

USS GEARING 1956

Moored starboard side to the Convoy Escort Pier 201, Norfolk Virginia the USS Gearing at midnight Sunday January 1, 1956 began tooting her whistles for the incoming New Year. All married men were ashore for a night of cheers and even the Duty section celebrated the welcome of the New Year . The following ships were present the USS Gearing DD - 710 inboard, the USS Vogelgesang DD - 862, the USS Robert H. Mc Card DD -822, and the USS Harold J. Ellison DD - 864 moored port side to the Gearing. The USS Gearing DD - 710 is flag ship for destroyer squadron 4 with Commodore Donald T. Wilber in charge as before.

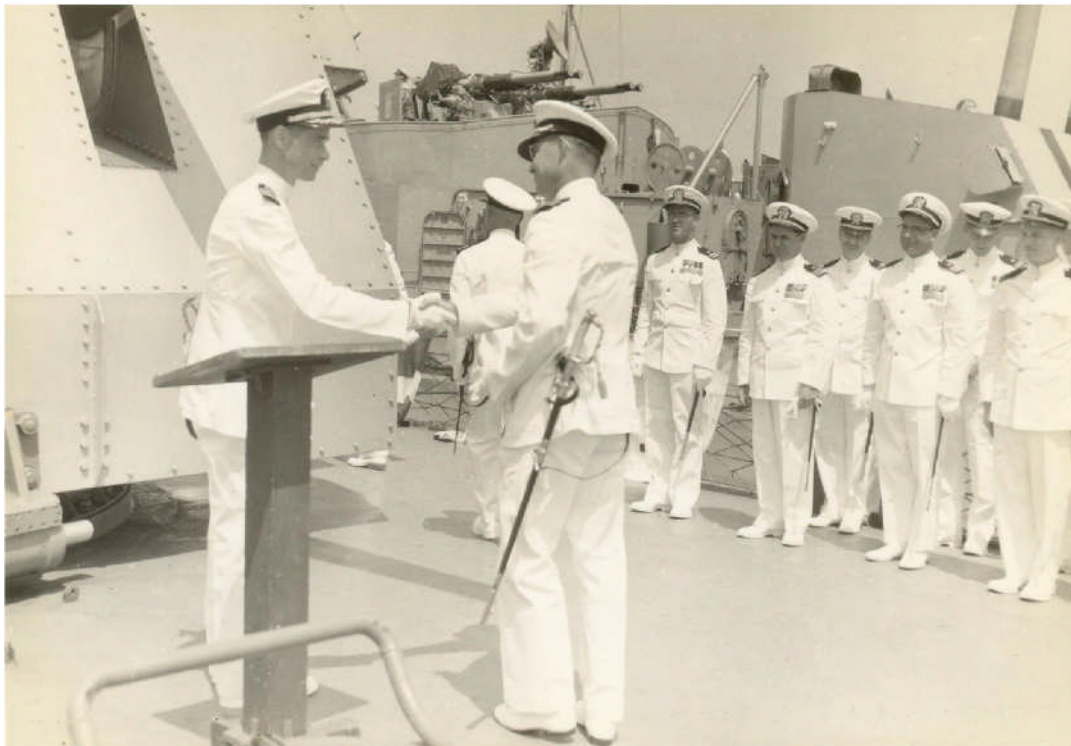
On January 10 the Gearing got underway from Norfolk, Virginia for San Juan, Porto Rico. Friday January 13, the Gearing moored starboard side to pier six San Juan, Porto Rico. Then the USS Vogelgesang DD - 862, the USS Robert H. Mc Card DD - 822 and the USS Harold J. Ellison moored outboard.

Monday July 9, 1956 at 0916 hours the Gearing got underway from Norfolk, Virginia in route to Barcelona, Spain. On July 20, at 0900 hours she moored starboard side to the USS Harwood DDR - 674 using standard mooring with wire rope over forward and aft. to the coal pier, Barcelona Spain. Tuesday July 24, 1956 at 1205 the change of command ceremony took place between Commander Mark W. Woods and Commander Edward A. Lane Jr.

CHANGE OF COMMAND BARCELONA SPAIN
Tuesday July 24, 1956 12:05



Commander Mark W. Woods and Commander Edward A. Lane Jr.



Commander Edward A. Lane Jr. relieves Commander Mark W. Woods of Command



Edward A. Lane Jr.
1918 - 2007

EDWARD A. LANE JR.: U.S.N. Born September 12, 1918 in Washington D.C. He graduated from the New York State Maritime Academy. in the fall of 1939. He entered the United States Navy and was appointed Ensign in the spring of 1940. He commanded the USS Gearing DD-710 from July 24, 1956 to September 3, 1958. He retired from the Navy as Captain on November 1, 1969. He obtained his master's license in the U.S. Merchant Marine and served for the next ten years on tanker type ships. Started as third mate and retiring in 1988 as Master. Captain Lane died Tuesday May 15, 2007.

The Tallahassee Democrat, Friday May 18, 2007
Capt. Edward A. Lane Jr. PANACEA - Captain Edward A. Lane Jr., USN Retired, 88, died Tuesday, May 15, 2007, at his home on the Ochlockonee Bay in Panacea while under hospice care. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Frances Batton Lane, originally from Biloxi, Mississippi, and currently residing in Panacea. The service will be at 11 a.m. EDT Saturday at Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Captain Lane's memory may be made to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32308. Culley's MeadowWood Funeral Home, Riggins Road Chapel (850-877-8191) is handling arrangements. Edward was born in Washington, D.C., in 1918 and graduated from the New York State Maritime Academy. He was commissioned in the Merchant Marine prior to World War II. His initial assignment as a Merchant Marine officer was in Biloxi, Mississippi, where he met and married Frances. As a Navy reserve officer, he was called to active duty at the advent of World War II and retired from the Navy after a long and distinguished career. He later attended Cornell University. In his long Navy career, he served in numerous combat operations in the Pacific, including amphibious assaults at Tarawa, Okinawa, and the battle of the Leyte Gulf. He also served in the Korean War, participating in amphibious landings at Wonsan and Iwon and the evacuation of Hungnam. He also served in the Vietnam War, participating in seven combat amphibious operations off the Republic of Vietnam as Commander of an amphibious group. He earned many combat decorations for his actions during these wars. After retirement from the Navy, he served in the Merchant Marine, eventually retiring to Quincy, Fla., and subsequently, Panacea, Fla. Other survivors include three sons, Deder Lane of Tallahassee, Edward Lane of Richmond, Va., and Stephen Lane of Panacea; two daughters, Katherine Little of Richmond and Barbara Thompson of Tallahassee; two sisters, Katherine Hall of Madisonville, Ky., and Constance Debus of Richmond, Va.; 12 grandchildren; and 16 great grandchildren. With his passing, another member of what Tom Brokaw called the "Greatest Generation" is now gone and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends.



After a week stay at Barcelona Spain the Gearing got underway on Friday July 27, at 1009 hours for Belfast Ireland. At 0850 Friday August 3, the Gearing moored starboard side to the Royal Naval Station pier USS McCard DD - 822 moored a long side to port. The Gearing got underway after a week at Belfast, Ireland Friday August 10, at 1028 hour for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. After a fourteen day crossing of the Atlantic, on Friday August 24 at 1747 hours she moored starboard side to pier ALPH berth 1 Guantanamo Naval base Cuba using standard destroyer mooring.