bannon replaced Abbot
July 12th. Designated
by Halley to be first

U.S. ship entering Tokyo Bay.

Aug. 23 - Transferred Nimitz
and staff from Shangai - La
to Duke of York to Missouri.

O'Bannon, Taylor, Nicholas
Missouri (Halley flagship), ^{Towa} Duke
of York & 2 British destroyers
leave 3rd fleet and prepare
to enter Jap port to disarm

Jap destroyer and take
Jap Admiral aboard Missouri
to sign peace terms.

Aug. 26 - Typhoon held up
peace signing 24 hours.

Aug. 27 - Nicholas picked up
Jap delegation. O'Bannon
first to enter Sagamiwan
Bay entrance to Tokyo Bay.
Mt. Fujiami 12388 ft. to
port side of bay.

Aug. 28 - Airborne landings.

Aug. 29 - Entered Tokyo bay.

Sea borne landing by occupation
force.

0.14

Aug. 31 - Disarmed 5400
ton Jap sub. 2 officers
had committed suicide

Sept 1. - 4 P.M. left for
states (Bremerton, Wash)

Sept 6 - All ships turned
on running lights 10 P.M.

May 7th - Crossed International
date line near Aleutians.

2 May 7th & 2 Fridays

Sept 14th - 10:15 dropped
anchor in Frisco