

Clause, Roy Edgar

Bluejackets Active Until 'Last Minute'

Up to the very minute the words, "Japan has accepted peace terms," were flashed to naval fighting groups in Pacific waters, local blue-jackets were on duty at their battle stations.

Roy Edgar Clause, Seaman 1/C, from 426 East Goepf Street, attached to Fleet Air Wing One, helped write the climax to the story of that Unit's major role in the closing stages of the war in the Pacific. Fleet Air Wing One's story is one that is being told in detail by the Navy. She kept the Japs off balance from Korea to China and Formosa, and to Japan itself. But it was at Okinawa where the Wing had its roughest going, and where Clause and other unit members were harrassing Japs from their base at Okinawa when the Japs surrendered.

William C. Rantz, Electrician's Mate 3/C, from 617 Juniper Street, Quakertown, reached the goal all men of the Fleet had set for themselves when his ship, the USS Niobrara, put into Tokyo Bay to take its place with the occupation forces. In her 16 months of travel in the Pacific, she had delivered almost 100,000,000 gallons of fuel and aviation gasoline to more than 500 ships.

Alfred Kline, Seaman 1/C, from Route 1, Quakertown, played an important role in the operations of Fleet Air Wing One also, during the phases of the war when that Fleet unit piled up a record that is now being released by the Navy.

George T. Wolle, Yeoman 1/C, of 429 West Broad Street, is a member of the crew of the submarine Trutta, which also saw duty up until the last minute of World War II, accounting for some 19 small Nip vessels. Approaching Kyushu with a dual assignment, coming to the rescue of downed B-29 pilots and keeping an eye on the Jap fleet, orders were received to take station in the Yellow Sea. Jap planes forced the Trutta to submerge several times in the narrow straits, but the run was made successfully and the sub penetrated deeper into the Yellow Sea under seeming perpetual fog, and there sank several ships. Shortly after, the Trutta pulled into Guam for refitting and headed north of Iowa Jima where they weathered a typhoon and picked up a pilot who was downed during the storm and had been in the water for six days. The ship and crew arrived in the States September 21.

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