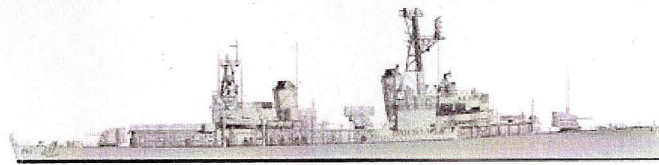




USS Johnston (DD821)



AHOY SHIPMATES

September 9, 2007

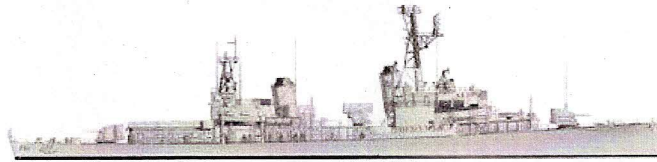
As always, I hope that this newsletter finds you all in good health and spirits. I am sorry for the delay in getting this newsletter to you, but life has been hectic for this old salt and I pray for your indulgence.

The 2007 reunion in Las Vegas was viewed by many as a resounding success. The weather was great; and as far as I know, everyone had a wonderful time. As with most Vegas trips, we took in the Hoover Dam and had a great lunch cruise on Lake Mead. We didn't lose anyone overboard, and none of our members tried taking over the ship. There was also a city tour and numerous spottings of who some people swear was Elvis. To the best of my knowledge no one came back any richer than when they came except for the great memories that every reunion provides. Vegas is a great city; and if we had a month, we couldn't have seen it all. As is usual at our reunions, we all spent many hours with our shipmates and their families, reminiscing of old days when we were men of the sea. Johnston reunions never seem to be long enough, and the Vegas reunion was no exception. We bid farewell to all those who attended, and I know many of us anxiously await next year's reunion.

Speaking of next year's reunion, by an almost unanimous decision at this year's Johnston business meeting, the 2008 USS Johnston DD-821 annual reunion will be held in Chicago, Illinois. With the help of many dedicated Johnston shipmates and their family members, we are happy to announce that our 2008 reunion will be held at the Sheraton Gateway Suites O'Hare. The reunion will run from Thursday April 17, 2008 thru Sunday April 20, 2008 with farewells and departures on Monday April 21, 2008. We have reserved a block of rooms for our reunion at a special rate of \$109.00 per night. This rate is guaranteed for an additional three days before and three days after our reunion dates if booked as part of your reunion stay. This hotel is an all suite hotel so rooms will be 2 room suites. The hotel is located 3 miles from O'Hare Airport and one of the few hotels that offer free airport transportation. There is parking on site for \$12.00 per day, but in addition there is also parking across the street for free. For those interested, they have a heated pool, fitness center, business center, rental car service, sauna, full service restaurant and lounge on site. To book your rooms please call the hotel at 846-699-6300 or 866-716-8103 and please mention that you are making reservation as part of the USS Johnston DD-821 reunion and the dates that you will be staying.



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In addition to your hotel reservations there will be a registration fee and optional tour fees for those attending next year's reunion. We found that we could negotiate more favorable hotel rates if we included our banquets, business meeting and hospitality suite fees into one registration fee instead of charging separately for each banquet. At this year's Vegas reunion it was the first time we had a full complimentary stocked hospitality suite for the length of the reunion. It was well received by all who attended.

Your \$107.00 per person registration fee includes the following:

- ~ Welcome package with name button, list of attendees and local information
- ~ Reception Dinner Buffet
 - ~ Business Meeting
 - ~ Banquet Dinner
- ~ Hospitality room stocked with snacks, beverages and cocktails 4 nights
 - ~ Staffing of the Reunion
- ~ All associated taxes and gratuities

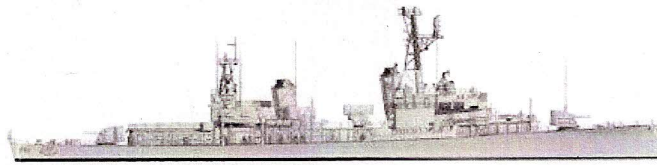
Our next newsletter will include a registration form with registration fees and optional tour fees should you wish to join the tours. Those fees will be sent to the reunion planner we have retained to assist us with the reunion. We do however recommend that at this time you make your room reservations as soon as possible. We believe that because Chicago is such a great city and in such a good location that the 2008 USS Johnston DD-821 reunion will be the best on record. Please consider joining us next year.

One final note regarding the 2008 reunion. The final arrangements for the optional tours have not been completed so we are unable to provide you with too much information at this time. We do know, that through the hard work and dedication of our Treasure Ray Pac's Daughter Cheryl, we will be allowed a tour of the Great Lakes Naval Training Facility with lunch on base. Many of us started our Navy tour of duty at Great Lakes so it should be a great tour. A tour of the Navy Pier and a possible lake cruise may also be on our agenda.

A newsletter wouldn't be complete without a status report on our beloved ship. I received a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, Republic of China Navy General Headquarters, Admiral Lin regarding the final disposition of the USS Johnston DD-821. He indicated that she is still at anchor awaiting a future military exercise where she will be used as a target ship. As a goodwill gesture he assured me that because of her glorious history a video would be taken and sent to us as a valuable historical record of our ship. On behalf of all who served on the USS Johnston DD-821 I thanked the Admiral for his kindness. I will keep you posted as information becomes available to me.



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From our ship's store we have hats and ship's patches if anyone is interested in purchasing them. The hats are very nice, and the patch that we had reproduced is of excellent quality and is a copy of the FRAM patch that you see on the left side of our letterhead. The cost is \$10.00 for each item plus shipping supplies and postage. The average cost of sending a hat and patch is \$25.00.

I would be amiss if I didn't take time to acknowledge the dedicated people who make up the Board of directors and the reunion committee for the USS Johnston DD-821 Association. These individuals give tirelessly of their time to perpetuate this organization.

President:	Tony Tomasin	Reunion Committee:	John Argonti
Vice President:	Billy Cook		Phil Demmel
Treasurer:	Ray Pack		Bob Nava
Secretary:	Evelyn Bastian		Joe Oliver
Web Site:	Duane Mallast		Cheryl Washington

We welcome any comments or requests for submissions to our newsletters. Our mailing list has grown to over 500 of our former USS Johnston DD-821 shipmates both officers and enlisted men. Through your dues and generous contributions we have been able to grow as an association and keep in touch with many of the men we served with.

That's it for now my shipmates. Until we meet again I wish you and yours Fair Winds and Following Seas. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Tony Tomasin

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