

# **Recollections**By Captain Orlie Baird, Ret.

n early 1964 I received orders to take command of the USS Ingersol, but after a couple of weeks, I received a

change in my orders to take command of the USS Cogswell instead. Shortly after the general message carrying orders to officers that included my name came out, I received a letter from an old friend congratulating me on my orders (we had been room mates as midshipmen). He was serving as an aide to a Vice Admiral in Norfolk at the time, and the short letter had a Post Script written in large letters: "My boss (VADM Harold Deuterman) says you can borrow the Cogswell, but you can't have her. She belongs to him!"

After I had been on board USS Cogswell a short time and started to get a bit checked out on the ship, I heard on the "bilge telephone" that I had acquired a new nickname. Evi-

dently I had been lucky and did a few things that struck the fancy of the crew, and they were starting to refer to me as "Sweet Old Baird". Now almost everybody wants to be popular, but most Destroyer skippers fancy themselves as macho types, and Sweet Old Baird had a rather pansy sound. So by using some of the personnel and locations where the word gets out faster and has more credence than the 1MC and the Plan of the Day) (like the ship's laundry room, leading mess cook, bull ensign, a note on the back of the acey

deucy board in the Chief's Quarters, etc) I suggested that although I appreciated the sentiment behind the nick name, it

would be nice if I could be called something else. And all hands were very considerate and responsive, as almost immediately and from then ob they just used the abbreviation, and simply called me: SOB.

Are either of these two tales something of the order you had in mind?

Your offer of a hunting license to spill the beans on some of the J.O.s was tempting, but common sense tells me that there are a lot better stories that they remember about my idiosyncrasies, so will pass on that for now. Frank Wille may already be putting down some of the things he remembers about me and starting up the J.O. protective organization again.



It's a shame you weren't able to get something from Captain Crenshaw.

He has written books, and in his book: "Naval Shiphandling" in the chapter "Mariners at Work" he provides two maneuvering examples with Cogswell as the ship involved. The book was very useful to me over the years, as Captain Crenshaw has a knack for describing and explaining things. I still keep a copy in my library.



# Cdr. Russsell S. Crenshaw, Jr. 7 June 1951 – 9 October 1952

(Cogswell Recommissioned)

Commander Crenshaw became Commanding Officer of the USS COGSWELL in June 1951 on recommissioning. Commander Crenshaw's duties prior to serving aboard the Cogswell included: 1937-1941 United States Naval

Academy, Class of 1941

1941-1944 USS MAURY (DD-401), Pacific Fleet, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Gunnery Officer and Executive Officer

1944-1945 USS STORMES (DD-780), Pacific Fleet, Executive Officer, "Kamikasied" on Picket Station 15, Okinawa, but got her back to continue her distinguished career.

1945-1946 USS THOMAS J. GARY (DE-326), Asiatic Fleet, Commanding Office and Commander Escort Division 50 (5 DE). South China Force, based in Hong Kong. Returned to be de-commissioned in Charleston, SC, by steaming "around the world."

1946-1949 Postgraduate School, Guided Missile Guidance. Graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology with MS (EE), 1949

1949-1951 USS COLUMBUS (CA-74), Flagship, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe, Gunnery Officer.

1951-1952 USS COGSWELL (DD-651), Atlantic Fleet. Commanding Officer. Re-commissioning, shakedown training, Operation Mainbrace (1st large NATO Naval Operation).

# Moved or Moving?

Make sure you send one of those change of address cards from the U.S. Post Office to our database custodian. We need to keep your address current so you will not miss any of the important information mailed to our members. Mail the card to:

> George Overman 15 Trinity St. Oceanside, CA 92057

~~~~~~~~~~~~

# To contact us:

Chairman:

**Cogswell Association Committee:** 

Frank Wille

206-423-4901

P.O. BOX 2417

Longview, Washington 98632 fowille@longfibre.com

### Treasurer; of Cogswell Association Jim Touse

517-437-4232 135 Indiana Ct Hillsdale, MI 49242

**Secretary Editor / Flunky:** 

Pete Daggett: 661 269-2212

P O Box 876

Acton, California 93510 padagge@netport.com

#### **Howard Becker**

303-237-0176 1995 Glen Dale Dr. Lakewood, Colorado 80215 hbecker230@aol.com

#### **Dennis Franks**

805-967-5611 5611 Hollister Ave. Ventura, California 93117 toyotasb@west.net

**Orville Williams** 

(515) 674-3800 10512 S. 36th Ave W.

Colfax, Iowa

orvw@uswest.net

### **Membership Committee Coordinator** George Overman:

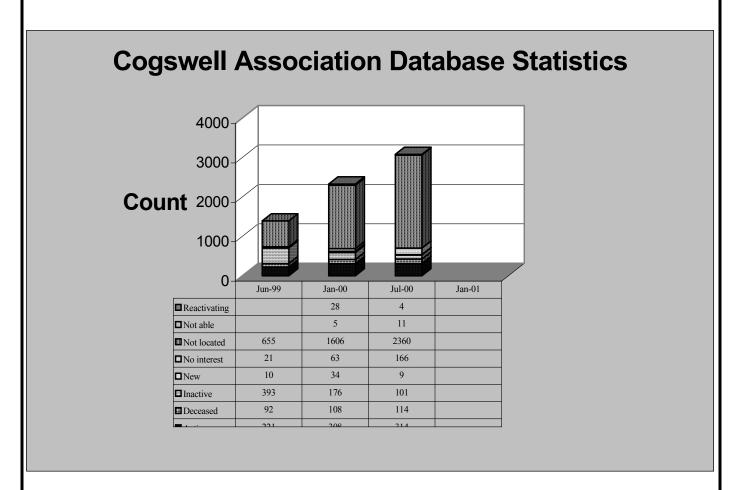
760-721-5730 15 Trinity St. Oceanside, CA 92057 georgeoverman@home.com



### USS COGSWELL DD651 ASSOCIATION DATABASE STATISTICS

As you can see the total numbers in the database are growing. This is good news and bad news. The good news, more shipmates have been identified. The bad news, we don't know where they are. I have completed a search through 6 microfilm rolls from the National Archives and am currently waiting for the next 5 rolls. These microfilm rolls contain the muster rolls for the Cogswell for each year she was in commission. Unfortunately, the muster rolls do not contain the names of the officers until 1957. Deck logs have to be attained to get this information for years 1943-1956.

As of this writing we have a total of 3082 names in our Cogswell database. Not much has been done to search for these missing people. **I still need help**. Progress has been made on clearing the inactive members from our files and either "reactivating" some members or placing many of them in the "no interest" category. John Barwinczok did a great job of clearing many of the inactive names.



I was derelict in the last newsletter by not mentioning the new members to the association. I want to put this information in each of the newsletters to make sure everyone knows who is joining the ranks. I also have a large e-mail distribution list of Cogswell members that I occasionally send out notices, etc. If you have never received an e-mail from you, I probably do not have your e-mail address. Send it to me at georgeoverman@home.com. Richard L. Cogswell was not a Cogswell shipmate but a distant relative of the Admiral and Capt. Cogswell. Harry Hull was a great grandson of the namesakes and served aboard when the ship was decommissioned in 1969.

PAGE 4 THE SCUTTLEBUTT

## U.S.S. COGSWELL DD651 MERCHANDISE

| The following merchandise is available for shipment. Costs for each item includes shipping sent via the U.S. Postal Service. Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Men's USS Cogswell DD651 inscribed navy blue baseball cap                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Ea.<br>\$12  | Order Qty   | Amount              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lady's USS Cogswell DD651 inscribed light blue cloth visor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | \$9          |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carton containing <u>2 ea.</u> 15 oz. ceramic coffee cups silk screened with pictures of the Cogswell, the Admiral & Captain Cogswell, and the ships plaque.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | \$10         |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| USS Cogswell shipmate roster (as of March 2000). This booklet, approximately 50 pages, lists the names of all currently identified Cogswell shipmates. The listing includes <b>ONLY</b> last name, first name, years aboard, rank/rate, and current status. (Active, inactive, etc.)                                                                                                                                            | ,            | Enclosed    |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ship to:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1 Otai       | Elicioscu   |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Send order form and check made payable to <u>USS COGSWELL DD651 ASSOCIATION</u> to: George Overman 15 Trinity St                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oceanside CA 92057 (Clip on dotted line)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The Cogswell history books were prepared by John Bai                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <br>rwinczok | and must be | ordered separately. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Book one, which contains approximately 40 pages, is filled with interesting facts about the Cogswell and costs \$25. Book two contains about 95% of book one plus many articles given to John by other shipmates. Book two contains approximately 80 pages and costs \$25. Both books can be purchased for \$40. Prices include shipping. Make checks payable directly to John Barwinczok and mail to him at 25 Leavenworth Ave |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Auburn, NY 13021-4552  Book One # Total \$ Ship to:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Book Two # Total \$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both #Total \$                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |             |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2 PAGE 5

This is one of the most important actions you may ever perform for the USS Cogswell DD-651 Association. Please take just a few minutes to give us your answers. Return the questionnaire no later than November 01, 2000 in order for your answers to be included in the results.

Return address: George Overman 15 Trinity St. Oceanside, CA 92057



This questionnaire is being included with this edition of the newsletter to give you an opportunity to express your desires and opinions for future Cogswell reunions. Currently, most of the future reunion planning and decision making takes place during the business meeting at the

reunion itself. This does not allow many of our members to express an opinion on reunion planning. The sole purpose of this survey is to help the executive committee plan future reunions in an effort to attract the greatest number of association members. Your answers to this survey will have a direct impact on the planning of the future reunions. This is your association and it is up to you to make it a great association.

### USS COGSWELL DD-651 ASSOCIATION REUNION QUESTIONNAIRE

| 1. | Name Years Aboard 19 to 19                                                                                                                                                    |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Reunions Attended (Check all that apply): Mesa Fall River Las Vegas Nashville Las Vegas Baton Rouge San Diego                                                                 |
| 3. | Name the top six cities in the United States (regardless of geography) where you would like to attend a Cogswell reunion.  List in order of preference.  1 <sup>st</sup>      |
| 4. | If a reunion were held in your city of choice would you be willing to be the reunion coordinator or help in some way with the reunion?  Yes (check below) No Coordinator Help |
| 5. | Would you be willing to help in any way with the planning of a Cogswell reunion no matter where the event took place?  Yes No                                                 |
| 6. | If the reunions were to be held on a geographic rotational basis, how would you like to see the U.S. divided? Circle your choice.                                             |
|    | A. Divided in half at the Mississippi                                                                                                                                         |
| 5. | How often should the reunions be held?  Every year Every 18 months Every 2 years Every 3 years                                                                                |
| 6. | What month would you prefer the Cogswell reunion be held (regardless of geographical location)?  Jan_Feb_Mar_Apr_May_Jun_Jul_Aug_Sep_Oct_Nov_Dec                              |
| 7. | What would you consider your maximum allowable room cost per day? \$75 \$100 \$125 \$150                                                                                      |

PAGE 5

| 8.  | What would you consider your maximum allowable banquet cost to be per person? \$30 \$40 \$50 \$60                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.  | Over how many days should the reunion take place?  2 days 3 days 4 days 5 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 10. | Considering your answer above, what days of the week would you most prefer the reunion to cover? (circle the days) Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 11. | What day of the week would you prefer to hold the banquet? (circle the day) Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 12. | What is the best time to have the business meeting at the reunion?  Early morning Afternoon Evening Night                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 13. | Would you be willing to pay a registration fee at the reunion to help offset some of the reunion costs?  Yes No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 14. | If yes, how much would you be willing to pay (per person)? \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 15. | What type of activities most interest you? If the activity interests you, place a number from one to four on the blank line next to the activity indicating your level of interest (one being highest). Leave blank if you have no interest in this activity. Under <i>other</i> please list any other activities that you would like to see at the reunions.  Visiting time Banquet Sight seeing Golf Ship visits Raffle Guest speakers Shows Museums Shopping Other                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 16. | What type of guest speakers should we have at the reunion (either banquet or other possible speaking occasions)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|     | Former Cogswell personnel Other Military Civilian Topics of talks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 17. | Should we hire a photographer to shoot pictures during the reunion and at the banquet and then have a photo book printed, or should we continue to have the same company do the photo shoot at the banquet?  Yes, hire a photographer No, continue with same company                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 18. | What is the <i>one</i> thing, which would draw you to a Cogswell reunion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 20. | Ships are welcome to have their reunions along with TCS [Tin Can Sailors]. This year four are doing so. We try to provide each ship with their own hospitality room, however, there are obviously some limitations usually based on how many rooms the hotel has available and at what price.  There is a regrettable notion that joining up with TCS for a reunion is a way to reduce costs to attendees. That's usually not true and some people seem disappointed as a result. We try to use first-class properties and room rates, therefore, run about \$100 a night. We also serve pretty good food at our banquets so we have a registration fee that's higher than some would like. When we do a harbor cruise we try to do a private charter of the entire cruise boat; not the cheapest way to go but our members have the entire vessel to enjoy. What we do provide a reunion group is a no-hassle reunion, a quality program, and as much as possible we keep their group together at events. |
| 21. | Based on the above statement from Tom Peltin, president of TCS, would you be in favor or against having the Cogswell re union along with the TCS reunion?  In favor Against                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|     | Comments:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2 PAGE 7

### **Message from the editor:**

Not much to write about this time around. According to our new Leader (Frank Willie) the Atlantic City Reunion is in the works. We have no real details yet, even the date is being negotiated but it looks like a GO for 2001. I will be there because I want to see Atlantic City and hopefully meet some of my old shipmates that haven't been able to make it out to the Wild West.

I have noticed that there are some real strong feelings about these reunions and where they are to be held. Since we are running this thing by committee now we need all the input we can get. Please cut out George's questionnaire and fill out and mail it back to him. Sorry we can't afford return postage and envelopes... Please add any comments or suggestions that come to mind.

<u>Positive Input only please</u>, we want to know where you want to go with this Association. If you have a complaint about what we are doing you are more than welcome to join the committee and help us out. ...

While you are filling out the questionnaire please give serious consideration to the part about joining the Tin Can Sailors Association. I am not concerned about the money so much as the work and time needed for administration, none of the people currently on the committee can afford to devote the amount of time it takes to put on a bash like we had in San

Diego (There is only one George Overman) The idea of having the pro's do it annually is really very attractive to me. Since I have this forum and no one has had the time, opportunity or inclination to give me any input I will use it to put in my two cents.

Once I have a few more facts, I am going vote to join the Tin Can Sailors association. If we have the TCS Assn to do all the leg work and contend with the hassle of setting up reunions sustaining the USS Cogswell may become a more viable option. Since everyone on the committee is a volunteer anyway we should be able to sustain the USS Cogswell Assn. in some form. I am not sure how we would affiliate ourselves with them as a group yet. If we can join as a group that's great, if we have to join as individuals that's OK too, but unfortunately that would mean paying dues to both organizations and I don't know how many people would be willing to pay for two memberships. Without dues, it will put a severe crimp in our ability to sustain the Cogswell Association as anything other than a shell (For example, putting out this Newsletter is not cheap). If we can find a way to work around the dues problem (If there is a dues problem) we will be able to continue with this Newsletter and if we don't have to manage the whole reunion we, as a sub association, can expend our energies on growth, organizing peripheral activities, putting out Newsletters and such.

Pete Daggett, Flunky

This is the list of all the names I have added as new members since June 99. I hope I have everyone listed. We will have the entire database on the Internet soon.

George Overman

| Last Name  | <b>First</b> | Middle    | City           | State | Yrs   | Rank/Rate |
|------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| ANDERSEN   | ROBERT       |           | SAN DIEGO      | CA    | 68-69 | GMCS      |
| BECKER     | HOWARD       | AUSTIN    | LAKEWOOD       | CO    | 43-44 | SOM1      |
| BOHANEK    | PAUL         | B.        | CLEARWATER     | FL    | 51-53 | DCFN      |
| BOOCK      | LEON         | HARRY     | WAUKEGAN       | IL    | 63-64 | EM2       |
| BOSE       | NELSON       | E.        | OKLAHOMA CITY  | OK    | 59-61 | LTJG      |
| CASTANO    | JESSE        | ALEX      | VIRGINA BEACH  | VA    | 62-63 | SA        |
| COGSWELL   | RICHARD      | L         | CENTER OSSIPEE | NH    | N/A   |           |
| COURSER    | THOMAS       | MICHAEL   | MONTROSE       | CO    | 66-69 | EM3       |
| COWARD     | JAMES        | TEANECK   |                | NJ    | 57-59 | SN        |
| DUBERG     | CARL         | MCLEAN    |                | VA    | 53-55 | LT        |
| DUNAWAY    | LUTHER       |           | JACKSONVILLE   | FL    | 68-69 | MM2       |
| ECKERT     | LARRY        | E.        | GOOSE CREEK    | SC    | 63-66 | MM3       |
| GUSTASON   | ROBERT       | V.        | SURPRISE       | AZ    | 58-59 | RM2       |
| HODGES     | JAMES        | E.        | RIO RANCHO     | NM    | 59,60 | SN        |
| HULL       | HARRY        |           | SAN RANCISCO   | CA    | 68-69 | LTJG      |
| KERBER     | WAYNE        | JOSEPH    | VESTAL         | NY    | 51-53 | SO3       |
| KOPACZYNSI | KIJOSEPH     | WALTER    | NEWBURYPORT    | MA    | 43-45 | MM2       |
| LAMSON     | THOMAS       | C.        | HOCKLEY        | TX    | 67-68 | RM3       |
| LANZ       | KENNETH      | J.        | GREEN BANK     | WA    | 56-57 | RDSN      |
| LIBEY      | DONALD       | ROBERT    | HADDON         | NJ    | 68-69 | HM1       |
| MOOG       | DONALD       | K.        | SAN DIEGO      | CA    | 66-69 | EMC       |
| NOONAN     | JOHN         | JEFFERSON | PINEHURST      | NC    | 59-62 | FTG3      |
| NORMOYLE   | HENRY        | MIKE      | LAKEWOOD       | CA    | 68-69 | YNC       |
| RAWLINGS   | CHARLES      | E.        | MARTINEZ       | CA    | 63-64 | DC3       |
| RILEY      | RONALD       | THOMAS    | ATHENS         | GA    | 67-69 | LTJG      |
| SCHERR     | CARL         | R.        | MANALAPAN      | NJ    | 52-55 | SO3       |

U.S.S. Cogswell DD651
Association
15 Trinity Street
Oceanside, California 92057

Mailing Label



