

## Maritime Officer Takes Rest After 26 Years in Service

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Delbert Johnson, first class petty officer, engineering department, of 11 West Third Street, has decided to take time out after spending 26 years in the U. S. Maritime Service.

During the respite from the arduous duties, he will enter a naval hospital in New York City, for surgical treatment.

"I served in World War I and in World War II, and in the more than a score years I sailed the Seven Seas and visited all of the important ports of the world," Johnson said.

His most recent trip he said was from a British port. His ship left on July 9, when German robot planes were bombing London, and he reached an American port on July 23.

Reluctant to discuss his experiences, he did say however that he thought there was more excitement in World War I than during the present conflict, because the protection accorded convoys was not as great. "Remember," he said, "the convoys were not so large in World War I as they are today."

"Convoys today move in large numbers, and have the protection of American and British destroyers and "baby" flattops. In the North Atlantic especially, the German subs have a wholesome respect for the accuracy of the American gunners. Those destroyers never quit. When one or more subs are spotted the ash cans are released and there is no letup until oil and debris are visible on the water. I witnessed some great scraps between convoys and subs."



DELBERT JOHNSON

During the present war he made several trips to ports in England and the West Indies, convoying supplies and equipment to the American fighters in these theaters of operations.

In World War I, he said, the boat on which he served removed a cargo of captured German ammunition and equipment from a French port to a port in this country.

He spoke well of the English people and the treatment accorded American servicemen.

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