

Whether he is an officer or a seaman, it makes no difference.

[Do you remember any thing about you mentioned Badger, you mentioned a couple of others, do you remember anything about them that is worth putting down from the point of view of enlisted personnel?]

Well, any man that is wearing a Congressional Medal of Honor brings an automatic type of proudness into them; and if I understand my Naval history, he won his as an ensign at Veracruz in 1914. Oscar C. Badger, was a professional by the highest standards and terms. I remember over the PA system, if I also remember correctly, he came aboard with a set of unprecedented orders. He had the authorization to get this ship ready for combat as rapidly as possible; and at his discretion, he was permitted to transfer any officer, and this is almost unparalleled in BUPERS orders, and any officer or any enlisted man that he deemed was not capably carrying on his assigned duties. And he got rid of some people.

[In other words you are saying he was a very capable.]

Absolutely.

[Do you remember any of the others?]

Hustvedt. I of course being a seaman, I didn't know him. I was way down in the ranks and personal inspections and so forth. I didn't have any individual conversations with him except maybe a greeting. Fort, yes I had words with him back on the stern. He was proud of his aviation unit and so forth, and at one time I was the only man on the ship to hold my rating, aviation ordnanceman. For a period of time there were none and we only rated two and I didn't have an assistant and I was training some at the time. I was given the job of explosive ordnance disposal officer. If we were to be struck by a bomb that did not ignite. We had no drawings and no intelligence on their types of equipment and