

## Tape Table of Contents

90-25

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- 002 -- MH intro -- 1/III-1990 -- 1st Eng. cabin, Lane Victory --  
Clint Johnson -- Tape #2
- 004 -- MH -- Recreation? CJ -- In So. Pac. at atolls -- Officers  
not s'posed to fraternize w/ unlicensed. Gun crew officer  
usually Lt.j.g. On the York was So. gentleman, abt.  
30 yrs. old. CJ had learned to drink. Lot of alcohol  
consumption. Drink of the day -- Coke & bourbon. Also  
rum & coke. Had to kill taste.
- 022 -- Talks abt. availability & quality of booze at that time.
- 035 -- Gunnery officer had alcohol to clean instruments w/. Drank  
it. 180 proof.
- 042 -- Never drank when under way.
- 044 -- In port had party. Went to atolls like Ulithe, Saipan, Tienyan,  
Admiralties, Hollandia (New Guinea). Were like floating  
storage tank. Desc.
- 052 -- Sometimes 2-3 wks. in port waiting to unload. Pressure off  
in port.
- 057 -- Party. Introduced to nice So. gentleman w/ alcohol. CJ worried  
abt. what wld happen if you drank it. Cut 50% w/ distilled  
water (make 90 proof). Eng. provided distilled water.  
Get purser or steward to provide juice for mix. (Pineapple  
juice). Later stopped going for water, so got royally  
drunk, but no hangover & no taste.
- 075 -- CJ still remembers this gunnery officer as fine gentleman.  
Never any problems w/ gun crew. Good cameraderie. Imagines  
may have been poor rel'ns on other vessels.
- 088 -- MH -- Recreation? CJ -- Worked. Chief useless drunk. 1st  
good machinist but no exp. this type ship or electronics,  
2nd exp. but knew nothing of new ships, so the two 3rds  
(CJ one) had to keep high-pressure ship running.
- 104 -- Worked 4 hrs/day every day. Had to do own maintenance except  
for one shipyd. in Panama.
- 111 -- Also some reading. Some sailors played poker & had constant  
game going. Also CJ had phonograph. Checked out little  
phonograph w/ capt., radio operator -- safe. Bought  
pirate records in India. Always played juke box in restaurants  
& bars.
- 135 -- On 4-8 watch, Got off watch 5 to 8; cld get in & out of shower  
in one song. Out & dry enough to change record. Phonograph  
very imp't to CJ. Cameras not allowed.
- 146 -- Reading magazines, writing letters, working. Swimming in  
port at Bahrein. Can get heat prostration while swimming  
because of water temperature, abt. 96. Details of experience.
- 175 -- Went from Australia to Bahrein couple of times. Capt. let  
each get case of beer. 54-count cases of Imperial qts.  
Beer also stronger. Some problems. 2nd trip only officers  
allowed beer. Problems arose. Unused to warm beer,  
had to refrigerate. Wld disappear if didn't watch. "Mr.  
Roberts" situation. Friction on officer/crew sit'n.
- 218 -- CJ didn't mind no booze, but wld have minded no music.
- 219 -- MH -- Lot of friction btwn licensed/unlicensed? CJ -- In  
own sit'n, no. Some, yes. Problem greater on deck than  
in eng. rm. CJ wld get case & split w/ others who wanted it.
- 240 -- Ice cream wld have been big in that hot weather, but didn't  
have. USN cld make milk, but no powdered stuff, fresh  
went bad quickly, no ice-cream-making equipt. Tried  
once w/ old hand-crank; no dice.

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Clint Johnson #1 -- Side B

[776]

- 195 -- When went into fire room on 1st's watch, water all over floor, above ankles. What's up? Bilge pumps won't work in port. Need main engine to pump out. EEK!
- 204 -- When CJ's watch came on, asked oiler how long he'd sailed on this ship. His 1st trip after USMS school in Catalina! Fireman from same class! Only experience 1-way trip on old island boat Avalon w/ abt 15 others all working at once!
- 220 -- Imagine pandemonium. Btwn them oiled every possible spot & she didn't burn up.
- 228 -- 1st Eng. got mad; threw hammer against side of ship. It went through.
- 234 -- CJ fixed bilge pump. All broom handles short aboard ship. Popping rivets. Replaced w/ wooden plugs of broom handle. Bad leaks. Union asked for Coast Guard inspection. Disc. of terrible condition of ship. Bad leaks, but loaded. Make one more trip before fix.
- 295 -- Ch.Eng. apologetic. Orig. 3rd coming back. Let CJ go.
- 303 -- CJ went home for abt. a week. Mother called Pacific Tankers. They hired him. Brand new T-2s. 1st the York. Signed for yr. Gone 10 mo. Corvallis same company.
- 313 -- When USMMVWII organizing CJ met Bob Simpson & Fred ?? on York w/ him.
- 325 -- York sailed Pac. & Atlan. Accidentally sank Australian corvette off New Guinea. Simpson had written & got log of accident. (See CJ docs.)
- 336 -- Fred Minton(?) other fellow. Disc. of record-keeping. Crew list, rated as to how well did job, slop chest records. (See CJ docs.)
- 359 -- Tremendous amt. of record-keeping aboard & still saved.
- 360 -- Recording interrupted briefly.
- 361 -- Desc. of home-made uniform, various uniforms. Details. Had uniform custom-made in SFO before entitled to. USMS had version of USN uniform, CG too. Then changed to really ugly uniform for USMS. Desc. Joked that "looked like Russian sailors."
- 435 -- "We're in the Russian Navy." Rivalry amongst services for best looking uniforms. Flashiest USMC dress blues.
- 448 -- MH thanks CJ. End recording Side B.