

# NEWS RELEASE



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## *Crew of WWII Fighter/Power Ship Reunites In Stark County*

(Canton, Ohio) - Members of the crew of the USS Wiseman DE-667, recipient of six Battle Stars, will reunite at the Best Suites of America on September 13-17, 1995. Approximately 30 of the remaining crew members and their families are expected to attend.

The USS Wiseman DE-667 was originally built to destroy enemy submarines, aircraft and convoy merchant ships across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea. In 1945, the 220 crew member ship was refitted to supply electric to the Army and the city of Manila while still having fighting capabilities. This transition earned the USS Wiseman DE-667 the distinct honor of being the first "Fighting 'Ship to Shore' Power Station," or the first fighting ship in the history of the Navy that could fight and supply electric at the same time.

After being decommissioned on May 31, 1946 the ship was recommissioned in the autumn of 1950 after the onset of the Korean War. As she had done in Manila, electricity was provided to the port of Masan, which was unable to generate its own electricity. In January of 1962, the USS Wiseman DE 667 conducted patrol operations off the coast of Vietnam. She received a "Well Done" for her performance of duties. Struck from the Navy list on April 15, 1973, the USS Wiseman DE-667 was subsequently scrapped, but not forgotten.

The keynote speaker for the reunion will be Commander Luther Leavitt. The rest of the crew will also speak and reminisce on the days of yesteryear.

For more information on the USS Wiseman DE-667 Reunion please contact Mr. George R. Dawson at (216) 499-5570.

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