

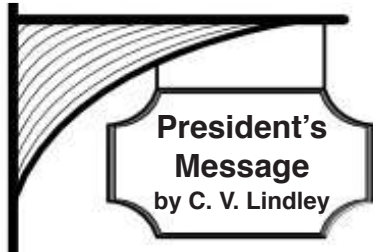
KEARSAGA

U. S. S. KEARSARGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 88

CV, CVA, CVS-33, LHD-3

SPRING 2024



Shipmates, Families & Friends

Springtime greetings to all. I hope that this KEARSAGA finds all of you with good health and enjoying the change in the weather.

I'm saddened to begin this column with the sad news of the KEARSARGE Association's Immediate Past President John Starnes passing. I first met John in 1959 when I went aboard and he was an ABE 2 in V2 Division and I was an AA in adjoining compartments (C-02-07L) above the fantail. John was one of the most squared away Sailors that I can remember. He went on to serve on several carriers and shore stations being promoted to Chief Petty Officer and he retired as a LDO Lieutenant Commander.

John was very loyal to the KEARSARGE Association and served in different leadership positions to include Association President. Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Paula and their family. Farewell with fair winds and following seas Shipmate John.

We still receive some requests from Shipmates regarding the ships position while in Viet Nam waters to help them with disability claims through the VA. To clarify the Associations status on those type inquiries, we are strictly a Navy Veterans social organization as registered with the IRS and incorporated in the State of Florida.

Accordingly, we have no way or legal authority of answering those type of inquiries either informally or formally. However, Service organizations such as the VFW, American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) and The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) all have the ability to obtain that type of information.

My personal experience is with the DAV and in most instances they do remarkably good work in assisting Veterans.

I recommend the DAV first and the FRA next as the FRA is a service organization for Sea Service Personnel

(USN, USMC, USCG) and they speak our Navy language better. I hope that this will answer any questions that you may have.

Once more I thank and sincerely appreciate all of our fellow shipmates that are serving as Association Officers. They do a great job in supporting you and maintaining our organization

C.V.

"IN OMNIBUS PINNACULUM!"

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 40'S

By Jack De Merit, Editor

Kearsarge arrived at her homeport Norfolk 21 April 1946, and for the next year engaged in training operations along the East Coast and Caribbean. She cleared Norfolk 7 June 1947 on a midshipmen training cruise to the United Kingdom.

Upon her return to the United States in August, the carrier engaged in maneuvers for 10 months before departing Hampton Roads on 1 June 1948 for duty with the 6th Fleet. During her tour in the Mediterranean, units of the 6th Fleet were placed on alert to insure peace in the Arab-Israeli area.

Kearsarge returned to Quonset Point, R.I., 2 October and operated along the Atlantic Coast and the Caribbean until 27 January 1950.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 50'S

By Jack De Merit, Editor

The Kearsarge sailed for the West Coast in January 1950 and arrived at Puget Sound Navy Yard 23 February and decommissioned there on 16 June 1950 for a modernization overhaul that would enable her to handle new jet aircraft.

Kearsarge recommissioned 15 February 1952, and following shakedown the carrier cleared San Diego 11 August for intensive flight training in the Hawaiian Islands. Her readiness completed, she sailed for the Far East to engage in combat missions in the Korean war. Arriving Yokosuka 8 September, Kearsarge Joined the fast carrier Task Force 77 off the east coast of Korea 6 days later.

For the next 5 months the carrier's planes flew nearly 6,000 sorties against Communist forces in North Korea, unleashing considerable damage on enemy positions. She completed her tour in late February 1953, returning to her homeport, San Diego 17 March. While serving in Korea her classification was changed to CVA.

She sailed again for the Far East 1 July 1953 and operated with the 7th Fleet fast carrier force during the uneasy truce in Korea. The "Mighty Kay" also kept watch over the Formosa Straits to prevent the Communists from interfering with the Chinese Nationalists on Taiwan. Kearsarge returned to San Diego 18 January 1954 to resume training operations off California. Clearing San Diego 7 October, she steamed toward her third deployment to the Far East. While operating with the 7th Fleet, she stood by to assist the Nationalist Chinese in the evacuation of the Tachen Islands. In February 1955 Kearsarge supported units of the fleet in the successful evacuation of 18,000 civilians and 20,000 military personnel from the islands.

During the summer of 1958 Kearsarge was fitted out as an antisubmarine warfare support carrier and reclassified CVS-33. Following intensive training in her new role she sailed 5 September 1959 for 7th fleet operations in the Far East. Early in her tour Japan was hit with a violent typhoon, and Kearsarge played an important role in providing relief to the victims. Her planes landed parties of medical and supply units, while her crew and air group donated clothing and money to the distressed people. She cleared Yokosuka 3 March 1960.

PHILIPPINES STRIKES SECURITY DEALS AS TENSIONS RISE WITH CHINA AT SEA

By Regine Cabato - Washington Post

MANILA - The Philippines has been striking new defense agreements with other countries at a rapid clip, seeking to build what officials here call a "network of alliances" that could deter Chinese aggression in disputed waters.

The Philippines has signed or entered discussions over new security agreements with at least 18 countries since a Chinese coast guard vessel flashed a military-grade laser at a Philippine coast guard ship in the South China Sea last year, according to the Philippine Defense Department.

While the deepening Philippine alliance with the United States - which includes granting the U.S. military expanded access to Philippine military bases - has drawn much attention, Manila's security campaign goes beyond

Washington.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. made nearly a dozen overseas visits in 2023, many to seek security assistance and military equipment. This year, his schedule includes delivering a rare address before the Australian Parliament as well as the keynote speech at Asia's premier defense summit, the Shangri-La Dialogue, in Singapore.

Since 2022, the Philippines has inked new defense agreements with the European Union, India and Britain. Japan, Canada and France are looking at signing visiting-forces agreements with the Philippines, which would allow those countries to send troops to Philippine bases, according to their embassies.

If adopted, these agreements would give the Philippines one of the most robust security networks in Asia, expanding the global stakes in the rising tensions over the South China Sea, Philippine officials say. "Given that we are the underdog, we leverage our relationships with other countries," said Jonathan Malaya, assistant director of the country's National Security Council. "Our network of alliances is critical."

China claims much of the South China Sea, part of the Pacific Ocean that is bounded by China, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and Brunei. In recent years, China has stepped up its presence in these waters, building artificial islands with military infrastructure such as radar domes and runways.

Off the coast of the Philippines, Chinese ships have swarmed Philippine vessels and ignored appeals by Philippine officials to stop their aggression. Earlier this week, a Chinese coast guard ship fired water cannons at a Philippine coast guard vessel, shattering a windscreen and injuring four personnel, Philippine authorities said.

Last year, Marcos's administration responded with what it called a policy of "assertive transparency," broadcasting videos of aggressive Chinese actions at sea. But in recent interviews, top officials said the country needs more than a publicity campaign to defend its sovereignty.

China has previously accused the Philippines and the United States of fueling tension in the South China Sea. Asked by reporters last year about joint air and maritime patrols between the Philippine and U.S. forces that launched in November, Wu Qian, a spokesperson for China's Defense Ministry, said Washington had "instigated and emboldened the Philippine side to infringe upon China's sovereignty."

More recently, Ji Lingpeng, spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Manila, said that "bringing in outside forces and forming 'small circles' will not help resolve disputes in the South China Sea, but only complicate the regional situation [and] undermine regional peace and stability." Philippine officials disagree, saying their country is standing up for its sovereignty, not acting on behalf of Wash-

ington. And with a third of the world's shipping passing through South China Sea, diplomats in Manila say many countries - not just the United States - have good reason to deter Chinese aggression.

If other nations don't defend international law, the "right of might" wins, Luc Véron, the European Union's ambassador to the Philippines, said in an interview. "We cannot accept that our freedom of navigation in South China Sea will be impeded ... by any players," he added. In July, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen made the first state visit by an E.U. leader to Manila in nearly 60 years, vowing to increase maritime security cooperation with the Philippines. "Security in Europe and security in the Indo-Pacific is indivisible," she said.

Japan is negotiating a reciprocal access agreement with the Philippines that would allow the militaries of both countries to conduct joint training and exercises, similar to the Visiting Forces Agreement that the Philippines has with the United States. Diplomats from Canada and France said their countries are considering similar arrangements.

Vietnam, which also borders the South China Sea, last month signed a series of new agreements with the Marcos administration, including the establishment of a hotline for maritime affairs and a memorandum of understanding on encounters with one another in the South China Sea. "Both countries very clearly recognize that the primary threat to their national sovereignty does not lie in each other, but to the north," said Ray Powell, Sea-

Light director at the Stanford University Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation.

The Philippines is also building up its military arsenal with foreign help. India is scheduled to deliver the first of three batteries of supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines this year, part of a \$375 million contract. The Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Sweden have offered to supply drones and submarines, while the United States, on top of supporting the Philippine military's modernization efforts, has provided \$120 million annually in grant funding to the country's security forces, according to the U.S. Commerce Department.

"The ultimate goal is for credible defense," said Malaya, the security official.

Marcos is the son of a former Philippine dictator once considered a pariah in international politics. But his efforts to push back against Chinese territorial intrusions have won him new popularity among leaders wary of Beijing's growing ambitions, said Dindo Manhit, president of the Manila-based think tank Stratbase ADR Institute. "Why will all these countries visit this small [Southeast Asian] country being led by the son of a dictator?" Manhit said. "Simply because he said he will assert our rights."

Marcos's courtship of security partners marks a sharp shift from his predecessor Rodrigo Duterte, who publicly "realigned" himself with China during his six-year term. Duterte took offense when world leaders criticized his war on drugs for violating human rights and civil liberties, and at various points threatened to abrogate the Visiting Forces Agreement with the United States and to expel

U.S.S. KEARSARGE ASSOCIATION SHIP'S STORE



Golf Shirts

CV, CVA, CVS 33 - Navy
Med, Large. X-Large, 2X Large-\$29.00



Sweat Shirts

CV, CVA, CVS 33 - Navy
Med, Large. X-Large, 2X Large-\$36.00



Dress Shirts

CV, CVA, CVS 33
Short Sleeve Navy
Med, Large. X-Large, 2X Large-\$29.00

Hats



CV, CVA, CVS 33
NAVY - \$16.00

Watch Caps



Navy - CV, CVA, CVS 33
SOLD OUT



Ship's Crests

CV, CVA, CVS 33
Cloth \$5.00
or
Magnet - \$5.00



**50th
Anniversary
1st Day
Cover
Envelope
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Ocean Springs, MS 39564-3129 charlotteap@bellsouth.net

European diplomats.

Although Duterte's term has ended, his daughter is Marcos's vice president. Tension between the families has risen, and in January, the two presidents publicly traded barbs, accusing one another of being addicted to drugs. If the Duterte family returns to power, the Philippines could rescind security commitments or swing back to a more pro-China foreign policy, political analysts say.

MEMBER'S STORY

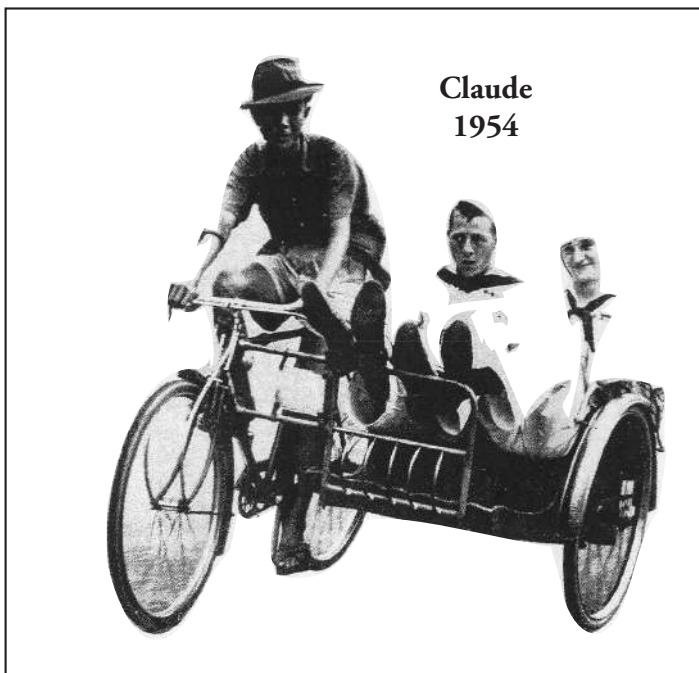
By Member Claude E. Isbell, BMSN

In the evening at 1600 hours, myself and Boat Crew #2 were called to the Quarterdeck by Duty Officer of the Deck. Upon meeting with the Officers, we were instructed to dress in our dress white uniforms and depart from the Kearsarge on March 16th 1954 at 0715 to destination Marine Corps Barracks for Morning Colors detail. Unbeknownst to us a Boat Crew, we did not know what we were going to do.

Upon arrival at the U. S. Marine Corps Barracks, we met 6 Marines. The Sgt. then instructed us where we were going and what we were going to do. We were being sent to do the mornings Raising of the Colors.

Aboard the U.S.S. Arizona, we proceed in the Ceremony and as the Trumpet sounded, I realized that I was not alone. I felt in my heart that there were 1,100 people present to raise the flag. At the young age of 18, I didn't realize the importance of this call.

Now, at the age of 87, at 0800 , I realize that I am not alone every day of my life.



Claude
1954

ANOTHER MEMBER'S STORY

By Member Philip Cohen



I was aboard Kearsarge from 5 December 1965 through April 1968 when we returned from our 1967 West Pac Deployment.

During my term on board serving in "E" division as an Electrician's Mate, doing every task from lighting, heavy power, battery shop, generator distribution and habitation improvements, I learned that a "sailor's" job doesn't end until his ship is home and running on shore power with all auxiliaries "cold" and secured.

Even then, taking hourly readings of electrical and steam service provided by the yard was an hourly task. While deck hands attended to maintaining the hull, and deck facilities, we snipes worked below decks to do the PM (preventive maintenance) on pumps, evaporators, boilers, generators and all the parts a floating airport requires to keep her battle ready.

I departed Kearsarge knowing that I completed every assigned task with all the expertise needed to keep the K a key part of the national defense mechanism.

Some years later as I was going through history of the ship I found a photo of her commissioning ceremony at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in 1945. I showed the photo to my father who worked in the Yard during WW2 as a welder and shipfitter, and he said he remembered that day as he was one of the thousands of men and women that built her.

Had I stayed with the Kearsarge through the last West-Pac cruise in 1969 I would have been a rare member of those families that had been part of a ship from keel laying to decommissioning. Sadly Kearsarge CVS 33 was sold as scrap in 1970. I proudly have a section of flight deck "plank" displayed in my den, a reminder of my family's part in the life of a great warship.

KEARSARGE IN THE 1960'S

HER FINAL CRUISES

From June 1963 to December 1964, the Kearsarge made her eighth and ninth deployments to the Western Pacific. Highlighting the latter cruise on August 5, the "Mighty K" was ordered to proceed from Yokosuka, Japan, to provide antisubmarine warfare support to the Seventh Fleet ships involved in the Gulf of Tonkin crisis. She returned to Long Beach on December 16, 1964, to undergo a six-month yard overhaul. During the yard period, the Kearsarge received a new aluminum flight deck and the latest radar equipment.

The Kearsarge operated off the coast of Southern California until early 1966, then once again set sail for the Far East to support units of the Seventh Fleet off Vietnam. During the 1966 cruise, the carrier steamed over 35,000

a sub-surface vigil on the waters of the Gulf of Tonkin. The carrier's helicopters rescued 16 downed American flyers, many of whom had been heavily hit by enemy ground positions. In October, the Kearsarge transported President Johnson's helicopter through the Strait of Malacca while the President was visiting Malaysia.

The Kearsarge conducted one final Western Pacific deployment in 1969. Upon her return to Long Beach, the carrier entered the shipyard for the process of deactivation. All usable equipment was removed and she began her final voyage to San Diego, where on February 13, 1970, the 24-year-old carrier was decommissioned and placed in the San Diego Group of the Pacific Reserve Fleet. Today, the Kearsarge slowly sways against her moorings in her berth near the 32nd Street Pier at the Naval Ship's Maintenance Facility, her fate in the hands of Navy officials who will deem the proper time when she will be considered useless to her country and disposed of for scrap.

The USS Kearsarge CVS-33 has received the following awards: the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation; Navy Occupation Service Medal (Europe); Korean Service Medal with two battle stars; National Defense Service Medal (twice); Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; the Vietnam Service Medal; the United Nations Service Medal; and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation Badge.

SHIP'S STORE "SUPER SALE"

Kearsarge Association Members and Families, We are promoting a "Sailor Super Sale" of most Ship's Store merchandise. Prices are marked down below original costs on some items and FYI, in agreement by Association Leadership and with Charlotte Patton, (Ship's Store Proprietor) when this inventory is gone, the store will regrettably be closing due to the decline in membership. It's "first come, first served" based on your order receipt by Charlotte. Here are the reduced "Sale" prices:

Golf Shirts, 1 MED., 3 Large, 2 2XL-----\$20.00

Dress Shirts, 3 Hed., 2 XL-----\$20.00

Sweat Shirts, 1 Large, 2XL, 4 2XL-----\$25.00

Magnetic Ship's Crests— \$2.00

Ball Caps and cloth Crests no change.

All orders will receive Magnetic Ship's Patch and a First Edition Cover "FREE."

These reduced prices will remain in effect (vice what's listed on the ship's store page, we'll leave those unchanged for comparison) until we've sold out. This will be your final opportunity to get memorabilia from your "Kearsarge sea going days."

LCDR. JOHN STARNES

Good Friday took on a new meaning for me yesterday as my Dad was called to heaven! His 84 years were filled with adventure, laughter, and love. He was an awesome Father, Husband, Brother, Friend, Shipmate and neighbor. He was always willing to help and give to others. His example of work ethic, grit and integrity have helped me through out my life. Serving 30 years in the Navy and 20 years at NASA he had lots of titles but I think his favorite name to be called was Grandad! He will be dearly missed!! **Todd Starnes**

MARCH 29, 2024

Born on August 12, 1939, to John Hurley Starnes, Sr. and Della Strawn Starnes. John attended Mineral Springs High School. He enlisted in the U. S. Navy the day after he turned 17 and served 30 years, ultimately achieving the rank of Lt. Commander, LDO. After retirement he immediately launched into another 20 year career, this time at NASA, where he worked in safety operations at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas where he attained a grade of GS15.

John's passion was excellence. Whether he was waxing his car, someone else's, or launching airplanes in dark, pitching seas off a carrier deck, he was committed to doing it to the best of his considerable ability.

His commitment to getting things done right fueled many funny stories on the home front, which the family now treasures. John wanted his children to be productive. They had the opportunity to arrange his shirts by sleeve length and by color.

The love of John's life beyond the U. S. Navy, was the former Paula Gail Rutledge. The pair married in 1967 in Dallas, Texas and raised three children together: Todd, Tammy and Randy. Being a military family they lived a life of moves, adventures and deployments. His relentless love and concern for others was enjoyed by colleagues, close friends and strangers he had just met and it drove Paula crazy. Most of all he loved his family.

John is survived by his wife, Paula, his sister, Libby, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, his extended Thomas and Starnes family in North Carolina and Virginia.

Dad, you made us better by your example and we are eternally grateful to you and for you.

TAPS!



AB2 John H. Starnes

'56-'60 V2

miles on Yankee Station, maintaining a surface and

MILITARY SURVIVINGSPOUSE

IS YOURS PREPARED IF YOU DIE FIRST

The death of a loved one is a tumultuous life transition. To prevent their spouses from suffering the consequences of being unprepared when dealing with the numerous details associated with a loved one's passing, MOAA current and potential members are encouraged to understand the tools and subject-matter experts available to them. MOAA is aware of the limited assistance provided to military retirees and surviving spouses in these situations. Many military bases have Retiree Activity Offices (RAOs) that do their very best to assist. However, these facilities are staffed mainly by volunteers and are severely under-resourced. In these austere times, improvements to RAO services are unlikely. Additionally, many survivors do not reside anywhere near a military installation. Following are several MOAA resources that can help.

Member Service Center: The Member Service Center, (800) 234-MOAA (6622), is staffed from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time with dedicated professionals who have an affinity for assisting the military community. They have been expertly trained to provide or pursue answers to the wide array of questions. If our member service representatives cannot adequately address an issue, they will connect a member or survivor to one of two staff subject-matter experts. These retired military officers possess a combined 50 years of active duty service and have gained in their post-military experience expertise and accreditation as financial and benefits counselors and educators. They routinely advise MOAA members on the full range of military and federal benefits - TRICARE, Medicare and TRICARE For Life, Social Security, VA benefits, and the Survivor Benefit Program, to name a few.

Publications and Guides: MOAA has an array of publications designed to assist paid members and their survivors. Most publications can be accessed online. Copies of printed publications can be obtained via U.S. mail by calling the Member Service Center. The following publications pertain to military survivor issues:

Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead. This guide can help you prepare, make decisions, and ease the financial, medical, and property transition for your family after you're gone.

Survivor's Planning Guide. Following the death of a loved one, it can be overwhelming to keep track of what arrangements need to be made, who needs to be contacted, and notes on important phone calls. Designed by surviving spouses, this handbook is intended to help you

do just that.

Survivor's Checklist: First Steps for Moving On. Keep this essential checklist on hand to refer to when dealing with a death in the family.

Turning the Corner. Losing a loved one is never easy, and each person's experience is different. This publication is meant to help you recognize and understand some of the aspects of the grieving process and help guide you through this difficult time.

Your Guide to Military Burials. Use this resource for planning and decision-making regarding military burials and rights and to create a plan for the future.

The other publications in MOAA's library include topics such as personal finance, military benefits, transition, spouse and family, and MOAA chapters. The most popular publications include *Aging Into Medicare* and *TRICARE For Life and Survivor Benefit Plan: Security for Your Survivors*.

Surviving Spouse Membership: Finally, MOAA will transfer a member's Life Membership into a Surviving Spouse Life Membership for the surviving spouse or the remaining time of a premium membership into a Surviving Spouse Premium Membership. Additionally, we invite all survivors to join our Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter, which provides a common space for surviving spouses across the country to connect with one another and communicate about challenges of adjusting to a new life and the resources available. You can reach out to this virtual chapter by emailing.

Survivors also might be interested in joining a local MOAA chapter. Local chapters frequently can provide assistance with issues members and survivors face or offer some like-minded camaraderie. Locate your nearest local MOAA chapter.

U. S. CONSIDERS TASK FORCE TO GUARD RED SEA SHIPS FROM IRANIAN FORCES

NEW YORK TIMES BY PETER BAKER

The United States is in discussions with its allies to set up a naval task force to guard ships traveling through the Red Sea after the latest attack on several commercial vessels in what appears to be an escalating extension of Israel's war with Hamas by Iranian-sponsored proxy forces.

Jake Sullivan, President Biden's national security adviser, said on Monday that such patrols or escorts could be the appropriate response to the targeting of ships in the region. He compared the mission to similar task forces in the Gulf, where Iranian naval forces have at times been

aggressive with other ships, and off the coast of Somalia, where pirates have preyed on private vessels in the past.

“We are in talks with other countries about a maritime task force of sorts involving the ships from partner nations alongside the United States in ensuring safe passage of ships in the Red Sea,” Mr. Sullivan told reporters at the White House. “Those talks are ongoing as we speak. I don’t have anything formal to announce. But that would be a natural part of the comprehensive response to what we’re seeing.”

Mr. Sullivan’s comments came a day after several commercial ships came under fire and a U.S. Navy destroyer shot down three drones during an hourslong attack on Sunday. One of the drones intercepted was heading toward the destroyer, the U.S.S. Carney, according to United States Central Command. There were no injuries or damage reported by the Carney, the Pentagon said.

The drones were tracked to parts of Yemen controlled by the Houthi militia, an Iranian-backed force that has launched a series of assaults on Israeli and American targets since the Oct. 7 terrorist attack led by Hamas against Israel. The Houthis said they were determined to prevent Israeli ships from sailing in the Red Sea until Israel stops its assault on Hamas in Gaza.

Mr. Sullivan said he did not believe all three of the commercial ships targeted on Sunday had ties to Israel, adding that their targeting would not have been justified even if they were. In fact, Mr. Sullivan said the three ships were connected to 14 different nations. “This is an issue for the entire world, for every country that relies upon maritime commerce to sustain their economy,” he said. “By the way, that is every country.”

He added that the attacks were “fully enabled by Iran,” the Houthis’ patron. “They’re the ones with their finger on the trigger,” he said of the Houthis. “That gun, the weapons here, are being supplied by Iran, and Iran we believe is the ultimate party responsible for this.”

Mr. Sullivan said the United States would “take appropriate action” in consultation with allies “at a time and place of our choosing.” Republicans have criticized the Biden administration for not doing more to counter such aggression by Iranian proxies.

“The Biden administration saying ‘don’t’ to Iran and its proxies clearly is not working,” said Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina. “The Biden administration says ‘don’t’; Iran and its proxies ‘do.’ We need to regain deterrence by letting Iran know its infrastructure is on the target.

**WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO TRAIN DOGS TO DANCE?
THEY HAVE TWO LEFT FEET.**

HAVE YOU HEARD OR SEEN?

Q: It lives in winter, dies in summer, and grows with its roots upward. What is it?

-- An icicle.

Q: It starts out tall, but the longer it stands, the shorter it grows. What is it?

-- A candle.

Q: What goes up and never comes down?

-- Your age.

Q: How can a man go 8 days without sleep?

-- He only sleeps at night.

Q: I’m full of keys but I can’t open any door. What am I?

-- A piano.

LIES YOU LEARNED IN SCHOOL

Washington Admitted He Chopped Down a Cherry Tree For generations, teachers have been telling students that George Washington was so virtuous that he couldn’t tell a lie. The author of Washington’s bestselling original biography was not bound by such moral hang-ups, and took significant artistic license with the facts. The cherry tree story is among the biggest whoppers.

Chameleons Change Color for Camouflage Chameleons have the remarkable ability to change color, but it’s not to blend in with surroundings while hiding from predators. Some chameleons change with the temperature or amount of stress they’re experiencing. Others change colors to warn other lizards of danger. And of course, some males brighten things up to attract females.

You Can’t End Sentences with Prepositions. The question “Where are you at?” would make any English teacher cringe — and for good reason. It is grammatically incorrect to end sentences with prepositions when the sentence would have the same meaning without it. But otherwise, it’s perfectly fine. Not only is there no rule anywhere that says you can’t, but sometimes not ending sentences with prepositions makes writing clumsy and unnatural “On what did you step?” vs. “What did you step on?”

The Tongue Map. One part of the tongue senses bitter tastes. Another detects sweetness, and others sense salty and bitter tastes, according to the tongue map. The tongue map drawn back in 1901 is a lie. Scientists now know that the tongue works in concert to detect all tastes and sensations.

Blood Is Blue in the Body. Generations of children managed to leave school believing blood is blue until it touches oxygen, when it turns red. Blood is always red. Veins appear blue only because of how light is filtered as it penetrates the skin.

Follow the Food Pyramid for a Healthy Diet. The standard for healthy eating taught to children for decades, the classic food pyramid, has contributed to epidemic levels of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. The U.S. Department of Agriculture sets nutritional guidelines for schools and the military, but also represents the agriculture industry — and has a vested interest in promoting diets based on things such as corn and meat, which have proven unhealthy in large quantities.

KEARSAGA

U. S. S. Kearsarge Association Newsletter

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

All KEARSARGE Association Members, Please be attentive to your membership expiration date that's on the address label. We don't want to be forced to drop a single member for any EXPIRED dues.

SHIPMATES, CHECK THE MAILING LABEL ABOVE FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATES.

If it has been highlighted in yellow, renew immediately.

You can also check your membership details on the website roster to determine your membership expiration dates. That is the date on which your dues payments are due and payable.



DUES and MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership dues are \$15.00
Check payable to the: **Kearsarge Association**
Mail to: **Bill Hollywood**
3059 Crest Ave.
Ketchikan, AK 99901
New members, send your information including:
Name, Address, Phone Number, E-Mail Address,
Rate, Rank, Division, and years serving aboard.

If you are interested in receiving your Kearsaga via E-Mail, go to our website and leave a message stating: "Send my KEARSAGA via E-Mail" If you do not have a computer, we will continue to send it via U. S. Postal Service.

Association Office Holders

President: C. V. Lindley, 9729 Shadow Wood Dr., Pensacola, FL 32514 • (850) 712-4664 • cvjan78@gmail.com
Vice President: Stephen Norton, 124 Hilltop Drive, Chula Vista, CA 91910 • (760) 809-6618 • iccsuwusn@gmail.com
Secretary / Treasurer: Bill Hollywood, 3059 Crest Ave., Ketchikan, AK 99901 • (907) 225-6556 • aknos@outlook.com
Webmaster: Barry Rittle, 10 Valley Dr., Annville, PA 17003 • (717) 673-6189 • rittleskokomo@aol.com
Editor: Jack De Merit, 4112 W. 161st Street, Lawndale, CA 90260 • (310) 370-9391 • abcusa@earthlink.net
Ship's Store: Charles & Charlotte Patton, 2501 Bienville Blvd, Unit 514, Ocean Springs • MS 39564-3129
(228) 324-7174 • charlotteap@bellsouth.net

Honorary President, Kenneth McDaniel, Association Founder, (Deceased)
John Bennett "President Emeritus," • John Starnes, Past President, (Deceased)

www.kearsargeassociation.com