

Letters from submarine commanders.

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U. S. NAVY INSPECTOR OF RECRUITING
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NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING
COLUMBUS 15, OHIO



20 August 1947

TO THE CITY OF MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN

Being one of the privileged few who were fortunate to be assigned to command one of the twenty-eight submarines built by the Manitowoc Shipbuilding Company and the people of Manitowoc, I wish to offer my congratulations on this, your one hundredth anniversary of shipbuilding.

The proudest moment of my life was the day I assumed command of the finest submarine of the many on which I have served. It is a well known fact that in the Submarine Force of the U.S. Navy, the submarines built at Manitowoc enjoyed the highest reputation in the art of submarine construction.

One thing will remain uppermost in the memory of those of us who had the opportunity to live in Manitowoc for that all too short period, and that is the gracious and hospitable treatment received in your city.

Wherever Submariners gather you will always hear the praises, of Manitowoc, her submarines, and her fine citizens, voiced by those of us who had the good fortune to commission a "Manitowoc Boat".

R.L. RUTTER, Captain, U.S. Navy,
First Commanding Officer, U.S.S. KETE(SS369).

U. S. S. OAKLAND (CL-95)

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

19 August 1947

The Mayor of Manitowoc
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

My Dear Mayor:

This month the City of Manitowoc celebrates their one hundredth anniversary of shipbuilding. I feel it only fitting that the splendid accomplishment achieved by Manitowoc-built submarines should be publicly aired at this time.

No stancher ship was ever built than the good ship GUITARRO. She repeatedly took terrific poundings from Japanese depth charges and guns only to bounce back with another kill, and a Navy Unit Commendation. In times of stress, when anxious eyes were searching for some sign of materiel weakness it was good to remember the painstaking craftsmanship which Manitowoc workmen used in GUITARRO's construction.

As a crew we came to Manitowoc prepared to argue and wrestle to gain our ends - a ship ready to fight - for that is the way of shipyards. Instead, to our surprise, we found friendship and hospitality from your people, and cooperation and assistance from your boat-builders.

For the good ship GUITARRO - a job well done - we who fought her salute you who built her.

E. D'H. Haskins
E. D'H. HASKINS,
Commander, U.S. Navy,
First Commanding Officer,
USS GUITARRO (SS363).