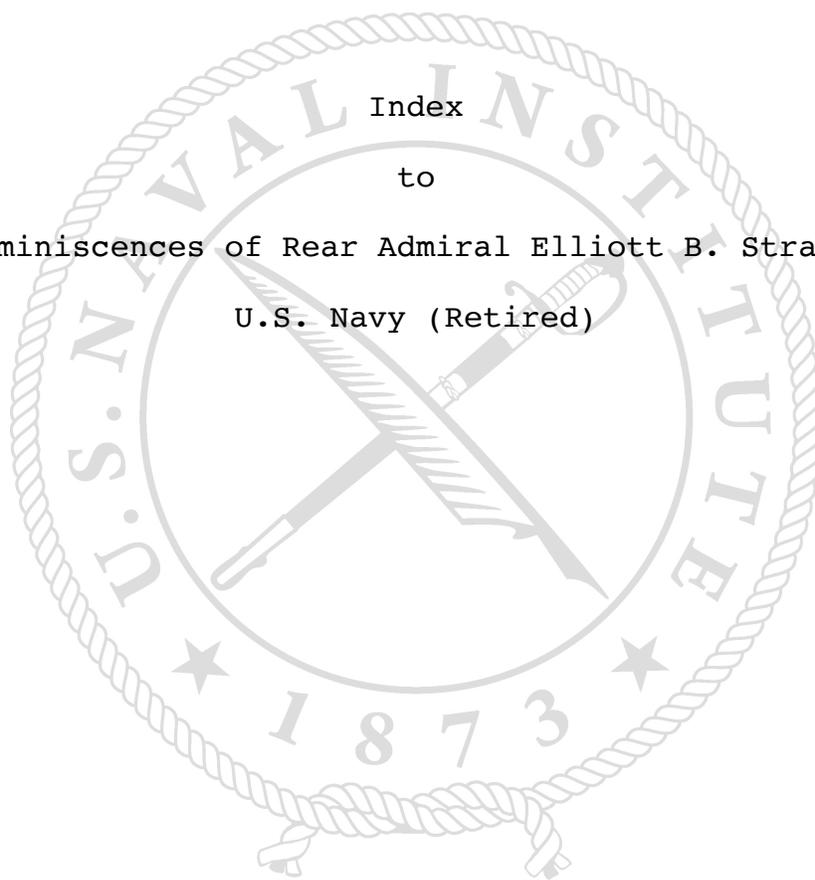


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Reminiscences of Rear Admiral Elliott B. Strauss
U.S. Navy (Retired)



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Officer on Mountbatten's Combined Operations staff in the early 1940s was credited with originating the concept, of artificial harbors 195, 217; importance to Normandy invasion planning, 234-235, 238

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Anecdote about Hart meeting a Royal Navy officer from the wealthy family of a large liquor manufacturer during World War II, 195-196

Hartman, Lieutenant Commander Kenneth P., USN (USNA, 1923)

Former naval observer with the British in the early days of World War II was frustrated that no one seemed interested in learning from British combat experiences, 182-183

Hatch, Lieutenant Commander William G. B., USN (USNA, 1913)

Easygoing as commanding officer of the Blakeley (DD-150) in the late 1920s, 85

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Hazard, Lieutenant Commander Stanton L. H., USN (USNA, 1904)

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Hearst, Mrs. William Randolph

Strauss was detailed to accompany Mrs. Hearst throughout all the social duties entailed by the New York World's Fair in 1939, 159-161

Heffernan, Lieutenant John B., USN (USNA, 1917)

Assessed as junior officer in the Arkansas (BB-33) in the mid-1920s, 77-78

Hensel, Captain Karl G., USN (USNA, 1923)

While on Defense Department duty with NATO in the early 1950s, was in charge of section monitoring strategic items being dispensed to foreign countries, 345

Hillsinger, Colonel Loren B., USA (USNA, 1932)

Injured during the August 1942 Dieppe raid, 200

Hiss, Alger

Strauss's recollections of this State Department official from their joint attendance of the first session of the United Nations General Assembly in January 1946, 270, 275-276

Holland

When the Fresno (CL-121) visited Rotterdam in 1947, she was the first American naval vessel to go to Holland since World War II, 286; Strauss saw caged prisoners of war awaiting repatriation during 1947 visit, 286-287; hospitality toward Fresno crew, 287-288; concerns in NATO in the early 1950s, 342-343

Hollister, John B.

As director of the International Cooperation Administration in the mid-1950s, asked for nominations for his replacement, 348

Hughes-Hallett, Captain John, RN

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Humphreys, Lieutenant (junior grade) Charles W., USN (USNA, 1923)

Arkansas (BB-33) gun turret officer in the mid-1920s got an excellent evaluation during a battle practice even though he hit one less target than Strauss, 71

Huse, Captain John O., USN (USNA, 1919)

Huse was supposed to go with Strauss to North Africa in 1942, but weather prevented the trip, 228; discussion with Vice Admiral Louis Mountbatten about the quality of American versus British engineer officers, 228-229; designated Commander Amphibious Force Europe briefly in the early 1940s, 230-231

Hutchins, Captain Gordon, USN (USNA, 1913)

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Illustrious, HMS

Commanding officer, Captain John Hughes-Hallett, loaned Strauss his cabin when the latter visited to witness an exercise in 1948, 204-205

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Naval Proving Ground at Indian Head had to be moved to Dahlgren, Virginia, early in the 20th Century to protect ships in the Chesapeake, 5

Indianapolis, USS (CA-35)

Sunk in July 1945, the skipper was held accountable because he had not zigzagged, 266

Ingersoll, Rear Admiral Stuart H., USN (USNA, 1921A)

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Interplan

Strauss worked as a civilian with this planning consultant firm in the 1960s, 354-355

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Strauss was sent to Israel as an inspector for the State Department in the mid-1960s, 353-354

Italian Navy

Italian admiral in charge of the Venice naval district was hospitable to Destroyer Flotilla Six in the early 1950s, 328; took part in NATO exercise Grand Slam in the early 1950s, 328

Jackson, Lieutenant (junior grade) Frederick H. W., USN (USNA, 1921B)

Hannibal (AG-1) officer drowned at Philadelphia in October 1925, 54

Jacobs, Helen Hull

Tennis champion lived with the U.S. ambassador to England and his family in the mid-1930s, 145

Japan

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Jellicoe, Admiral of the Fleet John R.

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Johnson, Captain Alfred W., USN (USNA, 1899)

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Johnston, Captain Rufus Z., USN (USNA, 1895)

Strauss's association with Johnston, who was chief of staff to Commander Battleship Division Two in the mid-1920s, 80

Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS)

When Strauss attended JCS meetings for his boss while serving in the Strategic Planning Division in the early 1950s, he found that the services seemed to get along together well, 317-318

Joseph Strauss, USS (DDG-16)

Named in honor of Strauss's father, 4; quality of materials used in outfitting this ship benefited from being several years after the end of World War II, 284

Kamikazes

Strauss feels the Japanese were foolish to go after destroyer screens when they could have wreaked more havoc by attacking transports, 262-263

Kane, Lieutenant Commander John D. H., USN (USNA, 1918)

During duty in the Bureau of Navigation in 1937, set Strauss up as aide to Commander Training Detachment, U.S. Fleet, Rear Admiral Alfred Johnson, 152

Kaplan, Captain Leonard, USN (USNA, 1922)

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Kenney, General George C., USAAF

Army Air Forces Chief of Staff in early 1946 unhappy about length of transatlantic voyage to England when it would have been much quicker to fly, 272; remark on the Nuremburg trials, 272; disagreed with suggestion in January 1946 to give away Okinawa for trusteeship, 272-273

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King, Admiral Ernest J., USN (USNA, 1901)

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Knoll, Captain Denys W., USN (USNA, 1930)
As staff officer for Admiral Richmond K. Turner in early 1946, 272

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Rear Admiral Alfred Johnson gave a dinner party for Danish Prince Knud in Copenhagen in the late 1930s, 163

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Drain on resources in Washington, 314

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Le Breton, Captain David M., USN (USNA, 1904)
Anecdote about Le Breton as assistant director of naval intelligence in the late 1920s, 87

Lefavour, Lieutenant William R., USN (USNA, 1931)
Assessed as executive officer of the Brooks (DD-232) in late 1930s, 171-172

Leigh, Captain Richard H., USN (USNA, 1891)
As assistant chief of the Bureau of Navigation in the late 1910s, nominated Strauss's sister as sponsor of the Reuben James (DD-245)

Levasseur, Ensign Julian J., USN (USNA, 1923)
Gun turret officer in the Mississippi (BB-41) narrowly escaped death after an explosion in the 1920s, 72

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Lisbon, Portugal

As neutral city in 1941, both German and British planes used airfields here, 183-184

Little Rock, USS (CL-92)

The Fresno (CL-121) was sent to Northern Europe in 1947 to replace the Little Rock when she experienced some mechanical difficulties, 285

Lloyd's of London

The United States established attaché billets in the mid-1930s in order to keep tabs on Japanese merchant activities with information available through Lloyd's, 206-209

London

As junior naval attaché in London in 1935-36, Strauss marched in the funerals of King George V and admirals of the fleet David Beatty and John Jellicoe, 123; social aspects of embassy duty in the mid-1930s, 123-125, 138-139, 146-147; size of the embassy contingent in the 1930s, 125; Strauss's accommodations in London in the mid-1930s, 139-140; Strauss was in London during the several days preceding the Pearl Harbor attack, 184-186; Strauss's recollections of the blitz, 185-186; Strauss's accommodations in the early 1940s, 228-230; Strauss was concerned that the debris in the Thames would present problems for the Fresno (CL-121) during a visit to London in 1947, 295; conditions still austere in 1948, 302

Long Island, USCGC

Ferried troops during the June 1944 Normandy invasion, 236

Lovat, Lieutenant Colonel Lord

Heroic action during August 1942 Dieppe raid, 199

MacArthur, Brigadier General Douglas, USA (USMA, 190) (USMA, 1903)

Made an honorary Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George by the British after World War I, 9

McGregor, Midshipman Charles, USN (USNA, 1864)

Strauss's great-uncle attended the Naval Academy up in Newport, Rhode Island, during the Civil War, 2

McReynolds, James C.

Former U.S. Attorney General asked Strauss to carry some seasickness medicine to Eleanor Roosevelt before a transatlantic voyage in January 1946, 270-271

McVay, Captain Charles B. III, USN (USNA, 1920)

As commanding officer of the Indianapolis (CA-35) when the cruiser was sunk in July 1945, criticized for not zigzagging, 266-267

Madagascar

Strauss's recollections of visiting Madagascar in the Concord (CL-10) in 1923-24, 38-39; Strauss was sent here to evaluate the aid mission in the early 1960s, 353

Mahan, Rear Admiral Alfred Thayer, USN (Ret.) (USNA, 1859)

As a naval attaché in London in the mid-1930s, Strauss was tasked by Captain William Puleston, Director of Naval Intelligence and naval author, to gather information for a biography on Mahan, 209-210

Manley, USS (DD-74)

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Margaret, Princess

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Marine Corps, U.S.

Strauss was more impressed by the behavior of Marines embarked in the Charles Carroll (APA-28) in 1945 than Army troops, 260

Maxse, Major General Sir Ivor

Strauss contacted Maxse in the mid-1930s on the behalf of Captain William Puleston, who was writing a biography of Alfred T. Mahan, 209

Mayo, Commander Claude B., USN (USNA, 1906)

As executive officer of the Florida (BB-30) in the mid-1920s, his effort to fire up and instill pride among the crew backfired, 78

Medals and Decorations,

Strauss's father was made an honorary Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George by the British after World War I, 3, 9; Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur received the same decoration as Strauss's father, 9; Strauss received the Croix de Guerre for his World War II service, 328

Miller, Captain George H., USN (USNA, 1933)

Worked with Strauss in the long-range planning section of the Strategic Planning Division of OpNav in the early 1950s, 337-339

Minckler, Lieutenant Commander Campbell H., USN (USNA, 1921A)

Assessed as a bright man with many vices as flag secretary to Commander Training Detachment, U.S. Fleet, in the late 1930s, 155-156

Mines

Strauss's father oversaw the laying of a mine barrage in the North Sea during World War I, 3

Mississippi, USS (BB-41)

Gun turret explosion on board in 1924, 72

Montgomery, Field Marshal Bernard L.

While working in the long-range planning section of the Strategic Planning Division in the early 1950s, Strauss expanded on an idea he'd heard Montgomery address some years earlier concerning the importance of North Africa, 337

Moon, Rear Admiral Don P., USN (USNA, 1916)

Strauss's recollections of Moon as Commander Task Force 125 during the June 1944 Normandy invasion, 238-239

Morgan, General Sir Frederick

Strauss's recollections of Morgan as chief of staff to the Supreme Allied Commander in the early 1940s, 195, 225-227

Morocco

Weather conditions taken into account by those planning the North African invasion during World War II, 219-220; a NATO section discovered that contraband was being laundered in Tangier in the early 1950s for transport to Communist bloc countries, 345

Mountbatten, Lady Edwina

Anecdote about a potentially embarrassing situation in 1942 when both she and her husband drove cars to the same event, even though gasoline was in short supply, 223; death in 1960, 357, 359; assessed by Strauss, 357-358

Mountbatten, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Louis

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Murfin, Captain Orin G., USN (USNA, 1897)

Strauss's impressions of Murfin as captain of the Concord (CL-10) in the mid-1920s, 44; when the admiral embarked in the Concord insisted that a big 10 be painted on the bow, Murfin had it removed as soon as the admiral was relieved, 50

Murphy, Robert D.

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Nashville, USS (CL-43)

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National War College

Patterned on the Imperial Defence College in London, 122;
Strauss attended briefly in late 1947, 299

NATO

See North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Naval Academy, U.S.

Moved to Newport, Rhode Island during the Civil War, 2;
Strauss attended a cram school before entering the academy
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Naval Institute, U.S.

Interest in Proceedings among officers in the mid-1920s,
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authors, 68

Naval Intelligence, Office of (ONI)

Attachés in London in the mid-1930s relayed information
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Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island

As explosives officer here in the early 1930s, Strauss's
division oversaw the making of primers for fixed and bag
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93; civil service employees, 92-95

Naval Training Station, Newport, Rhode Island

Strauss's duties as training and commissary officer in the
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Naval War College

Association with the Naval Training Center, Newport, in the
mid-1930s, 121; Strauss was never particularly interested
in attending the program, 121-122; junior course sometimes
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Navigation

Strauss's duties as navigator of the Nashville (CL-43) in
the early 1940s, 178-179

Navy Hydrographic Office

Strauss presented a paper by this organization at a geodesy conference in Edinburgh in 1936, 148-149

Netherlands

See Holland

Neutrality Patrols

Made by the Brooks (DD-232) off Nova Scotia and Panama in 1939-40, 167-170, 173

Nevada, USS (BB-36)

Strauss's father was the second commanding officer of this battleship from 1916 to 1918, 3, 8

Newport, Rhode Island

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New York, USS (BB-34)

Sent to England for the coronation of King George VI in May 1937, 135-137; quality of officers embarked in this battleship in 1918, 158;

Nicaragua

Measures taken to ensure honesty of Nicaraguan elections in the late 1930s, 154

Niagara, USS (SP-136)

Used for surveying off Cuba in the mid-1920s, 53

Normandy Invasion

Chief of Combined Operations Vice Admiral Louis Mountbatten held a planning conference in Scotland in the early 1940s with those he felt would be the commanders involved in this June 1944 operation, 195-197; rift among the staff officers of the U.S. naval forces involved in the invasion, 216-217; unusual first impression by a British officer when he returned from Normandy, 223-224; planning by the staff of Commander U.S. Naval Forces Europe, 224-226, 233-235; discussion of leaders involved, 225-226; Utah Beach, 235, 237; Omaha Beach, 235; aftermath, 235-238; supplies and logistics, 242-243

North Africa

General George Patton conferred with the Combined Operations staff in 1942 while planning for the landings on North Africa, 219-221; Strauss was scheduled to go to North Africa in 1942, but bad weather canceled the trip, 228; Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery and Strauss spoke on the great importance of North Africa to Britain and the United States, 337

North Atlantic Squadron (Royal Navy)

Attended Tennis Week at Bar Harbor, Maine, in the late 1920s, 88; social engagements at Newport in the early 1930s, 96

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

The Strategic Planning Division of OpNav was concerned with setting up a command structure for NATO at its inception in 1949, 311-312, 317; Destroyer Flotilla Six participated in exercise Grand Slam in the early 1950s, 328-329, 331; role of NATO studied by the long-range planning group of the Strategic Planning Division in the early 1950s, 338; Strauss concerned that the Atlantic portion of NATO have as much prominence as the European aspect, 341; concerns of the defense programs section in the early 1950s, 342; Consultative Commission, 343; Strauss was in charge of a program monitoring the transfer of contraband to foreign countries, 345

North Dakota, USS (BB-29)

Midshipmen transferred to this battleship during their summer cruise in the early 1920s when the Connecticut (BB-18) lost her propellers, 29

North Sea

Strauss's father oversaw the laying of a mine barrage in the North Sea during World War I, 3

Nuremburg Trials

Comment on trials by General George Kenney, the Army Air Forces Chief of Staff in 1946, 272

Nutter, Lieutenant David L., USN (USNA, 1923)

Anecdote from his service as flag lieutenant to Commander Training Detachment, U.S. Fleet, in the late 1930s, 162

Nyquist, Ensign John W., USN (USNA, 1921)

Hannibal (AG-1) officer was forced to protect another officer at gunpoint from the wrath of some members of the crew in the early 1920s, 65

Ochiltree, Lieutenant (junior grade) Thomas H., USN (USNA, 1922)

Collided his small boat with another during survey work off Cuba in the mid-1920s, 56-57

Odgers, Dr. Merle M.

Anecdote concerning alcohol and Odgers, who was president of Bucknell University in the mid-1950s, 349-350

Okinawa

Charles Carroll (APA-28) participated in landings in the spring of 1945, 261, 262-264; when a United Nations committee considered giving away trusteeship of Okinawa in January 1946, someone leaked the story to the press, 272-273

O'Leary, Captain Forrest M., USN (USNA, 1920)

As a division commander in mid-1945, rode the Charles Carroll (APA-28) to Hawaii for R&R, 264

Olmstead, Midshipman Jerauld L., USN (USNA, 1922)

Controversy over his top standing in his Naval Academy graduating class, 24-25

Ordnance

Discussion of making ammunition primers at the Naval Torpedo Station in the early 1930s, 88-91

Orem, Rear Admiral Howard E., USN (USNA, 1922)

Nominated Strauss as director of the U.S. Agency for International Cooperation in the mid-1950s, 348

Pakistan

Strauss was sent to Pakistan to evaluate the aid mission there in the early 1960s, 353

Paley, William

Strauss sat next to the chairman of the Columbia Broadcasting System at a luncheon hosted by Lady Louis Mountbatten in mid-1944, 223

Panama

Strauss's recollections from liberty here in the early 1920s, 31-32; neutrality patrols off Panama in 1939-40, 168-170, 173

Paris

Top-heavy with U.S. ambassadors in the early 1950s, 339-340; Strauss's accommodations in the early 1950s, 341

Parker, Commander Edward C. S., USN (USNA, 1902)
Unstable, heavy-drinking captain of the Hannibal (AG-1) was removed from his ship in 1924, 63-65

Patton, Major General George S., Jr., USA (USMA, 1909)
Consulted with Vice Admiral Louis Mountbatten's Combined Operations staff while planning for the North African invasion, 219-221

Pell, Herbert Claiborne, Jr.
Strauss family friend visited the Charles Carroll (APA-28) at San Francisco in mid-1945, 265

Pernambuco (Recife), Brazil
The Concord (CL-10) visited Pernambuco during Mardi Gras in 1924, 41

Phoenix, USS (CL-46)
After being decommissioned, this light cruiser was sold to Argentina in 1951, and was sunk in 1982 during the Falklands War, 315

Planning
Various possibilities studied by the long-range planning section of the Strategic Plans Division of OpNav in the early 1950s, 336-339

Pound, Lieutenant (junior grade) Harold C., USN (USNA, 1925)
Anecdote from his tour as White House aide in the early 1930s, 99

Pridham-Wippell, Admiral Sir Henry D., RN
As Commander in Chief Plymouth in 1947, entertained Strauss when the Fresno (CL-121) was temporarily based in Plymouth, 298-299

Prisoners of War
Strauss saw caged German prisoners of war awaiting repatriation during a 1947 visit to Holland, 286-287

Prohibition
Ensign Strauss offered a drink at an Annapolis restaurant shortly after graduation in 1923, 18; not enforced at Key West during the mid-1920s, 60, 62; West Coast-based crews often went into Mexico to drink, 109-10

Promotions
Strauss laments the passing of promotions for junior officers based on examinations, as was the case in the 1920s and '30s, 114-15

Puleston, Captain William D., USN (USNA, 1902)

As Director of Naval Intelligence in the 1930s, set up a network of attachés to keep track of Japanese merchant shipping, 206; tasked Strauss with gathering information in England from associates of Alfred Mahan for a biography he was writing, 209-210; other books by Puleston, 210

Pyle, Ernest T.

Strauss's recollections of this popular war correspondent from April 1945 when he rode in the Charles Carroll (APA-28), 257-259

Q-boats

Strauss met the Royal Navy officer who was decorated for his skillful use during World War I of these disguised merchant ships, 38-39

Queen Elizabeth, RMS

Soon after she'd been decommissioned as a troop transport, this liner carried a distinguished group of delegates to attend the first United Nations General Assembly in London in January 1946, 270

Quinn, Ensign Bertrand D., USN (USNA, 1924)

Collided his small boat with another during survey work off Cuba in the mid-1920s, 56-57

Ramsay, Admiral Sir Bertram H., RN

Allied Naval Commander in Chief assessed by staff officer Strauss, 196, 245-247; held in great esteem by the British, 224; responsibilities during June 1944 Normandy invasion, 241-242; death in January 1945, 242, 247; brought out of retirement for World War II, 246; as commander of Dover, 246-247; completely integrated American officers into his staff, 247

Reeves, Lieutenant Commander John W., Jr., USN (USNA, 1911)

Strauss's recollections of Reeves as engineer officer in the Concord (CL-10) in the mid-1920s, 44-46

Reeves, Admiral Joseph Mason, USN (USNA, 1894)

As Commander in Chief U.S. Fleet in the mid-1930s, took measures to silence a commander who gained prominence through various books he'd written, 81-82

Reuben James, USS (DD-245)

Strauss's sister christened this destroyer in 1919 that became the first American ship lost in World War II, 181

Ribbentrop, Joachim von

As German ambassador to Great Britain in 1936, gave King Edward VIII a "Heil Hitler" salute during diplomatic corps levee, 146-147

Ridgway, General Matthew B., USA (USMA, 1917)

Strauss's assessment of Ridgway as Supreme Allied Commander Europe in the early 1950s, 346-347

Rodgers, Commander Christopher Raymond Perry, USN (USNA, 1904)

Aristocratic as commanding officer of the Hannibal (AG-1) in the mid-1920s, 53-54; reaction to collision of two small boats doing survey work, 57; social call to the mayor of Batabanó, 59; reaction when a Hannibal (AG-1) junior officer deserted ship and went into hiding after writing a bad check, 61; when he heard that Strauss was being considered as an attaché in the mid-1930s, mistakenly assumed he wouldn't want to leave Newport, 116-117

Rodman, Admiral Hugh, USN (Ret.) (USNA, 1880)

Represented the United States at the coronation of King George VI in 1937, flying his flag in the USS New York (BB-34), 136-137

Roenigk, Commander John G., USN (USNA, 1934)

Strauss's favorable assessment of his Fresno (CL-121) executive officer in the mid-1940s, 279-280

Roosevelt, Eleanor

Though suspicious of the former First Lady initially, Strauss was won over by her charm during their transatlantic voyage in January 1946, 270-271

Roosevelt, Franklin D.

President Roosevelt presented the Manley (DD-74) with the flippers of a sea turtle he had caught while the destroyer guarded his fishing expedition in the early 1930s, 98

Rowell, Commander G. W., RN

As planning officer to Commander Allied Naval Forces during World War II, sensible attitude toward rank discrepancies, 242

Royal Navy

Cooperation with the U.S. Navy in the 1930s, 125, 150-151; British officer mugged outside the Brooklyn Navy Yard in the early 1940s, 170; discrepancies in quality and rank of some British billets as compared to American, 228-229, 242-243, 248; difference in staff style between U.S. and Royal navies, 248-249; participated in NATO exercise Grand Slam in the early 1950s, 331; see also North Atlantic Squadron

Royal Naval College, Greenwich

Strauss asked permission for the Fresno (CL-121) to fire a naval salute when approaching Greenwich in 1947, but learned that Queen Elizabeth I had banned salutes in the 16th century because they broke windows, 294

Russell, Captain Guy, RN

Russell's trip to North Africa in 1942 was delayed due to bad weather, 228

Russell Islands

Water was slightly too deep for the anchor of the Charles Carroll (APA-28) during a visit in early 1945, 256; party for the skippers of ships at anchorage there, 257-258

Ryder, Commander Robert Edward Dudley, RN

Strauss shared a desk in a London office with Dudley, a war hero, in 1942, 192-193

St. Helena

Strauss's recollections of this island from his visit in the Concord (CL-10) in 1924, 40-41

Sala, Vice Admiral Léon M. P. A., FN

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