

Walter A. Turchick
71 Davis Road
Franklin, N. J..
07416-1106

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Ms. Vontell D. Tucker
Maritime Administration
400 seventh street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20509

Dear Madam,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Hart's letter and will reply:

I am now 77 years old and have been retired from the maritime industry for 33 years.

Within days of the start of the Korean Problem, I participated in the re-activating of the S/S Asbury Victory and signed on as First Assistant Engineer on August 10, 1950. We then loaded a full load of bombs and ammunition in California for Pusan, Korea.

In early September 1950, we were at anchor in Pusan harbor. We were to unload originally at a port up on the east coast there whose name I don't recall. We were unable to go there as the port was extensively mined by the Koreans. So we lay at anchor in Pusan harbor for a month. We eventually unloaded our cargo in Pusan.

If the North Koreans had an active air force at that time one bomb would have blown us up as a firecracker. Fortunately, they didn't and I am here to tell the story.

When we got back to Portland, Oregon, the S/S Asbury Victory was to be de-activated. But within a few days - I had already left for home, word came from Washington to reload with ammunition for Korea.

Sincerely yours,

W.A.T.