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# NAVY DAY

October 27, 1945

U.S.S MANTA

U.S.S MENHADEN

KAHULUI

MAUI

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### U.S.S. MANTA (SS299)

The Manta was given her start in life by the Cramp Shipbuilding Company in Philadelphia, Pa. Her keel was laid January 15, 1943. She was launched on November 7, 1943 with Mrs. Emily J. Bradley, wife of Congressman Michael J. Bradley, a member of the House Naval Affairs Committee, as sponsor. The Manta was commissioned December 18, 1944 at the United States Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.

The ship joined the submarines of the Pacific Fleet April 15, 1945. Although arriving late in the period of the war she completed two war patrols, thankful of the opportunity to do her part toward our final victory.



U. S. S. M-E-N-H-A-D-E-N (SS377)

The U.S.S. MENCHADEN was built by the Manitowoc Shipbuilding Company, Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The keel was laid on June 21, 1944. She was launched on December 20, 1944. The MENCHADEN was placed in commission on June 22, 1945 with COMMANDER, D.H. McCLINTOCK, U. S. Navy, as Commanding Officer.

The ship started her trials and training period on June 26, 1945 on Lake Michigan. She departed from Manitowoc during July 1945 enroute to Lockport, Illinois. At Lockport the U.S.S. MENCHADEN was placed in a floating dry dock and taken down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, La. Here she was undocked.

The MENCHADEN departed New Orleans toward the end of July 1945 enroute to Balboa, C.Z. At Balboa the ship underwent a period of intensive training. She was in Panama at the cessation of hostilities. On September 1, 1945 the MENCHADEN departed Panama enroute to Pearl Harbor, arriving September 16, 1945, ready, but too late for an active part in the Pacific War.

## THE SUBMARINES

This type submarine, the most modern fleet type is 312 feet long, 27 foot beam, 18 foot draft and has a displacement of 1500 tons.

Propulsion on the surface is obtained from diesel engines. While submerged, power is furnished the motors from the storage batteries.

The time from sounding the diving alarm until the ship is completely submerged is about one minute.

Torpedoes can be fired either on the surface or submerged. The guns of course can only be fired on the surface.

Each ship carries approximately 72 enlisted men and 8 officers.

All cooking and refrigeration is electric and the ship is air conditioned throughout.

## SUBMARINES AND THE WAR

Submarines played an important part in the defeat of the Japanese Empire by sinking such of the enemy fleet and also the enemy's cargo ships bringing much needed supplies to the homeland and outlying bases.

The Japanese have confirmed the sinking of 1750 merchant ships and 192 warships by our submarines. This success was obtained due to the ability of the submarine to remain undetected, and approach any area in spite of enemy control of air and sea; and having as a primary weapon the deadly torpedo which destroys a ship in its most vulnerable part.

A total of 245 subs made war patrols, 49 failed to return, becoming immortals in the annals of the "silent service".

At the start of the war only a comparatively few submarines were able to be in the patrol area, due to the great distances from the bases to the patrol areas. As the war progressed more submarines were built and the capture of bases such as Guam and Saipan reduced the "turn around" time. As our large surface and air fleets gained sea and air control over more and more of the Pacific Ocean and the South and East China Seas, submarines were able to concentrate closer to the Japanese home islands. This tightened the blockade of enemy shipping, the Japanese life-line, and led to an early final victory.