Wagner III, CARL F.

With Fighting Force
As War Neared End
Carl F. Wagner III seaman, first class, USNR, serves aboard the USS Essex which steamed close to the shores of Tokyo with Task Force 38 to launch her planes against the remaining strength of the enemy in the final days of the war.

According to Wagner, all hands answered reveille, had breakfasted and were waiting at their stations for the first light of dawn when the deafening roar of the flight of fighters took off, one by one, followed by the bombers and torpedo planes.

August 21, 1945