

WRITTEN ON  
Nov. 19, 1945  
AT 2:50 P.M.



UNITED STATES NAVY

AT SEA ON

THE U.S.S. AUDRIAN APH-59  
ENROUTE FROM MANILA TO  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
U. S. A.

I'll turn the days back to my stay  
in Manila. About one week before  
I departed. Let us say the day  
is Nov. 2? Okay!

On <sup>or about</sup> Nov. second, a great day was to  
be had. There was an Extra in the Navy News  
in Manila saying that all men with  
their required points may leave  
the section in Manila 25 days sooner.  
Most likely so as the men would  
be home for Christmas.

Anyway, I, four other engineers  
and a considerable amount of other  
fellows in various branches were  
eligible. On Nov. 4, the records were



being made out for all of us. Only us engineers were told we were to be held until Dec. 1, due to the scarcity of old engineers on board and the lack of knowledge of the machinery by the new green fellows.

On Nov. 7, the other fellows who were eligible left for Cavite that morning. That afternoon they all were aboard a troop ship & well underway to the states for discharge.

As for us Engineers, we were told that we were going to Subic Bay on Nov. 16, 1945 and all of us who were eligible for discharge were to stay on and help assist in getting the ship underway & to teach the ~~new~~ fellows the machinery.

They had a big song & dance and much of it was unbased or rather unlogical.

Finally on the afternoon of the 7 of Nov. we were told that we





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were to expect reliefs and to have  
our gear ready to leave on Nov. 8.  
The time our reliefs were expected  
to ~~arrive~~ arrive.

There was much joy among us,  
yet a bitter taste still lingering  
on our minds of the past rotten deal.

That night of Nov. 6, 1945, I received  
a letter from my cousin, Frank  
Seadute. To my surprise ~~he~~  
just arrived in the outskirts of  
Manila and didn't know I  
was still in Manila.

The next day I got a special  
pass and after a long trip  
hitchhiking I located his  
outfit. What a joyful reunion



there was between us two. It was the first time we saw each other in over a year. We had much to talk about.

He managed to get off duty early enough and I took him around Manila awhill & then to my ship. We had some pictures taken together and right now I am carrying them with me home to be developed & printed.

The next day, I had the duty and we didn't see each other. But on Nov. 8, 1945, I had my gear ready to leave, but later found out we weren't leaving. So, it being my liberty day, I left the ship to see Frank S. once more. That night he left for his base, the last I saw of him, until he gets his discharge & is home once again enjoying civilian life like I will in the near future. When I arrived back late that night, I found out our relief arrived & we were to leave the next day ~~at~~ - Nov. 9, 1945





UNITED STATES NAVY  
 AT SEA ABOARD  
 The U.S.S. AUDRIAN (APA 59)  
 ENROUTE FROM MANILA  
 TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
 W. S. A.

On Nov. 9, 1945 we, that is the Engineers left the (good ship Wiseman(?)). Well anyway we left it. It was my home for 19 mos.

I certainly hated to say goodbye to Cinie Starsiak + Joe Broich + a few other good buddies. But I was homeward bound!

We arrived in Cavite that afternoon + settled down in the barracks for awhile, (overnight). The next morning was a tense day for all of us. We had the lowdown of their routine. Finally our names were called for different drafts and only then were we relieved. We knew that even that day or the next we would be assigned our ship. The next morning we took our gear + left Cavite for Manila. At Pier 15



we found our ship (The Audrian).  
One half hour after all of us boarded  
her, we left Manila for Subic Bay  
to pick a few hundred more men.  
we stayed there overnight & then the  
greatest day for us all was Nov. 12, 1945.  
We left the Philippines for San  
Francisco on our way for discharge.

Right now it's Nov. 21, 1945. There  
has been much scuttlebutt about  
the time & place we are arriving, but  
nothing definite as yet.

So far, our food has been even  
better than the *Wiseman*.

Yesterday was my birthday. I am  
now 21 years old. But nothing  
new or special happened there.

It's already Nov. 22. Thanksgiving.  
For dinner we had an excellent  
meal. Turkey & about three  
kinds of dessert