

Toooo Weeet... Attention on Deck... "Saints OCTOBER newsletter" ...Arriving!

ALSO ON SAINTS WEBSITE

VA-163 SAINTS GRAM

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KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE

Distance and time may separate us

but friendship and memories won't

Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have.

And God Bless the United States of America.



17th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 212



Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Be Well

It will come to pass

To all the healthcare workers; thank you for your service.

“All lives matter”

God Bless our Military and Law Enforcement

Military Enlistment Oath: I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against **all enemies, foreign and domestic**; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States.



Standing the Watch

Ed Copher, Editor, "Saints Everlasting Keeper of the Flame"

"Keeper of the Flame"

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows

Daring us to '...catch me...if you can!'

As time steadily treads its own meandering path,

It's hard to trace old members of the clan.

Then someone steps up with lantern and blade

Shouting, "Let's gather them in for us all, good neighbor!

We'll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and

Share them with one and another!

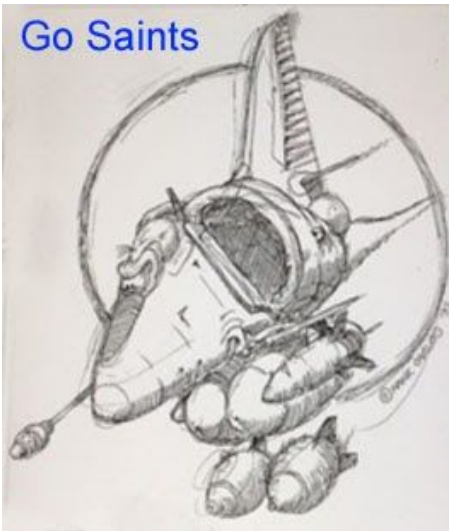
"I'll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,

That our friends may never be lost in the dark!"

Keeper of the Flame, Song by Miranda Lambert

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=ydE6lzd-Very> was

ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT





ATKRON 163



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/sets/>

Also on Saints website, PHOTOS section

Contains 80 Albums (Sets).... 4,832 Photos

View Counts as of 03 October 2020

Total

937,667 views

****Paid \$49.99 to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 17 Nov 2019

*****SAINTS WEBSITE*****

THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER

Saints website www.va163.org password: *Saints4ever* **capital S**

18,422 Visitors since Mar 09

History, Latest Info, Photos, In Memoriam, Miscellaneous, Newsletters, Links, Recall Roster

***Total cost for the Saints Website is \$293.97 per year

4 Sept 2019 paid \$286.34 to "GoDaddy" web hosting for 2 year renewal

15 Jan 2020 paid \$120 to “Webmaster” for maintenance of site, annual renewal

04 Mar 2020 paid \$14.45 for “Domain Name” one year renewal

Any donations are appreciated

Ed Copher

176 Landa Street #210

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Folks that have sent in “**website**” donations 2017-20: A big shout out...”Thank You”

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dave Carey

Ed Chadwick

David Farley

JC Ferris

Bob Feuillerat

Earl Groff

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk

Tom Kline

Dale & Mary Landroth

Daniel Lestage

George Lundy

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

MA Petty

John Roosen

Bill Sargent

Russ Stickley

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stable

Lucille Stickley

James Marcely (VA-164)

Steve Cutting (VA-164)

Tommy Wimberly (other)

Folks that have donated to the "Saints Flower Fund": Thank You

Flowers have been sent to 7 funerals



Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Russ Stickley

Earl Groff

John Roosen

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Ed Chadwick

Daniel Lestage

Lucille Stickley

[Floyd Oakes updated Info:](#)

Assisted Living

11825 Apple Valley Road

Apple Valley, CA 93208



[Fly Navy Scripture](#)

(Single Seat Version)

The Gospel according to
St. Fresnel

Chapter One, Verses One
through Six the Aircraft
Carrier,

1. In the Beginning, God
created the heavens,

and the seas upon which
to float it; and yet there
was complete Darkness

upon the face of the earth.
And, as I traveled, there
came to me, as a

voice out of the darkness,
an angel of the Lord,
saying, "On centerline,

on Glideslope, three
quarters of a mile, call the
ball." I reflected

upon these words, for I
was still yet engulfed in
complete darkness.

With deep feeling and
doubt overwhelming my
countenance, I stareth

into the darkness and
again askest myself,
"Where is the guiding
light!"

but the darkness
prevailed over me..
Gazing in a searching

manner and seeing
naught, I raised my voice
saying, "Clara....."

2. And God spoke to me,
and He said, "You're
low....power". As the Lord

saith, so shall it be, and I
added power; and lo, the
ball riseth up

onto the bottom of the
mirror. But it was a
tainted red glow, and
surely

indicateth Satan's own
influence. And God spoke
to me again saying,

"Power...Power...Power!!!!
...fly the ball." And lo, the
ball riseth up

and off the top of the lens,
and the great darkness
was upon me.

3. And the voice of the
Angel came to me again,
saying, "When

comfortable, twelve
hundred feet, turn
downwind." Whereupon I
wandered

in the darkness, without
direction, for surely the
ships radar was beset

by demons, and there was
great confusion cast upon
CATCC, and there was

a great silence in which
there was no comfort to
be found. Even my
TACAN

needle spinneth.....and lo,
there was chaos in my
mind. An Angel from the
past,

the trusted RAG LSO
weepeth quietly unto

himself in the memories
of my training.

There was a great turmoil
within my cockpit for a
multitude of serpents had
crept therein.

4. And though I wandered,
as if by Providence I
found myself within

that Holy Corridor, and at
twelve hundred feet,
among my brethren

seeking refuge; and the
voice of the Angel of the
Lord came to me again,

asking of me my needles,
and I raised my voice
saying, "Up and

centered", and the voice
answered, "Roger, fly
your needles...." I

reflected upon these
words, and I raised my
voice in prayer, for
though

my gyro indicateth it not
so, surely my aircraft hath
been turned upside

down. Verily, as
Beelzebub surely
wrestled with me, a voice
from within,

saith to me calmly,
"Friend.....fly thy needles,
and

find comfort in the Lord."
And lo, with deep
trembling in my heart, I

did, and He guideth me to
centered glideslope and
centerline, though I

know not how it came to
be.

5. And out of the great
darkness, God spoke to
me again saying, "Roger

ball" for now I had faith.
And though the ball
began to rise at the in

close position, my left
hand was full of the Spirit,
and it squeeketh

off power and as in a
great miracle my plane
stoppeth upon the flight

deck, for it hath caught
the four wire which God
in his infinite wisdom

hath placed thirty feet
further down the flight
deck than the three

wire.

6. And thus bathed in a
golden radiance from
above, my pilgrimage was

at an end, and my spirit
was truly reborn. And as I
basked in the

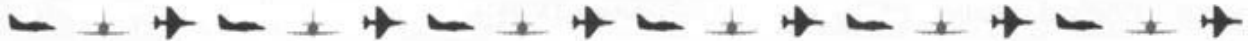
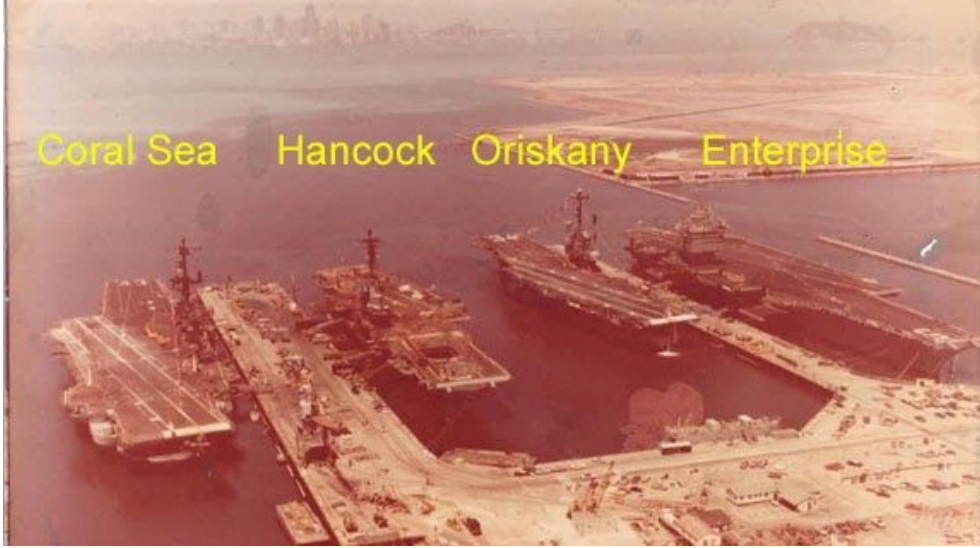
rapture, God spoketh to
me one final time, and He
saith, "Lights out on

deck...


**Blue Skies &
Tailwinds...**



Coral Sea Hancock Oriskany Enterprise



☆☆☆
I THANK GOD
for my life, for the
STARS & STRIPES
may freedom forever fly
LET IT RING
SALUTE THE ONES WHO DIED
the ones who give their lives
so we don't have to sacrifice
ALL THE THINGS WE LOVE
☆☆☆

LESS THAN 1% OF
AMERICANS
HAVE EVER SEEN...

THE SUNSET FROM ABOARD THE
USS ORISKANY
I HAVE



**OCTOBER IS AGENT ORANGE
AWARENESS MONTH**

Support S.2921 & H.R.1769
**BECAUSE, FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES,
SOME GHOSTS HAUNT
ALL YEAR ROUND...**

vva.org
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910 | 301-585-4000

vva.org
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910 | 301-585-4000

The poster features a central illustration of a man in a military cap with a skull and crossbones on his forehead. He is holding a green lizard and a white ghost. The background is dark with yellow leaves. The text is in orange and white on a black background.

AGENT ORANGE NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION FOR VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2020 issue of the annual Agent Orange Newsletter. This issue covers Agent Orange presumptive conditions; disability compensation for Blue Water Navy Veterans; Agent Orange Registry exams at the El Paso VA Health Care System; research on restrictive pulmonary disease and herbicide exposure; and more. Find past issues of the Agent Orange Newsletter online at <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/publications/newsletter-archive.asp>. For more information for Vietnam-era Veterans, go to <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/index.asp>.

Stephanie Eber, MPH
Editor, Agent Orange Newsletter
VA Post Deployment Health Services

Peter Rumm, MD, MPH, FACPM
Director, Pre-9/11 Era Environmental
Health Program
VA Post Deployment Health Services

★ IN THIS ISSUE ★

PAGE	ARTICLE
2	Blue Water Navy Veterans' disability claims began Jan.1, 2020
3	VA releases DoD's revised list of Agent Orange testing and storage locations
4	Research on restrictive pulmonary disease and herbicide exposure in Vietnam War Veterans
4	Agent Orange presumptive conditions
5	What is a registry? VA offers a registry for you
6	Agent Orange Registry exams at the El Paso VA Health Care System
7	Agent Orange and intergenerational effects
7	Mindfulness-based stress reduction classes available by phone for Veterans

At the time of publication of this newsletter, the coronavirus (COVID-19) has been affecting the nation. VA is committed to the health and safety of Veterans. During this pandemic, environmental health registry evaluations may be deferred or offered via telehealth. For more information, please contact the Environmental Health Coordinator nearest you, listed at <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/coordinators.asp>. Read the latest information on the coronavirus (COVID-19) at <https://www.va.gov/coronavirus/>.

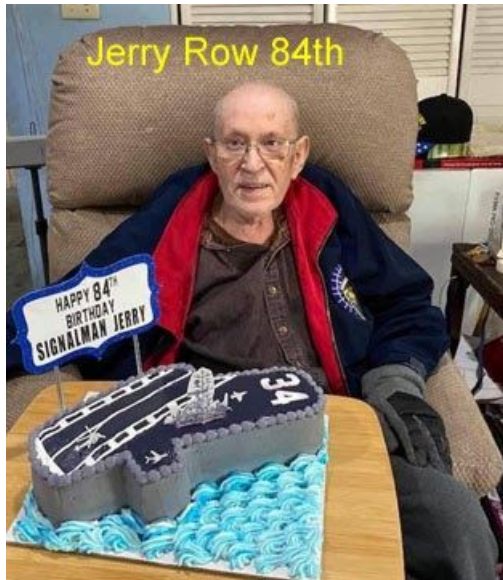


Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a web page.](#)



[Saints Wikipedia](#)

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/VA-163_\(U.S._Navy\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/VA-163_(U.S._Navy))



VIETNAM BLUE WATER NAVY VETERANS

Disability benefits available to those serving offshore

Agent Orange Exposure in the Republic of Vietnam Waters (Blue Water Navy)

Blue Water Navy Veterans are now entitled to a presumption of service connection for conditions related to Agent Orange exposure. This extension of the presumption is a result of [Public Law 116-23](#), the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, signed into law on June 25, 2019. The law takes effect January 1, 2020.

The law states that Veterans aboard a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia as defined in [Public Law 116-23](#), between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides such as Agent Orange and may be entitled to service connection for conditions related to that exposure.

To be entitled to disability compensation benefits, these Veterans must have one or more of the conditions associated with Agent Orange exposure that are listed in 38 Code of Federal Regulations section 3.309(e).

What conditions are related to Agent Orange exposure?

Agent Orange presumptive conditions are:

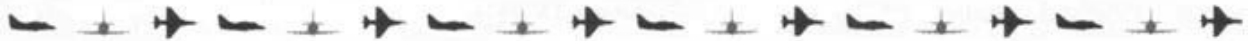
- AL amyloidosis
- Chloracne, or other acneform disease consistent with chloracne
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus, Type 2
- Ischemic heart disease
- Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin's disease
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Parkinson's disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or tracheal)
- Soft tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma).

How do I file a claim for disability compensation?

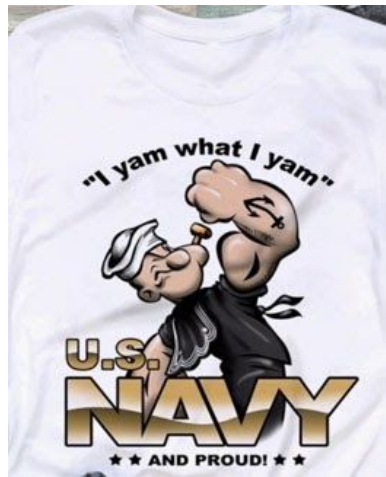
- Apply online using www.va.gov OR
- Work with an accredited representative or agent, OR
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. You can find your regional office on our [Facility Locator](#) page.
- State on your application that you are filing for one of the presumed Agent Orange conditions.

- Include any evidence you have of service in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam during the required timeframe. Include the name(s) of the ship(s) and the date(s) you crossed within 12 nautical miles of the Republic of Vietnam, if you have that information.
- Provide medical evidence showing a diagnosis of a current Agent Orange presumptive condition or tell us where you are being treated.

For more information on how to apply and for tips on making sure your claim is ready to be processed by VA, visit our [Disability Compensation](#) web page. www.va.gov



THEY SERVED, THEY
FOUGHT, THEY DIED... AND
RECEIVED NEITHER
THEIR COUNTRY'S
GLORY NOR THEIR
COUNTRY'S COMPASSION
MAY THIS SMALL PLOT
OF GROUND SERVE AS
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE
TO THEM
VIET NAM
DEC 1961 - MAR 1973



[Back to Sagon:](#)

FYI Larry as you may know was a pilot in VA164. He was a LTJG in July of 1967, when he was shot down and then recovered. I hope all will support him by purchasing his book.

Larry Duthie <larryduthie@gmail.com>

Finally, after a long slog and with a lot of help from many of you, my Navy flying memoir has been published. It's listed on Amazon as both a paperback and an ebook under the title *Return to Saigon*. If you read it and like it (or even if you don't), please consider adding your comments to the reader's comments section provided on Amazon's page for this book. Such mini-reviews help future potential readers understand what they will experience if they buy it.



The Skyhawk Association has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

VA-163 page: <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-unit/va163>

Please join the Skyhawk Association. A great Quarterly Magazine, allot of A-4's and Saints articles.

Only \$30 per year.

To Join: <http://skyhawk.org/>

Websites of Interest

BOMBS AWAY!

Oriskany Websites: USS Oriskany (CVA 34) 25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 1979 Stricken from Navy List 1989. Sold 9 Sep 1995, but contractor defaulted. Repossessed by the Navy and contract terminated 30 Jul 1997. Sunk off coast of Florida 17 May 2006 for use as artificial reef. Click on the ship name for a complete history.

1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: www.mbtdivers.com
2. The best pictures of the reefing. Going to her final resting place: <http://www.irishmansoftware.com/Oriskany.htm>
3. Oriskany Reunion Association: www.ussoriskany.com
4. Video of Big O going under: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1401279762745553286&q=oriskany>
5. Patriot Media "The Mighty O": <http://patriotmediainc.com>
6. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm
7. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnIBZis>
8. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: A. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>
B. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>
C. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>
9. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html
10. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: <http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml>
11. Oriskany model: <http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/>
12. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584>
13. USS Oriskany History 1972: <http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html>
14. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>
15. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email> 10 min
16. Oriskany Memorial Dive for Saint Ralph Bisz: Saints logo patch placed on Oriskany, 20 Sept 2010 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqNETwJvF3A> 7:13 min video
17. Oriskany Dive to put Saint Larry Spear's ashes to rest on Oriskany: 03 Dec 2010 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBnOkCrDnQo> 7:25 min video

18. Saints Video on YouTube: Dennis Lund video filmed on the Oriskany including the Oriskany fire! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ5ykZjRaIM>

19. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>

20. USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video

21. 1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>

22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>

23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws

24. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group

USS Hancock: Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock ("Hannah")

http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.html?fb_action_ids=620396487990408&fb_action_types=og.likes&fb_source=other_multiline&action_object_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action_type_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action_ref_map=%5B%5D#NASNI

[Naval Aviator theme song-KEROSENE COWBOY!](#)

Ah, the good old...and alas, the not-so-old...days!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1yN6irzSvE&feature=youtu.be>

[Boarding a US NAVY NUCLEAR SUBMARINE in the Arctic - Smarter Every Day 240 - YouTube](#) I thought this was fascinating.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXXMJAU6vY8>

A-4 Vietnam Magnet:

https://www.teepublic.com/magnet/8726181-douglas-a-4-skyhawk-vietnam-veteran?feed_sku=8726181D21V&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Agency Within Shopping_AllDesigns&gclid=Cj0KCQjw-O35BRDVARIsAJU5mQWMJuS72eubdxmx2vtcaunkAOWtSgDb1aq1iRqXkESu76z5ldq_yJMaAsMIEALw_wcB

Petula Clark, Sailor 1961

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

Oriskany in Bridges of Toko-Ri:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw_yI

Sailor Song 1961

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

Veterans Benefits Newsletter from the VA:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/27794cb>

Nice Military Aircraft photos:

<http://www.doyletics.com/tidbits/militaryadvice.pdf>

Oriskany Dive 9 Feb 2020:

<https://vimeo.com/390358620>

Blue Angels A-4 Video:

<https://www.navalhistory.org/2020/01/24/how-the-navy-got-a-hit-recruiting-video-from-van-halen>

High Flight by John Denver:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1xNGgWNRUf8#>

F-18 Parking on Flightdeck:

<https://fbwat.ch/1vthAlcaGlvADom4>

A-4 Launch 1962:

<https://www.facebook.com/100026351565698/posts/312902602931456?d=n&sfns=mo>

I Stand:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2eBxVxO0nh4>

Blue Angels In Flight:

https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Evergreen&utm_term=Veterans&utm_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage

Blue Angels Cockpit...

WATCH: BLUE ANGELS - Footage Inside the Cockpit

Saints WestPac 1965-66 Video:

John Shore had his 8 mm movies converted to a DVD. He said it only took him 50+ years to get it put together. I took the DVD and uploaded it to YouTube.com. What a task for this rookie YouTube user, took many hours, first had to convert DVD to Mp3, and that took hours of work. Then upload to YouTube took many steps to get accomplished. Click on the link below to view on YouTube.

LINK address: <https://youtu.be/bwuTIK544cQ>

Oriskany Sinking Article & photos:

<https://fighterjetsworld.com/naval/the-u-s-navy-blows-up-aircraft-carrier-sets-world-record-that-still-stands/10506/>

181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction Fire photos:

No need to log in.

<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>

NAS Lemoore April 1968:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sRIO4kvjVE&feature=youtu.be>

SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

“Muster Call”

Revised 03 October 2020

New or changed address:

Admiral Compton has a new home phone number: 334 654 5060. His son David has moved to Demopolis and is the best source to get information on or to the Skipper. David's phone number is 571-286-6161 and email dtcompton3@gmail.com

See website roster

Please advise if you have any additions or corrections.

Complete Muster Call can be found on the Saints website –

www.va163.org password, Saints4ever capital S

