

Boehm, Edward O!

Neighbor Sailors Help Pulverize Okinawa Defenses

Two Bethlehem sailors who lived four doors away from each other on Jeter Avenue when they were civilians were apparently rubbing elbows again aboard a big U. S. battleship off the shores of Okinawa during the invasion of the Pacific island.

Two news releases, identical but for the names, were received here almost simultaneously from the Fleet Distribution Center in Illinois. The sailors mentioned were Edward O. Boehm, S 1/c whose wife Caroline Mary, lives at 1022 Jeter Avenue, and James J. Peteto, F 1/c, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Peteto, live at 1028 Jeter Avenue.

According to the news release, the blue-jackets had grandstand seats from which to view the invasion. Their hard-hitting ship slowly cruised within 3,000 yards of the shore, pulverizing the beach targets at point blank range. The crew could clearly see explosions from the ship's shells as her guns smashed pillboxes and trench fortifications.

MAY 30 1945

May 30, 1945