



The Sumner © Sentinel

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Half of the Destroyers in the Cuban Missile Crisis were Allen M. Sumner Class

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, leaders of the U.S. and the Soviet Union engaged in a tense, 13-day political and military standoff in October 1962 over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles on Cuba, just 90 miles from U.S. shores.

On a tense day in October 1962, the USS Allen M. Sumner (DD-692) was about 500 miles off the northern shore of Cuba, trailing a Soviet freighter. President John F. Kennedy, after learning that the Soviet Union was sending ballistic missiles to the island nation, had proclaimed a quarantine against ships carrying offensive arms there.

An average of 46 ships including 21 Sumner-Class destroyers, 240 aircraft, and some 30,000 personnel were involved directly in the effort to locate ships inbound for and outbound from Cuba during the crisis.

Other Sumner-class destroyers which took part included: the USS Moale (DD 693), USS Ingraham (DD 694), USS English (DD 696), USS Charles S. Sperry (DD 697) USS Haynsworth (DD 700), USS John W. Weeks (DD 701), USS Hank (DD 702), USS Wallace L. Lind (DD 703), USS Borie (DD 704), USS Compton (DD 705), USS Gainard (DD 706), USS Soley (DD 707),

USS Harley R. Dickson (DD 708), USS Hugh Purvis (DD 709), USS Barton (DD 722), USS Laffey (DD 722), USS Purdy (DD 734), USS Henley (DD-762), USS Keppler (765), USS Lowery (DD 770), USS Willard Keith (DD 775) and the USS Zellars (777).

(Editor's Note: If you know of a ship I have missed, let me know and I'll include it in the next issue. This research was pretty labor-intensive)

In a TV address on October 22, 1962, President John F. Kennedy notified Americans about the presence of the missiles, explained his decision to enact a naval blockade around Cuba and made it clear the U.S. was prepared to use military force if necessary to neutralize this perceived threat to national security.

Following this news, many people feared the world was on the brink of nuclear war. However, disaster was avoided when the U.S. agreed to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's offer to remove the Cuban missiles in exchange for the U.S. promising not to invade Cuba. Kennedy also secretly agreed to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

Greetings to all my Summer Shipmates;

I hope this message finds everyone doing well. Even though we are sailing thru some rough seas, I feel smooth seas are on the horizon. It looks like our medical scientists are making major steps in getting control of this virus that has crippled our country.



Frank DiBello

Hopefully by the first quarter of next year they will have advanced enough that we might be able to return to some normalcy in our wonderful country. Wouldn't it be great to be able to visit and be with our family and friends without the fear of a virus hanging over our heads?

Keep your eyes on "What's New" on our website. And if we can once again get together, I will put the information there for all to see all the details.

Fair Winds and a Following Sea

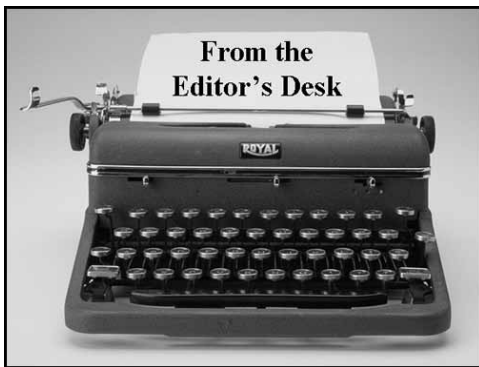
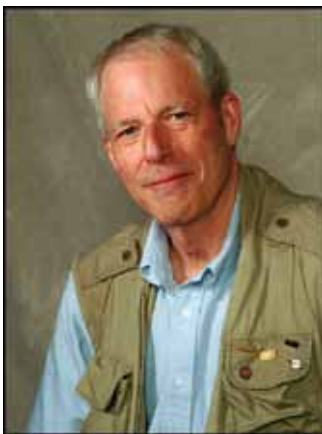
Missing my Summer family

Frank DiBello

President

USS Allen M. Summer DD-692 Association





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

Some Fun Oklahoma (My State) Trivia:

1. Oklahoma produced more astronauts than any other state.
2. The first Girl Scout cookie was sold in Muskogee, Okla. in 1917.
3. The nation's first parking meter was installed in Oklahoma City in 1935.
4. The shopping cart was invented in Ardmore, Okla. in 1936.
5. During the Land Rush, Oklahoma City went from a vast, open prairie to a city of over 10,000 in a single day.
6. The Oklahoma State Capital is the only capital in the U.S. with working oil wells on its grounds.
7. Boise City, Okla. was the only city in the United States to be bombed during World War II. On Monday night, July 5, 1943, at 12:30 a.m., a B-17 Bomber based at Dalhart Army Air Base, Texas, dropped six practice bombs on the sleeping town, mistaking the city lights as target lights.
8. WKY Radio in Oklahoma City was the first radio station transmitting west of the Mississippi River.
9. The nation's first Tornado Warning was issued on March 25, 1948 in Oklahoma City minutes before a devastating tornado. Because of the warning, no lives were lost.
10. Oklahoma has the largest Native American

population of any state in the U.S. with 234 different Indian Tribes.

11. The name Oklahoma comes from two Choctaw words... Okla. meaning people and humma meaning red. So the name means, Red People. The name was approved in 1890.

12. The bread twist tie was invented in Maysville, Okla.

13. Oklahoma has more man-made lakes than any other state.

14. Cimarron County, located in the Oklahoma Panhandle, is the only county in the U.S. bordered by four separate states: Texas, New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas.

15. The nation's first traffic Yield sign was erected in Tulsa on a trial basis.

16. Pensacola Dam is the longest multi-arched dam in the world at 6,565 feet.

17. The Port of Catoosa (just north of Tulsa) is the largest inland port in America.

18. The aerosol can was invented in Bartlesville.

19. Per square mile, Oklahoma has more tornadoes than any other place in the world.

20. The highest wind speed ever recorded on earth was in Moore, Okla. on May 3rd, 1999 during the Oklahoma City F-5 tornado. Wind speed was clocked at 318 mph.

21. The Will Rogers World Airport and the Wiley Post Airport are both named after two famous Oklahomans-- both killed in an airplane crash together.

22. Cushing, Okla. is the "Pipeline Crossroads of the World" and has the world's largest storage of oil.

23. The song "Oklahoma" from the Broadway play of the same name is now the official state song.

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Membership Form

If you would like to become a member of the USS Allen M. Sumner DD-692 Association (or renew your dues if not current for 2021) but you cannot afford the \$15 dues, send what you can (if anything) as we will not deny a shipmate membership because of a hardship. And no one else needs to know.

Dues (checks) for the Sumner go to Pete Dromms, Reunion Association Treasurer at 301 Park Lane, North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Served on Sumner from _____ to _____

Rate or Rank on Sumner _____

Checks made out to: USS A. M. Sumner Association and Mail to:

Pete Dromms, Treasurer

301 Park Lane

North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143

Receiving Hard Copies of the Sumner Sentinel

Note to shipmates, wives and widows:

We know that the "L" means Life member and usually is associated with widows of Sumner shipmates.

What we don't know is if you really want to keep receiving the ship newsletter - the Sumner Sentinel.

If you don't want to keep receiving it and you don't have an e-mail address, please contact the editor with a post card or other stationery (return address on the back page).

Thanks,
The Editor

USS ALLEN M. SUMNER SHIP STORE ORDER INVOICE

Qtn.	Description	Price
	Sumner Ball Cap (Blue w/gold embroidery) - Specify All Cloth or 1/2 Mesh)	\$15.00
	Scrambled Egg patches <u>for Officers only Commanger & Above</u> /with hat purchase	Free
	White Golf Shirt Embroidered w/Ship Patch (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL) Add \$10 for 2XL/3XL	\$25.00
	White T-Shirt w/Ship on Front (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL)	\$20.00
	All Sweatshirts (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL)	\$25.00
	Sumner Ship's Patch (Specify Sui Generis or Woody Woodpecker)	\$ 5.00
	Sumner Hat/Lapel/Tie Tac Pin	\$ 6.00
	Sumner License Plate bracket/holder	\$ 5.00
	Homemade Reunion 2000 Video (CNO Visit) DVD or VHS Specify which	\$ 8.00
	Zippo Ziplite battery pack (Flashlight Replacement for Unused Lighter	\$ 2.50
	Sumner Commemorative Challenge Coin (Approximately 1½ inches in diameter)	\$10.00
	US Navy Tabletop Drink Coasters (6 for \$20.00)	\$ 5.00
	Handkerchief (US Navy or 692)	\$ 5.00
	Navy Pin for wives	\$ 5.00
	Sumner shaving/toilet kit bag	\$10.00
	US Navy rear window stickers (or Retired) Specify which	\$ 5.00
	MIA/POW money clip	\$ 6.00
	Petty Officer window sticker	\$ 3.50
	USS Cooper (Dive to)/Return to Ormoc Bay (Battle of) DVD (Runtime: 80 minutes)	\$ 8.00
	For additional items go to www.dd-692.com Click the "reunion" tab then the "Ship Store" line	
Total Enclosed		

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 (A/C) _____ PH # _____ E-Mail _____

Send Orders To:
 Sumner Assn.
 301 Park Lane
 North Syracuse, NY 13212

For shipping charges go to www.dd-692.com Click the "reunion" tab then the "Ship Store" line

Disposition of Sumner-Class Destroyers Other Than Those Scrapped and other information (Part 2)

Frank E. Evans (DD-754) - Disposed of in support of Fleet training exercise, 10 October 1969

John A. Bole (DD-755) - Sold to Republic of China Navy 6 May 1974 for spare parts

Beatty (DD-756) - Sold to Venezuela 14 July 1972 as Carabobo

Strong (DD-758) - Sold to Brazil, 31 October 1973, as Rio Grande do Norte (D-37)

Lofberg (DD-759) - Sold to Republic of China Navy 6 May 1974 for spare parts

John W. Thomason (DD-760) - Sold to Republic of China Navy 6 May 1974 as Nan Yang

Buck (DD-761) - Sold to Brazil 16 July 1973 as Alagoas

Lowry (DD-770) - Sold to Brazil 31 October 1973 as Espirito Santo

Willard Keith (DD-775) - Sold to Colombia as Caldas (DD-02)

James C. Owens (DD-776) - Sold to Brazil 15 July 1973 as Sergipe

Zellars (DD-777) - Sold to Iran 12 October 1973 as Babr

Douglas H. Fox (DD-779) - Sold to Chile 8 January 1974 Ministro Portales (DD-17)

Stormes (DD-780) - Sold to Iran 16 February 1972 Palang (DDG-9)

Robert K. Huntington (DD-781) - Sold to Venezuela as Falcon

Bristol (DD-857) - Sold to Republic of China Navy 9 December 1969 Hua Yang.

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24. Oklahoma is the only State to have its capital stolen and moved in the middle of the night from Guthrie to Oklahoma City.

25. Guthrie has an original Carnegie Library and the Largest Masonic Temple in the world!

26. Watonga, Okla. has more rattle snakes than people.

Why travel to other states? Oklahoma has other U.S. cities too such as Cleveland, Delaware, Kansas, Orlando, Miami, Pensacola, Pittsburgh, Santa Fe, St. Louis, Chattanooga, Peoria, Burbank and Fargo.

Don't forget the wildlife!: Wolfe, Eagle, Buffalo, Fox, Bison, Deer Creek and Elk City,

We have a town named after a number - Forty-One, and a town whose letters don't spell anything: IXL.

We even have a city named after earths only satellite: moon, and a city named after our state: Oklahoma City.

We even have Presidential cities: Adams, Carter, Clinton, Fillmore, Grant, Jefferson, Johnson, Lincoln, Reagan, Roosevelt, Taft, Taylor, Washington and Wilson,

There are other city names in Oklahoma to make you smile: Bowlegs, Bugtussle, Bushyhead, Frogville, Gotebo, Hooker, Loco, Slapout, Slaughterville, Gay and Straight.

And you could always visit: Nowhere.

Did You Know?

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, Va. is guarded 24 hours a day, every day in all weather.

The guard paces 21 steps and faces the tomb for 21 seconds symbolizing a 21-gun salute.

Guards are members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment - the ceremonial Army unit known as the Old Guard.

This Regiment was formed in 1784

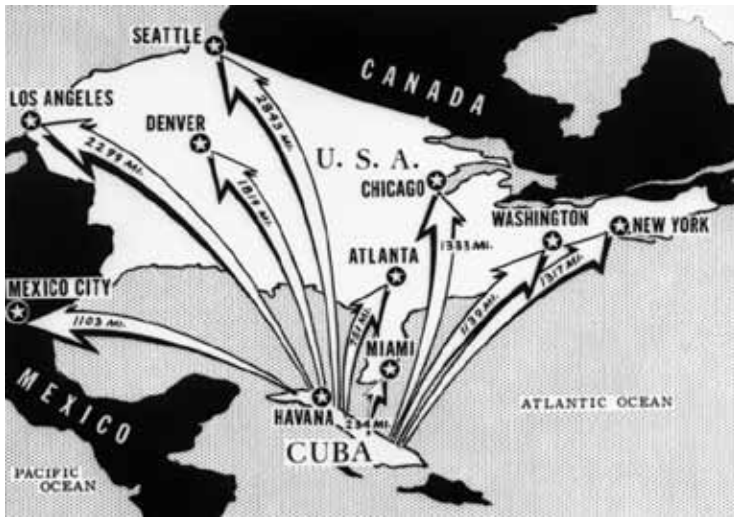
Crisis

Continued from Page 1

The Cuban Missile Crisis was among the scariest events of the Cold War. The 13-day showdown brought the world's two superpowers to the brink of nuclear war.

In the Fall of 1962 the United States demanded that the Soviets halt construction of newly-discovered missile bases in communist Cuba, just 90 miles from U.S. shores.

Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev had pledged in 1960 to defend Cuba and had assumed that the United States would not try and prevent the installation of medium- and intermediate-range ballistic missiles in the communist Caribbean country.



But the weapons could potentially reach much of the United States.

What followed was a tense standoff played out almost exclusively at the highest levels.

U.S. President John F. Kennedy and Khrushchev and a handful of their top aides did all the negotiating, with little input from the foreign policy bureaucracies of either country.

The crisis was rife with miscommunications, threats and miscalculations, but was ultimately diffused.

Here is a crisis chronology of key moments.

October 14, 1962: A U.S. U-2 spy plane piloted by Maj. Richard Heyser takes hundreds of photos of newly-built installations in the Cuban countryside.

As Heyser will recall years later in an Associated Press interview, he worries that he will be looked upon as the man who started a war.

October 15: CIA analysts spot launchers, missiles and transport trucks that indicate the Soviets are building sites to launch missiles capable of striking targets nearly across the United States..

October 16: President John F. Kennedy rejects an attack, and favors a quarantine to buy time to negotiate a missile withdrawal. JFK and his advisers are careful to call it a quarantine because a blockade is considered an act of war.

October 22: In a dramatic 18-minute television speech, JFK shocks Americans by revealing “unmistakable evidence” of the missile threat, and announces that the United States will prevent ships carrying weapons to reach Cuba, while demanding that the Soviets withdraw their missiles.

October 25: The Soviet arms freighters turn back toward Europe, but the oil tanker *Bucharest* approaches the U.S. quarantine zone, directly headed for Cuba. *Two American warships,*

the USS Essex and the USS Gearing, prepare to intercept it, which could have led to war III.

October 26: Castro sends a letter to Khrushchev, urging him to launch a nuclear first strike against the United States, which the Soviet leader disregards.

Instead, Khrushchev sends a letter to President Kennedy, in which he appeals to the U.S. president to work with him to de-escalate the conflict and ensure that they didn't “doom the world to the catastrophe of thermonuclear war.”



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