

The Navy Book of Distinguished Service

An official compendium of the names and citations of the men of the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Army and foreign governments who were decorated by the Navy Department for extraordinary gallantry and conspicuous service beyond the call of duty in the World War.

With a forward by JOSEPHUS DANIELS

Harry R. Stringer
Editor

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These are the Coast Guard entries from *The Navy Book of Distinguished Service*,
transcribed by William R. Wells, II, USCG (Ret.)

October 24, 2002.



**DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE MEDAL**

BOYCE, William L., (Deceased). Assistant Machinist .U. S. C. G. For distinguished and heroic service in the line of his profession as an officer of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in volunteering as of a party to board the British Steamer *Wellington*, following the torpedoing of that vessel on September 16, 1918, and her abandonment by her crew. Acting Machinist Boyce was placed in charge of the machinery of the *Wellington*, and through his efforts in handling the power plant, the vessel, although fatally damaged, was able to continue on her course for port for twelve hours; then, owing to heavy weather and rapid rising of the water in the holds, a bulkhead gave way, flooding the engine and fire rooms. Even then, Machinist Boyce and his men stuck to their posts until steam was blown down sufficiently to prevent danger of explosion of the boilers. In the attempt to abandon ship when his services were no longer of any use Machinist Boyce lost his life.

SATTERLEE, C. A., Captain U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Tampah* (sic) engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.



NAVY CROSS

BENNETT, Clifford F., Ordinary Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the Gillespie shell-loading plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918. While the explosions were still continuing, Bennett drove a motor car on trip after trip through a barrage of flying shell splinters, carrying out the wounded and dead and carrying in guards. Although the door of his car was blown off and the car riddled, he persisted in his work throughout the night.

BENNETT, William S., Keeper. U. S. C. G. For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished

service during the explosion and fire of the shell-loading plant Gillespie, at Morgan, N. J., October 4 to 5, 1918 Bennett remained in charge in a very dangerous zone with shell fragments flying in the vicinity, standing bravely at his post for hours and hours.

BERRY, J. G., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S.S. *Lydonia* and the U. S. S. *Yamacraw*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

BEST, William H. (Deceased), Water Tender. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

BILLARD, F. C. , Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Aphrodite*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

BIRKETT, F. J., 3rd Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For heroic service in connection with the explosion of the shell-loading plant [T. A. Gillespie], Morgan, N. J., where he personally took charge of rescue work and continued throughout the night while under constant fire from a barrage of shell splinters.

BROWN, Fletcher W., 1st Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished and heroic service in the line of his profession as officer of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in volunteering to lead a party of men to board the British steamer *Wellington*, following the torpedoing of that vessel on September 16, 1918, and her abandonment by her crew. Lieutenant Brown and the men from *Seneca*'s crew, with a few of the original crew of the *Wellington*, persisted heroically in their attempt to save the *Wellington*, and finally abandoned the ship only when she was on the point of sinking in a heavy sea.

CARMINE, G. C., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Algonquin*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

CAVESTON, William F., Bugler. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in moving a train of nine cars loaded with T. N. T. from the danger zone when it was known at what moment further explosions might be expected.

CHISWELL, B. M., Commander. [Captain] U. S. N. [U. S. C. G] . For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Algonquin*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

CHRISTY, George M., Oiler 2c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

ELAM, Russell, (Deceased), Cook. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

GORMAN, Raymond J., Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

GRIMES, J. O., Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in moving a train of nine cars loaded with T. N. T. from the danger zone when it was known at what moment further explosions might be expected.

GRIMSHAW, D. E., Machinist 1c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the

others being drowned.

HEARON, Jesse. G., Keeper. U. S. C. G. For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service during the explosion and fire of the shell-loading plant Gillespie, at Morgan, N. J., October 4 to 5, 1918 Hearon remained in charge in a very dangerous zone with shell fragments flying in the vicinity, standing bravely at his post for hours and hours.

HENDERSON, A. J., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Manning*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

HORTON, Albert V., Quarter Master. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie shell-loading plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in assisting in the removal from the danger zone of valuable carloads of high explosives within close proximity to exploding ammunition dumps.

HOWELL, C. F. , Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Arcturus*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

HUTSON, J. J., Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Wanderer*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

JACK, Raymond., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Cythera*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

JACOBS, W. V. E., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Niagara*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

MARVILLE, P. L. (Deceased), Gunner's Mate 2c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

MASON, Morrill C. , E. 2c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

MOLLORY, Thomas M., 1st Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Rambler*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

MORRILL, C. Mason, Electrician 2c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

MUELLER, L. C., Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Emmeline*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

MUNTER, W. H., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Ossippel*(sic), engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

NEVINS, James J., (Deceased). Gunner's Mate 2c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

NEWBURRY, Carl S., (Deceased). Coxswain. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one

of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

NOBLE, F. M., Master At Arms. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in moving a train of nine cars loaded with T. N. T. from the danger zone when it was known at what moment further explosions might be expected.

OHRLEIN, Anthony., Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

OSBORN, James C., Coxswain. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

OVERSEN, M. M., (Deceased). Water Tender. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

PEDERSEN, Jorge A., Coxswain. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

PRIME, William Heermance, Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

REINBURG, Leroy, Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Druid*, escorting mercantile convoys in the Mediterranean Sea in waters infested with enemy submarines.

RIDGELEY, Randolph, Jr., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Yamacraw* and the U. S. S. *Castine*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

ROACH, P. F., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Manning* and the U. S. S. *Lydonia*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

ROSE, E. G., Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Rambler*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines.

RYAN, H. J., Coxswain. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in moving a train of nine cars loaded with T. N. T. from the danger zone when it was known at what moment further explosions might be expected.

RYAN, Michael J., Machinist 1c. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

STELLENWERF, Merton, (Deceased). Coxswain. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918 Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one

of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

STIKA, J. E., 1st Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For heroic conduct on the occasion of the fire at the shell-loading, Morgan, N. J., when, with others, he moved a train loaded with high explosives to a place of safety through an area where fire was liable to break out at any moment.

STONE, Elmer F., Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as member of the crew of seaplane *NC-4*, in making the first successful trans-Atlantic flight.

TINGARD, Raymond H., (Deceased). Water Tender. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918. Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

WALSH, W. V., Seaman. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in moving a train of nine cars loaded with T. N. T. from the danger zone when it was known at what moment further explosions might be expected.

WHEELER, W. J., Captain. U. S. C. G. For distinguished service in the line of his profession as commanding officer of the U. S. S. *Seneca*, engaged in the important, exacting and hazardous duty of transporting and escorting troops and supplies through waters infested with enemy submarines and mines, and especially for his prompt and judicious action upon two occasions of encounters with submarines, on April 25 and June 28, 1918.

WRIGHT, Charles L., Gunner. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism on the occasion of the explosion of the T. A. Gillespie shell-loading plant on Oct. 4 and 5, 1918, in assisting in the removal from the danger zone of valuable carloads of high explosives within close proximity to exploding ammunition dumps.

ZULEGER, August, (Deceased). Assistant Master at Arms. U. S. C. G. For extraordinary heroism as a member of crew of the U. S. S. *Seneca* in an attempt to save the coal-laden steamer *Wellington* after that vessel had been torpedoed on September 16, 1918. Immediately after the ship was torpedoed she was abandoned by her crew. Volunteers were called from the *Seneca*. He was one of the eighteen who volunteered although there was a high sea running and it was known she was in danger also of further submarine attack. The vessel was kept afloat for some hours but finally sunk. Of the eighteen men who volunteered, only eight men who volunteered, only eight were rescued, the others being drowned.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION.

BALLINGER, James G., Captain. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service as Naval Route Officer, Fifth Naval District, and Captain of the Port, Hampton Roads, Va., and as director of coast-wise shipping and routing of overseas ships displayed marked ability and judgment.

BAYLIS, John S., Captain. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service as Routing Officer, Third Naval District.

DE COSTA, John., Gunner. U. S. C. G. On the occasion of the disastrous explosion at Halifax, N. S., on Dec. 6, 191 he performed much valuable humanitarian service as a member of a relief party sent on shore from the U. S. S. *Morrill*.

GREEN, Carl M., Captain. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service in preventing the German ship *KD-3*, interned in the harbor of San Juan Porto Rico, from being sunk by her crew on April 6, 1917

HAAKE, Frederick J., Captain. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service as Commander of the patrol and other defense boats at the mouth of the Delaware during the early part of the war and later in command of the Cape May section Base, including the patrol boats, sub-casers and other craft based thereon.

HAMLET, Harry G., Captain. U. S. C. G. While in command of the U. S. S. *Marietta* on the occasion of the loss of the U. S. S. *Courtney* and the U. S. S. *James* on April 27, 1918 in a heavy gale off the coast of France, he displayed fine seamanship and devotion to duty in rescuing the crews of those vessels.

HARRISON, Paul H., Captain. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service in the development and administration of Naval Training Camp at Cape May N. J.

HEMINGWAY, Henry G., Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. He performed meritorious service as officer-in-charge of a working party sent on shore from the U. S. S. *Morrill* at Halifax, N. S. to assist in humanitarian work following the disastrous explosion of December 6, 1917

SUGDEN, Charles E., 2 Lieutenant. U. S. C. G. As Commanding Officer of the United States Naval Air Station at Ile France he performed meritorious service in the organization and administration of that station.