

Stahr, Robert J.

Local Seaman Aboard U.S.S. San Diego

SEP 15 1945

When the light cruiser, USS San Diego, dropped anchor Aug. 28, almost within sight of Emperor Hirohito's Imperial Palace, the event climaxed the career of one of the U. S. Navy's war babies and added another feather to its already highly-decorated cap. And it was a day long to be remembered in the life of Robert J. Stahr, 19, seaman 1-c., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Stahr, 332 West Union Boulevard, who has fought with the ship in the Pacific war for the past 21 months.

The San Diego's crowning achievement was to lead the victorious Allies up to Tokyo's front door and a particular thrill for the ship's own 800 officers and men.

"My first sight of Fujiyama," said Stahr, "is one that I'll always remember. It was truly beautiful and majestic. No wonder the Japanese held it as a sacred mountain." As we entered Tokyo Bay, I got my first view of the badly battered Japanese battleship, the Nagato. Soon after anchoring, a Japanese admiral and staff arrived aboard for a conference. They seemed to be fairly clean and very quiet. We could see much of the heavy damage inflicted on the Japanese. Everyone was very excited as they got their first view of the Jap homeland and saw their first Japanese."

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